

# Doubling Gap Church of God Beacon

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

Standing in the GAP with the Gospel



## FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR DON

### A Time For Everything” Ecc. 3:1-14

A time for everything. The teacher who authored Ecclesiastes writes these words in the third chapter of his book. This month, I want to highlight a couple of the ‘couplets’ from the first eight verses.

A time to weep and a time to dance. This covid isolation has brought many to tears. The loss of social contacts, the inability to visit loved one in nursing homes, the loss of employment, the loss of a business, the uncertainty of it all.....would and has brought many to tears. But in the midst of that hurting, there is also a time to laugh. Laugh, you say? Why? Because laughter is good medicine! (Proverbs 17:22) In this season of weeping, we need to see that there is a time to be cheerful, to balance the hurt with the joy of knowing God is in control and to laugh in the face of danger! THAT is only possible if we know Jesus. For in knowing Him as Lord and Savior, we understand and accept that this world is not our home. We seek a place far better. And while we seek, we understand that everything in this life, everything, is under the control of the One who created the heavens and the earth! And because He is in control of all things, He will work out all of those things for the good of them who love Him! (Romans 8:28) That, my brothers and sisters, should bring a cheerful countenance to your soul!

The other couplet I want to address is the one that follows that one; There is a time to mourn and a time to dance. Following the same pattern the Teacher has developed in this part of his letter, there is the balance to life. Yes, there have been times that we have needed to mourn in this season of life. But to keep a healthy balance to our lives, we also need to make the time to dance, to celebrate life and the work that the Lord has been, and continues to do in the midst of this storm. And that is what we will be doing the last Sunday in May and the first Sunday in June! We will be celebrating, even if we don't really dance, although that is an option! Both Sundays we will be sharing God's hand of provision/presence in the midst of this covid lockdown. During our Mission moment, I will be sharing what you pass along to me to share on your behalf. I am looking for those accounts where God's Hand has been obviously and mightily evident in these past few months in your lives, or in the lives of those to whom you are connected.

So here is your assignment. Send me ([feedmandcs@aol.com](mailto:feedmandcs@aol.com)) your stories, your ‘God-sightings’, of what God has been doing in this covid mess that has made you simply pause and say, ‘Yeah God!!’ Let's do some celebrating and some dancing these next couple of Sundays as we share together the blessings that God has showered upon His family here at Doubling! I am looking forward to hearing from you!

**Pastor Don**

#### Elders

Charlie Clouse

Shannon Kane-Vice Chair

Bill Fulton-Chairman

#### Deacons

John Whisler

Dawn Agar –Secretary

Sam Clouse

#### Deaconesses

Betty Clouse

Tammy Cornman

June 2020

Volume 20 Issue 6

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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.



**Pastor Don**

- For our nation and the world as all still are struggling under the effects of these past many months.
- For all those frontline warriors who are in the public arena providing key services and care.
- For there to be unity in our political places of governance. May they decide working together is more important than 'winning' an argument!
- Praise for the gathering again of the body here at Doubling!

**Pastor Brian**

- For wisdom regarding our summer outreach ministries - Children's Day, VBS and Camp YoliJwa - as we decide if, when, and how.
- For our church family and leaders, as we being (hopefully) to "re-integrate" soon.
- For Emily and I, as we enter a period of transition

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 JUNE**

Monday through Thursday

8AM to 12 NOON

Fridays "off" day.

Also appointments can be made .

**SECRETARY'S OFFICE HOURS**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

9 AM to 1 PM

dgapsec@embarqmail.com

**Church Services Update**

Here is where we stand as of May 27<sup>th</sup>:

1. Wednesday night Bible study resumes (May 27<sup>th</sup>) with sanctuary gatherings! Please be mindful of the CDC recommendation to still wear masks in public. We will be practicing some seating distancing, so during the teaching you need not keep your mask on. Start time is 6:45!!
  2. Sunday morning Worship at 10:00 resumes (May 31<sup>st</sup>) with live sanctuary gatherings! We will be practicing family worship, which means no Junior Church programs or a staffed nursery. The nursery is open for those who need to use it during the services, but will not be staffed. For families with young children, we have opened up the classrooms to the rear of the sanctuary to allow for some more space for the active ones in the family! Once again, masks should be worn entering and leaving and also during any other time of interaction without the normal distancing. While seated for the service, masks can be removed. Singing will be encouraged but only while remaining seated. Simply be respectful of those who choose to wear a mask. They are doing so for their safety and/or the safety of those in their care.
  3. Live streaming will continue for both of these services so that those who still feel uncertain about group gatherings can worship with us. We are looking into another option as well, but as of today (the 27<sup>th</sup>) we do not have it in place.
  4. Children and youth zoom meetings will continue for the month of June. There may be opportunities for outdoor gatherings to take place but as of right now, nothing has been decided. The children's zoom meeting will be on Wednesday nights at 7:30 (thus the start time of adult study at 6:45) and the youth at 7:30 on Monday nights.
  5. Sunday school classes will not be resuming till sometime in the future. The same applies to Junior Church. Hopefully when our county goes green we can look at ways to have some safe gathering opportunities for our young ones and our youth.
- As always, if you have any questions about any of the guidelines or meeting times and setup, call Pastor Brian or me!

Blessings! PD

## FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR BRIAN

### Know Your Territory

*“Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, ‘Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory...”*

A few years ago, a book called “The Prayer of Jabez” became very popular in Christian circles. You can find it at the library, and through a variety of online mediums including YouTube. It’s worth reading (and it’s short!) Recently I read the prayer of Jabez in the bible. You’ll find it in 1 Chronicles, chapter 4 – but be careful or you may miss it! It’s only two short verses, 9-10; the entire account is less than 100 words. (If you’re reading this, you’ve read over that by now!) The first thing Jabez prayed for was God’s blessing and to “enlarge my territory”. It’s interesting that Jabez was not a warrior, a king, or a priest. He was not any kind of a *prominent leader*. Yet he asked – even begged – for God’s blessing. The word “blessed”, in Hebrew, can mean “to kneel down”, or “to be filled with power”. It’s as if Jabez cries out to God, and God stops, “kneels down” to Jabez, and then fills him with power from above. That power, that blessing, came in the form of enlarging Jabez’s territory. Many bible scholars agree that this isn’t a prayer for material blessing (“give me more land”), but for opportunity. Opportunity to do what? To share the blessings of God with others; to model obedience to God for others; to grow in faithfulness with God; and to encourage others to do the same. There is a reference to a town named Jabez that was home to “clans of scribes” (1 Chron. 2:54-55), and while scripture does not give a direct connection between the town of Jabez and the person Jabez, some bible commentators suggest that Jabez went on in life to establish a place where scribes lived and trained. Scribes studied the Mosaic law and became its teachers and interpreters. Jabez’s “territory” quite possibly influenced many, many generations of Jewish believers long after his time.

What have you been praying for lately? Health? Protection? Provision? A loved one? Your own peace of mind? Have you thought much about your “territory” – those areas over which you exert influence? You might say, “Oh, but I’m not that important.” Don’t discount yourself because you don’t see what you do as being more important than what someone else does! You’ve got territory & influence! It may only be over those in your own house, but you can still influence them. For the past two months most of us have been at home with our families. What kind of influence are you modeling for them? What are your kids learning about your faith, as you rely and depend on God through this season? Many of us have moved to some form of “work from home” platform. Have you thought about the ways you can still exert influence over those in your work community? Our methods of doing ministry have dramatically changed. How can you still reach, connect with, and influence those in your small group “territory”? Have you been able to connect with neighbors or others that you didn’t know well before, but in recent weeks you’ve begun checking in on them?

Most importantly, what about those that you know that don’t know Christ? Through prayer, you can unleash the power of the Holy Spirit into someone’s life without them even knowing! Did you ever stop to think that you may be the only person standing between someone who doesn’t know Christ, and a Christ-less eternity? You have territory. Pray and ask God to stop, kneel down to you, and fill you with power from above. Maybe you need that power just to get through from day-to-day; and maybe you will begin to see just how large your territory really is. Praying God’s power will be poured down into each of your lives!

~ Pastor Brian



## ACTS OF RANDOM KINDNESS KIDS (ARKK)

*“Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.”*

*1 Corinthians 11:1*



I am praying for each of you that you are all staying healthy and safe.

I look forward to seeing all of my ARKKids in the very near future.

