



Our Attitudes and Society's Progress

Over these past several years, the public mood in our society has really become pessimistic. The news from every news source focuses on all of the negative events in our world. And now, with constant TV and internet coverage, every negative event throughout the world can be broadcast and shared and commented on over and over forever.

And yet, when you look at many of the larger trends over the course of the last century or two, you can see a very positive progression. The author, Steven Pinker in his new book, Enlightenment Now makes a pretty good case that we are living in amazing times. And there is a good possibility that the future will be even brighter.

You can see this in areas like the massive increase in our life span over just the course of this past century. Prior to 1880, the average life span was about 35 years old - and had been that way for centuries. In 1900, the American life span was 40 years old. Of course, those statistics includes many children and mothers who died in childbirth. Today the average American life span is 75 years old. That is almost doubled in just over one century.

A couple of the reasons that this has increased so greatly is because we understand about germs. We have created clean drinking water for everyone in our society. We have vaccinations for some of the worst diseases throughout human history. Horrible diseases like the black plague, yellow fever, smallpox, and the measles are gone. Polio is on the edge of being completely eliminated from humanity.

When Jonas Salk invented the polio vaccine in 1955, New York City wanted to throw him a ticker tape parade throughout the city. Today, we seem to have completely forgotten the catastrophic toll that these everyday diseases used to take on people.

In 1900, about 20% of children died before they were 5 years old (statistics from Sweden). That is one out of every five children. Now it is close to zero.

Percentage of people with a basic education throughout the world has gone from about 30% in 1900 to about 80% today.

Our daily lives have improved dramatically due to running water, electricity and helpful household machines like the refrigerator, the washing machine, stove, microwave, vacuum cleaner, and dishwasher. Housework has gone from about 60 hours per week in 1900 to about 19 hours per week today.

Pinker estimates that poverty has decreased from 30% in 1960 to about 10% today.

The work week is shorter than it used to be. And people are far more likely to be able to retire than they used to be. In 1900, 75% of men over 65 were still in the work force. Today, only about 22% of men over 65 were still in the work force.

Active wars in the world have decreased dramatically throughout the past century.

These various statistics and positive measures of our quality of life do not erase the challenges that face the world. But, even as we try to deal with today's problems, we would do well to keep in mind the many many blessings that we live with every day - even without knowing it. And so, we may live with just a bit less pessimism about the hopelessness that the news and end-of-the-world movies continue to saturate us with.

And, in addition, God has the power to guide us through dealing with the problems that we face. You never know what amazing force or technology that God will enable humanity to harness.

And finally, in our transcendent hope and faith, we say to our Lord, "Amen, Come Lord Jesus".

- Pastor Steve

OUR CHURCH FAMILY IN OUR PRAYERS

Longview (Manchester, MD): Janice Kneller

Homewood: Eileen Grothey, Julia Mummert and Phyllis Frock

The Brethren Home: Shelva Laughman

Hanover Hall: Mildred Raubenstine

At Home: Karen Brown, Robyn Duppins, Eric Collins, Cindy, Lisa Galloway, Lori Shaffer, Jim Krumrine, Daryl Raubenstine, Shelley Saltzgeber, Larry Bixler, Cynthia Waters, Angie Britcher, Anita, Frieda, Mary Marrero, Marlene Redding, Harold Krumrine, Harold Bachman, Gladys Wildasin, Deb Sponseller, Cindy Graybill, Lindsey Crawford, Joyce Johnson, Kyle Wildeson, Leiland Smtih, Jimmy Bryan, Jeff Butler, Amber Shaw, Barb Butler, Isabella Taylor, Tammy Hall, and Katlyn Stremmel, Mara Small, Doug Deviny, Danielle Stislicki, Alan Sterner, Marleigh Myers, Frank George, Paul Chronister, Hannah Engle, Christina Hawn, Hope & Wesley, Ruth Gunnell, Joe Moxley, Donald Sterner, Helen Renner, Sarah Iafrate, Ned Sterner, Chasidy Gladfelter, Donna Spaide, Kim Shultz, Vicki Creamer, Faye Gobrecht, Cole Stremmel, RJ, Kyle & Jamison Noel, Harlan Markle, Gordie Sager, Ryan Miller, Pastor Kirk Griffin, Jack Shaffer, Brandi Avery, Vicki Gobrecht, Sharon Krumrine and Judy Mummert.

