

# JACOB'S LADDER

Published Monthly by  
JACOB'S CHURCH  
8373 KINGS HIGHWAY, NEW TRIPOLI, PA 18066  
"The Church on a Hill, Shining Forth for Jesus Christ"

Volume XI, Issue 5

MAY 2015, ISSUE

**Purpose:** To keep the members and friends of Jacob's Church informed of the ministries and happenings at our church and in the surrounding community and to be "The Church on a Hill, Shining Forth for Jesus Christ."

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Scott L. Shay, 8029 Penny Court, New Tripoli, PA 18066	(610) 298-2602 (Home) (610) 756-6352 (Office) (484) 695-4021 (Cell)
<b>Ministry Assistant</b>	James Reppert, 8399 Kings Highway, Kempton, PA 19529	(610) 698-6637
<b>Music Director</b>	Brenda Phillips, 5795 Long Court, New Tripoli, PA 18066	(484) 601-3302
<b>Youth Leaders</b>	Jim/Jocelyn Reppert, 8399 Kings Highway, Kempton, PA 19529	(610) 698-6637
<b>Activity Center Director</b>	Faye Foulk, 8321 Kings Highway, New Tripoli, PA 18066	(610) 756-6773
<b>Secretary</b>	Pearl F. Follweiler, 8570 Kings Highway, Kempton, PA 19529	(610) 756-6676
<b>Treasurer</b>	David R. Follweiler, 6893 Whitetail Ct., New Tripoli, PA 18066	(610) 298-2331
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Bonnie Belknap, 5866 Golden Key Road, Kempton, PA 19529	(610) 756-3196
<b>Sextons</b>	John & Lorrie Rauch, 7387 Fort Everette Rd, New Tripoli, PA	(484) 226-6207

## THE PASTOR'S EPISTLE "ARE YOU ENJOYING YOUR LIFE?"

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."  
(John 10:10 K.J.V.)

I believe that God really intends for us to enjoy life. In (Genesis 1:32 L.B.) we read, "Then God looked over all that He had made, and it was excellent in every way." God created everything in an excellent way to demonstrate His power and perfection and for our enjoyment. Jesus said He came to earth so that we might have abundant life. I can say with confidence, that if you are not enjoying life, then you are missing out on God's promises and intentions for you.

Perhaps you feel that life has robbed you of happiness and enjoyment. Jesus warned us that there was a thief who would try to steal away our abundant life – many people are not experiencing a joyful life because they are not looking in the right places. When we look for happiness in wealth, cars, homes, clothes, hobbies, power and popularity, etc., it is like trying to quench a thirst by drinking salt water. The more salt water a person drinks, the less satisfied the person becomes.

Jesus warned us not to store up treasures on earth where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in to steal, but to lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven. What are these "treasures in heaven" that can bring us enjoyment and meaning in life? The Bible tells us that "God is Spirit" and that we are also comprised of Body, Mind and Spirit. The greatest treasure we can possess is to have our spirit in union with God through a personal relationship with His Son Jesus Christ.

So often we neglect the spiritual side of our lives and therefore never really feel true joy. I often counsel with people who say "there's something missing in my life." Until the spiritual side of a person's life is fulfilled there will be little contentment and enjoyment in that person's life. As Oliver W. Price states;

"This joy and fulfillment is real. You may smile and feel like singing, or your joy may be the satisfied undercurrent that keeps disappointment from souring into bitterness. Jesus Himself talked of joy and peace, knowing He would be crucified the next day. He promised to give this joy and peace to His followers." (John 16:33)

As we celebrate the victory we have over death may the Joy of Christ Jesus sustain and comfort you!

God Bless You!

*Pastor Shay*  
Pastor Shay

**PLEASE NOTE: THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER WILL ONLY BE MAILED TO OUR SHUT-IN MEMBERS. EVERYONE WHO HAS INTERNET CAN READ THE NEWSLETTER ON LINE. THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE INTERNET THERE WILL BE COPIES AT CHURCH IN THE PARLOR.**

**NEW WEBSITE AVAILABLE**

**[jacobschurch.org](http://jacobschurch.org)**

**JACOB'S CHURCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 9, 2015**

**Attendance**

**Elders:** Ralph Hill, Lou Schimpf and Dave Zoghby  
**Deacons:** Ron Belknap, Christine Morehouse, Ned Rauch-Mannino,  
Richard Oswald and Gary Readnack  
**Pastor:** Scott L. Shay  
**Ministry Assistant:** James Reppert  
**Treasurer:** David Follweiler  
**Visitors:** Mike Follweiler, Faye Foulk and Curtis Staudt  
**Excused Absence:** Paul Schick

