



Tidings



TRAPPE/FAITH CHAPEL NEWSLETTER APRIL AND MAY 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

The Resurrection of Jesus by God our Father is the defining event in human history that testifies to God's commitment to saving human life from our own destructive sinfulness. When we sing "He Lives," we are proclaiming that we too live. "On earth as it is in heaven:" we see its truth in Jesus. So, why is it so hard to keep focused on Jesus? Do we all have ADHD?

In short, yes. Life is filled with distractions. If it is quiet for more than a minute or two, we become fidgety. Smart phones become an excuse to be connected so that we will not miss anything. With its multiple sounds that call our attention from what we were doing, we do not notice that quiet has become an orphan and everything is about Now. Now is where we live. Now is also about what claims our focus, the truth of our living. We will always have the distracting and necessary tasks of daily living. Let us seek to find the quiet space to commune with the Lord of our Life, Jesus our Resurrection and Life.

There is a prayer you may want to use to help control our ADHD.

See you in church on Sunday!
Rev Gary L. Moore

ONGOING CALENDAR

Thurs

Senior Choir Practice

2nd & 4th Saturdays

Breakfast and Yard Sale

2nd Sundays

Fellowship following

11:00

Worship

2nd Wednesdays

UMW Meeting

3rd Wednesdays

Every other month

Administrative Council/Trustees
Meeting

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PRAYER FOR THE NEW DAY

O Lord, grant me to greet the coming day in peace.

Help me in all things to rely upon your holy will.

In every hour of the day, reveal your will to me.

Bless my dealings with all who surround me.

Teach me to treat all that comes to me throughout the day with peace of soul and with the firm conviction that your will governs all.

In all my deeds and words, guide my thoughts and feelings.

In unforeseen events, let me not forget that all are sent by You.

Teach me to act firmly and wisely, without embittering and embarrassing others.

Give me strength to bear the fatigue of the coming day with all that it shall bring.

Direct my will; teach me to pray: **pray You Yourself in me.**

Amen.

Have a Prayer Request? Prayer Line: 410-822-5095

Pastor's Office Hours

The Pastor's Office is inside Trappe Church. When you enter the side door into the Education Unit, it is immediately on your left.

Here are the hours I am planning to be in the Office:

*Tuesdays: 10:00 – Noon *Wednesdays: 9:30 – Noon *Thursdays: 10:00 – Noon

If you need to meet with me at other times, please call me at 410-714-2004.



LIBRARY NEWS by Charlotte Edwards

Daylight Savings Time has arrived, creating a bit of a dilemma. Do you stay energetic with spring chores for a longer work day or continue to settle early to have more time to read? Whether or not your reading time has changed with the season, our library has something for all interests or problems.

The Easter reading selections stretch our thoughts and emotions from the stark dramatic events to the promise of joy and strengthened faith. Our Easter books are now prominently displayed. We have ***After Jesus: The Triumph of Christianity***. This is a Reader's Digest publication. It is the story of the early Christians during Jesus' years and his death through 600 AD: a time that changed history.

The Greatest Man Who Ever Lived is an offering of one hundred thirty-three chapters. Each is a story of one aspect of Jesus' life and ministry. The colorful illustrations on every page are wonderful.

A delightful children's book is ***Jesus Is Alive*** written by Elizabeth Friedrich and illustrated by Karen Pauls. This book says it all in a simple story for everyone.

There is a DVD and movie companion book called ***The Gospel of John***. It is another product of Guideposts and is narrated by Christopher Plummer. The Gospel "vividly comes to life in a faithful and powerful dramatization of the Bible texts."

For pleasure reading don't forget The Mary Mystery bookshop series or the Tea Room Mysteries. Both series are again published by Guideposts.

Anyone still struggling to achieve their New Years goals may find Joyce Meyers book, ***Making God Habits by Breaking Bad Habits***, very helpful. It promises, "fourteen new behaviors that will energize your life."

Don't forget to check out the Little Free Library. Something for everyone can be found there, too.

Happy Reading!

Important Dates to Note

Disciple Bible Study

Both sessions of Disciple Bible Study will resume on April 3, in the afternoon (1:00 – 2:30 pm) and in the evening (6:30 – 8:00 pm) with 12 people each. Twenty-four people have signed up to study the Old Testament for 12 weeks ! Thanks be to God!

Maundy Thursday will be observed on Thursday, March 29 at 6:30 pm at Trappe UMC.

Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, March 31 at noon at Trappe UMC.

Easter is April 1. Sunrise Service at 7 am in the garden at Trappe; regular services at Faith Chapel and Trappe

Fanny Crosby Sunday: On April 8 come to church to sing Fanny's songs and celebrate this prolific hymnist!

Administrative Council/Trustees meets April 11 at 6:30.

Mothers Day is May 13—No fellowship that day so that families can celebrate together.



