



The Church Mouse

First Presbyterian Church

401 Main Street

Watsonstown, PA 17777

June 2020

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Serving Christ, Community, and One Another Since 1872



Dear Church Friends and Members,

I have waited to the last minute to write this letter so that I could see what the session decided about worship. They met last night and decided to not have in person church services until Governor Wolfe has changed the status of our county from yellow to green. That means that the earliest we will be able to worship together will be June 14th. The session will come out with a set of rules and guidelines at that time.

Because I will retire in July I was particularly interested in what this church would decide to do. It will be heartbreaking for me to think that I will not be able to preach at least one more sermon directly to the congregation before I hang up my robe and stoles. But I understand and support what the session has chosen to do. I believe that they have the welfare of the congregation and the community at heart and have and will make the right decisions.

In the weeks to come I will be packing up my office and transitioning to the retired life. But I will also continue to broadcast services on the internet and be available for pastoral ministry if needed. I want to thank so many of you for making this time easier for Laura and me. Special thanks go to Rob Brown for filming our services and putting them on line, Chris Frantz for playing the organ and piano, Laura for helping me put together services and helping in the preaching, Sherry for decorating the church early and beautifully, and all of you for tuning in and giving such positive feedback. It really has been a growing and learning experience for all of us.

Thank you again for allowing me to be your pastor and friend for these years.

In Christ,

Pastor Paul

ANNOUNCEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS



As the Covid-19 crisis continues in the U.S., it has been decided by the Board of Elders to wait until our county is in the "green" zone before starting in person services. If you need anything, please contact the church office or Pastor Paul. We are here to help.



Elder Carl Bower is seeking ideas and volunteers to help with a stand at the new Watsontown Farmers Market. Ideas for a stand include selling soup or baked goods. We may even have eggs to sell! Please contact Carl with any ideas you may have or to volunteer.



Would you like to help the Building and Grounds Committee with the maintenance of the church grounds? A Work Day is being held at 10:00 am Saturday, May 30th to weed the church borders but there is work to do all summer long. Let the church office know if you would be able to mow, trim, or weed.



If you haven't paid your Per Capita, there is still time. Per Capita for 2020 is \$36. If you're not sure if you have paid for 2020, contact the church office.

DOLLARS

SENSE Our Church was able to benefit from the Paycheck Protection Program through the CARES Act due to our hard-working Finance Committee. This, along with a Benefits Relief Program from the Board of Pensions, has greatly helped our church in this difficult time. We still need our members as we navigate the Pandemic. Your time, talents, and tithing keep everything running smoothly. We would like to thank all those that remember the church with your gifts.

SERMONS FOR JUNE

June 7 – "Fruits of the Spirit: Joy"

June 14 – "Fruits of the Spirit: Kindness"

June 21 – "Fruits of the Spirits: Gentleness"

June 28 – "Fruits of the Spirit: Peace"



Bible Readings for the Month

June 7 – Genesis 1:1-2:4; Psalms 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

June 14 – Genesis 18:1-15; Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8

June 21 – Genesis 21:8-21; Psalms 86:1-10, 16-17; Romans 6:1-11; Matthew 10:24-39

June 28 – Genesis 22:1-14; Psalms 13; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42



Our prayers are with:

Our Essential Workers, Kaci Stevenson, Alice Cotner, Norm Kobbe, Lu Reed, Wayne Houser, Lori Yost, George Sherry, Greg Wesner, Donna Hoskins, Terri Hauck, Eric Powell, Mark Trutt, Rebecca Cotner, Rhonda Snyder, Linda Zarzecki, Aaron Walker, Donna & Lawrence Walker, Roxie Trutt, Don Gresh, Glenn Walker, Alex Bartlett, Cliff Elmore, Pat Groover, Ella Novcarvis, Sandy Pick, Nancy Fisher, Al Patterson, Ruth Walker, Betty & Vergie Heim, Kate Shade, Norma Bower, Ellen Malloney, John Marshall, Bonnie Catherman, Janet Reasner, Clair & Margaret Walker, Paul Berger, Edith Umstead, Ace Elmore

Our Special Care List: Bob Bartlett, Jeanne Becker, Jane Bergman, Peggy Calabro, Reba Dotson, Gladys Klapp, Shirley Willkow

Deployed Military: Stefan Armstrong

Ministries: Missionaries-Doug Orbaker, Juan & Shirley Ocasio; Neighbors Helping Neighbors; Presbyterian Disaster Assistance; Haven Ministries, Snack-Pack Program

★ Please give updates on the status of those on the list to Paul or Sherry. ★

SOME PURE LOGIC FROM CHILDREN TO TAKE OUR MINDS FROM THE NEWS

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales.

The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small.

The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale.

Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible.

The little girl said, 'When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah'.

The teacher asked, 'What if Jonah went to hell?'

The little girl replied, 'Then you ask him'.

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head.

She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, 'Why are some of your hairs white, Mum?'

Her mother replied, 'Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white.'

The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, 'Mummy, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?'

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds.

After explaining the commandment to 'honor' thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, 'Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?'

From the back, one little boy (the oldest of a big family) answered, 'Thou shall not kill.'

The children had all been photographed, and the teacher was trying to persuade them each to buy a copy of the group picture. 'Just think how nice it will be to look at it when you are all grown up and say, 'There's Jennifer, she's a lawyer,' or 'That's Michael, He's a doctor.'

A small voice at the back of the room rang out, 'And there's the teacher, she's dead.'

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray:

'Take only ONE. God is watching.'

Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies.

A child had written a note, 'Take all you want. God is watching the apples...'

A teacher was giving a lesson on the circulation of the blood. Trying to make the matter clearer, she said, 'Now, class, if I stood on my head, the blood, as you know, would run into it, and I would turn red in the face.'

'Yes,' the class said.

'Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position the blood doesn't run into my feet?'

A little fellow shouted, 'Cause your feet ain't empty.'

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work.

As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, 'I'm drawing God.'

The teacher paused and said, 'But no one knows what God looks like.'

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, 'They will in a minute.'



BIRTHDAYS

- June 1 - Ruth Eshenaur
Kathy Patterson
June 8 - Sherry Armstrong
June 14 - Christopher Brouse
Reba Dotson
Wally Fairman
June 16 - Pastor Paul
June 18 - Rhys Lombardino



ANNIVERSARIES

- June 3 - Janice & Ernest Ruppenthal
June 9 - Steve & Denise Klapp
June 19 - Wally & Sandie Fairman
June 20 - Jeff & Kathi Bower
Earl & Judy Harris
Joe & Shirley Mallach
June 21 - Richard & Jeane Weigel
June 23 - Kayla & Andrew Walter
June 28 - Carl & Pam Bower



How long have we been on Lockdown. 🤔😬



Word of thanks to:

**Rob Brown
Chris Frantz
Pastor Paul
Laura Smith
The Board of Elders
The Finance Committee**

SESSION



Elders

Moderator – Rev. Paul A. Smith	570-742-3086
Clerk of Session – Ruth Brouse	570-490-0302
Stephan Armstrong	570-768-6906
Keith Ayers	570-772-5783
Carl Bower	570-713-7374
Wally Fairman	570-814-8193
Emilie Hogg	570-437-2392
Janet Kling	570-506-3217
Rick Wolfe	570-220-7106

**Paranoia has reached
absurd stages...**

**I sneezed in front of
my laptop and the
anti-virus started a
scan on its own**

JUNE 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 FLAG DAY 	15	16 	17	18	19	20
21 	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 PASTOR PAUL'S LAST SERVICE	29	30				

Play "Who Am I?"

Play this acting game with your friends or in Sunday school class.

How to play:

1. Before you begin, agree on how many points are needed to win.
2. Choose a person from the Bible. Don't say who it is.
3. Without talking, act out something that your person did.
4. To discover who you are, the other players each ask you one question that can be answered "Yes" or "No."
5. The first person to guess the right answer gets 1 point. If no one gets it right, you get 1 point.
6. Take turns acting out parts until someone wins.



Just for KIDS

Old Testament Prophets

"Who Am I?"

Some Old Testament books are named after prophets. Discover the names of the prophets below. Use the clues to write the names on the lines. Arrange the circled letters on the bottom blanks to describe what a prophet is.

1. I was called to preach to the people of Ninevah, but I ran from God instead. *My book is number 32 in the Bible.*

I am _ _ _ _ _ .

2. I spoke God's message when the temple was being built. *My book is number 37.*

I am _ _ _ _ _ .

3. Israel's unfaithfulness to God is compared to my unfaithful wife. *My book is number 28.*

I am _ _ _ _ _ .

4. My book predicts punishment for wickedness and promises comfort. *It is book 23.*

I am _ _ _ _ _ .

5. I had dreams and visions. *My book is 27.*

I am _ _ _ _ _ .

6. I was often in danger because of my predictions. I angered officials. *My book is 24.*

I am _ _ _ _ _ .

7. I was a shepherd from Judah who called people to turn to God and leave their selfish lives. *My book is 30.*

I am _ _ _ _ _ .

8. *My book is 26 and contains descriptions of strange visions.*

I am _ _ _ _ _ .

Prophets are _ _ _ _ _ .

Answers: Jonah; Haggai; Hosea; Isaiah; Daniel; Jeremiah; Amos; Ezekiel. Messengers.