In the military service: Ryan Baummer, Marcus Gobrecht, Shea Mumma, Mark Reeve, Joshua Mummert, Alex Berwager and Doug Shaffer

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP IN MAY

Worship Assistant

6 – Carl Bachman
13 – Faye Gobrecht
20 – Donald Sterner
27 – Erin Gobrecht

Scripture Reader

Sadira Stallings
Paul Krumrine
Wendy Fritz
HOPE

Acolyte

Olivia Wetzel
Cade Baumgardner
Carson Trone
Rachel Kaintz

Screen Presenter

Katie Higgins
Heather Bair
Ruth Neiderer
Amy Gobrecht

Worship Sound

6 – Barry Berwager
13 – Shaun Saltzgeber
20 – Brad Neiderer
27 – Toni Null

Children's Message

Pastor Steve
Deb Leppo
Amy Gobrecht
Chris Myers

Children's Time

Sue Krumrine and Toni Null
Amy Gobrecht and Faye Gobrecht
Tara Bryan and Emily Beyer
Amy Wetzel and Kelly Kuhn

Greeter Ministry: **May** – Ned and Dawn Sterner
 June – Toni Null

OPPORTUNITIES TO SPONSOR IN MAY

Sunday bulletins @ \$10.00/Sunday

All are open



Altar Flowers: If you are interested in sponsoring altar flowers for a worship service, see guideline paper in hallway or contact Ruth Neiderer. The flowers can be sponsored any Sunday





MAY BIRTHDAYS

5/6 – Harlan Markle
5/20 – Linda Moose
5/26 – Dean Gobrecht

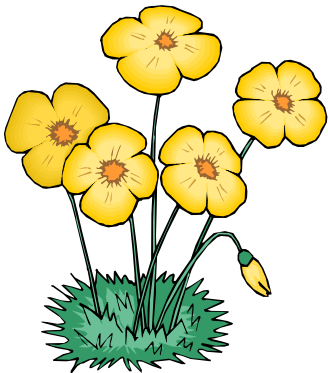
JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/03 – Mary Pheabus
6/13 – Dean Markle
6/16 – Deacon Deb McClellan
6/25 – Shelley Saltzgeber
6/25 – Joyce Schnell

JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/01 – Ruth Strednak
7/10 – Janice Kneller
7/10 – David Mumma
7/13 – Sterling Gobrecht
7/14 – Gloria Baummer
7/14 – Jerry Mummert
7/18 – George Morningstar

Monroe S.E. Gobrecht Memorial Award Any youth members of St. Bartholomew's who are attending or will be attending post-secondary education are reminded that a minimum of 10 hours of volunteer service are required, with 5 of those hours helping with worship services. There are other requirements that need to be met for this scholarship award. Youth members should have documentation of service hours and should NOT wait until the last minute. There are MANY opportunities to volunteer throughout the year at church. Applications for the scholarship are now available next to the bulletin board outside of the church's office. Deadline to submit application is June 30th.



MOTHER'S DAY FLOWERS Women of the Church honors mothers with names of those we wish to remember or honor in our bulletin on Mother's Day. There is also a small potted plant for each Mother to take home that same Sunday. A donation of \$1.00 is appreciated for each name given. Order forms and envelopes will be available for this in the hallway. Deadline for orders is May 6th.

