

Doubling Gap Church of God Beacon

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Standing in the GAP with the Gospel

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR DON

“Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God.”

Matthew 5:8

This passage from the Sermon on the Mount will be the focus scripture for the Lenten Luncheon on March 23rd @ the First Presbyterian Church in Newville. It was in the back of my mind when we had our Ash Wednesday challenge to give over to God this Lenten season something we have been holding back from Him. That leads to the mindset of this idea of a purity of heart. And then today I had a chance to read a devotional from Pastor Tom Myers from **February 15th** with the focus scripture of **Psalm 15:1-5**. Due to space limitations, I will not print that passage here so grab your Bible, and a cup of coffee, and read through that Psalm before reading parts of his devotional copied here....

Reading this passage is extremely humbling. This passage brings to mind the desperate cry, “Who then can be saved?” from those who heard Jesus state it was easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God (**Luke 18:24-26**). Who among hu-

manity can say that they do any of these things continually? Christ Jesus was the only One who throughout His life accomplished these things perfectly because He was God in the flesh and in the flesh chose to depend upon the Spirit of God fully. That is the model all humanity is supposed to follow. The weight of the distance between the character of God and the character of people is something to keep in mind throughout this Lenten season that began yesterday. The things David lists in this psalm are literally carrying out the Ten Commandments which are acknowledged as impossible by those who are honest with themselves. It was through Jesus’ suffering and dying on mankind’s behalf that imperfect people who have received forgiveness by the atoning sacrifice of Christ can be clothed in His righteousness and made presentable to the Father in heaven as acceptable to live with Him for all eternity. Remembering that salvation is underserved and is a merciful act of Christ on behalf of His children allows a person to set aside their judgmental attitudes to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with everyone. It gives the power to forgive others as God has

forgiven them and love others as they are loved by God. **This Lenten season ask God to make you fully aware of your sin and His gracious gift of salvation through faith in Christ that He offers to all people.**

Me again. As you spend time this month contemplating what it means to be pure in heart, take comfort in knowing that it is all about Jesus! He is the One who brings the purity into our hearts, into our lives, which enables us to see clearly God’s face, His will, His plan and purpose for our lives. When we realize that the righteousness of Jesus covers us, permeates our very being, then we can with a purity of the heart see God’s face! It is realizing that when we live to and for Christ, we truly live. When we submit to the leading of His Spirit, then we truly can experience an intimacy with our Father like He always desired us to have!

So may this month be one in which all who claim the Name of Jesus, live in the power of His Spirit, love in the power of His sacrifice, and share with others the victory we have in His gift of salvation! Be blessed and be a blessing to someone today!
Pastor Don

Volume 18, Issue 3

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Special points of interest:

Pastor Snyder will have office hours as shown on page 2. If he is unavailable, please leave a message and he will return your call.

In case of an emergency, you may call Pastor Snyder at home or on his cell. Numbers are found on page 2.

Elders

Charlie Clouse

Shannon Kane-Vice Chairman

Shane Reed-Secretary



Deacons

Carl Baughman-Chairman

Dawn Agar

Sam Clouse

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR MARCH

Pastor Don

- Guidance on the Lenten message....
- For a Seder meal experience (Maundy Thursday) that reminds us all of Jesus' words, life, and love....

Pastor Brian

- For God's help as I learn how our church is structured, and how its various ministries function
- For our upcoming staff development workshops
- For wisdom as I prepare and speak at a youth retreat, at Camp Yolijwa, on March 16-18

Pastor's email address is:

doublinggap@embarqmail.com

OR

feedmandcs@yahoo.com

In case of an emergency you may contact Pastor Don at home or on his cell phone at:

Home: 776-1191

Cell: 278-7904

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

FOR MARCH

Monday through Thursday

8AM to 12 NOON

Fridays "off" day.

Also appointments can be made .

