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# KANTNER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

626 FORBES ROAD  
STOYSTOWN, PA 15563



**A warm, loving Christian community that offers God's  
healing, forgiveness and redemption to all.**

## NEWSLETTER ~ MAY, 2018

### **2018 NATIONAL PRAYER FOR AMERICA**

Our Dear Heavenly Father, while we come to You in complete humility, we also come to You with boldness in the authoritative name of Your One and Only Son, Jesus Christ, who is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. In Jesus' name, fill us now with Your Holy Spirit and lead us as we pray in Jesus' name for America.

Oh God, we are burdened for our nation today. We turn from the sins that we have committed against your Word and your Name. We turn away from our contentious words and ways toward one another that has led us to division and polarization. We turn away from our disrespect and lack of dignity toward each other, and we turn away from our continual devaluation of all human life from the womb until death in this world. We also turn away from and refuse to participate in skepticism, criticism, and cynicism in our nation. We turn away from anything that divides us, and we run toward the gospel of Jesus Christ that is the only thing that has the power to unite us together.

Lord, in this critical hour in our nation, we pray for unity in America. Only You can bring unity, harmony, and oneness in America. As your Word calls us in Ephesians 4:3, "*Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace*", we ask You to empower us to make every effort to live in unity, to call for unity, and to forward unity in America continually.

We pray for the churches in America to unify in Jesus Christ and to pray as one unified spiritual family for America. May your Church pray for America passionately, perpetually, privately, and publicly.

We pray for God's power to unify families, workplaces, communities, and cities in America. By Your Spirit, lead us to forgiveness, reconciliation, healing, and unity. We pray for people of all ethnicities and races in America to come together as one, living in peace and unity together. Oh Lord, because each of us is created in Your image, please give us the courage to stand against all racial and ethnic division, denouncing it as evil and sinful, while simultaneously coming together in unity with all persons knowing this is God's will for us.

We pray in unity for the security of our nation. We ask You to preserve the United States of America from the forces of evil that are threatening our lives and our future. God, please guard all persons in public and private settings from anyone or anything that desires to harm us or take our lives. Our future is in Your hands.

We agree clearly, unite visibly, and pray extraordinarily for the next Great Spiritual Awakening in America. Oh Lord, wake up Your church spiritually and convict Your people to agree clearly, unite visibly, and pray extraordinarily until the next Great Spiritual Awakening occurs in our generation.

Oh God, we stand together upon Your words in *Psalms 133:1*, "*How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in harmony.*" Through Jesus' name and by the Holy Spirit's power, we pray for all Americans to unify and to live together in unity. In the mighty and majestic name of Jesus Christ who is the Only Savior and the Only Hope in this world, we pray. Amen.

Dr. Ronnie Floyd  
President, National Day of Prayer Task Force  
Senior Pastor, Cross Church

<sup>15</sup> *Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.*

*~1 Timothy 1:15*

I am currently reading Kyle Idleman's book Grace Is Greater. He says:

I read a quote on Twitter the other day from a pastor named Jean Larroux. I inwardly protested as soon as I read it, but ironically my protest likely only did more to prove the truth of what he said. Here's the quote: "If the biggest sinner you know isn't you, then you don't know yourself very well."

I guess I kind of struggled with that for a while. I'm the pastor – I'm supposed to be the shining example of how to live this life the correct way, right?

Obviously this quote was based on Paul's words to Timothy where he (the Apostle Paul) claims to be the worst of all sinners. Ok, I thought, Paul WAS the worst of sinners. He gladly persecuted the church before his conversion. He did horrible things to people. He sanctioned the killing of Christians. He was one of the worst sinners there had ever been. But wait...

Paul doesn't say that he HAD been the worst of sinners, he says "I AM". Present tense. Here I am, he says, after meeting the risen Christ on the road to Damascus, after receiving Him and becoming one of His most successful missionaries, I AM the worst of sinners.

Idleman goes on to talk about all of the reasons we use to try and justify why we ARE NOT the worst of sinners, but in reality they are just thin excuses even on our best days. In fact, we are sinners, we have all fallen short; we deserve death. Great way to start a book, right?

But, go back to the title of the book: Grace Is Greater. There is a strong message coming. There is a message of hope. We have a God of grace – grace greater than we can understand, and certainly grace greater than we deserve.

