

GREENSTONE GAZETTE

Nottingham Presbyterian Church PC (USA)
497 W. Christine Road
Nottingham, PA 19362-9760

February 2020

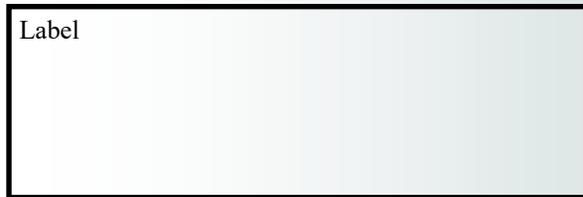
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Bring the love of Jesus to our community by fostering an accepting, nurturing and compassionate environment. Expanding our missions, infrastructure and worship experiences to meet the community's needs. Passionately and enthusiastically developing opportunities for personal and spiritual growth. Seeking partnerships with local organizations in pursuit of God's vision for the greater Nottingham area.



NPC Winter Closing Procedure: The Pastor will make the call by 8:00 a.m. the morning of the service. A message will be sent via e-mail. If you wish to be notified by telephone, please place your name and telephone number in the "Suggestion Box" located on the little table as you enter the small room at the back entrance.

Join us February 23 Coffee Fellowship after the Worship Service



Date Change for February!

February 21 at 7pm

Here's our hint to the movie title. It's a movie about de-segregation and football. The picture give you the title hint.



Coffee Fellowship every 4th Sunday
after Worship in the Foundation.



February Birthdays

February Anniversaries

February Volunteers

Readers:

- 2 Ruth Ann Sumner
- 9 Cindy Sudnikovich
- 16 Bill Moore
- 23 Brooke Glover

Greeters:

- 2 Bill&Cindy Sudnikovich
- 9 John&Marlene Lloyd
- 16 Kim&Ed Squires
- 23 John &Anna Durban

Deacon of the month:

- Chris Ulrich
- Dar Gray

Communion Prep Team:

- Ruth Ann Sumner
- Alice Witmer

Coming up...

Leadership Development Day:

Sunday March 1, 2020 2pm-5pm. Highland Presbyterian Church, Lancaster PA. Training for New and Experienced Elders, Deacons/ Visitation training. Church Safety & Security and more.

Retreat for Women in Donegal Presbytery:

Fly While You Still Have Wings: and other lessons my resilient Mother taught me. April 24-26, 2020 (Friday night, Saturday and Sunday morning) St Mary's Providence Retreat Center, Elverson PA - more info to follow -



**Ash Wednesday—February 26
Dinner—6:15pm
Worship Service 7pm**



Our new Deacons and Elders!
Eric Hansen and Brian Dewees (Deacons), Jean Bender (Elder) being ordained and installed by Pastor Merritt.

March 1, 2020 after Worship

The Annual Congregational Meeting has been called for March 1 following the morning worship. We will

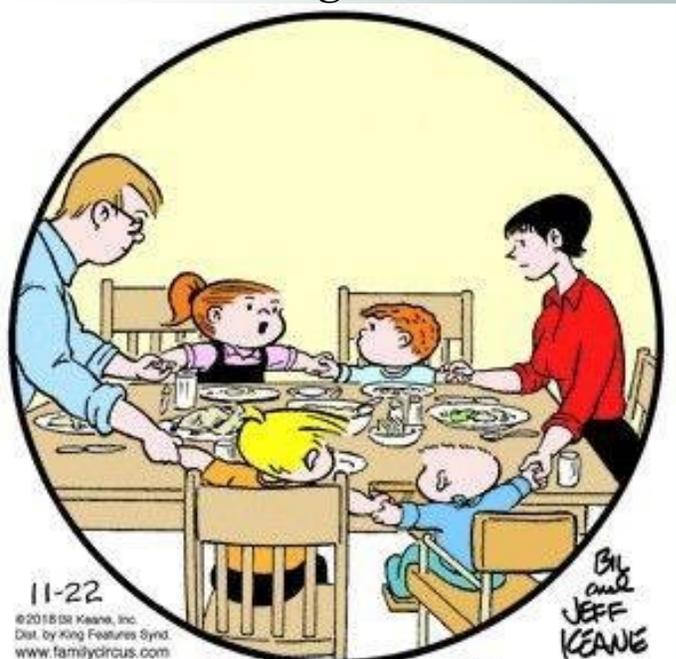
receive the reports from Ministry teams, Boards and other groups, as well as other business which may properly come before the Congregation. Please plan to stay for this meeting! By order of the Session, Nina Hansen, Clerk and Merritt Schatz, moderator.



Adult Lenten Bible Study- "Lent in Plain Sight" by Jill Duffield.

Starting Tuesday March 3 for 5 weeks. Two meeting times : 11am and 7pm Please let Pastor Merritt know if you are interested so books can be ordered.

On the lighter side:



11-22
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By
and
JEFF
KEANE

"We hafta hold hands while we say grace so nobody gets a head start eating. Right, Mommy?"

Our website: Nottinghampc.org

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As I look out on a dreary, grey day, and consider the many problems of our world, including our nation, it may seem hard to think about the coming spring and the season of Lent which begins at the end of the month of February. Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, can come as early as February 4 and as late as March 10. This year Ash Wednesday falls on February 26. I find myself both wishing it was earlier this year – so that we could get to the joyous celebration of Easter sooner, and grateful that it is not earlier, because there is so much preparation yet to be done.

