

The Air Hill Breezes

February

2021

Air Hill BIC Church
7041 Cumberland Hwy.
Chambersburg, PA 17202
267-3373

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Office Hours Mon., 8 am - 1 pm
Wed. - Fri. 8am - 1 pm

AIR HILL STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

"To grow a healthy, loving, Christ centered church family that has a passion for reaching the community and the world for Christ"

In the month of February, we celebrate Valentine's Day and the birthdays of two presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. About 1577 years before the birth of George Washington, Polycarp was martyred. Polycarp, a direct pupil of the apostle John and later named bishop of Smyrna, was put to death in a stadium. These words are from the Martyrdom of Polycarp, an early church father book.

As Polycarp entered the stadium, he heard a voice that came from heaven, "Be strong and show yourself a man, O Polycarp."

Then a little bit later, the proconsul began speaking to him. The proconsul urged Polycarp, "Swear, and I will set you at liberty, reproach Christ."

Polycarp declared, "Eighty and six years have I served him. He never did me injury: how then can I blaspheme my King and my Savior?"

The proconsul pressed him, "Swear by the fortune of Caesar."

Polycarp answered, "Since you are vainly urgent that, as you say, I should swear by the fortune of Caesar, and pretend not to know who and what I am, hear me declare with boldness, I am a Christian. And if you wish to learn what the doctrines of Christianity are, appoint me a day, and you shall hear them."

The proconsul replied, "Persuade the people."

But Polycarp said, "To you I thought it right to offer an account (of my faith); for we are taught to give all due honor (which entails no injury upon our-

selves) to the power and authorities which are ordained of God. But as for these, I do not deem them worthy of receiving any

account from me."

The proconsul said to him, "I have wild beasts at hand; to these I will cast you, unless you repent."

Polycarp answered, "Call them then, for we are not accustomed to repent of what is good in order to adopt that which is evil, and it is well for me to be changed from what is evil to what is righteous."

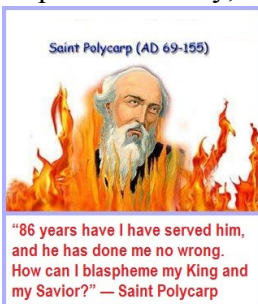
But again, the proconsul said, "I will cause you to be consumed by fire, seeing you despise the wild beasts, if you will not repent."

Polycarp said, "You threaten me with fire which burns for an hour, and a little is extinguished, but (you) are ignorant of the fire of the coming judgment and of eternal punishment, reserved for the ungodly. But why do you tarry? Bring forth what you will."

That is where I will stop the conversation. They eventually built a fire, but it would not burn Polycarp. Thus, the executioner stabbed him with a dagger that brought his death.

Why do I write this? No, I am not expecting persecution in the United States like this anytime soon. However, persecution like this occurs in many nations of the world. I write this for two reasons: 1) So that you and I will build up our spirit and soul in order that we may stand strong for Christ. We don't have to worry what to say, by the way, the Holy Spirit will provide those words at that time. 2) To remember and learn from our heroes of our faith.

Pastor John



FEBRUARY 2021 BIBLE READING PLAN			
1	Acts 15:22-41	14	Acts 22
2	Acts 16:1-15	15	Acts 23:1-11
3	Acts 16:16-40	16	Acts 23:12-35
4	Acts 17:1-15	17	Acts 24
5	Acts 17:16-34	18	Acts 25:1-12
6	Acts 18:1-17	19	Acts 25:13-27
7	Acts 18:18-28	20	Acts 26:1-18
8	Acts 19:1-22	21	Acts 26:19-32
9	Acts 19:23-41	22	Acts 27:1-26
10	Acts 20:1-12	23	Acts 27:27-44
11	Acts 20:13-38	24	Acts 28:1-16
12	Acts 21:1-26	25	Acts 28:17-31
13	Acts 21:27-40		

February Spiritual Exercise:

1. Pray this prayer daily, if not hourly: "Father, renew my thoughts, my words, and my actions through the Holy Spirit, so that I may be like Jesus. Amen."
2. Read Isaiah 11:1-9. This passage describes the coming Messiah, yet it also may describe us as we allow God's Spirit to rest upon us. Meditate on the description of the Holy Spirit in verse 2 at least once a day for two weeks.

