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From the Pastor's Desk



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

Six months now we are in the throes of this pandemic. (I began July/Aug's column with the three month indicator.) At the beginning of this year I was hoping that 2020 would be a year of "clear vision" but I never dreamed what would become more clear in the intervening months. We definitely still need to be vigilant in incorporating as many precautions as we can to squelch the spread of COVID19. We had the curve on the down slope but then suddenly spikes were everywhere through the nation. Now most areas' numbers are going down. In our community we have become aware of the quarantine for the Dallastown Marching Band (which I have heard was a negative case). I listen for the York County daily cases on the news and that seems like it hit a high and is decreasing at this time. I do feel that some of the spikes in case numbers are because of increased testing and not because the virus is spreading more rapidly. (I may be looking through rose colored glasses with this statement, but please, do not think badly of me for being on the hopeful side.)

The other item that has become more prevalent to me recently is how we are so quick to place a name or an identification on people who have a different opinion from ours. On all levels of our society if anyone says something that is construed as negative about someone else they are immediately termed a "racist"; a "xenophobe"; a "homophobe"; or whatever other name you can think of. I am concerned about how this is deepening the division that has been a part of our society for many years. I will confer that there are SOME people of EVERY ethnicity that do fulfill the qualifications to be classified as any of the "...phobes" we can mention. But, as I said to a family member recently who is very focused on how racism effects their family, I do not look negatively at anyone's skin color, religious affiliation, spiritual practice, lifestyle, etc., UNTIL they do something negative to me or about me. Then, I develop a mindset that they are a person I would rather not associate with. I am insulted if someone terms me a racist simply because I do not like the personality of one person who is black, Latino, Muslim, Asian or whatever. I react to an individual's personality if I do not agree with them or feel comfortable with their personality, but not because they are black, white, brown, gay, Muslim or whatever. Please, let us get past placing identification tags on everyone. PLEASE, pray that the people of our nation can get beyond our divisions and our disdain for anyone who simply disagrees



with us. Let us make a concerted effort to get to the mindset that “we just have to agree to disagree” and not condemn someone with a differing opinion.

I realize that I have not kept a spiritual focus on the previous paragraph. So I will look at that issue with the mindset of “what would Jesus do?” I think the answer to that would be obvious. I think Jesus would direct us to accept one another as we/they are and celebrate who we/they are.....especially the differences between us. I think Jesus would tell us to love one another but not love the bad things we/they do or the opposing opinions we/they may have. I think Jesus would tell us that “Yes. Black Lives Matter” but so do “Blue Lives”; “White Lives”; “Children’s lives”; “Doctors and Nurses Lives”;ALL lives matter! And, we are ALL equal in the eyes of God. I pray we can see one another through the eyes of God.

God Bless us ALL! God protect us all!!!

With love - Pastor Lou Ann



SPECIAL SERVICES in SEPTEMBER

Sept. 6 - Pentecost 14

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20 - Sonja Ness

Sermon: “Does Quantity Matter?”

Focus: Reproving another who sins. . .where two or three are gathered

Sept. 13 - Pentecost 15

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35 - Linda Eichelberger

Sermon: “Why Is Forgiveness So Hard?” - Rev. Dr. Carrie Call

New Penn Central Conference Minister

Sept. 20- Pentecost 16

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-18 - Janie Montgomery

Sermon: “God’s Compensation Standard”

Focus: The workers in the Vineyards. . . the last will be first and the first will be last

Sept. 27 - Pentecost 17

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32 - Peggie Free

Sermon: “Performance, Not Promise!”

Focus: The authority of Jesus questioned . . . two sons working do not follow through

Outdoor Worship Service

Since our outdoor drive-in worship services were so well received in the spring, we have decided to move back outside again in September and October. You will be able to worship from your car or bring lawn chairs and sit in the pavilion or next to your car. In case of inclement weather, the service will be moved indoors. It will continue to begin at 9:00 AM each week.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



***May God
Bless You
On Your
Birthday!***

- | | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|-----|---------------------|
| 1. | Brent Barley | 23. | Tim Sleeth |
| | Kimberly Dilling | 24. | Beth March |
| 2. | Connie Hays | 25. | Andrew Mickey |
| 3. | Susan Knaub | 26. | Michele Leader |
| | Linda Eichelberger | 27. | Madeline Heindel |
| 4. | Anjuli Shane | | Shyanne Luckenbaugh |
| 5. | Debra Forbes | 28. | Joan Henry |
| 6. | Beverly Troop | | Linda King |
| 10. | Eric John | 30. | Lou Ann Jones |
| | Orion Valentino-
Charlton | | Aiden Bowen |
| | Timothy
Luckenbaugh Jr. | | |
| 12. | Joyce Horning | | |
| 14. | Sally Bosley | | |
| | Braydon Picking | | |
| 19. | Carol Bair | | |
| 22. | Meagan Bowen | | |
| | Bodie Barley | | |

