

ECHOES

July/August, 2020

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



From the Pastor's Desk...

By Pastor Quentin Wallace



Hit the Gas or Pause a Moment?

Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise. (Ephesians 5:15)

When driving to a destination I tend not to like the red lights that stop or halt my progress. Instead, I prefer green. When the traffic lights turn green, it's a signal to step on the gas and move forward.

Over the years I've learned to hesitate a moment before entering an intersection immediately when the light changes to green, just in case someone may be running the red light through the intersection when they were supposed to have stopped. Many accidents have occurred in that scenario, so I always exercise caution. As people of faith we must always be watchful and exercise caution, as we anticipate the care and needs of others.

Recently our state has moved to the Green Phase of mitigation for the Covid-19 pandemic. And while green implies there are no obstacles and it's safe to move forward—this should not be done so without caution. In the next few weeks our church leadership will be considering moving forward while taking into account the data and guidelines provided by our state and denominational officials. They will be making decisions as to when we may hold in-person church gatherings and the needed safety precautions when doing so.

In the meantime, please keep one another in prayer and join us for virtual worship, prayer, Bible study and Sunday School.

And, we all pray for a vaccine or cure for this worldwide pandemic.

Blessings,

Pastor Quentin

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 2020 is **Covenant is the church for ALL generations, and we mean it!**

Please be in prayer for Covenant Church.

WAYS TO CONTINUE GIVING

Covenant church is grateful for all our faithful friends and members who are continuing to send their tithes and offerings while we are unable to meet. If you are able, you can mail checks to 110 N. Mulberry St., Lancaster, PA, 17603, or give electronically. To give electronically go to our website www.covenant-umc.com and click on the GIVING link and follow the directions. You can also use your smart phone to securely text a gift to Covenant. To send a gift, just send a text message to 7177691063 with the dollar amount (e.g. "\$20"). The first time you do this you will be asked to fill out a short form with billing information. After the initial setup, giving is easy as sending a text message. Please call the church office with questions.

Sidelights

GIFTS GIVEN

To the Dolly Kepner Music Fund:

- In memory of **Mae Meringer** from Nancy Froeschle, J. McFalls, Dolly Kepner, Eugene & Betty Wagner, Ronald & Patricia Ernst, and Virginia Breeden.
- In memory of **Melvin and Marian Hough** from Joan Nicolson.

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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

We want to stay in contact, and many of us are reaching out by telephone and email. **Do we have your latest information?** Please email or call the church office with updated phone numbers and email addresses.

GROCERY CARDS

You can 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; and \$50 Weis cards. Please make your checks out to Covenant UMC. After receiving your check, we will mail your grocery store cards to your home.

We Worship Together

July 5—Online Service

Our 10:00 a.m. worship will take place online as it has during the first several months of the pandemic. Go to the Covenant website (covenant-umc.com) and click on Worship to get the Covenant Facebook link. You do not have to have a Facebook account to participate. The live link will allow you to see and hear the entire service.

July 12, 19, & 26—Parking Lot Services

On these three Sundays, we will be conducting a parking lot service beginning at 10:00 a.m. The following rules and procedures apply:

- We will transmit the service via an FM radio signal (107.1) that you can hear in your car
- No one may enter the church to use the restroom
- You may not exit car during our time together
- Cars should be parked facing the portico with spaces left between vehicles. Cones or other objects will be placed in spots that must remain unoccupied
- Vans and trucks will be asked to park in the back row to prevent blocking the view of worship participants

Month of August—Worship in the Sanctuary

During the month of August, we will be returning to the sanctuary for 10:00 a.m. worship with the following rules in place:

- Masks will be mandatory
- Physical distancing will be observed
- There will be no gathering before or after service
- There will be no refreshments
- There will be no congregational singing
- Folks who are coughing, sneezing, have a fever, have diarrhea, or have a new loss of taste or smell are asked to stay home and join the service via Facebook

Please note: All the services during July and August will continue to be live streamed for those preferring to worship at home.

ADDITIONAL ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE WEEK

- Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. on Facebook Live, Pastor Quentin will bring words of encouragement.
- Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Quentin will share a Bible Study.
- Monday through Thursday at 10 a.m. and Friday at 6 a.m. join our conference prayer call at 605-313-5107 (202700#).

Here's To Good Health!

As we get older we find ourselves with some physical challenges. These changes may not cause disabilities, but they could have an effect on your driving.

