

Lillyville Lighthouse News



“Let Jesus Light Your Way”

Volume 5—February 2021

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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)

Email and Website :

Email Address: LillyvilleChurchOfGod@gmail.com

Website: www.lillyvillechurch.com

Facebook: Lillyville Church of God

Church Services:

Drive-in services will continue to be held each Sunday at 8:30 A.M., 9:30 A.M., and 10:30 A.M. With covid spreading faster than ever and hospitals filling up, our Covid Safety Committee recommended we keep indoor activities closed through February. Council voted unanimously to approve the continued closure of indoor services and activities through February. One of our worship pastors, Bennie Florendo, recently died from covid. His wife Christine is also one of our pastors, our Conference Secretary and a medical doctor. Please pray for comfort for her and the family.

Devotional by Pastor Dennis:

Recently, I lost my cell phone. It is interesting how consuming a lost valuable can become. Perhaps you have lost a wallet or pocketbook, important phone number, car or house keys? Your mind begins to rehearse every place where you may have left it. You begin praying for God's help. You carefully search each place you had been and when you don't find it you feel a growing disappointment, anxiety and fear. You enlist others to help with the search. Julia and I searched the house, the Jeep and the alley, no cell phone. I felt my self fearing an important missed call, like from one of the funeral homes. Thursday evening I had Ad Council meeting and during my devotional I shared about my lost cell phone and the need for greater self-discipline to insure it stays in my possession. After the meeting several members called my number but no ring from my cell phone. Luke 15 is the "Lost and Found" chapter of the Bible. Three things are lost and then found: a sheep, a coin and a son. In each case, Jesus says, "there is rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who turns to God and is found." The climax of the chapter is the return of the prodigal son to his father. Jesus says, "The young man came to his senses and determined in his heart to return to his father. While the young man was a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him." This is a beautiful picture of our heavenly father waiting for those who are lost (perhaps yourself) to return. There is no condemnation but only compassion so don't hesitate to return to the Good Shepherd. Friday morning, Julia and I came to the church to continue our search for the lost cell phone. Julia even searched the garbage bags in the dumpster. Still no cell phone. Then I thought of an address I needed so I went to my office pulled my church directory off my desk and from underneath out popped my cell phone. I began rejoicing and praising the Lord for my cell phone now found. I ran to the dumpster to tell Julia the search was over. She too rejoiced! We who are found are to rejoice when others are found in Christ. This is not always the case as with the elder brother who begrudged the celebration party the father hosted for the returned prodigal son. Christians may feel, "I have been serving the Lord for years and no one is throwing a party for me." But Jesus concludes with these words of warning, "My Son or Daughter, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!"

The Lord's Supper:

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated on Sunday, February 7th at all three drive-in services. Sealed communion pack units are used for your safety. Everyone who loves Jesus is more than welcome to partake. If you are worshipping with us at home please feel free to have bread and juice on hand to participate with us. 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.

Bible Study and Sunday School:

Sunday School and Wednesday Bible Study, both mid-day and evening classes, have been suspended until further notice. A new Bible Study Class is being offered by John and Connie Frochio via Zoom. The book they will study is, "God Breathed" by Josh McDowell. To sign up for this Zoom class you may either contact John through Facebook Messenger or by emailing the church office at: lillyvillechurchofgod@gmail.com. Reference the Zoom Bible Study in the subject line. Zoom is fairly easy to use and John will help anyone who needs help to set up the meeting. Once he receives notice that you would like to attend, John will send the link, meeting ID and passcode to log into the meeting. Zoom is free to use.

Food Pantry:

The Food Pantry will be held on Thursday, February, 18th at 10:00 A.M. Food Pantry will remain a drive up service and our volunteers will deliver pre-packaged food to each car.

Everyone is welcome who participates at the Lillyville Church or Concord United Methodist Church or lives in Franklin Twp.

Northview Estates Ministry:

Northview Estates Worship services remain suspended at this time.

Echo Youth Group:

Echo Youth Group is also suspended until further notice.

Weekly Prayer Schedule:

Monday prayer for our Schools: teachers, students, administration and support staff. Tuesday prayer for Nursing Homes: Northview Estates; Grove Manor; Caring Place, Woodcrest Manor: directors, residents and staff. Allegheny Region Nursing Home Chaplain Pastor Mark and Debbie Yarger. Wednesday: Marriages, families: youth and children; unborn children; widows and orphans. Thursday: Lillyville Food Pantry: Director Donna Miller, staff, clients and supporters- McElwain Motors, Concord United Methodist Church, Blank Concrete and Veka. Friday: missionaries: Amelia Kingston serving children in Texas and Jacob and Haley Day serving Navajos in New Mexico; Mike and Dawn Vandervort directing our mission in Haiti. Saturday: All congregations serving Jesus in our area: Pastor Shawn Brubaker and the Calvin Presbyterian congregation; Pastor Tom and Betty Clyde doing interim work; Pastor Robert and Christina Grimm and the Kittanning and Templeton Churches of God. Sunday: The Nation, National and Local leaders; Military, Israel, unemployed, homeless, healing for the sick and comfort for the grieving.

Ad Council News:

Council voted unanimously to suspend all indoor activities until the March Council meeting. This timing will allow us to get through the influx of covid cases after the holidays, allow for our most vulnerable to be vaccinated, and stay abreast of any changes in covid status.

Lillyville donated \$200.00 to Camp Sonrise Mountain

Revival Services will be held this summer on one Sunday evening in June, July and August as drive-in services.

The annual yard sale has been moved to the fall of 2021

We are collecting wrapping paper of any kind and scotch tape for our Yellow Ribbon girls who support our military with care packages. You may bring these items with you Sunday morning or drop them off any time at the Church Office door.

Note from Pastor:

I am reading a book entitled, "Healing Foods of the Bible," by Bernard Ward. David says in Psalm 139:14, "I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Since God created us in such a marvelous way it only makes sense that he would give us a dietary guide in His Word that would provide the right nutrients for the body. The first food mentioned in this book is the apple. Psalm 17:8, "Keep me as the apple of your eye." My mother use to say, "An apple a day, keeps the doctor away." Well research is proving this true. The apple is therapeutically effective in all conditions of acidosis, gout, rheumatism, jaundice, all liver and gallbladder troubles, nervous and skin diseases caused by sluggish liver, hyperacidity, and states of autointoxication. It also stabilizes blood sugar, fights tooth decay and viruses and lowers blood pressure and cholesterol. Thank you Jesus for the Apple. Give thanks that in Christ, you are the apple of His eye!

A LETTER TO GOD by Charlotte McConahy

Oh God, please forgive us for sins we commit, unknowingly, though some may be; Our unconfessed sins break sweet fellowship between us, Oh Master and Thee.

With times as they are, Lord, the pressures are great, So often, we seek Thee in prayer to handle our burdens, as only You could, entrusting them into Your care.

So Faithful and just to cleanse all our sins, So worthy of praise is He--whose mercy and goodness bring peace to our hearts, and whose blood makes us wondrously free!

THE ABC'S OF SALVATION:

A-acknowledge that you are a sinner, in need of God's forgiveness and restoration. Rom. 3:23

B-believe that Jesus died for your sins on the cross and was raised to life the 3rd day. Rom. 3:24-25

C-confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead. Rom. 10:9-10