

The Taftsville Chapel Current

God calls us as followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as a community of grace, joy and peace, so that God's healing and hope flow through us to our world.

"The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

John 3:8

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Come Celebrate Resurrection Morning!

On Easter morning, at 7 a.m., we will gather at the chapel to remember and reflect on the familiar story of Jesus' death and resurrection. Join us for this most meaningful time, as we carry our big wooden cross to the top of the hill. Songs of resurrection will ring through the beautiful valley; and then we will return to the chapel to share a wonderful breakfast together before our regular worship service begins at 9:30. If you aren't able to come on the early morning cross walk, you are still invited to join us for breakfast at 8:00. There will be a sign-up list for breakfast items to bring. Second hour classes will be cancelled on Easter morning.

Hallelujah, He Overcame! (H₂O)

He calmed the sea, knew where the fish were.
He said of Himself that He was Living water,
That all who thirst for righteousness would be filled,
And never want for more.

He was baptized in it, made good wine out of it,
Walked on it, created it.
Then, the One who made healing mud with His spit
Cried out in agony: "I thirst"

The Incarnate One became like us, for us.
"good" Friday's cry was from One fully human,
Yet refusing to provide for Himself anything
Not given by the overflowing will of His Father.

Blood ran down with sweat,
The sun He made parched Him.
Taunts and slander and mockery,
The people he made despised Him.

Is it I, Lord? In my desperate thirst for
Acceptance, companionship, safety,
Comfort, meaning, significance and independence,
Would I have helped crown You with thorns?

*

My soul was built to long for You,
As the deer pants for the water streams.
In my restless impatience,
I settle for vinegar and gall.

You bore it all, for us all, once and for all,
Absorbing in Your mangled body my sin.
Closing up the wound between us
While your lifeblood soaked the sand at your feet.

Surely, He knows us as we are.
Knows full well our pain and grief,
Our panic and demand for relief.
In love with us, He died thirsty.

*

Enough! It is finished! Arise! Come forth!
Out of us shall flow rivers of Living water!
Surely I can give a cup away in His Name!
Quenching the thirst to taste and see that the Lord is good.

By Randy Good

The Cabin Fever Bible Study Group

What might motivate people to leave their own warm firesides on winter Friday nights, put on jackets and boots and mittens, and drive as much as 30 miles on hilly snowy often-unfamiliar roads just to sit beside someone else's wood stove? For 15 of us the motivation has been to participate in this year's Cabin Fever Bible Study. Since January we've traveled to Prosper and East Barnard and White River Junction and Hartland Four Corners to enjoy the warmth and hospitality of group members' homes. Randy serves as our gentle shepherd as we sit in an informal circle and use our Bibles and a study guide* to consider some aspect of that marvelous book of the Bible, the Psalms. We've learned together that the Psalms transcend time and place as we've joined the psalmists (for there were many writers) in praying, crying out in despair or anger, confessing, reflecting, singing, and praising God. In the midst of winter we've found hope and peace in images of green pastures, still waters, and fruit bearing trees, as well as the assurance that God washes us "whiter than snow" from our sins. Midway through the evening's reading, discussion, and reflection we take a break for fellowship and food; every week there's a spread of fruit and sweets and savory snacks and coffee and tea with time to chat and relax as we eat and drink. One could say that the Cabin Fever Bible Study nourishes the body as well as soul and spirit! -Virginia Schlabach

**Interpretation Bible Studies: Psalms* by Jerome F.D. Creach

The PSALM of us

My sin is like a broken leg;
twisted and splintered; it is impossible for me to stand.
O Lord, you alone are my healer;
You make straight what is crooked, mend what is torn,
and strengthen where there is no strength.

My sin is like a car with a flat tire.
O Lord, forgive me for the noise and dysfunction in my life.
Restore me to wholeness and peace. May I travel Your path.

My sin is like a post-traumatic-stress-disordered street person –
unstable, ill, angry... and it is because of
what my own hands have done; not what others have done to me.
O Lord, I need *more* than a meal and a dusting off.
I need a new story, a new soul.
I need my purity back; a deep healing from the inside out.

My sin is like the broken shell of a once beautiful,
now irreparable, Easter egg.
O Lord, only your forgiveness and mercy can put the pieces
back together and make me beautiful and whole again.

My sin is like a cold blanket around me, giving no warmth.
O Lord, forgive my sin – warm me with your touch.
Help me to put this sin behind me
and walk in your light – with You.

My sin is like the world; the relations of the world.
O Lord, forgive our sin; and heal our wounds.

My sin is like a mudslide. It's ugly and destructive.
O Lord, send grass to cover it; and gentle rain
to make the grass grow for healing and renewal.

My sin is like the broken chain, of grace – God's tears falling.
O Lord, Help me remember who I am; Your Child.
Praise be to God!