Ask God's Spirit to:

- Reveal himself to you even as you meditate on Him.
- Dwell fully in you radiating all that He is in and through your life.
- Note the results of His Spirit described in Isaiah 11. Do you see some of those same results beginning to take place in your life?



Church Board Highlights

- Organization of the church board is as follows:
 - Pastor John Melhorn – Chair
 - Warren Peckman – Assistant Chair
 - Anthony Ogburn – Secretary
 - Ron Wenger – Property Management Representative
 - Margaret Burkholder – Deacon Representative
- A motion was passed to deposit the donation from Martin's Famous Pastry Shoppe into the youth designated account.
- A motion was passed to have an attorney review our new rental policy.

Air Hill Etiquette for Covid

As you enter the sanctuary, you will find a table that includes a bucket for offering and the bulletins and some other materials.

Wearing a mask is optional during our services. We invite you to wear a mask as you enter and as you leave when there may be little social distancing. When you have your seat socially distant from another family unit, you may take off your mask.

We ask that you sit on the rows marked with the decorations, and that your family unit sit six feet on the right and on the left from other family units.

Most of all, show love and respect for each person, for there are many different views in how to respond to covid.

From Orville & Cheryl Hade

Dear Prayer Partners,

We arrived in Blantyre, Malawi on Thursday, Jan 21st and planned to enter Mozambique on Saturday. We had to get new covid tests because Mozambique only allows 72 hours from sampling. Unfortunately, Cheryl's result showed positive; which may be false positive since the Queen's hospital does not do a verification test of positive results. We are thankful to not have any covid symptoms.

However, it means we are in isolation for 10 days in Blantyre. We are able to stay at the Owen's house since they are away on sabbatical. We are finding isolation to be challenging: no social interaction, no ministry work to do, no normal available hobbies to distract ourselves with, etc.

After isolation, we will have to be tested again, in order to try to enter Mozambique. We are concerned that one of us will test positive again, either valid or false, and have another 10 days of isolation. We will try to find another place for testing as we observed that Queen's do not follow proper procedures and there is a definite risk of contamination.

Please pray that we receive wisdom in what to do.

Orville and Cheryl Hade

BICUS World Missions: missionaries serving in Mozambique

48th ANNUAL MCC MEAT CANNING PROJECT

MARCH 1-5, 2021

At the Cumberland Valley Relief Center
Molly Pitcher Highway, South of Chambersburg

BIC workday is Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Due to COVID restrictions, volunteers will need to sign up for a specific time frame. Details will follow.

Contributions can be mailed to
MCC Meat Canning
Cumberland Valley Relief Center
4225 Molly Pitcher Hwy South
Chambersburg PA 17202

We *love*
because He first loved us!
1 John 4:19



Embedd@all.org

“The Lord said to me, ‘Do not say, “I am only a youth”; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak.’”
Jeremiah 1:7

1.27.20

Nippon NEWSFLASH



This is Kelly and Kim Smith and their two children. Kelly studied Japanese with me for 2 years and now he is taking the role of SYME director. We are so happy to have them!

Winter Term has begun!

This term the Lord has blessed us with 5 students to start winter term: Nick, Isaac, Dominic, Hosahna and Holly (3 guys, 2 girls). We also have a local nurse, Kazue, who will be joining us for weeks 1 and 8. There will be another young lady joining us next month. We had a wonderful orientation day and opening night full of food and fun. I also had my first day of teaching and cooking for this term! It is so much fun to continue learning myself how to be a better teacher and how to relate to my students.

