THE

“ALLISON CHALICE”

MARCH - 2024



## ALLISON

## CHRISTIAN CHURCH

**(Disciples of Christ)**

**ALLISON, PA 15413**

PRAISES & NEWS

*WE ARE Thankful*

 **Carol Ludwig** has persevered in prayer for the relationship for two people and has been blessed to know that prayer always comes to fruition. It has come to her attention that her prayers have been answered and she has a sense of peace that has come over her.

 **Denise Marker** thanked everyone for all the prayers and words of comfort in the passing of her brother-in-law, Mark Pompei. Please continue to pray for he sister, Debbie.

 **Lori Rosneck** is thankful that the surgical procedure that her mother had went well and there were no complications. She is also thankful that her mother has transitioned well in her new surroundings at Peroni’s Personal Care Home and is doing better – more alert and verbal.

\*She is also thankful that her son, Adam who had to travel to Texas on a business trip, had safe flights and very informative training.

**NEW MEMBERS**

Our congregation has been blessed to witness the public confession of faith by two new members:

Dana Krofcheck and Gregory Check

On Sunday, February 4, 2024

Romans 10:9-10 (NIV)

*9 If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.*

**Welcome into our Family of Faith**

 To start the Prayer Chain, call our Prayer Captain, Lori Rosneck, with your prayer request at 724-984-7757.

Anyone who is not receiving the prayer chain notices within our congregation, or if your phone number has changed, please give your phone number to Lori. (These messages include prayers, reminders for church activities, etc.)

BAMA…continued Lenten Services through March

March 7 St. Cecilia Parish Rev. Laura Blank

 1571 Grindstone Road of Pleasant View

 Grindstone Presbyterian Church

March 14 Brownsville First Pastor Heather Wakefield

 Christian Church of Brownsville First

 512 Second Street United Methodist Brownsville Church

March 21 Brownsville First United Mr. Zane Mitchell

 Methodist Church of St. Andrew’s

 215 Church Street Lutheran Church

 Brownsville

The Allison Christian Church

will hold church services for:

Maundy Thursday March 28th at 7:00 PM

(Prayer Vigil will begin immediately following

the Maundy Thursday Service

and end on the evening of Good Friday)

Easter Sunday March 31st at 9:00 AM

THE ROOM

In that place between wakefulness and dreams, I found myself in the room. There were no distinguishing features except for the one wall covered with small index card files. They were like the ones in libraires that list titles by author or subject in alphabetical order.

But these files, which stretched from floor to ceiling and seemingly endlessly in either direction, ad very different headings.

As I drew near the wall of files the first to catch my attention was one that read, ”Girls I have liked.” I opened it and began flipping through the cards. I quickly shut it, shocked to realize that I recognized the names written on each one.

And then without being told, I knew exactly where I was. This lifeless room with its small files was a crude catalog system for my life. Here were written the actions of my every moment, big and small, in a detail my memory couldn’t match.

A sense of wonder and curiosity, coupled with horror, stirred within me as I began randomly opening files and exploring their content. Some brought joy and sweet memories; others a sense of shame and regret so intense that I would look over my shoulder to see if anyone was watching.

A file named “Friends” was next to one marked “Friends I have Betrayed.” The titles ranged from the mundane to the outright weird. “Books I Have Read,” “Lies I Have Told,” “Comfort I Have Given,” “Jokes I Have Laughed At.” Some were almost hilarious in their exactness: “Things I’ve Yelled at My Brother”. Others I couldn’t laugh at: “Things I Have Done in My Anger,” “Things I Have Muttered Under My Breath at My Parents.”

I never ceased to be surprised by the contents. Often there were many more cards than I expected. Sometimes fewer than I hoped. I was overwhelmed by the sheer volume of the life I had lived. Could it be possible that I had the time in my 20 years to write each of these thousands or even millions of cards? But each card confirmed this truth. Each was written in my own handwriting. Each signed with my signature.

When I pulled out the file marked “Songs I Have Listened To,” I realized the files grew to contain their contents. The cards were packed tightly, and yet after two or three yards, I hadn’t found the end of the file. I was shamed by the vast amount of time I knew that file represented.

When I came to a file marked “Lustful Thoughts,” I felt a chill run through my body. I pulled the file and shuddered at its detailed content. I felt sick to think that such a moment had been recorded.

One thought dominated my mind: “No one must ever see these cards! No one must ever see this room! I have to destroy them!” In insane frenzy I yanked the file out. I had to empty it and burn the cards. I became desperate and pulled out a card, only to find it as strong as steel when I tried to tear it.