It would be smart when you notice some of these to be proactive to find out how each change could jeopardize your driving skills. Think about your safety and the safety of others on the road.

Arthritis of your neck, shoulders, hands, hips, and knees can lead to pain, stiffness and driving challenges. Hand pain may make it hard to grip the steering wheel. Hip and knee pain may make it hard to get in and out of the car. Knee pain might make it painful to step on the gas and brake pedals. Neck pain may reduce your ability to turn your head when backing up or changing lanes.

Hearing loss can make it difficult to hear ambulance, fire and police sirens. Hearing loss in one ear can cause confusion as to which way the sound is coming from. It can

take longer to figure out which way the emergency vehicle is coming.

A cataract impairs your ability to identify targets and distances, which affects braking distances. Night time driving makes it difficult to see dark objects, and bothersome lights coming toward you make it harder to see.

Arthritis can be helped by over the counter and prescription medications. Think about some occupational and physical therapy. Hearing loss? Get a hearing test and, yes, hearing aids can be a big help.

Cataract surgery can make a big difference especially with night driving.

Remember, we want to stay in the driver's seat as long as possible, being safe and independent for as long as we can.

Happy safe driving!

Cindy Smith,

Wellness Coach

Sidelights

COMMUNITY CLOSET EVENT SCHEDULED

Covenant's Community Closet will be having a yard sale on Saturday, July 18th, in the church parking lot. Thanks to everyone who has donated clothing and linens, we have a great big selection of items to put out. This event is for Covenant members and friends along with the community. We will follow the CDC regulations of wearing masks, having hand sanitizer available, and maintaining physical distancing. We also will remind people to wash hands when they get home.

NOTE OF THANKS

Gail Long sends thanks to the Covenant congregation for the cards she received at the passing of her brother.

90+ BIRTHDAYS

Miriam Meliezen, July 3
Jane Gehman, July 4
Robert Moss, August 10

"NEWS TO GO" EMAIL BLAST

If you do NOT receive the weekly "News to Go" e-mail and would like to be included, please send your e-mail information to chris@covenant-umc.com.



Sidelights

UPPER ROOM

The July/August Upper Room is available to purchase for \$1. Please call the church office if you would like to purchase this devotional.

During the shutdown our Upper room order continued to arrive however members were unable to purchase the devotional. We put these in a basket near the parking lot doors and offered them free to the community. If you would like to make a donation to cover that temporary ministry, please contact the church office at 717-393-1561.

SUMMER READING

The plane must have landed by now. Now they must be heading home. Any minute now. They came with a bang: horns blaring, headlights flashing, sounds and sights of a happy homecoming, signaling to me that they were not just happy, they were very happy.

From the landing upstairs, I heard the front door open, the pounding of footsteps of a mob running up the stairs, uncles, aunts, cousins, and siblings all gushing with excitement surrounded me.

Now Daddy was telling me it was time to go down and meet him. No, I cannot handle this. What am I going to say? Hello, you must be my future husband, pleased to meet you ????

Join one woman's journey from Pakistani Muslim to American Muslim in *Threading My Prayer Rug* by Sabeeha Rehman, a great read from the United Methodist Women's Reading Program.

Covenant Partners with Bible2School

Bible2School is pleased to announce a partnership with Covenant Church, where Bible classes will be offered to 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders attending Fulton Elementary School for the 2020/21 school year. Covenant will host the Bible2School Fulton classes three days a week.

Bible2School is currently seeking volunteers who share our passion for reaching children who need to hear the Gospel and want to make an impact in their community. Volunteers each work with a small group of children to teach truth and inspire hope through engaging Bible lessons, activities, and discussions. We understand that your time is valuable, so Bible2School provides the curriculum and materials so you can focus your energy into developing relationships with the children. Our team approach means you are supported and valued.

How will children in your community know about the truth and hope Jesus offers if no one tells them? You are the hands and feet of Jesus that can make an eternal impact in the life of a child and your community. "You shall teach them (God's Word) diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise." (Deuteronomy 6:7)

Interested? Learn more by contacting Santa Jenkins, Bible2School's Washington and Fulton

COVENANT CHURCH is Bringing Christ's Light into the Community and Beyond AND Preparing for Increase in 2019.

