



Providence Presbyterian Bustling's

Pentecost Sunday - May 31, 2020

Greetings Everyone — Today is Pentecost Sunday. In researching the day, I found a simple write-up by Wendy Thomas Russel for PBS Newshour. I am going to borrow liberally from her. If you would like to read her original piece you may do so at this link: <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/pentecost-sunday-heck-pentecost>



From a historical perspective, Christianity didn't start with Jesus' birth, his death or even his storied ascension to heaven. It started with Pentecost — the day the "Holy Spirit" entered a room holding Jesus' apostles and entered each of them, an event which — as Wendy's minister uncle tells her — "makes the church the church."

Although Pentecost is chock full of religious significance, it is a holiday not widely celebrated. Sort of the opposite of Hanukkah, which is widely celebrated but not religiously important. Pentecost is a bigger deal in liturgical churches, which follow a formal, standardized order of events (like Catholics & Presbyterians). "Non-liturgical" refers to churches whose services are unscripted (like Baptists).

Pentecost literally means "50." At his Last Supper, Jesus instructed his 12 disciples to go out into the world to minister and heal the sick on their own. It was at that point that they became "apostles." Fifty days after Jesus' death, the Holy Spirit (part of the Holy Trinity — God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit) descended onto the apostles, making them speak in foreign tongues. This "Pentecostal" experience allowed the apostles direct communication with God, which signaled a major shift in the religious landscape and laid the foundation for what would become Christianity. The book of Acts, Chapter 2, Verses 1-47 provide the accounting for this event. The first four verses follow

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. **2** And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. **3** Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. **4** All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.





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When Don't We Obey the Governor?

Rev. Dr. James Kraft, Pentecost, 2020

Last Sunday, May 24, a pastor in South Jersey decided to purposely disobey the Governor of New Jersey and have parishioners attend worship. His justification was that it was his Constitutional right to hold services. I assume he was referring to the First Amendment: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." I suppose he felt that the Governor's restriction on gatherings greater than 10 was prohibiting the 'free exercise' of religion. In fairness to the pastor, he declared that there would be every effort made to keep people safe.

My first reaction was that the pastor was placing the Constitution above the Scriptures. I was thinking of Romans 13: "Obey the government, for God is the one who put it there. All governments have been placed in power by God. So those who refuse to obey the laws of the land are refusing to obey God (New Living Translation).



Does that command to obey the government have no Biblical caveats? I remember well the civil right marches of the 60s, which I applauded, and at the end joined. Those demonstrations were often in defiance of many Governors of the Southern states. Even more to the point, we certainly applaud those who died opposing the edicts of Adolph Hitler's Nazi regime. How were these acts of disobedience Biblically informed?

In the next line in Romans 13, Paul states, "The authorities do not frighten people who are doing right, but they frighten those who do wrong. . . The authorities are established by God for that very purpose, to punish those who do wrong. So you must obey the government for two reasons: to keep from being punished and to keep a clear conscience." I believe the Biblical instruction is clear. As long as government edicts are issued for good – for us as Christians that means judging them by Scriptural authority – we are commanded to obey. I judge that the Governor's decision to limit gatherings to just 10 for now is for our good – a Biblical good protecting our life and that of our neighbors, and that it should be obeyed.

My name is **Hendrik Colijn**.

I was 18 years old when the Germans invaded my country. Instead of enlisting in their army, I joined the underground. For the next five years I helped many Jews in hiding, a crime punishable by death.

Anne Frank: A History for Today - 2007
Center for Diversity Education

http://foto.lib.unca.edu/findingaids/oralhistory/SHOAH/colijn_hendrick.pdf

This requirement of staying apart for a while puts an added responsibility on each individual Christian. Are you setting aside time with our Lord each day: reading Scripture, meditating on it, and spending time in prayer? If you are not used to these disciplines, I would suggest:

- You read a Psalm each day and a chapter from the New Testament.
- Find at least one verse from the Scripture that speaks to you and meditate on it.
- Prayer can take the tried and true form of ACTS

- Adoration of God
- Confession of sin
- Thanksgiving
- Supplication for others and for ourselves.

A.C.T.S.

