



**New Creation
Community Church**
3005 Emig Mill Road
Dover, PA 17315
717-764-0252

newcreation25@comcast.net
www.newcreationforyou.com

Kurt Herzberg, Pastor
Worship Hours:

-Traditional Sunday, 8am
-Contemporary 10:30am

**Church Office Hours: by
Appointment**

Mission: Making disciples
of Jesus Christ for the
transformation of the
world.

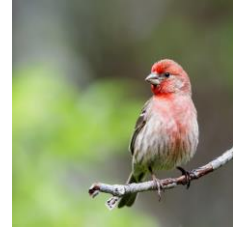
Vision: To be a memorial
to the community that God
is mighty.

Strategy: Promoting
“Community Groups” that
are “Connecting Church to
Home.”

“Your prayer for
someone may or may
not change them, but it
always changes YOU.”
— Craig Groeschel



May



WE MUST PRAY FOR OUR NATION

Pastor Kurt V Herzberg

This past Thursday was the National Day of Prayer. It focuses prayer on certain elements of our nation: government, military, media, business, education, church, and family. My personal opinion is that each of those areas is critical to our American lives, and each of those areas is in some kind of turmoil today.

John Adams said, *“Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”* It follows then that if the leaders and the people turn their backs on God, not only will they forfeit God’s blessing, but it will corrupt our system of government, which protects us from tyranny. Without a moral civil society, liberty is not possible. We are dependent on God for peace, security, and good government, and we must go to Him to petition for righteous leaders, and righteous citizens, that we might secure the blessings offered to us by our Constitution. That begins with each person’s personal relationship with Jesus which is waning and foundational to our problems. Proverbs 14:34 says, *“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people”*. It seems that judgment may be imminent. **So, what should the faithful do? We must begin by praying for our nation.**

Scripture provides examples of the principle of national prayer:

- Ezra wrote of God: *If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people, and, my people which are called by my name shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.* (2 Chronicles 7:13-14)
- In Psalm 85 David prayed for God’s mercy on the nation of Israel.
- The Apostle Paul commanded us to pray for kings and all in authority, so we can lead tranquil and quiet lives in godliness and dignity. (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
- The prophet, Jeremiah, speaking to the exiles to Babylon said: *Seek the welfare of the city I have deported you to. Pray to the Lord on its behalf, for when it has prosperity, you will prosper.* (Jeremiah 29:7)

Prayer for Our Nation cont.

If the Children of Israel were commanded to seek the welfare of the nation that conquered them, Babylon, a wicked, pagan nation, how much more should we pray for God's blessings on our own nation built on Christian values? But how?

Our first president, George Washington, modeled for us how to pray for our nation:

Almighty God, we make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection, that thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States of America at large.

And finally, that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of The Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech thee, through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

If you didn't take time to pray last Thursday, please do so today for the sake of the Lord's blessing!

https://www.usaheritage.org/wash_prayer1.html

New Hope Ministries

Thank you to all who have contributed food, toiletries, and cleaning supplies to the local New Hope Ministries. In 2023, we donated 156.5 pounds of food and 49 pounds of toiletries for a grand total of 161.4 pounds. Our slogan for this year is, "Can we do more in 2024?" Please consider putting something in the big basket for New Hope!

Current needs for May include canned carrots, beets and fruit, paper towels, and toilet paper.
Thanks! Submitted by Em Burris



Prayer: *Lord Jesus, give me the courage to consider everything worth dropping in my life so that I may follow you with my whole being, and the courage to do what you command. Amen.*

CONGRATULATIONS CASSIE!



Let's all give a shout out to Cassie Smith! She recently began participating in Special Olympics competitions in York County. The Track & Field team she joined recently placed first. She also loves swimming and won two individual 1st place medals and one 2nd place medal in that event! Way to go Cassie!



PERSPECTIVE OF THE YOUTH

by Mariah Linn

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It's May so bring on ALL THE FLOWERS. Which also means a lot of pollen so uhm, good luck for those of you with pollen allergies. So, uh, stock up on the allergy pills! Also, the seasons change but it's never too late to check in on yourself.

