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From the Pastor's Desk



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

As is usual for the writing of this message, I am working on this before we celebrate Christmas and so it is somewhat difficult to think about a focus for my ramblings. But this year is a bit different. I am thinking about how so many of our faith family have been through some difficult times the past few months. We have had a number of people in the hospital.... some for a short stay (overnight) and others for a length of time (a week or more). Some of our loved ones have been in for procedures from Heart Catheterizations to Tavar Valve surgery to hip replacement. One of our loved ones remarkably walked the road to recovery from a farm accident and is doing well. A few of our loved ones have been through cancer surgery of various forms and now are preparing for additional treatment, so we definitely pray that God's strength is with them everyday!

We also have a new part of our faith family going through a very trying time. Jackie Miller suffered a stroke that affected and blocked the use of her right arm and leg. She was at Well Span Rehab at Apple Hill when she developed a blood clot and was rushed back to York Hospital. They put her in a medically induced coma in order to allow her heart to gain strength, so she has been on life support. (At the time of this writing, she is still in that coma.) Now, the bright ray of hope in this is that the family was told she does have brain activity so a major factor is very promising.

I myself (as many of you know and have kept me in your prayers) will be having surgery on December 31. I have had problems for a few years with degeneration of cervical discs, so I will have surgery to ease the pressure these discs are placing on my spinal cord. As I write this message, I can only focus on my hopes that this surgery will ease the pain I am having and also relieve the numbness in both hands. The surgeon will be placing a pencil-lead size rod between the discs that are giving me problems in order to help relieve the effects of the degeneration.

As so many who have been kept in prayer share how much it meant to them, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the many prayers I have already received! I affirm the power of prayer, and once again, I can testify to what prayer means for anyone facing tough times! I know that some believers would say that we should not have surgery because if we truly believe in an all-powerful God, we should



January

God has given many in our healthcare fields an amazing ability as doctors and nurses who help many through their health problems and to walk on the road to recovery. Definitely God has given us the plants of the field for the health of our bodies and I affirm all who choose to live a healthy lifestyle. I also affirm that God has given us talents and abilities that we can use for his glory and this includes doctors and nurses. I know many in the health care field who are people of faith and they give praise to God for what they are able to do. I also know of doctors who will pray with their patients before they go in to surgery. So, it is not that faith and healthcare are opposite ends of the spectrum in our life, but they can work together to enable us to live a health-ful life!

I sincerely hope that we as a faith family may soon get a “breather” from so many having health problems and concerns. But, more than that, I pray that everyone may have a strong faith and a powerful prayer life so that if or when they face any health problem, their first thought may be that God is with them and will carry them through. I know this is truth for my life and I know God has promised this for all!

God Bless you ALL! With love - Pastor Lou Ann



SPECIAL SERVICES in JANUARY

January 6 - Christmas 2

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

The visit of the Wise Men; Herod plots against Jesus

Sermon: Presented by a member of the congregation

January 13 - Baptism of Christ

Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

John prepares the way; the Baptism of Jesus

Sermon: Presented by a member of the congregation

January 20- Epiphany 2

Gospel: John 2:1-11

The wedding at Cana

Sermon: "Do Whatever He Tells You"

January 27 - Epiphany 3

Gospel: Luke 4:14-21

Jesus begins public ministry; the rejection of Jesus at Nazareth

SCHEDULE OF DUTIES for JANUARY

GREETERS:

January 6 - To be announced
January 13 - To be announced
January 20 - To be announced
January 27 - To be announced

GIFT COLLECTORS:

January 6- Tarry Ness
January 13 - Sterling Boyd
January 20 - David & Susan McDowell
January 27 - Rod & Linda Eichelberger

LAY READERS:

January 6 - Linda Eichelberger
January 13 - Linda Rost
January 20 - Janie Montgomery
January 27 - Barb Adams

ACOLYTES:

January 6 - Greg & Sonja Ness
January 13 - Nelson & Marti Leader
January 20 - Janie Montgomery
January 27 - Lynz & Alys Leader

