



KEMPTON NEW CHURCH NEWSLETTER – December 2022

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KEMPTON NEW CHURCH: www.kemptonnewchurch.org ■ KEMPTON NEW CHURCH SCHOOL: www.knks.org

TRAMPLING THE HEAD OF THE SERPENT

Genesis 3:12-15

12 And man said, The woman whom Thou gavest to be with me, she gave to me from the tree, and I ate.

13 And Jehovah God said to the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I ate.

14 And Jehovah God said to the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed more than every beast, and more than every wild animal of the field; on thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life.

15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; He shall injure thy head, and thou shalt injure His heel.

Arcana Coelestia 250

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; He shall trample upon thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel. Everyone is aware that this is the first prophecy of the Lord's advent into the world; it appears indeed clearly from the words themselves, and therefore from them and from the prophets even the Jews knew that a Messiah was to come. Hitherto however no one has understood what is specifically meant by the "serpent" the "woman" the "serpent's seed" the "woman's seed" the "head of the serpent which was to be trodden upon" and the "heel which the serpent should bruise." They must therefore be explained. By the "serpent" is here meant all evil in general, and specifically the love of self; by the "woman" is meant the church; by the "seed of the serpent" all infidelity; by the "seed of the woman" faith in the Lord; by "He" the Lord Himself; by the "head of the serpent" the dominion of evil in general, and specifically that of the love of self; by to "trample upon" depression, so that it should "go upon the belly and eat dust;" and by the "heel" the lowest natural (as the corporeal), which the serpent should "bruise."

Pastor's Notes

The first prophecy of the Lord's coming gave hope to the church going back to most ancient times. It gave the church hope that the Lord would come to earth to save the human race (AC 1123). This prophecy was such an important part of the posterity of the most ancient church "that 'the seed of the woman would trample on the head of the serpent' was a common saying among them in those times" (ibid).

But the most ancients also knew that this prophecy would give hope to every future generation of the church too. They explained to Swedenborg that it meant "that the Lord Jehovah would come into the world, and redeem and save all who believed in Him, and who *hereafter* should believe" (Coronis 37.5). They acknowledged that the prophecy was not just one that gave hope for those looking forward to the Lord's coming, but one that would give hope to those looking back at it too!

When we look at this prophecy today, we can see in the light of the Heavenly Doctrine that it means the Lord has put hell in its place so that we can have the freedom to choose against it. And that He did this by coming on earth and overcoming every temptation He experienced until hell could no longer attack Him. By trampling on the head of the serpent He glorified His Human form showing us that He can save us.

Knowing the Lord has fulfilled this prophecy can give us the same hope for salvation that the ancients had when they first learned that the Lord would come.

HOLY SUPPER will be offered this month at the church on Friday the 16th at 6:30pm.

And Jehovah of Armies shall make for all peoples on this mountain a feast of oils, a feast of wine on the lees; of oils of marrows, of wine on the lees well refined. Isaiah 25:6

This [Isaiah 25:6] refers to the sacrament of the holy supper to be instituted by the Lord. True Christian Religion 708

Christmas Readings: A booklet of Christmas readings is available at church and posted at www.kemptonnewchurch.org. Thanks to those who put it together!

Adult Service: We will have an adult service on the morning of Sunday, December 18, because tableaux services are being offered in the afternoon on that day and these will be well suited for children. Parents are welcome, however, to bring their children to the adult service if they would like to.

Board of Trustees: The Kempton New Church Board of Trustees met on November 15. The current year's budget was reviewed as well as some preliminary planning for next years budget and a significant amount of time was spent discussing and revising the process for pursuing possible renovations for the west end of the church.

The Winter Study Topic this year will be the Ten Commandments. We hope these discussions will be inspiring and useful! You might like to think about arranging to be part of a group before the holidays get busy, since the winter study starts soon after the New Year begins. *If you would like to host a group and have seats to offer, or if you want to join a class,* please let me or Jen McQueen know so we can help people get connected if needed. Groups are free to invite a minister to lead their discussion if they like. They can also meet in the school library or commons if a home isn't available.

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WORSHIP

- 10:00 AM services live streamed: kemptonnewchurch.org.
- Services can be heard in the library. Parents with babies or little ones are always welcome to be in there, where a basket of board books (not library books, please) is available. Please leave the room in orderly shape. Thanks!