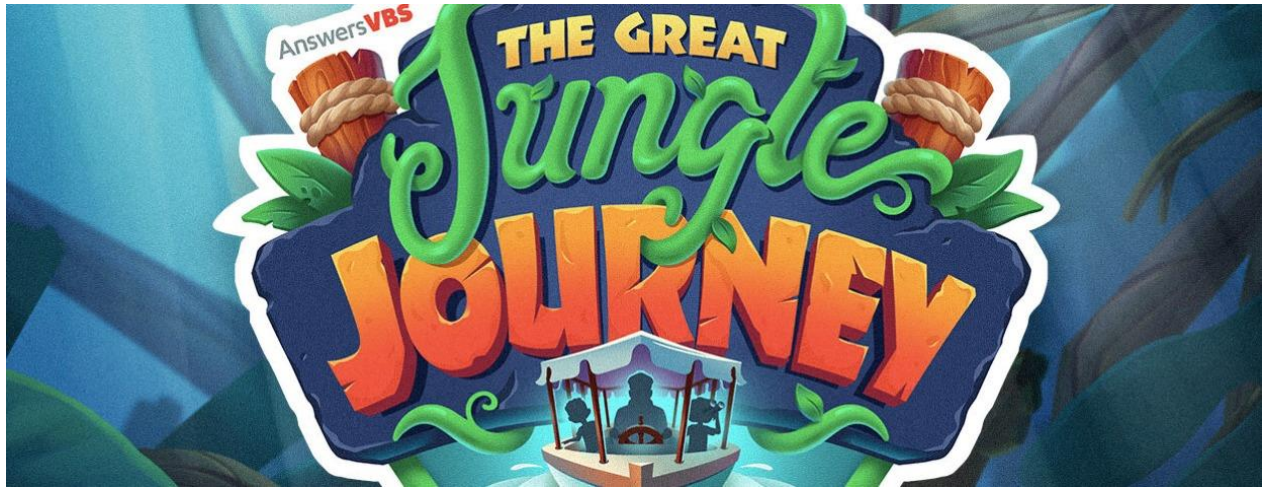
1. What makes you feel excited and joyful these days?
2. What is your #1 song that's Christian when you're in a low spot?
3. If you could be any animal, what would you choose? Which animal almost always makes you smile? (Someone we know insists that there's no such thing as a not-cute dog!)

Feel free to message me on Slack to answer question #2, I'll add the song to the playlist I've made and send you the link.

I had the chance to go to a weekend retreat for fathers and daughters, with my dad, my sister Shania, and her dad. We had a blast! There was a great zipline for us to try. During the retreat there was a speaker who used ice cream to describe how God is always there. He held up a bowl of vanilla ice cream and used it to describe your "meh" days, a good day is vanilla and chocolate syrup, a REALLY good day is vanilla ice cream with chocolate syrup and a Reese's Peanut Butter Cup™, a good but weird day would be vanilla with chocolate syrup, the peanut butter cup and honey, and a really bad day-is an ice cream and dog food day. Mom and I also went to the tabernacle exhibit in Lancaster with all of the Bible Adventure teachers and listeners. We learned a lot, including the differences between Amish and Mennonite ways of life. It was fun.

Here Comes VBS!!!

June 10-14th



Lots of supplies for decorations, snacks, and crafts are needed to make this wonderful program happen! Check the tree in the lobby for tags with items to be donated. Take one (or more!) and bring back the item you claimed.



Watch as the church transforms into a jungle, and we get to meet new young friends and reconnect with familiar ones in another of God's amazing habitats.

See Sherry Chubb for more information, or to register a child you care about.

Take a Deep Dive: There's More to See in God's Word by Ralph Brandt

This is Part 1 of a series showing us how to get even more out of our study of the Bible, including a look at what parts of the writing often confuse us, how we benefit from hearing spoken messages, sharing devos and small group discussions, and how to use other resources without feeling like we're back in the world of school research projects!

Matthew 4:4 says, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God." It's a familiar verse, and a reassuring one, reminding us of the power of God's nourishing strength, and of what we're missing without God in our lives. Once we take Jesus Christ as our savior and Lord, we hunger for ways to grow closer to God. We listen to messages by Pastor Kurt, we join study groups and Sunday school classes, and we read daily devotionals. But there is no substitute for spending time in a threesome: the Bible, the Holy Spirit, and you. I have heard that people generally believe they cannot understand God's word when they try to read it alone. If you share this frustration, help is available.

Scripture says you **can** understand. The more you discern within the scriptures as you read, the more you will feel eager to dig in even further. I have done it, and for a few years taught a class on doing it. (Editor's note: I'd sign up for that class!)

Most of my writings have massive amounts of imbedded scripture. I was about to stick one in here when the Holy Spirit said, let them look it up for themselves. Read 1 Corinthians 2:16.

Be honest: was your first reaction upon looking at the verse, "Thank goodness it's short?" LOL Did it leave you with more questions than answers? Please don't sit back in frustration. Seekers let their questions drive them. Notice the end of verse 16: "But we have the mind of Christ." That part we understand—it says "Don't Stop Now!" loud & clear!

In the next segment, we'll look at the basic resources, including commentaries, the wide range of versions of the Bible, and online study guides and comprehensive offerings.

