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From the Pastor's Desk



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

Seven months now we are in the throes of this pandemic. I will share that this scenario is weighing heavily on me. My mind is tired of everything going on with the pandemic, with rioting and destruction of cities, with politics,...with everything! I am tired. I shared with someone in an e-mail that I am to the point where I just want to cocoon.....I want to hibernate in my own little world and not have to cope with all that is going on "out there." As a Pastor and more so, as a Christian, I just cannot allow myself to go there. No matter how tempting it may be to escape from everything the world presents, I must be in prayer and I must care about things and do whatever God leads me to do in response to and reaction to what is happening in the world.

My daily devotion time is centered around a devotion calendar I purchased at Ollie's a number of years ago. I have a copy at home and a copy on my office desk. This morning's devotion "hit me between the eyes" so I feel led to share this with all of you. The author is Sarah Young and I have referred to her "Jesus Calling" devotions before. The message I received today is:

"Seek to please Me above all else. Let that goal be your focal point as you go through this day. Such a mind-set will protect you from scattering your energy to the winds. The free will I bestowed on you comes with awesome responsibility. Each day presents you with choice after choice. Many of these decisions you ignore and thus make by default. Without a focal point to guide you, you can easily lose your way. That's why it is so important to stay in communication with Me, living in thankful awareness of My Presence.

"You inhabit a fallen, disjointed world, where things are constantly unraveling around the edges. Only a vibrant relationship with Me can keep you from coming unraveled too."

BOY DID I NEED TO HEAR THAT!!!! Sarah includes scripture references with each day's devotion and one of today's is Colossians 3:23-34: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

As I like to quote from the "Despicable Me" movie....."LIGHT BULB"!!!!!! This message hit deeply today. I am getting over my



personal pity party and looking at the world around me. I am looking to see where my Lord Jesus needs my eyes, my hands, my mind, my HEART to serve. I can't be serving the Lord if I choose to cocoon or hibernate! There is work for the Lord to be done. Let's get to it!

God Bless us ALL!

God guide us all!!!

With love Pastor Lou Ann



SPECIAL SERVICES in SEPTEMBER

Oct. 4 - Pentecost 18 - World Wide Communion

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46 - Peggie Free
Sermon: "Are We Good Tenants for God?"
Focus: The parable of the wicked tenants

Oct. 11 - Pentecost 19

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14 - Beth March
Special Guests: New Life for Girls

Oct. 18 - Pentecost 20

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22 - Nelson Leader
Sermon: "Worldly vs. Godly"
Focus: The question about paying taxes

Oct. 25 - Pentecost 21

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46 - Ginny Weber
Sermon: "Two Commandments for All!"
Focus: The Greatest commandment ... LOVE the Lord with all your heart, soul . . .

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.



We are offering two opportunities for adult Bible studies this fall. Our Sunday school class has now resumed at 10:00 AM each Sunday morning. We are currently working on an 8 week series by Philip Yancey called "The Bible Jesus Read."

Our weekday Bible study also continues each Thursday at 9:15 AM. We are now studying "Making Sense of the Bible" by Adam Hamilton.

We invite anyone who is interested to join us for one or both studies. We observe social distancing!

OCTOBER
BIRTHDAYS



*May God Bless
You on Your
Birthday!*

1. Kayla Roelke
Michael Matthews
Annie Cowher
2. Adin Luckenbaugh
3. Timothy
Luckenbaugh
4. Ethan John
8. Tarrence Ness
Barb Adams
Bronley Free
9. Kari March
10. Lucy Smith
12. Mary Innerst
17. Paul Leiphart
21. Shayne Boyd
22. Mike N. Knaub
Calvin Leader
23. Diana Myers
Marjorie Stringer
24. Lori Roelke
Zane Pope
Brian Bosley
26. Amber Roelke
27. Brenda Miller
31. Macklin Woerner
Jaron Picking