COFFEE SOCIAL HOSTS:

January 6 - To be announced
January 13 - To be announced
January 20- To be announced
January 27 - To be announced

SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS:

January 6 - Terry Doll
January 13 - Ed Adams
January 20 - Chase Matthews
January 27 - Wyatt Myers

LIGHTING OPERATORS:

January 6 - Joel Frey
January 13 - Greg Ness
January 20 - Greg Ness
January 27 - Sterling Boyd

CAMERA OPERATORS:

January 6 - Greg Ness
January 13 - John Sterling
January 20 - Todd Miller
January 27 - Terry Doll

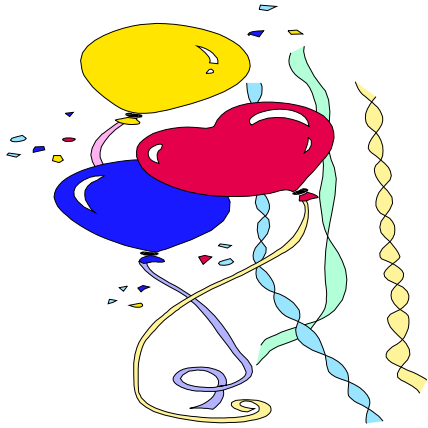
VIDEO OPERATORS:

January 6 - Sydney Brown
January 13 - Jeri Jones
January 20 - Judy Bishop
January 27 - Nelson Leader

ALTAR GUILD: Jean McDowell & Barb Adams

DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER: January 15

JANUARY
BIRTHDAYS



*May God
Bless You on
Your
Birthday!*

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|-----|-----------------|
| 1. | Jared Miller | 20. | Rick Sipe |
| | Todd Miller | 21. | Ed Adams |
| | Derek Troop | | Gwen Wise |
| 2. | Burl Gingerich | 26. | Cindie McKinsey |
| | Chet Wise | | Renne Myers |
| 3. | Keith Markey | | |
| | Delores Noll | | |
| 4. | Tracey Dilling | | |
| | John Sterling | | |
| 7. | Nicholas Innerst | | |
| | Morgan Keller | | |
| 8. | Nancy Myers | | |
| 9. | Paige Barley | | |
| 11. | Damion Albright | | |
| | Steven Knickel | | |
| 12. | Tina Leader | | |
| 13. | Hannah Leader | | |
| 14. | Benjamin Barley | | |
| | John Herbst | | |
| 16. | Brooks Barley | | |
| 18. | Silvia Knickel | | |
| 19. | Danielle Marshall | | |

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Freda Berry
The Haven at Springwood
2321 Freedom Way
York, PA 17402
717-718-3615

Doris Harper
Arlington Court, Room 121
Senior Commons
@ Powder Mill
1775 Powder Mill Rd
York, PA 17403



Emerson Knaper
855 New School Lane
Dallastown, PA 17313
717-244-5003

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

Joyce Shenberger
2105 Knob Hill Road
Apartment 213
York, PA 17403
717-845-3162



Remember
and pray for
Our Members
in the
Military

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



... to the **Sisters of Service** and everyone else who helped to prepare food, set up and clean up at our annual Church Christmas party.

... to the **Sisters of Service** for organizing this year's Cookie Walk. Thanks also to everyone who helped setup and sell cookies, as well as those who donated home-made cookies and those who bought them.

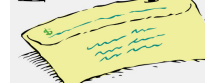
... to **everyone who donated items** for Helping Hands for the Homeless and to **Barb Marshall** for distributing them.

... to **everyone who helped decorate** both the main church and the Red Brick Chapel for our Christmas services.

... to **Nelson Leader, Brenda Kerchner and our choir members** for presenting the beautiful



Offering
Envelopes



There will be a Town Meeting held on Sunday, January 6, immediately after the worship service to discuss and approve the budget and the members of the Coordinating Ministry Team for 2019. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!

