

THE NEXUS

Presbyterian Church
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July 2019

Nicki's News

As I sit here to write this article, I reflect on my time here so far and can hardly believe that it is almost July. I was thinking about how many sick visits and funerals I have done in this short time. Often, during sick visits, people say how they hope they have the strength to do...

One congregant who has deeply touched me over these past few years was spending time in the hospital and said something along those same lines. Suddenly, a song went off in my head, which is something that happens frequently, and I have learned it is a way God speaks to me. The song that came to mind is one that often comes into my head when I am struggling, feeling weak or unable to perform something to the ability that I would like. It's from my favorite childhood Christian character, Psalty, the Singing Songbook. The two lines that stick with me are, "I can do just anything through Christ who strengthens me" and the chorus that goes "with Jesus as my strength I will do my best."

From this song, I am reminded that relying on my own strength is setting myself up for failure, but, with Christ, I can do my best. Our best selves are when we aren't relying on our own strength, but when we are relying on Christ's strength, which comes to us in many ways, including from those around us, who God works through. When you feel like you are weak, just remember it's likely because you are relying on your own strength. Then say to yourself, "I can do anything through Christ who strengthens me". Then, you will likely find that Christ provides the strength you need to do your best.

Blessings,

Pastor Nicki

Nexus Deadline

The Nexus deadline for the August issue is Monday **July 29th**.

Nexus Sponsor

This issue of the Nexus is being sponsored by **Frank Lanterman**. If you are interested in sponsoring a future Nexus issue, please call Jen in the church office at 570-421-5821. The cost is \$35.00.

Women's Circle

The Women's Circle will **not** meet during the summer months. They will convene again in September.

Men's Lunch

The Men's Lunch group will **not** meet during the summer months. Discussion will take place on when and if they will restart in the fall.



Have you ever had a flamingo infestation? Well look out, because they are coming and you are at risk. Flamingo's have been taking over lawns and they are making their way to the ESPC community. Starting this month, the ESPC youth will be sharing, with the congregation, an opportunity to prevent your lawn from a flamingo infestation. They will be selling insurance that can be purchased for \$40 or, you can take your chances and hope your lawn doesn't get infested, but don't worry if you do get an infestation, you can pay to have them removed by our very own flamingo protection agency, a.k.a ESPC youth group. This fundraiser goes to support the youth in future mission trips and other activities. Make sure to get your insurance before August 1 or else you are at risk. You may wake up one morning and find your lawn has been infested!

Anniversaries

Those celebrating an anniversary in **July** are:

Bill and Sue Ellis
Walter and Wendy Emery



Birthdays

Those celebrating birthdays in **July** are:

Wendy Lichty, Emma Menio, Michael Delaney, Bianca Nava, Mano Miller, Albert Menio, Sharon Laverdure, Kyle Kintz, Barbara Braithwaite, Anna Mae West, Bill Ellis, and Kathy Mattern

Treasurer and Stewardship Report Through May 31, 2019

| | |
|-----------|--------------|
| Income: | \$ 94,457.52 |
| Expenses: | \$103,093.73 |

| | |
|-----|--------------|
| Net | \$ -8,636.21 |
|-----|--------------|

Year-to-Date Giving:

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Pledge Giving: | \$51,728.00 |
|----------------|-------------|

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Non-Pledge Giving: | \$ 3,491.00 |
|--------------------|-------------|

Free Children's Books!

Kids, parents, grandparents....there is a bookshelf in the Narthex full of children's books. We are offering them **FREE** to anyone who would like some. Check it out after worship on Sundays and help yourself to as many as you wish. Reading is fun!!

Summer Choir

We are looking for people who would like to sing with the summer choir. No experience needed, just a love for singing. There will be three performances; July 28, August 11 and August 25. Practices are after church on July 7, and July 21. Come to as many practices as you can. See Linda Schaller if you have any questions. "Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord"

Estate Sale

There will be an Estate Sale at the home of former members, Sheryl and Fred Krach on July 12, 13 & 14 and also on July 19, 20 & 21 from 9:00 am until 4:00 p.m. The address is 720 Holly Circle, East Stroudsburg.

Some of you may have been here the week I preached on the kindness effect and the challenge I gave to do kindness every day for 21 days. God is amazing, and that same day, Jack Kauderer handed me a note about the kindness shown to him that really affected him. I asked him if I could share this blessing with you. Kindness can really have wonderful affects and displays Christ's love in us. I hope this encourages you to continue your challenge to be kind. - Pastor Nicki

Kindness

June 24, 2019 was a day when I experienced many acts of kindness. My friend, Patrick, was in St. Luke's Hospital in Allentown and he needed his checkbook. Driving to Allentown, I feared tiring up my lumbar spine pain. I got slightly lost at the end, but found parking and then hoofed my way into St. Luke's.

The first act of kindness was being assisted in gaining access to the hospital. The entrance I found was locked at 5:00 p.m., however a young woman took me to the entrance and used her pass key to gain access and took me to the elevators.

When I got to the 5th floor, I had trouble finding the room. Again, a staff person took me through the warrant of patient's rooms to my friend's room. Once there, it being a warm day, I needed water, which was provided for me.

I left my friend about 6:30 p.m. and walked to, what I thought was the place where I parked. I hoofed my way around the multiple parking lots but, could not find my car. I found LVH Security and they kindly drove me around all their lots searching in vain for my car. I had no phone. My water ran out and I was getting dehydrated, but I was able to buy a bottle of water from a stand near the Allentown fairgrounds.

By 9:00 p.m. it was too dark to look for the car. I found a bench in front of the hospital. Exhausted, I sat there cogitating on what I should do. I thought I should go to a motel for the night, but discovered they were all further away than I could get to by walking.

A man drove up and parked opposite me. He asked if I was alright. "Yeah, I'm OK, but I can't find my car." Horror struck and he said, "Let me go look for it." He successfully found it in St. Luke's parking lot. Before he returned, LVH security returned and said I needed to go inside and sit in the ER lobby as it was not safe to sit outside all night. In the ER I was able to use the phone to call Kathy and let her know I was OK. Mike found me in the ER lobby and told me he had found my car. He drove me to my car and then I followed him to 25th street. I was then on my way home, arriving around 11:40. There were so many acts of kindness in one day, given by strangers going out of their way to help me.

~Jack Kauderer



Community Opportunities

The Mission Committee and I have decided it would be a great idea to share opportunities for missions with our congregation. I thought it would be great to have 'minute for missions' time during service, followed by an opportunity to learn more during the fellowship hour. These are not intended to ask you to donate, unless you feel inclined to do so. The purpose is to help broaden opportunities for missions that you may feel called by God in which to be involved. Perhaps, God doesn't call you to do either and that is ok too. Instead, you can just enjoy learning something new, because you never know when God can use that information in the future.

Pastor Nicki

Amazing Bible Race

St. John's Lutheran, in Stroudsburg, will be holding an Amazing Bible Race event on Wednesday, July 31st from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Look for more info on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Ice Cream Social!!!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 17th for the return of the **Trinity Centennial Band** to our Ice Cream Social!! There will be plenty of ice cream and all the trimmings. Join us for wonderful music and fellowship. Hope to see you all there. Don't forget to bring your friends and family!!

Nexus Staff

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Contributing Editors:

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Linda Schaller

July 2019

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----|-----|-----|---|-----|-----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 Independence Day! Church closed | 5 | 6 |
| 7 Worship, 10:00 a.m. Communion Sunday | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 Worship, 10:00 a.m. | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 Worship, 10:00 a.m. | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 Worship, 10:00 a.m. Choir performs | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |