

Doubling Gap Church of God Beacon

50 McCrea Road
Newville, PA 17241
717-776-6092
www.doublinggap.org

Standing in the GAP with the Gospel



March 2019
Volume 19, Issue 3

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR DON

“Time of Preparation”

Luke 4:1-14

This month we will observe Ash Wednesday and in so doing begin a time of preparation, what some call Lent, leading up to Holy Week. The symbolism of the 40 days was not lost on the early Church as they would have been very familiar with the ‘40’ of scripture; 40 days and nights of rain in the days of Noah, 40 days that Moses spent on the mountaintop with the Lord, 40 days that the spies explored the promised land, 40 years of wondering in the wilderness for Israel under Moses, the 40 days of temptation in the wilderness for our Lord as he prepared for the intensifying of his ministry, and 40 days of walking the earth in His resurrected body. So the number 40 has taken on a deeper meaning among the faith community. During Lent, many people decide to give up something as a way of increasing their focus and attention on prayer and/or personal devotions. Often this ‘giving up’ involves food and there is nothing wrong with that. But in the past several years I have been challenged and have extended that challenge to the body here at the GAP, to not give something up for Lent but to give something over to the Lord for Lent. Examples of this would be giving an extra 15 minutes each morning during Lent to reading the Bible, to spending time in prayer, to making some phone calls of encouragement, or something similar. Anything that would take our focus off of ourselves and place it on Jesus, getting to know Him better and serving Him by serving others. When we spend more time seeking the Lord, we cannot help but be driven to do for others for that is a natural outpouring of the inpouring of God’s Word and the working of His Holy Spirit. So this month as we observe Ash Wednesday on the 6th, make plans to join us for the service which will include the marking with the ashes. This is a symbol of our humbling ourselves before the Lord, seeking His direction for the upcoming 40 days of preparation for Holy Week. And it is fitting that the ashes are made from the burning of last year’s palms from Palm Sunday and the prayer request cards from 2018. These ashes are a reminder of what God has done for us in the past year, answering our prayers, healing our hurts, carrying us through the storms, and providing the One who would save us! I look forward to joining with you in this time of preparation!

Pastor Don

Elders

Charlie Clouse
Shannon Kane-Vice Chair
Bill Fulton

Deacons

Carl Baughman-Chairman
Dawn Agar –Secretary
Sam Clouse

Deaconesses

Betty Clouse
Joann Varner

Inside this Issue:

Pastor Don’s Info	1
Pastor Brian’s Info	3
Schedules	4-5
Women’s Ministries	6
Financial	7
Discipleship	8
Camp News	9
Right Now Media	10
Parent’s Corner	11-12
March Calendar	13

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.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR MARCH

Pastor Don

- Direction as plans are made for the Seder Meal for April.
- Focus for the unity of the body as we begin the season of Lent.

Pastor Brian

- Haiti Trip - March 23-30. Praying that God will reveal Himself to us in the way He is working in the people and culture of Haiti.
- Senior Trip - Emily and I chaperoning our school's senior class trip, to Savannah. Pray for safe travels, and for the opportunities to speak into the lives of the students.
- Continued growth in this staff position of Director of Discipleship.

Pastor Don's email 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 13, 14, 18, 19, 21



SECRETARY'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday

9AM to 12 NOON

dgapsec@embarqmail.com



DINNER & PROGRAM

MARCH 30th 6:00 PM

Free Admission

***Bring a Game covered dish to share**

Guest Speaker: Trevor Rosenberry

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR BRIAN

Learning to Care for One Another - Part 3

In Romans 13:14, Paul writes “Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.” He uses similar language when he writes to the churches in Ephesus and Colosse, and tells them to “put on the new self”. It’s very curious language. Our clothing is what others see on the outside, and it’s often indicative of some facet of our lives. When you see someone wearing a uniform, you can usually immediately tell they are a police officer, a firefighter, or a soldier. Doctors, nurses, and veterinarians all wear scrubs of some sort. If you were to see me on an average weekday, you’d see me wearing a shirt and tie, and you’d think something like “professional” or “businessman”. (Or quite possibly, “Eww, that doesn’t match!”)