Until we realize our need for grace it is difficult to fully grasp how wonderful God's grace is. Yes, we are sinners. Yes, we can all do better. But yes, we are covered by God's grace in the blood of Christ.

I pray that you fully embrace the grace that God offers you. You need it; I need it. Without it we are still dead in our sins. But more than that, the message we send to the world cannot be one of condemnation, but a message of hope based on the grace of God. After all, the only difference between us and those outside of the church is the fact that we have actively received God's grace. It's available for them, too. Tell them. Show them.

We are no better than the rest of the world, we are simply forgiven. I am forgiven. You are forgiven. Celebrate and share that!

In His Service,

*Rich*

# MAY CELEBRATIONS

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

1 Joann Eutin  
 2 Ben Mostoller  
 Diana Wheeler  
 6 Owen Delano  
 Harvey Mull Jr  
 Seth Walsh  
 7 Alex Ginter  
 Jennifer Powell  
 Maddie Smedberg  
 Fred Brant  
 8 Michael Adams  
 Connie Sturtz  
 Ryan Platt  
 9 Sydnee Ashbrook  
 Cameron Miller  
 11 Norman Manges  
 Eugene Schenk  
 Leeanna Wheeler  
 12 Sophie Weible  
 Will Brant  
 14 Stephanie Lehman  
 15 Kayla Maust  
 17 Lindon Hummel  
 18 Brody Pugh  
 19 Ron Addleman  
 Lindsay Walker  
 20 Grace Tressler  
 Jacob Tressler  
 21 Eugene Defibaugh  
 Maxine Ott  
 22 Art Jerin Sr  
 Deb Stewart  
 23 Denise Faidley  
 Suzanne Weaver

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY CONT.

25 Brian Wilt  
 26 Ashley Ohler  
 Alyson Platt  
 28 Kathryn Phillips  
 29 Donna Faidley  
 Richard Rininger  
 Kenny Walker Jr  
 30 Gus Strasiser  
 31 Linda Adams  
 Ethan Lehman

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

7 Jamie & Ginger Walker  
 17 Elmer & Margaret Defibaugh  
 18 John & Judy Krause  
 Jeff & Jodi Thomas  
 20 Rich & Danielle Pearson  
 25 Missy & Nate Weisenstein  
 27 Brad & Kristi Lorence

## IN MEMORIAM

3 Ollie Defibaugh  
 4 Connie Bruening  
 10 Jodell Zimmerman  
 13 Gladys Eash  
 20 Louise Bentz  
 21 Paul Ott  
 24 Robert Nicklow  
 Drew & Lauren Hittie  
 Dale Maust  
 28 Robert & Wilma Nicklow

## SERVING IN MAY

DATE	GREETERS	ACOLYTES
06	Dave & Sue Mowry	Sydnee Ashbrook
13	Pat Maust & Joyce Miller	Ayden Boyd
20	Jim & Jeanne Torrence	Dannyn Ashbrook
27	Brandon & Amy Adams	Devin Stanczyk
DATE	NURSERY	FLOWERS
06	Bethany DeLano; Billie Tressie	Jill Wagner
13	Bev Shaver; Colby Powell	Mother's Day
20	Marlene K. Putman; Amy Lorence	Donna Wilt
27	Marlene M. Putman; Brooklyn Thomas	Open