Pastor Don will be unavailable on the following days

March 5,8,19, 22,29



SECRETARY'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday

9AM to 12 NOON

dgapsec@embarqmail.com

Hello from the Doubling Gap COG Youth Group aka. FORGED

You may wonder why Forged. The youth group has made Eph. 2:8-10 their theme or mission statement. 8 For is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 FOR WE ARE GOD'S WORKMANSHIP, CREATED (forged) IN CHRIST JESUS TO DO GOOD WORKS, WHICH GOD PREPARED IN ADVANCE FOR US TO DO. We try to remind youth that they are created by God and he has a plan and purpose for each of them, and each of us.

The youth recently attended Winter Jam at Penn State. Winter Jam is a Christian concert, and featured artist such as Jordan Feliz, KB, Kari Jobe, New Song, and Building 429. Skillet was the headliner and were EXTREMELY LOUD. During the concert the youth decided to sponsor another child. This time they sponsored an 8-year-old boy from China named Hong Liang. They also sponsor Fernando Abraham Richard Lyuw from Indonesia. Awesome stuff to see the hearts of the youth. The youth then came back to the church for the all-nighter. We ate pizza and all kinds of snacks. We played 9 squares, Kuuubb, and just hung out. Everyone stayed awake and made it through the night.

Upcoming Events for the youth include helping serve meals at the Finkenbinder Memorial Dinner. Senior High youth will be traveling to Ocean City MD March 9-11 for Breakaway Youth Conference. This will be an opportunity for the youth to grow deeper in their faith and fellowship with each other. We pray they will also grow into leadership rolls not only in youth, but in the church as well. There will be many sessions with different speakers along with worship from different artists. April 20-22 will be the Newburg Retreat at Camp Yolijwa. This is open to all the youth in the church.

My prayer is that all youth in the church would attend youth group. If you are in 6 – 12 grades you are invited to participate in youth functions. Youth meet on Wednesday nights at the church from 7-8. Youth also meet Sunday morning for Sunday school. Recently Dylan has taught the "one another" of the bible and now we are going through a video series called Twisting the Truth by Andy Stanley. Talk with Dylan or myself or any of the youth about the things we do and different events we attend. If you want to attend and transportation is an issue talk to us and we will find a way to get you there. **Youth is a wonderful way to fellowship and grow in God's Word.** It may just be so much fun you will fall off the edge of the earth (ask Aiden Raucher).

Shane Reed

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR BRIAN

"Therefore, I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. No, I beat my body and make it my slave, so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize." (1 Corinthians 9:26-27)

Last month, I wrote to you about looking forward to watching some of the Winter Olympics, which have captured the attention of many people in this country, and in countries around the world, for the past several weeks. Just as Olympians train to compete in their events, we Christians also need to "train" ourselves. Much like an athlete is a student of their sport, we are to be students of scripture. That's actually the meaning of the word "disciple", as used in the New Testament. Paul wrote to "run in such a way as to get the prize" (1 Cor. 9:24). The first step, he said, is to "go into strict training" (1 Cor. 9:25). Being a disciple of Christ begins with a decision, much like becoming an Olympic athlete begins with a decision. But it doesn't stop there. Paul wrote that he made his body his slave. He *forced* it to do what it did not *naturally* want to do. If only discipleship came *naturally*! Instead, we must be focused and intentional about it. Neither "beating my body" nor making "it my slave" sounds appealing to me. The writer of Hebrews agrees, in verse 11 of chapter 12: "No disciple seems pleasant at the time, but painful." (Yeah, no kidding!) But discipline produces rewards, he points out: "Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it."