1. Pastor shay opened the meeting with prayer.
2. Faye Foulk presented the cover of the Anniversary Book and final decisions were made by the Church Board. Ralph Hill made a motion to order (400) Anniversary Books and the motion was seconded by Ned Rauch-Mannino. Motion carried. A motion was made by Ned Rauch-Mannino and seconded by Lou Schimpf to not include (2) photos in the book. Motion carried.
3. The Church Board discussed the rental of the Fenstermaker house.
4. Pastor Shay will be on vacation from April 30th to May 9th.
5. The website is ready to launch and will be coming soon.
6. Pastor Shay presented a letter from Pearl Follweiler, Church Secretary, stating she is planning to retire effective June 1, 2015. Ralph Hill made a motion to accept the letter and Richard Oswald seconded it. Motion carried.
7. Ned Rauch-Mannino, Richard Oswald and Gary Readnack will be on a committee to develop the church secretary job description.
8. Mary Ann Oswald and Faye Foulk resigned from the Board of Christian Education effective July 1, 2015.
9. The Church Board discussed John Poulette bringing his missionary friend to the church to gain support for Christians in Pakistan. The group is called Christian Relief International. A motion was made by Ned Rauch-Mnnino and seconded by Gary Readnack to allow them to come on April 19, 2015. Motion carried.
10. A motion was made by Ralph Hill and seconded by Richard Oswald to transfer membership of Ronald and Susan Hartman to Zion's Church in Windsor Castle.
11. The Mother/Daughter Banquet is set for May 2nd. The Miller Brothers will be entertaining. Tom Foulk and Perry Long are developing the menu.
12. The Church Board discussed how to have the youth more involved in church. A motion was made by Lou Schimpf and seconded by Richard Oswald to have the Confirmation Class ring the church bell every Sunday. Motion carried.
13. The Church Board discussed evaluations of the following positions in the church: Ministry Assistant, Organist, Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Sexton, and Activity Center Director.
14. There was discussion of the sound system for the Activity Center by the Church Board. Presentations by Ron Belknap and Jimmy Reppert. A motion was made by Ralph Hill and seconded by Christine Morehouse to put up sound panels to improve the overall sound in the Activity Center. The finances for the purchase will come from the monetary gift given for the start up of the Contemporary Service. Motion carried.

15. New screen for the wall in the Activity Center was presented by Dave Zoghby and discussed by the Church Board. A motion to purchase screen was made by Christine Morehouse and seconded by Lou Schimpf. Motion carried.
16. A motion to give \$200.00 to Contemporary Service for Praise and Worship Leader was made by Lou Schimpf and seconded by Christine Morehouse. Motion carried.
17. Jimmy Reppert gave a report on plans for the upcoming Mission Trip this summer from July 12 to July 18, 2015.
18. A motion to accept meeting minutes of February 3, 2015 with the correction was made by Dick Oswald and seconded by Ned Rauch-Mannino. Motion carried.
19. A motion to accept the meeting minutes of February 13, 2015 for Contemporary Service with the correction was made by Ned Rauch-Mannino and seconded by Lou Schimpf.

20. Treasurer's Report

Balance at February 2015 Meeting	\$12,759.27
Income	\$23,290.25
Transfer from Reserve Fund	\$15,000.00
Expenses	\$29,808.04
Balance at March 2015 Meeting	\$21,241.48

Motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Ralph Hill and seconded by Ned Rauch-Mannino. Motion carried.

21. Motion was made by Ned Rauch-Mannino and seconded by Gary Readnack to have Bonnie Belknap, financial secretary, be the second person able to sign checks for the church in case David Follweiler, treasurer, can not. Motion carried.
22. Motion to close the meeting at 11:00 pm was made by Christine Morehouse and seconded by Ned Rauch-Mannino. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Morehouse

**AT OUR DECEMBER 7, 2014 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** we voted to contribute \$4,796.00 per week in order to meet our 2015 budget. The following tithes and offerings were collected over the last two months:

February 1	\$3,740.50	March 1	\$5,074.00
February 8	\$3,434.00	March 8	\$3,621.00
February 15	Church Cancelled	March 15	\$3,516.00
February 18	\$ 288.01 – Ash Wednesday	March 22	\$3,121.00
February 22	\$4,486.00	March 29	\$4,443.15

Budgeted Tithes and Offerings for January-March	\$62,348.00
Actual Tithes and Offerings for January-March	<u>\$44,899.46</u>
Deficit for January-March	<u>\$17,448.54</u>

**ORGAN ENHANCEMENT FUND** - Your donations to this fund will be used for additional pipes required to complete families of tone in conjunction with fine organ design and building. This money is in addition to the \$65,505.00 voted on at the December 1, 1996 meeting to restore our organ and prepare for the additions. All donations should be send to:

Jacob's Church Treasurer  
 c/o Mr. David R. Follweiler  
 6893 Whitetail Court

**MILLER-KEYSTONE 12/01/2014 – 12/31/2014**

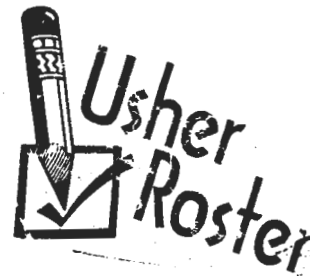
Group's Annual Donation Goal:		20
Number of Donations as of:	End of Previous Month in 2014	35
Number of Donations for:	12/01/2014 – 12/31/2014	2
Number of Donations Year to Date:	01/01/2014 – 12/31/2014	37
Number of Donations to Reach Goal:		0

(If you donate blood please use the church code #1515)

**LADIES BIBLE STUDY** – The “SISTERS OF ESTHER” (ladies Bible Study) meets every Tuesday from 9:30 – 11:30 A.M. in the Activity Center’s meeting room. We started a new study entitled “Right Believing” by Joseph Prince on Tuesday, April 7th. We would like to give an invitation to all ladies in the congregation or in the community to come and join us on Tuesday mornings! You are welcome to come to every meeting OR maybe you’re only able to come once a month OR 3 times a year!! Maybe you find you are in need of spiritual uplifting. We are a group of between 10-15 ladies and lots of times we laugh together, sometimes we cry together, we always lift up one another during difficult times. Drop in for a visit if you like. We will welcome you in the love of Jesus Christ. He is our Savior, our light and our life. Come join us!! For more information contact Eileen Myers at (610) 767-8970.

**GREETERS FOR MAY**

May 3	Jim and Rose Moyer Don and Eileen Myers
May 10	Church Board
May 17	Johri Family
May 24	Van Blargan Family
May 31	Confirmation Class



**PLEASE NOTE: Greeters should be at Church by 9:45 AM**

**FLOWER PRESENTATIONS FOR MAY**

May 3	Altar Vases	
May 10	Altar Vases	
May 17	Altar Vases	
May 24	Altar Vases	Shirley Greenawalt
May 31	Altar Vases	



Verdie Bailey Memorial

**ACOLYTE FOR MAY – JARED SILVA**

Pastor Shay will be on vacation from Thursday, April 30th till Saturday, May 9th. If you are in need of routine pastoral service, please contact a member of our Church Board. For emergency pastoral service contact Pastor David L. Long from Salem E.C. Church in Lenhartsville. Contact our Church Secretary, Pearl Follweiler for his telephone number, or contact another pastor of your own choice.



MOTHER'S DAY - SUNDAY, MAY 10TH—Our mothers and grandmothers will be honored during our worship service.



MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE ON JACOBS UNION CEMETERY – SUNDAY, MAY 24TH  
A Memorial Day Service by the Slatington American Legion will be held on Jacobs Union Cemetery at 8:30 am on Sunday, May 24th. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

MAY 24TH – PENTECOST COMMUNION AT 10:15 AM

Circle your calendar to come and share in Holy Communion on this day of Pentecost the Church's Festival of the Holy Spirit. Communion will be served in the pew.

#### HONORING OUR GRADUATES

On Sunday, May 31st during our 10:15 am worship service all college and high school graduates who are members of Jacob's Church will be honored and presented with a gift. If you have any graduate/s in your family please contact church secretary, Pearl Follweiler.



#### SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Any Jacob's Church member who will be attending college in the fall is encouraged to obtain the current guidelines and 2015 outline (contains easy questions) to apply for a portion of the Jacob's Church Scholarship Fund. You can pick up these forms from Curtis Dietrich, Donna Smith or Pastor Shay. The deadline for applying is June 1, 2015.

#### THANK YOU

Eddie Bartholomew wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, flowers, visits and other acts of kindness extended to him during his hospitalization and nursing home stay. A special thank you to Pastor Shay for all his visits, prayers and compassion.

Hilda Kunkel also expresses her thankfulness to everyone who supported her during this difficult time and even provided her with transportation to and from the hospital and nursing home.

Jacob's Church,

I want to personally thank you for your recent gift to The Voice of Martyrs and our persecuted brothers and sisters. Your generous support of VOM enables us to serve our courageous family in restricted areas of the world. Thank you for standing with us.

Your servant in Christ Jesus,  
Allan Walker

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

HOSPITAL VISITS & HOME VISITS

Eddie Bartholomew	Good Shepherd Home & Wellington Terrace
Carl Hamm	Lehigh Valley Hospital
Russell "Whitey" Hartman	St. Joseph's Medical Center, Route 183, Reading
Russell Henry	At Home
Tony Herschitz	Lehigh Valley Hospital
Ray Moyer	Lehigh Valley Hospital
Lee Shrawder	At Home



WEDDING

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Laura Elizabeth Dietrich and Stephen Andrew Hayes who were united in holy matrimony in Jacob's Church on April 11, 2015 by Pastor Larry Jennings. Pastor Scott L. Shay participated in the ceremony.



OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILIES OF JOANN R. ADAMS, ELLEN E. REPERT, CARL E. HAMM, AND KELLY SUE KRAMER

Joann R. (Blöse) Adams entered into Eternal Life on March 31, 2015. A Memorial Service for Joann was held on April 6, 2015 in Heidelberg Union Church. Joann was a sister to Ronald Smith and his wife Donna, members of our Jacob's Church Family.

Ellen F. (Hartman) Reppert passed away on April 4, 2015. Her funeral service was held on April 9, 2015 in the Nester Funeral Home. Ellen was a sister to Joyce Sacks, and to Russell Hartman, members of our Jacob's Church Family.

Carl E. Hamm, husband of Jean E. (Owens) Hamm, passed away on April 13, 2015. His funeral was held on April 18, 2015 in the Nester Funeral Home with Rev. Scott L. Shay officiating. Interment in Jacobs Union Cemetery.

Kelly Sue Kramer, daughter of Gary Kramer and Carol Ann (Nester) Osenbach, wife of Herbert Osenbach, passed away on February 3, 2015. A Memorial Service for Kelly was held in Jacob's Church on April 19, 2015 with Pastor Scott L. Shay officiating. Kelly was a niece to Robert Nester, a member of our Jacob's Church Family.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO THE FOLLOWING COUPLES CELEBRATING THEIR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN MAY:

Brad and Heather Eroh	Michael and Anni Russo
Cyrus and Jennifer Gehringer	Joseph and Jenny Schick
Hillard and Lisa Leindecker	Mark and Charlene Silva
Jason and Jill Loch	Curtis and Joan Staudt
Ronald and Cindy Loch	Michael and Vanessa Stepan
David and Marcia Miller	Brian and Emily Surman
Jim and Rose Moyer	Fred and Sandra Tomasko
Paul and Ruth Nester	Andrew and Whitney Zoghby
Bruce and Loretta Peters	





JACOB'S CHURCH  
Route 143 Jacksonville, PA

MOTHER/DAUGHTER BANQUET  
SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2015

**THEME**

**"HATS OFF – GODLY MOTHERS!"**

*Mothers wear many hats...you name it...  
homemaker, teacher, nurse, taxi driver, etc.  
Go in your closet and get out that hat most suitable for you  
and wear it to our Mother/Daughter Banquet*

*Program Presented By*  
**THE MILLER BROTHERS**

5:30 PM (Fellowship)  
6:00 PM (Dinner)

Dinner Menu

Fruit Cup, Salad, Dinner Rolls, Meat Entrée, Potato,  
Vegetable, Dessert, Coffee, Tea, Iced Tea, Lemonade

Tickets can be purchased from:

Corinne Bast  
Faye Foulk  
Mary Ann Oswald  
Pearl Follweiler

Ticket Prices:

Adults	\$10.00
Children (3 thru 12)	\$ 5.00
Children (Under 3)	Free

## JACOB'S CHURCH

*"THE CHURCH ON A HILL, SHINING FORTH FOR JESUS CHRIST"*

### ACTIVITY CENTER REPORT

*April 7, 2015*

*Listed are the activities that were held in the Activity Center during the month of March 2015.*

- Senior High Youth group meetings were held on Monday March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30; beginning at 6:30pm and ending approximately at 8:30pm. .*
- Junior High Youth group meetings were held on Thursday, March 5, 12, 19 and 26; beginning at 6:30pm and ending approximately at 8:30pm.*
- Kids For Christ Youth Group held meetings on Wednesday, March 4, 11, 18 and 25; beginning at 6:00pm and ending approximately at 7:45pm.*
- Lehigh Valley Volcanoes Softball Team held practice on Sunday, March 1, 8, 15; Saturday, March 7; and Tuesday, March 3, 10 and 17.*
- Private celebrations were held on Saturday, March 7, 14 and 28; Sunday, March 22 and 29.*
- Saturday, March 21 was the annual Pig Stomach Dinner.*
- The Women's Prayer Group continues to use the meeting room on Tuesday mornings. The Men's Prayer Breakfast Group continues to use the meeting room on Wednesday mornings.*

*God Bless You,*

*Faye M. Foulk*



## March F.U.E.L. Report

The month of March started with the biggest event of the year. We took 40 students to Twin Pines Retreat Center. The students always look forward to this event. The theme for the weekend was "I found the treasure, now what do I with it?" We discussed different aspects of our Salvation. Hearing the call, answering the call and being transformed by the call. We also talked about what we receive after putting our faith in Jesus. We become children of God. The final session talked about what we are supposed to do with this new found treasure. We must go and serve, love and be obedient to God's Word. The weekend was full of fun, food, teaching, worship and spiritual growth.

This year we were blessed to have a bunch of students help serve at the Pig Stomach supper. They served the people their drinks and cleared tables. They did a great job of showing Christ love through serving.

As the end of the month came upon us, so did the annual egg coloring extravaganza. Every year the students color over 20 dozen eggs for the annual Easter egg hunt. The students enjoy coloring the eggs for the young kids. This year we took Sr. high out to Hamburg to get the balloons and prizes for the egg hunt. We always have a great time shopping and then going out to eat with them.

KFC continues to grow. God is just amazing. We continue to see new families every week. We are so blessed by the fruit that we see coming out of this ministry. Many of our Jr. High students came from the KFC program and I can see fruit from the foundational teachings.

Coming up:

May 15	Date Night
May 18	Sr. High Picnic (Last normal youth group)
May 21	Jr. High Picnic (Last normal youth group)
May 27-30	KFC Camp
June 4	Combined youth group (summer schedule begins)

### **Summer Schedule will be in next month's report**

1 John 2:1-3

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. ...

## March Ministry Assistant Report

March was a very busy month. I am so thankful to be able to say that the website is now up and running. There were a few snags to work out but, we are able to get the newsletter on the site along with keeping the information on the site more accurate.

With the new service start date around the corner, there has been a big to do list. I have been busy building acoustic panels for the activity center. Also I have been meeting with families that are interested in the new service. God has sent some amazing talents to embrace His plan. The new service will be called Revive Ministries. Paul and I have been working with God's leading on finding a worship leader for the service. He has sent us two very talented worship leaders. Both will be bringing a full band with them. The ministry is scheduled to kick off April 12 in the activity center.

In March I met with one of our worship leaders for a time of vision and prayer. I also had the opportunity to meet up with one of the graduated Sr. High students. It was great to catch up with him and be able to pray with him for his future endeavors.

I started my next college class "Old Testament survey." It has been eye opening to me, how through this class, I can see clearer the way the whole Bible works together for one purpose. God revealing himself to us like it was before the fall.

I preached on March 22. The message was about how "Simple" our life in Christ really is. I talked about having childlike faith. Abram had it and we should have it also in order to really trust in God.

1 John 2:28-29

And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. <sup>29</sup> If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

# Mission Trip

Where: Wheelwright, Kentucky

When: July 12-18

What will we be doing:

General work projects

(small construction projects, painting and food prep.)

Cooks needed to feed the group

Possibly VBS

Cost:

\$150 per person

Spending money for traveling expenses

(food on the way down and back)

How can I go:

Sign up in parlor by May 1

Money is due by May 1

Questions:

Call Jimmy @610-698-6637



**Morning Vacation Bible School**  
Monday, July 6 - Friday, July 10, 2015

## **SEEKING VOLUNTEERS**

Jambo (Hello) and welcome to Africa! Come join us in an exciting adventure using the talents and abilities God has blessed you with. We are looking for teachers and volunteers to serve in this real life uplifting event.

We will be teaching our hikers that true wisdom comes only from the one true all-wise God, who wants us to be wise!

### **Areas to serve in:**

**Teaching Ages:** Toddlers (3-4)  
Pre-Primary (4-6)  
Primary (6-9)  
Juniors (9-12)



**Crafts**  
**Drama**

**Music**  
**Snacks**

**Games**  
**Teen helpers**

A workshop will be held for all volunteers to introduce curriculum and get to know all of our team members.

