

Lillyville Lighthouse News



“Let Jesus Light Your Way”

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Church Office:

Our church office hours remain limited at this time. Please leave a message and we will return your call. (724-758-8258)

Drive-In Church:

We have moved both our 8:30 A.M. and 10:30 A.M. drive-In Church services to our beautiful outdoor church. This move has provided better visibility, room for the Praise Band to play, better acoustics and a cooler environment.

Reflection by Pastor Dennis:

In the summer of 1982, I accepted a position as a Pennsylvania State Park chaplain. I attended the training in Harrisburg and then I was assigned to Colonel Denning State Park. This park is next door to our church camp in Eastern Pennsylvania called, “Camp Yolijwa” which stands for “Youth living Jesus way.” One Saturday I visited each camp site inviting them to the church service Sunday morning. The worship service was held in a shelter. I was in charge of the singing, preaching and taking the

offering as well as making sure the offering got to the camp office. Little did I know that thirty-nine years later, I would be utilizing that experience in doing outdoor ministry at Lillyville Church. Recently, along with the drive-in worship services, I have had an outdoor funeral in the shelter, two outdoor weddings, an outdoor baby dedication and several outdoor premarital sessions. The Apostle Paul writes in Ephesians 2:10, "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus, to do good works, which God PREPARED in advance for us to do." Thirty-nine years ago the Lord was preparing me for this moment in history in His ministry. I also thought about the past generations who were guided by the Holy Spirit here at Lillyville to purchase plenty of property, to build the Outdoor Church, the Shelter and the Playground, all of which the Lord is utilizing for vital ministry at this time. Let us seize the moment and utilize all that God has given us for the glory of His Son, Jesus Christ and the proclamation of the gospel. Our times are in His hands so let us trust Him to do even greater things. (Psalms 31:15) Lord, stretch out your hand, to do signs, wonders and miracles through the name of your holy servant Jesus. (Acts 4:30)

The Lord's Supper:

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated on Sunday, September 6th at both the 8:30 and 10:30 A.M. services. If you are worshiping with us from your home you may want to have some bread and juice ready to celebrate with us. We celebrate open communion which means, if you love the Lord Jesus Christ, you are invited to participate in the Lord's Supper. If you would like phone communion, John and Connie Frochio are heading up this important ministry. You may leave a message on the church answering machine (724-758-8258) and your request will be passed on to John and Connie.

Week Day Bible Study:

Wednesday Bible Study will begin September 9th at 7:00 P.M. in the Lighthouse. This study class will be studying the beautiful book of Ephesians and will be taught by Pepe Catanzaro. In this study you will learn the spiritual blessings you possess as a child of God. You will also learn important principles relating to prayer, spiritual warfare, and family living. "I have hidden your work in my heart that I might not sin against you." (Psalm 119:11)

Echo Youth Group:

Echo Youth Group will begin meeting on September 23rd. This class is offered to youth in 6th through 12th grade. They will also be studying the book of Ephesians. This study will give students a firm foundation in their knowledge of Christ and how to live out their faith in practical ways on a daily basis. LeeAnn Petrelli will be leading the youth in fun and wacky games. "Make God's glory resound: echo in his praise, from coast to coast. (Isaiah 42:10-16) "Your lives are echoing Jesus's word all over the place." (I Thessalonians 1:7-10)

Prayer for America:

Prayer for America will return each Thursday beginning September 10th at 9 A.M. America is in tremendous need of Jesus and His transforming power. We will dedicate these prayer meetings in memory of our brother Rich Hawke who served so faithfully in the ministry of prayer. I had the privilege of praying with Rich during our Wednesday Intercessory Prayer group. His ardent prayers for the nation, missionaries, and the congregation were an inspiration to me. I was reminded of these words: "He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured." (Colossians 4:12)

Food Pantry:

The Food Pantry, will be held on Thursday, September 17th at 10:00 A.M. Until covid-19 restrictions are lifted, we are packing bags of food ahead of time and have implemented a drive-thru Food Pantry. Our volunteers will deliver the pre-packaged food to each car.

Baptism:

Baptism will be offered this fall. If you would like to be baptized please call the church office at: 724-758-8258. In the Churches of God, we believe in believer's baptism. This means a person should be old enough to understand the gospel of Jesus Christ and be able to make a personal commitment to follow Him. The Apostle Paul writes in Romans 10:9-10, "That if you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord", and believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, you shall be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified-declared not guilty of your sin, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved." We normally baptize by dunking a person in water backward signifying that a person has died to sin and been raised to a new life in Christ Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit. But if a person cannot be dunked in water, we will make other provisions to baptize them. In my first congregation, I had a mentally and physically handicapped woman. Everyone knew she loved the Jesus. Every time Christian music was played her face would light up and she would get really excited. Her parents asked me if I would baptize her. I said, "I would be honored to." So I came to their home, we sang, we prayed and we wrapped her in towels and poured water over her head in the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. It was a blessed time in the Lord. Jesus said, "Go, and make disciples, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:18-19.) We do not baptize infants or small children but encourage parents to follow the Biblical model of Jesus' parents and dedicate their children to the Lord. (Luke 2:22)

Simply Blessed Gift Shop:

Our gift shop remains closed but is fully stocked. If you are need of a special gift, please contact the church at: 724-758-8258.

Email and Website :

Our new email address is: LillyvilleChurchOfGod@gmail.com

Our new website is now up and running. www.lillyvillechurch.com

In addition to general information about our church there is a contact tab you can use to email the church .

Pastor's Closing Words:

I would like to leave with you an amazing story of the Holy Spirit's guidance. Jesus said, "But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come." John 16:13 Recently, this was made very real to me. The praise band practices Tuesday evenings and during those sessions they choose the set of songs they are going to play Sunday morning. Three weeks ago on Tuesday evening they chose the song, "Amazed," by Lincoln Brewster. The following Saturday evening Terry Lowers was taken to heaven. When Terry played with the Praise Band his favorite song was, you guessed it, "Amazed." The Lord knew the scheduled day for Terry's home going and through the Holy Spirit He spoke to the band and they were prepared on Sunday to play his favorite song and dedicate it in his memory and proclaim the Lord's amazing love. "You dance over me while I am unaware. You sing all around but I never hear the sound. Lord, I'm amazed by you, and how you love me. You paint the morning sky with miracles in mind. My hope will always stand for you hold me in your hand. Lord, I'm amazed by you, how you love me." The prophet Zephaniah writes of this amazing love. "The Lord your God is with you. He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you. He will quiet you with His love. He will rejoice over you with singing." (Zephaniah. 3:17)

Pastor Dennis Arndt