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From the Pastor's Desk



Greetings to you and peace from God our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

I imagine you would have no problem guessing what the focus of this month's writing will be. Since Easter is this month that would more likely than not be the focus (even though last month was a lot of information as to when Easter is celebrated.) I would be remiss if I would not say anything at all. So, I will say with total sincerity that I am totally thankful that God loved me (and everyone) so much that He would give His life on the cross, bearing the burden of my sins, so that I could rest assured that I could live eternity in Heaven!!! PRAISE BE TO GOD!!!

Now obviously, the major event of March was the invasion of Ukraine by Putin commanding the Russian army to move. (When Bly gave the joke about the little known holiday of MARCH FORTH, we didn't think the Russian army truly would march forth.) In conversations I have had that centered in on the invasion of Ukraine, most of them contained the statement: "I just cannot imagine someone doing this!" Meaning, it is beyond our comprehension for one person to give the order to bomb hospitals. Or to bomb apartment buildings. Or to bomb a theatre building that is known to be refuge to over one thousand people - children to elderly. It is barbaric for someone to have no regard for human life! Now, whether Putin gives the order or if it is one of his generals who orders these bombings, in my mind it does not matter. Putin is the one person responsible for everything that is done under his time in office. If he does not give the order to do these things he certainly has not given the order to cease these bombings. So I would hold him responsible for every loss of innocent life! I just cannot imagine someone ordering the killing of innocent people without any guilty conscience!

I can, however, understand how such evil can overpower someone's common sense or conscience. I have told of the event many years ago when I came face to face with how the dark one can take over someone's heart and mind. When the County Parks held "Scream in the Park" I would help Jeri in the set up, etc. One Saturday night the group providing the "scarers" were short staffed so I put on the "Devil-Dog" mask and took my place at the window in the old, wooden fort. I would stand still as could be and scan each group as they passed by, then pick out one person who got the brunt of my (God-awful) snort and claws reaching out. As the night went on, I lost track of how many times I was spit at. I got slapped across my cheek one time that hurt a bit because it was fairly chilly. Then, one time I picked out a hefty sized guy and did my thing. His hand was heading toward slapping my



cheek, but I grabbed his wrist before he made contact. I squeezed his arm as hard as I could. He said "You are hurting me" to which I replied "And you don't think the slap would have hurt me?????" But, that interaction brought me to my senses. I realized that I had reached the point where I wanted to hurt whoever may try to hurt me. I truly felt anger and the desire to inflict pain. I immediately stepped back from the window and took off the mask and claw gloves. I went and found Jeri and said I would be in the car until we could go home. I encountered a side of myself that I had never seen before and have never seen since - the side of me that had gotten pleasure out of hurting another; the side of me that let evil overpower the love.

From that event on I no longer went around to other haunted houses or trails because I refused to risk getting in touch with that dark side of myself. Now certainly, this event pales in comparison with someone being able to command the brutal bombing that we are seeing every day. As I said earlier, it is inhumane to bomb buildings where innocent people live or are sheltering or are giving birth. Vladimir Putin is barbaric in commanding this and/or allowing this to happen. He claims to be a Christian but he is one person who right now is truly in the control of Satan. Let us pray that God will reach into his heart and remove this evil from him. Let us also pray that none of us ever experience that evil side that lurks in our shadows. It is awful. It is horrid. It is dark! Let us always strive to live in the light of God!!! God Bless Ukraine! God Bless President Zelensky!!! God Bless us all!

Happy Easter!
With love, Pastor Lou Ann



SPECIAL SERVICES in APRIL

April 3 - Lent 5

Gospel: John 12:1-8

Sermon: "Extravagant Waste?"

April 10 - Palm Sunday

Gospel: Luke 12:28-40

Sermon: "Into Jerusalem"

April 14 - Maundy Thursday—7:00 PM

Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31-35

Sermon: "Servant of Love"

April 17 - Easter Sunday

Gospel: Luke 24:1-12

Sermon: "Resurrection Joy"

April 24 - Easter 2

Gospel: John 20:19-21

Sermon: "Doubts Received, Peace Restored"



We would like to continue the tradition of wearing special hats on Easter, so we invite you to wear yours on Easter Sunday.

