

July/August 2021

IN THIS ISSUE

- ✧ Pastor's Message
- ✧ July & August Services
- ✧ Birthdays and Anniversaries
- ✧ Financial Report
- ✧ Shut-ins & Military
- ✧ Summer Concert Series
- ✧ Women's Book Club
- ✧ Church Directories
- ✧ Gift Cards
- ✧ Crafternooners
- ✧ Chicken Barbecue
- ✧ Make a Masterpiece
- ✧ "Go Green" Sunday
- ✧ Rhythms of Life
- ✧ Soul Food
- ✧ Emmanuel's Closet News
- ✧ "Bly's" Report
- ✧ Just For Kids
- ✧ July Calendar
- ✧ August Calendar

From the Pastor's Desk



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

Happy Fourth of July and may you have a blessed summer! Since we do not have any national holidays in August, we sincerely hope you have a good month.

Already this past month we have had some pretty hot days, even getting to an "official" heat wave. But, as I begin this month's message we are in a very cool spell for a couple of days. Believe me, I don't like high heat and humidity, so this weather is definitely a welcome relief! (I do apologize to any who are shivering in this cool time.)

I have given a bit of thought about what to highlight in this two-month message. And, since the next column I write will be for the September issue of "Bly Lines", I feel I need to share with you some information about a program we are developing.

Last year I received an e-mail from the Conference office indicating the availability of a program called CONGREGATIONAL EMPOWERMENT. Initially there was a huge cost associated with this webinar. That deterred my interest until about a week later we got word that the Conference had a grant that would cover all churches' costs. I immediately signed up! I talked to Joel and gave him information on the program and he was interested. We participated in the first webinar in January. I shared the information about this program in church and asked for others to come onboard. Pastor Curt volunteered and we are talking with others who are interested. Two additional webinars were offered by Phil Nickerson that led us to think about our church programming and how we can change and plan for the future. We also have a "coach" and that is Rev. Rick Pulling who is serving the church in Codorus (Jefferson.) We have had a number of meetings and have come up with a "game plan" to share with you.

There are two groups of people we want to address. One is community young and middle aged adults who may be unchurched. We want to invite them to explore topics of faith we will share in a few sessions in October and November. We will receive their questions and concerns and offer how Blymire's church may help them in their journey. These sessions will conclude with a light meal the Sunday before Thanksgiving. The second group we want to dialogue with is those who are members of our church, but do not attend the worship and programs we offer.

Now, WE NEED YOUR HELP AND YOUR INPUT!!!! We will have a core team who have taken on an anagram used in our faith family before. We will refer to the Congregational Empowerment Team as: H.U.G.S. (Helping Us Grow Spiritually.) The focus of this



team will be to plan ways in which we may lead and enable growth in our faith family. But, I cannot emphasize this enough..... WE NEED YOU!!! We will develop a handout that will highlight what Blymire's offers for life's faith journey and outreach of fellowship. Our hope is that each of our members will take these handouts and give them to neighbors and/or family members. Our hope is that by doing this a seed of interest may be planted which may then lead to growth in our faith family.

We do acknowledge that having a higher number of people in worship is a visible indicator that we are growing. But, we also acknowledge that growth in our individual spirituality is vitally important to any faith family. So, let me open the door of dialogue with our members.....What question(s) about God or faith would you like to discuss? What do you most appreciate about your church? What would you like to see different? This is just the beginning of the process. We realize that growth will take time. One thing that was highlighted in our webinars is that because of the change of daily life we experienced due to COVID 19, we need to look at what was "daily routine" in the life of our church and see what we may need to eliminate or improve. But, WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!!!! Please, call Pastor Lou Ann, Joel Frey, or Pastor Curt and give us your input. We thank you!!! And, as always, we ask for your prayers!!!

GOD BLESS in every way!!! With love, Pastor Lou Ann



SPECIAL SERVICES in JULY and AUGUST

July 4 – Pentecost 6

Gospel: Mark 6:1-13

Sermon: “Rejection: How to Respond”

Special Music: Pastor Lou Ann

July 11 – Pentecost 7

Gospel: John 15:9-11, 16:21-24

Philippians 2:1-2

Sermon: “A Dee Dah Day”

Special Music: Joyce Horning

July 18 – Pentecost 8

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Sermon: “Do We Recognize Jesus?”