Sunday, December 4, 10:00 a.m. Sunday School Service Usher/Setup: Torrey Cooper

Sunday, December 11, 9:00 a.m. Young Child's Marionette service. Setup: Matt and Sheila Heiter
 10:00 a.m. Family Service.
 Usher/Setup: Mike Heiter

Friday, December 16, 6:30 p.m. Holy Supper Usher/Setup: Roger Schrock

Sunday, December 18, 10:00 a.m. Adult Service Usher/Setup: Luke Heiter

Sunday, December 18, 5:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tableaux (Outdoors, weather permitting) Usher/Setup: Brandon Jungé, RC Storch

Saturday, December 24, 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service. Usher/Setup: Thos Powell, Gerald van Zyverden

Sunday, December 25, 10 a.m. Adult Service Usher/Setup: Schuyler Heinrichs

CLASSES

Please contact the minister leading the class if you would like to attend virtually. He will share a Zoom link with you (if the location has internet connection), which will let you join by phone or video.

Wednesday, December 7, 10:30am.
 Heaven and Hell class. Topic: Christmas and the Life after Death (with Lawson Smith). Old School Village lounge.

Wednesday, December 7, 7:30 p.m.
 Men's Conjugal Love Doctrinal Class (with Judah Synnestvedt). Old School Village lounge.

Friday, December 9, 7:15 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
 Youth Group Conjugal Love class. At Dan and Erika Brown's.

Wednesday, December 14, 7:30 p.m.
 Men's Conjugal Love Doctrinal Class (with Judah Synnestvedt). Old School Village lounge.

MEETINGS

Tuesday, December 6, 7:30 p.m. Society Meeting

Thursday, December 8, 7:30 p.m. School Council Meeting.

From Your CONTRIBUTIONS COMMITTEE

Did you know we receive donations from friends around the General Church who want to help our church and school financially? It is a small but mighty group of folks from afar who give to help the work of the church in Kempton.

We ask you to also support these uses. Think spiritually, act locally by supporting our church and school. Thanks to all our volunteers !

Have questions about how to give? Contact Mark (484-809-4022) or Kenan (484-280-7571)
Mark H. Wyncoll

EVENTS

No Ladies' Handwork in December

Wreath Making at Jungé's Barn

Thurs. Dec. 1, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Fri. Dec. 2, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Society Christmas Sing

Friday, December 2, 6:30 p.m.

Craft Sale

Saturday, December 3, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

KNCS Christmas Program

Friday, December 16, 11:00 a.m.

Women's Cookie Exchange

Tuesday, December 20, 6:30 p.m.

NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tableaux Announcement: Needing Angels! We are working on filling the cast for Tableaux. We have a few angels for the angel host, but we hope to have some more. If you, or your child (down to 1st grade age) would like to be an angel, please contact me! -Roxanne Genzlinger

Wreath Making Fundraiser for KNCS:

Ladies are invited to make wreaths at Junge's barn (1054 Mountain Road) on Thursday 4-8 and Friday 2-5. Come make a wreath for your house or to be sold at the craft sale on Saturday.

Society Christmas Sing - Friday, December 2:
Carols will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Society Room. At 7:30 p.m. we will take a break for snacks and time to celebrate the season together while giving

families time to take small children home if needed. Carols will start up again after the break and go until we can't sing anymore. Drinks will be provided, but please bring a favorite Christmas snack or dessert to share. Please contact any one of us with questions: Becky Cooper, Heather King, Roxanne Genzlinger

Kempton Church Craft Sale

It's almost here! The Kempton Church craft sale will be held on Saturday, December 3rd, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Sellers can start setting up at 9:00 a.m. If you want a spot to sell, please contact Kit Cooper (cell: 215-531-0534, email: klrose85@gmail.com). We also are still looking for more baked goods for the cake walk. We're hoping to have a lovely room with all different kinds of treats to help raise money for the church. If you'd like to donate, please let Kit know. Can't wait to see you all there!

And don't forget to come buy your Christmas wreath at the craft sale! Made by the ladies of the Kempton Society.

Society Christmas Mail Boxes are installed at KNC every December to facilitate the "mailing" of any Christmas cards we might want to send to others in the congregation. The boxes (with individual name labels) will be set up at some point in the near future, in the hallway between the Society Room and school. They're not the property of KNC; they're a lovely gift we're given every year by thoughtful friends, and we are grateful.

Do You Enjoy Seeing the Church Decorated at Christmas? Would you be willing to coordinate a decorating effort this year? Or be willing to help with one? You needn't think you aren't "creative" enough; organization will win the day, and though you wouldn't have to repeat what's been done in the past, you also wouldn't have to reinvent the wheel. Simple is good. Please call even if all you might want at this point is to chat about it. Thanks – Jen McQueen

Caleb's Café: Caleb's Cafe will close Friday the 16th of December (after the Christmas Program) and remain closed for the holidays. We will reopen in the new year, on Thursday, January 5th.