You may pick up your 2019 offering envelopes from the Welcome Table in the Gathering Room. If you did not use envelopes in 2018, but would like them for 2019, please let Wanda know.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Undesignated General Fund

Red Brick Chapel

Cemetery

Month-2018	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Income	Expense
January	\$10,386.24	\$12,278.60	\$3.48	\$549.36	\$698.29	\$770.40
February	\$10,166.17	\$9,496.26	\$3.09	\$312.96	\$100.11	\$445.00
March	\$8,831.00	\$12,747.00	\$3.37	\$453.81	\$0.09	\$535.40
April	\$10,801.11	\$9,383.39	\$3.22	\$280.76	\$3,000.08	\$0.00
May	\$9,512.60	\$13,731.94	\$3.30	\$158.01	\$800.21	\$926.86
June	\$10,680.70	\$14,267.26	\$3.17	\$277.13	\$0.15	\$2,855.40
July	\$11,207.87	\$9,960.37	\$153.26	\$77.51	\$9,006.58	\$1,956.02
August	\$8,548.49	\$11,412.86	\$1.62	\$102.76	\$0.19	\$1,930.00
September	\$15,239.05	\$14,198.21	\$0.42	\$362.95	\$2,000.05	\$2,518.49
October	\$9,533.61	\$7,543.43	\$0.43	\$107.50	\$500.05	\$1,930.00
November	\$13,645.91	\$16,092.56	\$0.41	\$297.94	\$0.03	\$1,943.76
December						
Total	\$118,552.75	\$131,111.88	\$175.77	\$2,980.69	\$16,105.83	\$15,811.33

Balance of Undesignated General Fund @ December 1, 2018

(in September transferred \$4234.57 from CD interest)

(\$1702.42)

Balance of Red Brick Chapel Fund @ December 1, 2018

(Includes \$49,039.31 Endowment)

\$73,822.04

Balance of Cemetery Fund @ December 1, 2018

(Includes \$774,028.76 CD's, Trusts, UCC Foundation-in July transferred \$9000 from the UCC Foundation to BB & T Bank)

\$777,183.37

Financial Assistance Given through Hand of Hope Fund - 2018

	#	Total	Monthly	Available
	Families	\$\$\$	Donations	Balance
Beginning				\$ 376.57
January	2	\$ 175.00	\$ 62.55	\$ 264.12
February	4	\$ 150.00	\$ 67.65	\$ 181.77
March	1	\$ 50.00	\$ 69.01	\$ 200.78
April	2	\$ 75.00	\$ 79.82	\$ 205.60
May	5	\$ 225.00	\$ 382.60	\$ 363.20
June	1	\$ 50.00	\$ 62.21	\$ 375.41
July	1	\$ 25.00	\$ 82.27	\$ 432.68
August	3	\$ 150.00	\$ 90.86	\$ 373.54
September			\$ 61.55	\$ 435.09
October	3	\$ 75.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 360.09
November	3	\$ 341.83	\$ 158.62	\$ 176.88
December				
Total	22	\$ 1,316.83	\$ 1,117.14	



MEN'S GROUP



Join the men of Blymire on Tuesday, January 8, at 7:00 PM at the church. Bring a friend to the meeting. As always we have an open discussion on joys and concerns. Come join us for a time of sharing. REMEMBER ALL MEN ARE WELCOME.



FAITH KIDZ will be meeting on Wednesdays, January 9 and January 23 from 6:30-8:00PM.



HOMEWOOD HOMES NEEDS YOU

If you can do simple sewing, Homewood Homes needs you! The skilled care facility needs soaker pads and laundry bags for the residents. The directions for each are on the bulletin board in the main hallway.

There is a box of material located in the fellowship hall— flannel for the soaker pads and cotton for the laundry bags. Any questions, please see Steph Frey. Thank you for supporting this project.