**Collection for Isaiah 61 Ministries:** Since we did not get to finish our collection in March, ARKK will be extending its collection of canned vegetables and drink mixes for Isaiah 61 Ministries. Isaiah 61 Ministries is also in need of men’s jeans and children’s clothing in good condition. We will continue this collection until our next ARKK meeting. We will have a box set up for both collections in the gym.

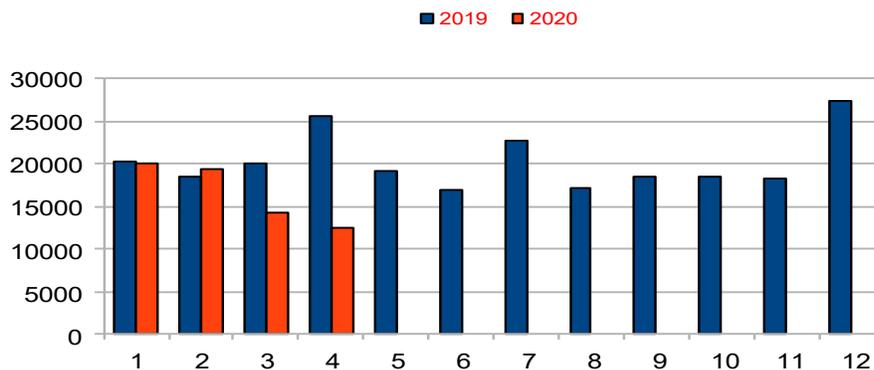
**Egg Cartons:** We are collecting empty egg cartons to donate to the New Hope Ministries in Mechanicsburg. We ask that you collect these at home and bring them in and place them in the designated bin at church.

ARKK is still collecting aluminum soda tabs and glossy magazines for the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Melisa Lucas at 717-713-4244 (cell) or email at [actsofrandom-kindnesskids@gmail.com](mailto:actsofrandom-kindnesskids@gmail.com).

## INCOME CHART

### INCOME



# TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance as of March 31, 2020	\$34,001.30		
<b>DEPOSITS</b>	<b>\$12,546.73</b>		
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Donald C. Snyder ( Salary)	\$1,723.20	Right Now Campaign (Monthly Service)	\$129.99
Donald C. Snyder (Housing)	\$1,192.10	Mirelle Associates (P/R & Tax Service)	\$85.00
Donald C. Snyder (Mileage Reimbursement)	\$205.85	PA Dept of Revenue (SIT)	\$154.51
Brian L. Ramsey (Director of Discipleship)	\$426.15	Internal Revenue Service (FIT,SS,Medi)	\$979.88
Royetta G. Baughman (Secretary)	\$581.19	Send International (Heather/Tony Book)	\$70.00
The Board of Pensions	\$468.41	Avant Ministries (Ruth/Scott Yingling)	\$150.00
ERC (Retired Pastors Insurance)	\$98.23	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$10,582.91</b>
ERC (Conference Tithe)	\$754.00		
USPS (Postage)	\$172.50	Balance as of April 30, 2020	\$35,965.12
Waste Management (Trash Service)	\$117.96		
ChristianBooks.com (Communion Cups)	\$27.26		
Sanidad Divana (Missions)	\$230.00		
Lease Services (Copier Monthly Charge)	\$57.00		
Paw Packs (Benevolent)	\$460.00		
Dollar Tree (Cello Bags)	\$5.30		
ATA Alarm & Communication (Annual Fee)	\$202.00		
Dice Office Equipment (Copier)	\$108.56		
Office Max (CD/DVD Supplies)	\$59.58		
Adams Electric Cooperative	\$250.00		
Doubling Gap Youth Group (Second Quarter)	\$750.00		
Justin Kaufman (Tripod, CD Duplicator)	\$206.68		
Sherry Koppenhaver (April Cleaning Service)	\$420.00		
Century Link	\$147.17		
Saylor's ( Benevolent)	\$50.39		
From Benevolent to Mission	\$300.00		

**Building Fund** **\$ 276,041.16**

(CD \$206,224.87 & Checking \$69,816.29)

**The following is a breakdown of the major funds available within the general treasury:**

<b>Live Nativity Fund</b>	<b>\$ 4,011.69</b>
<b>Mission Fund</b>	<b>\$ 1,692.29</b>
<b>Mission Trip Fund</b>	<b>\$ 9,309.82</b>

## Check these out on



RightNow Media is a free resource our church provides to you. *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!