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

Conestoga Innovations Promotional Products

(for all your advertising needs)
Wanda Snyder, 1.800.759.8885 or
sales@conestoga-innovations.com

Dale Building Designs

Donald A. Dale, 872.4263
2086 New Danville Pike, Lanc., 17603
www.DonDaleDesigns.com

Groffs Family Funeral

& Cremation Services, Inc.
Thomas S. Buter, 394.5300
528 W. Orange St.

Interiors by Kristen

Kristen Stemmer, 875.4014
2086 New Danville Pike, Lanc. 17603

JM Services

Jeff and Brad McGary
Interior & Light Exterior Painting,
Handyman, and Junk Removal
717.330.9616 or jcmcgary@comcast.net

Kresge Computer Consultation

Roger Kresge, 299.4613 or
rkresge123@comcast.net

Miller Optical

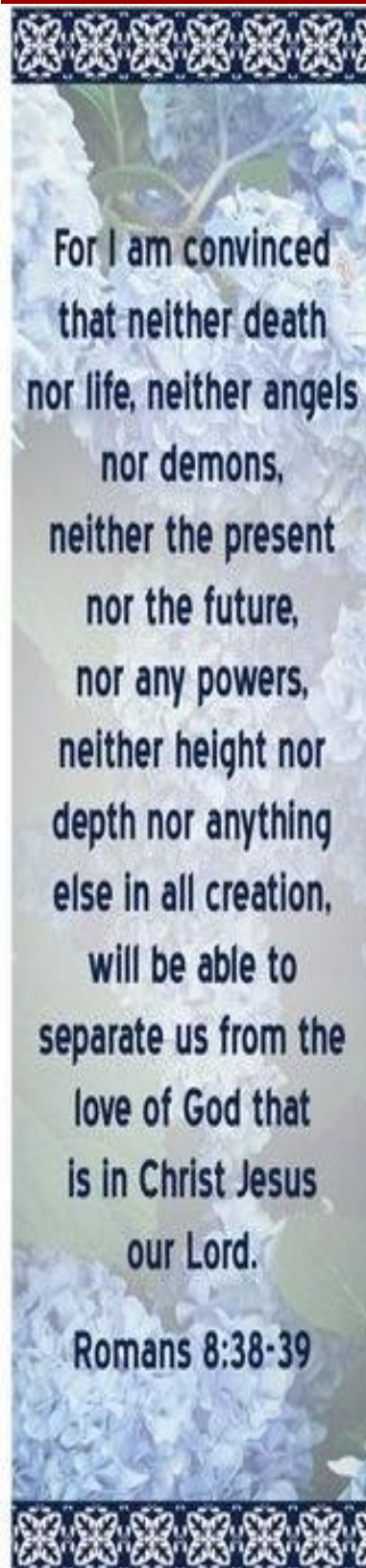
Glenn & Maryanne Miller, 393.2020
Glasses, Contacts, and Exams
Lancaster & Willow Street

Richard B. MacDonald

Attorney at Law
312 W. Orange St., Lancaster
717.394.1508

Willard Hypnosis Center

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



MOOS News

MOOS completed another successful year closing in mid-March. The timing of the shut-down has affected our spring fundraising, so we are writing with a request for financial support. Please consider sending a check donation to Covenant Church with MOOS on the memo line. We are hopeful that the program can return when and if school resumes. If we can raise \$2,500, we will be able to start next year in the same financial position as when we started in 2019. Thank you for any amount you are able to give. We are grateful for any support you can give.

Child Care Center Seek Donations

The Covenant Child Care Center has opened and continues to operate under the appropriate conditions and requirements per guidelines from the state. The center is in need of a few items that they hope to acquire through donations. They are:

- Cloth masks for staff, possibly with kid-friendly motifs.
- Clorox wipes
- Lysol aerosol spray

**We pray to God who some call Mystery,
beyond all definition, that
When in the midst of uncertainty
– may we know faith.
When in the midst of anxiety
– may we know serenity.
When in the midst of stress
– may we know calm.
When in the midst of fear
– may we know trust.
When in the midst of bewilderment
– may we know assurance.
When in the midst of confusion
– may we know confidence.
When in the midst of pandemic
– may we know peace.
When in the midst of whatever
– may we know love.**

Rev. John Wesley Oldham from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

COVENANT

United Methodist Church

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The Reverend Sally Ott, Visitation & Witness

The Reverend Dr. Guy Carrigan, Dir. of Evangelism

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