CELEBRATING OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- Oct. 8 - Todd and Lisa Miller - 27 years
Oct. 18 - Ronald and Madeline Heindel - 63 years
Oct. 19 - Frank & Sally Bosley - 57 years
Oct. 23 - Jeffrey and Lynz Leader - 16 years
Oct. 26 - John and Kathi Sterling - 7 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	\$9,954.50	\$9,408.12	\$0.81	\$109.26	\$0.37	\$1,535.00
September						
October						
November						
December						
Total	\$89,454.59	\$93,796.01	\$134.96	\$1,853.44	\$2,364.57	\$9,889.40

Balance of Undesignated General Fund @September 1, 2020

\$1,058.08

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

\$71,193.35

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

\$812,275.93

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			\$ 29.00	\$ 687.04
September				
October				
November				
December				
Total	12	\$ 2860.75	\$ 3110.34	

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

Men's Group

On Tuesday, October 13, at 7:00 PM the Men's Group will be presenting an ice cream social and special guest appearance. To thank the church members and friends for assisting in a successful chicken BBQ season, we are bringing in dirt sprint car driver Travis Scott and his race car from Stoverstown. During the evening, Travis will demonstrate the various safety equipment used in racing and you will be able to get a close-up view of a 100 mph "winged warrior." Also, Handel's Ice Cream, one of Travis's sponsors will supply a sundae bar for everyone in attendance. Bring the family or a friend along. If you plan to attend, please let the church office or Jeri know for the ice cream count.

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.



On Saturday, October 11, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM, the Men's Group will be holding their last chicken BBQ of the season. 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.

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Number of Dinners _____ x \$8.00 = _____



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

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 _____



October 2020

WHAT IS A PRAYER?

Prayer doesn't just happen when we kneel or put our hands together, focus and expect things from God. Thinking positive and wishing good for others is a prayer. When you hug a friend, that's a prayer. When you cook something to nourish family and friends, that's a prayer. When you send off your near and dear ones saying 'Drive Safely' or 'Be Safe', that's prayer. When you are helping someone in need by giving your time and energy – you are praying. When you forgive some one in your heart ...that is prayer. Prayer is a vibration, a feeling, a thought. Prayer is the voice of love, friendship and genuine relationship.

STICK TO IT!

"In the confrontation between the stream and the rock, the stream always wins-- not through strength but by perseverance."

H. Jackson Browne

"Consider the postage stamp: its usefulness consists in the ability to stick to one thing until it gets there."

Josh Billings

"Diamonds are only chunks of coal that stuck to their jobs."

Minnie Richards
Smith

SO IMPORTANT FOR THE TIMES IN WHICH WE ARE LIVING! DO NOT DEFINE YOURSELF BY WHO YOU ARE AGAINST!

JAMES 4:11 *Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it.*

All of us want to belong. We look for connections in all kinds of places: at churches, on sports teams, in book clubs, and through our jobs. A lot of us get on social media or read blogs to find words that make us feel less alone and more connected to the world. We all want to know we've got a tribe, a place to belong.

The power of community is its strength to bring us together. But have you ever felt like your group constructed a high wall meant to keep the people you disagree with out? It can be tempting for people to define themselves by who they're against. The problem is, Jesus said He was for everybody. That means you're the guy on the other side of the wall from Him if you've got a list of people God made but you won't talk to because you disagree with them.

When you start to hear friends gossip about people who aren't around to defend themselves, make a stand. If you hear leaders lumping large groups into small and inaccurate definitions, stand up. When the people around you start to divide the world between "us" and "them", listen for Jesus challenging all of us to break down the barriers.

Don't let the longing for connection and community keep you silent. Quit playing it safe with what you know to be true. When the people around us are courageous enough to speak the truth, they remind us who we want to become. When your words invite people instead of blocking them out, you'll be living the words Jesus whispered in your ear.

Bob Goff



Dear God,
Keep my anger from becoming meanness.
Keep my sorrow from collapsing into self-pity.
Keep my heart soft enough to keep breaking.
Keep my anger turned toward justice, not cruelty.
Remind me that all of this, every bit of it,
is for love.