Also, if you have any flowers blooming in your yards or gardens, we ask you to bring some with you to decorate the cross. Let's brighten up the church with lots of color this Easter.



APRIL
BIRTHDAYS



*May God
Bless You
On Your
Birthday*

2. Mark Eberly
3. Sasha Richardson
Connor Boyd
6. Beth Markey
7. Jeri Jones
8. Elijah Matthews
9. Teila Geesey
11. Cindy Axe
12. Kara Sylte
Roslyn Bowen
Sydney Brown
13. Joan Mickey
15. Daniel Neuhaus
18. Charles Williamson
21. John Barley
Nancy Taylor
22. Charles Diehl
Aubrey McKinsey
24. Gene Wise
Debra Forbes
26. Marcia Ness
27. Fran Doll
Brandon Ness
28. Tessa Myers

CELEBRATING APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

April 6 - Fred and Brenda Kerchner - 31 years
April 10 - Nelson and Marti Leader - 57 years
April 18 - Peter and Donna Busch - 7 years
April 22 - Jeri and Lou Ann Jones - 33 years

FINANCIAL REPORT

Undesignated General Fund

Red Brick Chapel

Cemetery

Month-2022	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Income	Expense
January	\$9,995.00	\$10,580.71	\$0.46	\$254.37	\$915.03	\$0.00
February	\$8,570.74	\$11,555.09	\$1,000.48	\$390.39	\$0.23	\$294.90
March						
April						
May						
June						
July						
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						
Total	\$18,565.74	\$22,135.80	\$1,000.94	\$644.76	\$915.26	\$294.90

Balance of Undesignated General Fund @ March 1, 2022

(\$811.99)

Balance of Red Brick Chapel Fund @ March 1, 2022
(Includes \$66,150.42 Endowment)

\$84,688.15

Balance of Cemetery Fund @ March 1, 2022
(Includes \$919,005.78 CD's, Trusts, UCC Foundation)

\$927,503.54

Financial Assistance Given through Hand of Hope Fund - 2022

	#	Total	Monthly	Available
	Families	\$\$\$	Donations	Balance
Beginning				\$ 162.74
January			\$ 80.00	\$ 242.74
February	1	\$ 25.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 252.74
March				
April				
May				
June				
July				
August				
September				
October				
November				
December				
Total	1	\$ 25.00	\$ 115.00	

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS and those in need of PRAYER

Peggy Luckenbaugh
Room 704B
Colonial Manor Nursing Home
970 Colonial Avenue
York, PA 17403

Linda Trone
Room 604
Colonial Manor Nursing Home
970 Colonial Avenue
York, PA 17403



Carolyn Innerst
Room 123
Senior Commons@Powder
Mill
1775 Powder Mill Road
York, PA 17403

Keeping in our prayers
Dolores Barley
Jeanette Black
Maddie Heindel
Cindie McKinsey
Todd & Melody Myers
Ginny Weber
Friends battling cancer
Covid 19 patients



Remember
and pray for
Our Members
in the
Military

A1C Ness, Brandon
6907 S. Camino de la Humanidad
Tucson, AZ 85756

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

You are about to complete a very important step in your life and we would like to recognize you for your accomplishment on Sunday, May 29, during the worship service. If you are graduating, or have graduated in the past year from high school, college, or a trade/business school, please complete the information below and return it to the church office **no later than Sunday, April 24**. We will include a paragraph about you and your future plans in the June edition of "Bly Lines". On Sunday, May 29, your name will be listed in the bulletin and Pastor Lou Ann will have a small presentation to make to you.



NAME _____

PARENTS NAMES _____

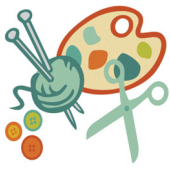
SCHOOL NAME _____

DATE OF GRADUATION _____

DEGREE EARNED _____

AWARDS/ACTIVITIES _____

FUTURE PLANS _____



CRAFTERNOONERS

Our next "Crafternooners" meeting will be held on Sunday, April 24, from 1:00-4:00 PM. Bring any craft project that you would like to work on, or if you are not crafty, bring games to share with others for an afternoon of fellowship and fun. Please join us and bring a friend if you like.



