

# ECHOES

April/May 2022

**We Invite  
We Welcome  
We Nurture  
We Serve**



**COVENANT  
United Methodist Church**

## From the Pastor's Desk...

By Pastor Quentin Wallace

### Love. Period!



*"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." (1 Corinthians 13: 4-7)*

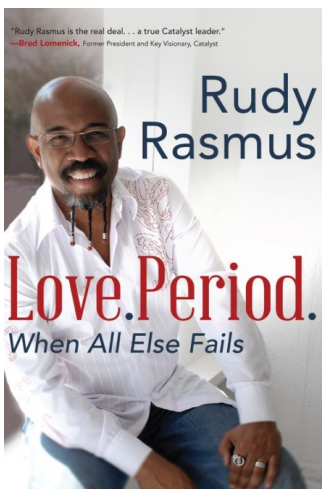
Rudy Rasmus is an author, a global humanitarian and, along with his wife Juanita, the Co-Pastor of St. John's United Methodist Church, a very diverse 9000-member congregation in Houston, Texas. Rasmus attributes the congregation's exponential growth to its commitment to show love to one another and to its surrounding community.

Pastor Rasmus emphasizes the importance of unconditional love in his 2014 book entitled *Love Period*.

On page one of his book, he references 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 and uses contemporary language to describe Paul the Apostle's words.

For your convenience I have listed those words below:

*Love never gives up.  
Love cares more for others than for self.  
Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.  
Love doesn't strut.  
Doesn't have a swelled head.  
Doesn't force itself on others.  
Isn't always me first.  
Doesn't fly off the handle.  
Doesn't keep score of the sins of others.  
Doesn't revel when others grovel,  
Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,  
Puts up with anything,  
Trusts God always,  
Always looks for the best,  
Never looks back,  
But keeps going to the end. <sup>1</sup>*



<sup>1</sup> Rudy Rasmus. *Love Period: When All Else Fails* (Brentwood: Worthy, 2014). 1

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## Sidelights

### COVENANT'S VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

Our Vision Statement: **Bringing Christ's Light into the Community and Beyond.**

Our Mission Statement: **We Invite, We Welcome, We Nurture, We Serve.**

Pastor Quentin's theme for 2021 is **God in 2022, Our Total Praise is to You.**

Please be in prayer for Covenant Church.

### WAYS TO CONTINUE GIVING

Thank you to our faithful members who continue to support Covenant Church. Here are options for you to give your personal tithes and offerings:

- Mail checks to 110 N. Mulberry St., Lancaster, PA, 17603
- Give online. Go to our website [www.covenant-umc.com](http://www.covenant-umc.com) and click on the GIVING link and follow the directions.
- Text 717-769-1063. After the initial setup, giving is easy.

Please call the church office with questions.

## Sidelights

### PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer request, please call Patti Willard at 717-872-7561. If she is unavailable, please leave a message. Also, if you are interested in being a member of the Prayer Chain, please contact her to add your name to the list .

### HOSPITAL VISITATION

Don't forget to notify the church office when you or a loved one is in the hospital. Our Care Team is available to visit and share prayer.

### UPPER ROOM

You can purchase the Upper Room daily devotional for only \$1. We have regular and large print in the office.

### LOBBY GREETERS

1st Sunday of the Month  
Bob & Cindy Hean

2nd Sunday of the Month  
Mary Lou Hill

3rd Sunday of the Month  
Linda & Lou Henning

4th Sunday of the Month  
Tina Butler

5th Sunday of the Month  
Cathy Boyd  
Bobbie Schwan

## We Worship Together

### Sunday Worship

In-person worship will be held each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. The service will also be livestreamed on Facebook for those who wish to worship at home.

### Additional Online Opportunities During the Week

- Wednesday at 10 a.m. and Friday at 6 a.m. join our conference prayer call at 605-313-5107 (202700#).

## April and May Events

**Palm Sunday Service** – 04/10/2022

**Maundy Thursday Communion Service** - 7:00 p.m. – 04/14/2022

**Good Friday Service** — 7:00 p.m. – 04/15/2022

**Easter Service** – 04/17/2022

**Chancel Choir Cantata** – 04/17/2022

**Mother's Day Celebration** – 05/08/2022

**Blanket Sunday** – 05/08/2022

**Heritage Sunday** - 25, 50, 75 year membership celebration – 05/15/2022

**Music Appreciation Sunday** – 05/22/2022

## EPA Annual Conference to Convene in May

The Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church will convene on May 20 and 21, again this year over Zoom due to the ongoing COVID pandemic. The conference theme this year is "Now," drawn from Romans 13:11b: "Now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now, our salvation is nearer than when we first believed."

