



Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church (USA)

PASTOR'S PEN

Pastor Alan Wright tells the story of his friend's brother who worked in a fancy Atlanta restaurant. One night a single man was seated at the waiter's table. The man was well dressed and had an appearance of affluence, so the waiter made sure to provide impeccable service. (Note—I'm not sure why the appearance of this man would dictate how the server acted, but that's another message.) The customer's water glass was never below half full. The bread plate always had two pats of butter. The food was piping hot. You get the picture. The waiter expected he would get a high tip, for this exquisite meal and first-class service.

When the man finished his meal, he patted his mouth clean, pushed away from the table, and left the restaurant. He walked out. There was no payment for the meal and no tip. Aghast, the furious waiter ran outside to catch the customer as he grabbed his collar and began to shake a tip out of him. "I gave you perfect service, I served you an excellent meal. And I can't believe you have the audacity to walk out without so much as leaving me a tip. I demand that you give me what I deserve!"

The customer then interrupted the waiter: "Hold on a minute mister. Let go of me. Didn't your manager tell you? I did leave you a tip and I'm good for the bill. You see, I own this restaurant, and I came tonight just to see how things are going. You're right. The food was delicious and your service was superb. If you find the manager, you will discover that I left you a \$100 tip. Keep up the good work, son". Gulp.

Have you ever treated God that way? I know I have.

You have tried to serve God faithfully, and you want to walk in the way of Jesus. Then a crisis arrives, or you face a significant hurdle or disappointment, and your trust in God is put to the test.

Given the words in Scripture, and given my hunch about life, I am guessing trust is one thing God appreciates in us. If we are parents we know how much trust our children put in us. Jesus has words that both trouble me and also provide me a promise: "If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him." (Matthew 7:11)

The Bible tells us that God wants our trust. "Trust in the Lord with all of your heart and lean not on your own understanding." (Proverbs 3:5) "Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord is the Rock eternal." (Isaiah 26:4) "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me." (John 14:1)

We are created for trust. We also know how essential trust is in all of our relationships, with one another and with God. The two realities which make trust difficult are that life can be difficult and we never know the future. If life were always peaches and cream, and if we could see the future before it arrived, trust would be easy. But then I guess it would not be the deep trust which we hear about in God's word. If you could love your spouse or a good friend because they never caused you pain, it would not be a love that costs very much.

As we live through these uncertain days of a country shut down, and the sorrow of deaths in this country approaching 60,000, our very trust in God is put to the test. It is times like these which raise the issue of theodicy: How can a loving God allow suffering?

I cannot offer any simple response in this brief message. But I do point us to Jesus who experienced a painful death and a life filled with disappointment. Those hours in the garden before he was arrested, show us a Savior who can empathize with whatever sorrow we face. In Jesus' words from Matthew 7:11, I think he is telling us, in a very blunt manner: "Our children trust us, more than we trust God". It ought to be the other way around. God does not break promises, but sinners that we are, we mess up often.

When life gets difficult, that's when our trust that God will never abandon us, is so vital. God's promises can be trusted, on light-filled days, and on days of darkness when we are trying to find our way through the fog. It's ok in those moments of fear and loneliness to pray to God: "Where are you, Lord? Help me to trust you, please. But God, you promised." God wants us to enter prayer in honesty. The Psalms are filled with prayers of lament, pleading, sadness, anger...and with glad hearts filled with praise and thanksgiving. At the heart of prayer is trust. It anchors our faith.

As this new month begins, we pray for the end of this sad pandemic. We continue to lift up people overwhelmed by grief. We pray for persons who have lost their jobs, and whose incomes are reduced. And we pray for all who are living with risk in the health care field, and in public jobs that might expose them to the Covid-19 virus. In 1918 when the Spanish flu broke out, though its roots were not in Spain, orders were given in October for isolation and the wearing of masks. Improvement came, but then a second wave of infections began in San Francisco. Masks were required but many people objected, including ministers who wanted their people to meet. A second wave of deaths took place. I think of that history as we now witness some states allowing bowling alleys, salons, and tattoo parlors to open. May the reopening of our country, state by state, take place in a wise manner. We are eager to see what will happen in our community and state.

I can tell you that the leaders of your church will be very cautious as we look to reopening in the coming weeks. Deep cleaning will continue. Our meals together, at the Lords Table, and in the Upper Room, will only happen if we can ensure safety. And after a conversation with Music Director Farrell, it was agreed, the choir will not begin its work until the fall, God willing. We will make sure the sanctuary you enter, and the halls you walk, are spotless. And we must give thought to proper social distancing.