CARD and GAME CLUB



We have started a group to play card and board games here at the church. Everyone is welcome, and if you don't know how to play certain games, there will be someone who can teach you. You can bring lunch or we can order in.

We will meet the second Wednesday of each month starting at 11:00 AM and playing until people are ready to stop. Our next meeting will be on April 13. If you have any questions, please call Janie Montgomery or Diana Myers.

Our Women's Book Club gives women a chance share the book they're reading and to receive needed support from friends. Come join us. We meet every second and fourth Tuesday at 11:00AM at Lion's Pride Restaurant. The next meeting will be April 12.



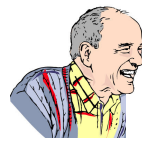
S.O.S. (SISTERS OF SERVICE)

After many years in existence the Sisters of Service have decided to disband. The decision was made at their March meeting. They would like to thank everyone who was a member and who helped with their many projects over the years.

The church would like to thank the SOS for organizing bazaars, book sales, Christmas parties, teas, and many other social events that we all have enjoyed.. Also for keeping the kitchen well stocked and buying the candles for use in the sanctuary.

In addition to our church, they also donated funds to other charitable organizations and to individuals in need. Each Christmas they gave gifts to our sick and shut-ins.

Well done, ladies!!



MEN'S GROUP

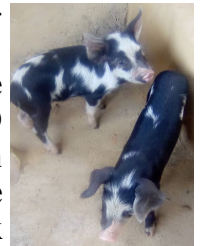


We invite you to join the men of Blymire on Tuesday, April 12, at 7:00 PM at the church. Pastor Curt Weber will be presenting a power point program on "Lincoln and Stanton." Bring a friend to the meeting because ALL MEN ARE WELCOME.

Uganda Update

At our December 2021 meeting we had a special speaker, Catherine Stoner, who told us about her work with the people of Uganda. After hearing her talk, we decided to send a \$500 donation. She has been keeping us informed on the progress of her mission. Here is her latest correspondence, along with some pictures:

The first pigs finally arrived! We are officially registered as a CBO Community Based Organization nonprofit in Uganda and we are working on our status here. Thank you again for your support.



The kids were overjoyed that we bought them uniforms and shoes. Most of them had never worn shoes before. They began jumping up and down with joy.



Our first chicken BBQ of the season will be held on Saturday, April 9 from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM. You will get a 1/2 chicken, baked potato, applesauce, roll and butter all for \$10.00. **(Note the price increase).** To place an order, please call the church office at 244-0655. We sold out early nearly every month last summer, so to be guaranteed a dinner, it is best to pre-order. Other BBQ's will be held on the 2nd Saturday of each month thru November.

We are also planning to set up a bake sale table and would welcome donations of homemade cookies, rice krispie treats, cupcakes, candy, etc. Please put individual portions in baggies or plastic wrap. They may be dropped off at the church the day before or the morning of the BBQ. Thank you.

Aid for Ukraine

Our church is now collecting supplies to aid the people of Ukraine. Your donations will be taken to Mission Central in Mechanicsburg and from there, sent to Ukraine. Any items received before March 31 will be taken to Mission Central that afternoon. We will continue to collect and deliver donations every few weeks. As time goes on, the list of needed supplies may change, so we will keep you updated. Here a few FAQ's about the program:

What are you collecting? Right now, the most needed items are first aid items. *(The entire current list is on the back of this page)*

What can I do to assist? The most important things to do now are praying for those impacted, collecting items, donating money and spreading the word about what we are doing here. (The more support we can get, the more people we can assist.)

How long will your collection be going? Our collection will be ongoing. Right now, the list we are using is good through March 31. On April 1, we will update and tweak the list to accommodate what Ukraine needs most. *(Updated lists will be placed on the table in the Gathering Room)*

Where do the items go? The items go to soldiers on the front line, those assisting with war efforts and those who are living in Ukraine.

Are you helping refugees? We are not assisting refugees now, although that will be our focus later. We are shifting priorities as needed. Some churches and nonprofits have picked up items to go to refugees, and we will continue to support these efforts.