ADORATION CONFESSION THANKSGIVING SUPPLICATION

Of course, these disciplines are also important even when we begin meeting again. Pentecost Sunday, May 31, is our annual reminder that each Christian has the Holy Spirit, and can be – indeed must be – responsible for his or her own connection with our Lord.

If you can find a service being streamed on Sundays, that will be helpful. In addition, in our day with so many ways of reaching out to others, we have no excuse for not contacting our Christian friends, encouraging and praying for each other even while we are social distancing.



May God keep us spiritual healthy even while we pray God keeps us physically well.



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I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord



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Where Are You Lord?

Randy York



Circumstances have a way of chipping away at our faith. When the doctor's visit is not routine, when finances come up short, when a job is lost, when a virus appears, when a relationship drifts, we often ask, God where are you? Well God does not change or vanish; instead perhaps we need better spiritual vision. I say that because while I have questioned God in my time, but I have also seen Him quite clearly. Now I don't mean to say that the Almighty has given me a personal audience. But I have seen Him. I've seen Him in the way Carol Shore began making and providing masks for people when the virus started. I have seen Him in the

way Roland Newell transports those in need to doctor's appointments. I have seen Him in the way my wife Barbara compassionately cared for her parents. I have seen Him in Alan Clark's passion for the imprisoned and the simple Christian joy that was Leo Forsberg. I have seen Him as a family friend turned his house into a mini hospital to care for his dying wife. People who have literally been transfigured in front of me into the face of God's love. Folks acting not for recognition, but to make a difference or to ease a burden.

To quote the eminent theologian Father Francis Mulcahy, "God did not put us here for that pat on the back. He created us so He could be here himself, so that He could exist in the lives of those He created in His image."

We have an awesome God watching over us; a God who offers grace and mercy, a God who listens to prayer, a God who has shown us the true meaning of love in the sacrifice of His Son. Are you seeking to find him in your circumstance? Do you want to experience the earth quaking, soul shaking, love wakening, risk taking, difference making presence of God? Then take the time to look for the nail marks in other folk's hands and do your best to heal them.

P.S. the Burlington Food Pantry served 93 families on Wednesday



Please help us reach everyone!

If you are aware of anyone that is not receiving our Newsletter or if you would like to gift someone with a free subscription at zero cost to our newsletter, please



contact me at RickCheslo@Gmail.com, so I can add them to our distribution.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Wendy Varga — For her nephew, **Sean** as he continues chemotherapy.

Marge Hull — Her Son, **Lee** is doing much better. It's a miracle he is slowly improving. Please pray for his continued recovery.

Marge Hull ---- Rain for the farmers' fields

Becky Jensen — For continued prayers for the PNC as they carry on their mission.

Margo Mattis — For her Mother, **Jean Miller**

Wendy Kasper — Asks for prayers for healing and strength in the midst of her chemotherapy.

Sheila Zier — Prayers for healing and strength and encouragement for her daughter, **Brittany** as she is battling a serious long term disease.

All: We have a small team of volunteers reaching out for prayer requests. If they cannot or are unable to reach you, then please e-mail RickCheslo@Gmail.com so we can include your in our prayers in future editions.

Bustleton's Best—Church Cookbook Recipe of the Week

Good Morning! After those delicious Ribs and Make Ahead Potatoes last week, I am finally hungry again. Since it is Sunday morning, it is time for breakfast, and Kathy Koenig's Sausage Biscuits are just what I am looking for. As Jed Clampett used to say, "Wooooo Doggie!!" These are some good eating biscuits. So, if you want any of these deee-liscious vittles, Y'all better get right over, or they'll be gone. Ya' heah!



