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From the Pastor's Desk



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

Most of you know that last week I had a very different agenda to my week. I attended Music in the Valley's return to in person presentation of new choral music on the 15th. This is something that I have done for a good fifteen years except for 2021 because of COVID. The morning was normal as we journeyed through the first three sessions of music. We ventured to another room for our lunch and Marti, Nelson, Sandy, Jeri and I enjoyed our lunches together before returning to the Sanctuary for the afternoon sessions. But, that is where my days' journey derailed. When I sat down in the sanctuary, I had a bit of discomfort in my left side so I put a Salonpas patch on it like I have done numerous times. The discomfort did get better and after about ten minutes, I told Jeri I wanted to go to the bathroom so he left me out of the pew. That is when my "trauma" began. I had extreme blood loss in the bathroom. I went back to my seat, but about five minutes later I went to the bathroom again and had the same experience. I went back to the Sanctuary and told Jeri I needed to leave. I also told Marti what was happening. Needless to say, by 3:45 Jeri and I were sitting in the ER waiting room at UPMC Hospital. By 5:00 I was back in one of the ER rooms....#4. That became my home from Saturday evening to 5:00 Tuesday morning. I was moved to a room because I was having a colonoscopy and endoscopy Tuesday. Both those tests showed nothing was different from the other reports from those tests. So, still no understanding of why I lost so much blood.

Over the years, a two night stay was my longest visit until this experience. A first time experience is that I received a pint of blood because of the amount of blood I had lost. So, of course, I want to say if you are able and are so inclined, definitely consider donating blood!!! I had donated blood for a number of years until my anemia took over. It turns out my stay was five nights. Needless to say, Jeri was climbing the walls because he does not like to be alone in the house. But, he survived!!!

Since it was a Saturday evening when I went to the ER, my big concern was Sunday worship. Well, that one quickly resolved because a number of years ago Jeri jumped in and covered worship when my oldest brother took a turn for the worst at York hospital. My brother Barry and I went to the hospital that Sunday morning and were with Preston as he died. Jeri led worship at Bethel and did a good job.



I knew he would again do a good job! So, THANK YOU JERI for covering for me again! Also, THANK YOU to NELSON LEADER for leading worship on the 23rd. I was at church and intended to lead the service, but I was very lightheaded and weak so Nelson covered for me. I definitely am so thankful for all who stepped up for worship and for covering the Movie/Dinner evening. And, THANK YOU to all for your cards, prayers, and thoughts!!! I positively felt the power of prayer during my hospital stay.

I am getting better but still am lightheaded and I don't have much energy. This has been an interesting journey. I will affirm that I am one who kind of took for granted how easily we take things for granted when all is going well. So, with this "God-nudge," I am more aware of how thankful I am when day to day life goes on normally. I do recognize more vividly now that in all things, God is with us! He shares in our good times and joyful times. He definitely is with us in the trying times and, as the illustration "Footprints" emphasizes, God carries us through. I praise God that His strength is with me, especially as I feel I have little to no energy. I do ask for your continued prayers!!!

With love,

Pastor Lou Ann



SPECIAL SERVICES in FEBRUARY

Feb. 6- Epiphany 5

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Sermon: "A Surprising Catch"

Feb. 13 - Epiphany 6

Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

Sermon: "Surprising Teaching"

Feb. 20 - Epiphany 7

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

Sermon: "Love Your Enemies?!!"

Feb. 27- Transfiguration Sunday

Gospel: Luke 9:28-43

Sermon: "Astounding Glory"

Valentine's Party

You are invited to join us on Saturday, February 12, beginning at 6:00 PM for a Valentine's Day party featuring "Timeless," a group playing 50's and 60's style music. This is not just for couples, so come solo or bring a group of friends with you and travel back in musical time. There is no admission charge, but a freewill offering will be taken. There will also be a dessert buffet and door prizes. If you don't have transportation or don't like driving at night, please sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Room or call the church a couple days in advance at 717-244-0655 and we will see that someone picks you up and takes you home.

We are asking for donations of desserts for our buffet. If you would like to bring something, please sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Room, letting us know what you will be donating. Thank you.