CELEBRATING SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Sept. 21 - Jaron and Caitlin Picking- 1 year
Sept. 22 - Nicholas and Tina Innerst - 13 years
Sept. 23 - Gene and Trudy Wise - 58 years
Sept. 24 - Troy and Jane Picking - 26 years
Sept. 26 - Mike and Cindy Axe - 22 years
Sept. 27 - Burl and Carol Gingerich - 34 years

FINANCIAL REPORT

Undesignated General Fund

Red Brick Chapel

Cemetery

Month-2020	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Income	Expense
January	\$9,741.85	\$12,109.48	\$0.35	\$269.82	\$812.70	\$1,291.80
February	\$14,597.12	\$13,351.53	\$1.68	\$274.10	\$1,142.27	\$0.00
March	\$8,721.22	\$11,240.07	\$3.39	\$435.00	\$101.14	\$211.30
April	\$11,764.11	\$8,301.79	\$1.32	\$191.93	\$0.44	\$0.00
May	\$13,058.86	\$10,042.83	\$0.80	\$160.11	\$100.25	\$1,930.00
June	\$12,515.15	\$19,338.81	\$0.85	\$314.46	\$200.18	\$2,326.30
July	\$9,101.78	\$10,003.38	\$125.76	\$98.76	\$7.22	\$2,595.00
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						
Total	\$79,500.09	\$84,387.89	\$134.15	\$1,744.18	\$2,364.21	\$8,354.40

Balance of Undesignated General Fund @ August 1, 2020

\$511.70

Balance of Red Brick Chapel Fund @ August 1, 2020
(Includes \$52,128.09 Endowment)

\$71,301.80

Balance of Cemetery Fund @ August 1, 2020
(Includes \$804,781.97 CD's, Trusts, UCC Foundation)

\$813,810.56

Financial Assistance Given through Hand of Hope Fund - 2020

	#	Total	Monthly	Available
	Families	\$\$\$	Donations	Balance
Beginning				\$ 437.45
January			\$ 69.87	\$ 507.32
February	1	\$ 25.00	\$ 86.47	\$ 568.79
March	2	\$ 75.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 563.79
April	3	\$ 175.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 478.79
May	2	\$ 1700.00	\$ 1900.00	\$ 678.79
June	2	\$ 310.75	\$ 725.00	\$ 1093.04
July	2	\$ 575.00	\$ 140.00	\$ 658.04
August				
September				
October				
November				
December				
Total	12	\$ 2860.75	\$ 3081.34	

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Freda Berry
The Haven at Springwood
2321 Freedom Way
York, PA 17402

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



Linda Trone
Room 700
Colonial Manor Nursing Home
970 Colonial Avenue
York, PA 17403

Keeping in our prayers
Dolores Barley
Burl Gingerich
Nancy Taylor
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



Beth March would like to thank everyone for the prayers, well wishes and cards following her recent surgery. They were appreciated very much.

Family Fun Bonus Books

The SOS (Sisters of Service) is currently selling discount books with Buy-One-Get-One Free coupons for various restaurants and other activities in the area. The price has now been reduced to \$5.00. If you would like to buy one of the books, please see Sonja Ness or Pastor Lou Ann or stop by the church office. Thank you.



Our Women's Book Club has now begun meeting at 11:00 AM on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at a local restaurant, combining a book talk and lunch. We are currently meeting at the Dallastown Family Restaurant, 2695 S. Queen St., York. The restaurant is subject to change. Please come join us. Any questions, call Ginny Weber at (717) 246-9027

Fun Team Fundraisers

If you placed an order for Whoopie Pies, don't forget to pick them up here at the church on Tuesday, September 15, from 3:00-5:00 PM.

Beginning September 20, we will once again be taking orders for apple dumplings. Watch the bulletins and next newsletter for more details.



On Saturday, September 12, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM, the Men's Group will be holding their monthly chicken BBQ sale. You will get a half chicken, baked potato, and roll and butter all for \$8.00. Previous months sold out very early, so if you want to be sure to get a dinner, please fill out the slip below and turn it in to the church office or call 244-0655. Our last BBQ of the season will be October 10.

