



KEMPTON NEW CHURCH NEWSLETTER – March 2023

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

NOW I KNOW THAT THOU FEAREST GOD

Genesis 22:1-12

1 And it was, after these words, that God tempted Abraham, and said to him, Abraham; and he said, Behold me.

2 And He said, Take, I pray, thy son, thine only one, whom thou lovest, even Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him up there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains of which I will speak to thee.

3 And Abraham got up early in the morning, and saddled his donkey, and took two of his lads with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood of the burnt offering, and rose up, and went to the place of which God spoke to him.

4 And on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.

5 And Abraham said to his lads, Sit ye here with the donkey, and I and the lad will go thither, and we will bow ourselves down, and will return to you.

6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and set it on Isaac his son; and he took in his hand the fire and the knife; and the two of them went together.

7 And Isaac said to Abraham his father; and he said, My father; and he said, Behold me, my son. And he said, Behold, the fire and the wood; and where is the lamb for a burnt offering?

8 And Abraham said, God will see for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son; and they went the two of them together.

9 And they came to the place of which God spoke to him; and Abraham built there the altar, and arranged the wood, and bound Isaac his son, and set him on the altar on the wood.

10 And Abraham put forth his hand, and took the knife to slaughter his son.

11 And the angel of Jehovah called to him out of the heavens, and said, Abraham, Abraham; and he said, Behold me.

12 And He said, Put not forth thy hand to the lad, and do not anything to him; for now I know that thou fearest God, and thou hast not kept back thy son, thine only one, from Me.

Arcana Coelestia 2764

In this chapter in the internal sense the Lord's most grievous and inmost temptations are treated of, by which He united His Human Essence to His Divine Essence; and also the salvation by this union of those who constitute the Lord's spiritual church.

PASTOR'S NOTES

When we read the story of Abraham's near sacrifice of Isaac, we can keep in mind that this story is about "the Lord's most grievous and inmost temptations" (AC 2764). We can think of how Abraham must have felt when told by God to sacrifice Isaac. On the most general level perhaps this can give us a glimpse into how the Lord was tempted by doubt. Doubt about whether what the Divine within Himself was telling him to do would actually save the human race.

Abraham's willingness to do what God asked Him seems to have within it a struggle similar to what the Lord experienced in Gethsemane. There in the garden it says in *Matthew*, "He began to sorrow, and to be in agony" (Matt. 22:37). He said to His disciples, "My soul is surrounded with sorrow unto death" (Matt. 26:38). Then He prayed, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as Thou willest" (Matt. 26:38).

As we approach Easter and the celebration of the Lord's resurrection, may the innocent willingness of Abraham to follow the Lord help us better understand what the Lord Himself did for the entire human race.

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HOLY SUPPER will be offered this month on Friday, March 17th at 6:30 p.m.

*Happy are they who hunger and thirst after justice,
for they shall be filled.*
Matthew 5:6

The next Pastor's Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 4. One topic we will be discussing is possible themes for next year's Winter Study. If you have any ideas on this or have anything else you would like us to discuss, please let me or a member of the council know. Thanks! (Pastor's Council members: Schuyler and Sarah Heinrichs, Luke and Sarah Heiter, Seth and Heather King, Doug and Zanna Robertson, Roger and Kathy Schrock, Matt and Sara Smith and Gerald and Jenna van Zyverden)

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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, March 5, 10:00 a.m. Sunday School Service. Usher/Setup: Schuyler Heinrichs

Sunday, March 12, 10:00 a.m. Family Service. Usher/Setup: Gavin Stewart

Friday, March 17, 6:30 p.m. Holy Supper. Usher/Setup: Steve Hendricks

Sunday, March 19, 10:00 a.m. Family Service. Usher/Setup: Rafe McQueen

Sunday, March 26, 9:00 a.m. Young Child's Marionette Service. Setup: Matt and Daelen Saltzer.
10:00 a.m. Family Service. Usher/Setup: Roger Schrock

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, March 1, 10:30am.
 Winter Study week 5 (with Lawson Smith) at Old School Village Lounge.