"For peace of mind, resign as general manager of the universe."

Larry Eisenberg



A CHANGE OF SEASONS

When the seasons change, it's a good time to be inspired to initiate change in your life. Change in diet, exercise, negative thought patterns – anything that keeps you stuck in now. From an energetic standpoint this makes complete sense. As the seasons change, the energy of our surroundings change, and as energetic beings we reverberate that. What fulfills you in the winter is not going to energize you in the summer. Just as what invigorates you in the spring will not humble you in the fall. Change is important. It keeps us alive and present; it keeps us going. And it's the only constant you can rely on, so you might as well get on board with it.

Fall is a blank canvas. In nature, fall is a time of death. But not just death, rebirth as well. It's a time to look inside yourself and reflect on what you see.

It's a time of focus. The hustle and bustle of the warmer months is dying down and you have more time to focus on change; it's quieter and easier to listen to your inner voice.

Whatever changes are calling you this season, honor them. If it's your job, feel inspired and excited to begin the search for a new one. If it's your diet, enjoy the bounty of nature's harvest available in the fall. If it's your exercise routine, be grateful that the heat of the summer has died down and it's easier to be outside, enjoying nature. If it's love, appreciate the intimacy and calm that cannot possibly be achieved fully during the constant movement of the warmer months. Whatever it is, welcome that change into your life. Use this change in seasons, this change in the Earth's energy to move forward, out of the now and into the new.

Kirsten Nagy

GRANDPA



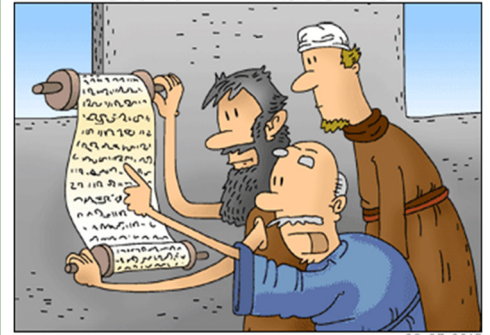
A little girl was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again. Finally she spoke up, "Grandpa, did God make you?"

"Yes, sweetheart," he answered, "God made me a long time ago."

"Oh," she paused, "Grandpa, did God make me too?" "Yes, indeed, honey," he said, "God made you just a little while ago." Feeling their respective faces again, she observed, "God's getting better at it, isn't he?"

If you would get arrested for being a Christian would there be enough evidence to prove it?

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



CAN YOU SCROLL BACK UP?

Pause for just a second, a moment, and be grateful even if life isn't perfect. Be thankful for the life you get to live, for the stories, for the adventure, and for those you are blessed to love!



©DESIGNALIVE

Wisdom is the reward you get for a lifetime of listening when you'd have preferred to talk.

Doug Larson

GOD WON'T LET GO

You know, many Christians think they're saved, hope they're saved. But still they doubt, wondering, "Am I really saved?" Our behavior gives us reason to wonder. We're strong one day, weak the next. Devoted one hour, flagging the next. Believing, then unbelieving.

Conventional wisdom draws a line through the middle of these fluctuations. Perform above this line and enjoy God's acceptance. But dip below it and expect a pink slip from heaven. And salvation then becomes a matter of timing. You just hope you'll die on an upswing. Jesus' language couldn't be stronger. "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never lose it or perish throughout the ages...and no one is able to snatch them out of My hand" (John 10:28 AMP). God doesn't let go, and He won't let go of you.

Max Lucado



Do you want to see a miracle? Look in the mirror.

Kute Blackson

EMMANUEL'S CLOSET

October 2020

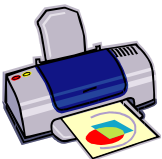
Christmas Project

Because of the coronavirus and the difficulty of doing any shopping in person, we have changed our Christmas Project this year. Instead of giving out name tags and asking church members to buy gifts for a specific child, we have decided to give \$50 in gift cards to each eligible child or teen. In order to do this we are asking for cash donations in any amount to help purchase the cards. They will be given out to the parents on December 12 and December 19.



