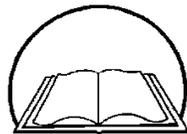


# Ivyland New Church Newsletter

Pastor Ryan Sandstrom  
215 957 9760 | cell: 215 791 1872  
[www.ivyland.org](http://www.ivyland.org)  
<http://www.facebook.com/IvylandNewChurch>  
Email: [rmsandst@yahoo.com](mailto:rmsandst@yahoo.com)



851 W. Bristol Road  
Ivyland, PA 18974  
Editor: Merry Farmer

## Message from our Pastor

In just a few weeks we will be celebrating the birth of the New Church. Although it is a fun and festive occasion it can be very easy to lose track of the real reason why we celebrate this day. We often think June 19 is the day the New Church started, similar to thinking December 25 is the day the Lord was born on earth. Like Christmas, New Church Day can become vastly more significant for us when we understand what led up to this day, and how the New Church is really established on this earth.

June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1770 was when the Lord sent out the 12 disciples in the spiritual world to spread the gospel to every living thing (TCR 791). This was a spiritual event, but it was made possible by something that happened in our natural world at that time, and that was the completion of *True Christian Religion*. This work isn't just a "book of the Writings." It is the last and final work of the Writings, making the Heavenly Doctrine, or better yet, Divine Revelation in this world complete and full. No more Divine revelation into this world is necessary. One spiritual occurrence happened alongside a natural occurrence, and the effects of this in this world and in our lives are everlasting.

Since that date, the human race has had everything it needs from God in our own hands in order to learn



His truth and be inspired by Him in ways that weren't possible before. To consider His truth as set forth by the Heavenly Doctrine and see it in life is to let the New Church be established in our hearts and minds like the woman clothed with the sun giving birth to a Child. This is where the Church will exist, and it continues to descend from heaven and exist in those who have a genuine love and care for the Lord and the neighbor. But love alone does not bring the Lord and the church into our lives, but love together with an understanding of the truth.

"Now it is permitted to enter into the mysteries of faith with understanding."

Let us keep educating ourselves with the Divine revelation we have access to, and let us keep bringing the Lord into our lives with love, and His Church will continually be established on the earth. His Kingdom will come.

Pastor Ryan Sandstrom

## Upcoming Events

### **New Church Day:**

Every year around this time General Church societies around the world celebrate the birth of the New Church. It's a celebration of the Lord's Second Coming into the hearts and minds of all people for over 200 years now.

**On June 17** we will have our annual New Church Day service. How does the New Church spread in the world? How can we see it? Is it something we can measure or detect? We will consider possible answers to these questions during our family service.

Being able to understand the truth helps us to be more open and loving people than ever before, which can bring about pleasant interactions with each other. After the service you are all welcome to stay and join us for a picnic outside on the east lawn (by the front parking lot). Families can bring food, blankets, chairs, and even a change of clothes. Kids can bring their bathing suits for the slip n' slide. We look forward to having you with us in worship and fellowship!

### **Holy Supper:**

One of the most intimate and effective ways to feel connected with the Lord is in approaching Him in worship and being filled by His love and wisdom. We do this symbolically in the holy supper; considered the holiest act of worship.



Although there is nothing holy in the material bread and wine, they do nevertheless directly relate to the Lord's goodness and truth. When we live by His teachings from a genuine affection and care for His Word, we take in His goodness and truth and assimilate them like our bodies do with material bread and wine. There are also many spiritual and heavenly things connected to this most holy sacrament that no doubt greatly affects the one taking it.

**During our New Church Day service on the 17<sup>th</sup>** we will have a holy supper service. The children will go out after the family talk and adults will be welcome to partake. This will be a useful way to observe New Church Day.

### **Father's Day:**

This year Father's Day falls on the 17<sup>th</sup>, but with so much already happening on that day at church we **will be reserving the 24<sup>th</sup>** just for Father's Day.



Similar to how we honored mothers and all women on Mother's Day here, we will now honor fathers and all men on this day. Mother's Day here was spent acknowledging and appreciating the powerful feminine influence women bring to the world. Now we will hear about the necessary masculine influence that all men bring to the world. We will also see how beautifully these two influences interact with each other.

Children will also have a chance to give out small tokens to all fathers and men during this service.

## Revelation Study:

**On Wednesday, June 13** we will have our final study for the summer. We will begin Chapter 19, which sets the scene for one of the greatest images of the Lord we can get in the Word. Before we see the Lord riding out to battle on the white horse in Chapter 19 there is a call to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

What makes this such a significant event? What were some of the changes that took place in the spiritual world *and* in the natural world as a result of this? Come and see as we look into this some more!