Special Music: Becky Wilcox

July 25– Pentecost 9

Gospel: John 6:1-21

Sermon: “What Are You Looking For?”

Special Music: Linda Viscount

August 1 – Pentecost 10

Gospel: John 6:24-35

Sermon: “TRUE Bread from Heaven”

Special Music: New Life for Girls

August 8 – Pentecost 11

Gospel: John 6:35, 41-51

Sermon: “Bread of Life!”

Special Music: Dennis Kohler

August 15 – Pentecost 12

Gospel: John 6:51-58

Sermon: “We Are to do WHAT?”

Special Music: Priscilla Pettyjohn

August 22 - Pentecost 13

Gospel: John 6:56-69

Sermon: “Spirit and Life”

Special Music: Chuck Miller

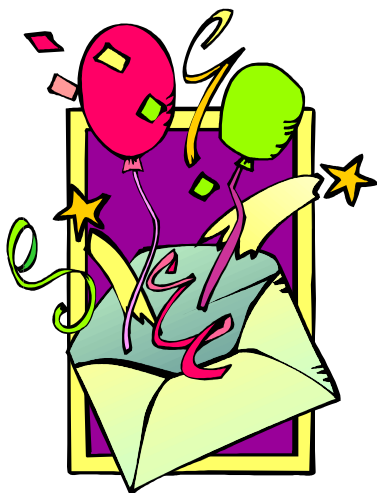
August 29– Pentecost 14

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 21-23

Sermon: “Commandment of God or Human Tradition”

Special Music: Josh Bishop

JULY BIRTHDAYS



- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Erin Ness | 26. Sarah Leader |
| 3. Derek Troop, Jr. | DeLaney Woerner |
| 4. Billy Roelke | Sequoia Innerst |
| 8. Betty Hyser | 28. Sandra Koicuba |
| 9. Christine Pope | 30. LeAnn Eberly |
| 11. Toni Flinchbaugh | 31. Jim McDowell |
| Christina Lutz | |
| 13. Carrie Rutledge | |
| Heather Barley | |
| John Montgomery | |
| 14. Trent Brown | |
| 16. Randi John | |
| 18. Wanda Strickler | |
| 19. Trudy Wise | |
| Dennis Ness | |
| Curt Weber | |
| Travis Rost | |
| 20. Scott Smith | |
| 22. Maranda Morton | |
| 24. Alys Leader | |

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

CELEBRATING JULY ANNIVERSARIES

July 3 - Jeffrey & Joan Mickey - 46 years
July 8 - Greg and Sonja Ness - 54 years
July 19 - Kevin and Renne Myers - 24 years
July 25 - W. Edwin and Judy Bishop - 36 years

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



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

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------------|-----|-------------------|
| 2. | Sterling Boyd | 25. | Oliver Holtzapple |
| | Dave Miller | 27. | Lakota Innerst |
| | Ariel Leader Contino | 29. | Heather Matthews |
| 3. | Terri Diehl | | Nancy Rutledge |
| 4. | Janet Williamson | 30. | Ryan Woerner |
| | David McDowell | | |
| 9. | Terry Doll | | |
| 10. | Sue Myers | | |
| 11. | Madelynn Barley | | |
| 12. | Peggy Luckenbaugh | | |
| | Amelia Ness | | |
| | Samuel Ness | | |
| 13. | Elizabeth Giese | | |
| 17. | Lucas Smith | | |
| | Bonnie Sipe | | |
| 19. | Greg Ness | | |
| | Joan Schell | | |
| 22. | Christina Barley | | |
| 24. | Barb Marshall | | |

CELEBRATING AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- Aug. 1 - Lonnie and Carol Barnhart - 57 years
Aug. 4 - Matthew and Jill Boyd - 20 years
Aug. 9 - Francis (Bernie) and Delores Noll - 54 years
Aug. 10 - Ed and Barb Adams - 47 years
Aug. 16 - David and Brenda Miller - 52 years
Aug. 18 - Charles and Janet Williamson - 43 years
Aug. 19 - Ryan and Jenna Woerner - 16 years

FINANCIAL REPORT

Undesignated General Fund

Red Brick Chapel

Cemetery

Month-2021	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Income	Expense
January	\$8,700.59	\$8,680.74	\$0.47	\$269.88	\$1,645.35	\$1,826.80
February	\$7,297.86	\$10,776.85	\$0.48	\$311.54	\$0.35	\$10,906.97
March	\$12,966.59	\$15,290.39	\$0.41	\$514.91	\$500.20	\$3,166.46
April	\$10,456.00	\$11,584.36	\$0.43	\$225.92	\$0.18	\$2,351.48
May	\$9,569.61	\$9,490.24	\$0.43	\$141.68	\$100.11	\$2,187.50
June						
July						
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						
Total	\$48,490.65	\$55,822.58	\$2.22	\$1,463.93	\$2,246.19	\$20,439.21

Balance of Undesignated General Fund @ June 1, 2021

\$5,258.64

Balance of Red Brick Chapel Fund @ June 1, 2021

(Includes \$61,806.10 Endowment)

\$78,952.20

Balance of Cemetery Fund @ June 1, 2021

(Includes \$893,768.72 CD's, Trusts, UCC Foundation. Transferred \$15,000 from Foundation to People's Bank in January)

\$895,967.73

Financial Assistance Given through Hand of Hope Fund - 2021

	#	Total	Monthly	Available
	Families	\$\$\$	Donations	Balance
Beginning				\$ 651.73
January	1	\$ 50.00	\$ 21.47	\$ 623.29
February				
March	2	\$ 136.75	\$ 79.00	\$ 565.45
April	1	\$ 79.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 531.45
May	1	\$ 25.00	\$ 52.89	\$ 559.34
June				
July				
August				
September				
October				
November				
December				
Total	4	\$ 290.75	\$ 198.36	

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

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



Carolyn Innerst
Room 111
Senior Commons@Powder Mill
1775 Powder Mill Road
York, PA 17403

Keeping in our prayers
Dolores Barley
Maddie & Ron Heindel
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



Last year we had to cancel our concert series because of the pandemic, but we are planning to start back up again this year. The concerts will be held on Sunday afternoons from 2:00-4:00 PM. In case of inclement weather, they will be moved indoors to the church. There is no admission charge, but a free will offering will be taken. Food will be available for purchase. Bring your own lawn chairs or blankets or sit at one of our picnic tables. Here is what we have scheduled so far:

June 27 - RED LION FELTON BAND (Marches/Concert band music)

July 11 - COUNTRY CORE (Country)

AUGUST 1 - SPRING GARDEN BAND
(Modern & traditional concert band music)

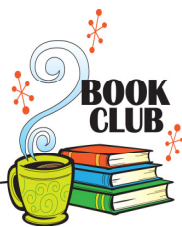
August 22 - TIMELESS (50's and 60's rock and roll)

SEPTEMBER 5 - DOWN HOME GOSPEL SINGERS (Hillbilly)

SEPTEMBER 26 - FIRST CAPITAL BRASS (Brass ensemble)

OCTOBER 10 - THEN SINGS MY SOUL (Billy Graham music-indoors)

Historically Book Clubs began as reading circles when women excluded from universities and other intellectual endeavors, formed these circles to delve into who they were and what they wanted to do. Discussions went beyond their books into social concerns.



As time progressed, Book Clubs became a safe place where women found support through difficult times. 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 11:00 AM. We have changed the venue to **Lions Pride Restaurant**. If you need a lift or have questions, let Ginny Weber know.



Over the summer Wanda will be working on updating our members' directory. If anything has changed in your household or if you wish to add any additional information from what is included in the purple 2019 directory, please let her know before July 25. We have discovered that many members no longer have landlines and rely solely on cell phones. If that is the case, please tell us, so we can eliminate the landline number in the directory. Also if you see incorrect information for any family members, please let us know. We want the directory to be as accurate as possible. Thank you.

GIFT CARDS

Would you like to help your church without spending any extra money? You can do this by buying gift cards to use for everyday purchases. For every card sold we earn a profit from 1½% all the way to 16%, depending on the merchant. To get your cards, just fill out an order form (available on the Welcome Table) and attach a check or cash. Checks should be made payable to St. John's Blymire's UCC. You may drop the orders in the offering plate, place them on Wanda's desk in the office or mail them to the church. Payment must be included with your order. Orders will be sent in each Monday morning. You may pick up your gift cards from Sandy Innerst at church the following Sunday. For more information about the program, you may call Wanda at the church office or check out the website www.glscrip.com.