Martha's Closet

Trappe 79,750.75
Faith 75,539.75
Total 1998 to 1/13/18
\$155,290.50

Tidings

is also available (and in color) on line at
<http://www.tfcumc.org/>

Check out the Charge web site at <http://www.tfcumc.org>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MISS FANNY by Robert Croswell

You do know “Miss Fanny,” don’t you? You should because she was one of the most prolific hymnists in history, writing thousands of hymns and gospel songs, despite being blind from shortly after birth.¹ Born Frances Jane Crosby on March 24, 1820, and more commonly known as Fanny, it is fitting that we should remember her birthday this month. In 1858 she married Alexander van Alstyne, also blind, and in 1859 they had a daughter named Frances who died in her sleep soon after birth. Fanny was also a relative of Presbyterian minister Howard Crosby and his son Ernest Howard Crosby, as well as singers Bing and Bob Crosby.¹ Fanny was known as the “Queen of Gospel Song Writers” and the “Mother of modern congregational singing in America”. Ira Sankey attributed the success of the Moody and Sankey evangelical campaigns largely to Crosby’s hymns.¹ *The United Methodist Hymnal* includes seven of Fanny’s hymns.



Fanny had a gift of being able to spontaneously produce a poem or hymn for almost any occasion. “*Fanny was talking to one of her neighbors, who complained bitterly of his poverty. ‘If I had wealth I would be able to do just what I wish to do; and I would be able to make an appearance in the world.’ Fanny replied, ‘Well, take the world, but give me Jesus.’ She was here inspired by her own words to write a hymn with that title.*”² “Crosby wrote between 5,500 and 9,000 hymns, the exact count obscured by the numerous pseudonyms (as many as 200, according to some sources).³ Fanny could write little more than her name and relied on others to transcribe the hymns she dictated. Her hymns were especially popular in the Methodist Church, which for a time observed an annual *Fanny Crosby Day*.”³

Crosby enrolled at the New York Institution for the Blind (NYIB) in 1835, just before her 15th birthday and remained there for eight years as a student, and another two years as a graduate pupil, during which time she met Alexander van Alstyne, her husband-to-be, learned to play the piano, organ, harp, and guitar, and became a good soprano singer. After graduation from the NYIB in 1843, Crosby joined a group of lobbyists in Washington, D.C. arguing for support of education for the blind. She was the first woman to speak in the United States Senate when she read a poem.¹

Referring to Crosby’s songs, the Dictionary of American Religious Biography indicated: “By modern standards her works may be considered mawkish or too sentimental. But their simple, homey appeal struck a responsive chord in Victorian culture. Their informal ballad style broke away from the staid, formal approach of earlier periods, touching deep emotions in singers and listeners alike. Instead of dismissing her words as maudlin or saccharine, audiences thrilled to them as the essence of genuine, heartfelt Christianity.” Crosby’s hymns were popular because they placed “a heightened emphasis on religious experiences, emotions, and testimonies” and reflected “a sentimental, romanticized relationship between the believer and Christ,” rather than using the negative descriptions of earlier hymns that emphasized the sinfulness of people.^{1,4}

This short piece can barely begin to describe this fantastic and multi-talented, Methodist lady and the many souls that have been lead to Christ through her great hymns. Please see these two wonderful tributes to Fanny:

- The Christian Herald, March 3, 1915, page 205; ***Fanny Crosby’s Wonderful Life Ended***
<http://www.1timothy4-13.com/files/hymns/homegoing.html>
- UMC Communications; ***Fanny Crosby: Legendary Methodist Hymn Writer*** (video)
<http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/fanny-crosby-legendary-methodist-hymn-writer>

¹ Wikipedia, ² Ruffin, p. 142, ³ The Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica, ⁴ Dictionary of American Religious Biography,

⁵Fanny Crosby portrait- Internet Archive- from Fanny Crosby’s Story of Ninety-Four Years by S. Trevena Jackson

Editor’s Note: Our choir loved to sing “Fanny songs,” and Ross Swann never failed to say, “That’s a real gasser!” when we sang one because Fanny’s hymns were so lively and took a lot of breath to sing. Ross was the one who often requested we do one of her hymns, and we could always count on him to lead us with his great bass voice!

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER



Nancy Dunn reports that the St. Patrick's Day Dinner earned \$843 to go towards the construction of a ramp to make the church more accessible. She said it took everyone working together to make the event a success, and she especially thanks LH Outten, Jerry Adams, Leona Schmidt, Charlotte Edwards, and Rev. Gary Moore for all their hard work. Thank you to everyone who turned out for the dinners! The food was delicious and tradition for the holiday: corned beef, ham, potatoes, onions, carrots, Irish soda bread, and a variety of green desserts.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to Ken and Elizabeth Myers for providing the beautiful flowers for the altar in February.

Thank you to Ida Hickman for continuing to provide the *Upper Room Devotionals* every quarter.

Thank you to Pat Harden for providing the breakfast birthday cake for March.

Thank you to everyone who provided lilies for the Easter service. They certainly are a sign of the eternal hope we have because of Jesus' sacrifice for each of us. May you all experience the beauty of that hope!

CHURCH SIGNS: A LITTLE HUMOR



OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES

In the hope of Jesus who is our Resurrection and Life, we offer our prayers and sympathies to the family of Jo Sue Simpson. She has been a good friend to us and will be greatly missed.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Anniversary!

To protect the privacy of individuals anniversaries & birthdays are not available in the on-line edition.



Tidings

Next deadline for articles, etc., is May 15.
Next issue for **June, July and August** available at the end of May.