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Number of Dinners _____ x \$8.00 = _____

Landscaping Update from the Trustees

The job of the Trustees of our church is to maintain the church building and surrounding grounds and to make repairs as needed. After considerable review of existing water runoff issues, we have determined what repairs are needed to correct these ongoing problems. We have signed a contract with All Seasons Resources in Dallastown.

Plans are to replace the above ground system which has been causing erosion and damage to the foundation. We will install a below ground system which will help control the water runoff during icy weather. The work will be completed in Phases.

Phase 1 will deal primarily with the east side and south end of the Christian Education wing. Plans include: replacing the down spouts with upgraded materials, removing the grass between the sidewalk and brick structure, and placing a new underground drainpipe system topped with landscape stone from the entry to the sidewalk at the end of the wing. Plants will be added to make a welcoming entrance to the building. With this, the damage that has been done to the cement sidewalks from the mowers will be greatly reduced.

At the stair end of the Christian Education wing where the sidewalk has been damaged, it will be removed and replaced. The grassy areas on both sides of the steps will be removed and landscape stone will be placed between the sidewalk and the building. Plants will also be added at intervals. Phase 2 of the project will be at the main entrance of the church where the sidewalk has begun to sink and is creating pools of water which are undermining the foundation there. The cement area will be raised and stone placed beneath. We will then add landscape stone and drainage pipe to divert the downspout water.

We have encountered the same damage on the west side of the Christian Education wing (outside the main entrance and office area.) The existing down spouts will be connected to a new underground drainage system. This will decrease the chances of ice forming on the drive entrance due to runoff waters during rain or melting snow. The drainpipe will be connected to a stone drain field located at the edge of the driveway area on the west side of the cemetery steps.

As you can imagine, it will take considerable funds to make these repairs and upgrades. Therefore, we are asking for your help to make this possible. One way is through a **"Donors Plaque"**. If you would like to make a donation to this project "in memory of" or "in honor of" someone or something, please submit the form below, along with your contribution. *We ask for a minimum of \$50.00 contribution.* The size of the name plate will be approximately 1½ inch x 4 inches. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can request that your name not be placed on the plaque.

----- **PLEASE PRINT** -----

In Loving Memory of

In Honor of

Name of the donor _____

Include donor's name on plaque _____ Do **not** include donor's name on plaque _____



SCHOOL 2020 STYLE (AT HOME)

Homeschool Day 1

Wondering how I can get
this kid transferred out of
my class.



All these kids who are learning
"Common Core" math are about
to learn to "Carry the One" from
their new homeschool teachers.



If you see me talking to myself,
don't worry. I'm just having
a parent-teacher conference.

MOMMAGEDON ACADEMY

*Dear students,
Due to Covid 19, school is
under new management.
Please note the following
changes from your
new teacher.*

1. Monday is pajama day.
No, scratch that.
Every day is pajama day.
2. There is no lunch lady.
Noon is culinary arts.
Make yourself
something to eat.
3. Starting today you can
wear open-toed shoes
to class. I'm just
impressed you are
wearing shoes.
4. If you don't understand the
assignment, ask your older
sibling. I don't get it either.
5. School begins promptly at
the conclusion of my 2nd cup
of coffee and ends at cocktail
hour which will be adjusted
depending on how big a
disaster today's lessons have
been.
6. If you hit your sister I'll swat
you. There's no disciplinary
code here. I was tenured
before you ever made your
arrival on this planet. Try me!

*Love, your new teacher,
Ms. Mommy*



PRAYER FOR A PANDEMIC

May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury
of working from home
Remember those who must choose
between preserving their health
or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for
our children when their schools close
Remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those that have
no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our
margin money in the tumult
of the economic market
Remember those who
have no margin at all.

May we who settle in
for a quarantine at home
Remember those
who have no home.

As fear grips our country,
let us choose love.
During this time when
we cannot physically wrap
our arms around each other,
Let us yet find ways to be
the loving embrace of God
to our neighbors.

AMEN

Cameron Bellm

JUST LOOK UP!

I nervously watched as the beautiful
little bluebird struggled to find a way
out of my atrium. The room is
glassed on 3 sides and opens to the
sky at the top. So often, birds fly
down there, but then battle to get
out by flying themselves into the
glass walls.

When I see this, I start praying
and I anguish until I know they
are safely free. I pray for them
to look up to see their freedom.
Sometimes it is a long while before
they realize that their release is right
above them.

How often do we find ourselves
trapped in problems and we bang
our heads against walls trying to find
a solution? We wear ourselves
down and wonder where our
peace has gone. Is the answer so
simple for us as it is for the birds?
"Just look up". How simple, and
yet we struggle and exhaust
ourselves before we finally grasp
this wonderful truth.