CRAFTERNOONERS



Due to COVID we have not had meetings of our Crafty Chicks for many months. We are starting back up again and have changed our name to "Crafternooners" so the men of our congregation do not feel excluded. Our first meeting will be on Sunday, July 18, 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.

We are also planning to have some classes in the upcoming months. Our first one will be on Sunday, September 19, from 2:00-4:00 PM when we will "Make a Masterpiece." Information about this class can found on the next page of this newsletter. You can also pick up a flyer from the Welcome Table in our Gathering Room or call Marti Leader at (717) 741-1166. Please join us and bring a friend if you like.



Our next chicken BBQ's will be held on July 10 and August 14, from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM. You will get a 1/2 chicken, baked potato, applesauce, roll and butter all for \$9.00. If you would like to place an order, please call the church office at 244-0655. We sold out early every month this year, 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 October.

We are also planning to set up a bake sale table and would welcome donations of home-made 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.

Make a Masterpiece

WOOD SIGN PAINTING PARTY



WHEN & WHERE

Sunday, September 19th at 2:00pm

St. John's Blymire's

1009 Blymire Rd., York, PA 17313

SCAN ME FOR
EVENT INFO



REGISTRATION

Please email Hilarie Bohdel at hilariebohdel@gmail.com with which sign(s) you would like to make, or message directly via Facebook.

Payment can be made via PayPal, Venmo, cash, or check

HOW IT WORKS

DESIGN OPTIONS: There are 250+ wood sign design options to choose from. They are linked within this post and throughout the event posts. Size and price options are listed on each photo. Include your choice(s) when registering.

DIY KITS: Are available if you are unable to attend the event in person. The kits include the custom cut wood, stencil, paints, and a step-by-step video tutorial.

COLORS: A full assortment of paint colors will be available. Your wood sign does not need to match the sample photo.

PLEASE NOTE: Orders cannot be cancelled or refunded due to their custom nature. A DIY Kit will be provided should your plans change.

LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT TIME WITH YOU!
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESSES.

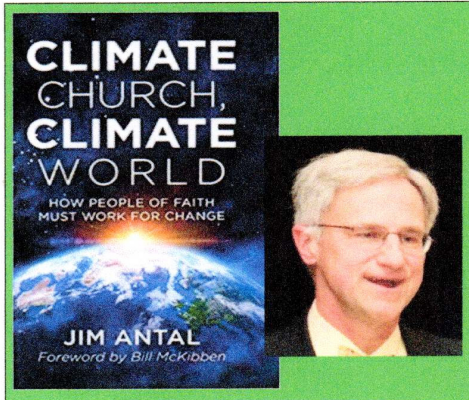
"GO GREEN" SUNDAY IS BACK!

Save the Date

Sunday, August 8, 2021

1:00—3:00 pm

Mt Zion UCC—York, PA



Special guest, author, Jim Antal will join us via Zoom— Come and hear Jim talk about his life-long focus on Climate Change and loving our world and hear some "Practical Suggestions of what we can do" to love our world, and help slow down the effects of climate change on our world.

What can I do to make a difference?

Your little changes can make big impacts. Learn how....



How hunting & fishing can help support our world.

The TRI-STATE SHRED truck will be here!



PennState Extension

Pollinator Gardens - come and see what the "buzz" is all about!

How big of a mark do you leave on our world?

What's your Carbon Footprint and Water Usage
Recycle, Reusing, and Up-cycling
Composting anyone?
Personal gardening; vegetarian dining, etc.
Test your Climate Trivia – how much do you know?
...and much, much more!

**A great way to
spend a Sunday
afternoon!**

RHYTHMS OF LIFE

In lieu of Women's Sunday, I will be sharing seven short articles about Rhythms of Life from the Fall 2020 Magnolia Magazine. The articles speak to the "unrhythmic" times we are facing now. Marti Leader gave me the "Rhythm" articles and asked if I could think of some way to share them with you. She said, "The articles seem so appropriate for us now. We need them." So...one article a week will appear in the church bulletin as an insert, as well as in the Newsletters. I hope you will read them during the quiet time in preparation for worship, or at home during your own quiet time. Thank you, Marti. (Ginny Weber)

Sacred Space: Finding Room in the Day to Simply Be **Article #7**

Change is part of everyday life, this we know. But for many of us, it still feels disquieting. How can we find a steadiness and a rhythm to anchor to so that we can engage fully in our days even with their ebbs and flows? One way is by carving out space for moments of self-care—time to simply be.

Already, we have rhythms woven into our days—actions we consciously choose because they support us in some way. Maybe you turn on your favorite song every morning on the way to work. Or perhaps tea is an afternoon pick-me-up that helps you get through the day.

The practice of designing a daily ritual for our lives builds on this already familiar practice. By setting aside ten minutes a day for an activity that feeds and nourishes us, we can create a sacred space. Then—no matter what is happening in the world around us—we can return there daily for rejuvenation. This space becomes the time when we nurture and tend to our spirit, when we can connect to the part of ourselves that is always at rest, unchanging.

As you explore what this might look like in your own life, consider what feels accessible and enjoyable. Rhythm suggests repetition, but this doesn't mean the activity you choose has to look the same each day. The repetition can come in the form of consistency, in returning to this time for renewal each day. The energy and intention we bring to the rhythm can always keep it from feeling monotonous or mundane. Remember, this is not about adding another thing to your to-do-list, but about carving out time and space to nurture yourself.

When we are in a supportive rhythm, reenergized by time we have gifted ourselves, we can show up in our lives with greater clarity, ease, and the capacity to make the most of all that comes our way.

Magnolia Magazine Fall 2020



July & August 2021

THE RECIPE?

Granny's meatball recipe is a family favorite. I tried to duplicate it today and got close. But I've never quite mastered her flavors. Years ago, I sat at her kitchen table with my notepad and pen. "How much milk? How much bread?" I asked her. She shrugged and answered, "Until it feels right." Then as she made the roux, she said, "Add butter until it's a good thickness." She didn't measure. She had a relationship with the ingredients. Her experience and her interaction with the food - the way it looked, felt, sounded, smelled, and tasted - produced amazing meals.

As a follower of Jesus, I'd prefer a quick recipe for living my life with Him. Mix a third of a cup of service with a third of a cup of worship, stir, and simmer with exactly two ounces of love. Instead, Jesus asks me to have a relationship with Him - much more nuanced and complicated. Following in His steps doesn't involve a checklist. True discipleship requires interacting with Him constantly: remembering His teaching, listening for His direction, opening our eyes to where He is at work in our home and community.

Just as Granny adapted her recipes each time, Jesus helps us adjust our activities, change course when necessary, and bring out the best flavors in our lives. The basic ingredients don't change - scriptural truth is constant. But as Jesus meets us where we are, He shows us new ways to apply those truths as we follow Him.

Sharon Hinck



"Anyone can find the dirt on someone. Be the one that finds the **GOLD.**"

1. Let go of comparing
2. Let go of competing
3. Let go of judgements
4. Let go of anger
5. Let go of regrets
6. Let go of worrying
7. Let go of blame
8. Let go of guilt
9. Let go of fear
10. Have a proper belly laugh at least once a day, (especially at yourself)

**LET
GO**



God loves everyone, but probably prefers 'fruits of the spirit' over 'religious nuts!'

Adrian Rogers

"A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken."

James Dent

Adam blamed Eve. Eve blamed the snake. The snake didn't have a leg to stand on.

Erwin Lutzer



In 1893, Wellesley College professor Katharine Lee Bates looked out across American from atop 14,110 foot Pikes Peak, the Rocky Mountain winds flapping her dress. Below her, the land swept out to a horizon that curved gently away into the immense distance.

A lifelong nature lover, she had been deeply inspired by the 2,000 mile train ride from New England, past forest and farms. Before she and her traveling party left the Rockies, she wrote a four-stanza ode to the grandeur she had seen.

While Bates was a popular poet, she chose to tuck away this poem for almost two years before submitting it to *The Congregationalist*. When it appeared in print on July 4, 1895, it quickly became a widespread source of inspiration.

People took to singing the poem to various melodies, spreading its popularity and sparking a long search for the perfect music. Bates responded with minor changes to make the words more musical. The melody we know today as *America The Beautiful*, composed by New York City church organist Samuel Augustus Ward, was not sung with Bates' words until 1904. Sadly, Ward passed away only a year before his music immortalized him.

