

BREADBASKET

March 2023

NEWS

HARRISVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA
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The Lenten Passage

Recently I've become more keenly aware of how the six weeks of Lent are truly a "*passage*" from Ash Wednesday to Easter. Our calendars reveal to us that we are, in fact, in the middle of Lent, whether we choose to be or not. But if we choose to commit to a serious engagement with the tradition of Lent – with immersion in the scriptures, rituals, practices, principles and prayer of Lent – we have the opportunity to experience a transforming transportation – a passage – occasioned by this season.

No doubt my heightened awareness of this aspect of Lent has been furthered by the fact that I'm planning an overseas trip for late April. Preparing for and anticipating that geographic passage has shone a light on our current spiritual passage.

First, there is the concentration and condensation of our lives towards a particular purpose and process. Just as on my trip I'll reduce my entire life down to what I can stuff into a piece of luggage and a carry-on bag or two, so in Lent we make a renewed inventory of what is essential in our lives and what is not. Will this fit in the overhead compartment? Do I want to lug this around airports?

These kinds of considerations remind us that during Lent we should consider the spiritual baggage we are carrying around. What do I *really need* to carry spiritually and what is unnecessary? Do I really need the superfluous nonsense I sometimes distract myself with on social media, in my diet, in my relationships, etc.? When I'm trying to become one with the ministry and passion of Christ during Lent, what do I need to jettison to keep from being a drag on my focus?

And how am I going to react to what I encounter on my journey (whether physical or spiritual)? Am I going to be afraid of everything new and different? Am I going to shrink away from adventurous challenges just because they may make me feel uncomfortable sometimes? Or will I be so blindly enthusiastic that I try to do *everything!* – and, by doing so, eliminate my ability to do anything truly attentively and appreciatively?

It's a lot.

But Lent, if we truly appreciate it, always is. It's a lot that we intentionally try to place on ourselves so that we may grow.

On the subject of physical travel Mark Twain said, "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime."

The same may be said about spiritual travel, I believe. And I'm happy to be on this spiritual passage of Lent with y'all. *Buon viaggio!*

Praise God through whom all journeys flow,

Pastor Ken

**In Sanctuary Worship
Sundays at 11AM**

**Next Council meeting
March 7 @ 7PM**

**March 23
SRU Luncheon**

**April 15
HVFD Bake Sale**

**April 20
SRU Lunch**

**Volunteers welcomed
SRU luncheons and
Bake sale at the Firehall**

Loan to General Fund

From Building Fund— April 2022	\$3,000.00
From Building Fund— April 2022	\$4,000.00
From Building Fund— July 2022	\$1,000.00
From Building Fund— Nov 2022	3,500.00
From Building Fund— Jan. 2023	\$1,000.00
From Building Fund Feb. 14, 2023	\$2,000.00
From Building Fund Feb. 16, 2023	\$1,000.00
From Building Fund Mar. 1, 2023	\$1,500.00
Total	\$17,000.00

Finance Summary for 2022

Income	\$104,697.00
Expenses	\$122,629.00
Deficit	\$17,923.00
Debt Outstanding (Building Fund)	\$11,500.00

Thoughts to Ponder!

Our church is a gift from God, but assembly is required.

Bedford Baptist Church

Life is a spiritual journey, and no, we're not 'there yet'.

K. Chase



February 2023 Treasurer's Report * **Designated Money**

Closing Balance Mercer County Bank	\$941.73
Jan. 2023	
Designated Money	
Local Missions	\$807.00
Outreach—Bike Ministry	\$478.00
Care Team	\$421.58
Spirit of Hope	\$1,000.00
Youth	\$1,003.88
Property Tax	\$47.80
Shields Foundation	\$1,500.00
Snyder Fund 2021	\$1,000.00
Prayer Blankets	\$142.00
Snyder Fund 2022	\$1000.00
Total Designated Money	\$7,,500.26
Working Balance General Fund for Feb 2023	\$6,558.53
Total Income to General Fund for Feb 2023	\$12,922.18
Total Expenditure from General Fund in Feb 2023	\$12,500.54

* To be ratified by Church Council*

FINANCE REPORT*

	THRU JAN	FEB	YTD
GENERAL FUND INCOME	\$11,050.95	\$12,922.18	\$23,973.13
SPENDING FROM GENERAL FUND	\$10,541.69	\$12,500.54	\$23,042.23
NET SURPLUS / (Deficit)	\$509.69	\$421.64	\$930.90

*to be Ratified by Church Council

Did you hear about what happened...

Asbury University is a college and seminary located in Wilmore, Kentucky. While it is non-denominational it has long standing Wesleyan roots dating back to the 1890s. One of the practices of Asbury is to offer chapel services three times each week. The chapel service held on February 8 began as just another of these regularly scheduled times of worship, however when the service concluded, no one wanted to leave, preferring to stay and continue in worship. As word spread, more students joined in, then others from other places, eventually from all around the world. By the time it concluded, due to the fact that the town surrounding it could not support such an influx, an estimated 50-70,000 people had attended. Similar gatherings cropped up at schools across the nation and around the world as people gathered with no agenda other than to honor Jesus. It is a reminder of how God's Holy Spirit is involved in the world around us which is in such need of healing and hope.