How did you partner with Teknika? This is probably an incredible "God Moment." We spent a lot of time looking for organizations that could help us get items into Ukraine and vetting them to ensure that the items would be going over immediately and getting into the hands of those that need them as fast as possible (or faster). We worked with two churches initially that were able to get things into Ukraine, but we knew we needed an ongoing partner. Teknika is a world-wide company based in San Jose, CA, and they had to close their Ukrainian warehouse in Kharkiv because of the war. Teknika also has a warehouse in Mechanicsburg, not far from Mission Central. They were collecting and sending items over; however, they were struggling to sort through the donations, but had the ability to get them via cargo van to Chicago and from there, by plane, into Poland. Mission Central has a huge base of volunteers that were willing to sort goods and the ability to supply medical items, disaster recovery supplies and more. It's a perfect match to assist with a devastating situation. Teknika started doing 1 plane trip per week but are now up to two trips per week. As always, we are continuing to look for additional avenues to assist those in need.

What happens to items that come into Mission Central? Items are collected, brought to Mission Central and placed in the "Ukraine" bin. Mission Central volunteers remove, sort and box items. Mission Central takes them over to Teknika where they are labeled in Ukrainian. On Wednesdays and Fridays, cargo vans take these items to Chicago. From there, they fly on cargo planes into Poland and are driven down the green corridor where they enter Ukraine.

We are incredibly grateful and humbled by your support. Thank you for your donations and assistance at this critical time.

Collection List for Ukraine:

- Baby Food (plastic containers)
- NEW Clothing
- NEW Blankets
- First Aid Kits
- Dry food for the soldiers - lightly boxed, expiration date 3-6 months out or greater
- Personal hygiene (shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.) – please make sure these items are the smaller bottles/personal sized (not family size)
- Hand and foot warmers
- Pillar candles (no glass)
- Small first aid kits
- Feminine hygiene items
- Wrapped bars of soap
- Flashlights with batteries attached (not inside)
- Band-Aids
- Gauze Rolls and Pads
- Adhesive and Non-Adhesive Dressings
- Wound Treatments
- Alcohol Swabs/Pads

DO YOU HAVE **Concerns** **about falling?**



A MATTER OF
BALANCE

MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS

Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities. A MATTER OF BALANCE is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels.

This program emphasizes practical strategies to manage falls.

YOU WILL LEARN TO:

- view falls as controllable
- set goals for increasing activity
- make changes to reduce fall risks at home
- exercise to increase strength and balance

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- anyone concerned about falls
- anyone interested in improving balance, flexibility and strength
- anyone who has fallen in the past
- anyone who has restricted activities because of falling concerns

The class is held twice a week for 4 weeks. The program is **FREE** for those 60+ yrs old!

Location: St. John's Blymire's UCC Church
1009 Blymire Rd. Dallastown, PA 17313

Dates: April 18 – May 9, 2022 – Last class is Thursday 5/12
Mondays & Wednesdays

Time: 1:00PM—3:00PM

To register: Call Faye at 717-852-4902 ext. 1044



**Space is
limited!**

Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls Volunteer Lay Leader Model ©2006

This program is based on Fear of Falling: A Matter of Balance. Copyright ©1995 Trustees of Boston University. All rights reserved. Used and adapted by permission of Boston University.

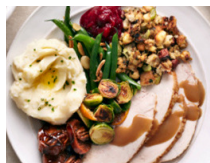
A Matter of Balance Lay Leader Model

Recognized for Innovation and Quality in Healthcare and Aging, 2008, American Society on Aging.

A Matter of Balance Lay Leader Model was developed by a grant from the Administration on Aging (#00AM2780).

EMMANUEL'S CLOSET

April 2022



Easter Project

For Easter we are planning to give out grocery gift cards for our families to use to purchase meat and other perishable items for their holiday dinner. The cards will be given out on April 2 and April 9. The Closet will be closed on April 16 in observance of Easter.