Please sign up on church bulletin board or call Jane Wessner at 610-760-1714

# Persecuted for Christ

*Passion for God... Compassion for People*

DR. ZIA MAHMOOD ■ 4223 HILL TERRACE DR., SINKING SPRING, PA 19608 ■ 610-670-2618 ■ DRZMAHMOOD@AOL.COM

Sept. <sup>2013</sup> 2009

## CHRISTIANS ATTACKED — BURNED AND KILLED IN PAKISTAN



*Muslim extremism and terrorism* reached its peak in Pakistan recently, when in a span of six weeks, four separate incidents resulted in hundreds of Christians being injured and burnt. Hundreds of homes and a church were burned to the ground. Sadly, nine individuals were burned to death, including two women and one child.

Our brothers and sisters in Christ are living in fear and hopelessness. ***THE BODY OF CHRIST NEEDS YOUR PRAYER SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE!***

I leave for Pakistan in October. Your donations will be matched dollar for dollar. Thank you for your prayers and continued support during this devastating time.

God Bless You,

*Zia Mahmood*

Dr. Zia Mahmood

*Serving Jesus in Partnership with You*

Have heard that validation of one's spouse is a vital element in marriage. Could you elaborate on that?

**Answer:** Validation is an important part of our responsibility for setting up a marriage to succeed. It's a powerful tool we can use regardless of our spouse's attitude because it has a naturally calming effect.

Why is validation critical to a happy marriage? Because when our spouse is upset, the main thing he or she wants is for his or her feelings and needs to be heard and respected.

Here is what you can work on:

- Acknowledging your spouse's feelings
- Identifying the feelings by asking specific questions or echoing specific statements
- Offering to listen, which means stopping any other

activity and leaning toward your spouse

- Helping your spouse clearly define his or her feelings by rewording what you hear
  - Being there for your spouse spiritually, physically, and emotionally
  - Being patient when your spouse is sharing
  - Trying not to rush him or her through the experience of sharing
  - Accepting your spouse's feelings and needs without being judgmental
- Take a look at the following roadblocks and think about how they may have affected your marriage.

1. Not wanting to admit you made a mistake. Validation is not primarily about right, wrong, or even truth. It means you see how the other person could have interpreted your actions or words in a particular way
2. Not wanting your spouse

to take advantage of you.

Instead of making a negative assumption about your spouse, use open-ended questions to find out what he or she is thinking.

3. **Resentment or unresolved anger.** Sometimes we don't want to validate because of unresolved anger that's turned to bitterness.
4. **Pride.** "Why should I have to validate?" "Why can't I just be me?" The answer: Because being ourselves usually means being messed up.
5. **Guilt.** "If I validate her feelings, I was wrong; that means I'm a bad person." We all cause hurt; no one is free from sin. If you did the wrong thing, ask forgiveness. Take responsibility. Fully embracing your role results in fully embracing your relationship.

(Adapted from *The Surprising Way to a Stronger Marriage* by Michael and Amy Smalley)

## TOUGH QUESTIONS FROM KIDS

**Answer:**

Sometimes we expect too much from a friend; then we feel let down when that person doesn't come through for us. He or she may be having a bad day and isn't aware of letting you down. When you explain in a nice way how you feel, it will help you both learn to be better friends.

For more information on any of the topics in this bulletin, go to [FocusOnTheFamily.com](http://FocusOnTheFamily.com) or call 800-A-FAMILY (232-6459). To reach Customer Service regarding your subscription, please call 800-692-9912. To check out more church resources and read the editor's thoughts, please visit us at [www.tyndaleperiodicals.com](http://www.tyndaleperiodicals.com).



MAY 2015

A PUBLICATION OF FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

Happy Mother's Day!

## A Mom of Influence

BY SARA HORN

PROVERBS 31:26 TELL US THAT A GREAT WIFE AND MOTHER "opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue." As moms pursuing wisdom and love, how can we be intentional and sensitive when it comes to influencing our kids?

Be available. We can be in the same room as our children and not pay attention to them. Consider sitting next to them when they're watching a movie, or inviting them to help cook dinner. A mother's presence in her children's lives sets the foundation for relationship in years to come.

Be a godly example. Our children don't just notice when we do things right; they notice when we mess up, too. We need to apologize when we lose our temper. We need to teach and practice grace. Our kids need to see our relationship with Christ as authentic.