When Paul tells us to “clothe ourselves with Christ”, in Romans 13:14, he’s saying that the others need to see Jesus in our lives, through our words and actions. For the Christ-follower, our *outward appearance* reflects our *inward relationship*. One of the things about Jesus that was so attractive to others in his day was the way he intentionally moved towards other people. John 4 tells us that Jesus “had” to go through Samaria, so he could get to one outcast woman. Jesus tells the parable of the shepherd who leaves the 99 to go after the one. In John 8, when the woman caught in adultery was brought to him, he didn’t just save her life physically – after everyone else had left, he engaged her in conversation. *Jesus moves towards others*. I’ve been writing to you this year about how to care for others, and about how to overcome some of the difficulties we face in taking on that task. Last month, I encouraged you to find someone and ask them to pray for you about something specific. This month, I want to encourage you to lovingly move toward another person this week. Although some extraverts may make it look easy, the truth is “loving pursuit is neither easy nor natural to anyone.” So what does it look like, in practice? Let me give you three things.

First, greet someone. Walk up, say hello, shake their hand – introduce yourself if you need to. Smile and look them in the eye. You may even need to practice this. I practice it with my students at school!

Second, learn their names. One of the biggest things you can do to show someone you care is to learn their name.

Third, be attentive to details. Most often this means we listen. We don’t interrupt; we don’t try to “fix”; we just listen and make an effort to remember the details. That means focused attention. And let’s be honest – that can be really difficult at times! For myself, I’ve learned that if my wife or kids, or students or another teacher, comes to talk to me while I’m working on something, I have to stop and physically turn my body towards them to give them my focused attention.

Start doing these things – greet, learn names, and listen to details – and others will begin to see Christ in you, as you intentionally move towards other people. Still praying for a season of growth in your life, and in mine!!

~ Pastor Brian

MARCH'S GREETERS



3-Ned & Jill Kerstetter
10-Tim & Leilani Reeder
17-John & Cindy Clouse
24-Shane & Jeannine Reed
31-Paul & Joan Stouffer

MARCH'S WORSHIP NURSERY

3-Jenn Bolze & Sierra Rotz
10-Heather Ocker & April Hoover
17-Connie Cornman & Eli Reeder
24-Sue Oiler & Cora Agar
31-Carley Miller & Kelly Bier

****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.**



ACTS OF RANDOM KINDNESS KIDS (ARKK)

"Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ."

THERE'S STILL TIME... If you haven't brought in the donations for the Gesse School we are still collecting these donations. Please drop them off in the CE Wing in our bin. Our church team will be taking these items collected along with them in March. For a list of items that are still needed check out the following website:

<https://www.timetosignup.com/arkkcollection/sheet/1276664/>



NEW COLLECTION OPPORTUNITY: We are going to start collecting Box Tops for the Cumberland Valley Christian School. It's easy and it won't cost you a thing! If you see a Box Top on an item at home, cut it out and bring it to church, then place it in the box on the table in the narthex.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Melisa Lucas at 717-713-4244 (cell) or email at actsofrandomkindnesskids@gmail.com.

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

***Meet in Room #4 in the CE Wing at 10:00 am**

**3,10,17 & 24-Nathan & Lori Chronister
31-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**

**3,10,17,& 24-Shannon & Katie Kane
31-Children's Chat & ARKK**

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

**3-Shane Reed & Camryn Mountz
10-Shane Reed & Sharon Barrick
17-Shane Reed & Wendy Stuber
24-Shane Reed & Carrie Kimmich
31-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.**

**Community Lenten Luncheons
Fridays at Noon**

Location-First United Presbyterian Church

March 8	Newville Church of the Brethren
March 15	Zion Lutheran
March 22	Doubling Gap Church of God
March 29	First United Presbyterian
April 5	Big Spring Heights Church of God
April 12	Newville First Church of God

All are welcome!

Each week, a brief worship service led by local pastors is followed by a simple lunch.