Below is a list of items that we are especially in need of right now:

Beverages (all types)

Manwich

Tuna Helper

Chicken Helper

Cereal

Icing

Cake Mix

Brownie Mix

Pancake Syrup

E.C. Continuing Needs

Juice

Cereal/Oatmeal

Peanut Butter/Jelly

Pancake Mix

Spaghetti Sauce

Boxed Dry Pastas

Helper Meals

Dessert Items

Condiment Items

Canned Tuna/Meats

Canned Fruit/Vegetables

Soap

Shampoo

Toilet Paper

Paper Towels

Dish Washing Liquid

Laundry Detergent

All-Purpose Cleaners

Please, NO Expired Food Items

Our clothing and household room will remain closed through 2022. Please do not put any of those items in the bin or bring them to Emmanuel's Closet. We hope to reopen in 2023.



***THANKS FOR
CARING!***

The cross is the universal symbol of Christianity. An odd choice, don't you think? Strange that a tool of torture would come to embody a movement of hope. Its design could not be simpler. One beam horizontal, the other vertical. One reaches out, like God's love. The other reaches up, as does God's holiness. One represents the width of his love, the other the height of his holiness.

The cross is the intersection. The cross is where God forgave his children without lowering his standards. John 3:16 says, *"For God so loved the world."* Aren't you glad the verse doesn't read For God so loved the rich? the famous? or the successful? No, it simply reads For God so loved the world.

Max Lucado



"Lord, do your resurrection work in me. Transform my heart and my life into one that gives You glory and praise in every way. Pull me deeper and bring me closer to Your heart."



Science has never drummed up quite as effective a tranquilizing agent as a sunny, spring day.

W. Earl Hall



BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD

With these words from Psalm 46, the Almighty issues us a profound invitation to rest, reflect and find eternal refuge in Him. It's quite an irresistible invitation, really, to stop and have a personalized heart to heart visit with the Almighty. And the best part is that it's a Come As You Are party. He doesn't care if we're scared or lonely or sad and broken, He is our refuge.

Lisa Bowman

TALK TO JESUS

Tell him about your week

Tell him about your dreams

Tell him about your fears

Tell him what you're learning about

Tell him about a decision you face

Tell him why you're discouraged

Tell him what you need his help with

Tell him how he's blessed you

Tell him why you need forgiveness

Tell him what you love about him

Soulshepherding

Sometimes people say unkind or thoughtless things. When they do, it is best to be a little hard of hearing.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg



"Around us, life bursts with miracles--a glass of water, a ray of sunshine, a leaf, a caterpillar, a flower, laughter, raindrops. If you live in awareness, it is easy to see miracles everywhere. Each human being is a multiplicity of miracles. Eyes that see thousands of colors, shapes, and forms; ears that hear a bee flying or a thunderclap; a brain that ponders a speck of dust as easily as the entire cosmos; a heart that beats in rhythm with the heartbeat of all beings. When we are tired and feel discouraged by life's daily struggles, we may not notice these miracles, but they are always there."

Thich Nhat Hahn

YOU ARE A MASTERPIECE

I recently read about a man who died in extreme poverty. After the funeral his relatives went to his ratty apartment to gather up his belongings. He had a painting they sold at a garage sale. The person who bought it discovered it had been painted back in the 1800s by a famous artist. It ended up selling at an auction for more than three million dollars. That man didn't realize what he had—something beautiful, something to be grateful for.

Every one of us has been painted by the most famous artist there could ever be. If you don't understand your value, if you go around thinking that you're just average, then you're like the man with the painting — you're full of potential but you'll never tap into it.

Every morning you need to remind yourself.

"I have the brush strokes of the Great Artist all over me. I am a masterpiece."

You have been wonderfully made. Appreciate that fact and be grateful!

Joel Osteen

I'm not a mountain climber, but I've seen the videos!
Amazing, exhilarating moments when they reach the top.



For many of us, Easter Sunday, can be the top of the mountain. High praises, heavenly lilies, happy children-- beauty and blessing all around--in sermon, in song, in family gatherings, in traditions and sharing of love--and yes, even in the ladies with courage to wear Easter hats! It's a day of celebration. Jesus is alive. He fills our hearts to the tiptop with joy and life; He's our reason for being--our reason for living, and how we love Him!