Be an encouragement. It's often easier to spot the flaws in our kids than to be sensitive to what they're doing well. Make a point to encourage your child in what she does right and not just correct her when she does wrong. It's best for us to be direct in our actions but cautious in our reactions, helping our kids believe that we will be their lifelong cheerleader.



## TOUGH QUESTIONS FROM KIDS

Why do friends let each other down?



## Backyard Exploration

My family loves taking “exploration trips” in our backyard for some educational outdoor fun. To begin, we gather a magnifying glass or binoculars, a grocery bag, camera, notebook and pencil.

Next, we make a list of things to look for that day. (For example: three different kinds of leaves, five rocks, a ladybug, two birds and a flower.) We take a photo or draw a picture of the things we can't take with us and collect smaller objects. At the end of the hunt, we spread out our treasures on the porch to show Daddy later. Our little ones love the chance to see God's beautiful creations up close. —Candice W. Allison

## Future-Oriented Parenting

When it comes to the balance between being your teen's parent and being his friend, is there a way to avoid constantly feeling guilty or frustrated about decisions you need to enforce? Parenting is about doing what's best for your teen in the long term, not just the moment. As much as we desire to take the path of less confrontation, we have to remember that our parenting decisions shape who our teens will become as adults.

To keep that perspective, I asked myself one question with every parenting decision: *Will this decision help my teen become a better person?*

My son Ken rarely disobeyed but loved to tell me he couldn't wait to move out. I worried that my holding to family boundaries had not been right for him, that maybe I should have been more of a friend. But recently, Ken told me, “I wouldn't be the man I am today if you hadn't been a strong parent.” Those words made any feelings of lingering guilt fade.

But we can't wait for the accolades. As parents, we may never hear our grown children express their gratitude for what we've done. And being a parent is seldom the road to popularity. But parenting teens toward their future is our task, and we must do our part to help them become God-loving, independent adults.

—Debbie Jansen



## Marital Endurance

Hard times come in marriage, don't they? You may have found yourself stewing about your husband bringing home an unexpected guest for dinner (yes, this was our first fight as newlyweds). You may be disappointed in your husband because he doesn't listen as intently as he used to; maybe when you kiss you don't feel anything close to electric. Be careful to guard your heart or you may start thinking, *Marriage is just too hard.*

Remember: Your husband doesn't have it easy, either. You may snap at him for no reason, or you may be too busy for romance. Maybe he simply misses the light-hearted girl he married.

There's a memorable line in the baseball movie *A League of Their Own*, where the coach says, “The hard . . . is what makes it great.” When you go through a hard time in your marriage, why not view it as an opportunity for greatness? Strong character can be formed under fire (Romans 5:3-4).

The following three approaches have helped me through difficult times in my married life:

**Be grateful.** When you're thankful, you are following God's will for your life. So spend a few minutes in prayer. Thank God for your man and your marriage. First Thessalonians 5:18 says, “Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

**Be gracious.** When your husband is getting under your skin, remember that he's not living with Miss Congeniality every day of the year, either. Offer your husband the same grace you want to receive from him. Ephesians 4:32 says, “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”

**Be good.** Choose to meet hardships in your life with goodness. If your husband says something that hurts you, don't use your words as weapons of retaliation. Proverbs 15:1 says, “A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”

As you embrace the hard times and commit to learning from them, God can build a rock-solid marriage that's capable of weathering the storms ahead.

