



KEMPTON NEW CHURCH NEWSLETTER – March 2025

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

ACCEPTING THE KINGDOM OF GOD AS A LITTLE CHILD

Mark 10:13-16

And they brought to Him little children, that He should touch them; and the disciples rebuked those who brought [them]. But when Jesus saw [it], He was indignant, and said to them, Let the little children come to Me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God. Amen I say to you, whoever shall not accept the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter into it. And having taken them up in His arms, and set [His] hands upon them, He blessed them.

Heaven and Hell 280

As innocence consists in being led by the Lord and not by self, so all who are in heaven are in innocence; for all who are there love to be led by the Lord, knowing that to lead themselves is to be led by what is their own, and what is one's own is loving oneself, he that loves himself not permitting himself to be led by anyone else. Therefore, so far as an angel is in innocence he is in heaven, in other words, is in Divine good and Divine truth, for to be in these is to be in heaven. Consequently the heavens are distinguished by degrees of innocence—those who are in the outmost or first heaven are in innocence of the first or outmost degree; those who are in the middle or second heaven are in innocence of the second or middle degree; while those who are in the inmost or third heaven are in innocence of the third or inmost degree, and are therefore the very innocent of heaven, for more than all others they love to be led by the Lord as little children by their father; and for the same reason the Divine truth that they hear immediately from the Lord or mediately through the Word and preaching they take directly into their will and do it, thus committing it to life. And this is why their wisdom is so superior to that of the angels of the lower heavens. These angels of the inmost heaven, being such are nearest to the Lord from whom they receive innocence, and are so separated from what is their own that they live as it were in the Lord. Externally they appear simple,

and before the eyes of the angels of the lower heavens they appear like children, that is, as very small, and not very wise, although they are the wisest of the angels of heaven; since they know that they have nothing of wisdom from themselves, and that acknowledging this is being wise. They know also that what they know is as nothing compared to what they do not know; and they say that knowing, acknowledging, and perceiving this is the first step towards wisdom.

PASTOR'S NOTES

Accepting the kingdom of God as a little child means simply following the Lord because He is the Lord. When we go to Him “as a little child” we go to Him because we know He is the Lord, believe what He says, and are willing to be led by Him because He is the Lord. We can then come to Him with the eagerness, the happiness and the confidence that we can picture the little ones with who came to Him in the *Gospel of Mark*. But, of course, it is not the same for adults as it is for children. In the New Testament, the Lord teaches us how to approach Him with this story about little children because children represent those who are in innocence (CL 414). And innocence, for adults, is a conscious and deliberate willingness to be led by the Lord (HH 281).

May the Lord guide us to innocently accept His kingdom as a little child.

HOLY SUPPER will be offered this month on Friday, March 21st at 6:30 p.m.

And as they ate, Jesus, taking bread, having blessed it, broke it and gave to them and said,

Take, eat; this is My body.

And taking the cup, when He had given thanks, He gave it to them; and they all drank out of it.

And He said to them,

This is My blood of the New Covenant, which is poured out for many. (Mark 14:22-24).

The Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, February 18 and discussed the feedback from the update letter about the West End Renovation project and the possibility of spending about \$90,000 more from the Reserve Fund in order to do all of the kitchen renovations called for in the plan.

Some responses to the letter included dissatisfaction with spending more money on the project, but none of those responses included a request for a special meeting to discuss and vote on the board recommendation. Other responses were enthusiastic about going forward as recommended in the letter. After discussion the board decided to go forward with its recommendation as described in the letter.

The board also reviewed the status of the current fiscal year budget as well as the proposed budget for the next fiscal year. Additionally, the board discussed some long-term budget planning. The goals for our current fiscal year are well within reach and the finances for the church and school are in good shape. But the board also determined that additional endowment will be needed in order to sustainably fund additional staffing needs in the future.

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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 2, 10:00 a.m. Sunday School Service. Usher/Setup: Nathaniel Cole

Sunday, March 9, 10:00 a.m. Family Service Usher/Setup: Pearse Judson

Sunday, March 16

9:00 a.m. Young Children's Service
Setup: Dale and Tovah Smith

10:00 a.m. Sermon Service. *Usher/Setup: Thos Powell*

Friday, March 21, 6:30 p.m. Holy Supper. Usher: Roger Schrock

Sunday, March 23, 10:00 a.m. Family Service. Usher/Setup: Gordon McQueen

Sunday, March 30, 10:00 a.m. Sunday School Service. Usher/Setup: Jonah Heiter

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.

Tuesday, March 18, 7:30 p.m. Arcana Class.

Location TBD. The readings for the March Arcana class are AC 10386-10292 on the sacrament of baptism, followed by AC 10393-10416 which explains the first six verses of Exodus 32, about the making of the Golden Calf by Aaron for the sons of Israel.