MOTHER'S DAY GIFT BOUTIQUE A variety of gifts for Mother's Day will be available to purchase in the overflow room on the first two Sundays in May (May 6 and May 13). Our thoughtful, but inexpensive gifts for children and adults to purchase will include hand-made sachets, soaps, gift bags, wooden spool picture holders, and more! All proceeds will go to the Camp Nawakwa family camp fund. For more information, contact Wendy Fritz.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH AGAIN SPONSORS GAME NIGHT AT HOMEWOOD on Tuesday, May 22nd at 6:15 pm. Volunteers are needed to come and play games with residents at Homewood. The games can be as simple as "Old Maid" or any of the regular card games and other games enjoyed by adults. The important part of this event is that with many volunteers, each resident gets a "Person" to pay attention to them, help them to play the game and time for conversation. The folks who would like to play something a bit more challenging than bingo really enjoy this event. We also need snacks like cheese, pretzels, cookies and diet ginger ale. If you can help please sign up on the sheet in the hallway.

Women of the church will not meet for bible study in May because the "Game night" replaces the regular meeting. Bible Study will resume in June on the fourth Tuesday, June 26th at 1:00 pm.

CHURCH MUSICIANS GO ON TOUR The tour is very close to home. We continue our tradition of giving a concert and sing-a-long at **Homewood** on **Sunday, May 20th at 2:00 pm** and at **Utz Terrace** on **Wednesday evening, May 23rd, at 6:30 pm**. The choir, the bell choir and orchestra will participate. We could use volunteers to sing or play along as not all of our members can make these two events. If you are able to help in these special concerts, please tell Erin, Marlene or Don and we will get music to you and arrange a common practice time. Practices are held Wednesdays, 6:30 pm for the adult choir; 7:45 pm for the bell choir; and Sunday mornings at 10:00 am for the orchestra. These concerts bring the regular practice season to a close until September.



Community Vacation Bible School

St. Bartholomew's United Church

St. David's UCC

St. David's Lutheran

Please join us for this year's VBS!

Where: St. Bartholomew's United Church
1204 Grand Valley Road, Hanover, PA

When: June 18 - 22

Time: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Ages: 3 years – 6th Grade
and Adult Class

Please return completed registration form to the church office.
(Forms available in the hallway or by visiting our website at: www.stbart-hanoverpa.org)



SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM St Bartholomew's, in cooperation with St. David's Lutheran and UCC Churches and Black Rock Church of the Brethren, is again providing a Summer Lunch Program for the children of West Manheim and Manheim Township, who otherwise might go without daily healthy lunches during the summer. Bags of healthy lunch items for five lunches and snacks will be packaged and distributed for each child in qualifying families for ten weeks of summer, June 4th – August 10th. **But, we need your help!** During May, June and July, we will be collecting specific menu items each month. Below are the items assigned to us for the month of May:

3 oz. box of orange Jell-O
12.25 - 17 oz. Honey Nut Cheerios
Box of granola bars
Box of Mac and Cheese



HANOVER AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES NEEDS IN MAY

PAL – Salad Dressing, Coffee Creamer. Coffee, Mixed Vegetables.

CLOTHING BANK – Baby Wipes, Toddlers Pull ups.

CHANGING LIVES SHELTER – Tall-33 Gal. Trash Bags, Coffee, Sandwich Bags, Clorox Wipes.

RUTH'S HARVEST – *single servings please.* Entrees, Fruit, Vegetables, Drinks.

Weekly Prayer Requests:

Week of May 6 – Public Worship Committee

Week of May 20 – Stolte Scholarship Committee

Week of May 13 – Changing Lives Shelter Residents

Week of May 27 – Sun. Worship Leaders for HACC

HACC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

PAL

- One (or better yet) two people to pull can goods. This could be done on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. Any volunteer must be able to lift a case of canned food. This job requires an average of two hours a week.
- Sally Hershey is physically unable to do all the sorting of food that comes from the Amish Market on Saturdays; they need several people to rotate for 2 hours from 4:30 until 6:30 each week, also need people to rotate helping with putting away food Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays.
- Saturday and Sunday –lunch room monitor / donation receiver/ building security (unlock & lock doors) 10am -1:00 pm
- Drivers on call and/or scheduled for pickups at local grocery stores – usually takes about an hour or so. Also 5th Saturday of the month for Amish Market (must arrive before 4pm).

CLOTHING BANK Monday/Wednesday/Friday – Sorter Tuesday/Thursday – Cashiers

BUILDING MAINTAINANCE/ Building Committee – Sometimes specialized help is needed, other times general help for small jobs. We do need a Building Committee. Right now we meet 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 am (if we could get some people to form a committee, time would be negotiable).

