

# *Bibleway Bulletin*

*May*  *2021*

## *To The Pastors' Point*

BY PASTOR MITCH

### **KOINONIA OR THE GATHERING**

The past year has taken its toll on church or ministry gatherings everywhere. In defiance, or in denial, the Body of Christ has had to deal with the effects of a pandemic, the likes of which the world has not seen or known since around 1918. The Spanish Flu has now given way to what is called COVID-19.

For many churches, attendance has fallen off, tithe and offering has dropped, and the familiar face-to-face meetings are almost nonexistent in a lot of cities and towns. Churches have been challenged to either shut down, scale back activities, or find new ways to “publish” or promote the Gospel.

Remember when Jesus said, “Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature” (Matthew 28:19-20). Did He factor in the willingness and perseverance of the committed believers to fulfill this commission during such challenging times in which we find ourselves?

What about the call for believers not to forsake the assembling of themselves together (Hebrews 10:25)? That’s where the old saying, “where there is a will, there is a way” takes on a new meaning. No pandemic lasts forever, and it seems that we now have light at the end of the tunnel.

My mind goes to the word “koinonia” which implies the fellowshiping of believers, the gathering. The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines it as: “1. The Christian fellowship or body of believers. 2. Intimate spiritual communion and participative sharing in a common religious commitment and spiritual community.”

I have to give kudos and thanks to our church family and partners who have pushed through a lot to help support the church through prayer, attendance, if only on-line through Zoom worship and Bible study, through sending and dropping off tithe and offerings. THANK YOU—THANK YOU—THANK YOU.

Now that the weather is changing for the better, opportunities for in-person, social distancing in our church are increasing with the onslaught of more people getting vaccinations. But we are planning more outdoor services starting sometime in May and hopefully monthly for God’s people to gather with church chairs, their own lawn chairs, or sitting in cars, to enable us to assemble and fellowship regularly again.

BY PASTOR QUANDRA

### **A DAILY MEMORIAL (Lest We Forget, Again!)**

In April’s bulletin, the “Lest We Forget” article stressed the need for us to remember the sacrifices that God and Jesus made for our salvation. This month, I’d like to stress the need for all believers and non-believers to remember the sacrifices that so many men and women have made to save us and our country. One of the problems that God had with His chosen people, Israel, was their inability to remember what He’d done for them. After almost every show of His power in battle or deliverance from multiple captivities, He instructed them to build an altar or place stones of remembrance there. He wanted them, their children, and their children’s children not to forget Him. (Read Joshua 4:19, I Samuel 7:12, Genesis 9: 12-16, Exodus 12:13-14.) Columnist, Marcus Thuillier, said that history repeats itself, as memory fades. He stated that four generations are needed to pass, in order for similar events to begin to reoccur; and, that American society is dangerously close to mirroring events of a century ago. But sadly enough, it doesn’t take four generations before we forget the tragedies of the past: slavery, the holocaust, war after war, 911, etc.

Monuments and statues have been erected all over the world to help us remember, and yet we forget what the statue stand for. A stone of remembrance was designed by British architect Sir Edwin Lutyens to commemorate the deaths of World War I, and was used in cemeteries that contained 1000 or more graves.

(Cont’d Pg.2)

# Ministry Memoranda

“What’s Going on Around the Church?”



Extra, Extra, read all about it. If you have an idea for or comment about the monthly **BIBLEWAY BULLETIN**, a praise report, a quaint story or quote, submit it to Pastor Quandra at [g.nickols@yahoo.com](mailto:g.nickols@yahoo.com), at least a week before the end of the month.

**Membership Directory** has been updated and will be distributed on Sundays (to members ONLY), or you can make arrangements to receive a copy from Pastor Q. Please do not lose it or share your copy with anyone else.

**Outside Service(s)**. We hope you plan to join us on May 16<sup>th</sup> for our first outside service, weather permitting. We encourage you to invite others. The service begins at 10:45a, but you should plan to arrive at least 20-30 minute ahead of time to get your seat on the grassy area across the street from the church, to set up your own lawn chair, or to get a good parking space if you decide to stay in or near your car. Also, we will need help breaking everything down and returning it inside the building. If you’d like to help, please contact Elder Larry (Pete) Rowe for instructions. We will still follow CDC COVID guidelines; wear your masks and remain socially distanced.



## **NEED A REASON TO SMILE?**

Smiling makes you attractive	Smiling changes your mood	Smiling is contagious
Smiling boosts your immune system	Smiling relieves stress	Smiling helps you stay positive
Smiling lowers your blood pressure	Smiling releases endorphins, natural pain killers and serotonin	
Smiling lifts the face and make you look younger		Smiling uses less muscles than frowning

## **BIBLE PUZZLE**

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu, kept people looking so hard for facts, and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of the readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help find them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are seventeen names of books of the Bible in this paragraph. Don’t look at the answer key on the calendar on page 4, until you absolutely give up. It helps almost always to look closer. And even then, you still might not find them all. See next month’s bulletin. Until then, SMILE.

## Words of Encouragement

### **Be A Reservoir** By Mom Joanie

Lord, help me to be a reservoir of faith, not a well. A well demands work and coaxing. A reservoir fills up and overflows and continually blesses its surroundings. Thank you Lord for the Gift of God which is our faith (Ephesians 2:8). Dear Lord, grant me a daily increase of Thy Holy Spirit to make my life a continual prayer for Your Church, our loved ones, and for others.