Our freedom, our solutions, and the
help we need all lie in turning our
eyes upward to our Heavenly Father
who patiently waits. It may be an
immediate answer in our spirits, or it
may be guidance to the help we
need__ but He is always faithful
to answer.

*Father, it is so simple, but like the
birds, we forget, we fail, we fall short
of remembering our Lord above who
is our constant help in time of need.*

Belle Todd





September 2020

END OF DAY PRAYER

Dear Father in Heaven,
here, safe with you,
I drink in your peace.
Help me to sift through
the many experiences,
feelings and
thoughts I have
encountered today.
I allow myself to rest,
to wind down and
to be still.

Help me to surrender
all I am to you, my
fatigue, my concerns,
my hopes and fears.

As I sleep tonight, I
choose to hold your
hand. I choose to live
with you. I choose to
believe, I choose to
trust, I choose you
always.

Amen.

Julie Palmer

"If you celebrate your
differentness, the
world will, too. It
believes exactly what
you tell it—through the
words you use to
describe yourself, the
actions you take to
care for yourself, and
the choices you make
to express yourself. Tell
the world you are a
one-of-a-kind creation
who came here to
experience wonder and
spread joy. Expect to
be accommodated."

Victoria Moran

THE GIFTS OF EXPERIENCE

"During your life, learning more about God comes from life experiences. Striving to know God and be more like him is the adventure of a lifetime. Just as human children mature and learn to better appreciate their parents and what they do for them, the children of humanity can grow closer to God and increasingly desire to be more like Him. This is the spiritual growth that can bring sincere satisfaction to the soul.

Your spiritual life can be compared with a palace that is filled with gifts for you. Each day represents the entrance to a new room filled with wonders to be discovered. In such a palace, every time you find yourself on the threshold of a new and unexplored room, you would be filled with hope and anticipation, and ready to find the new gifts. Why not start your days this way? Each day you stand at the threshold of a new undiscovered experience. Maybe some of the things you find are not what you expected, but you can be sure that if you do not search, you will find nothing, and if you remain in a single room you will be missing a lot of things to discover and enjoy. Open your mind and your heart to the experiences of each new day and take the opportunity like someone who has received a gift from heaven.



I believe churches
are meant for
praising God.
But so are 2am
car rides, showers,
coffee shops,
the gym,
conversations with
friends, strangers,
etc. Don't let a
building confine
your faith because
we will never
change the world
by just going to
church, we need to
be the church.

HOLD ON TO THE WONDER!

I can't even begin to count the minutes and the hours that I've wasted worrying about things that just didn't matter. I might have said something that I thought offended someone, and then spent days worrying that the person was mad at me. Then I'd see that person, and not only wasn't he or she mad at me, but they had completely forgotten what I'd said. Or I'd be a couple of minutes late for something and I'd be afraid that I'd be "in trouble," only to arrive and find out that not only hadn't things started yet, but not everyone had shown up. Sometimes I've even been one of the first ones there.

These worries keep us blind to the beauty that is in all of our lives all of the time. When my mind is focused on possible problems, how in the world can I expect to see beautiful things? With practice, I've learned to let those beautiful things take my mind away from the worry, but it's taken a lot of work to be able to reach that point.

It's kind of funny, isn't it, that we have to *learn* how beautiful life is. It seems that this is something that should come naturally to us, that we should see all the time. And I think we do when we're younger--as kids we tend to be pretty constantly awe-stricken, marveling at the great things of this great world.

But then the worries get in the way. Then we get busy and we focus on other things--things to do, things to buy, things to see, things to accomplish. And we lose sight of the beauty. But it doesn't have to be so. Sometimes I think that much of our adult life is spent trying to unlearn things we learn in adolescence.

In reality, our best teachers can be the children, who still do see the beauty and wonder of the world.

Tom Walsh

"The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain."

Dolly Parton

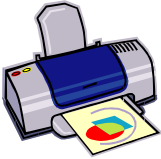
EMMANUEL'S CLOSET

September 2020

Changes Due to Coronavirus

In order to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus we have temporarily closed our Clothing and Household room. Therefore, at this time we are not accepting any of this type of donation.

We are still accepting donations of food, cleaning products and toiletries. We are giving them out by having the clients come to the parking lot door rather than inside St. Paul's. Donations of food and other products may be dropped off at Blymire's church on Sunday mornings or weekdays during office hours. Thank you for helping your neighbors in this time of need.



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."

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

Dinner kits (pizza, taco, etc.)