Let discipline train you to be a disciple. Here are three very practical suggestions to help get you started. **First**, if you don't have a "quiet time" each day set aside for prayer and devotional reading, make the choice to start one. For me, it has to happen first thing in the morning, before anyone else is awake. (That means I get up 20 or 30 minutes before I have to... and let me tell you how much I have to "beat my body" to make that happen!) **Second**, become part of a discipleship group. Join a bible study on Sunday mornings or Wednesday nights. Find one or two friends and agree to go through a study on Right Now Media once a week. **And third**, find someone to help train you. It's impossible for us to learn without being taught. Connect with someone and have them help keep you accountable. **What is your goal for discipleship this year? Let's pray about it together.** I'm looking forward to coming alongside each of you on this journey of discipleship, to both encourage you and to be encouraged by you. Praying for God's leading as we grow together,

Pastor Brian, Director of Discipleship Ministries

Worship Ministry Team

WMT is excited to let you know we are holding a Psalm 150 night on Sunday, April 29th from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Please consider sharing your talents with us that night. There will be a sign up sheet in Narthex starting 4/8. We will also enjoy dessert afterwards so plan to join us that night.

Our next meeting will be March 6th at 7pm.

We are always looking for musicians whether instruments or vocals. Please see Pastor Lynn if interested in joining the team or providing special music for worship.

MARCH'S GREETERS

4-John & Cindy Clouse

11-Bill & Roxy Fulton

18-Jay & Louise Ginter

25-Sam & Betty Clouse



Please be on duty at least 20 minutes prior to service and remain at the doors until 10:05 for any latecomers.

MARCH'S WORSHIP NURSERY ATTENDANTS

4- Tammy Cornman & Ian Reed

11-Joyce & April Smith

18-Angie & Mikayla Lowery

25-Shane & Jeannine Reed



****If you are unable to fulfill your duties as a GREETER or NURSERY attendant, PLEASE contact someone else on the schedule to change with you.**



Food Drive



ARKK's mission for March will be to collect non-perishable items for the **Big Springs Area Food Bank**. Often times food banks will notice a decline in donations after the holidays, and for this reason ARKK has decided to do what we can to help. BSA Food Bank will gladly accept any non-perishable items donated, but are always extra happy to receive the following:

PEANUT BUTTER, TUNA FISH, CANNED FRUIT, OR SOUPS

I think most of us could look in our own pantries and find at least one or two items we could donate. Together lets fill a BIG box for the Big Springs Area Food Bank and help our community.

Our last day to collect items will be Sunday, March 25th. Melisa will be dropping off items collected to the food bank on Sunday, March 25th for their distribution the following day.

JUNIOR CHURCH 1 (AGES 3-5) TEACHERS & HELPERS

- *Meet in Room #4 in the CE Wing at 10:00 am
- 4-Lori & Gracie Chronister
- 11-Lori Chronister & Michael Chronister
- 18-Lori Chronister & Nathan Chronister
- 25-Children's Chat & ARKK

JUNIOR CHURCH 2 (Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd Grade) TEACHERS & HELPERS

*Meet in Room #2 in the CE Wing at 10:00 AM

- 4,11,18-Shannon & Katie Kane
- 25-Children's Chat & ARKK

JUNIOR CHURCH 3 (3rd, 4th, 5th Grade) TEACHERS & HELPERS

- 4-Shane Reed & Gail Wolfe
- 11-Shane Reed & Sharon Barrick
- 18-Shane Reed & Wendy Stuber
- 25-Children's Chat & ARKK

**When you are assigned to be a helper, PLEASE be in the Junior Church room by 9:50. If you cannot be a helper on the Sunday you have been assigned, PLEASE let Carrie Kimmich know (658-6339) so a replacement can be obtained if necessary.

Staff Development Workshop

Friday, March 2, 6:30-8:00 PM



Free Video Library

Using Right Now Media for Personal and Small Group Discipleship. Any questions, see Pastor Brian Ramsey.

Vacation Bible School Staff Sign Up



Please complete the commitment form and return to Katie Kane by Sunday, March 4.

Don't leave VBS stranded!