The Cabin Fever group recently studied Psalm 51, a penitential psalm of David. Randy led us in writing our own psalm of confession and forgiveness by asking each one to imagine something broken. He then had us write two verses using our image, beginning the first with "My sin is like..." and the second with "O Lord..." At the close of the evening, he read the psalm that we had unwittingly composed.
-Carie Good

Remembering our friends at New Beginnings in prayer:

During our visits with New Beginnings Community Church, we got to know Troy and Lana White, and their lively twelve year-old daughter Adena. Adena recently went through two long, corrective surgeries (sixteen hours) for her spine. She will be recovering for quite some time. Our love and prayers are certainly with Adena and her parents. If you would like to send a note, the address is:

Troy & Lana White
3241 Hulmeville Rd.
Apt. D-117
Bensalem, PA 19020

Schedule for March

Each Sunday morning: 9:30 am – Worship Service

10:45 am – Coffee and Fellowship

11:00 am – Second Hour / Sunday School

- March**
- 1 7:00 am – Men’s Breakfast / *Farmer’s Diner*
 - 8 7:30 am – Women’s Breakfast / *Place TBA*
 - 12 7:00 pm – Church Council
 - 20 6:30 pm – Maundy (Holy) Thursday Service & love feast
 - 23 EASTER – RESURRECTION DAY
7:00 am – Cross Walk
8:00 am – Breakfast
9:30 am – Easter Service / NO SECOND HOUR
 - 25 Deadline for April issue of *The Taftsville Chapel Current*
 - 30 9:30 am – Song Service

Taftsville Tally		
	Attendance	Offering
Feb. 3	-----43	-----\$2,250.00
10	-----46	-----1,301.01
17	-----47	-----1,326.15
24	-----44	-----1,296.00
		<i>Birthday Song Offering</i> ----- 116.00
<i>Please note that these totals do not always reflect the final tally.</i>		

March Birthdays

2 nd Mim Beck	13 th Ruth Ellen Dandurand	26 th Haylie Cox
4 th Mary Guntz	14 th Nicholas Wolfe	26 th Dora Esposito
6 th Lewis Fogg	21 st Sarah Glick	27 th Evelyn McCrory
12 th Addison Wanner	22 nd Darlene Snader	28 th Fred Schlabach

March Childcare Schedule

2 nd Laura Beidler
9 th Hayley Bolin
16 th Carie Good
23 rd Nancy Pejouhy
30 th Janet North

March Coffee Schedule

2 nd Nancy Pejouhy
9 th Janet North
16 th Karen Cox
23 rd Abner Schlabach
30 th R & R Glick

March Cleaning Schedule

2 nd A & V Schlabach
9 th A & V Schlabach
16 th J North & F Schlabach
24 th J North & F Schlabach
30 th D & D Snader

March Song Leaders

2 nd Janice Zook
9 th Virginia Schlabach
16 th Allison Fletcher
23 rd Janet North
30 th Carmeleta Beidler

Household of the Month for March

Each month we will feature a family/person along with some of their favorite Bible verses/passages or stories. Richard Glick is the photographer and is collecting these photos to compile into a pictorial directory – coming in the future.



Janice and Omar Zook

Favorite Verses:

Omar:

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 11:6

Janice:

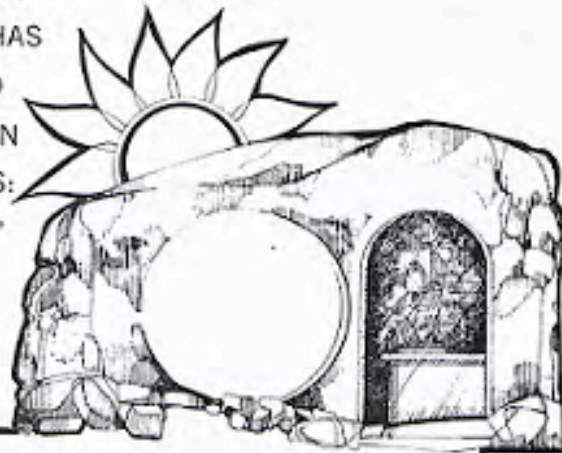
Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me – put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 4: 4-9

EASTER WORD HUNT

The angel's words (Matt. 28:5-7) have been hidden in this word square. Look up, down, sideways, backwards and diagonally to find the words. If a word appears more than once in the verses, it is hidden only once in the square.

THE ANGEL SAID TO THE WOMEN, "DO NOT BE AFRAID, FOR I KNOW THAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR JESUS, WHO WAS CRUCIFIED. HE IS NOT HERE; HE HAS RISEN, JUST AS HE SAID. COME AND SEE THE PLACE WHERE HE LAY. THEN GO QUICKLY AND TELL HIS DISCIPLES: 'HE HAS RISEN FROM THE DEAD' . . ."