Bates delighted in people's enjoyment of the "A the B" as she nicknamed it. She warmly welcomed admirers into her home for tea & introductions to her dog and parrot. When she discovered how deeply Americans loved her poem, how they transformed it with music, and how they came together like family celebrating country, she said, "It is the people who sing it who make the song.."



JULY IS NATIONAL BISON MONTH, the celebration of the American buffalo. When European explorers set foot on American soil, close to 200 million of these animals roamed freely. For thousands of years, the bison was hunted by the Native Americans who used every part of the animal. But as the century turned, wasteful killing for sport and hides by explorers, settlers and commercial interest had decimated the herds of these magnificent beasts. By 1889, the breed was almost extinct, with only 2,000 left by the beginning of the 21st century. Now, because of private farms and government protection, there are more than 400,000 bison and the herds are growing.

These animals make their home in wide open spaces, and they have an interesting habit. They like to wallow. Wallowing creates either dust or waterholes, depending on the wetness of the ground, and as they move from one wallowing hole to another, they carry life-producing seeds with them. When the bison almost became extinct, many of the prairie grasses they had reseeded with their wallowing almost disappeared as well. Some scientists believe the native bison was the first water purification system of our grassy plains through their creation of watering holes in the wallows within the wetter areas. God gave this animal so many amazing jobs, and yet greedy thoughtless people almost put a stop to one of God's custodial plans.

Humanity has realized and begun to rectify its mistakes with the bison. As the rebuilding of a species begins, there is no quick fix. We have to wait for God to work through the hands of the environmentally called, and the bison themselves.

We need to be faithful in our efforts to care for God's handiwork. As humankind works to correct our mistakes, we must wait for God to replenish the splendor of His creation.

Devon O'Day



ALLTHU UGLY

I'm very ugly
So don't try to convince me that
I am a very beautiful person
Because at the end of the day
I hate myself in every single way
And I'm not going to lie to myself by saying
There is beauty inside of me that matters
So rest assured I will remind myself
That I am a worthless, terrible person
And nothing you say will make me believe
I still deserve love
Because no matter what
I am not good enough to be loved
And I am in no position to believe that
Beauty does exist within me
Because whenever I look in the mirror I always think
Am I as ugly as people say?

(Now read it from the bottom up.)

Abdullah Shoaib

MORE THAN CHEESE AND CRACKERS

The story is told about a poor man who lived in Eastern Europe in the early 1900s. He scraped together enough money to buy a third-class ticket on a steamship to New York City. He subsisted for the twelve-day journey on cheese and crackers. On the final day of the voyage, the man stood at the railing beside one of the ship's stewards. "Why have we not seen you in the dining room?" asked the steward.

The traveler explained his lack of money. The steward responded with shock, "Did you not know that three meals a day were included in your ticket? We set you a place every day, but you never came."

God has set you a place at his table. Avail yourself of every spiritual strength and blessing. Heaven knows, we need the help. And heaven knows, the help is here.

Max Lucado

Don't forget to celebrate these
"important" **AUGUST** holidays.
(Yes, they are really listed on a calendar!)



August 5– National Underwear Day

August 8– National Sneak Some Zucchini Onto
Your Neighbor's Porch Day

August 13– National Blame Someone Else Day

August 30– National Frankenstein Day
Check out these and many more at NationalToday.com



I don't walk with God:
I can't keep up with
Him. He walks with
me, and waits for me
every time I fall behind.

Unknown



7-3

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"If I was Jefferson, instead of all those words, I'd have written: 'That's it, King! We're outta here!'"

