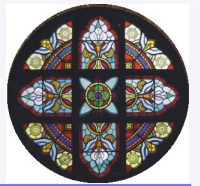


PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BUSTLETON



Providence Presbyterian Bustling's

Sunday, March 27, 2022 Issue No. 99

March 27, 2022 - Fourth Sunday In Lent

I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. (John 10:9-10)



A War on War

John - Kuwait - November 14, 2009



I believe in war. I was a war baby, a fresh beginning, a chubby ripe tomato plucked from my mother's Victory Garden alongside the garage in 1946.

I believe in war. My entire life has been defined by war. All through grade school I drilled for Armageddon, ducking under my desk, covering my neck with knitted hands as if this would protect me from atomic bombs.

I believe in war. Among our many childhood games was "I Declare War," a form of dodgeball with a martial edge. On the playground, we drew a pie chart of countries with white chalk. The sneakers of players toed their assigned country as the one holding a Pennsy Pinkie rubber ball slammed it down and yelled, "I declare war on ..." The countries flew, except for the one called out, who had to catch the rubber ball and scream, "Freeze!" The next step was to find a "frozen country" and annihilate it with a well-aimed surgical strike.

All of my school history books were defined by war. World History to WWI. World History to WWII. American History: Revolutionary War to the Civil War. American History Since the Civil War. War, war, and more war. In the blink of an eye, my older brother and sisters joined the Peace Corps, a response to JFK's call for altruistic service.

Simultaneously, JFK assembled a War Corps to combat the fear of Russians in Cuba, Communists in Southeast Asia.



Murder. Mayhem. Subterfuge. Assassinations here and abroad. Another blink. A yellow telegram arrived. I was 18. The telegram said, "Congratulations" but I wasn't feeling festive. The telegram was from LBJ, my president. He claimed my friends and neighbors nominated me for cannon fodder. I wet my pants. I considered flight to Canada. In the end, I reported for duty.



I believe in war. My elders taught me to solve all my problems with war. I saw and heard declarations of war on poverty, war on drugs, war on illiteracy,

homelessness, AIDS and so many other enemies. We appointed czars to fight these wars. Energy Czar. Education Czar. I remember a red button with the word WIN. Whip Inflation Now. We went to war against inflation. I'm not sure, but I think inflation won.



I believe in war. I don't like war; I believe in it. It's not going away. It is ubiquitous. That's an eleventh grade vocabulary word here in Kuwait where I have come to teach. I wanted to do something, something positive, contribute a piece of me to this dialog on war. I find promise in the eyes of these beautiful Arabian children whose poetic, peaceful names taste like honey on my tongue: Noor, Athba, Reem, Aisha, Abdulla, Ammar. Lujain, Fatima, Taiba and Yousef.

There is Jewish blood in my veins, but I would never tell my students.

I believe in war. And so I declare war. On war.

WHAT BRINGS YOU PEACE?





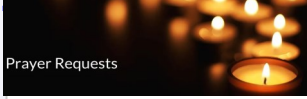
Providence Presbyterian Church

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



Providence Presbyterian Bustling's

Sunday, March 27, 2022



Prayer Requests

Prayer Requests will be added each week by your requests, and will run for two weeks unless a request to continue is received.



God's healing presence:

- For continued prayers for **Wendy Kasper, Barney Barnes, & Eleanor Hathaway**
- For **Fritz Wainwright, Polly Grobelny, Hayley Morris, Jean Miller & Margo Mattis**
- For **Barb & Dave Hammell, Joe Celkupa, and Polly's son-in-law Donald** having surgery
- For **Jim Shanley's Father-In-Law Carl** and **Ginny's cousin Isabell**
- For **Tia's son** recovering from kidney surgery
- For **Marleigh**, the three year old daughter of **Jane Cheslo's** cousin. Continued progress and healing
- For the **People of Ukraine**

God's comfort:

- For those who serve as caregivers
- For the family of **Fran Kraft's** aunt **Edna Lee**
- For the friends & family of **Cathy Murphy**
- For the **Lee family** upon the passing of **Dinah's** brother
- For the **Beaver family** upon the passing of **Austin's** uncle **Dave**

For God's guidance & understanding:

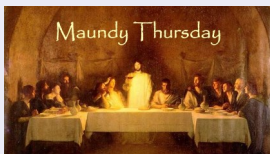
- For family members in need of God's presence and fellowship

In Thanks and Praise to God:

- For good shepherds in our pulpit
- For safe travel & favorable college acceptance for **Aaron Olsen**
- For good shepherds in our pulpit
- For **Sara's** grandson **Cameron** & his new wife **Chelsea** in **Guam**
- For **Alice Garman** returning home

Travelling Mercies for **Heidi Bonwell** working in western Pennsylvania

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



Maundy Thursday

April 14, 2022 7:00 PM



GOOD FRIDAY

April 15, 2022 7:00 PM



Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, March 27th

Immediately After Service

To Vote On Adding A Member To

Fill An Opening On The

Pastor Nominating Committee



Providence Presbyterian Church

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



Happy Birthday

March 27th
Linda Jensen

March 31st
Victor Vitale

Lasagna Fest



2022





Grandparents ~ Barb Hammell



Grandchildren do not remember their grandparents for how they began their race. Obviously, they weren't there. Rather, they remember their grandparents for how they finished. After years of raising a family, working hard, worshiping God, and serving others, a grandparent in the latter years of life makes a final statement. This final statement is like a book's conclusion, like a race's finish line, a game's score, or a friend's eulogy.

It's not how fast or strong you start that counts – it's how you finish.

This is not a season for withdrawing and putting up your feet. Living life only to retire and do nothing is such a waster. As work responsibilities decrease, time that was invested in making a living can now be invested in lives, particularly the lives of "the least of these" – the sick, the helpless, the imprisoned, the lonely, the poor, and the children, especially grandchildren. Are you managing your people investments as your financial ones?

Investing yourself in loving and serving others fulfills Jesus' revelation, *He that would be great among you must be servant of all*. Before saying good bye, break life's winner's tape by finishing strong!

My precious, righteous child, remember my promise for you.

The righteous flourish like the palm tree,

And grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

They are planted in the house of the LORD;

They flourish in the courts of our God.

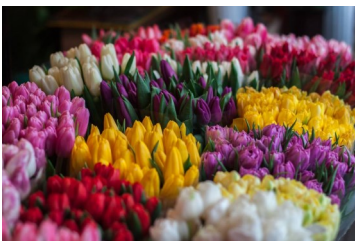
In old age they still produce fruit;

They are always green and full of sap,

Love,

Your Father of Life

~ Psalm 92:12-14



Easter Flowers

Help beautify our Sanctuary for Easter Sunday Service by donating flowers to celebrate our Risen Lord.

Flowers are to be purchased individually and dropped off at the CE Building on Weds, Thurs, or Friday April 13th, 14th, or 15th between 9 AM and 3 PM. Flowers may also be dropped off in the sanctuary on Saturday April 16th before Noon.

If you wish to donate flowers, but are unable to get out to purchase and/or deliver them to the church, please contact the office or Annette Slaney (609-206-3961) and we will purchase and deliver them for you.





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