Uh....that's Sunday.....but Monday's coming.
Hey, it's here--back to the office and the email; back to the laundry and dishes; back to the time-outs and taxis for kids....back to reality! Will the joy we felt Sunday still be there on Monday? He's just as much risen TODAY as He was yesterday....and He's there to meet your daily routine needs, to give you a deep joy that doesn't fade...even when the Easter flowers do! He's alive for the highs AND the lows of your life--whatever day it is. Let's celebrate Jesus EVERY day... for whether it's mountains OR Mondays, HE doesn't change! Believe it,

Peggie C. Bohanon

**Now more than ever,
we need to be able to offer each other grace.**

Grace for having different opinions.

Grace for not always knowing the answer.

Grace for making mistakes.

Grace for doing the best we can.



That's how we get through tough times
like these--by lifting each other up,
forgiving each other's humanness, and
loving each other even when it's hard.

Tiny Buddha

SEND THEM LOVE REFLECTION ON



Consider these things today, humbly, with love
and compassion and your most strong and
tender spirit. Bow your head and be quiet for
a full minute. Say a prayer.

I stand with the people of the Ukraine today. I join
those in Europe and all over the world who never
thought they would see such a thing again in their
lifetimes.

When you read this, please take a minute, hold all
those lives...the children, the infants, the young
people in school, the teachers and store clerks and
mechanics and painters and cellists and parents
and grandparents, the sick with covid and the
nurses who are still caring for them. Consider every
life...like yours, like mine, like your children, like
everyone you know or meet each day, beloved and
and stranger. Think of them, every soul who woke
up yesterday with bombs falling and surrounded
by a hungry evil that rises out of the bottomless
wanting for power.

Consider your most cherished treasure, the crease
worn photograph of your grandmother, the statue
or trees in the park where you sit and enjoy an
autumn day, your books or instruments, the
beautiful courthouse square, the church you
attended for years, your own home, your parents
home, your neighbor and sister's home. Think of
all those cherished things gone in a moment of
collision between the beautiful and sacred, with
the defiled and broken.

Carrie Newcomer

Who builds a church within
their hearts
And takes it with them
everywhere
Is holier far than they
whose church
Is but a one-day
house of prayer.

Morris Abel Beer

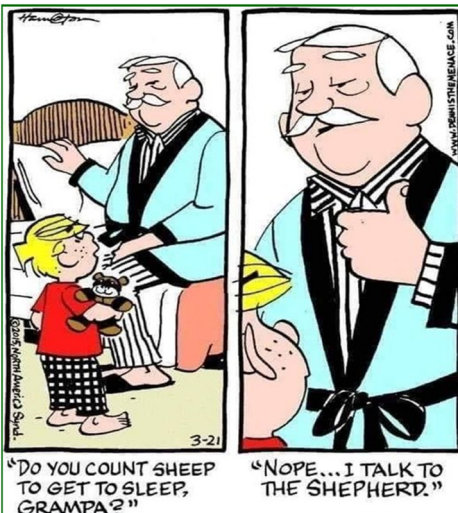


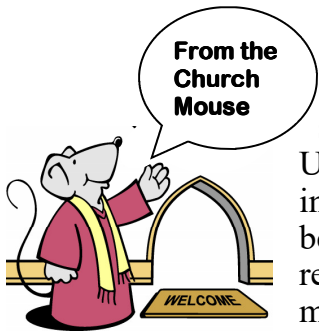
"You can do nothing
today to make God
love you an ounce
more. And you can do
nothing today to make
God love you an iota
less."

Jonathan Merrit

All I know about time
and space is that it
never hurts to give
someone a little more
of each.

Robert Brault





Revelations for APRIL from “Bly Mire” Mouse

Who would have thought that world news would so drastically change in such a short time? We heard about Putin moving so many of his troops to the Ukrainian border and we hoped it would just be a show of force. But then, the invasion started. Oh my!!! I watch the daily news and usually I am taken aback because some action more unthinkable than yesterday's bombings, etc. is reported. I truly cannot even imagine someone telling their soldiers to bomb a maternity hospital or to bomb a theater that has “children” spelled out in the courtyard on the sides of the building because over a thousand people are sheltering in the basement, or someone firing their gun at innocent civilians standing in line to get food. OUTRAGEOUS!!!! I know in our conversations about this war, Mire and I are appalled at what Putin is doing! We pray that Putin, who claims to be Christian - the Orthodox Church - we pray for God to speak to him and for him to hear God telling him to change his ways!