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."



THANKS FOR CARING!

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:

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



Revelations for OCTOBER from “Bly Mire” Mouse

We finally have some semblance of normalcy in our daily lives. The kiddos have gone back to school (some days in class and some virtual), but at least they are able to be in school a bit. Our oldest is also trying out for cross country. I find this to be so beneficial because this one has trouble sitting still for longer than a minute. Hopefully running Cross Country he will work out a LOT of that energy!

We also went out to a restaurant to eat one day last week. Now you realize, we had to be very careful as to how we entered the building Even more careful than before COVID because there were a number of diners eating outside. We talked about eating outside ourselves which would have been an easy cover since we could have asked for a seat near the dumpster....but Mire wanted to go inside. We had a corner table and the whole family had a good time. We did have a big laugh when the owner came around greeting the people. He came to our table and asked our little ones if anyone wanted ketchup or mustard. They said they wanted ketchup for their fries and he had the bottle in his hand, pointed it at our littlest daughter and squeezed it like he was shooting ketchup all over her. She squealed like I have never heard her scream and we laughed till our sides hurt! It was so enjoyable to have that family time again!

And things at church are getting more normal. I have heard Pastor Lou Ann saying that the Men's group meeting this month will have a guest speaker. He will have a race car here....I will definitely be looking and listening closely to see and hear everything!!!! I really enjoy racing, but Mire doesn't. I bet though that she will be there too because they are going to have a Sundae Bar from Handel's Ice Cream..... YUMMY!!!! YUMMY!!!! YUMMY!!! Of course, we will have to make sure the little ones do not eat a lot of ice cream because they will have to hit the hay in order to get up for school the next day. I can see it now, at least one or two kiddos will pull the “I have a stomach ache” excuse to stay home the next day.

I also heard that Sunday School is starting again. YEAH!!! I so enjoy the studies that are shared. Bible study has been fascinating with all the discussions and videos on “Making Sense of the Bible.” Now on Sunday mornings we are going to study “The Bible Jesus Read.” I am stoked!!!! I am glad to have these learning opportunities!!! It makes working from home a LOT more doable!

I certainly hope that you all are doing well and have not been around anyone who is COVID positive. I hear there are a number of cases in York County and I have known a few people who were positive, but none that were sick or hospitalized. I pray everyone can stay healthy!

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

October's humor:

Apparently I was supposed to wait until October 31st to dress up like a ghost.....

I guess I SPOOK too soon!

A soldier comes up and asks me what today's date is. I say "October fourth".

He says...."10-4"

With our Love,

BLY and MIRE



SEED

impressions

Create autumn-themed artwork using items from plants.



What you need:

- Seed pods, nuts, pine cones
- Mixing bowl
- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup warm water
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Go on a nature walk and collect seeds with interesting textures.
2. In the bowl, mix flour and salt. Gradually add water. On a table, knead the dough. (If too dry, add more water; if too sticky, add more flour.)
3. Flatten a ball of dough and stamp impressions in it with the seeds.
4. If desired, bake for several hours at 150 degrees until dry and hard. Or, to reuse dough, store in an airtight container up to 6 months.



A PLANTING Parable

Jesus had to explain his Parable of the Sower to the confused disciples.

Directions: Use the word bank to answer the clues. Then fill in the correct words below to complete Matthew 13:23, NIV.

WORD BANK: sow, soil, wither, root, thorn, crop, seed, farmer

1. Plant part that absorbs water
2. Contains what's needed to grow a plant
3. To plant
4. Sharp part of a plant
5. What is harvested.
6. To dry up and shrivel
7. Person who plants
8. The earth a plant grows in.

"But the _____₂ falling on good _____₈ refers to someone who hears the word and understands it.

This is the one who produces a _____₅, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was _____₃ n."

MATTHEW 13:23, NIV

Answer: root, seed, thorn, crop, wither, farmer, soil, seed, soil, crop, sow