Defeated and utterly helpless I returned the file to its slot. Leaning my forehead against the wall, I let out a long, self-pitying sigh. And then I saw it. The title bore “People I Have Shared the Gospel With.” The handle was brighter than those around it, newer, almost unused. I pulled on its handle and a small box not more than three inches long fell into my hands. I could count the cards it contained on one hand.

And then the tears came. I began to weep. Sobs so deep that the hurt started in my stomach and shook through me. I fell on my knees and cried. I cried out of shame, from the overwhelming shame of it all.

But then as I pushed away the tears, I saw Him. No, please not Him. Not here. Oh, anyone but Jesus. I watched helplessly as He began to open the files and read the cards. I couldn’t bear to watch His response. And I saw His face, I saw a sorrow deeper than my own. He seemed to intuitively go to the worst boxes. Why did He have to read every one?

Finally, He turned and looked at me from across the room. He looked at me with pity in His eyes. But this was a pity that didn’t anger me. I dropped my head, covered my face with my hands and began to cry again.

He walked over, and put His arm around me. He could have said so many things. But He didn’t say a word. He just cried with me.

Then He got up and walked back to the wall of files. Starting at one end of the room, He took out a file and one by one, began to sign His name over mine on each card. “No!” I shouted rushing to Him. All I could find to say was “No, no,” as I pulled the card from Him. His name shouldn’t be on these cards. But there it was, written in red so rich, so dark, so alive.

The name of Jesus covered mine. It was written with His blood. He gently took the card back. He smiled a sad smile and began to sign the cards. I don’t think I’ll ever understand how He did it so quickly but the next instant it seemed I heard Him close the last file and walk back to my side. He placed His hand on my shoulder and said, “It is finished.”

**MARCH*****… Birthdays***

 1: Alan Scabis

 2: George Reposky

 4: Brandon Hughes

 8: Jerry Kessler

 9: Eric Boiselle

10: Daniel Seizak

11: Kathy Scabis

13: Nancy Peton

13: Wally Roebuck

14: Michael Peton

17: Rob Briggs

18: Jack Glidden

18: Debbie Pompei

23: Lori Rosneck

24: Stephanie McCormick

**Some of the biggest blessings from God in our lives are the people – our friends, family, and all we love – who are on this journey with us. Birthdays remind us to celebrate those special people, as well as their gifts and thank God for placing them in our lives.**

**The birthdays of our loved ones offer us a special day to show love and gratitude to those people in our lives. On our own birthdays, we pause for reflection on the previous year, celebrate our journey thus far, and look forward to what the future holds.**

**During these days of remembrance and gratitude, we thank God for introducing us to the people who have ventured into our lives and walk alongside us, no matter how young or old they might be. We hope you’ll find these birthday prayers and blessings helpful in celebrating the unique lives of people that have blessed your own life.**

To the family and friends of the following loved ones who went to be with our Lord.

**With Sympathy**

**A**

**Mark Pompei**

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Psalm 31:9

Be merciful to me, Lord, for I am in distress;

 my eyes grow weak with sorrow,

 my soul and body with grief.

- Author Unknown

Lamentations 3:21-24

But this I call to mind,

 and therefore I have hope:

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,

 his mercies never come to an end;

they are new every morning;

 great is thy faithfulness.

“The Lord is my portion,” says my soul,

 “therefore I will hope in him.”

- Author Unknown

**PRAYER FAMILIES** *And this is the boldness we have in God’s presence: That if we ask God for anything that agrees with what He wants, He hears us.*

Each month families are selected from the congregation to be lifted up in prayer. So please add the following to your daily prayers, and ask God to give them wisdom and guidance, and to pour out many blessings upon them, as they continue their walk with the living Lord.

 **MARCH Prayer Families:**

 3: Nancy Evans and Family

10: Chuck and Stephanie McCormick

17: Ed Lagnese

24: Carol Ludwig and Diane Rhoads

31: Bob and Jennie Peton

**Have you ever had a friend ask how they can pray for you? Sometimes this question is hard to answer because there are so many things, we cannot list them all. At other times we can’t think of any pressing need. It can be even harder when we are praying for someone else.**

**I have not stopped giving thanks for you,**

**remembering you in my prayers.**

**EPHESIANS 1:16**

**In Ephesians 1:15–23 Paul provides us with a template we can use when praying for others. Paul begins by giving thanks to God for the Ephesians (v. 15). When praying for others, we should not pray mechanically; we should give some thought to their life and circumstances beforehand.**

PRAYER LIST – *THE BIBLE SAYS*

 *- PRAY WITHOUT CEASING –*

We must always be ready to pray, because more can be done by prayer than anything else. There are many in our congregation and community in need of prayer. There are also those with unspoken needs that only our Father in heaven is aware of. Please ask God’s healing touch and loving presence to strengthen, encourage and sustain them.