MEALS on WHEELS – Runners and drivers 1 week at a time M-F about 1 hour 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. Also needed are substitute drivers and runners for last minute cancellations.

CHANGING LIVES SHELTER – Monday mornings and some Wednesdays, 7 am -11 am: answer window, take referrals, check chores. Saturday and some Sundays 4-8 pm, serve dinner, help supervise clean up, answer phones.

HOSS'S FUNDRAISING EVENT Bring a coupon to Hoss's on May 20th and 20 to 25% of your total check will be donated to the Hanover Area Council of Churches. Coupons are located in the hallway and below.

Dear Friend of Hanover Area Council of Churches:

We are excited to team up with Hoss's Steak and Sea House to raise money for a very worthy cause. Please consider visiting the Hoss's location(s) listed below on 5/20/2018 to aid us in raising money to benefit Hanover Area Council of Churches.

Print this email and present it on **5/20/2018** at Hoss's in **Hanover**

Hoss's will then donate 20%* or 25%** of your total check paid to **Hanover Area Council of Churches**

*To qualify for the 20% payout, our group must have a minimum of \$300.00 in total pre-tax food and beverage sales.

**To qualify for the 25% payout, our group must have a minimum of \$1,200.00 in total pre-tax food and beverage sales.

This applies to a one-day, single location, pre-scheduled event. The purchase of gift cards is not included as part of your organization's community fundraising totals.

DISTRIBUTING INVITATIONS ON HOSS'S PROPERTY IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED AND WILL DISQUALIFY OUR ORGANIZATION! Thank you for your cooperation!

Group #99132

Please print and present this email when ordering.



REPORT FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

(April 12, 2018)

Confirmation will take place during the Pentecost service, May 20th. 175th year celebration activities were discussed, decided to have put together a committee to organize events. David Hoff and Allen Gobrecht will be council representatives on the committee. Mother's Day gift boutique to benefit Camp Nawakwa Family Camp was approved. HACC's PAL and Meals on Wheels volunteer crisis discussed. Financial Trend and Analysis report compiled by Paul Krumrine was distributed and will be discussed at next meeting. Annual review of current policies, by-laws, etc. was tabled until next meeting. St. B's will not be participating in the Synod's R3 Generosity due to lack of interest. (*Full reports are available in the hallway.*)

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S UNITED CHURCH (ELCA)

1204 Grand Valley Road

Hanover, PA 17331

Telephone: (717) 632-1952

Fax: (717) 633-9267

E-mail address: stbartchurch@comcast.net

Website: www.stbart-hanoverpa.org

Rev. Steven E. Thomas, Pastor

Cell phone: 717-476-9171

E-mail address: 3pastorsteve7@gmail.com

Office hours: Wednesdays – 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Mrs. Beth Cronney, Office Administrator

Office hours: Tues, Weds and Fri 8:30 am – 2:30 pm

Mrs. Marlene Shilling, Music Coordinator

Ms. Erin Gobrecht, Bell Choir Director

Ms. Erin Gobrecht, H.O.P.E. Coordinator

WORSHIP SERVICES

Worship on Sunday – 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School classes for all ages – 10:30 a.m.

H.O.P.E. Worship *He Offers Peace Everyday*

Contemporary Style Worship 4th Sunday of each month – 9:00 a.m.

Opportunities to serve the Lord!

Adult Choir and Bells meet every Wednesday

Council meets the second Thursday of each month

Women of the Church meet the last Tuesday of the month

Join the Church/Sunday School orchestra

Membership with the congregation is not required

for participation in any programs of the church.

2018 Council Members

Carl Bachman Chuck Bock Wendy Fritz

Allen Gobrecht Amy Gobrecht David Hoff

Roger Krumrine David Schnell Kim Trone



GO GREEN Our newsletter is available online. If you would like to “go green” and receive the newsletter and calendar via email, please contact the church office at 717 632-1952 or by email at stbartchurch@comcast.net. Thanks!