### **Bless The Lord** By Mom Barb

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His Holy Name. Bless the Lord, O my soul and forget not all His benefits. (Psalms 103: 1-2)

I believe this Psalm is telling us that when we are feeling spiritually dry and a bit down, that this is the time for us to remember His benefits, His past blessings, the gift of salvation, already answered prayers, and His promises that are ours in Christ. And then we will surely trust Him to answer today's prayers and tomorrow's. God is pleased when we lift our hearts in gratitude to Him, and it strengthens, encourages, and builds us up spiritually.



## Fascinating Facts About the Bible

By Victor M. Parchin

Shortest Book in the Bible. That designation belongs to 3 John which has 19 fewer words than its companion book, 2 John. Both books were about one papyrus sheet in length. Three other biblical books share the distinction of being only one chapter long: Obadiah, Philemon and Jude.

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Longest Book in the Bible. The Book of Jeremiah is the longest book in the Bible. It contains the most words, although it doesn't have the most chapters—only 52. The book with the most chapters is Psalms, with 150 separate psalms.

### **A DAILY MEMORIAL (Cont'd from Pg.1)**

By Pastor Q

We often see a cross or a bouquet of fresh flowers along the road at the spot that a loved-one was injured or killed. But as time passes, the flowers fade, the cross falls over, and no goes back to the memorial. Is it that the incident has been forgotten or that more pressing things take priority. Let's not forget!

As a teenager, I doubted my salvation experience because I didn't "feel" saved. Just quoting such a simple prayer of forgiveness didn't seem like enough to do the trick.

So, to help validate my salvation, I asked God to let me see a cardinal before I got to school. I was so close to school and nothing happened; that was my answer. Satan whispered to me, 'well I guess you're not forgiven.' Just as I put my hand on the school door to go in, a cardinal flew between my face and the door; and immediately I began to thank Jesus for my salvation. That was over 50 years ago. And today when I see a cardinal, I smile and tell Jesus "thanks for the reminder of how much he loves me."

None of us can afford to forget the goodness of God and the sacrifices of His Son. Ask the Lord to remind you daily of how far He's brought you. Ask Him to give you a sign or an object in your home or office that would immediately cause a "hallelujah" to well up in your heart. What stone or legacy will you leave for your children and their children to remember your God and His goodness? Lest they forget!

# Bibleway Christian Fellowship Church

## May 2021

Dr. Mitchel A. Nickols, Ph.D., Pastor

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Church Office 724-335-3344 504 8 <sup>th</sup> Street, New Kensington PA 15068 / P.O. Box 390 Tarentum PA 15084 <a href="mailto:Biblewaycfcnewkensington@gmail.com">Biblewaycfcnewkensington@gmail.com</a> Website: BiblewayChristianFellowship.org Facebook.com/biblewaycfc						1 9am Prayer Conference Call # All Welcome to call in (see call # below)
2 10:45a In-the-Bldg and Zoom (live) Worship Service <b>The Lord's Supper</b>	3	4 6:30a, 5-Min.Word of Encouragement Conference Call # 7p Choir	5 6:30p Bible Study Zoom	6	7 12p 5-Min.Word of Encouragement) Conf. Dial-In Call	8 9am Prayer Conference Call # All Welcome to call in
9 <b>Mother's Day</b> 10:45a In-the-Bldg and Zoom (live) Worship Service	10	11 6:30a, 5-Min.Word 7p Choir	12 6:30p Bible Study Zoom	13	14 12p 5-Min.Word of Encouragement) Conf. Dial-In Call	15 9am Prayer Conference Call # All Welcome to call in
16 OUTDOORS 10:45a In-the-Bldg and Zoom (live) Worship Service (WEATHER Permitting)	17	18 6:30a, 5-Min.Word 7p Choirs	19 6:30p Bible Study Zoom	20	21 12p 5-Min.Word of Encouragement) Conf. Dial-In Call	22 <b>9 am Prayer</b> Conference Call # All welcome to join
23 10:45a In-the-Bldg and Zoom (live) Worship Service	24	25 6:30a, 5-Min.Word 7p Choirs	26 6:30p Bible Study Zoom	27	28 12p 5-Min.Word of Encouragement) Conf. Dial-In Call	29 9am Prayer Conference Call # All Welcome to call in
30 10:45a In-the-Bldg and Zoom (live) Worship Service	31 <b>Memorial Day</b>	** <b>ZOOM:</b> To join SUNDAY 10:45a & WEDNESDAY 6:30p, call Pastor Mitch or Q for link <b>CONFERENCE CALLS</b> , Dial 1-917-900-1022, Code 52538083# (Tuesday's/Friday's/Saturday's) <b>TO GIVE Tithe/Offering:</b> (1) Bring Offering Sunday OR (2) Place in church mail slot or (3) Bank on-line bill pay or (4) Mail (see above)				
<b>BIBLE PUZZLE (Pg.2) Find 17 Hidden Books of the Bible: Mark, Luke, Kings, Acts, Revelation, James, Ruth, Numbers, Job, Amos, Esther, Judges, Titus, Lamentations, Hebrews, Peter, Psalm</b>						