



KEMPTON NEW CHURCH NEWSLETTER

April 2021

583 Hawk Mountain Road; P.O. Box 140; Kempton, PA 19529 ▪ 610-756-6140 ▪ society@knccs.org

He Appeared First to Mary Magdalene

And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome had bought spices, that when they came they might anoint Him.

And very early in the morning, the first day of the week, they come to the sepulcher as the sun was rising. And they said among themselves, Who shall roll away for us the stone from the door of the sepulcher? And when they looked, they beheld that the stone was rolled away; for it was very great. And entering into the sepulcher, they saw a young man sitting on the right, arrayed in a white robe; and they were astounded. But he says to them, Be not astounded. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified; He is risen; He is not here; see, the place where they put Him. But go your way, tell His disciples and Peter that He goes before you into Galilee; there you shall see Him, as He said to you.

And going out quickly, they fled from the sepulcher, with trembling and amazement; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

And when He rose again in the morning on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. (Mark 16:1-9)

As in the proper sense the "morning" signifies the Lord, His advent, and thus the approach of His kingdom, it is evident what it signifies besides, namely, the rise of a new church (for this is the Lord's kingdom on earth), and this both in general and in particular, and even in the least particular; in general, when any church on the globe is being raised up anew; in particular, when a man is being regenerated, and being made new (for then the Lord's kingdom is arising in him, and he is becoming a church); and in the least particular,

whenever the good of love and faith is working in him; for in this consists the advent of the Lord. Hence the Lord's resurrection on the third day in the morning (Mark 16:2, 9; Luke 24:1; John 20:1) involves all these things (even in the particular and the least particular) in regard to His rising again in the minds of the regenerate every day, and even every moment. (AC 2405.7)

PASTOR'S NOTES

Why did the Lord appear to Mary Magdalene first? The answer to this question seems to be given to us in *Arcana Coelestia* 2405.7. In this passage the Lord teaches that His kingdom is arising in us "whenever the good of love and faith is working in [us]; for in this consists the advent of the Lord."

The Lord had cast out seven demons from Mary Magdalene (Matt. 16:9). She knew first-hand what it meant for the good of the Lord's love to be working in her. It seems the Lord appeared to her first because she may have been the most acquainted with Jesus as her savior.

The good of the Lord's love can work in us too. He can cast evil spirits out of us whenever we approach Him. When we are affected by the Lord this way, He will become known to us like He became known to Mary on Easter morning. Just as Mary saw the Lord after His crucifixion, He will rise again in our minds too. As it says in the *Arcana* passage, this can happen every day, and even every moment.

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Easter Video: Here is the link to a special marionette presentation of the Easter story that I hope you will enjoy https://youtu.be/7jf_bKpzDFM It will also be able on the KNC website.

Pastor's Council: The council met on March 16. Much of our discussion focused on the best way to have the Palm Sunday and Easter services this year. Our Easter service will be outdoors at Chris and Heather Smith's pavilion. We also discussed options for regular services going forward. Following Easter, on Sunday the 11th, weather

permitting, we will resume outdoor worship for our regular 10:00 A.M. service. The 9:00 A.M. indoor service will continue as it has been (with masks and without singing), and this is the service that will be live streamed. I am very grateful for pastor's council's help as I continue to try to figure out the best way for us to worship the Lord together in the midst of COVID.

We also discussed the same challenges to marriage in the General Church and the Academy of the New Church that I discussed with the board and Pastor's Council in November and December. One change that has occurred is that, going forward, Bishop Bradley Heinrichs will be the main point of contact with the bishop's office for some of the pastors in Kempton, including me. We have asked for this change while the clergy leadership structure continues to work on addressing the ongoing challenges. This change affects only the priests who have asked for it; it does not change anything for the Kempton New Church regarding its relationship to the General Church. One of the purposes of the Lord's Second Coming is to re-establish conjugal love on the earth (CL 81), and we have great confidence that He will! Please feel free to get in touch if you would like to discuss this in more detail. Bishop Peter Buss, Jr., the Executive Bishop, is also happy to answer any questions you may have.

WORSHIP

Thursday, April 1, 7:30 P.M. Holy Supper Service with Gospel readings. **If you would prefer to receive the wine from an individual cup rather than from the communal cup, please let Lawson know at your earliest convenience (because if you are getting this newsletter via email, the service is tonight).**

Also live streamed: www.kemptonnewchurch.org
Usher/Setup: Roy Odhner

Sunday, April 4

10:00 A.M. OUTDOOR EASTER SERVICE

Singing / Masks optional / Dress warmly

Location: Chris and Heather Smith's pavilion – 451 Old Philly Pike, Kempton

You are invited to bring flowers, which you will be invited to offer in the customary (proceSSIONal) way when the service begins.

Usher/Setup: Christopher Judson and Jay Nash

Sunday, April 11

9:00 A.M. INDOOR Family Service
Masks / No singing / Live streamed at
www.kemptonnewchurch.org

10:00 A.M. OUTDOOR Family Service.
Masks optional / Singing

Usher/Setup for 10:00 A.M.: Dandridge Cole

Sunday, April 18

Service times and formats as on the 11th.

Usher/Setup for 10:00 A.M.: Theo Judson

Friday, April 23, 6:30 P.M. Holy Supper. *If you would like to partake, please contact Brett by noon on the 22nd.*

Sunday, April 25

Service times and formats as on the 11th.

