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# *The Light On The Hill*



*Monthly Newsletter of the First Church of the Brethren, Carlisle, PA*

*March 2021*

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## *From the Pastor's Desk . . .*

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### **March 2021 Preaching Schedule**

**03/07/21 Loopholes (Mark 7:1-30)**

From an early age, we learn quickly to look for loopholes in the rules. We try to figure out what we can get away with and still be okay. We tend to take this same mindset into our relationship with God, but it doesn't work. When we opt for loopholes and workarounds, we find ourselves in a category no one wants to be in: hypocrites. Jesus calls us to move beyond loophole religion.

**03/14/21 Kingdom Great (Mark 8:27-10:52)**

Fear invites us to follow the path of self-preservation. However, if we follow that path long enough, we will neither preserve nor have anything to show for our lives. The original disciples of Jesus had the same tendencies at times. On one occasion, Jesus reminded them of what it means to follow him by saying four powerful words that still apply to his followers today.

**03/21/21 When It All Went Dark (Mark 11:8- 14:50)**

Many times, our faith deteriorates as our circumstances deteriorate. When that happens, our faith is quickly overcome by fear, and the future looks dark. The apostle Peter experienced this, and he temporarily fled his faith in Jesus.

**03/28/21 The End Of The Beginning (Mark 14:22-24, Mark 14:53- 47)**

We all have embarrassing moments we can laugh about—later. There are shameful moments that we would give anything to undo. But while our pasts remind us, they don't have to define us.

**WITNESS COMMISSION NEWS:**

On February 8th, 66 containers of soup and other canned food, along with a bag of potatoes were delivered to Project SHARE for Souper Bowl's Collection. Thanks to everyone who shared a food gift!

March 7<sup>th</sup> is the day we support SALVATION ARMY with preparing foods for the Soup Kitchen. Help will be needed for the afternoon at approximately 2pm. Please let either Gloria Ramirez or Pam Lebo know if you are able to help.

A way we can help support C.A.R.E.S. is a project that could be simple but would need many hands to make it successful. On the last Sunday of March anyone could bring a foil container of Baked Oatmeal to share. A variation of it could be to put your baked oatmeal in a muffin container and you could bring a bag of oatmeal muffins. Gloria will deliver that breakfast item to the CARES office on the same day. It could be a simple project to feed the homeless. If you are willing to help, please let Gloria know. Thanks for helping with this ministry as we have done with several other agencies.

I pray we are witnessing to one another throughout this pandemic by sending notes, phoning one another to check on each other, and lifting the church's membership in prayer. A thought came from something someone said in a Sunday School Class and in a Deacon Meeting. Would anyone, particularly single and/or widowed women or men possibly enjoy having a phone pal? A phone pal might call once a week or once every two weeks just to see if you are alright or just to be a listening ear. If you might consider such an idea, please let Gloria know and she will share it with the deacons when they meet again.

The next 2 Cents-A-Meal offering will be April 11<sup>th</sup>. Keep saving those spare coins to share in this offering. If you don't have a little box available to save those coins, there are extras in the Narthex.

If you know of anyone who is moving into your neighborhood, don't forget that we have Welcome Baskets available to share. See one of the Witness Members who will help you find the basket.

WOMEN" BIRTHDAY BREAKFAST FOR MARCH WILL BE AT WALNUT BOTTOM DINER AT 9AM ON THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

THE QUILTING LADIES ARE CONSIDERING SELLING TICKETS TO WIN ONE OR MORE OF THE QUILTS BEING WORKED ON IN ANOTHER MONTH OR TWO. THE DISASTER RELIEF MINISTRY OF SELLING QUILTS IS IN NEED OF FINANCIAL AID FOR DISASTERS. ANYONE HAVE IDEAS AS TO HOW WE CAN FIND OTHER WAYS TO HELP US SUPPORT DISASTER RELIEF? LET GINNY WILSON OR GLORIA RAMIREZ KNOW OF SOME OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP DISASTER RELIEF.

## LOVE FEAST

Everyone is invited to stay for Love Feast after worship on Palm Sunday, March 28th. We are changing the format somewhat hoping that more people can attend. After worship we will move to the fellowship hall and begin with the meal. The menu will be traditional—beef soup, beef sandwiches, raw veggies and fruit. Families can sit together around the tables. After the meal we will give opportunity to participate in foot or hand washing. After all, Jesus arose from the table at the Last Supper after they had been eating. Older children are welcome to participate and anyone may observe if they prefer not to participate. The service will then conclude with bread and cup communion. Juice and cookies or crackers will be available for children. Child-care will be available as needed, particularly after the meal. We hope younger families will feel free to join us on this occasion. If you have questions or concerns, please talk to your deacon. See you there!

