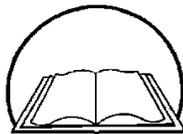


Ivyland New Church Newsletter

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Message from our Pastor

We are finally getting signs of Spring! After a long winter it is as though the earth has opened up and taken a deep breath. With the beginning of Spring this means Easter is coming quickly. It is convenient that we celebrate Easter at this time of year: we've all been through the harsh winter weather. The days were short, the air was cold and frigid. The conditions of the Church back in that day were similar, on an internal level. Exiting winter and entering spring is comparable to the how the conditions of the world would improve with the Lord putting the old Church to rest and starting up a new one.

With spring upon us now we get to look forward to new growth and new warmth. This is like the promise of the Risen Lord as He makes all things new in us. In what ways has He revived your life? How has He made things new for you? Better yet, what kind of old habits and desires do you hope He will put to rest inside of you?

As the Lord continues to work on all of us internally and individually, let us continue moving forward collectively as we are His Church.

We have many new and exciting things happening at Ivyland this month. The best part of these things is that they help bring us all together, and keeping together makes us strong.

So we look forward to you being with us as we continue moving forward in our many ways, as one Church.

Pastor Ryan Sandstrom

Upcoming Events

Palm Sunday:

This year Palm Sunday falls on April 14. There are a number of things planned at Ivyland for this day that anyone can look forward to.

First: We will have our regular service as usual with a children's talk followed by an adult talk. You will all be invited to participate in our procession at the beginning of the service. Palm fronds will be provided. In addition to the fronds, please bring any used clothing you have and are willing to donate. These clothes will be laid down on the chancel together with the fronds during the procession. All clothing items will be donated to Good Stuff Thrift, so bring as many clothes as you can!



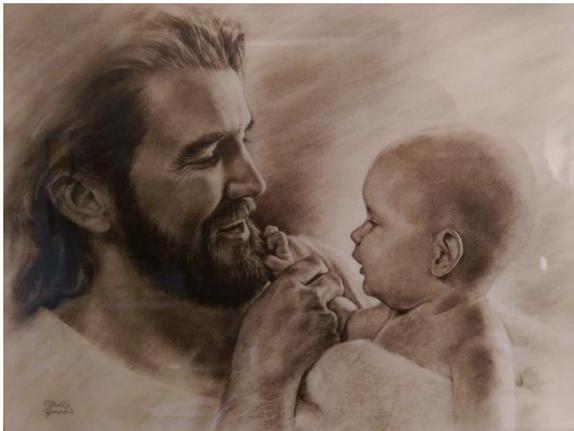
Second: Immediately after the service we will gather in the community room for a potluck lunch. Look out for the sign up sheet in the community room so you can indicate what dish you will bring to share.

Third: Small children will get to participate in an egg hunt (inside or outside depending on the weather). Each egg will contain some coins to be deposited into the big churchy bank. For each egg they exchange they will receive a reward for them to keep.

Finally, this is a family oriented event, a way of coming together to celebrate the Lord entering into our lives as He entered Jerusalem. We would like as many families and friends to come as possible. Please feel free to get the word out and invite other families and friends to come along!

Baptism:

To top things off for our **Palm Sunday service** we will have an infant baptism taking place during the Children's Talk portion of the service. Rhys and Gabrieli Asplundh will be visiting us from Florida to have their fourth child (Nicolas) baptized into the New Church.



Since Palm Sunday is a family oriented event this baptism will be a perfect way to add an appropriate touch, bringing families and children closer to heaven!

Holy Supper:

This year on Good Friday, April 19 at 7:30pm we will have our annual Holy Supper Vespers service. Unlike other holy suppers that take place during our regular Sunday service, this one takes place on its own at a different time.

Readings from the Word will be provided with a brief talk, then individuals will be called forward. There will be a small curved counter before the chancel and kneeling cushions before it. Each person is offered bread followed by wine as normal, but then they will receive individual hands on blessings.



Overall this is a very calm and reflective kind of service, a nice way to live the experience of being with the Lord at the last supper, and to honor the fulfilment of His mission on earth.

Remember children are welcome to attend this service, please feel free to bring them with you, even up to the counter. They won't be offered bread or wine, but they will get to be included in the individual blessings. Come and gather!

Easter Sunday:

Easter Sunday falls on April 21 this year, it will be a family style service.

Everyone is welcome to bring potted plants, though cut flowers will still be accepted.

Bring your plants and flowers straight up to the chancel when you first enter the chapel before the service begins.

All plants will be donated to the Pennypack Preschool and will continue growing in their gardens.