Tuesday, March 14, 7:30 p.m.
 Arcana Class (with Andy Heilman). Readings: AC 9910-9940. *Please let Jen or Andy know if you'd be willing to host the March Arcana class.*

Wednesday, March 15, 10:30am.
 Winter Study week 6 (with Lawson Smith) at Old School Village Lounge.

Wednesday, March 15, 7:30 p.m.
 Men's Conjugal Love class (with Judah Synnestvedt) at Old School Village Lounge.

Friday, March 17, 7:15 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
 Youth Group Conjugal Love class.

Wednesday, March 22, 7:30 p.m.
 Men's Conjugal Love class (with Judah Synnestvedt) at Old School Village Lounge.

Wednesday, March 29, 10:30 a.m.
 Easter Class (with Lawson Smith) at Old School Village Lounge.

Wednesday, March 29, 7:30 p.m.
 Men's Conjugal Love class (with Judah Synnestvedt) at Old School Village Lounge.

Men's Conjugal Love Class: Resuming March 15, 22, 29 at Old School Village at 7:30 p.m.

From Your CONTRIBUTIONS COMMITTEE

Spring is right around the corner and we soon enter the last quarter of the fiscal year for the church and School. A special thank you for all those who are paying tuition and volunteering at the school. The school is a wonderful, shared use for parents, teachers, volunteers, and alumni. Now into her fifth decade of operation, we can be grateful for all the folks who have worked together for many years. Let's also give the school the financial resources needed to continue to flourish. Mark for the CC

Friends,
 Look for a separate letter from the Contributions Committee giving an update of year to date giving and a few stretch goals for our final year end push. As a reminder: we end our fiscal year June 30th and we would love your participation. And as always: Thanks to our generous volunteers!

EVENTS

Ladies Handwork: Every Wednesday, at 3:00 p.m., at Old School Village.

Shop Night: Friday, March 24, 7:30-10:00 p.m., for a little comradery. Bring a drink or snack to share. Call with any questions. – Roger Schrock

Feast of Charity: Friday, March 31, 6:30 p.m. Supper. 7:30 p.m. Presentation by Rev. Calvin Heinrichs. The topic will be his Theological School Dissertation on Worship.

NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS**MEMORIAL NOTICE**

Gale W. Smith

passed into the spiritual world on
Friday, February 24, 2023.
He was 84 years old.

A memorial service will be held at
Bryn Athyn Cathedral on
Saturday, March 18, 2023, at 3:00 pm.
(preludes beginning at 2:40 pm).
Rev. Jeremy Simons will officiate.

The service will be livestreamed at
www.brynathynchurch.org/memorial<<http://www.brynathynchurch.org/memorial>>.

There will be a gathering in the Social Hall
immediately following the service.

If you wish, in lieu of flowers, donations can be
sent in memory of Gale to Holy Redeemer Hospice
12265 Townsend Road, Philadelphia, PA 19154

*Look intently at the birds of the sky, for they sow
not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns, and
your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of
more value than they?*

Matthew 6:26

For those who are relatively new to the Kempton New Church Society, Gale and Emily Smith lived in Kempton for close to 30 years. Emily was the secretary at the church and school for 23 years. Gale and Emily are Dale Smith's grandparents. We send our condolences to all the relatives and friends of Gale.

Baptism and Confirmation: In a joint service on February 5th, Kayla Swartley was baptized into the New Church, and Levi King was confirmed.

*This the Lord teaches in John:
Except a man be begotten of water and of the spirit,
he cannot enter into the kingdom of God (3:5).
"Water" in the spiritual sense is the truth of faith
from the Word; "the spirit" is a life according to
that truth; and "to be begotten" is to be
regenerated thereby.*

New Jerusalem and Her Heavenly Doctrine 204

A message from the Atlanta New Church:

Here at the Atlanta New Church we have to say "so long" to Bennett and Alison Buick. After a stay in the glorious south, Bennett and Alison are heading west to Fort Bliss, in El Paso, Texas. Following Sunday services with brother Nathan Cole, we joined together to thank Bennett for his service to our nation, give gifts to the baby, and celebrate Bennett's birthday. Bennett demonstrated his skill at putting together a complicated baby bed situation, while everyone guessed how long it would take. Jennifer and Stephen Cole will help with the two-day drive to far west Texas. Please keep this dear young couple in your prayers. We will miss seeing them at Morning Star Chapel.