Women's Ministry

March 1-3, 2019

The Flourish Conference

Winbrenner Theological Seminary

Findlay, Ohio

Our next meeting

March 4, 2019 at 7:00 PM

CHURCH OF GOD HOME

greatest needs

Nail Care-nail polish remover-regular strength, emery boards, cuticle/orange sticks, fast drying nail top coat polish, cotton balls

Deodorant-Secret, Suave, Speedstick, Gillette or Mennen

Toothpaste-Colgate, Crest (travel size)

Mouthwash-Scope, Listerine

Denture Adhesive-Fixodent, Fasteeth, Poligrip, Effergrip

Denture Cleanser-Polident, Efferdent

Lotion-Lubiderm or Vaseline Intensive Care (6 or 8 oz)

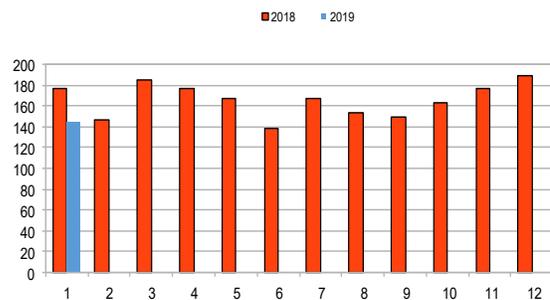
Dove Bar Soap

JANUARY'S INCOME & ATTENDANCE CHARTS

INCOME



ATTENDANCE



DISCIPLESHIP

Bulletin Board

March 2019



Sunday Morning Adult Discipleship Groups

“Power of Love” by David Jeremiah	<u>Leader:</u> Charlie Clouse
“Gospel of Mark” with Francis Chan	<u>Leader:</u> Leilani Reeder
“Standard Lesson Quarterly”	<u>Leader:</u> Bobby Baker
“The Bible: God’s Voice to Mankind”	<u>Leader:</u> Adam Cohick
“The Life of the Messiah” by Ray Vander Laan.	<u>Leader:</u> Mike Bolze.

There are also discipleship groups for children and youth on Sunday mornings. Contact Pastor Brian or Pastor Don for information on Sunday School nursery services.

Weekly Adult Groups

“**Book of Acts**” Pastor Brian is leading a bible study on the Book of Acts.

We meet in the sanctuary each Wednesday at 7. It’s an open-discussion, question-and-answer style group study.

“**Fight Back with Joy**” by Margaret Feinberg.

Ladies bible study, meets in Room 10 (last room on the left, down the hallway) each Wednesday at 7.

From Amazon’s description: “**Joy Is More Than Whimsy. It’s the Weapon You Can Use to Fight Life’s Greatest Battles.** Through months of treatment, questions, and hopes, Margaret discovered that joy is a far more dynamic force than most of us realize. It has the power to reignite our passion for laughter and celebration. It can free us to rise above endless demands as we become more content and thankful. It can change unchangeable circumstances and bring a peace rooted in the remarkable love of God.”

“**Book of Ecclesiastes**” Men’s Bible Study, 2nd & 4th Tuesday of February.

Mission Board Update

March's Mission Moments

- 3- Drive Thru Live Nativity
- 10-Meet the Need
- 17-Update on Gesse Church & School
- 24-Easter Egg Hunt
- 31-Testimony & Praise

2019 Faith Promise

Gesse Church and School

Paw Pack Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction

Saturday, March 9th 4:30-7 pm

*(Snow date March 16th)
at

Green Spring Brethren in Christ Church

Tickets \$10 Adults, \$6 (ages 6-12)

Free (ages 5 and under)

Take out orders are available

****See Royetta for tickets**

Next Mission Board Meeting

March 7, 2019

Mission Celebration

at

Carlisle First Church of God

April 28, 2019



Check these out on



RightNow Media is a free resource our church provides to you. It has been called the “Christian Netflix”, and offers video-based bible studies, conferences, small-group training, children’s videos, and much more! *Check out one of these this month!* Unsure how to use RNM? Contact Pastor Brian or the church office, and we’ll get you started!

~~~~~

**Bible Studies for Kids!** Yes, you read that right! Phil Vischer, co-creator of VeggieTales, hosts a whole series of bible studies for kids, in his lovable and entertaining style. Join Phil, Emily the Elephant, Sam the Turtle, and other friends as they journey through the bible. “The Mr. Phil Show” is a 5-session show that teaches kids about the bible. Each episode is 20-25 minutes long. Then, other shows in the series walk through Philippians, 1 Peter, Ephesians, and I John. The latter shows come with FREE downloadable study guides for each video session in the study, that include age-appropriate questions to discuss, and an application question for you. You can also find classic VeggieTales episodes to watch anytime. What better way to engage your family together in studying God’s word!