It seems that we go through much of life this way – wishing it would hurry up, and yet overwhelmed by what needs to be done. Lent is a blessing which causes us to slow down, reflect on life, and consider where we are heading in the future. Instead of reacting out of our fears in our vulnerability, we can look forward to what Christ's sacrifice in love has freed us to be and do. Our fears lead us into: temptation to find an easy way out; ignorance bound by limited understanding; doubts and uncertainty which come when we realize we don't know it all; blame which seeks to remove our own responsibility; and desperation and grief at situations which we cannot control. In Christ, we find another way; we find freedom! On Ash Wednesday (Feb. 26) we will gather for a meal, reminding ourselves that we are not isolated in following Jesus, but are part a community of faith as we live the life of faith. Following the meal, we will worship with thanksgiving for the call we receive to face our sins, confess and repent from them, and enter new life. Then throughout Lent during worship we will be encouraged by the freedoms we have in Christ. We are free to explore new ways of life; free to learn and grow; free to question what we thought we knew; free to work for justice rather than blame; free to grieve with hope rather than despair. Each Sunday we will look at one of these freedoms. Then on Palm Sunday we will see what it means to be free to walk with Jesus. On Maundy Thursday we will again share a dinner during which we will examine the symbols of Passover and how these symbols can enrich our understanding of the gift of grace we are given in Jesus Christ. Good Friday worship will expand our understanding of the freedom we have to take risks. Then on Easter Sunday we can rejoice fully in the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead – a celebration which is trustworthy and true, and which allows us to see freedom and hope even in the overwhelming times of life.

Accompanying our worship focus on the freedoms given to us in Jesus Christ will be a Bible Study which will be held on Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. beginning March 3 and continuing through March 31. This five session study will be based on Jill Duffield's devotional, "Lent in Plain Sight" in which Rev. Duffield uses ten ordinary objects (dust, bread, cross, coins, shoes, oil, coats, towels, thorns and stones) to have us reflect on the "possibility, the promise, that God is present, speaking, and seeking to be in relationship with [us]." The devotional book is \$10; please call the church or sign-up on the clipboard, to let us know if you want a copy of the book. You can still come to the discussions, even if you don't have the book! Come whenever you can, each session will be a blessing.

My spirits have been raised just thinking about our Lenten plans! I hope yours have been as well. Let's not rush through this season of preparation, but take the time to make it a priority as we find our hope in the good news of the Gospel!

In Christ's love, Pastor Merritt





Gerry Davis always enjoyed playing King Herod in the Impromptu Children's Pageant

Remembering our friend—Gerry Davis

Gerald (Gerry) Robert Davis, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family on Saturday, January 11, 2020. Son of the late George Julian Davis Sr, and C. Mabel (Talley) Davis, he was born on September 10th, 1940, in Concord township, Delaware County, where he would spend his formative years. He graduated from Media High School in 1958; and, went on to receive his business degree from Asbury Park Business College in New Jersey in 1959. He enlisted in the US Army and served from 1959-1962, spending most of his time in Germany. He was employed by the DuPont Company in Wilmington, DE, from 1962-1998. From 2002-2012 Gerry worked as a project manager at Lincoln University. Gerry was a devoted husband to Donna (nee: Lloyd) Davis for 56 years. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his two daughters whom he cherished: Pamela Alleyn (Pierre) Caron of Oxford, and Rebecca Jane Davis of Lincoln University; Five grandchildren: Shelby (Steven) Cooper, Noel and Faithe Caron; and, Matthew and Makayla Miller. He is also survived by: a brother, George J. Davis, Jr.; a special brother-in-law, John R. Lloyd; and, a special cousin, Morgan Price. Gerry was preceded in death by grandson, Jeremy Caron. He was an active member and Elder at Nottingham Presbyterian Church, Nottingham, PA. He was the President of the Garnet Valley Band Parent Association while his daughters' were actively involved in the band. Gerry enjoyed hunting at POCO Club, Center County, PA; and, Blue Heron Club, Huntingdon County, PA. He served on a mission trip to the Ukraine (2001) with Concord Liberty Presbyterian Church. He also served as emcee for the Chichester Community Band for the last two years at their Marcus Hook, PA, concerts. He has over 60 years of volunteer service and active membership with: Bethel, Concord, and Union (Oxford) Fire Companies where he has held many positions: Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, President, Safety Officer; and, Member of the Board of Directors. Throughout his volunteerism, Gerry received numerous awards and recognitions for his dedication to the fire service. He

also served as the 11th District Fire Marshal for Delaware County, and Fire Marshal for Bethel Township PA. He was a lifetime member of the Delaware County Fireman's Association. In 2017, Gerry accepted the Pio Zappasodi Congressional Fire Service Award from Representative Curt Weldon. Until the time of his death, he was actively supporting the Cancer Prevention Program for both Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in Gerry's memory to: Bethel Township Hose Company #1, 3737 Foulk Road, Garnet Valley, PA 19060; Nottingham Presbyterian Church, 497 W. Christine Road, Nottingham, PA 19362; or Oxford Union Fire Company #1, 315 Market Street, Oxford, PA 19363.



Deacons are conducting a Food Drive Feb 1-16 for the Divine Sent Food Cupboard. The theme for this collection is "Hearty Foods".

Soups, canned meat, mac & cheese, pasta, spaghetti sauce, fruit juice, condiments, canned vegetables, stews, beans, rice 1lb bags, cereal, instant potatoes, salad dressings, tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo.

Seeking partnerships with local organizations in pursuit of God's vision for the greater Nottingham area.

Session (our Ruling Elders): Jean Bender, Donna Davis, Jerry Jackson, Jim Lewis, Nina Hansen, Becky Reiber,

Deacons: Brian Dewees, Chris Dolinger, Dar Gray, Eric Hansen, Connie Lewis, Jolan Squires, Chris Ulrich

Passionately and enthusiastically developing opportunities for personal and spiritual growth.

Our Website: Nottinghampc.org