



KEMPTON NEW CHURCH NEWSLETTER

March 2021

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NUMBERING THE PEOPLE

And the heart of David smote him, after he had thus numbered the people. And David said unto Jehovah, I have sinned exceedingly in what I have done; and now, Jehovah, cause, I pray, the iniquity of Thy servant to pass on, for I have been very senseless. And David arose in the morning and the word of Jehovah was to Gad the prophet, visionary of David. . . . And David said to Gad, I am in adversity exceedingly; let us fall, I pray, into the hand of Jehovah, for His compassions are many; but into the hand of man let us not fall. And Jehovah sent a pestilence against Israel from the morning and even to the time appointed; and there died of the people from Dan and even to Beer-sheba seventy thousand men. . . .

And David said unto Jehovah, when he saw the angel that smote the people, and said, Behold, I have sinned, and I have committed iniquity; but these, the flock, what have they done? Let Thy hand, I pray, be against me and against my father's house. . . . And David built there an altar unto Jehovah, and offered up burnt offerings and peace-offerings. And Jehovah was supplicated for the land, and the striking was restrained from Israel (II Samuel 24:10-11, 14-15, 17, 25).

By "numbering" is signified to set in order and dispose; and because it is of the Lord alone to set in order and dispose the truths and goods of faith and of love with everyone in the church and in heaven, therefore when this is done by a man, as it was done by David through Joab, it then signifies the setting in order and disposing of such things by man, and not by the Lord, which is not to set in order and dispose, but to destroy. If the numbering of the sons of Israel had not involved such things, there would not have been any sin or guilt in numbering them (*Arcana Coelestia* 10217).

PASTOR'S NOTES

When David numbered the people, he was taking upon himself something that the Lord alone can do. "‘To number’ signified **to know their quality as to their spiritual state**" (*AR* 364, emphasis added).

We might be tempted sometimes to try to do the same thing David did. For us, numbering the people amounts to making spiritual judgments. When we think we know the state of another person's internals, or even our own, we are making spiritual judgments. The Lord makes sure that our internals cannot be known until after death – in order to preserve our freedom (CL 523). If we find ourselves tempted to make spiritual judgments, we can follow this instruction from the Lord:

“A general judgment like this is allowable: ‘If in internals you are such as you appear in externals you will be saved, or will be condemned.’ But a particular judgment such as ‘You are such in internals and therefore will be saved, or will be condemned,’ is not allowable” (CL 523).

And if we find we have failed to follow this Divine instruction, we should then do what David did when he recognized he had sinned. We should come back to the Lord in humility and worship so He can heal us just as He healed the pestilence spreading through Israel.

Palm Sunday: Palm branches represent truths. Laying them down before the Lord represents the acknowledgment that the ability to live according to truths and thus be saved comes from the Lord alone.

I am still in the process of determining the best way for us to use palm branches in our March 28 Palm Sunday service. At the next Pastor's Council meeting (March 16), we will discuss both this and our Easter service. Please feel free to share with me any ideas you have. Once settled, I will share the service details in upcoming Notes Home.



WORSHIP

Sunday, March 7

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.: Laif Judson

Sunday, March 14 – Service format/s as on the 7th

Usher/Setup for 10:00 A.M.: Mark Wyncoll

Friday, March 19, 6:30 P.M. Holy Supper. *If you would like to partake, please contact Brett by noon on the 18th.*

Sunday, March 21 – Service format/s as on the 7th

Usher/Setup for 10:00 A.M.: Dale Smith

Sunday, March 28 – PALM SUNDAY

The pastor will share service details in upcoming Notes Home. (See “Pastor’s Notes.”)

Usher/Setup for 10:00 A.M.: Seth Wyncoll

CLASSES

Friday, March 5, 7:30 P.M. Online Youth Group
Conjugal Love Class. Details in email sent out.

Wed., March 17, 7:30 P.M. Society Doctrinal Class - online and in person

Topic: Abraham's Intercession for Sodom, Representing the Lord's Temptations and Intercession for the Human Race. Readings: Genesis 18:16-33, AC 2140, 2219-2222.

