Spirit pouring out

The church has accepted the gift of a 4’ x 4’ painting of Jesus pouring water into a foot washing basin. The artist has provided this insight into the painting:

“Spirit pouring out”. The artist paints the picture. The picture tells the story. Is it the figure in the robe you see, the vessel which has the flow of water, or the basin? Then, it might be reaching beyond. It’s what happens when we become open to what God is trying to have us surrender to. Yes, I am a vessel to which I can only claim that which glorifies God and is pleasing to Him. Foot washing is a humbling and spiritual shared opportunity with our brothers and sisters. Some call me a dreamer and artist, but I believe the Holy Spirit intercedes in giving me paintings that transcend a bridge between. This has inspired me to ponder the talent God has given me.

After Jesus finished washing the feet of his disciples he said to them, “Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.” (John 13:14-16)

Thank you to Nancy Compton for the beautiful painting entitled, “Spirit pouring out” that she painted for us. She is also making 14” x 14” prints of the painting available for purchase. Each print is signed, dated, and numbered. The price of each print is $40 and Nancy is giving the proceeds from the sale of the prints to help pay the balance of the cost of the elevator. Please see Connie Moyer to purchase prints.
From the Pastor's Desk

March 2020

What is happening to the church today? Why are so many small churches struggling or dying? How does the church need to respond to the culture and persons around us? These are questions we asked at our Church Board Retreat this January. Things have changed. The church will never be like it was before.

Galen Hackman will be speaking at our congregation for four sessions on Sunday April 19, and 26. We will have a combined Sunday School class in the Sanctuary each of these Sundays. Galen will also be speaking in the worship hour each Sunday.

On April 19 the first session will be on WHAT THE CHURCH HAS BECOME in our culture today. We will look at the marginalization of the church in society. We will look at new ways of thinking about our mission in this culture.

In the worship hour we will look at WHAT ARE THE MISCONCEPTIONS THAT WE HAVE ABOUT THE CHURCH TODAY. We will look at how the church can come back to its full potential.

On April 26 the first session will be THE CHURCH IN MISSION. The theme is what should the church be doing in order to be effective today.

In the worship hour we will look at BEING A SENT PEOPLE. We will look at what does it mean to go out into the world and be effective as believers. We will look at how each member can be in mission for Christ.

Please be in prayer for these learning experiences. Pray that God will move us in his direction as we look forward to new guidance for our future. Please come with open hearts and minds.

Please bring along friends. I am looking forward to this time together.

Pastor Steve
TEAM NEWS

Missions Team

Lenten Food Collection – East Sunday in Lent, starting March 1st, each family is asked to bring a food item to be given to a food bank. Please do not bring outdated or soon-to-be outdated items. There will be a box on the table in the narthex in which to put the items. Thanks to Joan Lobb for this idea! If you have questions please contact a member of the Missions Team.

- March 1 — Canned soup and/or canned fruit
- March 8 — Canned meats (tuna, chicken, turkey)
- March 15 — Boxes of pasta (any kind)
- March 22 — Canned vegetables, canned potatoes
- March 29 — Canned juices, boxed juices, or boxes of juice packs

SAVE THE DATE

MAY 16  9 am - 1 pm

East Cocalico Church of the Brethren Craft/Flea Market

Rent a space ($10) to sell items you no longer need. Tables will be available if needed. Happy dog kettle and grill will be there to sell food, so tell your family and friends. You need not be an attendee of the church to rent a space.

Any questions see a member of the Mission Team or call 717-575-6392.
TEAM NEWS

Ministry and Music

During the month of March, the clocks on the wall, (and elsewhere), are supposed to leap ahead by one hour, set to take place at midnight on March 8. Church services are to take place as usual, at 10:30 am, so, be there, or be square!

In other news, the church will be holding our annual Lenten Program, scheduled on three successive Wednesdays, March 11, March 18, and March 25. On these respective dates, the program will be preceded by a meal at 6:00 pm, and followed by the program at 7:00 pm. Pastor Steve Hess will be presenting "Aging Gracefully," on the dates just mentioned.

Christian Education

Please join us Saturday, April 11 at 10:00 am for our Easter Egg Hunt. Come search our grounds for some candy filled eggs and a brief book reading for the children. The best thing about our egg hunt is if the weather is bad, we hide the eggs inside!. Eggciting Fun for ages 1- 6th grade. We hope to see you and your friends there!

Save the Date: Saturday, June 6
Event: Our first Community Games in the Grove
Rain Date: Saturday, June 13

More details to come in our next newsletter. You definitely won't want to miss this one, so be sure to check back for more info!