## Art Exhibit:

This is a call for not only you artists out there but for anyone who has made any sort of craft or work by yourself. Many of you have hidden talents that are well worth displaying and many of us would like to see them!



If you have any works or pieces that can be brought to the church and set up for display, please let Ryan know so things can be set up accordingly. We hope to have our “Ivyland Art Exhibit” set up for viewing in the community room **by the 17<sup>th</sup> of June**. The display will then stay up for a few weeks after that for people to enjoy on Sundays. All artwork will need to be dropped off at the church before the 17<sup>th</sup>, and will be arranged and set up by Hilda Rogers.

Artwork in the past has typically consisted of paintings, drawings, photography, quilt work, sculptures and the like. Artwork certainly does not need to be limited to just those areas.

This is one way to let your light shine!

## Guest Preacher:

**On July 1<sup>st</sup>** Rev. Jean Atta will be giving our regular Sunday service. Jean has had some experience with Ivyland in the past, and many of you got a chance to know him then too. He is delighted to come pay us a visit and tell us some meaningful things!

Jean will be in the Bryn Athyn area for Clergy Meetings, and then after he preaches for us he’ll be off to Pheonix AZ where he will serve as head pastor for the society there.

We look forward to his visit with us and wish him well in his new calling!

## Supervised Playtime:

**As of June 3<sup>rd</sup>** the children will be going out of each Sunday service to supervised playtime instead of Sunday school. Children enjoy a relaxed atmosphere during playtime. Once we get back to fall in September the children will go back to the Sunday school routine in their respective grade groups.

## Community News

### Another new change:

Starting this month we will have a new administrative secretary. Alaine York has served in this position for about a year now though she is ready to pass this on to someone else.

Suzy Laidlaw has agreed to be our new secretary. Suzy is well connected to many of our members and friends and is always in tune with the needs of the society. She will assume the secretarial responsibilities this June.

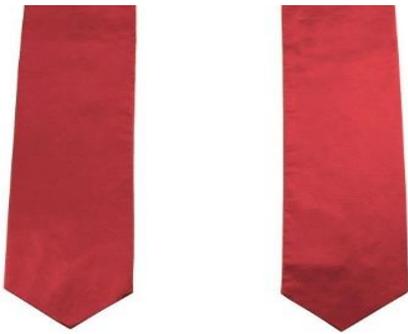
Welcome aboard Suzy, and thank you Alaine for your constant dedication!

## **Corrections to the 2018 Ivyland Directory:**

Jane Henderson's zip code was left out. It is 85225.  
And Lynn Genzlinger's phone is 267-334-2919

## **The Next Executive Bishop:**

Many of you know that in the end of June there will be clergy meetings taking place in Bryn Athyn. This is where General Church ministers travel from all their respective parts of the world to get together for a week and connect, support each other, talk doctrine and address global church issues.



One of the main items on the agenda for the meetings this year will be selecting the next Executive Bishop for the General Church, who will take office in 2019. The process for selecting the next Bishop is already under way, yet it still involves many phases, which can include you. The Clergy will be the first to vote on the next Bishop later this month, then this vote either gets affirmed or rejected as it makes its way through the General Church Board and the General Church Membership.

If you are a General Church member, you will have an opportunity to be involved in this selection process.

**Please know that you are certainly welcome to approach Ryan if you have any questions, concerns, or input regarding any of the nominees for Bishop selection or about the selection process in general.**

The Nominee list and some details about each one was posted in the BA Post over a month ago. We have 6 nominees: Rev. Erik Buss, Rev. Pete Buss Jr., Rev. Mac Frazier, Rev. Bradley Heinrichs, Rev. David Lindrooth, and Rev. Derrick Lumsden. You can look up information about each one of these men and learn a little more about each one by visiting <http://about.newchurch.org/about/bishop-selection/>.

## **General Church web:**

There is a GC newsletter produced three times a year (Winter, Spring, Fall) and includes updates from the Bishop, General Church Education, Outreach and other happenings. Use the link below to access recent and past issues and to subscribe.

<http://about.newchurch.org/about/newsletter/>

## **General Church Support:**

Dear General Church supporters, Please consider a gift to help the General Church meet its annual giving goals as our fiscal year wraps up June 30. Any donation, large or small, will help us achieve the mission to help people live a heavenly life through the teachings of the Lord God Jesus Christ in His Second Coming. Your donation to your society and the General Church matters.

To donate to the General Church or your local society you may go to [www.newchurch.org/give](http://www.newchurch.org/give) or send a check to Advancement, PO Box 708, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009.

With gratitude, Mark Wyncoll, General Church Advancement