The conference begins on Friday, May 20, at 8:30 AM with the Episcopal Address by Bishop John Schol, presiding over his first EPA Conference session. The holy conferencing sessions, reports and presentations, service of commissioning and ordination, and memorial service to remember deceased clergy and clergy spouses will all take place and be live-streamed from the UM Church of West Chester over the two days. While all voting members will meet over Zoom, the sessions will also be live-streamed for other viewers on the conference Facebook page.

In preparation for Annual Conference, the laity members will meet online on Saturday morning, April 2; and the clergy members will meet on Wednesday morning, May 4, at St. Matthew's UMC of Valley Forge. Also, the West District Conference to which Covenant belongs, will meet online on Sunday, May 1, at 3:00 P.M

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You may think that's a tall order to fill. However, this is what our savior Jesus Christ modeled, and his disciples should be expected to follow suit and express unconditional love. In short, when people enter the body of Christ, or the church, or specifically Covenant church, we want to show members, visitors and prospective members that we are love focused. Therefore, I suggest that we consider this love theme in each of our interactions including meetings, music rehearsals, Christian education classes, worship experiences, and outreach events. The love inside the church will naturally spread outside and attract others to Christ.

Let me offer this illustration. There were two families in my old neighborhood—the Williams family and the Greene family (not their real names), and the neighbors responded to each differently. The Greene family included both parents and seven children ranging in ages from 7 through 13. They were a close, loving family who always had friends over. They were fun to be around. The Williams family also included both parents and six kids similar in age to the children of the Greene family. But their family members were divided and fought amongst themselves regularly, and the parents didn't get along.

In response, the neighbors spoke and waved to members of the Williams family from afar, but didn't visit their home because they never knew when a fight would ensue. And as quietly as it was kept, the Williams family was the neighborhood model for a dysfunctional family. Now do you think the Greene family was perfect and never had any disagreements? I don't think so. I think for the Greene family, unconditional love was the glue that bonded them. For the Greens I believe three mantras were in place that helped them love and thrive as a family unit:

1. No matter what, they'd never resort to physical altercations.
2. No matter what, they'd never say anything they couldn't take back.
3. No matter what, family always came first.

It seems to me that the Greene family captured and modeled the words of the Apostle Paul. A congregation is a family of believers that are tied together, not by blood but through Christ. Moving forward in ministry let's keep *Love Period* in the forefront of all we do and then observe what God will be able to accomplish through us.

## UMC General Conference Postponed

General Conference, a meeting of the legislative body of the United Methodist Church, has been postponed a third time because of the COVID-19 pandemic and will not meet until 2024. Delegates to General Conference who serve on the General Commission made this decision largely because as many as 30% of the delegates would not be able to attend because they could not receive visas. Attempting to conduct a virtual General Conference was not realistic across 12 time zones, in multiple languages, and all online with different internet stability.

Bishop Schol of our Eastern Pennsylvania Conference has responded to this decision with an open letter to our conference dated March 10. It can be read online at [www.epaumc.org](http://www.epaumc.org) with a search for Bishop Schol message March 10.

## Sidelights

### 90+ BIRTHDAYS April & May

Nancy Hess — 4/14  
Ruth Neuman — 5/2  
Betty Jane Burklew — 5/7  
Ethel Beck — 5/13



## FLOWERS

If you want to place a centerpiece or vase in memory or in honor of a loved one, the cost is \$49. Please contact the church office Monday-Friday, 8:30-2 at 717-393-1561.

