

# FLEMINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

## MESSENGER – APRIL, 2013



### REED'S RENDERINGS...

#### What Language Do You Speak?

As I sit at my desk this morning, all is quiet except for the sounds of the ESL class upstairs. They are a very vocal group led by a teacher who knows how to enunciate and project, which I suppose is great considering that they are learning a new language. Today they have their children with them because of the schools being closed for spring break. So interspersed with the instruction are clomping feet and little voices.

Learning a new language is quite a challenge. I was a Spanish major in college, and while I learned to read Spanish pretty well, I never really mastered its speech. Unlike the group upstairs, I was afraid to talk. You need to really put yourself out there and try to use it in order for it to become natural for you. I was most proficient at it during the three months I lived in Guatemala; immersed in the culture, getting to know folks and wanting to join in, I began to speak it, mixed with English when I just couldn't come up with the Spanish words. Fortunately my friends spoke as much English as I spoke Spanish, so it worked out just fine.

Christians also have another language. Our culture is built on Easter, and we become more fluent in "Easter-ese" as we immerse ourselves in Christian worldviews, attitudes and behavior. As the old song tells us, "This world is not my home, I'm just a-passing' through..." Our native tongue, our "heart language," is learned from our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. We sit at the feet of the One who called us into being to practice seeing and hearing and speaking God's way. Our eternal language is built on verbs such as love, hope, receive, abide, forgive, believe, touch, heal, give, be, witness, do; and nouns such as compassion, discipline, patience, life, light, peace, spirit, freedom, trust, and obedience; and adjectives like new, wise, faithful, true, living, good, abundant, and fulfilled. We see the world through this language, believing and trusting that God cares and God moves and God is real.

In this season of Easter (which extends until the Day of Pentecost on May 19), let us be more mindful of our native language and speak more of heavenly things that even now have been brought close in the life, death and resurrection of our Lord. May our prayers be fervent that "...Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven..." May we learn to be more conversant in the language our Lord has provided us, that our thoughts might be closer to God's thoughts, and our ways closer to God's ways.

"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer."  
Ps. 19: 14

## IN THE CHURCH FAMILY...

Jim Brown is home from the hospital following surgery and is doing ok.

Mary Fedorko remains at Merwick Rehab in Plainsboro/Princeton.

Audrey Reed was experiencing a lot of back pain but tests revealed nothing extraordinary. She is starting to feel a bit better.

Cheri Roth's mom was hospitalized for a time with a high fever and pneumonia but is home now and doing better. Also, her niece, Anna is trying something new to hopefully bring some relief.

Andrew Ankrom's uncle is going into rehab.

Edna Austin's neighbor is having chemo. Edna's sister had eye surgery.

Sarah Williamson's sister-in-law, Pat Herman, after seeing two specialists, has learned she has stage 4 lung cancer that is spreading and has entered one of the vertebrae and is pressing on the spine causing great pain, loss of feeling and use of her legs. Also, Sarah's cousin had surgery for an infection in her knee.

Darrell White's aunt Janice just found out she has breast cancer and will be seeking treatment.

Baby Ella, Fran Miller's granddaughter, has had her 2nd open-heart surgery at CHoP in Philly. She is only a couple of months old, so this is taking a toll on everyone in the family. She made it through the surgery, and now the family is in a "wait and see" mode.

Bill Stoklosa asks for prayers for his mom and girlfriend, Jessica, with respiratory issues.

Edna Hill fell on the sidewalk coming out of the sanctuary. She has no broken bones, but is sore, and it put her blood pressure up.

Ernie Tufo had cataract surgery.

Lois Stewart asks for prayers for her brother Lee who just found out he has diabetes.

Jessica Sikorsky asked prayer for her friend's brother who overdosed.

Gus Roth is having some up and some down days -- continued prayers for him and Mary Norma.

Ernest Reid needs continued prayers as he received therapy to help him walk again at Somerset Valley Rehab.

Continue to pray for: Lou Cornick; Sue Stothoff; Margaret Kania; Deanna Sealander's sister, Linda; Terrill Levering; Doris Stretch's cousin, Abby; Edna Austin's sister in CA; Tommie Lou's friend, Vicki; Rwagasore family.

Russ Stier is now living at Independence Manor, behind BJ's on Rt. 31N!

Eric Harper has found a new job which is good news! The bad news is that he will be moving to Hoboken and no longer able to sing in the choir :-)

Kirby Kernan's school in Namibia will be getting many books due to our generosity and Melissa's inspired idea!

Andrew Ankrom, our seminarian, has accepted a job offer from the hospital at West Virginia University. He will be doing a "residency" as a chaplain.

It was great to see Russ Stier in the choir again on Palm Sunday!

Robbie Schenck has passed the halfway mark of his "basic training" in South Carolina.

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

<u>Name</u>	<u>Anniversary Date</u>	<u>Years</u>
John & Susan Stothoff	April 27, 1985	27
Peter & Melissa Nemec	April 28, 2001	11

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY...

<b>April</b>	1	Nora Krukovsky
	3	Christopher Hoffman
	9	Audrey Braun
		Doris Stretch
	11	Donald Harper
	12	Marie Day
	13	Barbara Herder
		Christine McQuilken
	14	Susan Stothoff
	20	Susan Hoffman
	21	Susan Burns
	22	Doris Case
	24	Bien Rwagasore
	<b>May</b>	1
2		Elizabeth Rossetti
		Brianna Ubel
7		John Buday
8		Katie Cunningham
9		Gianna Bass
		Ruth Compton
10		John Reid
11		Russell Cody
12		Dean McAdoo
15		Barbara Kerr
18		Margaret Kania
		Janice Martin
19		Bianca Ramos
24		Eva Buday
25		Michael Aro
26		Matthew Kelly
28	Jeffrey Hoffman	
29	Melissa Kernan	
30	James Brown, Sr.	
	Albert Wermuth, Jr.	
31	Keith Bakos	
	James Slovak	

## WHAT'S HAPPENING...

### ADULT ED.

Join us Sunday mornings at 9:30 as Andrew Ankrom continues to lead a study on Warren Wiersbe's book, "On Being a Servant of God." *Wiersbe makes profoundly simple the basic principles of serving others in God's name. And he nourishes within the reader an eagerness to grow in ministry and to experience a new freedom and joy.*

### GAME NIGHT - APRIL 5

All Sr. Highers and adults are invited to join us on Friday, April 5 at 7 PM in the parlor. Please RSVP to [ddubs15@gmail.com](mailto:ddubs15@gmail.com) or (908) 399-1982 for a head count. Bring your friends!

### SENIOR LUNCH - APRIL 20

All seniors are invited to join us for lunch at FBC on Saturday, April 20 from 12 - 2 PM! The meal will be provided. Come and invite your senior neighbors or friends to join us for this time of fellowship!



### ...AND HAPPY ENDINGS CAMP LUNCH - APRIL 28

Our focus on April 28 is Camp! On that day the Sunday school classes will hear about camping opportunities. We will host a guest speaker in worship and after worship the Catechists will supply a "camp lunch" as our Happy Endings offering. Remember to wear "camp clothes" to Sunday school and worship that day!

## CHURCH NEWS...

### FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

#### LOCAL CHURCH BUDGET THROUGH FEBRUARY 2013

YTD Income from all sources	\$56,580
YTD Total Expenses	<u>-42,144</u>
Carryover to March 2013	\$14,426

#### MISSION BUDGET THROUGH FEBRUARY 2013

YTD Mission \$ received from all sources	\$12,172
YTD Mission \$ paid out	\$12,172