

# March

Volume 192 - Issue 192 - March 2018

## Center Brunswick United Methodist Church

### Jottings from Joy

*God continued, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and everything living around you and everyone living after you. I'm putting my rainbow in the clouds, a sign of the covenant between me and the Earth."*

This Lenten season the theme of reflections (except for March 11<sup>th</sup>) will be in covenant with God. Ash Wednesday we began Lent with a focus and intentional covenanting to increase our relationships. Scriptures were the base of the covenants.

#### LOVE COVENANT FOR A PURE HEART (SELF) PSALM 5:1-17

We are given a clean heart by God and God is merciful ! What way can we recognize our God given ways that we have that keep our hearts pure! Think about one gift or affirmation you want to keep growing to help you accept who you are as a child of God. Focus on that for the 40 days of Lent

#### LOVE COVENANT WITH GOD JOEL 2:1-2, 12-16

In Joel we are reminded of where mercy, love and our immense wealth of being comes from! How will you covenant with God to strengthen your relationship? Example: I will give him all credit for everything each day and give thanks!

#### LOVE COVENANT WITH OTHERS WE KNOW: 2 Cor. 5:20b-6:10

Corinthians tells how we are God's ambassadors of love! What characteristic or behavior will you choose to live out in Lent to increase your relationship with others (friends and relatives) in positive ways? Example: Affirm another

#### LOVE COVENANT WITH STRANGERS/ENEMIES MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-21

"Take care! Do your good deeds in private, for then you will not lose the reward from your Father in heaven. Give a gift to a beggar, in quiet without shouting and notice

I tell you in all earnestness, they have received all the reward they will ever get. Likewise, when you do a kindness to someone, do it secretly—don't tell your left hand what your right hand is doing. And your Father, who knows all secrets, will reward you. When you pray, do pray in a secluded place as Jesus did, where no one can see you. When you pray, go away by yourself, all alone, and shut the door behind you and pray to your Father secretly, and your Father, who knows your secrets, will reward you.

And now about fasting. When you fast, declining your food for a spiritual purpose, don't do it publicly, as the hypocrites do, who try to look wan and disheveled so people will feel sorry for them. Truly, that is the only reward they will ever get. <sup>17</sup> But when you fast, put on festive clothing, so that no one will suspect you are hungry, except your Father who knows every secret. And he will reward you.

Store treasures up in heaven where they will never lose their value and are safe from thieves. If your profits are in heaven, your heart will be there too.

What would you covenant to do from this scripture for a stranger or enemy? Example: Find one quality in someone you have difficulty with and focus on that rather than what you do not like!

Bottom line is if Jesus asked you "Do you love me? How would you respond not only in voice but actions and living the covenant "Feed my sheep"

Peace and Love, Pastor Joy



### Finance Team Looking for Helpers

Rev. David Lockwood presented a successful stewardship program. He has repeatedly used in churches where he has served. The Finance team affirmed the program but need help in getting it going and moving through it. If you feel like a person that can supervise or can be part of a team that will present a spiritually based giving program please contact Pastor Joy. To make it work we will start this Spring and build on it so it will be set to go in the fall. Answer the call!

# March Celebration of Meaning and Music – March 11<sup>th</sup>

Welcome Rev. Keith Hinton and his wife, Leigh Ann, in a special celebration of word and song. Keith is Executive Pastor at the First Baptist Church of Crofton, Maryland and Spiritual Director for Eastern Shore Emmaus. He will preach a sermon titled: "The Image of God" and an Adult class immediately after church called "Why Apologetics?" Leigh Ann Hinton is Betty and Ron Schott's niece and the daughter of Center Brunswick's former choir director, Floyd Haber. She is also the former college roommate of our organist, Dianna Parisi. Most importantly, she has just retired after 20 years of service to our nation as musical vocalist, first for the United States Navy Band and then for the U.S. Army Band, "Pershing's Own." Leigh Ann has used her glorious voice to represent the United States all over the world and has sung at national patriotic celebrations in Washington, D.C. for the past generation. She has perhaps the most beautiful voice you ever hear in person! Please plan to join us on March 11<sup>th</sup> for this meaningful and memorable celebration!

## Happy, Outrageous, Opportunity, Together

### All Jubilation Station children & youth (and all those children who will be in church)

You are all invited downstairs to fellowship Hall, after worship, to have a HOOT (Happy, Outrageous, Opportunity, Together) with Pastor Joy and Helpers! Those children 5 and under will need one familiar adult and or youth 10yrs. + with them.

We will play some games, sing some songs, and all together enjoy each other! Some fruit, donut holes and juice will be available also. This while adults enjoy our guest speaker upstairs after worship! All welcome!

### Easter Flowers



We invite you bring your own plant to church to decorate the alter for our Easter services.

If you would like to put a memorial or honorarium in the bulletin, please fill out this insert provided each Sunday at the 9:30 service and return it to Sheryl Burke by March 25.

Plants should be brought to the church on Saturday, March 31, from 9 – 11 am.