M	R	A	S	S	E	L	P	I	C	S	I	D
E	R	E	H	W	Y	L	K	C	I	U	Q	T
E	M	O	C	L	T	G	D	N	A	J	E	E
C	S	L	O	S	A	O	E	N	E	U	E	L
A	B	C	Q	A	H	S	N	S	A	S	L	L
L	K	N	O	W	I	A	U	I	M	T	O	D
P	A	F	O	R	S	S	L	O	H	L	I	N
C	B	M	S	L	A	Z	R	E	Q	A	E	B
A	E	M	N	I	C	F	N	O	S	Y	R	E
N	U	N	D	L	H	E	R	A	O	D	E	C
G	Y	O	U	S	L	T	H	A	T	A	H	A
E	H	T	C	R	U	C	I	F	I	E	D	L
L	O	O	K	I	N	G	N	A	M	D	O	Q

Candlelighters

Thread your needle – count 3 squares – stitch through quilt top, batting and backing – tie square knot – cut thread – count 3 squares...

Six Candlelighters met on Saturday, February 23 at Mary Guntz' home to tie a colorful quilt that her 93-year-old mother pieced. After about an hour and half we finished the tie knotting and took it out of the quilt frame. Mary will be sewing on a border to complete the project, and the quilt will be given to Mennonite Central Committee. It was a fun time with friendly chatter and laughter as we worked.

Following our quilting, during a delicious snack of fruit, cookies & pretzels, we discussed the various soups that we each brought (6 quarts frozen) for our "Soup Swap". We each went home with a quart of these different soups: Carrot Ginger, Hearty Hamburger, Harvest Lentil, Tuscan Bean and Cabbage, Dilled Chicken and Chick pea, Red Bean and Ham. What a treat it will be to have these healthy soups in the freezer – an easy meal to heat up on a cold snowy evening.

–Jan Collins



→We are looking for ideas for future Candlelighters' meetings. If you have any ideas for projects, field trips, or fun times together, please contact Ruth Ann Glick.



Janet North, Virginia Schlabach, Ruth Ann Glick, Mary Guntz, Carie Good

The Birthday Song

It has been a tradition at Taftsville Chapel, to recognize and celebrate our individual birthdays by singing "The Birthday Song" each month or two (if we remember!) while those who had a birthday during those months come forward with an offering (optional) towards purchases for our library. These are the words to our Birthday Song.

We wish a Happy Birthday
to you our dear friend,
And may the Heavenly Father
his kindest blessings send.
A Happy, Happy Birthday
all beautiful with love,
And bright with many a blessings
from God our Friend above.

Taftsville Tidbit Trivia

Do you remember when...

35 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

March 5, 1973

It was decided as a church project to purchase a new gas range for the Bethany Birches Camp. The present one is very old and in need of repair.

30 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

March 14, 1978

Mary Guntz was in charge of the March meeting. There was an Easter craft idea that proved enjoyable to everyone. Additional time was spent scraping paint off the newly painted windows in the Millen Room. Mary reported that the total cost for the drapes and renovations for the Millen Room was \$1857.37

25 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

March 8, 1983

Nelson is willing to turn on the heating system each Saturday if the church housekeeper for the month asks him to.

10 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

March 13 & 20, 1998

Council approved use of the building for piano recitals for Marcia Bender's students, for two Fridays in March, from 3-6 p.m.

Bit 'n Pieces

✓For a full report of Ted and Elinor's work and experiences in Tucson, AZ, go to our web site <http://www.taftsvillechapel.org/> and go to "Blog Threads" section and click on "Community Home Repair". They have at least four entries so far, and are VERY interesting. **Please remember them in your prayers.**

✓Note Email change for Jane Dandurand:
jane.kids@hotmail.com

In Praise of Mud Season

By Sheldon Esch

February 2008

All winter we've tried to maintain
The view that our wait's not in vain
For this world lumpy white
To one day melt from sight
Then the mud comes and some see more pain.

Shortly all the back roads will be mud
And tourists think this season's a dud
If it weren't for the sap run
They'd stay home to have fun
As the traveling turns cars into crud.

But to me mud's a beautiful thing
As a first indicator of spring
Leaving us little doubt
Winter's on the way out
Oh, it's mud now that makes my heart sing!

Yes, I know what down-country folks say
That it's ugly and not good for play
But they don't understand
It's all part of God's plan
-Just a needed precursor to May.

Yes, mud season can dampen your drive
But just turn to Romans chapter five
When the sludge leads to curses
Read the third and fourth verses
And adopt Paul's outlook to survive.

Rejoice in the muck and the goo!
For enduring this suffering, it's true
Builds our character strong
Persevere! Before long
Hope can spring up from what you've gone through.

Don't let your hearts grow fuddy-duddy
Instead comfort yourselves with close study
of buds painted green-gold
like that Frost poem of old.
Spring is near! Celebrate! Let's get muddy!

Send your contributions for

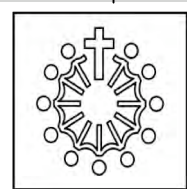
"The Taftsville Chapel Current" to:

rdjgcollins@mac.com

OR slip a note in my church mailbox

OR contact a Newsletter Staff Member:

Carie Good, Janet North, and Virginia Schlabach



Taftsville Chapel Mennonite Fellowship

Located in the village of Taftsville,
one block south of Rte. 4 on Happy Valley Rd.

Randy Good, Pastor (802) 457-1516

<http://www.taftsvillechapel.org/>