## Sidelights

### GIFTS RECEIVED

In memory of **Bob Moss**, gifts have been received from:

Sandy Leonard  
Ron & Chris Kimmich  
Bill & Nancy Grau (DKMF)  
Esther Mefferd  
Merle & Nancy Groff  
Jeff & Ann Burklew (DKMF)  
Robert & Kay Brubaker (DKMF)  
Lois Neidermyer (DKMF)  
Chester Weaver, Jr. (DKMF)  
Joan Miller (STE)  
David & Jacqueline Diffenderfer (DKMF)  
Debbie Bealler (DKMF)  
Robert Wildisan (DKMF)  
Cindy Smith (DKMF)  
Jay & Patricia Hoberg (DKMF)  
Bernadine Wodarczyk (DKMF)  
Virginia Landis (DKMF)  
Annabell McGehee (DKMF)  
Ronald Hess (DKMF)  
Richard Galen (NF)  
Ruth Neuman (MOOS)

In memory of **Marguerite Herr "Peg" Walz**, gifts have been received from:

Ruth Neuman (OR) (MOOS)  
Gerald Miller (OR)  
Kenneth & Susan Miller  
Michael & Anne Zell  
Michael & Megan Alleman  
G. David & Nadena Ament  
Sandy Leonard  
Ron & Chris Kimmich  
Joan Miller  
Marcia Hemler  
Cindy Smith  
Ronald & Kathy Woods  
Esther Mefferd  
Russell & Linda Adsitt, Jr.  
John Sigler  
Richard & Michelle Atwater  
Carole Horn  
Merle & Nancy Groff

In memory of **Harriet Dabler**, a gift has been received from Joan Miller (STE)

In memory of **Dan Neidermyer**, a gift has been received from Sandy Leonard.

PDF = Pastor's Discretionary Fund  
DKMF = Dolly Kepner Music Fund  
OR = Outreach  
NF = Noah Fund  
STE = Sound and Tech Equipment

## Lenten and Beyond Studies

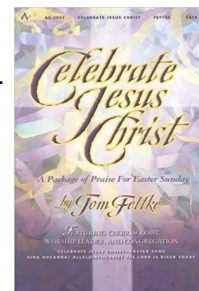
### Ages and Stages Class

During the Lenten season the Ages and Stages Sunday School Class is exploring Max Lucado's DVD study entitled *Jesus, the God Who Knows Your Name*. The last two sessions in April leading to Easter are entitled "Miracle Worker" and "Victorious Sacrifice." The study focuses on how Jesus was both human and divine and how He calls and helps us to follow in His footsteps.

After Easter the class will begin a study of eight Christian denominations and faith traditions with the book *Christianity's Family Tree: What Other Christians Believe and Why*. The author Adam Hamilton, who is the pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, compares the Christian family to our own families and presents unique and valuable perspectives each demonization has to offer the Christian faith. This study uses DVD presentations by Adam Hamilton along with class discussion led by teachers Rev. Dr. Guy Carrigan, Carole Horn, and Lois Neidermyer. All are welcome to meet with this class in the Jesus Room in the lower level of the church.

## Chancel Choir to Present Mini-Cantata

On Easter Sunday, April 17, the Chancel Choir will open the Easter service with a mini-cantata using music from *Celebrate Jesus Christ!* by Tom Fetke. The Praise Team will present "My Savior Lives" by Egan and Packiam. Please bring family and friends to this special service celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



## Covenant Members in Business

### Aunt Sandy's Attic

Sandy Leonard  
Antiques, Collectibles, Books, Art, etc.  
545 W. Market Street, Marietta, PA 17547  
717-426-5091

### Dale Building Designs

Donald A. Dale, 872.4263  
2086 New Danville Pike, Lancaster, PA  
www.DonDaleDesigns.com

### Groff Family Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc.

Thomas S. Buter, 394.5300  
528 W. Orange St.

### JM Services

Jeff McGary  
Interior & Light Exterior Painting,  
717.330.9616 or jmcgary@comcast.net

### Kresge Computer Consultation

Roger Kresge, 299.4613 or  
rkresge123@comcast.net

### Miller Optical

Glenn & Maryanne Miller, 393.2020  
Glasses, Contacts, and Exams  
Lancaster & Willow Street

### Willard Hypnosis Center

Roger J. Willard  
3304 Main Street, Conestoga PA 17516  
717.872.7561 or willardhypnosis.com

# Here's to Good Health!

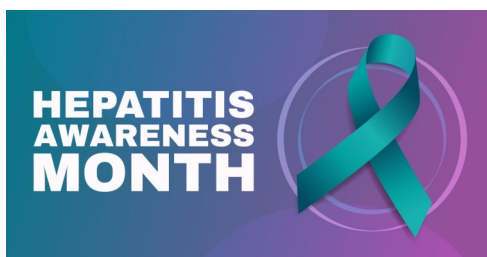


April 24th to April 30th is World Immunization Week. This event promotes vaccines to protect people of all ages from serious diseases around the world. This promotion actually started before the pandemic.