Revelation Study:

On the 10th and the 24th of this month, at 7:30pm, we will conclude our study on Revelation. It's hard to believe that just a few more classes we will be done!

On the 10th we will continue Chapter 22 where we get more details the inside quality of the Holy City New Jerusalem. It all has specific meaning to the Church, to the Lord, and to our lives.



On the 27th we will complete Chapter 22, thus completing the entire *Apocalypse Revealed*. It is time to gear up towards a happy ending.

All are welcome to attend and enjoy!

What's Next?

Since the Revelation Study will be coming to an end shortly, it is time to think about what we will do next. What could we go over that would make you consider coming to these evening classes?

I invite you all to take a look at a list of options posted in the community room. Each option comes with a description of its contents, what we will cover, and how long it will be expected to take. There is a wide variety of things to choose from, so give it a look and some consideration and indicate on that sheet what you would like.

Community News

Clean up time!

On April 6 starting at 8:30am we will have our annual spring work party.

Our church body is strong, consisting of valuable members such as yourselves who are devoted to the teachings of the Word. In this sense the spirit of Ivyland is resilient! But a spirit can only thrive if the body is also well and in-tact. On that note, while we continue having quality worship services on a regular basis, the church building and property are in need of some tender care.



Any help you can provide us on the 6th will be much appreciated. There is always plenty of things to do, so the more you can bring with you the better! Let us take care of the body so the spirit can carry on!

Lunch will be provided.

Bertucci's (Dining for Dollars):

Save the date, April 22! Make sure to use the flyers provided at the church. This is a sure way to make sure Ivyland receives funds from your total bill.

We have greatly benefited from these events in the past, and it's thanks to not only your own presence and appetites, but also thanks to you spreading the word and letting people know!

Let's see how much we can make this time!

Red Cross Blood Drive:

On Tuesday May 14 we will be hosting another blood drive by the American Red Cross.

Blood as you know is very precious and vital, and thus it is always on high demand. Trauma centers function on donated blood everyday and literally save hundreds of lives!



Signing up for this is easy, just go online to redcrossblood.org and enter ivyland new church as the sponsor code.

Volunteers are always needed for the actual drive to not only help guests register, but also to act as representatives from our church and provide company for them. Please speak to Ryan if you would like to volunteer. The Red Cross can also provide community service hours.

Month of Change:

This year we are designating April as the “Month of Change.” Similar to what we did back in 2017, we want everyone to make an effort to collect as much loose change you find lying around and bring it to the church. Our goal by the end of April is to fill the big churchy bank to the top so that our Treasurer Ken Cronlund needs help carrying it to the real bank!



Any change (as long as it is US currency) will gladly be accepted. When you get a chance take a look in your couch, your glove box, your old boots, under the kitchen counter, any place where loose coins like to hide.

Each coin may be small in value, but when we all add up our findings together those coins will certainly make a significant difference, enough to make a change!

General Church Corporation Annual Meeting Election – GC Board of Directors May 18, 2019 @ 3pm Benade Hall Auditorium

Members of the General Church Corporation are invited to participate in the election of General Church Board of Directors at this meeting. The preliminary report of the GC Nominating Committee, together with information on nominees and minutes from the 2018 annual meeting, was emailed and sent via USPS at the end of February 2019.

If you have recently changed your mail or email address, or if you are unsure of your membership in the General Church and/or General Church Corporation*, please contact Susan Wright at 267-502-4990 or susan.wright@anc-gc.org or Kelly Treacy 267-502-4901 or kelly.treacy@newchurch.org. Please contact Kelly Treacy for absentee ballots.

*GC Members are eligible to become Corporation members after three years of GC Membership.

HOUSE FOR SALE IN KEMPTON

Any one reading this newsletter want to move to Kempton, PA? Our 21 acre farm, an easy 2 miles from our New Church and K through 12 school, is for sale for summer occupancy.

Our 21 acre farm is for sale for summer occupancy.

Features large, two car garage with attached, four bed, two bath, walnut wood floored, central vacuumed, huge porched house. We're in the country here. So... Big, buried propane tank supplying heat and power to automatic whole house and barn generator. Back-up if all that fails? Hand pump to well and wood stove for heat. Central air.

All acreage is farmable, with three veg patches, a chicken run and several big, orchard grass, fenced pastures and hay field. Horse/tractor friendly outbuildings, including gorgeous 70' by 128' covered riding arena. We're designated "Clean and Green" and therefore have low taxes.

Nice neighbors and lovely views.

Phone Chris and Heather Smith 610-756-4050.