Wednesday, March 19, 7:30 p.m. Young Adult's class at Adele Jungé's

Wednesday, March 19, 7:30 p.m. Men's Class on Divine Providence at OSV

Thursday, March 20, 10:00 a.m. Heaven and Hell class at OSV. Read 432-444: Every Man is a Spirit.

Friday, March 21, 7:15 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Youth Group Conjugal Love class at Lumsden's

Wednesday, March 26, 7:30 p.m. Men's Class on Divine Providence at OSV

Wednesday, March 26, 9:30 a.m. Mom's morning class at OSV

CONTRIBUTIONS COMMITTEE

Look for a special fundraising update letter in your mail later this month. You'll hear about our fundraising success year to date and a special need for the year ahead! Mark

MEETINGS

Tuesday, March 4 at 7:30 p.m. Pastor's Council in the Library.

EVENTS

Ladies Handwork: Every Wednesday, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., at Old School Village.

Feast of Charity: Friday, March 28th. 6:30 p.m. Supper, 7:30 p.m. Presentation TBA.

Moms and Tots: 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month, at OSV, from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Resurrection Service: Leesa Violet Cooper passed into the spiritual world on Saturday, February 15, 2025. There will be a Resurrection Service at the Kempton New Church on **Saturday, March 1, at 2:00 p.m.** Special music will begin at 1:20 p.m.

And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest. (Genesis 28:15)

An Hors D'oeuvres Potluck Sign Up for the Reception

Leesa loved to entertain and provide a comforting and welcoming sphere for those around her. In honor of Leesa's love of family, Penn requests that the food for the reception be something from the home that speaks of love, and is a reflection of the love of family. Perhaps there is something that especially reminds you of Leesa? Or choose something that reflects your own love of family. Leesa loved yellow, so suggestions might be: Deviled Eggs or Yellow Cupcakes with flowers. Anything would be appreciated. Some clean up volunteers would be wonderful. Please contact Karla Buick (e-mail: karla.buick@gmail.com; text/call 215-421-2489) or Sara Smith (e-mail: greenkay116@aol.com, or text/call 301-785-0299) if you can contribute to the reception. Thank you so much!

Link to the livestream:

<https://www.kemptonnewchurch.org/Worship/Services.php>

Gratitude:

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Kempton Church community for the tidal wave of love and support offered to our family in the weeks leading up to and surrounding Chris's passing. Your kindness has meant more than you can possibly know.

Warmly,
Chris and Heather Smith's families

"I will praise You, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works." Psalm 9:1

Daylight Savings Time: Turn clocks ahead at bedtime on Saturday, March 8. DST begins March 9, 2025.

Welcome Basket: Josh and Tess (Brown) Taylor have moved to Kempton! We are gathering items for a gift basket. There is still time to add something to the box! It's in the kitchen at the church. Thanks!

Featured Artist: Ayisha Synnestvedt will be the featured artist for the month of March at the Hamburg Art & Craft Gallery, 320 State Street (around the corner from the Strand Theater). Her opening is Saturday March 8th, 1-3 pm, and she would love for people to stop by and say hi. You can also visit the gallery 9-4 on weekdays or 10-3 on Saturdays.

Bread for Sale: Hello! I am still baking sourdough regularly! If you are a teacher who hasn't claimed a loaf as a thank-you, I'd still love to make you one! Rising cost of flour would make loaves this year \$7 for plain and \$8 for a flavor! You can email or text me at 781-879-7186 or emgenz@gmail.com
Thanks! 🍞

Care Package Thank You

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed items to the care packages! The snacks, cards, and other useful items are amazing, and are always such a wonderful, welcome reminder of the incredible society I have back home. Thank you all! - Laban

Rob and Eloné Zimmerman’s New Address:

12763 Calderdale Ave., Windermere, FL 34786

Special GC Appeal – Supporting Worship and Clergy in Africa

On Sunday, March 9, 2025, the General Church invites you to participate in a special offering to support worship and clergy in Africa. Your needed support for these uses will help the General Church to grow and serve internationally. Consider a gift today to foster our fellow New Church friends.

Join us in advancing this important work. For more information, contact: Mark H. Wyncoll, Manager of Giving Operations – 267-502-2423
Greg Clay, GC Advancement Chair – 248-628-7080

To send a check, please note Africa appeal 2025
General Church PO Box 708 | Bryn Athyn, PA 19009



SCHOOL NEWS

KNCS Winter Break: March 10th – 14th. School resumes Monday, March 17th.

Parent-Teacher Conferences: Monday, March 24th – Friday, March 28th. **No School** for 1st – 6th grades on Friday, March 28th.

ANNIVERSARIES

Love truly conjugal is the union of two minds, which is a spiritual union; and all spiritual union descends from heaven.

Arcana Coelestia 10168

Congratulations and Best Wishes to:

Rob and Eloné Zimmerman

on the 3rd – 13 years

Ray and Eden Norfo

on the 4th – 7 years

Carl and Patricia Odhner

on the 22nd - 54 years

John and Erika Walker

on the 26th - 42 years