Our Women's Book Club will hold their next meetings on Tuesday, January 8, and Tuesday, January 22, at 10:00 AM in the Gathering Room. And . . . just like the Book Club in Mary Ann Shaffer's novel, The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, we are reading our own book choices and discussing them with the group. New

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY



You are invited to join us each Wednesday morning at 9:15 for a weekly Bible study. Topics vary depending on the interest of the group. We have taken a break for the holidays and Pastor Lou Ann's surgery, but will resume on January 23. This study is not limited to members of our church, so invite any friends or relatives who might be interested to come as well.

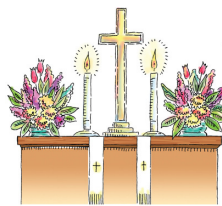


You are invited to come to our Crafty Chicks gathering on Sunday, January 27, from 1:00-5:00 PM. Please bring any needlework, scrap-booking or other craft project that you are working on. We will have a good time finishing those projects and fellowshiping with friends.

We will also be having a potluck dinner for those attending.



WE ASK THAT YOU PLEASE MINIMIZE the use of fragrances, perfumes, or colognes when you come to church. These strong odors are dangerous irritants that can trigger asthma attacks in some of our members. Thank you for your consideration.



SPONSORS NEEDED

If you would like to become a sponsor for the Bulletin and/or Altar Flowers in memory of a loved one or in honor of an occasion, please fill in your information in the book located on the podium in the Gathering Room. The cost of sponsoring the bulletins for a week is \$10.00.

EMMANUEL'S CLOSET

January 2019



Christmas Project

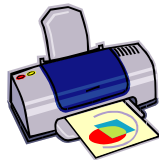
We would again like to thank everyone who bought a Christmas gift for one of the children at Emmanuel's Closet.

We gave gifts to a total of 63 children and teens. This may have been the only gift some of those children received for Christmas. They were distributed on December 8th and 15th.

In addition to the gifts, we also gave out extra bags of holiday food and gift cards for perishable food to our clients to help provide them with a good Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner. We helped 57 families at Thanksgiving and 56 families at Christmas. Thank you to everyone who donated food or extra funds to help buy them.

Cartridge Recycling

Don't forget to bring in your empty printer cartridges and place them in the box above the coat rack in the hallway. Thank you for your support of this project which will not only raise money for those in need, but also help to keep our planet "green."



E.C. Continuing Needs

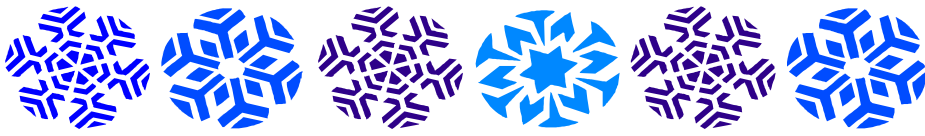
Juice
Cereal/Oatmeal
Peanut Butter/Jelly
Pancake Mix
Spaghetti Sauce
Boxed Dry Pastas
Helper Meals
Dessert Items
Condiment Items
Canned Tuna/Meats
Canned Fruit/Vegetables
Soap
Shampoo
Toilet Paper
Paper Towels
Dish Washing Liquid
Laundry Detergent
All-Purpose Cleaners
Children's books/toys
Small household items

Please, NO Expired Food Items

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

Tuna Helper
Canned sweet potatoes
Bagged macaroni
Canned carrots
Hot cocoa
Instant vanilla/chocolate pudding

THANKS FOR CARING!



January
2019

Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right.

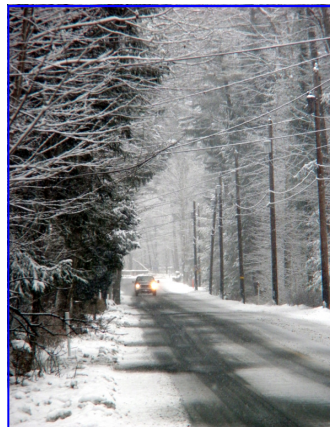
Oprah Winfrey

Healing Hearts
Inspirations

TWENTY THINGS TO REMEMBER IN THE NEW YEAR...