Sausage Biscuits

Kathy Koenig

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1/2 lb good quality bulk sausage | 2 T milk |
| 1 1/2 C buttermilk baking mix | 1/4 t salt |
| 4 oz. coarsely grated Cheddar cheese
(about 1 c.) | 1/8 t pepper |
| 1 large egg | 1/8 t dried thyme |
| | 1/8 t ground ginger |

In a 6 inch skillet, cook sausage 6 to 8 minutes over moderate heat, breaking it up with a spoon until meat is no longer pink and most of the fat has cooked out. Drain in a strainer. Heat oven to 350. In a large bowl, combine biscuit mix, cheese and cooked sausage with a fork. In a small bowl, beat remaining ingredients with another fork; add sausage mixture and blend well with hands. Shape mixture into 28 balls, using about 1 tablespoon for each. Place 2 inches apart on ungreased baking sheet; flatten each ball slightly. Bake 20 minutes or until lightly browned. Makes 28 biscuits. Biscuits can be made ahead and frozen. Reheat before serving.



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Graduations!

June

Ethan Walker—Burlington Township High School



Birthdays!

Your Name Hear! Let us know all about the big day!

Please e-mail RickCheslo@Gmail.com if there are others who are graduating, celebrating a birthday or any other life event, and we will recognize you here.



PLEASE send in your Photos this week!
Everyone would love to see your smiling face with or without a mask, or something interesting in your everyday world.

Jane crafted this lovely arrangement or Peonies, Foxgloves, & Alliums from our garden. It is beautiful to bring a little bit of the outside in. Jane also handed out ten bouquets of these flowers plus Irises to our neighbors to enjoy.

Send your Pictures for publication to RickCheslo@Gmail.com



Notices

Excellent Caregiver Available

If anyone in your circle of family or friends has the need for an elderly care provider, Barb York highly recommends Kate who cared for her Dad before he passed. Kate also cared for Doug & Dorothy Ruck before they moved to Florida

Kate has excellent experience and a medical background. She is caring, compassionate and a truly loving person. She is looking for a 24/7 hour position. She has a license to drive, which many agency caregivers do not have.

If you're interested, please call Kate at 908-413-1324.

Refrigerator

Free to a Good Home!

Currently in the Manse.

Contact Bob Lee for details.

Church Office Hours

Barb Hammell is manning our Church Office to keep us on top of all our Business needs & obligations. **Thank you Barb!** Her hours are Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays from 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM. The office telephone is (609) 499-2753



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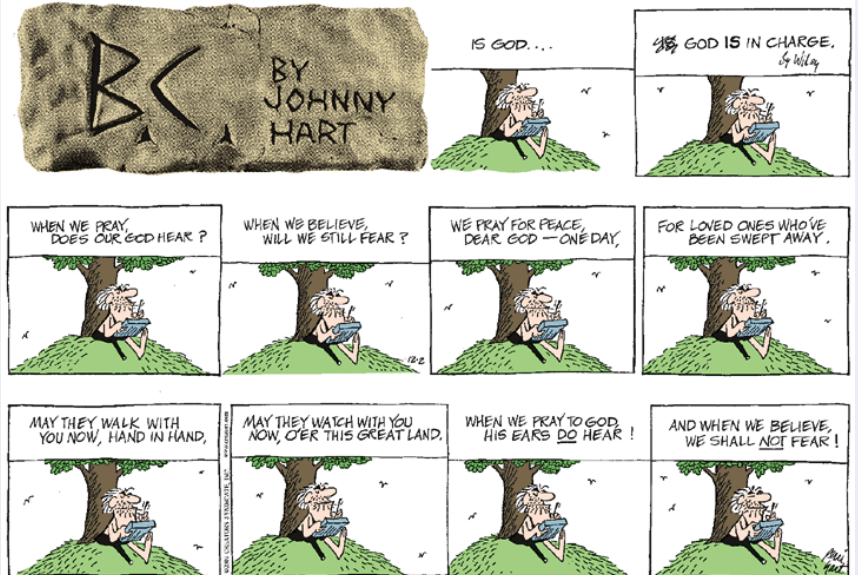
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Church Signs For Today



Barbara Hammell has placed copies of the May/June Upper Room devotional in the back of the Church. Come by on Sunday & pick up a copy while taking advantage of the drive-thru offering! This clever young couple rode their bikes!

Reminder - Save a Stamp!

Come to the Drive - Thru Offering from 8:30 am to 9:00 AM and 11:00 to 11:30 AM each Sunday morning. We average 12 to 14 cars each week. Come join the parade and Say Hey to Jack! Also don't forget to Honk or Ring Your Bell on your way out!