Please contact Lawson if you would like to attend. *He will need your e-mail address in order to share the Zoom details, as well as a location where you can join in person if you like.*

Saturday, March 20, 9:00 A.M. KNCS New-Parents Class. BDB’s office

Tuesday, March 23, 7:30 P.M. Arcana Class – online and in person. Readings: Nos. 9407-9442. These begin with a beautiful vision of the Lord standing on a sapphire stone. In many ways this describes the Lord in His Second Coming in His Word. The rest of this section of Exodus 24 is about the preparation for Moses to go up Mount Sinai and receive from Jehovah the two tables of stone with the Ten Commandments written upon them. At the end of the chapter, we have the teachings about life on planets outside of our solar system. With more and more planets being discovered every week, the count is over 4300 confirmed planets, this section is of special interest.

As before, I will be doing a Zoom session in the library. If you want to join in person, we may need a larger venue, so please let me know

beforehand. I'll send out a Zoom link the day before and also try to call around before the class. Zoom lets you join by phone as well; for how, see what follows after the link when you receive it.

If you have a chance, look carefully at a sapphire before we meet so that you can see why the Lord chose this stone for his feet to stand upon.

Hope you can make it to class, Andy

Friday, March 26, 7:15 P.M. Youth Group
Conjugal Love class. Location TBD

MEETING

Tuesday, March 16, 7:30 P.M. Pastor’s Council.
Commons

EVENTS

Thursday, March 4, 1:00-4:00 P.M. and

Friday, March 5, 7:00-9:00 P.M. –

Children’s Books Open House (See below.)

Monday-Friday, March 8-12. KNCS Winter Break

Saturday, March 13, Turn clocks forward tonight.

Sunday, March 14, Daylight Savings Time begins.

Friday, March 26, NO SCHOOL.

8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Parent-Teacher Conferences

From the CONTRIBUTIONS COMMITTEE

Through the homepage of our Kempton New Church website (www.kemptonnewchurch.org), you can now set up monthly or annually recurring gifts using PayPal. Just click on the offertory-bowl icon and follow the simple process. Thank you for your continued support – or for (perhaps just now!) starting to offer support.

Fundraising:

To date we have raised \$4,349 towards our *Making-up-for-the-loss-of-Autumn-Weekends-income-this-year* Goal, which is \$9,000. We have until June 30th to hit this specific mark. So far, we have sold wreaths, calendars, soup, chili, and sweatshirts, and held a society craft fair. All with great success! Do you have an idea for a winter or spring fundraiser? You are encouraged to try one out or reach out to me or anyone on the Contributions Committee for a discussion about your idea.

We can do this, people! – Mark Wyncoll, Chai

NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

KNCS Still Seeks Volunteers for a March-Weekends Work Party. READ ON! Due to COVID, we have missed the last two work parties for the church and school, and the building could use some TLC!

Still the plan: Have small groups (people already in a cohort) come in to do some cleaning on a Saturday in March. This is your invitation! You can choose either morning or afternoon, the Saturday that works for you, and a specific job (you pick ahead of time, so I can keep track of what needs to be done). You can use the supplies at the school. The dates are March 6, 13, 20, or 27.

Please call me to volunteer for a time slot! Jobs to be done are as follows (it may be that they'll get split up or combined differently once I begin to get your phone calls):

1. *Society Room and Foyer* – cobwebs; damp-dust (including furniture); floor (sweep and mop)
2. *Sanctuary* – cobwebs; damp-dust pews and nooks and crannies around pews; floor (sweep/vacuum/mop)
3. *Society Room, Foyer, and Sanctuary* – wash glass in windows and doors
4. *Kindergarten* – dust; wash floor
5. *5th/6th Classroom* – dust; wash floor
6. *3rd/4th Classroom* – rid light fixtures of bugs; dust if you have time
7. *Upstairs* – dust all the rooms; mop art room floor
8. *Lower School entry* – damp dust (including furniture); mop floor; detailed cleaning of staircase
9. *Lower School hallways* – clean baseboards; cobwebs; mop floors
10. *Library* – adults, please – cobwebs; dust; vacuum in corners, etc.
11. *High School* – dust baseboards; windowsills; cobwebs in corners
12. *High School* – mop hallway and entryway

Thanks – Jen McQueen

B.A. Directories: We have extras here. Would you like one of them? \$2. – Carla

Seeking Two Twin Mattresses: Please contact us if you have one or more to let go of, whether for a price or not. Thank you.