—Arlene Pellicane



# MAY 2015

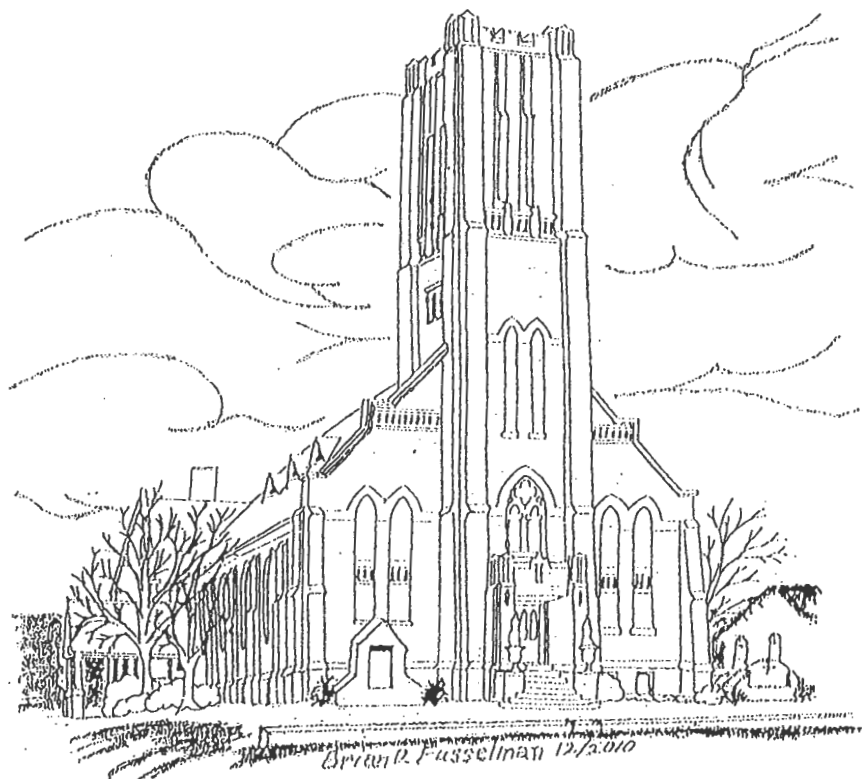


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 5:30 pm Mother/Daughter Banquet begins with Fellowship & Punch 6:00 pm Dinner
0 am Adult Class meets in Parlor 0 am Adult Class meets in Kitchen 0 am Youth SS in Fellowship Hall 0 am Conf. Class Meets in F.H. 15 am Blended Worship Service 15 am Revive Ministries in A.C. 30 am Joint Time of Fellowship in Activity Center  PASTOR	6:30-8:30 pm Sr. High Youth Group   WILL BE	9:30-11:30 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Healing Prayer Ministry  ON	6:00-6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:00-7:45 pm KFC 7:00 pm Mid-week Bible Study  Preschool set up kitchen & basement for Mother's Day on Thursday  VACATION	6:30-8:30 pm Jr. High Youth Group 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal  9-11:30 am Mother's Day Morning Basement, A.C., Gym, Mtg. Room & Kitchen  THROUGH	8	9   SATURDAY MAY 9 TH
0 am Adult Class meets in Parlor 0 am Adult Class meets in Kitchen 0 am Youth SS in Fellowship Hall 0 am Conf. Class Meets in F.H. 15 am Blended Worship Service 15 am Revive Ministries in A.C. 30 am Joint Time of Fellowship in Activity Center	6:30-8:30 pm Sr. High Youth Group	9:30-11:30 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Healing Prayer Ministry 7:30 pm Church Board Meeting	6:00-6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:00-7:45 pm KFC 7:00 pm Mid-week Bible Study	6:30-8:30 pm Jr. High Youth Group 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	TBA DATE NIGHT	10
1 am Adult Class meets in Parlor 1 am Adult Class meets in Kitchen 1 am Youth SS in Fellowship Hall 1 am Conf. Class Meets in F.H. 5 am Blended Worship Service 5 am Revive Ministries in A.C. 10 am Joint Time of Fellowship in Activity Center	6:30-8:30 pm Sr. High Youth Group Picnic Last Normal	9:30-11:30 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Healing Prayer Ministry 7:00 pm Elders Meeting	6:00-6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:00-7:45 pm KFC 7:00 pm Mid-week Bible Study	6:00 pm Bd. of Ch. Ed. Meeting 6:30-8:30 pm Jr. High Youth Group Picnic Last Normal 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 5:45-8:30 pm Preschool Graduation 6:30-7:30 pm Fellowship in A.C.	22	23
am Memorial Service on Cemetery am Adult SS Class meets in Parlor am Adult SS Class meets in AC am Youth SS in Fellowship Hall am Conf. Class Meets in F.H. 5 am Blended Worship Service PENTECOST COMMUNION 5 am Revive Ministries in A.C. am Joint Time of Fellowship in Activity Center	MEMORIAL DAY NO SENIOR HIGH	9:30-11:30 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Healing Prayer Ministry  EVANGELICAL	6:00-6:45 am Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:00-7:45 pm KFC 7:00 pm Mid-week Bible Study  KFC CAMP CONGREGATIONAL	7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal  KFC CAMP ANNUAL	29  KFC CAMP CONFERENCE	30  KFC CAMP
am Adult SS Class meets in Parlor am Adult SS Class meets in AC am Youth SS in Fellowship Hall am Conf. Class Meets in F.H. 5 am Blended Worship Service 5 am Revive Ministries in A.C. am Joint Time of Fellowship in Activity Center						



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**"The Church on a Hill, Shining Forth for Jesus Christ"**

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