Frosting (assorted flavors besides chocolate please)

Jelly, jam, preserves

Cereal

Gravy

Rice

Poptarts

Sloppy Joe mix

Stuffing

Soap

Shampoo

Toilet paper

Paper towels

Detergent

Cleaning supplies

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

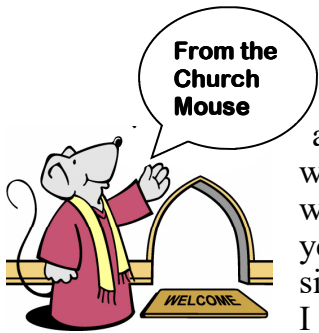
Children's books/toys

Small household items

Please, NO Expired Food Items



THANKS FOR CARING!



Revelations for SEPTEMBER from “Bly Mire” Mouse

OH MY GOODNESS!!!! Who would have thought back in March and April when COVID19 was on it's first rampage that we, five months later, would still be in the throes of this virus!!! Unfortunately, I have a feeling that we are once again in a situation like the Spanish Flu of 1918 and the couple of years it took to squelch that pandemic. I have been thinking about this whole situation with wearing a mask whenever you go anywhere and I really must say, I miss the “old days” when you could look at someone, smile at them, and get a smile back!!! Whenever I go to the grocery store for Mire, I am wearing my mask, but no one can see my smile. So, what I do to try to convey a smile to other people, I make sure I am walking around with my “happy eyes.” I have come to realize that not only does your mouth curl upward when you smile, but your eyes get lifted up and are brighter. So, let's all put on our happy eyes!!!

We are running short of things to do to keep the little ones in the learning mode. Usually when the kiddos were home from school we would do day trips to the wonderful historic sites we have all around us. But, of course, it is not the safest thing to do to be among a bunch of people. So, one of the things that Mire and I do with the little ones is, we walk through the cemetery and just stop at a gravesite. We then look at the names and dates of whoever is buried there and we make up a story about what their life may have been like while they lived. We also walk over to the Red Brick Chapel and make up stories about different services they may have held in that building. It is great that there are some activities in our church like meetings, Bible Study, and Worship! I love it! I did hear Pastor Lou Ann say that we may go back to In Car worship in September. I really enjoy that! Of course, we have to be very careful when we park because people in their cars are not looking for my little jalopy when they pull into their parking space. But we always have the option of sitting on our chairs in the shade.

I definitely join in praying that this pandemic soon is wiped out of our lives and we get back to a somewhat “normal” mode of living. I miss hugging my friends! I want to stand close enough to put my hand on the shoulder of someone who is struggling with whatever. I pray!!!! I pray that our nation and our world get to the place where we all live in peace because we are brothers and sisters through the loving God who created us all! I pray for the rioting to end and that we make changes that are long over due in how we live together in our nation. I pray!!!

I still will share a common sentiment.....stay safe, stay healthy and, stay FAITHFUL!

September's humor:

A teacher asked her students to name the capital of the United States. One student answered, “Washington D.C.” The teacher then asked what does “D.C.” stand for. The same student answered....”Dot Com.”

It is fascinating to study the quirks of animals. Take ostriches for example: they all yawn as a group before they go to sleep and they repeat the group yawn when they awaken. Come to think of it, the congregation at Blymire's does that in worship too!

With our Love,

BLY and MIRE



A BUSHEL OF BOOKS



Design a handy bag to tote your books this fall.

What you need:

- Plain canvas bag
- Cardboard scrap
- Acrylic paints (2 colors)
- 2 small paper plates
- Apple
- Knife (and adult help)
- Foam brush
- Scrap paper

What you do:

1. Lay the bag flat on a table, and place cardboard inside for protection.
2. Pour a paint dollop on each plate.
3. Slice the apple in half, keeping the core intact.
4. Brush a thin layer of paint on the cut side of an apple half. Practice making stamps on scrap paper. Use the other color on the other apple half.
5. Paint and stamp the bag with your final design. When dry, remove the cardboard.
6. Use the bag for school and Sunday school. Happy reading!



WISDOM FROM THE WORD

God makes a special promise to people who study Scripture.

Directions: Arrange the word list in alphabetical order. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete Joshua 1:8, NIV.



school	— ○ — — —
paper	— ○ —
wisdom	— — ○ —
read	— — — ○
play	— — — — —
learn	○ — — — —
grow	— ○ — — — —
pencils	— — — — —
pray	— ○ — —
art	— — — — —
student	— — — ○ — —
kids	— — ○ — — —
apple	— — ○ — — —

"... meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be _____ and successful."

JOSHUA 1:8, NIV

Answer: apple, art, grow, kids, learn, paper, pencils, play, pray, read, school, student, wisdom, prosperous