~~~~~

Noah’s Park – Seasons 1 and 2. What happened to the animals when they left Noah’s Ark? They all went to Noah’s Park!. That’s right. Dreamer the rhinoceros, Honk the camel, Stretch the giraffe and five of their animal friends left Noah’s Ark and set off on a great journey to find a new home. After many perilous adventures the eight pals made their way through a brand new world until they came to a beautiful pond surrounded by a cozy cave, towering coconut trees, and a sparkling waterfall. When Ponder the frog saw Noah’s Ark setting on the mountain above them, he knew that they had found just the right place. They had journeyed from the ark to the park and found the ark waiting for them. They were home in Noah’s Park. Each video is about 25 minutes long, and focuses on a different “life value” (cooperation, the golden rule, physical fitness, being a good neighbor, etc.) If your family enjoys VeggieTales, they will love Noah’s Park!

Parents' Corner

March 2019

Serving Together In Your Community (Part 4 of 5)

By Susan Mathis

<https://www.focusonthefamily.com/marriage/daily-living/serving-together/serving-together-in-your-community>

You hear them every year; it's the music of Christmas. But the sights and sounds of those Salvation Army bell ringers become even more meaningful when you've been one. My husband and I have been bell ringers for several years and find it to be a special treat during the holiday season.

One year we were scheduled for an evening shift after work. That day had been a particularly stressful one, and it was a cold one, too. I was in no mood to stand outside in the wind and be nice. But barely five minutes into our shift, my mood changed. A young mother struggled with three little children in tow but stopped to put some coins in the bucket. An elderly couple did, too, smiling and wishing us a blessed Christmas.

We *were* blessed. A very somber-looking young lady passed us by, but when I addressed her, she stopped and we talked a little. I told her I'd keep her concerns in my prayers, and she thanked me as we parted. Though we were acting as good Samaritans, so to speak, we were the ones who were truly ministered to that day.

Jesus told His followers to be His witnesses in Samaria (Acts 1:8). No matter where you live, it's probably safe to assume that your "Samaria" – your community at large – is full of needs: the poor and homeless, military families, sick children, single moms, the elderly, the lonely and forsaken. Hurting people need Christians in their community to reach out and demonstrate the love of Christ.

I was cold, hungry, tired and weary that December evening. Yet by the time I finished serving my community by simply ringing a bell, overseeing a red collection pot and greeting shoppers, I was energized. I was blessed. My time and sacrifice were nothing compared to knowing that I touched a few lives and was a witness of God's love.

Dale and I grew closer as a couple in the midst of serving together. There's something special, even intimate, about serving those in need. It connects you, softens you, slows you down and helps you appreciate all the blessings you have. Here are a few ways to serve your community/"Samaria":

- Work in a soup kitchen, food bank, rescue mission or homeless shelter.
 - Volunteer as Salvation Army bell ringers. It can take as little as an hour, but it means a lot.
 - Adopt a military family, especially when a spouse is deployed.
 - Adopt a college student or foreign exchange student. Have him over for a meal, even if it's just once a month.
 - Offer to serve in a premarital or marriage ministry, or start a small group for couples.
- Schedule a regular "date night" to serve together in a local nursing home (singing, doing crafts, teaching a Bible study, etc.), or visit kids in the hospital.

Serving Together In Your Community (Part 4 of 5) continued

- Participate in the political process (voter registration, polling, etc.).
- Volunteer to help build a Habitat for Humanity home.
- Coach a youth sports together.
- Teach adult literacy or English as a second language (ESL) classes together.
- Adopt a local fire or police station, and take them dessert once a week or month.

(Next Month: “Serving Together To Support Missionaries”)