



KEMPTON NEW CHURCH NEWSLETTER

January 2021

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A TREE PLANTED by STREAMS of WATERS

Happy is the man
 Who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
 And in the way of sinners stands not,
 And in the seat of the scornful sits not.
 But in the law of Jehovah is his delight,
 And in His law he meditates day and night.
 And he shall be as a tree planted by streams of
 waters,
 That gives his fruit in its time,
 And his leaf does not fade;
 And all that he does shall prosper.
 Not so the wicked,
 But they are as the chaff which the wind blows
 away.
 Therefore the wicked shall not rise up in the
 judgment,
 Nor sinners in the congregation of the just.
 For Jehovah knows the way of the just;
 But the way of the wicked shall perish.
 (Psalm 1)

A man is like a tree, which first grows up from a seed into a shoot, and when it increases in height puts forth branches and from these stems, and clothes itself continually with leaves. And when it comes to maturity, which takes place in its middle age, it puts forth flowers and produces fruits. In each fruit it places seeds, which being cast into the earth, as into a womb, grow up into similar trees and thus into a garden. And if you are willing to believe it, that same garden remains with the man after death; he dwells in it, and is delighted daily with the sight of it, and with the use of its fruits. It is such a man who is described in David by these words: "He shall be like a tree planted beside the rivers of waters, which shall bring forth its fruit in its season, and its leaf shall not fall off" (Ps. 1:3).

Psalm 1 gives us a beautiful picture of what it looks like to plant our lives in the truths of the Lord's Word. Living from what the Lord teaches makes us fruitful, strong and happy. It means we will not

walk "in the counsel of the wicked," or stand "in the way of sinners, or sit "in the seat of the scornful" (Ps. 1:1). It also means that in heaven we will be surrounded by gardens that bring great delight. May 2021 be a year that sees our spiritual gardens grow!

PASTOR'S NOTES

Thank You. We're grateful to those who provided our (four!) beautiful Christmas Tableaux. The tableaux are among our most-loved worship services and felt like a special blessing in these challenging times; their being held outside this year allowed us a particular delight. Sincere thanks to the leaders and the whole team.

Holy Supper is being offered at 6:30 P.M. on Friday, January 22. "It has pleased the Lord to reveal the spiritual sense of the Word, to enable this church to enter into the real use and benefit of these sacraments, baptism and holy supper...." (TCR 700). *Please communicate with me by Thursday the 21st if you would like to partake.*

Winter Study: Some of you have already begun to delve into our topic for this year – the *Book of Psalms*. If additional groups are formed and you have room for more attendees, please let Carla Kerr or me know. Due to the coronavirus, groups should be clear about how their gathering will be conducted so people can be comfortable with joining. Study booklets continue to be available after church and on the KNC website – www.kemptonnewchurch.org.

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WORSHIP

Sunday, January 3

9:00 A.M. Family Service. Masks. No Singing.

10:00 A.M. Family Service. Masks. Singing. Live streamed. www.kemptonnewchurch.org

Usher/Setup for 10:00 A.M.: George Cauffman

Sunday, January 10 – Service format/s as on the 3rd

Usher/Setup for 10:00 A.M.: Jeremy Synnestvedt

Sunday, January 17 – Service format/s as on the 3rd

Usher/Setup for 10:00 A.M.: Mike Heiter

Friday, January 22, 6:30 P.M. Holy Supper. *If you would like to partake, please contact Brett by noon on the 21st.*

Sunday, January 24 – Service format/s as on the 3rd Usher/Setup for 10:00 A.M.: Gordon McQueen

Sunday, January 31 – Service format/s as on the 3rd Usher/Setup for 10:00 A.M.: Chris Judson

CLASSES

Winter Study classes meet throughout the week. See “Pastor’s Notes.”

Friday, January 29, 7:15 P.M. Youth Group
Conjugal Love Class. Location TBD

MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 26, 7:30 P.M. Board Meeting

From the CONTRIBUTIONS COMMITTEE

Friends: Regarding our regular fundraising, thanks for amazing work by many of you rising to the challenge of no Autumn Weekends! We have reached the half-way point of the fiscal year, and the ideas keep coming: AW soups to go! Christmas Wreaths! Craft sale! Special 2021 calendars! Volunteering as always! And everyone who pitched in to support! What’s your fundraising idea for the winter and spring?

Update on our *facilities* fundraising: On top of everyone’s usual generous *regular* donations through the first six months of our financial year, I’d like to announce that our additional fundraising goal of \$300,000 facilities endowment has been met. This is outstanding news. Our addition and an endowment for maintaining it has now been all paid for. All the original financial goals have been met. Many thanks to all our donors, volunteers, and the builders.

Mark Wyncoll - for the Contributions Committee

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Life! With joy we announce that Cole Petrus King was born to Cairn and Seni on Tuesday, January 5. “Oh, give thanks unto the Lord!” May He watch over this little flock – parents and their four sons – most tenderly.

Moving Beyond This World: With sadness but sure knowledge of eternal life, we report the passing of Bryan Pike, Anthea Stewart’s younger brother, into the Spiritual World. We are holding the Stewarts most warmly in our thoughts, wishing them all possible peace and comfort. “Where I am, there you may be also” (John 14:3).

ANNIVERSARIES

[After death] man is man as before, nor is there anything lacking either in the male or in the female. They are like themselves as to form, and equally so as to affections and thoughts. CL 51

Congratulations and Best Wishes to:

Eugene and Andri Muth

on the 2nd – 56 years

Steve and Janis King

on the 20th – 48 years

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NOTICES

The 2021 Nature-Themed Calendar that Benefits the Kempton New Church: It’s not too late to acquire one (or more!). Would make a great New Year gift for someone, with its quotations from the Heavenly Doctrines and Sacred Scriptures. See one in the society room after church on Sundays and contact Shannah McQueen (610-756-4021) to purchase. \$20 each.

Arne Thank-You Deadline Reminder:

1. Please drop into the mail by Monday, January 11, any further notes of thanks to the retiring Mr. Baumadsen. Address to him c/o Rev. Buick at PO Box 140, Kempton 19529.
2. We also seek to raise \$285 for a Word box and a copy of the new translation of the Word for Arne. Please send any donations for this to Carla Kerr at the above address at your earliest possible convenience (checks made out to her). Thank you!

A BIT MORE

...The Tender Mercy...

With promises, in prophecies,
from ancient days the Lord has spoken.
A bruised reed He will not break
nor let be hurt the earth or seas.
‘As a tender plant’ but with will unbroken
He has kept His Word for mercy’s sake.

Lyris Hyatt

(Luke 1:78-79; Is. 42:3-4;
Rev. 7:2-3; AR 346; AE 426)