I just want to remind you to check with your Personal Care Provider that you are up to date on any needed vaccines. Depending on your age think Pneumococcal, Shingles and Tetanus/Pertussis. Also, if you haven't had the Covid 19 vaccine, please consider getting it to protect yourself and others. Don't forget to get the flu vaccine each year to prevent serious illness or even death.



Another event that happens in April is World Health Day, which happens April 7th. On this day take time to think about how fortunate we are to have the health care we do. This day is an opportunity to reflect on how we can have a fairer and healthier world. A world where all people are able to live healthy lives and have access to quality health care services.



May is Hepatitis Awareness Month. Hepatitis is the term used to describe inflammation of the liver. It is usually the result of a virus infection or liver damage caused by drinking excessive amount of alcohol. Hepatitis often has no noticeable symptoms. It is diagnosed by blood tests. Symptoms can be any of the following: muscle and joint pain, elevated temperature, feeling sick, feeling tired all the time, losing one's appetite, noticing dark urine, noticing pale/gray colored stools, having itchy skin, and noticing yellowing of eyes and skin (jaundice).

There are several types of the hepatitis virus. Type A is the most common. This virus is usually caught by consuming food and drink that has been contaminated with the stool of an infected person. This happens most often in countries where there is poor sanitation.

Type B virus is spread through the blood. It is a world-wide infection usually spread from pregnant women to their babies. Some cases can be spread through unprotected sex and injecting drugs. Most adults can fight off the virus and recover from infection within a few months. If it becomes chronic the person can be treated with antiviral medications.

Type C virus usually spreads with blood to blood contact with an infected person through sharing needles to inject drugs or maintaining poor health practices. This virus has no noticeable symptoms. It could seem like you have the flu and are unaware of being infected. Persons can fight off the infection. If it should become chronic, it can be treated with antiviral medications.

Remember, keep washing your hands. That is one way to stay healthy!  
Happy Spring!

Cindy Smith  
Wellness Coach

## Sidelights

### GROCERY CARDS

Please check the News to Go for Sundays when grocery cards will be available in the lobby.

You can also continue to support the Mission Outreach of Covenant by purchasing your grocery store gift cards through the mail. Please mail your check to Covenant UMC at 110 N Mulberry St 17603 with a note. We have \$50 Stauffer's cards; \$25 and \$50 Giant cards.

Please make your checks out to Covenant UMC. After receiving your check, we will mail your grocery store cards to your home.



## **COVENANT**

### **United Methodist Church**

110 North Mulberry Street

Lancaster, PA 17603-3507

Office Telephone: 717.393.1561

Senior Pastor's Phone: 610-334-3440

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

### **Church Staff**

The Reverend Dr. Quentin E. Wallace, Senior Pastor

The Reverend Sally Ott, Visitation & Witness

The Reverend Dr. Guy Carrigan, Dir. of Evangelism

Jeffrey McGary, Echoes Editor

### **Email**

Senior Pastor...[pastorquentin@covenant-umc.com](mailto:pastorquentin@covenant-umc.com)

Admin. Asst....[sue@covenant-umc.com](mailto:sue@covenant-umc.com)

Echoes Editor...[jcmcgary@comcast.net](mailto:jcmcgary@comcast.net)

Web Page...<http://www.covenant-umc.com>

## **Covenant Seeks Director of Family, Children, and Youth Ministry**

Covenant Church is seeking a committed Christian with the calling, passion, and experience to work with children and youth and their families. Responsibilities for this position of Director of Family, Children, and Youth Ministry focus on managing and expanding current church programs for children and youth while reaching out to families in the neighboring community. Such programs include Sunday School classes, youth group, and community events that create connections between the neighborhood and the church. A complete job description with qualifications and responsibilities can be found on the church's website [www.covenant-umc.com](http://www.covenant-umc.com). Interested individuals may apply by sending a letter of intent and resume to [office@covenant-umc.com](mailto:office@covenant-umc.com).

Sincere appreciation is expressed to Minister Brenda Wallace, who has been overseeing and leading our youth in Sunday School and fellowship activities to help them grow in their faith and daily Christian walk. Also the efforts of her team of volunteers as well as Covenant's Nurture and Outreach Teams are so appreciated in the ways they seek to reach children and youth for Jesus Christ.

Return Service Requested

Covenant United Methodist Church  
110 N. Mulberry St.  
Lancaster, PA 17603-3507