**“The Heroic Homeschooler”, by Erin Weidemann.** The Heroic Homeschooler is a mentorship series that allows parents to own their influence and lead their children to live, learn, and grow well at home. This series is focused on training and application -- you are not in this alone. You'll absorb the lessons and then learn how to make the principles practical with your child. You can expect to be fully supported as you make your way through this series. There are 6 videos that range from 14 to 25 minutes, and it's a step-by-step process for setting up a school-at-home environment. For those who are considering homeschooling your own children, or who want to prepare for having to do “school at home” again, this is a *fantastic series* that offers practical guidance and suggestions!



**“The Real God” by Chip Ingram.** Join Chip Ingram in this multi-*faceted family devotional-style study* of seven attributes of God! Each of the 7 session has a 2-3minute family devotion video, which can be watched together. Plus, an easy-to-follow discussion guide offers discussion questions, extra verses for study, a short memory verse for kids (and adults!), AND suggestions to reflect on the video throughout the day or week through texts, dinner conversations, and car rides! It's a perfect tool for a family devotional time – especially for those who are beginning! For adults who want to go deeper, there are longer teaching videos that correspond



**“Crossing the Waters”, by Leslie Leyland Fields.** In this 6-part series, Leslie Leyland Fields, author, speaker, and seasoned Alaskan fisherwoman, takes us on a journey through the life of Christ. She leads us across the waters of time and culture out onto the Sea of Galilee, through a rugged season of commercial fishing with her family in Alaska, and through the waters of the New Testament beside the ragtag fishermen disciples. Her own story and her fresh insights will challenge our understanding of Jesus and what it means to “Come, follow me.” Videos are between 10-15 minutes, and there are FREE downloadable handouts and leaders' guide. The Leader's Guide contains over 50 pages of in-depth narrative teaching with direction for group discussion and helpful answers to biblical questions. It moves beyond knowledge to the real-life application of God's Word in either personal or group study. Plus, if you choose to lead a small group through this study, Leslie provides a training post to help you get started (accessible through RNM). If you're looking for a way to try something new – a new personal study, or invite some friends to start through this study together – this is a GREAT video series for you to check out!

## Parents' Corner

### June 2020

# 3 Crazy Myths People Believe About Family Devotions

By Aaron Apodaca

What first comes to mind when you read these 2 words: family devotions? Reluctance or intrigue? Frustration or encouragement? Guilt or joy? Howard Hendricks is credited with saying "It is a sin to bore people with the Gospel." If you're like most busy Christian dads and moms today, the thought of *personal* devotions is challenging but less intimidating than *family* devotions.

Many parents feel they *should* have a consistent time of strengthening their family spiritually, of bringing the Bible into their everyday family life, but often they just don't know where to begin or how to continue with it. Questions emerge: Am I supposed to *preach* or *teach* the Bible at home? What if I'm uncomfortable praying out loud? How can we keep family devos from becoming boring? Often the biggest roadblocks in the way of a parent initiating a meaningful devotional time at home is what he or she *assumes* about this practice. In fact, there are some common misconceptions about family devotions that can keep us from even trying. We call these the Family Devo Myths.

**Myth 1: Family devotions have to be led just like a church service.** Says who? Those notions are more *traditional* than they are *biblical*. Jesus certainly was not bound by any rigid structures or orders of worship. He incorporated an array of diverse object lessons and teaching tools to inspire and equip the Twelve as he trained them. Jesus generally preferred a parable to a podium, a conversation to a lecture, and a short story to a full sermon. And He used questions, lots of questions — 15 in the Sermon on the Mount alone. Parents can do the same. The methods for instructing your family in Christ are quite simple, and there are multitudes from which to choose.

**Myth 2: Dad must always lead the devotional time.** After all, isn't that the only way to be a "spiritual leader" in your home? Not necessarily. Perhaps more important is a dad who *makes sure* every week that a devotional time takes place and that it is led—whether by him or his wife. There may be weeks in which a husband or wife is simply overloaded at work. In those instances, we urge husbands *and* wives to ask your spouse to lead the family devotions. In many cases, you may choose to rotate weeks as a couple to share that responsibility.