FEBRUARY
BIRTHDAYS



*May God
Bless You
on Your
Birthday!*

1. Jamie Luckenbaugh
3. Marlene Matthews
4. Gerry Geesey
6. Beth Herbst
7. Bryan Adams
10. Bryan Barley
12. Landan McKenzie
James Klyeman
13. Mark Morton
15. Trent Hake
20. Allie McKinsey
Madelynne Shisler
Kolton Knickel
Amber Sipe
22. Kathy Rayhart
24. Donna Hartley
27. Jamie Reid
Susan McDowell
28. Sandra Ness
29. Donna Busch
Linda Rost
Emma Boyd

CELEBRATING FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Feb. 7 - Bronley and Peggy Free - 52 years
Feb. 12 - Charles and Theresa Diehl - 11 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	\$10,829.82	\$12,779.61	\$1,400.98	\$350.47	\$1,400.60	\$3,278.75
July	\$7,781.00	\$9,790.40	\$0.45	\$115.23	\$907.02	\$2,255.92
August	\$11,713.61	\$9,064.23	\$0.49	\$125.12	\$0.23	\$2,535.19
September	\$7,682.00	\$13,262.10	\$0.43	\$506.44	\$900.15	\$2,905.15
October	\$8,002.00	\$9,442.35	\$1,000.43	\$129.81	\$100.11	\$2,425.79
November	\$11,067.61	\$9,485.06	\$0.48	\$120.51	\$0.06	\$2,291.56
December	\$15,523.58	\$13,776.44	\$500.44	\$520.67	\$600.17	\$2,537.59
Total	\$121,390.27	\$133,422.77	\$2,905.92	\$3,332.18	\$6,154.53	\$38,669.16

Balance of Undesignated General Fund @ January 1, 2022 \$2,758.07

Balance of Red Brick Chapel Fund @ January 1, 2022
(Includes \$66,150.42 Endowment) \$84,331.97

Balance of Cemetery Fund @ January 1, 2022
(Includes \$919,005.78 CD's, Trusts, UCC Foundation. Transferred \$15,000 in Jan, \$10,000 in June, and \$10,000 in Nov from Foundation to People's Bank) \$926,883.18

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	1	\$ 50.00	\$ 27.00	\$ 536.34
July	1	\$ 233.00	\$ 83.00	\$ 386.34
August	2	\$ 502.00	\$ 371.40	\$ 255.74
September	2	\$ 50.00	\$ 63.00	\$ 268.74
October			\$ 49.00	\$ 317.74
November			\$ 56.00	\$ 373.74
December	1	\$ 250.00	\$ 39.00	\$ 162.74
Total	12	\$ 1,375.75	\$ 886.76	

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS and those in need of PRAYER

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

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



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

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



Remember
and pray for
Our Members
in the
Military

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



CRAFTERNOONERS

Our next "Crafternooners" meeting will be held on Sunday, February 27, from 1:00-4:00 PM. Bring any craft project that you would like to work on, or if you are not crafty, bring games to share with others for an afternoon of fellowship and fun. Please join us and bring a friend if you like.



MEN'S GROUP

We invite you to join the men of Blymire on Tuesday, February 8, at 7:00 PM at the church to meet Tom Yingling, president of the Codorus Valley Preservation Society. He will be speaking about the 75th and Last Reunion of the Blue and Gray-1938 in Gettysburg. Bring a friend to the meeting. REMEMBER ALL MEN ARE WELCOME.



CARD and GAME CLUB



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

We will meet the second Wednesday of each month starting at 11:00 AM and playing until people are ready to stop. Our first meeting will be on February 9. If you have any questions, please call Janie Montgomery or Diana Myers.



CHICKEN CORN SOUP SALE

As a fundraiser, the FUN Team will be selling homemade chicken corn soup for \$8.50 a quart. Deadline for orders is Sunday, March 6, and pickup will be Saturday, March 26, from 10:00 AM-noon. There is an order form on the table in the Gathering Room or you may call the church office at (717) 244-0655 to place your order.



BOOK CLUB

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

EMMANUEL'S CLOSET
February 2022

Thank You

In addition to all the donations from church members in 2021, we received many from the community as well and would like to thank them.

Donnie Webb Christmas light display
Knights of Columbus
Christ Lutheran Church
St. Vincent de Paul
Gichner's

Domurad Family Foundation
Family Clothes Tree

Quilters from Salem Lutheran Church in Jacobus who made beautiful baby blankets

These were the largest donations, but we also received many smaller ones from other businesses, individuals and churches in the area. Without this community support, we would have to close our doors, so **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!**

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

Beverages (all types)

Manwich

Tuna Helper

Chicken Helper

Cereal

Icing Cake Mix

Brownie Mix

Pancake Syrup

E.C. Continuing Needs

Juice

Cereal/Oatmeal

Peanut Butter/Jelly

Pancake Mix

Spaghetti Sauce

Boxed Dry Pastas

Helper Meals

Dessert Items

Condiment Items

Canned Tuna/Meats

Canned Fruit/Vegetables

Soap

Shampoo

Toilet Paper

Paper Towels

Dish Washing Liquid

Laundry Detergent

All-Purpose Cleaners

Please, NO Expired Food Items

Our clothing and household room remains closed until further notice.