1. Faith is the ability to not panic.
2. If you worry, you didn't pray. If you prayed, don't worry.
3. As a child of God, prayer is kinda like calling home every day.
4. Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape.
5. When we get tangled up in our problems, be still. He wants us to be still so He can untangle the knot.
6. Do the math. Count your blessings.
7. God wants spiritual fruit, not religious nuts.
8. Dear God: I have a problem. It's me.
9. Silence is often misinterpreted, but never misquoted.
10. Laugh every day -- it's like inner jogging.
11. The most important things in your home are the people.
12. Growing old is inevitable, growing up is optional.
13. There is no key to happiness. The door is always open. Come on in.
14. A grudge is a heavy thing to carry.
15. He who dies with the most toys is still dead.
16. We do not remember days, but moments. Life moves too fast, so enjoy your precious moments.
17. Nothing is real to you until you experience it; otherwise it's just hearsay.
18. Its all right to sit on your pity pot every now and again. Just be sure to flush when you are

"The birds are gone, The
ground is white,
The winds are wild, They
chill and bite;
The ground is thick with
slush and sleet,
And I barely feel my
feet."



In Christ you're a native of
heaven right now
You aren't a citizen of here
trying to work your way into
heaven.
You're a citizen of heaven
trying to work you way
through here.

You will
never look
into the eyes
of someone
God does not
love.
Always
be kind!

"WE ARE THE BIBLES
THE WORLD IS READING;
WE ARE THE CREEDS
THE WORLD IS NEEDING;
WE ARE THE SERMONS
THE WORLD IS HEEDING."

BILLY GRAHAM

cr@sswalk.com

Antarctica is the coldest, windiest, and darkest continent on the planet. It is home to the Emperor penguins who at the same time every year abandon their ocean home and march to their breeding grounds. They walk in single file, looking like pilgrims on a holy trek. When they tire, the penguins slide along on their stomachs in toboggan style. The journey is often gruesome with heavy winds and blinding snow. In the face of incredible winter storms with 100 mile per hour winds and temperatures of 85 below zero, the penguins huddle together in large groups, eager to warm themselves next to their nurturing brothers.

LEARN FROM THE PENGUINS

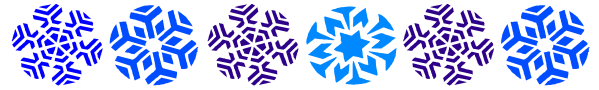
1. Walking slowly is one of the best ways to move. We're often in too big a hurry. Waddling is the right rhythm for those who want to savor all that is going on around them.
2. Stand tall, and do not let the forces of nature torment you or bring you down.
3. In courting rituals, try bowing to the one you love. It is a sign of both tenderness and respect.
4. Huddling together in a circle is one of the best ways to



1,000,000,000,000,000,000

(One Quintillion)

How many water molecules make up
the average snow crystal.



"Do not be dismayed by the brokenness of the world. All things break. And all things can be mended. Not with time, as they say, but with intention. So go. Love intentionally, extravagantly, unconditionally. The broken world waits in darkness for the light that is you."

I hope that in this new year,
you make mistakes.
Because if you are making mistakes,
then you are doing new things,
trying new things, learning, living,
pushing yourself, changing yourself,
changing your world. You're doing
things you've never done before,
and more importantly,
you're doing something.
So that's my wish for you, and all of
us, and my wish for myself. Make
new mistakes. Make glorious,
amazing mistakes. Make mistakes
you've never made before. Don't
stop, don't worry that it isn't good
enough, or it isn't perfect,
whatever it is: art, or love, or work

Remember!

There will be no Healing Hearts meetings
or activities in February.



Revelations for January from “Bly Mire” Mouse

O.M.G. (If you are not into the anagrams used in texting, this means....

