

THE NEXUS

FEBRUARY 2020

Presbyterian Church
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Nicki's News

Dear Friends,

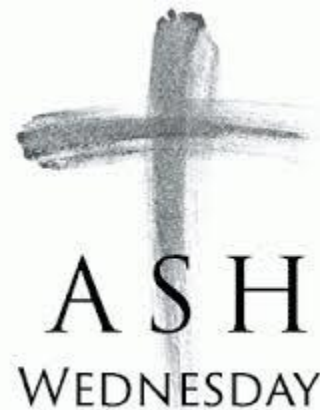
As reports show, most New Year's resolutions have fizzled out by about the end of January. A few might make it into February, but usually most have already been given up on or gone by the wayside. In Christian circles, many set goals to read the Bible in a year, go through a new devotional or things along those lines. The thought is to focus on one's own personal spiritual journey. Making resolutions is not a bad thing and focusing on our personal spiritual journey is a good thing. The main reason most resolutions fail is that the goal is too far-reaching. One way experts have identified in reaching any goals like that of resolutions is to have people around you that support you. What the secular psychology studies have shown is what we Reformed Christians have recognized in scriptures. God created us to be in a community. In the Old Testament, God gave laws that were focused on how-to live-in community with one another that met the needs of that culture. In the New Testament, Jesus examples what is necessary to live in community with one another. He recognizes that everyone in society is an important part. Paul and other New testament authors also point to the ways in which we can live successfully together. We need each other, even if we are vastly different. We need each other and we, as Christians, are called to love as Christ loved us.

Blessings,

Pastor Nicki

Nexus Sponsor

This issue of the Nexus is being sponsored by Frank Lanterman. If you are interested in sponsoring a future Nexus issue, please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex (next to the flower sign-up sheet). The cost is \$35.00.



Ash Wednesday Services

Ash Wednesday falls on February 26th this year. Please join us for service. We will have two services that day. The first service is at 12:30 p.m. and the second service is at 6:30 p.m.

Nexus Deadline

The Nexus deadline for the March issue is Monday, **February 24th**.

Anniversaries

Celebrating an anniversary in **February** are:

Ed and Anna Mae West
Dennis and Jenny Collins



Birthdays

Celebrating birthdays in **February** are:

Diane Huffman, David Heath, Chris Finelli, Frank Lanterman, Dick McNally, Cort Huffman, Bill Cramer, Norene Rosso, Riley Gillard, Kylee Vogel

Women's Circle

The Women's Circle group will meet on **Tuesday, February 11th** at noon in the Lounge. All women are welcome to attend.



Men's Lunch

The Men's Lunch will be held on Wednesday, **February 12th** at noon in the Church Lounge. All men are welcome to attend.

Planning Commission Opportunity

A commission is forming to develop a 5-7 year plan for our church. If you have the time and the willingness to share your talents and opinions in determining which paths our church explores in the near future, please contact Jen, in the church office or Judy Schreck at 570-629-3430.

Treasurer and Stewardship Report through December 2019.

Income:	\$241,279.00
Expenses:	\$241,354.00
Net	\$ -75.00

Year-to-Date Giving:

Pledge Giving:	\$117,511.00
Non-Pledge Giving:	\$ 8,760.00

Save the Date--ESPC Annual Yard Sale--Friday, May 1 & Saturday May 2

The annual yard sale is a week earlier this year. We will begin collecting items right after Easter. The collection time for items will be shorter -- only three weeks from April 12 through April 29. This is the Mission Committee's major fundraiser for our church and local and international charities/organizations.

We need your help to make the 2020 yard sale a success. Look around your house for household items, antiques, furniture, books, etc. that you would like to donate. We can't accept televisions or computers.

Adult Education Opportunity

On Sunday, February 2nd at 9:00AM, Tim Swanson will begin this Spring's Adult Bible Study class. All adult and students 8th grade and above are invited to attend. The course, entitled "The Path to the Cross," uses a DVD and study guide created by Ray Vander Laan. The DVD and Ray will take us to the scenes where the biblical stories take place. The study guide is filled with biblical and historical information and questions. We will begin our study with a DVD overview of the Essenes and the Dead Sea Scrolls. The desert experiences, on which this study will focus, provide a context for better understanding God's redemptive plan and the life and ministry of Jesus. In the second presentation, we will see how the Essenes and John the Baptist are linked to the desert experiences of Israel's past. In the third lesson we will follow Jesus into the desert where he, like Israel, will be tested and prepared for his mission to the world. Finally, in sessions four and five we will consider the events of the Last Supper and the night of watching in Gethsemane. As Easter approaches, you will be given a booklet entitled, "The Case for Easter." This booklet was written by Lee Strobel, an investigative reporter, who searches for the undeniable evidence that the Easter story is accurate.

Support Group Opportunities

Don't forget, we offer two monthly support groups here at ESPC.

The first group is a Chronic Disease support group. It meets the first Monday of each month from 10:30 until noon in conference room #3 of our church. Bobbie Long leads this group.

The second group is the Cancer Caring support group. This group meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 10:00 -11:30 a.m. in conference room #3 of our church. Pastor Nicki leads this group.

Technology Committee

The Technology Committee has been working hard at updating our website and also keeping up with Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

Check out our website at espresbyterian.com and also the ESPC YouTube channel at <https://m.youtube.com/user/ESPResbyterian>

Your input is welcome. Please let Lisa Menio, Judy Schreck or Pastor Nicki know your thoughts or ideas to improve the publicity of our church.



Nexus Staff


Pastor: Nicole Vogel

Editor: Jen Carmella

Contributing Editors:

Lisa Menio, Sandy Rydell, Judy Schreck,
Tim Swanson

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Adult Ed. class, 9:00 every Sunday 						1
2 Worship, 10:00 Communion Sunday Fellowship Hour, 11:00	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Worship, 10:00 Fellowship Hour, 11:00 Session meeting, 11:15	10	11 Women's Circle, noon	12 Men's lunch, noon	13	14	15
16 Worship, 10:00 Fellowship Hour, 11:00 Mission comm. Mtg., 11:15	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Worship, 10:00 Deacon's Coffee Hour, 11:00	24 Nexus Deadline	25	26 Ash Wednesday Services at 12:30 pm & 6:30 PM	27	28	29