THANKS FOR CARING!



"Love puts the fun in
together, the sad in apart,
and the joy in a heart."
Unknown



FEBRUARY 2022



Do not be afraid of showing your affection. Be warm and tender, thoughtful and affectionate. People are more helped by sympathy, than by service; love is more than money, and a kind word will give more pleasure than a present.

John Lubbock

THE GIFT OF AFFECTION



One of the tendencies of many people is to avoid showing affection. After all, if you don't show affection, you'll never be rejected, right? At least, that's the subconscious logic going on in the mind of the person. I can vouch for this phenomenon because it has affected me all my life, and though I am getting better at it, I'm pretty sure it will be with me until the day I die. Right now I'm a bit better at it, but I still hold back in many situations.

The basic thought that allows me to share my affection much more readily than I used to be able to is the thought that other people need to see it, feel it, and hear it. I know that when people have been affectionate towards me, it was miraculous in a way, and it made me feel wonderful. So why would I think that other people wouldn't feel that way when I showed them my affection (within appropriate boundaries, of course)?

I try to show affection in the simplest of ways. When I ask how someone is, I truly listen to the answer and I make eye contact while they're speaking, and then I respond to what they say. I thank people for things they've done for me, and I tell them that I appreciate their input because it helps me a lot. If someone is very important to other people, I tell them that. I know that many people are uncomfortable with others showing them affection, so I try to stay within limits that they're comfortable with. At home, I hug my wife and my step-kids, and I try to encourage them and compliment them in valid ways. I try to write letters to friends, even quick notes, though I'm getting worse at that as time goes on.

But if I'm "warm and tender, thoughtful and affectionate," I imagine that the contribution that I make to the lives of the people I affect in life will be significant and positive, and that's pretty much all I can ask, isn't it?
It's a gift to someone that definitely beats money or a present.

Tom Walsh

"We are made for goodness. We are made for love. We are made for friendliness. We are made for togetherness. We are made for all of the beautiful things that you and I know. We are made to tell the world that there are no outsiders. All are welcome: black, white, red, yellow, rich, poor, educated, not educated, male, female, gay, straight, all, all, all. We all belong to this family, this human family, God's family."

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Celebrate Love!

Valentine's Day is not just for couples. It's about love for family, friends, the whole world!

Let your light shine so brightly that others can see their way in the dark.
Katrina Mayer

Let all that you do be done with love.
1st Corinthians 16:14



CHANGE THE WORLD

To follow the will of the Father is to be willing to learn what is needed to be the best you can be, the best version of yourself. It means to face with joy and enthusiasm the challenges of life, because you accept that it is there where the lessons you need for your spiritual growth are hidden.

When you begin each day with this intent, your life becomes an adventure of learning and a source of satisfaction, regardless of the situation you are going through.

Those who live consecrated to the will of God become active participants in changing the world. Creativity is greatly misunderstood in this world. To be creative entails much more than art or entertainment. True creativity is to take what you've been provided by God every day and work toward building a better, more truthful, more beautiful world.

How can you use your creativity to become closer to God? How can you use your talents in your job, your community, or your family, to contribute, to make this world a better place? Forget about changing the world and focus into changing your own life and become the best human being you can imagine. Do not worry about helping a million people, instead help one or two. You are here to be the hands of the Father for those who you encounter on your path, if you so choose.

The effort required for one person to change the world is too great, but the effort required from each one of you to help those around you is miniscule in comparison, and the results may exceed your most optimistic expectations. The work of changing the world is a task for each and every one of you, not only a few 'enlightened' ones?

11:11 Progress Group

PRESIDENTIAL "FUN" FACTS



James Madison was the shortest president at 5 feet 4 inches tall and weighed 100 pounds. Abraham Lincoln was the tallest president at 6 feet 4 inches tall. (Lyndon B. Johnson was also 6' 4").

Abraham Lincoln often stored things like letters and documents in his tall stove-piped hat.

Franklin D. Roosevelt met President Grover Cleveland when he was five years old. Cleveland said "I am making a wish for you. It is that you may never become president of the United States."

The "S" in Harry S. Truman does not stand for anything.

After working at a Baskin-Robbins as a teen, President Obama no longer likes ice cream.

Martin Van Buren was the first president to be born as a citizen of the United States. The presidents before him were born as British subjects.

John Tyler had 15 children. The White House must have been hopping!