EMMANUEL'S CLOSET

July August 2021

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

Lots of tomato products:

**Tomato sauce
Diced tomatoes
Crushed tomatoes
Tomato paste
Stewed tomatoes
Spaghetti sauce
Spaghetti noodles
Tuna/Hamburger/Chicken Helper
Pizza/Taco kits**

E.C. Continuing Needs

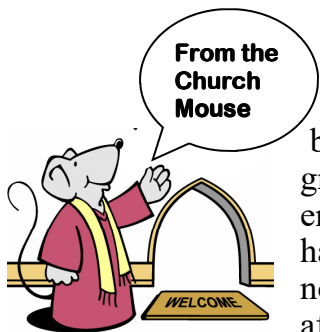
Juice
Cereal/Oatmeal
Peanut Butter/Jelly
Pancake Mix
Spaghetti Sauce
Boxed Dry Pastas
Helper Meals
Dessert Items
Condiment Items
Canned Tuna/Meats
Canned Fruit/Vegetables
Soap
Shampoo
Toilet Paper
Paper Towels
Dish Washing Liquid
Laundry Detergent
All-Purpose Cleaners

Please, NO Expired Food Items

Our clothing and household room remains closed until further notice. Hopefully, we will be able to re-open again later in 2021.

***THANKS FOR
CARING!***





Revelations for JULY AUGUST from “Bly Mire” Mouse

Happy Fourth of July!!! I probably have mentioned this many times before, but I consider myself to be very patriotic! I love holidays that celebrate this great nation and I hope you do as well. If the weather is not too oppressive, I do enjoy taking in some of the festivals and fund raisers that communities around us have. Mire and the little ones enjoy the fireworks too. I like fireworks, but I do not like all the "Cannon Boom" rockets they set off. My poor, sensitive ears hurt after the finale especially! But, whatever you do this year to observe July 4th, be safe and stay healthy.

I am optimistic that the COVID numbers are very low right now! I truly hope this means that the threat from this virus is minimal and will remain that way! Now that the summer break is here, Mire and I hope to be able to do some lesson work with the little ones because I know with the hybrid learning they had this past year, they are not quite where they should be with what they learned. We are planning to take the kiddos up to the playground to teach them different things such as angles, momentum, and, hopefully not too poignantly, the principles of physics. (We don't want skinned knees, etc.) It is good that Mire was an education major in college because now she can put her education to use in furthering the education of our little ones.

I definitely want to share about how much I love what is happening at Blymire's this summer! It has been great to be in person worship! Since most of our worship attendees are vaccinated, we have eased a mask request and have opened every pew for seating. We do acknowledge that some attendees may not be comfortable with sitting close or going without a mask so we definitely support anyone's choices as they attend worship! Plus, we are worshipping outdoors the first and third Sundays. I LOVE THIS!!!! Hopefully it will not be too oppressive of temperatures till we end our outdoor services, but usually a good breeze is blowing through the pavilion area.

Question,.....have you been to any concerts this summer? I am so thankful that Blymire's Summer Concert series is back in full swing!!! I was at Hillbilly Heaven (didn't dance but did tap my feet a lot!), and the Red Lion - Felton Band concerts. W....O....W!!!! And, we have a lot of concerts coming up! I heard Pastor Lou Ann and Wanda talking about setting up a fundraiser concert for ASAPH whenever Andy Stump can get it set up. I CAN'T WAIT!!!! Awesome!

I will keep checking St John's website for the announcement of that concert and a reminder of the other concerts this summer. ENJOY!!! And, whatever you do to celebrate summer, may you be surrounded by those you love and may you all stay safe and stay healthy!

July/August's humor:

Humpty Dumpty had a good Summer...But he definitely had a *great* Fall!

What do you call a Frenchman wearing summer beach sandals?

Phillipe Phloppe. (This one is for a couple ladies I know!)

Where did the sheep go on vacation?

The Baa-hamas

God Bless!



Love, Bly and Mire

A SWEET TREAT



What you need:

- Baking sheet
- Parchment paper
- 1 cup plain Greek yogurt
- 2 Tbsp. honey
- ¼ cup granola or cereal

What you do:

1. On a baking sheet covered with parchment paper, spread yogurt in a thin layer, about ½-inch thick.
2. Drizzle honey evenly over yogurt. Sprinkle granola (or cereal) on top.
3. Freeze about 30 minutes, or until firm.
4. Crack frozen yogurt into pieces and peel away paper. Enjoy!



As sweet as honey



Honey is both a sweetener and a medicine.
How can our words be used in the same ways?



Directions: Use the hexagon key to fill in the missing vowels and complete Proverbs 16:24, NIV.



Gr c s w rds

r h n c mb,

sw t t th s l

nd h ng



t th b n s.



PROVERBS 16:24, NIV

Answer: Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. Proverbs 16:24, NIV