Yard Sale

May 25, 2024

6am set up

Sale 7am-2pm

Need to clean out the attic and basement?

Don't know what to do with all that stuff?



We are holding our annual yard sale, and we are currently taking donations.

What are we accepting?

Any gently used items, clothes without holes or stains. If it is electric or battery operated, please make sure it works. Yard items, toys, basically anything you want to donate.

We will be collecting the items in the quad, back by the soda machine. If you need help getting your items to the church, let Chip Foeks know, and he can make arrangements.

If you want to sell your own stuff...

We have spaces available. The space size is 1 parking space and we supply you with a table.

We are looking for volunteers to help with going through the items donated, setting up, running the concession stands and cleaning up.

If you have any questions please see Cheryl Foeks

Circle of Prayer

For this cycle of Circle of Prayer we will be praying for our churches in the Susquehanna Conference our Sierra Leone Partner Churches and our Conference Camp/Retreat Centers.

Churches for May 5-11

First UMC, Old Forge
First UMC, Mansfield
Salem Hillcrest UMC, Blairs Mills
New Hope UMC, Bellefonte
Longstown UMC, York
Charlton UMC, Harrisburg
Trucksville, UMC, Trucksville
Tivoli UMC, Hughesville
Breezewood UMC, Breezewood
Freeburg UMC, Freeburg

Churches for May 12-18

Port Matilda UMC, Port Matilda
Zion UMC, East Prospect
Tipton UMC, Tipton
Moscow UMC, Moscow
Walnut Grove UMC, Newport
Rogers Memorial UMC, Bo-Sierra
Leone
Ralston UMC, Ralston
First UMC, Hollidaysburg
Trinity UMC, Northumberland
Rhodes Memorial UMC, Lewistown
Wesley UMC, Mechanicsburg
Greene Hills Camp/Retreat Center
& RV Park, Alexandria

Churches for May 19 - 25

St Pauls UMC, Berwick
Cowanesque UMC, Cowanesque
O'Shanter UMC, Clearfield
Prompton Community UMC, Prompton
Bethlehem UMC, Codorus
Hope UMC, Mechanicsburg
South Williamsport UMC, S. Williamsport
Center UMC, Three Springs
Milroy UMC, Milroy
Shiremanstown UMC, Shiremanstown

Churches for May 26-June 1

Cortez UMC, Jefferson Township
Shawville UMC, Clearfield
Adamsville UMC, Red Lion
Athens UMC, Athens
Pfoutz Valley UMC, Millerstown
Rogers Memorial UMC, Bo-Sierra Leone
Upper Strasburg UMC, Upper Strasburg
First UMC, West Pittston
Kulp UMC, Catawissa
Shunk UMC, Shunk
Grays UMC, Port Matilda
Mount Asbury Camp & Retreat Center
Newville



...We pray constantly for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling, & that by his power he may fulfill every good purpose of yours & every act prompted by your faith. We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, & you in him, according to the grace of our God & the Lord Jesus Christ."
--2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

Marty Green—Joshua 4:24

“He did this so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the Lord is powerful and so that you might always fear the Lord your God.”

Ok, so being raised in a big family doesn't always lead to growing up knowing Jesus or belonging to a church. But when your uncle, who had 8 siblings, is the founder of a church in close vicinity to your extended family including aunts, uncles, cousins, brothers, sisters, parents—you are more than likely to grow up thinking this was Sunday morning in America, and probably Wednesday night youth groups, and the occasional potluck supper, and Christmas Eve and Maundy Thursday services. And if you looked up into the stands from the h. s. football field on Friday nights, you'd see a good percentage of the congregation in attendance, cheering for the home team.

This became the rhythm of Marty Green's youth. Sunday School, confirmation class, and plenty of sports. He didn't really question routines like mealtime blessings, or singing hymns. He was satisfied that what he learned about God and His son, and our purpose for being here made sense.



Of course, no one stays a teen forever, thankfully. And the friends and cousins started gravitating toward their own journeys that didn't match up perfectly with Marty's dreams of college and college sports. Some wandered away from church, or even from God, without any fanfare. They all found their own paths. Marty went to Edinboro College in western PA, became interested in geology, got a teaching certificate, found some lifelong friends, and married Melanie Brooks right there in Edinboro. They went back to his hometown of Sayre and attended a Methodist church for a while, until he found a teaching position in Dover, PA. The fact that it came with a coaching position was just icing on the cake!

He joined the fire department, and became friends with several people from Otterbein UMC, as New Creation was formerly known. Families like the Dentlers, the Harlachers, and Daryl Gemmill invited him to come to church and join the softball team, which meant a lot to Marty. This was the kind of activity that pulled guys together. They played teams from other churches.