Upcoming Easter Events



- Thursday, March 29, at 7:00 pm
Maundy Thursday Service.
Seder Meal focus (No Wednesday night service on March 28).
- Friday, March 30, at 6:45 pm
Community Cross Walk in Newville.
- Saturday, March 31, at 10:00
Doubling Gap COG Community Egg Hunt
(for children in 5th grade and below)
- Sunday, April 1, at 7:00 am
SONRISE Service and Breakfast

Community Lenten Luncheons

Fridays at Noon

First United Presbyterian Church

2018 Theme: Beatitudes-Matthew 5:1-12

Schedule of worship Leaders

3/2 Pastor Amy Wagner-Zion Lutheran

3/9 Pastor Richard Michael-BS United Lutheran

3/16 Pastor Chris Faylor-BS Height COG

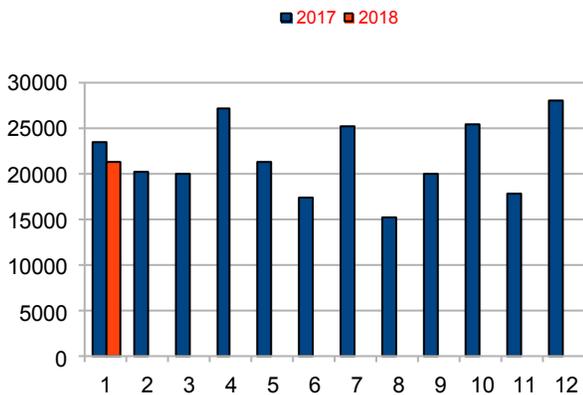
3/23 Pastor Don Snyder-Doubling Gap COG

All are welcome!

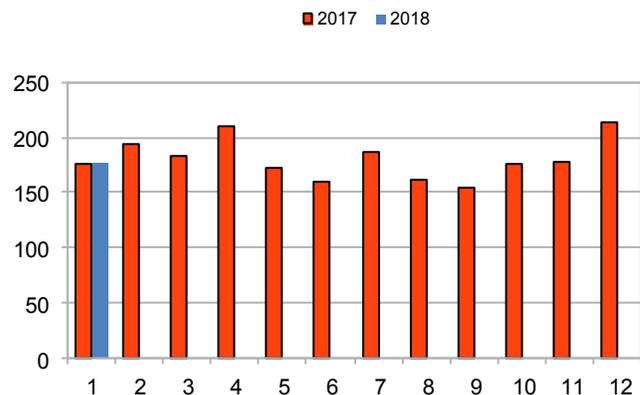
Each week, a brief worship service led by local pastors is followed by a simple lunch. A suggested donation of \$3.00 supports Neighbors in Christ and other approved ministries.

