March/April, 2020 - Vol. 17- Issue 2



### THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

I am the Good Shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know Me."

John 10:14

#### FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY

It seems as though as each day passes the world around us is filled with more uncertainty. There is growing tensions around the world. Our political landscape is a mess. Godly principles are looked down upon and mocked. There is division everywhere. As this list grows, uncertainty grows along with it. We have come to a place where we need hope, assurance of love, and confirmation of identity. In the midst of these days: We have GOOD NEWS! Jesus gave us all that we need for hope, love, and identity in seven victorious statements.

When we feel like we are running on empty, when we feel like something is missing, when we feel incomplete – Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty." (John 6:35). We are wired to hunger and thirst for something beyond what this world can offer. That something is Jesus!

When we feel surrounded by darkness – Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12) We also learn in scripture that since the Holy Spirit dwells in us that WE shine that light wherever we go. Light always defeats dark!

When the craziness of this world frustrates us or causes us to feel as though we've lost control — Jesus said, "I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out and find pasture." (John 10:9) Jesus is the gate. Everything goes through HIM. He is in control. We can be assured that our salvation is secure as long as we go through Jesus — the gate.

When we feel unprotected or unsafe – Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." (John 10:11) Jesus is shepherd that searches and finds the lost sheep. Jesus tends to the needs of His sheep. Jesus leads us to the pastures and by the waters. He leads, guides, and protects!

When it feels like the enemy is winning – Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." (John 11:25-26) The work of Jesus on the cross and raising from the dead has made us overcomers. Jesus has ALREADY secured victory for us that is why we are called *More than conquerors* through Jesus!

When the world feeds us lies – Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6) Jesus is THE truth and when we know the truth, the truth shall set us free!

When there is temptation to stray – Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5) We experience a life of freedom and victory by remaining in Jesus.

Stay close to Jesus and experience that life of victory.

Pastor Jesse

#### The Shepherd's Flock

One of our former members, Annette (Nettie) Bryant passed away this past year. Nettie had attended Jenkins for quite some time but felt God calling her to other churches to serve, but she always loved her Jenkins family. In her Last Will and Testament she left a donation to Jenkins stating in her Will "that the church and the 'folks associated' with the church were very important to her." We miss Nettie's smile and her enthusiasm, but we know she is smiling in the presence of Jesus.

#### **Sunday School**

Sunday School Sunday will be on April 19<sup>th</sup>. The children will be participating in the services by greeting, taking up offering, reading scripture, and performing a skit, and of course the King's Kids will be singing several songs. It is always a treat when they worship with us!

Our skit will be "The Heavenly Express" and the children will be showing us how to board the train to Heaven...it's free! Don't miss this special Sunday!

Also, thank you to Valerie Sanchez for preparing and organizing Bible pages for our Nursery children to color. If you are a Nursery worker, pick a page or two from the binders she has provided, and take a few minutes to share Jesus with our little ones!

Bob Kruger

#### **Ladies Aid**

The Ladies Aid Annual Cookie Walk & Christmas Bazaar was very successful again this year making a profit of \$1,022.75.

Ladies Aid donated \$1,200 to families in need for Christmas, celebrated the holidays with the residents at Locust Lodge, donated \$81.39 for items being sent to the Wright Family and made a profit of \$172 at our bake table during the February Soup & Sandwich event.

We appreciate the support of the congregation at our fundraising events which allows our ministry to sponsor church projects, Youth Group Christian Camp or mission trips or those in need in the community.

Below is the Ladies Aid Financial Report for 2019

Profit	\$ Amount
Bake Sales	\$551.45
Donations	\$170.00
Easter Egg Sale	\$2,420.00
Cookie Walk	\$1,022.75
Donation Table	\$42.00
Total Profit	\$4,207.15
Expenses	
Carpet Cleaning	\$500.00
Memorial Donations	\$150.00
Families in Need – Gift Cards	\$1,200.00
Appreciation Gift Cards	\$100.00
Mortgage	\$1,200.00
Johns Hopkins Pediatric Cancer Unit	\$150.00
Mother/Father Day gifts	\$107.48
Youth Group Mission Trip	\$518.43
Locust Lodge resident needs	\$36.04
Total Expenses	\$3,961.95

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Redding

#### **Jenkins Women in Christ**

Jenkins Women in Christ just finished an excellent Bible Study on the Armor of God at the end of February. We will be starting a new study on Thursday evenings in April after Easter. Be on the lookout for details.

The Ladies' Tea in February was a fun event. We had themed tables, and the ladies, young and old, had a great time. We will be having dinner at Anthony's on March 27, which will be just a time to relax and enjoy each others' company. There will be a sign-up sheet out soon, so sign up and join us! We will also be having our cupcake decorating on April 18<sup>th</sup> again. This was such a fun event last year we're doing it again.

Holly Robinson

#### Jenkins Men in Christ (JMIC)

The Jenkins Men in Christ continue their Saturday morning Bible Studies. This group is really growing. Come and join them as they dig into God's Word. They are currently studying Psalm 119. They meet on Saturday mornings at 7 a.m. for a light breakfast; the study starts at 7:30 and ends promptly at 9 a.m.

They had lots of men come out and help with the Community Breakfast which is always a great time of food and fellowship for our church as well as the community. Keep on the lookout for different ways you can get involved with the men of our church, whether it is participating in Bible study, helping at their events like the breakfast or Pit Beef lunch, or helping out around the church with the Spring Clean Up or checking with Ken Kretsinger to see what maintenance items you might be able to help with.