Melanie participated in activities that appealed to her and allowed her to form friendships with the women of the church, and as their family expanded, Andy and Stef got involved in various children's and later youth programs and groups. Now he and Melanie share their grandchildren with us.

Our church has had a series of pastors and leaders over the past 30+ years, and with each change, some people feel moved to leave for other worship groups, and some stay here. “What made me stay when others moved on from NCCC is ultimately that this church represents this community. We relate to the values and the needs of the Dover community.” When you look at where we invest our money for missions and local or even global events, helping others as one neighbor to another is at the heart of what we do.

To really get a feel for the outreach of this church family, it helps to be willing to stretch beyond your comfort zone. “In my early years, I attended, I participated in activities, but I was not interested in leading. I had plenty of excuses for not taking a role as a Sunday School teacher, such as having 2 jobs (which was true!), but I see that was an excuse now that I’m venturing out. I was asked to attend Annual Conference a few years ago, which meant attending the committees in our church to go with it. That changed everything. I’ve always been interested in & valued work, and I learned so much from the leadership teams.” He now serves as the chairperson of the church Finance team, which requires dedication to detail while giving him satisfaction. This role has changed his perspective of what goes on behind the scenes as he and his team consider how carefully we spend our resources to help neighbors, provide teaching materials, and maintain our facility for the glory of God. He has discovered how meaningful activities such as game nights are, as informal ways to get to know each other and make friends who share our faith and our passions. Similar experiences such as our annual Christmas dinner, Easter Egg hunt, Trunk or Treat, Car show, VBS, Release Time, Yard Sale, Craft Show, and the congregation Christmas Party demonstrate God’s love and change lives.



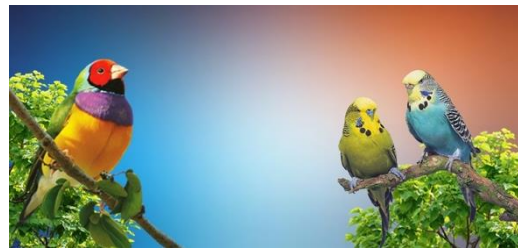
Looking back to friends from childhood who went their separate ways, did Marty ever question his beliefs? Growing up during Woodstock, Vietnam, Haight Ashbury, and Watergate, the questions and alternative answers were out there. But to know Jesus is to live in gratitude. As he concluded, “We need to be godly, but guess what? We’re human. We need the human companionship. God gave us life to live, and it’s heavenly and earthly at the same time.”

May Birthdays

5/4 John Kroft	5/16 Evelyn Green
5/8 Christine Fusselman	5/23 Renay Sigel
5/9 John Myers	5/24 Gary Moore
5/14 Tori Foeks Wood	5/26 Terry Dietz
5/16 Michelle Dietz	

Happy Anniversary, Chip & Cheryl Foeks

May 5th!



Flourish—Palm trees in Israel are known as date palms, flourishing for at least 5,000 years. They are a symbol of refuge for travelers and an abundant resource for fruit, syrups, grains, fibers and timber. Their leaves were used to celebrate victory, such as when Jesus entered Jerusalem on what has come to be known as Palm Sunday.

Cedar trees were once abundant in Lebanon. They sometimes grew to 120 feet tall and strongly rooted. Their wood was world renowned for its beautiful red color, for its lightweight, yet resilient strength, and for being resistant to decay and repellent to insects. When people choose to root themselves in the patterns of God, they flourish and bless the world, like these two types of trees. (from the *Make a Difference Youth Bible, NIV, Broadstreet Publishing*)

May						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Youth Group 6 pm	2 National Day of Prayer Praise Team 6 Choir 7:15	3	4
5	6 Griefshare Luncheon noon	7 Men's Accountability group 6:30 NT group 6:30 Daycare Board	8	9 Ascension Day Praise Team 6 pm Choir 7:15 Trustees 7	10	11
12 Mother's Day 	13 Women in Community 6:30-8	14 Men's Accountability group 6:30 NT group 6:30 Daycare Board 6 pm	15 Youth Group 6 pm	16 Praise Team 6 pm Choir 7:15	17	18
19 Pentecost	20 Finance team 7 pm	21 Men's Accountability group 6:30 NT group 6:30 pm	22 SEND Extended 7 pm Youth Leaders? 6 pm	23 Praise Team 6 Choir 7:15	24	25 Community Yard Sale 8-2
26	27 Women in Community 6:30-8	28 Men's Accountability Group 6:30 NT Group 6:30	29	30	31	6/1 (7/10-14 VBS)
			Pastor Kurt attending Annual Conference in Williamsport, PA			



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Deadline for June newsletter is Tuesday, May 28th. Please send your articles or information to Margie at Quiltgrand133@gmail.com. Thank you!