

Life Connection

Issue No. 37

February 10, 2021 Dr. Norman J. Leve, Jr.-Sr. Pastor

A NOTE FROM PASTOR NORM...





Praise the Lord!!! Time sure does fly when "you are having fun". It is a new year! The old is behind us!! Consequently, we SHOULD be enjoying the life God has given us and blessings that He has sent our way. I just wanted to share with you a little about my life in the next five weeks.

Over the past 69 years I have been a pretty healthy person who loves to laugh and

enjoy life. I must confess that the last two and a half years have been a little difficult...pain and a few tears. I have been blessed to have each one of you walk with me through my health problems. What a time...arthritis, diabetes, severe cellulites, two cataracts, two new Knees and one shoulder with two tears repaired. Would you not think that is enough???

Well, I have one more problem. I have two tears in my right shoulder that need repair. I talked to the surgeon about doing the work as soon as possible. This is a little sooner than anticipated...but, I want to be totally healthy and healed for when the "plaque" is under control and everyone is back in church and doing the ministry God has called us to do. I do NOT want to hinder the ministry of the church. This might be a bigger challenge because I am right handed. However, this is good timing so I will also be able to celebrate Holy Week/Easter with my church flock.

My surgery is next Thursday, the 18th at University of Penn in the old Presbyterian Hospital on Market Street in Philly. A fast "in and out" and I will be as good as new. I just need two things from you...your prayers and your commitment to New Life in this next month. I thank you for it already.

Love ya,

Pastor Norm



THE SEASON OF LENT



The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, February 17th with Ash Wednesday. We observe Lent as a time of repentance, and prayer; of meditation on Jesus' life and death. In our

busy, secular world, Lent is a time of renewal, a time to remember Jesus-to walk with Him in study, prayer, and to engage in personal and family worship.

This year, we encourage you to set aside some time with your family on Ash Wednesday to prepare your heart for the Lenten Season and the celebration of Easter. You may want to reflect on the blessings God has given you over the past year, and spend some time in prayer with Him.

While we won't be celebrating Ash Wednesday together this year, we know you will be blessed through your personal devotions with the Lord as you remember His sacrifice for you, and the many blessings He has provided.

GIVING UPDATE

God is Good...ALL THE TIME!!! We Grateful Know that this has been a different year, filled with moments of uncertainty for us all, but one thing we know...God will always supply our needs...and He has done that



through you! We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for not only giving throughout 2020, but for those sacrificial gifts that helped us finish out the year financially. Because of your faithfulness to God's call, we were able to conclude the year with all of our bills paid!!! As we begin this new year together, we hope that you will continue to give regularly so that our ministries at home and abroad may continue to grow. If you are able to, any increase in your giving would be greatly appreciated. As we journey through 2021, let remember to be faithful in all areas of our stewardship. "God loves a cheerful giver"...let's give it all we've got!!!

Friends To Remember In Drayer

Pastor Norm Shoulder surgery 2/18 Bill Hughes Surgery 2/19 Joan Thomas Testing Don Anderson Broken ankle

Donna Kull Health concerns Christine Campbell Health concerns Chase Berlin-Friend of Pastor Norm Recovering from surgery

Special Concerns

Donna Bartie Health concerns

Health concerns

Faith Buck

Mary Ann Conover Health concerns

Bernice Cook Health concerns

Loss Of Loved Ones

Continue to pray for these members who have recently lost a mate, parent, or child.

Glen Stephenson—Loss of Dina Pepper Family—Loss of husband/dad, Jack

PICK UP YOUR WEEKLY BULLETIN



Want to stay updated on current Church Announcements? If you've missed a Worship Church News Service, or have been Live Streaming from home, we encourage you to stop by the literature table in the Lobby and pick up a bulletin.

CHURCH OFFICE AND BOOKSTORE HOURS

Have a spiritual need? We would like to remind you that the Church Office and Bookstore is open throughout the week, Monday-Friday from 9:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M., and Saturday from 9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. We encourage you to stop by and say hello.



You might also like to pick up a special gift to minister to someone. If you have any other needs the staff can assist you with, never hesitate to ask!









HOPE HAS A NAME

By Dr. Dondi E. Costin

Hope has a Name for times like these, When it looks like there are no quarantees Of returning to life as it used to be Before facemasks became an accessory. When uncovered faces in crowds had a blast And handshakes were not a thing of the past.

But pandemic, recession, and social unrest Have put even the strongest faith to the test, Why us? Why now? When will it end? How much longer will we pretend That the college try is all that we need, That ingenuity alone is the way to succeed?

Logic and science, as good as they are, Can certainly help, but only take us so far On our lifelong journey from birth to death Trying to make the most of every breath. If we've learned nothing else in this strange year God taught us that He is much bigger than fear.

The shepherds heard it first, the Magi later; "Fear not" makes sense when it's from your Creator. Into our chaos, God sent His Son, Laid in a manger, the prophesied One. Because the first pandemic is still with us today, No social distance escapes sin's dread sway.

But that Baby's cradle on the first Christmas night Led to His cross to make everything right For sinners like us in need of God's grace Whose only hope is within His embrace. Incarnation, Crucifixion, Resurrection to free us; Hope has a Name; We call Him Jesus.