Fellowship

March 14 from 6 pm to 8 pm we will be having a game night. Please bring a game to play and a snack to share. Invite your family and friends for this fun evening.

March 22 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm is the next fellowship meal following the morning worship service. Bring your favorite dish to share.

May 5 is the date for the next Fellowship Team meeting. This will be held at 6:30 pm at the church.

Ladies, Save the date! May 9 is our Mother's Day Luncheon. The doors will open at 11:30 am and lunch will be served at 12 noon. We invite all Mothers and daughters of the church. You are invited even if you are not a mother as you as a daughter. Please invite family and friends to join you. There will be either a speaker or a craft activity. A sign up sheet will be posted in the narthex closer to the date.
Youth

On Saturday, March 7 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm the youth group will be touring the Biblical Tabernacle Reproduction at Mennonite Information Center in Lancaster followed by lunch at CiCi's Pizza Buffet. Please rsvp to Roseauna by March 1, 2020.

Saturday, April 4 from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm is Youth Night at Roseauna’s house. Dinner will be provided. Please rsvp to Roseauna by March 29, 2020.

Other Important Dates

Love feast and communion will be held on April 9 at 6:30 pm. Please plan to join our church family for this meaningful experience.

Randy Roth, Certified First Aid Instructor, will be giving a FREE Basic First Aid class for anyone who is interested. This will also be a refresher for the AED. The date is March 19 from 6:30—8:30 pm here at the church.

The Widow’s Sharing Group will resume our lunches on Monday, April 6 at 12 noon at Gus’s Restaurant. All widow are welcome to attend. There will be a surprise guest! Sign up in the narthex as we get closer to the date. Please see Carol Buohl if you have any questions.

Palm Sunday and Easter

April 5 is Palm Sunday. Easter Sunday is April 12. Come join our service at 10:30 am to celebrate this wonderful time of the year. There will be a Living Cross on both Sundays.
Camp Swatara News

Camp Swatara's Spring Weekend Camp will be held March 27 to 29 for children in grades 1 through 8. Come get a taste of camp. Grow in your faith, make new friends, learn about nature, enjoy camp music and much more. The cost is $90 per camper. Register online (www.CampSwatara.org) by March 6th to ensure your spot!

Trail Mix & Maintenance is scheduled for April 25. What a combo! Join us for a day of serving on the Camp trails and enjoying a different type of trail mix at each trail intersection. Tools will be provided. RSVP online (Program@CampSwatara.org) or call 717-933-8510 ext. 104.

Spring into Swatara on April 26 from 2:00pm to 5:00pm. Tour the camp and meet the staff. Activities include horseback riding, candle making, a blacksmithing demonstration, nature activities, canoeing, mini golf, face painting, crafts, balloon art and more! RSVP by April 16 at www.CampSwatara.org or call 717-933-8510. The rain date for this event is May 10.

Attention bird watching enthusiasts! Camp Swatara is organizing a birding weekend in Union County May 8 to 10. This tour is timed with the peak of songbird migration north. For more details and to register go to www.CampSwatara.org or call 717-933-8510.

Reservations are now open for The Family Campground which opens for the season on April 1. Tent sites, cabins, and sites with sewer, electric and water are available. Amenities include a splash pad, boating, fishing, swimming pool, hiking trails, mini golf, bike track, and much more. Contact the family camp at www.campswatara.org/familycamp or call 717-933-5244.

Free camping is available April 3 to 5 for those helping with the camp’s opening work weekend on April 4th beginning at 8:00 am. Donuts and lunch will be provided during work day. RSVP at familycamp@campswatara.org

Camp Swatara needs volunteers to help in the kitchen with school groups and large retreat groups during April and May. Experience is not necessary and individuals will be trained on any tasks they are asked to perform. Please check your schedule and see if you could block out just a few hours to help. Individuals can sign up for a four hour shift or as many shifts as they choose based on their own schedule. The shifts are 8:00am to noon, 1:00pm to 5:00pm and 4:00pm to 8:00pm. Help is needed April 29 through May 22 (excluding May 9 and 10) and May 28 and 29. Please contact Chef Bob by calling 717-933-8510 ext. 106 or email him at rbiddle@campswatara.org.
Vision statement vision.
We are called to be Christ-centered servants. We seek to share God's love by creating a caring atmosphere that reaches into our community. We are committed to extend the saving grace of Jesus Christ by providing Biblically-based experiences and fellowship opportunities for families and individuals of all ages. We endeavor to equip believers for ministry, mission and evangelism.

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