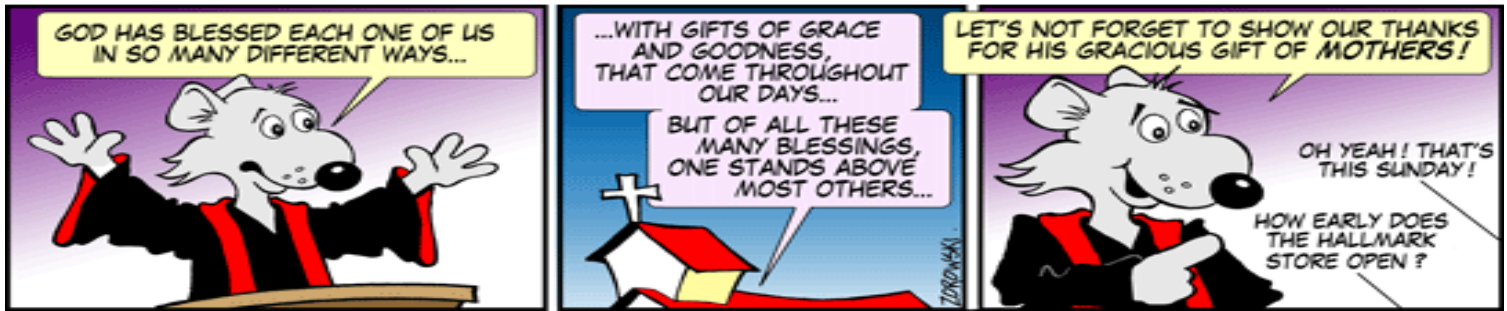
## Prayer List

*Please keep the following persons in your prayers in the coming weeks. Remember the way to put people on the published list found in the bulletin and newsletter is to write their name on a form and place it in basket on the prayer rail. They will remain on the list for a month.*

Ron & JoAnn Eutin	Rhonda Emmert	Ally Eutin
Peggy & Art Jerin	Isaac Sheets	Jacob Miller
Gabriel Ohler	Babett Lunstrum	John Stewart
Elmer Defibaugh	Galen Flick	Bentley Blythe
Ila McQuade	Stephanie Lehman	Paul Muchesko
Lorraine Hollan	Velma Putman	David Shaulis
Ina Miller	Judah Pope	
Maxine Ott	Gary & Niki Ashbrook	

## Church Mice

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## “Home Bound” Members of the Kantner Family

Elmer Defibaugh  
4570 Ridge Road  
Stoystown, PA 15563

Kathryn Phillips  
460 Schoolhouse Rd.  
Stoystown, PA 15563

Maxine Ott  
401 E. Main St.  
Stoystown, PA 15563

Ina Miller  
Siemon Lakeview Manor  
The Heritage, Rm 209  
Somerset, PA 15501

Ila McQuade  
Siemon Lakeview Manor  
The Heritage, Rm 202  
Somerset, PA 15501

Lorraine Hollan  
Patriot Manor #341  
495 W. Patriot St.  
Somerset, PA 15501

Peggy & Art Jerin  
116 Abby Lane, Lot 7  
Berlin, PA 15530

Genevieve Mull  
P. O. Box 96  
Stoystown, PA 15563

Velma Putman  
Shaffer's Countryside Living  
1841 Stoystown Road  
Friedens, PA 15541

Frank & Aletta Strasiser  
Maple Valley Per. Care #12  
2212 Anthony Run Road  
Indiana, PA 15701

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*We will include this list each month. If you would like to add or make any other changes to the list, please let the office know at 893-6216*

# Special Events

- 3 National Day of Prayer  
"Consider the Ant" Bible Study 7pm
- 6 *Good Samaritan Offering*  
Coffee Time 8:30am  
Sunday School 8:55am  
Worship 10am  
Youth Group 6pm
- 8 Council Meeting 7pm
- 13 Mother's Day  
Coffee Time 8:30am  
Sunday School 8:55am  
Worship 10am  
Youth Group 6pm
- 15 Trustee's Meeting 6pm
- 18 Men's Breakfast at Nancy's 8am
- 20 Pentecost  
Coffee Time 8:30am  
Sunday School 8:55am  
Worship 10am  
Youth Group 6pm
- 21 Food Bank Preparation
- 22 Food Bank Distribution
- 23 Food Bank Distribution
- 24 Food Bank Distribution
- 27 Peace with Justice Sunday  
Coffee Time 8:30am  
Sunday School 8:55am  
Worship 10am
- 28 Memorial Day

## THE LAUREL HIGHLAND CHORALE

SUNDAY, MAY 6th -  
3:30PM

SOMERSET CHURCH  
OF THE BRETHREN  
606 BERLIN PLANK RD

## GOT SHOES?

Your old shoes can help those who are homeless or disabled. Now through July 1st, we will be collecting your old, unwanted shoes (gently-used) for Pastor Rich to take to the Annual Conference. Please place banded shoes in the box located in Heritage Hall.

## STOYSTOWN MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

MONDAY, MAY 28th

200 W MAIN ST.

STOYSTOWN, PA 15563





Kantner United Methodist Church  
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Stoystown, PA 15563

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