Usher/Setup for 10:00 A.M.: Derrick Lumsden

CLASSES

Wed., April 14, 7:30 P.M. Society Doctrinal Class
In person at Lawson and Shanon's, and online.
All are welcome.

Topic: Intermediate Angels, Who Make the Connections Between the Heavens; possibly with some implications for how we can help bridge some kinds of differences.

Attending virtually: Lawson is assembling a group email list for the people he remembers as having attended his classes in March, but please contact him if you want to be sure to be included. If he sends you a Zoom link, it will be an invitation to join the class, not an expectation that you necessarily will. If you prefer not to be on his list, just let him know.

Tuesday, April 20, 7:30 P.M. Arcana Class

In person in the library, and online. All welcome.

Readings: AC 9413-9442. We covered only three verses in our class in March because of the importance of the subject in verses 9-11 of Exodus 24, which is about seeing the Lord when reading His Word. The readings above are about Moses representing an intermediate between Divine truth and the people of Israel, and the need for this intermediate when we are in merely external states in our life. This reading is also about the earths in the starry heaven, which are called exoplanets in the world today. Science has now provided over 4,300 confirmations of this wonderful teaching revealed to us by the Lord in His Second Advent. But while astronomers are looking for planets in what they call the Goldilocks Zone, we are blessed to be able to see life on several of these planets from a spiritual perspective, which is of course the only way to see what is living.

As before, I will be doing a Zoom session in the library. If you would like to join us in the library and

haven't come in person before (or if you haven't attended online before and would like to), 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 as by video; for how, see what follows after the link when you receive it.) - Andy

Friday, April 30, 7:15 P.M. Youth Group Conjugal Love class. C and H Smith's pavilion

MEETING

Tues., April 20, 7:30 P.M. Board Meeting. Commons

EVENTS

Friday, April 2, Good Friday. NO SCHOOL

Monday, April 5, Easter Monday. NO SCHOOL

Wednesday, April 7, 8:30-10:30 A.M., Help Roger with his shop stuff if you like (see below).

DEADLINES

Wednesday, April 7, Order KNCS fleeces from Leona Fritch. (See March 25 Note Home.)

Thursday, April 15, Contact Ben Pendleton for his pick-up of gifts you may want to contribute to Birthright of Philadelphia for their Swing-by Shower/s. (See March 25 Note Home.)

From the CONTRIBUTIONS COMMITTEE

Should you tithe? Ask a pastor or a friend.

Thank you all for considering the Kempton New Church in your monthly budget.

ANNIVERSARIES

There are two loves in a man [a male], one of which is the love of becoming wise, which comes first, and the second is the love of wisdom, which comes afterward. But if this second love remains in a man, it is an evil love, and is called conceit, or love of his own intelligence. To keep this love from destroying a man, it... was provided from creation that this love should be taken from him and be transcribed into woman, so that it may become conjugal love, which restores him to integrity. *Conjugal Love 88*

Congratulations and Best Wishes to:

George and Jan Cauffman
on the 4th - 34 years

NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You: I'd like to thank everyone who came and helped out with the woods work party for my KNCS Senior Project. It was a huge help, and we got even more done than I hoped for! – Laban

Roger's Shop: Everything is coming together nicely, and thank you, again, to all of my dear friends that have contributed to the effort. Next Wednesday morning (April 7), 8:30-10:30 A.M., I could use some help moving my equipment back in. Shawn and Neil (at Jonathan Spoons) will be here with their fork lift, and help will be needed to reposition everything. With enormous gratitude, Mr. Beaver (a.k.a. Roger)

Thank You: Thank you to the Kempton Society for the lovely gift bag filled with food and other treats. What a nice surprise! – Jency Latta

FREE Class: I am currently working on my doctoral degree in physical therapy at University of the Sciences in west Philadelphia and will be living in Kempton for eight weeks starting in April. I would love to teach a restorative yoga class during this time. Restorative yoga is adaptable and beneficial for many people, so you need not feel you must be flexible or able to sit on the ground in order to participate. I will be teaching in Janina Smith's dance studio from 7:30 to 8:30 P.M. on Tuesday evenings, starting on April 27. If you'd like to join the class or have any questions, please e-mail me. – Alair Brock [The KNC office can provide Alair's email address.]

Yard Equipment for Sale:

- 1) *Mower:* 2013 ExMark E series, 60" deck, approx. 400 hours. Well maintained. \$5000 OBO
- 2) *Power Blower:* Echo PB-770 H/T. Used little and well maintained. \$350 OBO
- 3) *Leaf Vacuum:* 2005 Woodland Power Products Cyclone Rake (2 wheeled, towed behind a lawn tractor). \$1000 OBO
- 4) *Lawn Tractor:* (1989?) John Deere 50" Mid-Mount 3-Spindle Rotary Mower. Ruined seat. Revs up out of control. \$200 OBO

Manual booklets for all.

– Gray Glenn

Crafters, Artists, Food Vendors, etc.: I am organizing a Craft Crawl on May 15 in Bryn Athyn, where presenters will be spread out in various places. Let me know if you are interested in participating. I can help you find a spot in which to set up. Please email me. – Kay Alden [The KNC office can provide Kay's email address.]