JANUARY'S INCOME & ATTENDANCE CHARTS

INCOME



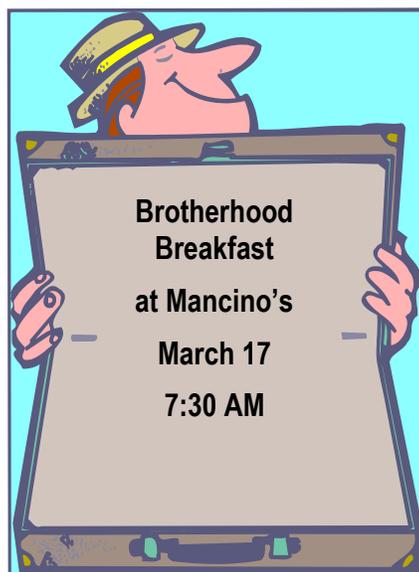
ATTENDANCE



TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance January 1, 2018	\$48,844.02		
Deposits	\$21,326.62	Doubling Gap Youth Group (1st qtr Support)	\$500.00
Expenses:		Reinford Landscapes (Snow Removal)	\$315.00
Donald C. Snyder (Jan Salary)	\$1,916.20	Paul Stouffer (CeilingTile,Bulbs,Doorbell,Filler)	\$95.28
Donald C. Snyder (Jan Housing)	\$1,121.44	Eileen Bear (Hubcap for Van)	\$29.95
Donald C. Snyder (Dec Travel)	\$118.00	The Sentinel (Live Nativity Ad 11/29)	\$44.35
Brian L. Ramsey (Dir of Disc/Jan)	\$317.95	Bender Hardware (Antifreeze)	\$9.98
Royetta G. Baughman (Secretary/Jan)	\$767.86	Blue Mountain Blooms (Get Well)	\$35.00
The Board of Pensions (Feb)	\$459.21	Churches of God Publications (Gems)	\$162.00
Eastern Regional Conf (Ret Pastors Ins)	\$80.00	Corner Store (supplies)	\$74.16
Eastern Regional Conf (Jan Tithe)	\$2,265.00	Camino Global (Yinglings-Jan)	\$170.00
ERC (Dillingers-Dec Faith Promise)	\$550.00	Entrust (Ginters-Jan)	\$130.00
ERC(Haiti MammoFd-DecBenTithe)	\$559.00	Send International (Books-Jan)	\$70.00
Transfer to Mission Trip Fd(Dec Ben Tithe)	\$300.00	Voice of the Martyrs (Fill-a-Water Bottle Do- nations)	\$313.70
Transfer to Gesse Church/School Fd (Missions)	\$2,668.91		
Newville First CoG (Dec Ben Tithe-PAW Packs)	\$160.00	Total Expenses	\$21,145.66
Christian Svcs Counseling Ctr (Dec Ben Tithe)	\$559.00		
Pleasantville CoG (Dec Ben Tithe)	\$300.00	Balance January 31, 2018	\$49,024.98
Transfer to Building Fund (Jan Transfer)	\$3,000.00		
Adams Electric Cooperative (Dec)	\$253.00		
Century Link (Dec)	\$121.26		
Waste Connections of PA (Jan Trash)	\$97.35		
Perry Pest Control (Quarterly Treatment)	\$100.00		
Timmons Oil, Inc. (688.3 gals @ \$2.60/gal)	\$1,768.93		
Right Now Media (Monthly Service)	\$129.99		
Mirelle Associates (Dec P/R & Tax Svc)	\$75.00		
Internal Revenue Service (Dec FIT,SS,Medi)	\$759.12		
PA Dept of Revenue (Dec SIT)	\$141.68		
Cumb Co Tax Bureau (4th qtr Local Wage Tax)	\$207.34		
Sherry Koppenhaver (Jan Custodial Svcs)	\$400.00		

Building Fund	\$190,120.96
(CD \$102,465.77 & Checking \$87,655.19)	
The following is a breakdown of the major funds available within the general treasury:	
Live Nativity Fund	\$ 3,636.57
Mission Fund	\$2,104.23
Mission Trip Fund	\$7,753.51



Mission Board Update

Mission Moments

4- Live Nativity

11-Easter Egg Hunt

18-2018 Faith Promise update

25-Testimony & Praise

Voice of the Martyrs

The Voice of the Martyrs presents the inspiring new movie ***Tortured for Christ***, a cinematic retelling of the testimony of VOM founder Pastor Richard Wurmbrand as written in his international bestseller *Tortured for Christ*. This movie was produced to honor the 50th anniversary of the book's 1967 release. Filmed entirely in Romania, including in the very prison where Pastor Wurmbrand endured torture and solitary confinement, this powerful film uniquely presents the story with live action rather than interviews. The dialogue is presented in English, Romanian and Russian (with English subtitles) to hold to the authenticity of this true story.

The movie will be playing on March 5 at 7:30 at the Chambersburg AMC or Midtown Cinema Harrisburg.

Annual Banquet & Silent Auction for the Fruitbelt Farmworker Christian Ministry

March 17th at 6:00 PM, here at Doubling Gap Church of God

More details will be in the bulletin

Next Meeting:

March 1, 2018 at 7:00 pm