Word of the Month:

弟子訓練 (deshikunren) Discipleship

Literally “disciple training.” All 5 of our Winter Term students are Christians, so we praise the Lord for two months of focused discipleship and ministry training!

Praises & Prayer

Praise the Lord for the opportunity to room share with our two interns (Senri & Chiemi).
Pray for discipleship opportunities with them.

Praise God for our 5 SYME students for the Winter Term!

Pray for more students for next term.

Pray for unity and teamwork as we welcome a new SYME director and adjust to his leadership.



Day one of winter term!



Left: These are our students for winter term.

Right: We are so thankful that our English Café ministry has continued to grow in numbers and regular new attendees. Relationships are being built and there are gospel sharing opportunities!



LEADING UP TO RESURRECTION DAY

Fastnacht Day and Lent

What Is a Fastnacht?

A fastnacht is a heavy, yeast-raised potato donut that is typically prepared on Fat Tuesday before the start of the Lenten season. These types of donuts are part of Easter traditions in Pennsylvania Dutch country.



Fastnachts are square or triangular in shape with no holes in their centers. Square-shaped fastnachts are meant to represent the four gospels of the Bible, whereas a triangular fastnacht represents the Holy Trinity.

When Is Fastnacht Day?

Fastnacht Day 2021 is Tuesday, February 16. This day is also known as Fat Tuesday, Mardi Gras, or Shrove Tuesday, which is why the delicious treats are often referred to as "mardi gras donuts". Fastnacht Day is the last day before Lent, the 40-day season before Easter begins on Ash Wednesday.

What Does Fastnacht Mean?

The term "fastnacht" (also spelled fasnacht, faschnaut, faschnacht) comes from the German words "fast," a shortened form of the verb "fasten" meaning "to fast," and "nacht," which means "night." Fastnacht Day is the eve of the Lenten fasting period that many Christian denominations observe. Tradition holds that on this day, households use up all the fat and sugar in the house before Lent begins. This practice also gives Fat Tuesday its name.

While fasnachts donuts originated in Germany, they are now a popular part of Pennsylvania Dutch culture. These Lent donuts come from the practice of eliminating fat and sugar from your household before fasting.

Lent

Lent is the period of 40 days which comes before Easter in the Christian calendar. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, Lent is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. By observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians replicate Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days. Lent is marked by fasting, both from food and festivities.



Whereas Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus after his death on the cross, Lent recalls the events leading up to and including Jesus' crucifixion by Rome. This is believed to have taken place in Roman occupied Jerusalem.

The Christian churches that observe Lent in the 21st century (and not all do significantly) use it as a time for prayer and penance. Only a small number of people today fast for the whole of Lent, although some maintain the practice on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. It is more common these days for believers to surrender a particular vice such as favorite foods or smoking. Whatever the sacrifice it is a reflection of Jesus' deprivation in the wilderness and a test of self-discipline.

February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7 Ministry Board Meeting	2 6:30 Property Mgt. Meeting 7 Praise/Prayer	3 6:30 Kindgom Kids/Youth Group	4 5:30 Gym in Use	5 5:30 Gym in Use	6
7 9 and 11 Worship 10:15 S. S. Shepherd Commissioning 5-10 Annex/Gym	8 8:30 Ladies Sewing 7 Church Board Meeting	9 7 Praise/Prayer	10 6:30 Kindgom Kids/Youth Group	11 5:30 Gym in Use	12 5:30 Gym in Use	13
14 9 and 11 Worship 10:15 S. S. Child Dedication	15	16 7 Praise/Prayer	17 6:30 Kindgom Kids/Youth Group	18 5:30 Gym in Use	19 5:30 Gym in Use	20
21 9 and 11 Worship 10:15 S. S.	22	23 7 Praise/Prayer	24 6:30 Kindgom Kids/Youth Group	25 5:30 Gym in Use	26 5:30 Gym in Use	27
28 9 and 11 Worship 10:15 S. S.		 <p>And now these three remain: faith hope love but the greatest of these is love.</p>				