**We have many people** on our prayer list who are in need of your continued prayer. Please look at the list of names inside this newsletter. We are a church that strongly believes in the power of prayer – so thank you for speaking to God on each person’s behalf.

Our Nation, Society, Government, Israel War, Jerusalem, Missionaries, Pastors/Evangelists, World Leaders, Military, Russia/Ukraine, Rise of Evil

Debbie Pompei (comfort)

Jeremy Sanner (cancer)

Joyce Hampton (strength and comfort)

Candy Kinnan (in pain from accident)

Kayla Peton (pregnant/not due till April/in McGee Hospital)

Candy Cupperman (spinal tumors/cancer)

Ricky McCormick

Stephanie McCormick (back pain)

Foster children (moved to another home/Chris Burle)

Marvin (recovering from heart attack)

Nevin Konopka (hurt elbow)

April (Dan Seizak’s co-worker/surgery)

Bobbie (kidney stones surgery)

Debbie Kurcina (was in car accident)

Matt Vasilof (work accident/will need numerous surgeries on leg)

Sue Kuzy (new treatment plan)

UNSPOKEN: Lana Konopka

If there are any names from the previous month’s list that need to be placed back on our list, please inform the church office.

MARCH 2024

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SUNDAY** | **MONDAY** | **TUESDAY** | **WEDNESDAY** | **THURSDAY** | **FRIDAY** | **SATURDAY** |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Daylight Saving Time | 11 | 12Board Meeting 7:00 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Bucks in a Basket | 18 Bible Study 7:00 | 19 | 201st day of Spring | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24Palm Sunday | 25 | 26 Evangelism Visitation 6:30 | 27 | 28MaundyThursdaySvc 7:00 | 29Good Friday | 30 |
| 31Easter |  |  |  |  |  |  |

“Those who walk with God always reach their destination.” ― Henry Ford

Maybe you have days you don’t feel (or even act) as spiritual as you’d like to be. It’s only human to get tired or discouraged from time to time. However, no amount of off days or dampened spirits can change the fact that God longs to be at your side — and to have you at His. Your relationship with Christ is just like any other relationship; the more time, care and effort you invest into it, the deeper and closer the relationship will get.

God gave us two ends – one to sit on and one to think with. Success depends on which you use.

HEADS YOU WIN – TAILS YOU LOSE!

SERVING AT THE LORD’S TABLE

**SERVING IN MARCH:**

Elders: 3: Bob Peton (B) Will Chambers C)

10 & 17: Carol Ludwig (B) Stephanie McCormick (C)

24 & 31: Nicholas Rosneck (B) Bob Peton (C)

Diaconate: George Reposky

Alternate: Jerry Kesler

Preparers: Jennie & Bob Peton

Greeter: Chuck and Stephanie McCormick

Worship Leader: Carol Ludwig

The bread and the cup are signs of God’s everlasting covenant, God’s promise to be present with us always. Sometimes when life is difficult, we are tempted to forget that. It may seem that darkness and evil have the upper hand. But at the Lord’s Table, we are reminded that through Jesus Christ, God has overcome the darkness. When you come to the table, Christ invites you to lay your cares on the altar and receive the promise of God’s abundant love and presence.

**JUNIOR CHURCH SCHEDULE**

***\*If you are not able to serve that Sunday,***

***please call Rick Marker at - 724-322-7254.***

 3 LANA KONOPKA

10 NANCY EVANS

17 NICHOLAS ROSNECK

24 PAUL ROSNECK

31 EASTER

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**SUNDAY**

**SCHOOL TEACHERS**

Under the direction of:

Pre K – Kindergarten –

1st – 3rd Grade - Susan Toth

4th - 12th Grade - Bob Peton

Adults - Rick Marker

** **Year to Date Income – As of JANUARY**

Envelopes $5,255.69

Church 106.00

Capital Campaign 135.00

Special: Blanket

 Soup-er Bowl

 Week of Compassion .00

 Pentecost .00

 Easter .00

 Reconciliation .00

 Thanksgiving .00

 Christmas .00

Christmas Eve Offering .00

Card Order Deposit .00

Love Gift .00

Church Picnic Donation

Christmas Gift

Hall Rent

Insurance Refund

Voided Check #6685 .00

Deposit Correction

Interest

Retreat Refund

X-Factor Tithe

Sale of Electric Piano .00

Bucks in a Basket 72.00

Mark Cordero .00

Memorial Fund .00

Compassion Child Bake Sale

Shipping Christmas Boxes .00

Praise Fest .00

Youth Group .00

Rada .00

Fundraisers:

 Jelly .00

 Flowers .00

 Pepperoni Rolls .00

**Total Receipts** **$5,568.00**

**Total Expenses**  **$4,325.03**

**ALLISON CHRISTIAN CHURCH – TREASURER’S REPORT**

**JANUARY RECEIPTS**

Envelopes 5,255.00

Church 106.00

Bucks in a Basket 72.00

Capital Campaign 135.00

**TOTAL RECEIPTS $5,568.00**

**EXPENDITURES $4,325.03**

**YOUTH GROUP – TREASURER’S REPORT**

Balance as of December, 31, 2023 12,978.15

NO ACTIVITY IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY

Balance as of January 31, 2023 12,978.15

**Thousands of men holding up their wallets**

**at Promise Keepers events**

I had the privilege of speaking to thousands of men at Promise Keepers events about managing their finances God’s way, and learning to become faithful and generous givers. Oftentimes, at PK events, speakers have men stand up to dedicate themselves to God. But at the end of my message, I have men take out their wallets and hold them up to God. I would then lead them in the following prayer: “Heavenly Father, all I have and all I ever will have comes from you and belongs to you. LORD, please help me be a faithful manager and a generous giver of all you entrust to me now and for the rest of my life. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

For most men, this was the first time they had ever dedicated all they have and all they ever will have to God. Have you done this?

THE ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

When they came near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent forth two of His disciples, and said to them, “Go into it, you will find a colt tied, a colt on which no one has ever sat. Loose him and bring him here.”

“And if any man says to you, “Why are you doing this?” say that the Lord has need of him, and he will send the colt hither.”

And they brought the colt to Jesus, and cast their garments on the colt’s back. And Jesus sat upon him.

And many spread their garments on the way. Others cut down branches off the trees and strewed them on the way.

And they that went before and they that followed cried, “Hosanna! Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed be the kingdom of our father David that comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!”

Jesus entered into Jerusalem and into the temple And when He had looked round about upon all things now the eventide was come, and He went out unto Betheny with His twelve disciples.

PRAYER for PALM SUNDAY

Jesus, today I remember the story of Your triumphal entry into Jerusalem. As You rode in on a humble donkey, Your followers laid clothing and palm branches in Your path to soften Your journey.

Please, be with me as I welcome You into my own life and allow Your love to comfort and protect me each day.

Keep my heart pure and my love for others strong as I prepare to celebrate the miracle of Your Resurrection.

In Your name we pray, Amen.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

HIS PATH LED TO JERUSALEM UPON THAT SUNLIT DAY,

HOSANNAS RINGING IN THE AIR, PALMS STREWN ALONG THE WAY.

HIS PATH LED TO THE CITY WHERE MOBS WOULD SHOUT AND CRY,

AND THEN AS QUICKLY TURN ON HIM AND CAST HIM OUT TO DIE.

HE WORE NO KINGLY RAIMENT, NO JEWEL-ENCRUSTED CROWN,

AND CHOSE A LITTLE BORROWED COLT TO TAKE HIM THROUGH THE TOWN.

THE LONGEST WEEK IN HISTORY WAS CROWDING TO BE BORN…

THE SHADOW OF A CROSS WAS THERE, AND FINALLY, EASTER MORN!

Celebrate Easter!

“I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in paradise.” Luke 23:43

Because Jesus Christ died and rose again,

you can have new life.

 As Jesus hung on the cross, the last person He spoke to was a prisoner who was being executed alongside Him. Even while suffering horrible pain, Jesus cared enough to forgive the man and promise him a place in Heaven.



Jesus wants to do the same for you. Just ask Him to forgive your sins and become the Lord of your life. You can have peace with God and the assurance of a new life now – and forever.

*Dear Father God, let the love of your son, Jesus Christ, touch you and your family this Easter. May you find new life in Him.*

*“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” --John 3:16*