We press on, TRUSTING that God leads us and the Spirit is behind us, within us, and in our community! The love of Jesus will never fail! This we believe. All thanks be to God.

Pastor Keith

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY



I wanted to thank everyone for your kind words, gifts, and decorations! Though the world has been turned on its head, you took the time to make me feel appreciated. Walking into a room filled with balloons, streamers, and presents was a heartwarming surprise, but it didn't end there. I also received a beautiful bouquet delivered to my home office! I cannot thank you all enough for the smile merely thinking about that day creates. -Trista



SPOTTED AROUND JOPPATOWNE



Clay is incredibly diligent in his duties as the church's Facility Committee Manager. He keeps our meetings pointed and organized, and is an expert on following up and distributing tasks to those best suited for the job. He also meticulously cares for the fountain by cleaning it and keeping the water levels just right. In fact, Clay takes such pride in how the front of the building looks, that I can only assume he thought it could all use some suds! Our beautiful fountain has produced roaming clouds of bubbles and bright smiles all April long!

COFFEE HOUR

COFFEE HOUR - Donations are always appreciated! Paper products, plates, napkins, disposable utensils and of course coffee! We love coffee; we drink it all year long, be it regular, decaf, whatever. It is all appreciated!

Speaking of "coffee hour" stay tuned for updates, ideas and suggestions due to the coronavirus...patience is a virtue.



MAY 2020

We will submit worship videos every Wednesday and Sunday,
posted to Facebook and You Tube.

Please Like, Subscribe, and Join Good Shepherd at:

www.Facebook.com/GoodShepherdPC/

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEq4I2kg5yjEcBRCZjAdMEw>

REQUESTS FOR OUR BUSY PRAYER WARRIORS



Kathy's mother-in-law Rose Young, the late Vincent Lioni & his family, Kathy's brother-in-law Philip Young & family, Kate, Bobby & their young twins, Pat Howe's sister Ginny, Curt Petty & his late friend, Joe & family, Mary Lou Aims & her medical team, Kathy Young, Suzy Phillip's friends Kathy & Ron Bates, Keith Roberts, Bud Baranowski's family friend Florence Wells & Dr. Garg, Katherine Howe & family, Nancy McCaslin, Dr. Whiteford, Nick Warfield, Mike Bohns' mom & family, Winifred Miller, Helen Cunion, Carla Cathcart's friends Clarence & Sue Broadwater & their family, Di Ciccotelli, The 17 Jesuit priests in Philadelphia to include: Frank Haig, Michael Hricko, and Father Joseph Ritzman, Evelyn Galvin & her family, Len Keller, Marcie Jackson's daughter-in-law's grandfather, Trista's friend Denise & Denise's mother-in-law Kitty, and Cathy Bott's mother Mary Swan.

If you or someone you know has a need and you would like to submit a prayer request, please reach out to our prayer team at: gsprayers@juno.com

MAY DATES TO CELEBRATE!

We would like to recognize this month's
important dates in the lives of our members

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

2 Vickie Maas

3

Nancy McCaslin

Kathy Young

7 Winnifred Jones

11 Jenna Shunk

13 Aiden Shunk

24 Jon Andrews

29 Ruth Wagener

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Chris and Mike Bohns

May 3, 1987

Suzy & Carl Phillips

May 24, 1975



The Deacons would like the church family to know your important day! If we do not have yours in our file, please notify Ellie Pfoutz, 410-679-4813.



HUMOR IN CHURCH BULLETINS

It was Will Rogers who once said, "If your day ends and you haven't laughed once, you haven't lived." That may not have been his exact words but they are the best I can remember just now. Needless to say, these are not days of much laughing. As of this writing there have been 50,000 deaths in the US. attributed to the virus. Not much to laugh about there.

I once heard an old-time preacher, many years ago, remark that even through difficult and sometimes disastrous situations God has a way of tickling our funny bones, not to make light of something but to relieve the pressure of the moment. If there is any consequence to the times we are living in, it's that we have more than enough time to clean out our "clutter" especially the clutter of my messy desk downstairs. While doing just that, I struck, Gold! And I want to share my treasure with you.