William Henry Harrison died just 32 days after becoming president. He died from a cold he got while standing in the rain giving his inauguration speech.

GIFTS OF WINTER

Not every one likes snow but is it an amazing work of God. He takes a barren winter landscape and creates it anew. I can almost hear the Lord saying, "Behold, I make all things new!" In the modern world we often walk past the glory of God and hardly notice the gifts that God daily provides.

Don't miss God's gift. It is true, snow comes at the price of weather related hardships. But MAYBE just maybe, God can get a few of us to stop, for just a minute and rest a while, and behold his glory. Getting "snowed in" for those who get more than we are expected to get, is a wonderful chance to become reacquainted with our family and even our very selves. And just looking out the window and marveling at the snow as it falls with a hypnotic and calming steadiness can be a prayer if we think of God who sends it. Where ever you are on this planet, don't walk through life and miss the glory of God!

Monsignor Charles Pope

"A million feathers falling down
A million stars that touch the ground
So many secrets to be found
Amid the falling snow."

Enya



Revelations for FEBRUARY from “Bly Mire” Mouse

BRRRRRR!!!! Winter has certainly begun to strut her stuff! We had such a mild December, but January has certainly reminded us what winter weather can be! One important difference I have seen this year is how the Mid-Atlantic is being hit with bad weather. We heard of the horror of people being stranded for over 24 hours on I-95 in Virginia. I have also been watching how North and South Carolina are getting freezing rain and snow this year. Mire and I have friends who live in South Carolina and, of course, we all know people who travel to Myrtle Beach and so I keep track of what weather is affecting our friends.

I am wondering how all of you are doing? I hear every evening reports on how COVID is spreading through our area. I definitely know more people now who are COVID positive than I did when it first spread and when we had the Delta variant in dominance. Unfortunately, I have also known a couple of people now who have died from COVID. I keep all of my faith family in prayer that we are all able to avoid contracting COVID! I also pray that if any of us do contract the virus that our symptoms are minimal!!! I also pray that we soon get this nightmare under control and we get to the point where we can get back to living life with Covid present as we have done with the flu, etc.

Now, obviously, with this being the month of February, our lives focus around Valentine’s Day. This month’s holiday is one of my favorites because no matter how old I am, I always enjoy doing something super nice for Mire. She always appreciates these special gestures and I flush with pride and joy when she responds with such joy and appreciation. This year, I again will make sure that we have a special meal at her favorite restaurant. And, as a bonus, Mire and I will be at the Valentine’s Party at SJB on the 12th! It sure sounds like a great evening. I love doing special things because of something my grandfather told me. He and my grandmother were married almost 60 years and when I was engaged to Mire, grandpa sat with me and gave me important words of wisdom. He said to me — always keep the romance alive — do special things for her and make sure she is number one in your life. I have tried to do this and with our over 25 years of being together, Grandpa’s words have held true!

I do hope that all of you have a very special, love filled Valentine’s Day. And, my hope is that you get lots of indicators of how much you are loved by your friends and family. But, I also hope that you know more deeply this year how much God loves you. Just think about John 3:16 and keep that in your heart and mind every day!!!

February humor:

What did pirates call Noah’s boat? “The arrrrrrrk.”

What did Adam say to Eve when handing her something to wear? “Take it or leaf it.”

God Bless!!!

With all our love, Bly and Mire



Friendship SOUP

Make jars of Italian barley soup to share love and warmth with friends.



What you need:

- 1 cup pearled barley
- ½ cup sundried tomatoes
- 1 Tbsp dry minced garlic
- 1 Tbsp dry minced onion
- 1 veggie bouillon cube
- Glass pint jars with lids
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Pen

What you do:

1. In order, layer the first five ingredients into the jar.
2. Trace the outline of the lid onto cardstock. Cut out.
3. On the card, write these directions: Remove wrapper from bouillon cube. Add contents of jar to saucepan. Add 4 cups water and a can of diced tomatoes. Bring to a boil over high heat, reduce to low. Simmer about 20 minutes, until barley is tender. Serve with parmesan cheese.
4. Place the card atop the lid. Screw on the canning ring to keep it in place.



The heart of a friend

Big-hearted friendliness comes from generously serving others.

Directions: Start with the first D and move according to the arrows beneath the blanks. Then fill in the letters to complete 1 Peter 4:8-10.



Above all, love each other D , because love
 over a multitude of . Offer
 to one another without
 . Each of you should use whatever
 you have received to others, as faithful
 stewards of God's in its various forms.

1 PETER 4:8-10, NIV

Answer: deeply, covers, sins, hospitality, grumbling, gift, serve, grace