From, Marianne (Peaches) Sansom

Care Package thank-you:

I wanted to thank you all for the awesome care package I received the other day! It's always very fun to get something from home while I'm away at college, so thank you all for the wonderful cards, food, and supplies that were in it! They are greatly appreciated. 😊

All the best - Laban

Thank-you from Merrily Evans:

Dear Kempton Friends,
Thank you all so very much for your warm welcome to the society. I look forward to participating in any way I can. For now, life is an adventure as I discover my way around (despite bridge closures), find a new medical team and establish a routine for daily life. I was touched by the very generous basket of goodies that was given to me! Wow! You can be sure that we will enjoy the items fully!

Looking forward to a beautiful summer, spring, and even the tail-end of winter among you.

Yours Sincerely,

Merrily Evans

408 636 3166 merrilye@hotmail.com

Listen to Divine Providence (Audiobook):

Every morning at 5am (M-F) a new number goes out to subscribers of the podcast “**Doctrine for the New Jerusalem**”, available to anyone with a smartphone (for non-iPhone users, I recommend the free app "AntennaPod"). You can also listen at spiritual-habits.blubrry.net. Typical length is 1-3 minutes of Angelic Wisdom about how the Lord is working to lead us to heaven. Talk to Judah Synnestvedt for more info, or to request CDs.

Looking for a way to prepare for Easter?

Christian tradition observes Lent as an opportunity to reflect on the Lord's sacrifice and the need for repentance. This year there is a series of daily readings following the gospel of Mark with passages from the Heavenly Doctrine. The readings include daily reflections to inspire thoughts about the Lord's glorification and our regeneration process. Copies are available at the secretary's desk and on the Kempton New Church website at www.kemptonnewchurch.org

Caleb's Cafe - will be open next week during spring break for the following modified hours: Friday 9-12, and Saturday 9-2 (no Thursday). The cafe will be closed all three days on the 16th, 17th and 18th. We resume our normal hours the following week. Feel free to text me at 610-662-3902 - Roxanne

Digital Cameras Needed:

Do you have a digital camera lying around collecting dust? If so, the yearbook elective would gladly take it off your hands and put it to good use. Any camera that you are willing to donate to the school can be left in the donated cameras' dropbox on the secretary's desk. Please leave us your name too so we can thank you!

Thanks!

~The yearbook elective

Old Silk Scarves? If you have yellow, gold, or orange scarves (even with a few rips or stains), I could use them for women clothed with the sun figures. Thanks -Shanon Smith 610-756-0093

Girl Scout Cookies! Thea, Fiona, and Viola Price will be selling Girl Scout cookies this year, \$5/box! The sale goes from January 19-March 23. You can place your order with them in person or call/text their mom, Brittany, at 504-390-0792. Free home delivery! Order your favorite flavors now while supplies last!

Men's Breakfast in April? We are hoping to schedule a Men's Breakfast in April. Looking for someone to bring a topic and facilitate the discussion. Contact Dan 610-657-8133 so he can schedule the breakfast. Contact Penn (610) 763-7796 to help with food.

Daylight Savings Time: Turn clocks ahead at bedtime on Saturday, March 11. DST begins March 12, 2023.

SCHOOL NEWS

KNCS Winter Break: Monday, March 6 – Friday, March 10.

Parent-Teacher Conferences: Monday, March 20 – Friday, March 24.

No School for 1st – 6th grades on Friday, March 24, due to Parent-Teacher conferences.

ANNIVERSARIES

The marriage of one husband and one wife comes down from the marriage of good and truth, or from the heavenly marriage.

Arcana Coelestia 2740

Congratulations and Best Wishes to:

Rob and Eloné Zimmerman

on the 3rd – 11 years

Ray and Eden Norfo

on the 4th – 5 years

Carl and Patricia Odhner

on the 22nd - 52 years

John and Erika Walker

on the 26th - 40 years

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