In all those papers was a collection of bloopers, snafu's, gaffs and just ordinary mistakes that made it into the Sunday morning worship church bulletin. They were common mistakes that *every* Church Secretary, Pastor, Proofreader or any other person involved with bringing a church bulletin together has made, unknowingly. I have categorized these into special areas that affect specific persons/groups. For instance Pastor, Secretary, Choir, Ladies Groups, other church services, etc. I have taken the liberty of entitling this:

Humor in Church Bulletins

Sermons (not many churches have a morning and an evening service any longer, this one did)

Morning Service "Jesus Walks on the Water"

Evening Service "Searching for Jesus"

Available Services



- For those who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- Don't let worry ruin your life. Let the church help (on outdoor electric board)
- Announcement for a Prayer and Fasting conference: The cost for attending the Fast and Prayer conference includes meals (think about that one)

Pastors

- The Rector will preach his farewell message after which the choir will sing 'Break forth into Joy
- Barbara M. remains in the hospital. She needs additional surgery. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor _____ sermons.

Ladies Groups

- The ladies of the church have cast-off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things you no longer want. Don't forget to bring your husbands.

Choir

- Next Thurs there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get. (I have seen this one myself).
- Eight new robes are needed due to addition of new members and the deterioration of some older ones.

The Famous Potluck Dinner

Potluck supper will be on Sun at 5:00 pm. Prayer and medication to follow.

Well, there you have it. There are many more but chose these few for you to enjoy. A final thought; if we come across a slip-up in our bulletin will we think it's an honest to goodness goof or did Trista or Brother Keith slip it in purposely just to see if we are paying attention?



Bob Baar – SHALOME, until we meet again!

BIBLICAL JEOPARDY & MORE

I happened across this neat website full of games with biblical themes. *You do not have to sign up for anything and it is all free!*

A family favorite quickly became Biblical Jeopardy! We spent some time "testing" it for the YARN over the weekend: <https://www.christianity.com/trivia/jeopardy/>

Hopefully you will find these games just as entertaining as I did! -Trista

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

May 4-8th is teacher appreciation week! I am honored to work with these professionals and wish I could celebrate them every day. They deserve all we have planned for this special week and more, all year long. Most of them are still working through this crazy time, and we miss the ones who are not. Enjoy learning more about them and thank them for their hard work next time you see them!



Kylie Cowan joined GSCC in July 2019. She graduated from North Harford High School and hopes to complete her associate degree in Early Childhood Education/Special Education. She has the 90-hour preschool certification and the 45-hour infant toddler certification. She welcomed her son in April 2020. Kylie loves teaching little children and creating relationships with their families.



Rachel Williams joined GSCC in June 2019. She earned her associate degree from HCC in Early Childhood Education/Special Education. She is currently attending TUNE (Towson University's satellite location in Harford County) to complete her bachelor's degree in the same field. Rachel has worked in childcare since 2014 with infants through school age. Education and a love for learning has played an essential role in her life and she hopes to share that love with the children in her classroom.



Charnika Dyson joined GSCC in April 2019. She has worked in childcare since 2017, starting with Celebree Schools. Not only is Charnika an early education teacher, but she teaches dance and cheer and is a professional dancer and choreographer. She could not imagine her life without the constant influence of "jovial tiny humans" she is surrounded by daily. She looks forward to building strong, lasting relationships with the children and their families.



Rebecca Snyder joined GSCC in 2011. She attended HCC and has the 90-hour preschool certification and the 45-hour infant/toddler certification. She has two children, Anthony (2009) and Brianna (2015) and they enjoy reading books and creating art together. Rebecca loves helping the children in her class learn about and explore new things!



Brittany Frey joined GSCC in 2010. She graduated from Aberdeen High and is pursuing a degree in Education and History. She has the 90-hour preschool certification, the 45-hour infant/toddler certification, and the 45-hour school age certification. Brittany has a daughter Arianna (2009) and son Dakota (2020), and two stepsons (Riley and Colton). She looks forward to working with the children and families at GSCC.



Pat Bavaro joined GSCC in 2009. She graduated from Kenwood High in 1972 and is a retired secretary who served 34 years in Baltimore City. Pat has two adult children and a granddaughter and is taking care of her mother in her home. Pat works part time with the 2s and 3s and she enjoys watching the children grow and move on to succeed throughout their schooling. Kids often come back to see Ms. Pat when they are much older.





TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK



Jen Doane joined GSCC in 2008. Prior to that she worked for six years in Harford County Public Schools with the autism program as a para-educator. She attended HCC for Early Childhood Education. Jen is married and has two children, a son who is a writer, and a daughter who is a hair stylist.