- Dave Wampler for the deacons

Effective immediately, the email prayer chain will be handled by Rita Young. Please send your prayer requests to Rita at [ritay@embarqmail.com](mailto:ritay@embarqmail.com) or text/phone them to her at (717) 385-1412. If it is an emergency request, call her. Gloria Ramirez will continue to handle the phone prayer chain and will call those who do not have access to email.

A thank you note was received from the Salvation Army expressing their appreciation for our participation in the Adopt a Family for Christmas program. A heartfelt thanks to all who purchased gifts for a mother and her daughter. The letter is on the bulletin board.

Thank you to everyone who sent Dave Marks birthday cards for his birthday. They were very much appreciated. -Doris

**We are in need of worship leaders and greeters and would ask you to please consider serving the church in one of these positions. There are sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for you to write in your name.**

**Dear Members of the  
Carlisle/Cumberland County Faith  
Community:**

The Community Action Network (CAN), a group of community leaders formed by President Margie Ensign of Dickinson, has been working with Cumberland County Emergency Management and several other government agencies to prepare for widespread distribution of the COVID19 vaccine. This has included identifying potential vaccine sites, volunteers to help with registration, crowd control and parking, and those individuals who may have difficulty receiving the vaccine.

One area of concern is making sure those who are homebound due to mobility issues, those without transportation, those without access to internet or those having difficulty managing registration by phone are able to receive the vaccine. Cumberland County Emergency Management is working on a plan to reach these people. Possible ways may be in home vaccinations or transporting people to vaccination sites. As a member of CAN and the Faith Community, I am reaching out to you to begin identifying people in your congregations who might fall in these categories. Once there is a plan in place, we will contact you to provide the list of names (with their permission) to ensure they are able to receive the vaccine.

It may be a while before we are able to have a plan in place to reach everyone due to the limited number of vaccines the county receives each week. But we want to be prepared so that when the vaccine is more readily available, we will be able to provide it.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Gale Wenk du Pont  
President, Carlisle Area Religious  
Council

I want to thank you all for your cards and prayers as my son, Jeffrey, passed into the hands of our Lord and Savior Jesus.

I wanted to share with you that in this time of the pandemic many people have been dying alone. This has been heavy on my heart. However, we had a miracle – yes they do still happen. It was apparent that the doctors and nurses were Christians. They may have known Jeff from other trips to the hospital. There was no hesitation. They immediately allowed Cindy, Lorie and I to go to him and stay (about 30 hours) until his job on this planet earth was done. When they had a bed become available upstairs in the hospital we were not allowed to go with him. At that point without a word, the ER doctor immediately decided to keep him in the ER so we could hold his hand and talk to him. We talked to him and shared memories for hours. While he never opened his eyes, we knew he heard us. He passed very peacefully and loved. We miss him and can't wait to see him again – no wheelchair, no catheter, running down those streets of gold with his buddy, Jesus.

May God continue to bless your lives and His Church.

Pastor Mary Jane King

Linda Wilson attended the last meeting of the CRN (Community Response Network) They now have a core group established with a foundation in place and are now working on a framework. More needs to be shared and developed with volunteers and the Carlisle community.

It was stressed that what shapes the response is the needs and desires of the person(s) affected. The CRN will receive reports of bias incidents, determine what is known about the incident, and meet quickly with available CRN members to devise an approach. A CRN member will reach out via phone or email. Preferences of the affected person will guide the response. Responses may include simply sending a card or may involve such activities as supporting the person(s) with making a police report or organizing a community event.

There will be a log kept of all known incidents. Identities of victims will be kept anonymous. Trends and needs will be identified and periodically reported to the community.

CRN has established a connection with the Racial Justice Committee of the YWCA, borough and CAN (Community Action Network). They are currently seeking a presence of several groups- Muslims, LGBTQ, non-Christians and Hispanics.

NIOT (Not in our Town) will be pulling away from CRN so as to focus on education and prevention efforts. CRN will partner with NIOT-Carlisle to provide educational workshops and community forms focusing on bias incidents.