Christmas Cookie Exchange

Women, 21 years old and older, are invited to a Christmas Cookie Exchange on Tuesday, Dec. 20 in the society room from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Cookie Swapping begins at 7pm. Please bring an hors d'oeuvre or a bottle of wine to share.

COOKIE EXCHANGE RULES

1. All cookies should be homemade and of the same variety.
 2. Please bring at least 3 dozen prepackaged in groups of 3 (meaning, 3 cookies per bag)
- Any questions, please call or text Suzanne King (484-793-1451) or Leona Fritch (570-449-8221).

Ladies' Handwork

There will be no weekly handwork during December. However, you are welcome to bring your handwork to Read-Aloud story time on Wednesday, Dec 7th, at the usual handwork time, to which all are invited. See more below:

Holly and Ivy Read-Aloud

Wed. December 7th, 3:00-5:00 pm, OSV Lounge. Everyone welcome.

"I'm going to my grandmother's," six-year-old Ivy stoutly declares when an older orphan teases her about not having a home to visit over Christmas. "You haven't got a grandmother," he scoffs. Meanwhile, in another town, china doll Holly stands in a toy shop window wishing and hoping that the next girl to come by will be her Christmas girl. It's hard to see what connection there could be between Ivy and Holly and their yearnings, but it is Christmas, and "this is a story about wishing...." I'll be reading Rumer Godden's classic Christmas story at the usual Ladies' Handwork time in the OSV Lounge Wed. Dec. 7th. ALL WELCOME, not just ladies (though you can bring your handwork to work on if you wish). There will be paper for snowflakes & drawing, and toys for kids to play with (to suit different attention spans and interest levels). I find Holly & Ivy takes about an hour to read - it's a long, illustrated children's book, usually enjoyed every bit as much by grown-up ladies & gentlemen as by kids - so if you don't want to miss the beginning, get there by 3:15. Tea/Coffee/Hot chocolate provided; let me know if you're willing to bring snacks to share.

Ayisha.Synnestvedt@gmail.com 215-407-3001

SCHOOL NEWS

Thank you to the ladies who donated, cooked, crafted and served a Thanksgiving celebration for the lower school students and faculty. Students presented poems about the first Thanksgiving, wrote notes for the Tree of Thanks that is in the society room and enjoyed each other's camaraderie while dressed as Pilgrims and Native Americans. This wonderful occasion brought the elementary school together in anticipation for Thanksgiving. We feel very blessed to be at KNCS and to have such a supportive community.

Warm regards,

Suzanne, Anthea, Leona and Vivienne

KNCS Christmas Program. Friday, December 16 at 11:00 a.m. All are welcome. Dismissal for Christmas Break will be directly after the end of the program, which lasts approximately one hour.

Upcoming School Council Meeting: Council members can always bring your questions/concerns to meetings. There is one happening on December 8. Contact Brett Buick, Dale Smith, Kathy Schrock, Sheila McQueen, Vera Cole, Mark Wyncoll, or Dandridge Cole.

School Photos: School pictures were given to students today (December 1). If something is spelled wrong, or you think you are missing something, please contact Renee at 484-772-7486 or reneeschorran@gmail.com. If you did not order photos and would like to, please reach out to Renee before Dec. 8. Digital photos were sent on Nov. 30 (in case you ordered those and didn't receive them).

ANNIVERSARIES

Few know from what origin conjugal love comes forth. They who think from the world believe that it comes forth from nature; but they who think from heaven believe that it comes forth from the Divine in heaven.

Arcana Caelestia 10167

Congratulations and Best Wishes to:

Richard and Louise Gardam

on the 22nd – 49 years

Kevin and Susan Henriques

on the 22nd – 37 years

Cedric and Janice Lumsden

on the 27th – 42 years

Christopher and Heather Smith

on the 30th – 28 years

Brett and Karla Buick

on the 31st – 26 years

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Sue Ryan Robertson passed peacefully into the spiritual world earlier today, December 1, 2022. Our love goes out to the Robertsons as we think about Sue waking up in the spiritual world and being reunited with her husband Bob, her son John and many others. "They that wait upon Jehovah shall renew their power; they shall go up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not tire; they shall walk, and not faint." Isaiah 40:31.

We will be in touch with information about when the resurrection service will occur once the date is set.