Chrissy Davis first joined GSCC in 2003, left in 2004 and came back in 2007. Chrissy graduated from Joppatowne High School. She has the 90-hour preschool certification, the 45-hour infant/toddler certification, and the 45-hour school age certification. Chrissy is married and has two children (Brad and Danny). Chrissy works with our PK kids. She loves seeing the kids grow, accomplish their goals, and overcome obstacles. She finds it a blessing to be a part of the children's lives.



Jamiara Lewis joined GSCC in July 2019. She graduated from Overlea High School and is pursuing a degree in Early Childhood Education. She has worked in childcare since 2010. She has the 90-hour preschool certification and 45-hour infant/toddler certification, and the 45-hour school age certification. She enjoys working with all age groups of children and finds joy in seeing them excel and grow. She believes that every child is unique in their own special way. Aside from teaching, Jamiara also enjoys singing and playing drums.

NAME THAT HYMN!

Here are some clues to help you identify hymns in our hymnal, Glory to God.

Many of you reading this will be able to identify most of these. I did include one that is very easy and one that may be a challenge. Have fun and even try to sing a verse or refrain from memory.

1. This is a hymn of praise to God for all the "great things He has done."
2. Can you name a hymn that is an invitation to the Lord's Supper? You get bonus points for naming more than one hymn that is an invitation to participate in the Lord's Supper.
3. Name an African-American spiritual that asks God to come by here. It is also sung at many church camps, especially around a campfire.
4. Can you name a hymn that paraphrases Psalm 23? You can earn bonus points for naming Marty Haugen's hymn that includes a refrain.
5. This hymn to the Triune God proclaims God's mercy and might and is often sung on Trinity Sunday. Many church hymnals, including ours, has this as the first hymn in the book.
6. This hymn of trust and assurance may make you want to join in praising the Savior "all the day long."
7. This hymn is known and loved by many of God's children, young and old. It tells a simple truth that is found in the Bible.
8. This popular hymn gives praise to God for His grace and salvation. It could easily be located in the Lost and Found section of the Praise Department.
9. This hymn also praises God for his mercy and for being a faithful provider of all the things we need every day.
10. This hymn asks for God's blessing on all of us until we can gather and greet each other again.

The answers to the clues above can be found on the last page of the Yarn.
Thank you Bob and Delores Baar!

GOOD SHEPHERD WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

May 2020 Activities Dates:

Thursday, May 14 10:00 AM:

Circle Bible Study Lesson 9 – **Postponed** until Fall

Use this time to read these lessons and in the Fall we can have some good discussions on these interesting topics of giving false witness and coveting.

I have been making cards and card kits for our workshop while at home. Ellie Pfoutz has been cutting the cards for me to use. I left a bag of card kits at Delores Barr's door for her to assemble at her request. THANKS ladies!

I am thankful to be able to work on this project while isolated at home. What great therapy! If we keep staying at home, I should have enough cards and kits for the next 3 years!

There had also been a **Women's Association Board Meeting** scheduled for **Thursday, May 7, 2020. Postponed.**

And who knows when we will get to have our Annual Women's Association Picnic?

Oh, how I miss each of you!

Blessings and Love,

Jane

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## GSPC WOMEN'S CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY

**Thursday, MAY 14**

**POSTPONED**

**Due to the nature and importance of this study, it is felt that it is important for all the lessons to be given the same attention. Therefore, we are planning to present Lessons 8 and Lesson 9 in September and October.**

**If circumstances do not permit this, the Lessons will be presented at the earliest time permitted this coming Fall. We do urge you to read these Lessons while in isolation. There will be no study guide for Lesson 9.**

**Jane and Joan dearly miss being together with you for spiritual growth through these lessons. We hope that the study guide has been helpful. In the meantime, take care, stay well and God bless. Jane and Joan**



## NAME THAT HYMN ANSWERS

1. To God be the Glory #634
2. Come to the Table of Grace #507, Come to the Table #508 (2. Continued) All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly #509 Come, Share the Lord #510 Come, Behold the Feast of Heaven #511 The Bread and the Wine are Here
3. Kum ba Yah #472
4. The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want #801, The King of Love My Shepherd Is #802, My Shepherd Will Supply My Need #803 and Shepherd Me, O God #473
5. Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty #1
6. Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine #839
7. Jesus Loves Me #188
8. Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound #649
9. Great is Thy Faithfulness #39
10. God be with You Till We Meet Again #542

How many were you able to answer? Did you get the extra credit for Question #2?