The CRN is looking for volunteers committed to social and racial justice. If interested or if you have questions, contact the CRN at [CarlisleCRN@yahoo.com](mailto:CarlisleCRN@yahoo.com). Also if you know of any incidents of hate or bias please contact the CRN at the address just mentioned.

Submitted by Linda Wilson



**DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?**

In the words of Pope Francis-

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness, fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words, be silent and listen.

***On the Personal Side...***

***Joys, Sorrows, & Concerns this past month to:***

***Joys to:***

***Friends of the Congregation who have been ill, hospitalized, or needing prayer this past month include:***

***Prayer List:***

***Persons from the Congregation who have been ill, hospitalized, or needing prayer this past month include:***

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***Our Record of Faithfulness***

*February 21, 2020*

<u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>2020</u>
General Fund	General Fund	Building Fund	Building Fund	Special Giving	Special Giving

Keep me from paying attention to what is worthless, Lord.  
Psalm 119:37

“The excess that we have is someone’s portion, placed in our hands by God.”  
Uyiwa Olaiya (Nigeria)

*Serving You In March . . .*

*Worship  
Greeters*

March 7 -  
March 14 -  
March 21 -  
March 28 -

*Nursery I*

*Hospitality*

*Ushers*

March 7 -  
March 14 -  
March 21 -  
March 28 -

*Nursery II*

*JUNIOR CHURCH*

*Head Ushers*

March 7 -  
March 14 -  
March 21 -  
March 28 -

March 7 -  
March 14 -  
March 21 -  
March 28 -

*Worship Leaders*

March 7 -  
March 14 -  
March 21 -  
March 28 -

*Sound Room*

March 7 -  
March 14 -  
March 21 -  
March 28 -

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## PORK CHOPS WITH FRUITED STUFFING

- 5 or 6 boneless Pork Chops (1/2" thick)
- 1 TBS Vegetable Oil
- 1 pkg Herb Stuffing Mix (6 oz)
- 2 Celery Ribs chopped
- 1 medium Tart Apple peeled & chopped
- 1 cup dried Cranberries
- 1/2 cup chopped Onion
- 2/3 cup Chicken Broth
- 1/4 cup melted Butter

In a large skillet, brown pork chops in oil on both sides. In a large bowl, combine the remaining ingredients. Place half the stuffing mixture in a crock pot. Top with pork and remaining stuffing mixture. Cover and cook on low for 3 hours.



**Happy  
Birthday**

**Happy  
Anniversary**

# March 2021

Activities are subject to Cancellations

**Sun                  Mon                  Tue                  Wed                  Thu                  Fri                  Sat**

	<b>1</b>	<b>2 9:00am</b> PA Pastors' Mtg (Zoom)  <b>1:30</b> Music / Worship	<b>3</b>	<b>4 1:00pm</b> Quilting	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7 2:00 pm</b> Soup Kitchen @ Salvation Army	<b>8</b>	<b>9 1:00pm</b> Quilting  <b>7:00 pm</b> Stewards	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16 7:00pm</b> Board Mtg	<b>17</b>	<b>18 1:00pm</b> Quilting	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25 1:00pm</b> Quilting  <b>6:30pm</b> SOPA Mtg	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Love Feast	<b>29</b>	<b>30 1:00pm</b> Quilting	<b>31</b>			

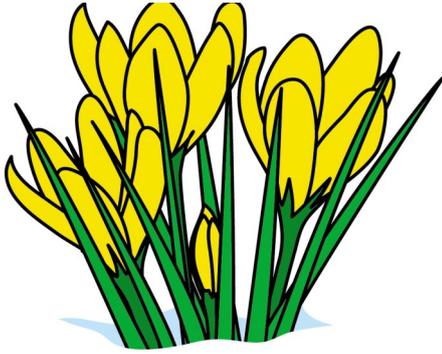
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**First Church of the Brethren**  
**1340 Forge Road**  
**Carlisle, PA 17013**



## *The Light On The Hill*

Address Service Requested



Pastor: Doug Miller  
Secretary: Judy Moore  
Church Office: 717-243-4984  
A Christian Community Sharing the Love of God

Sunday School: 9:15 AM  
Worship 10:30 AM  
[carlislecob.org](http://carlislecob.org)  
[office@carlislecob.org](mailto:office@carlislecob.org)