Want to see a Faith-based movie?

The Jesus Revolution is now showing at the Butler & Hermitage theatres. It's from the creators "I Can Only Imagine". It's based on the true story of Pastor Chuck Smith, Youth Minister, Greg Laurie and Christian Hippie, Lonnie Frisbee, in the late 1960's.

The movie opened the first weekend of March and came in third place at the box office.



FEED MY SHEEP FOOD BANK STATISTICS FOR JANUARY 2023

Total: Family Members:	154	Slippery Rock Area:	46
Families:	95	Slippery Rock Boro:	29
Seniors	69	Harrisville:	13
Adults:	65	New	3
Children	20	For those in need, contact: 724-421-5274	

Deliveries can be made for those unable or fearful of going out
Present hours:
Tues & Thurs 2:00 to 3:00
Sat: by appointment

Feed My Sheep March Request



**Chunky Soup
Canned Peaches
Canned pineapple**



Easter Flowers

Order forms for Easter flowers are at the back of the sanctuary. The church office can also be called to place orders. **They are due March 26th.** Flowers available are Tulips for \$8.00 and Mums For \$9.10 in colors of yellow, purple, pink, red or orange. Daffodils can be ordered for \$8.00. The church office number is 724-735-4671 or Kristine's cell @ 724-787-7751. Orders can also be mailed or put in the drop box located beside the door that is closest to the driveway.



prayers & petitions

PRAYER LIST: To be added to the prayer requests, email the church at secretary@harrisvilleumc.org. If you have an urgent request, please contact Pastor Ken at 724-986-3486 or kenmiller_20@hotmail.com. You may also contact Mae Lynn Edwards @ Mae Lynn Edwards @ 724-991-8364 or schweety920@gmail.com. An * beside a name indicates that the name will be kept on the list indefinitely. If you want to keep or add a name on the list, please indicate it on the back of your Connect Card, call the church office & leave a message (724-735-4671) or email at secretary@harrisvilleumc.org.

Dee Thompson*	Linda Faller*	John McKee	Nevada Kelly*
Marcia Carnahan	The Gunniers family*	Marilyn Brinker*	Tony Kearney*
Audrey Clark*	Douglas Gradisar, nephew of John & Jennie McKee who needs a heart transplant	Jenny Gannon Guillard*	Velma Wissen, Ron Gunniers Sister*
Virginia Hockenberry*	John Stalker*	Bryce Bennett*	Connie Rider*
Matthew Croup*	Shirley Burr*	Zachory Boozel*	Helen Long, SRU Student
Connie Thompson*	Gary Hoffman*	Kathy Barnes*	First Responders
Our Police	HUMC*	Our Military*	Our Country*

CELEBRATE!

March Birthdays

3/4	Destiny Kearney
3/7	Earl Webb
3/11	Neva Johnston
3/25	John McKee
3/27	Wayne Zellmann

March Anniversaries

3/8	Jon & Tanya Manz
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April Anniversaries

4/13	John & Rosemary Stalker
4/29	Paul & Sandy Critchlow

April Birthdays

4/5	Jayne Campbell
4/11	Cole Stoughton
4/15	Connie Hagan
4/19	Gladys Hoffman
4/24	Marilyn Brinker Suzan Graham
4/26	Lynsi Tarr
4/27	Tony Kearney
4/29	Sami Edwards
4/30	Gary Miller



"Love one another as I have loved

Many of our longtime members are no longer able to attend services or get around like they used to. The Care team helps with visitation, care packages, and small acts of kindness on holidays. This committee is also responsible for sending care packages to our college students and military while they are away.

OUR SHUT-INS

- Kathy Barnes
Quality Life Services
8221 Lamar Road
Mercer, PA 16137
- Betty Donaldson
The Lakes at Jefferson
Rm BE 118
7271 W. Market Street
Mercer, Pa 16137
- Connie Emmett
Shenango On The Green
Room 233
238 S. Market Street
New Wilmington, PA 16142
- Marilyn Brinker
234 Amsterdam Road
Grove City, PA 16127
724-748-6226

*Please
Send
Them
a Card*



Marilyn Brinker will be at the Caring Place in Franklin for a while. Cards can be sent to the address above. Her children will make sure she gets them.

Mary Jane Long's daughter, Helen, has extensive surgery scheduled for March 8th. She will have a long recovery. It is hopeful, she will be able to return to the SRU Physician's Associate's program in August. Please keep Helen and Mary Jane in continued prayer.

OFFERING COUNTING TEAM SCHEDULE FEBRUARY & MARCH

MAR 5	Connie Rider	Martha Jones
MAR 12	Lutie Clausen	Bill Hagan
MAR 19	Denise Conrad	Tana Manz
MAR 26	Sondra Buchanan	Martha Jones
APRIL 2	Connie Rider	Martha Jones
APRIL 9	Lutie Clausen	Bill Hagan
APRIL 16	Denise Conrad	Tana Manz
APRIL 23	Sondra Buchanan	Martha Jones
APRIL 30	Connie Rider	Martha Jones

Mary Jane Long's home address is:
214 Ten Rod Road
Rochester, NH 03867