Thank You & Happy Easter! - *Helen Godfrey and Sheryl Burke*

### Questionnaire Still In Process

Thanks to all who got their questionnaires in! We got a good number about 25! Still can get in if you want! They are being compiled and then condensed. The SPPRC will receive the condensed results ahead around Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> and PLEASE NOTE SPPRC members we will be meeting as a team and go over the results, (please read ahead) on Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup>. Rev. Ray Stees will join us and help us with the process. Plans will be set for how to proceed from that meeting and dates set for the end of April for discussion groups and decision making on how to move forward This is an exciting process and it will be great to have sharing and get to know each other better! There will be guidelines for discussion so each and all are heard and participation is positive and affirming! We are the church together with God's hand upon us!

### Bell Choir playing

### Palm Sunday & Easter Sunday



### Updated Contact Information

- ◆ Lois Svehla  
3554 NY 2—Cropseyville, NY 12052  
(518) 894-4737 (Cell) / Birthday - August 19
- ◆ Ron & Sue Hayner  
504 Brunswick Meadows Way—Troy, NY 12182
- ◆ Nancy Bell  
4680 Bellwether Lane. Apt 123—Oxford, FL 34484  
(804) 551-0718 (Cell) / Birthday September 16

### Updated Emails

- ◆ Jim McGuirk: jimpatmc45@aol.com
- ◆ Judy McGuirk: ysclero45@aol.com

### Youth Advisory Team Started

We had an enthusiastic group of 7 people meet Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> to share ideas, enthusiasm and plan next steps! It is hoped to meet again the second Saturday in March 10<sup>th</sup>, at 10am - location to be decided and plan for the first youth Activity to happen, the evening of March 30<sup>th</sup> Good Friday. We will be invited all youth from 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up to attend with meal and activities provided. So parents please save the date! Anyone interested in serving on this team please contact Pastor Joy!

# March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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## Imagine No Racism – From the Bishop Saturday, April 21 – 12:30 – 4:00 pm

We are required to attend “Imagine No Racism” isn’t seeking to be another program offered by the conference, but a set of spiritual practices involving deep listening, new learning and authentic relationship building, beginning in the local church and reaching out into the community. The launch event will explain the purpose and vision of Imagine No Racism and provide resources to begin its implementation.

A footnote from Pastor Joy! Racism is a strong word and offensive to many! However, the fact that most of those of us who are of the dominate, in control people in our church, in our community, and our country is what is real! We do not have the same life experience as those who are people of color. We remain unconscious and unaware of barriers and battles people of color experience daily! This is not due to their behaviors but rather due to a system that has moved forward regardless of fairness. Until we recognize the unequal, unconscious, ways our dominate culture “prevails” over others, our beings are not whole, our country is not united and our church will remain unresponsive. Please believe me when I say “being color blind” is even worse! It refuses to recognize that there is inequality and that black people even exist! I invite you to pray about this. Ask for God’s “sight” and see if maybe you might want to have eyes opened and pass on to your children the ability to help us be one. Attend “Imagine no Racism” and gain a wider view which will at the same time enhance your relationship with God!

## Weekly Activities

- Monday - 7:00 pm Bell Choir**
- ♦ 5th - 12th - 19th - 26th
- Tuesday - 7:00 pm - Choir**
- ♦ 6th - 13th - 20th - 27th
- Friday - 6:30 - 8:30 pm - Fellowship Hall**
- Highland Acting Troupe**
- ♦ 9th - 16th - 23rd - 30th
- Sunday - 9:30 am - Worship**
- ♦ 11th - 5th Sunday of Lent  
Celebration of Meaning & Music
- ♦ 18th - 6th Sunday of Lent
- ♦ 25th - Palm Sunday (*Bell Choir*)
- Sunday - 2:00 - 4:00 pm - Fellowship Hall**
- Highland Acting Troupe**
- ♦ 11th - 18th - 25th

## Meetings & Programs

- 8th - Thursday - 6:30 pm** - Finance Comm.  
Mtg. followed by the Admin Board  
Fellowship Hall
- 14th - Wednesday** - Staff Pastor Parish  
Relations Committee with Ray Stees
- 30th - Good Friday** - Youth Activity - Meal &  
Games

## Upcoming April Events

- 1st - Easter Sunday** - 9:30 am - Worship - Bell  
Choir
- 21st - Fundraiser Dinner** for the Rebhuns

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## March Birthdays

- 05 - Jerry Looney
- 06 - Sue Hayner
- 06 - Amy Singiser
- 09 - Mark Schott
- 12 - Tyler Schott
- 14 - Salvatore Fallova
- 15 - Timothy Foust
- 17 - James Foust
- 20 - Barbara Carr
- 21 - Ann Austin
- 23 - David Morton
- 25 - Cassie Freemantle
- 26 - Kathy Pagano
- 26 - Justin Walton
- 31 - BarbaraConroy

## March Anniversaries

- 26 - David & Gretchen  
Morton

Center Brunswick United Methodist Church  
990 Hoosick Road  
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## The World is Hugged By The Faithful Arms of a Volunteer

Looking to Lend a Helping Hand?

Scripture Readers  
Greeters  
Ushers

Contact Pastor Joy  
for further information

If you are feeling down — unsure — unhappy — or just lost  
Go Volunteer!

I promise you—the best feeling in the universe is  
helping someone in need.

I believe that the quality of your life is solely  
determined on the quality of your contribution to others.

When you take the time to stop thinking of yourself,  
and start working to improve the life of someone else,  
God steps in and improves yours.

Unsure of how to begin?  
Start where you are - use what you have - and do what you can.

*LeeAnne Locken*

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