

## Upcoming Events

February 19, 4 p.m. Food Concession.

6pm Bluegrass Concert

February 22, 7 p.m. Session

March 8, 6 p.m. Deacons

### Capital Campaign:

Goal: \$75,400

Received: \$27,805

Pledged: \$15,500

Still Needed: \$32,095

### Gloria patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be  
— world without end.  
Amen, amen.

### Questions to Congregation during Installation of Officers

- (1) Do we, the members of the church, accept, Mark Niederer, Kristine Schmidt, and Chris Manz as ruling elders or deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?
- (2) Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

### Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen!

## Lenten Series

Each Wednesday during Lent a service will be held at 7pm. The schedule is:

- Ash Wednesday, March 1 at Lambertville
- Wednesday, March 8 at Lambertville
- Wednesday, March 15 at Titusville
- Wednesday, March 22 at Kirkpatrick
- Wednesday, March 29 at Titusville
- Wednesday, April 5 at Larson's Corner
- Maundy Thursday, April 13 at Mt. Airy
- Good Friday, April 14 at Mt. Airy at Noon and at Kirkpatrick at 7 pm

### Session:

**Class of 2017**  
Barbara Matlack  
Randy Niederer

**Class of 2018**  
Patti Manz  
Tim Shaub

**Class of 2019**  
Mark Niederer  
Kristine Schmidt, Clerk

### Deacons:

**Class of 2017**  
Judy Niederer, Secretary

**Class of 2018**  
Gail Butterfoss  
Lettie Ritner, Vice-Moderator

**Class of 2019**  
Chris Manz, Moderator

Pastor: Rev. Kenneth Good  
Worship Assistant: Randy Niederer  
Ministers: All members of Titusville Church

The Rev. Dr. R. William Shaub, *Pastor Emeritus*  
Barbara Matlack, *Office Administrator*  
Jon and Helen Eastburn, *Music Directors*

February 19, 2017

THE EXTRAORDINARY

GOD'S MAJESTIC WORK of  
REUNIFICATION & ADOPTION

Let us worship God!  
"so Abram went, as the LORD had told him" (12:4). He and Sarai, Lot and others set out toward the land that would become God's promise. Abram was 75 years old when he started this journey. Today, we gather on this Ordinary Time Sunday and consider the journey we are on. We look around us to see spiritual

family. Abram is one of the great figures of faith. The author of Hebrews elaborates that Abram went, "even though he did not know where he was going" (Heb. 11:8). He walked by faith, and not by sight. We are to travel the same way.



### Call to Worship

(Luke 8:22-25)

One day Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's go over to the other side of the lake." So they got into a boat and set out.

As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger.

The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we're going to drown!" He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm.

"Where is your faith?" he asked his disciples. In fear and amazement they asked one another, "Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him."

### Prayer of Confession

Eternal God,  
we are quick to join  
Abram's doubt and impatience,  
but we find it difficult to copy  
Abraham's faith and trust.  
We want to believe your promises,  
but the here-and-now problems of daily life

consume our focus  
and erode our faith.  
Open our eyes to your light.  
Open our hearts to your love.  
Open our minds to your possibilities.  
Speak to us today, O God,  
and strengthen our faith,  
that we, too, may know  
the everlasting power of your love.

By Laura Bartlett, ministrymatters.com



### Order of Liturgy

Prelude  
Call to Worship (page 1)  
Opening Hymn/ Prayer (page 1)  
Confession (page 1)  
—call, prayer, assurance  
Gloria patri (page 4)  
Scripture (page 1)  
Message  
Hymn of Response (page 1)  
Apostles Creed  
New City Catechism (page 2)  
Announcements  
Prayers of the People  
Installation of Officers  
Offering  
Offertory "Give Me Jesus"  
Doxology (page 4)  
Sending Hymn (page 1)  
Benediction  
Choral Benediction "Calm To The Waves"

### Scripture

Psalms 119:97-112 (page 438)  
Genesis 12:1-9 (page 8)  
Luke 8:26-9:62 (page 732)

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

### Songs for Today

Opening Hymns  
#808 "Eternal Father Strong to Save"  
Hymn of Response  
#589 "Here I Am, Lord"  
Sending Hymn  
#592 "Jesus Calls Us"

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## Notes on Morning Scripture

Abraham is mentioned 76 times in the New Testament

In the Gospel of Luke, we have 1:55, 1:73, 3:8, 3:34, 13:16, 13:28, 16:22, (also 23, 24, 25, 29, 30), 19:9, 20:37

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FS1LAc5DSCU> famous song by Amy Grant that references Psalm 119:105  
Luke 9:19: Malachi 3:1 references the return of Elijah the prophet to announce the coming of the Lord.

Luke 9:30: Moses is associated with the writing of the Law, and Elijah is referenced as the greatest of the prophets. This meeting speaks to the law and the prophets giving testimony of Jesus (see the Resurrection story, Luke 24:44)

Samaritans were from the region of Samaria, that eventually become a sect of Judaism, rejected by the Jewish people in the time of Christ. Religiously, they believed in the sufficiency of the Pentateuch (the first 5 books of the Hebrew Bible)

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## Web Links

<http://www.thebiblejourney.org/biblejourney2/23-the-journeys-of-adam-enoah-noah-abraham/abrams-journey-to-canaan/> interactive map with background of the places Abram traveled.

<http://reknew.org/2016/01/that-weird-episode-with-the-pigs/> providing historical background to the healing of the demon possessed man

<http://odb.org/2015/05/26/calming-the-storm/> Our Daily Bread reading

<http://www.biblesprout.com/articles/hell/demons/> overview Scripture's teaching regarding demons.

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2012/november-web-only/seeing-hidden-grace-of-alzheimers.html> in my search for a website to provide the Bible's teaching on disease, I came across this article, filled with grace.

<http://seanmcdowell.org/blog/why-did-jesus-tell-his-disciples-to-be-silent-about-his-identity> blog entry on the reasons behind Jesus' instruction

[http://blog.lifeway.com/growingdisciples/abraham\\_lincolns\\_call\\_for\\_humiliation/](http://blog.lifeway.com/growingdisciples/abraham_lincolns_call_for_humiliation/) words to the Senate, adopted March 3, 1863

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## New City Catechism

*A 52 question catechism developed by Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York. For an introduction to this catechism, visit: <http://www.newcitycatechism.com/intro.php>*

### Part 1: God, Creation and Fall, Law

**Week 10** What does God require in the fourth and fifth commandments?

**Answer:** *Fourth, that on the Sabbath day we spend time in public and private worship of God, rest from routine employment, serve the Lord and others, and so anticipate the eternal Sabbath. Fifth, that we love and honor our father and our mother, submitting to their godly discipline and direction.*

*To learn more about Question 10, including Scripture background, prayer, commentary and video from scholars, visit <http://www.newcitycatechism.com/q-parent/q10.php>*

## Editorial: Walking Into...

Today's gospel reading records Jesus traveling with his disciples. The way was not always easy, and significant challenges awaited the travelers at every corner. Jesus and his disciples walked into...

*The storm* (8:22-25). Yet even in the storm--severe enough that the disciples feared for their lives--even in that type of strong storm: the winds and the waters must obey the Lord.

*Demon Possession in Gentile Country* (8:26-39) The encounter with this man must have been intimidating and intense. Many gospel stories have the demons immediately obeying Jesus. These were strong enough to question him before their ultimate submission. After Christ's salvation, the man had enough work to do, "to tell all that God had done for him"

*Suffering and Death* (8:40-56) One touch of Jesus' cloak brought healing to a woman who had suffered for twelve years. After that, when Jesus sees Jairus' daughter, he takes her by the hand and speaks to her. His powerful word knows no boundaries.

*Hunger* (9:10-17) "Why don't you give them something to eat?": one of the more fantastic questions from the Christ.

*Unbelief* (9:37-43) Jesus faced his generations (and our) unbelief, and caused it to proclaim the greatness of God.

*Opposition* (9:51-55) When they were not welcomed, they went to another village.

*Different Plans* (9:57-62) There is background context that makes each of the explanations offered to Jesus unreasonable (even if at first glance they seem reasonable). We must take caution that our plans are shaped as service to God and his kingdom.

Following Jesus meant encounters in these types of difficult situations. And we will have our own. But let us remember this day the actions of Abraham, who heard God's promise and believed: "Abram went as the Lord had told him". He pitched his tent, called on the name of the Lord, and then traveled further into the wilderness, all the while holding onto the promises of Yahweh.

When we live like Abraham and obey the Lord, Jesus declared that we become family (8:21).

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## Prayers to the Lord and Author of Life (offered in 2/19 worship by the congregation)

## Dear Tabby, Raising Life (issues) Acts 9:36

Dear Tabby,  
I've never heard God speak to me. Am I not a believer? How does God speak to us? Are there practices so that I can hear his voice in my life? Pondering in Pennington

Dear Pondering,  
You are not alone. I assume most people haven't heard the direct voice of God coming to them audibly. You are a believer because you believe. Scripture says that we walk by faith, not by sight. Our call is to trust in the Lord with all our heart, to believe, and not doubt.

Let's start with the ways we know God speaks to humanity.

\*God has spoken the creation into existence, and it testifies to the living God. As Psalm 19:1 announces, "the heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands".

\*There are the Scriptural stories of God speaking audibly to his servants, as well as his commands to prophets to speak the word of God to the people. We rely on these stories to know that God can speak; if that is what he chooses to do.

\*The best way that God spoke was through Jesus Christ. Jesus embodies the fullness of God, and dwells among us. He spoke his Father's will to us.

\*The church has affirmed that Scripture, in addition to Jesus Christ, is God's Holy Word. We can read in order to know the God who speaks. His word accomplishes exactly what it was sent for.

Simple practices include having your prayer time include time to listen. (The sanctuary is always open as a special place to be quiet and listen to the Lord.) Reading, memorizing and contemplating Scripture also places before us what God desires, and God will make us aware of his will. Finally, be together with believers: the Holy Spirit weaves us together, and will often use our voices to bring people that word they need to hear.

When God does speak, be like Abraham, "so Abram went, as the Lord had told him".