I will also say that I am totally amazed at the resolve of President Zelensky to stand with his troops and many civilians to fight against the Russian army and to keep their country free! We know in the past years a number of national leaders stole a “boatload” of money and valuables from their country and fled to parts unknown and just abandoned their people to fend for themselves. But not President Zelensky! He is amazing!!! Mire and I pray every day that God protects him from any harm because the Ukrainian people will need a leader like him to rebuild when this atrocity ends.

I usually write to you about happenings within the church, so now that I have emptied my “soapbox”, I will share some things. Definitely read this entire newsletter to see the activities of our Blymire's Faith Family.... the call for donations to go to Ukraine through Mission Central; the offering of a Balance Class to help us prevent falls; Game Day on the second Wednesday of each month. Lots of new things for us to experience along with those we have offered for a long time now. I know I have gained a new outlook on the last 24 hours of Jesus' life because this is what the Thursday morning Bible Study is working on. The Adult Faith Formation class is studying “The Lord's Prayer” and through Adam Hamilton, I am gaining a whole new focus on what to emphasize as I offer that prayer! BUT.....there is one activity that returns this month that has my mouth watering! THE CHICKEN BAR-B-QUES return!!!! YEAH!!!! I am so hungry for our famous Bar-b-que chicken!!! And, how about the Chicken Corn Soup sale in March??? DEEEE-LICIOUS!!!! Sandy Innerst and John Herbst along with others did an awesome job!!! I should have bought more to put in the freezer for another time!

I know I don't have to remind you about Easter Sunday on the 17th and how amazing Easter Worship always is. But, do remember the Maundy Thursday service in the Gathering Room. I have heard Pastor Lou Ann mention some of the things she is including in the service and I get chills when I think about what she is planning!!!

Now I need to close for this month but I positively wish all of you a Happy and Blessed Easter. After all, this is for us the reality of how much God loves us!!! The empty tomb is the measure of the depth of God's love for everyone!!!

April humor:

Q: What was the Easter Bunny's favorite vegetable?

A: EGG-plant.

Q: Why is everyone so tired on April 1st?

A: Because they've just finished a long, 31 day March.

Last night I lay in bed looking up at the stars in the sky, and I thought to myself, where the heck is the ceiling?

God Bless!

Bly and Mire



HOLY WEEK i-spy

Create this craft to share the events of Holy Week with a younger sibling or friend.



What you need:

- Clear bottle or jar with lid
- White rice
- Small items that symbolize Holy Week events

What you do:

1. Pour rice into bottle or jar so it's about two-thirds full.
2. Add the small items. Ideas: leaf, donkey, cup, towel square, praying hands, coin, bird, nails, thorn, cross, dice, stick, lamb, stone, white fabric.
3. Fasten the lid. Then shake and turn the bottle to "spy" each item.

PUZZLE



Resurrection refresher

All four gospels confirm Jesus' resurrection, and each one offers important details.

Directions: Complete the crossword. Then insert the circled letters (in order of the clue numbers) to complete John 20:17 below.

ACROSS

2. The women did this when they heard the angels talk about Jesus' death. (Luke 24:8)
4. The women at the tomb did this when they saw Jesus. (Matthew 28:9)
5. The man in Jesus' empty tomb wore this color robe. (Mark 16:5)
7. Jesus instructed his brothers to go here. (Matthew 28:10)
8. Peter saw strips of this in the tomb. (Luke 24:12)

DOWN

1. At first, Mary thought Jesus was this person. (John 20:15)
3. As an angel came from heaven, this happened. (Matthew 28:2)
6. She went with Mary to anoint Jesus' body. (Mark 16:1)



What did Jesus want Mary to tell his brothers?

"I _ m ascen_ing _ o my
Fat_er and your Fa_her,
to _ y _ od and your God."
Joh_ 20:17, NIV

Answer: ACROSS 2. remembered, 4. worshipped, 5. white, 7. Galilee, 8. linen;
DOWN 1. garden, 3. earthquake, 6. Salome; "I am ascending to my Father and
your Father, to my God and your God." John 20:17, NIV