Pastor Jesse

#### **Deacons' Bench**

#### Understanding the Bible, Cont'd.

First seven of fifteen keys to help understand the Bible.

- 1. **Pray for understanding.** Before you even begin to study, ask God to guide and show you His will. Remember it is the Creator who gives true understanding through His Word. You cannot gain it on your own. (Psalms 119:33-40; Proverbs 3:5-8; Jeremiah 9:23-24).
- 2. **Keep an open mind.** Be willing to admit when you are wrong and change, even if it means letting go of a long held belief or tradition. If you can successfully apply this one principle, you will be far ahead in the search for spiritual truth. (Acts 17:11; Isaiah 8:20).
- **3. Humbly seek instruction and correction.** Approach the Bible with a teachable, humble attitude. The Word of God judges our innermost thoughts. It can show us who we really are. It can reveal every flaw in our character. So be ready to heed its correction. (Jeremiah 10:23-24; Isaiah 66:1-5; Romans 8:6-9; Matthew 5:48).
- **4. Accept the inspiration of the entire Bible.** The entire Bible, both Old and New Testaments, is the inspired Word of God. When studying, keep in mind that He inspired the words you are reading; God is directly speaking to you through them (2 Peter 1:21; Philippians 2:5; John 6:63).
- **5. Plan time for regular study.** It's easy to let everyday concerns interfere, so schedule study time and try to maintain it. Over time you will look forward to this daily experience (Ephesians 5:15-17).
- 6. Let the Bible interpret itself. If something seems confusing or even contradictory, let clear biblical passages shed light on those you find difficult to understand. Scriptures do not contradict each other; they complement each other. Also to properly understand a verse in the Bible, don't force your personal point of view into it. Instead use the context and other relevant scriptures to find the correct meaning (2 Peter 1:20; John 10:35; John 17:17; Isaiah 28:9-10).
- 7. Study topics. Concentrate, at various times, on one subject, doctrine or book. Use a concordance or other study aid to put together all the scriptures relevant to a subject. This will allow you to see all that God has to say about a particular topic (2 Timothy 2:15).

#### Karen Tressler

#### **Spring Cleanup**

Our Spring Cleanup will be on **Saturday, April 4 at 9 a.m.** We need as many hands as possible to get our church grounds ready. We will be cleaning up weeds, mulching, and general cleanup. Bring your work gloves and any tools you might have. If you don't have any, we will provide you with some. Let's work together to make "God's House" beautiful on the outside.

If you have any questions, call Susanna Kim-Diaz at 443-689-8100 or email her at susanna.kimdiaz@yahoo.com.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord, as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving." Colossians 3:23,24



#### Thank You Ladies Aid

A big Thank You to the Ladies Aid for being a light for Jesus in our community. The Ladies Aid has been volunteering at Locust Lodge, the assisted living facility in our community bringing cheer to these folks and they were noticed by the mom of one woman in particular. She was so impressed she made a donation to the church and wrote the following letter:

"Hello, My mom is a resident of Locust Lodge Assisted Living. I happened to stop by to take my mother out when members of your church were wrapping up a Valentine's Day celebration for the residents on February 13. I could tell that my mom really enjoyed it, she seemed really happy. I was also visiting a year or so ago, when a group came in and sang Christmas carols. One of the caregivers at Locust Lodge told me that members of the church often do activities with the residents. I just wanted to thank you and let you know how much this means to me, as my mom enjoys it so much. I am enclosing a donation for the church. Thanks again, Nancy "

# MARCH 2020

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## APRIL 2020

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12 EASTER SUNDAY SUNRISE SVC 6:30 AM WORSHIP SVC 9&11 AM SUN.SCH. 9&11 AM	I 3 LADIES AID 11:30 AM	<b>14</b> YOUTH BELLS 6 PM TRUSTEES MTG 7 PM	I 5 BIBLE STUDY 10:30 KING'S KIDS 6:30 PM CROSSFIRE 6:30 PM PRAYER GROUP 6:30 PM ADULT CHOIR 7 PM	91	17	I 8 JMIC BIBLE STUDY 7:30 AM JWIC CUPCAKE DEC. 3 PM
19 SUNDAY SCHOOL SUNDAY WORSHIP SVC 9&11 AM	<b>20</b> YOUTH 4 CHRIST 7:30 PM	21 YOUTH BELLS 6 PM ADULT BELLS 7 PM	BIBLE STUDY 10:30 KING'S KIDS 6:30 PM CROSSFIRE 6:30 PM PRAYER GROUP 6:30 PM ADULT CHOIR 7 PM	23 DEACONS MTG 7 PM	24	25 JMIC BIBLE STUDY 7:30 AM PRAISE TEAM 9 AM
WORSHIP SVC 9&11 AM SUN.SCH. 9&11 AM CONGREGATIONAL MTG NCEON COLLECTION	<b>27</b> YOUTH 4 CHRIST 7:30 PM	28 YOUTH BELLS 6 PM ADULT BELLS 7 PM	BIBLE STUDY 10:30 AM KING'S KIDS 6:30 PM CROSSFIRE 6:30 PM PRAYER GROUP 6:30 PM ADULT CHOIR 7 PM	30		