Oh My Goodness!) Were you here when the choir did the Cantata “Rhapsody In Bluegrass?????” They were MAGNIFICENT!!! I have said many times how much I love the music in this church but, this experience is THEEE BEST by far! My little ol’ foot is still bouncing with the beat! And, JANE PICKING - the narrator - she did a superb job and had us all giggling when she took a nip when she told about the dusty trail. I still chuckle when I think about that! I heard Nelson say that JOHN STERLING will be editing the DVD but when that is finished, a copy will be sent to Joe Martin, the composer of the cantata. I would love to be a mouse in his house when he watches it! And the soloists, WOW! Special thanks to KATIE Z from St. Joe’s. How can she hit those high notes????? Again, all I can say is..... BRAVO CHOIR!

Of course, the beautiful message of the Cantata made me reminisce about the scene of the birth of Jesus. When the Christmas story is told, often times people will mention the cattle, the sheep, the donkeys and the camels. But, did you know there were mice there as well? My Grandmouse hundreds of generations back was there with her family! She told her children to tell all of their future families about the wonder and the beauty of that night. And so, as we celebrate Christmas 2018, I am able to tell the story of Jesus’ birth as it was passed down to me. Definitely mice have a bit of a different point of view from any other creature - human or otherwise!

Can you believe it is another new year???? I know it is an overused cliché, but where did this year go? I will share that even though I do not want to wish time away, I am looking forward to longer daylight hours! I do not like the darkness of winter! I wonder if that is because darkness reminds me of the influence of Satan? Mire often says that, so (now don’t tell her I said this) I will have to agree with her!

As I listened to the prayer concerns in church over the past weeks, this faith family has a lot of people with health concerns! We are thankful to say that many who have been through surgery came through with flying colors! Now, a few of those who had surgery because of cancer will be taking the next step of treatment. So, Mire, myself and all our little ones are praying that our faith family all get healthy and have a healthy, happy new year!

Since most of us have trouble during the holidays with eating too much and packing on some pounds, I thought you might like this one..... Two curious boys were looking at the bathroom scales, “How does this thing work?” asked one of the boys. The other answered, “I’m not sure exactly, but I do know that when you stand on it, it either makes you mad or it makes you cry.” (Let’s hope no one has this happen to them!!!)

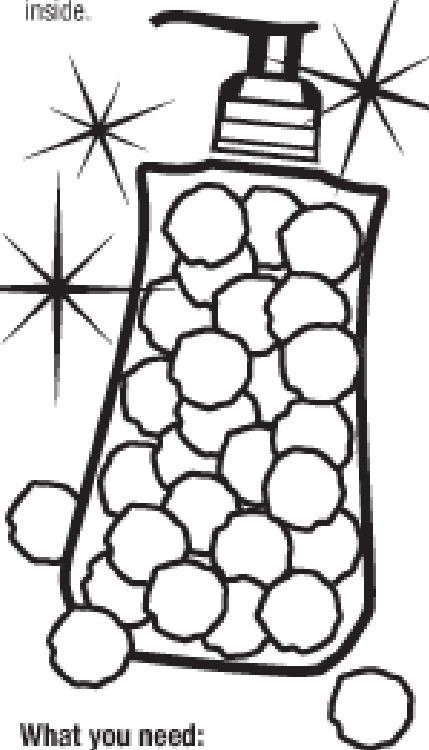


With our love,

Your faith-friends, BLY and MIRE and family!

Washed Clean

Decorate a soap bottle as a reminder of how baptism cleans us on the inside.



What you need:

- Bottle of clear liquid hand soap
- Small craft pompoms (different colors)
- Wooden skewer

What you do:

1. Remove the bottle label and unscrew the lid.
2. Using the skewer, push pompoms down into the soap one at a time.
3. Replace the lid and put the dispenser in a bathroom or kitchen.



A fresh start

Baptism is a blessing because it changes us and gives us hope.

Directions: Write the boxed letters in the squares below. Then unscramble those letters to form two words that complete the Bible verse and represent the gift of baptism.

We were therefore buried with him
through baptism into death in order that,
just as Christ was raised from the dead
through the glory of the Father,
we too may live a _____.

Romans 6:4, NIV

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: life / new life