– Dandridge and Tamar Cole

ANNIVERSARIES

“What are spiritual offspring?” The angels answered: "By means of ultimate delights, married partners become more united in the marriage of good and truth, and the marriage of good and truth is the marriage of love and wisdom. It is love and wisdom that are the offspring born of that marriage; and because the husband there is wisdom, and the wife the love of that wisdom, and because both are spiritual, therefore no other than spiritual offspring can be conceived and born [in heaven].”

CL 44:9

Congratulations and Best Wishes to:

Rob and Eloné Zimmerman

on the 3rd – 9 years

Ray and Eden Norfo

on the 4th – 3 years

Carl and Patricia Odhner

on the 22nd – 50 years

John and Erika Walker

on the 26th – 38 years

**NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS cont.**

Thank You: Dear Kempton New Church Society, Thank you so much for the care package. I am so grateful for all of the things inside. Every time I have received one of these packages, I have been overjoyed and can feel the love from the whole community radiate from inside the package. All the snacks, school supplies and goodies are all so thoughtful, but I have to say my favorite part of these packages are the letters from everyone in school. I love hearing about what everyone is learning about in class and thinking back to my days at KNCS. I also love all the drawings and kind words. You are all so wonderful.

<3 – Sofia Boyesen

Thank You: Thank you, Kempton Society, for the care package! I enjoyed reading my letters and hearing from the students, and the snacks are very helpful, especially with the cold weather.

Thank you! Malachi Lindrooth

Seeking Housing: Hello to friends of the Cauffmans. My name is Cali. I am starting a job as a midwife at Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest in April and am looking for a place to live that's within a reasonable drive to work. Depending on what my search produces, I could board somewhere (possibly only temporarily) or rent a separate space. A bit about me: I'm a Christian in my late 20s, enjoy running, exploring new hikes, reading, playing music, and cooking. I'm also responsible, clean, and quiet. Please reach out if you have any leads.

Thank you very much,

California Wang, MSN, CNM/WHNP

Midwife/Women's Health Nurse Practitioner – U of P Class of 2020
KNC office can provide Cali's contact information.

Editors' Note: Jan Cauffman offered to vouch for Cali, a friend to her and George and their sons. She says Cali is a "lovely, intelligent young lady" and that "if [they] didn't fill their extra bedrooms in Kempton on most weekends with family..., [they] would love to have her stay with them."



(Repeat) Children's Books Open House: Thursday, March 4 (1:00-4:00 P.M.) and Friday, March 5 (7:00-9:00 P.M.). For the past several months, I have continued to collect used copies of many of my all-time favorite children's books. With winter reading weather still upon us, I decided to have an open house at my home (8683 Jungé Drive, Kempton) for anyone who needs a good read or gift. Come browse a collection of over 600 titles ranging from household classics to out of print rarities, board books to chapter books. Also, if you would like to come at any other time, feel free to contact me. The books are easily accessible and my schedule is flexible.

– Genta Hendricks

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary 2021 Summer Nature Camps: See the attached flyer for the camps HMS is offering for students entering 1st-6th grade, as well the Counselor-in-Training positions they are seeking to fill with 14-17-year-olds.

A BIT MORE

When spring came, even the false spring, there were no problems except where to be happiest.

– Ernest Hemmingway, *A Moveable Feast*

A Light exists in Spring
Not present on the Year
At any other period —
When March is scarcely here.

– Emily Dickinson



On the new edge of springtime when I stand on the front porch shading my eyes from the weak morning light, sniffing out a tinge of green on the hill and the scent of yawning earthworms, oh, boy, then! I roll like a bear out of hibernation [...] Come the end of the dark days, I am more than joyful. I am nuts.

– Barbara Kingsolver

Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life

There will come soft rains and the smell of the ground,
And swallows circling with their shimmering sound;
And frogs in the pools singing at night,
And wild plum trees in tremulous white...

– Sara Teasdale

"Is the spring coming?" he said. "What is it like?"
"It is the sun shining on the rain and the rain falling on the sunshine, and things pushing up and working under the earth."

– Frances Hodgson Burnett, *The Secret Garden*

That is one good thing about this world...there are always sure to be more springs.

– Lucy Maud Montgomery, *Anne of Avonlea*

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*As surely as the sun rises, he will appear;
he will come to us like the winter rains,
like the spring rains that water the earth.*

Hosea 6:3