**Myth 3: Everybody has to sit still and be quiet for family devotions to be really effective.** *Still* and *quiet* are not synonymous with *toddlers* or *teenagers*—at least not in our home! Toddlers, for example, not only want to engage everyone around them conversationally, but they also want to touch and experience life in its many forms. The best learning experiences for children happen when they are not only

inspired to consider truth cognitively but also challenged to demonstrate and experience it physically. There was actually a time in the gospels when the disciples wanted the children around Jesus to “keep their seats” and “remember their place.” Apparently, the kids were all clamoring to get close enough to touch Jesus and perhaps even sit on His lap. The disciples reacted to their “childish behavior” and saw it as inappropriate and bothersome. Jesus, in contrast, saw it as an irresistible invitation to influence their young lives and shape their souls. In the face of the stiff and restrictive behavior of the “more grown-up” disciples, Jesus corrected them. He insisted, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these” (Mark 10:14 NIV). Then Jesus engaged the children wholeheartedly: “And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them” (v. 16 NIV).

**When reading isn't working** The first time we ever sat down with our firstborn 2-year-old to share in family devotions, I (Robert) was determined that we would start at the beginning. We would begin with Genesis 1:1 and read through the Bible together. After all, I was the dad, the spiritual leader of the home, right? I had to take charge and lead the way for family devotions!

Well—it didn't quite go that way that day. There I was, sitting at the kitchen table ... just me, my wife, Pamela, my beautiful little daughter, and my Bible. What else did we need? I had reasoned that if we just read the passages “dramatically enough,” being really excited, expressive, and motivated, then Kristin, our daughter, would pay attention and eventually start comprehending it. My wife had her doubts about my plan of attack. Still, I plowed ahead. I had a lot to learn. Boy, did I have a lot to learn.

Between Kristin's oblivious sound effects and my frustrated instructions—“Listen to Dad!” “Pay attention!” “Don't interrupt!”—the tension escalated. We didn't quite have family devotions—we had something more like our family *emotions*! Within 5 minutes I felt like a complete failure at leading devos and was ready to throw in the towel and watch *Jeopardy* instead. We soon discovered that making family devos more effective by simply *reading* differently was yet another myth.

**Do this with family devotions instead.** In order to get our little girl involved and interested in family devotions, we would have to do much more than merely engage her ears. She needed the Word to be more than the read-out-loud print on a page. We needed to allow it to be demonstrated, to breathe, to talk, to walk, to live in front of her. So we started to act out stories in the Bible. We simply dramatized them, casting our kids as the characters. As the kids grew, they were able to play different parts in these little family devotion dramas. As it turned out, our daughter needed us to not just *read* the passage but *wear* it. Her eager eyes, inquisitive mind, and moldable spirit needed something more than Dad or Mom's mere creative intonations. In a fresh way, the Word came alive for our family.

# JUNE 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
	1 Stephen & Amy Newswanger <b>Women's Meeting</b>	2 Alyssa Jones Jeanette Morris Sharon Barrick	3 Ayla Davis <b>7:00 PM Bible Study</b>	4 Eileen Bear Logan Logan Paul Stouffer <b>Mission Meeting</b>	5	6																																																	
7 Elaine Mowery	8 <b>Council Meeting</b>	9 Camryn Mountz Casey Minnich Mitchell Clouse <b>Men's Bible Study</b>	10 Jeffrey Galbraith <b>7:00 PM Bible Study</b>	11 Connie Cornman Helen Negley Ian Hoover	12 Michael & Melisa Lucas	13																																																	
14 John & Janet Whisler Lloyd B Bier <b>Graduate Recognition</b>	15 Mike & Nicole Ginter	16 George & Dawn Agar	17 Tom & Sharon Barrick Terry Shepler 7:00 PM Bible Study	18	19 Eleanor Dundas Carl & Royetta Baughman David & Susan Jardine	20 Eli Reeder Lorrie Henneman																																																	
21 Christian Ruff Sam & Betty Clouse <b>Father's Day</b>	22 Chris Metzger	23 Cliff & Connie Cornman <b>Men's Bible Study</b>	24 Richard & Joyce Hockensmith 7:00 PM Bible Study	25 Mike & Jenn Bolze	26 Susan Jardine	27 Jeremiah Mordan Jr.																																																	
28 Kelly Bier	29 Robert & Shirley Inman <b>EMT Meeting</b>	30 Ryan & Casey Minnich	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">July 2020</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				July 2020							S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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May 2020

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