

"Triangles of Faith! What Are They?"

2023

by Dr. Foster C. Dryden, Jr.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Corinthians 13:14

After years of reflecting on great hymns of the Church in our Lenten Series, last year we started a new topic, Triangles of Faith, with the first topic being The Trinity Triangle: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Numbers are full of symbolism in the Bible: 7 for fulfillment or rest; 6 for weakness or incompleteness; 40 for trials and temptations; and 3 for wholeness or completeness. Although a play on numbers, the 3 sixes (666) of Revelation indicate **the completeness of satanic incompleteness** in contrast to **the wholeness of the 3 Persons of the Trinity**. The Triangles of Faith are simply a numerical way of remembering the faith that opens the way for our knowing wholeness and rest in Christ beginning with the Trinity.

A lot of good things come in 3's! Even the Lenten Series experience on Wednesday evenings as we worship, fellowship and learn together. If you are interested in learning about the Heart Triangle, the Lepers Triangle and more, join us on Wednesdays, 7:00 pm on Zoom as we explore 7 more Triangles of Faith having begun on Ash Wednesday and concluding on Palm Sunday!

In His love,
Bud

Jesus Is Risen!

You are invited to celebrate Holy Week with us

PALM SUNDAY SERVICE

April 2 | 9:30 a.m.

Service held in the Chapel and on Zoom

Maundy Thursday

April 6 | 7:30 p.m.

Service held in the Chapel and on Zoom

Easter Sunday Service

April 9 | 9:30 a.m.

Service held in the Worship Center and on Zoom

Volume 24 | No. 2
The Viewpoint

March/April
2023

Inside this issue:

<i>Prayer List</i>	2
<i>Men's Fellowship</i>	2
<i>Women's Group</i>	2
<i>Church Mouse</i>	2
<i>Breakfast</i>	2
<i>Daylight Saving Time</i>	2
<i>Session</i>	2
<i>Property Committee</i>	2
<i>Lenten Series</i>	3
<i>Moment for Morgan</i>	3
<i>Dance Group</i>	3
<i>Ordination and Installation Service</i>	4
<i>"Have you inquired of the Lord? Yes, we have inquired of the Lord."</i>	4
<i>Camp Deborah</i>	5-6
<i>Birthdays and Calendar</i>	7

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The gift of prayer enables us to join with one another in consecrating our world, our lives,

and our ministries to God.

Please lift in prayer: Morgan, Madonna, Stephen, Kurt, shut-ins, victims of natural disasters, war, and hate crimes, the homeless, elderly, youth, the hungry, our nation, Presbytery of Philadelphia, General Assembly.



YOU ARE INVITED!

- March 4 in the Parlor
- March 18 on Zoom
- April 1 in the Parlor
- April 15 on Zoom
- 9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.

Newcomers are welcome. If you would like to attend, email or call Bud.



The Women's Study Group is reading the book; "The Good and Beautiful You" by James Bryan Smith; Discovering the person Jesus created you to be.

JOIN US IN THE LIBRARY

- March 18 and April 15
- 9:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.



Church Mouse
March 10 and 11
April 14 and 15
9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.



Everyone is invited to
Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
March 5 and April 2 | 8:00 a.m.
Bring your family and friends!

Daylight Saving Time Begins
Sunday, March 12th
Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour ahead



The biggest news is our completion of the review of the Mission Information Form (MIF), provided by the hard working Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC). It was approved as is, formally signed and sent on to the Philadelphia Presbytery. They will review it and then begin to provide names of potential candidates. We hope the PNC will be able to start interviewing in the next few months.

We also approved the job description and proposed salary range for a new sexton to replace Bob Kerr. This will be a full time position going forward. An advertisement for the job opening is being opened imminently.

We plan to have a Session retreat this spring, tentatively set for April 14-15.

Finally, we approved a list of questions to evaluate our worship service before hiring a new pastor. This conversation with the congregation will begin after the service on Sunday, March 19, with results to be provided back to the congregation on Sunday, April 30.

Holton Falk
Clerk of Session

On behalf of the Property Team, I would like to thank everyone who gave their time at our mini clean-up on Saturday, February 18th. Everything on the list was accomplished in a short time.

Thank you to Bea, Chawezi, Linda, Yvonne, Mary Ellen, Eloise, Tracy, Woody, Nathan, Laura and Phoebe. By the time Bud found me, we were wrapping up.

Next mini clean-up will be on Saturday, **April 1 at 10:00 a.m.**

Blessings,
Heidi

We continue to work to find leaks in the roof, with one more repaired last month. New lights are being selected for outside the Garrett Road entrance doors, with a plan to install them this spring. The Property Team is covering for the lack of sexton in the short term, at least until we see if we can find the full time person quickly.

Property Team: Holton, Heidi, Woody & Sue





LENTEN SERIES, 2023
Every Wednesday
7:00 pm, Zoom



Triangles of Faith

Week 1: February 22, **The Love Triangle** (The Three Great Pillars of the Church)
Love God with all your heart, mind soul and strength.... Deuteronomy.6.5

Week 2: March 1, **The Heart Triangle**
Love God with all your heart, mind soul and strength. Deuteronomy.6.5, Matthew 22.37

Week 3: March 8, **The Word Triangle**
My soul clings to the dust; revive me according to your word. Psalm 119.25

Week 4: March 15, **The Freedom Triangle** (The Five Keys)
For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. 2 Corinthians 4.11

Week 5: March 22, **The Prayer Triangle**
Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for You! 1 Thessalonians 5.16-18

Week 6: March 29, **The Leper's Triangle**
He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. Luke 17.16

Week 7: Palm Sunday, **The Triumphant Triangle**
Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.... Philippians 2.5

A Moment for Morgan



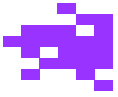
Morgan doesn't know it yet, but plans for a move when he turns 21 (three years from now) are already underway. ChildWay provides a home only to children under 21 years of age, so Morgan will have to move. State agencies are at work preparing for this eventuality! I had no idea about how complicated and long this process will be, so I was gratefully surprised when someone from the state contacted me. It is important that we find a home that can address his complicated health issues and provide the round-the-clock care that he needs. I have already had several meetings with dedicated employees of several state agencies who are educating me. I am extremely grateful to the state of Pennsylvania!

Thank you,
Eloise Smyrl

The Dance team has been busy; they made Martin Luther King breakfast bags as a fundraiser. They also donated canned goods to the Boy Scouts for their fundraiser for the food drive. Lastly, they also made a donation at Christmastime to the **Shining Stars Avatar Be Summer** stage program by attending their Christmas show.

Sandy Reilly





Ordination and Installation Service
Sunday, February 26, 2023



Eric Myers, Elder; Sue Parker, Elder; Dr Foster Dryden, Pastor; Aaron Geh, Deacon; Linda Martin

Have you inquired of the Lord? Yes, we have inquired of the Lord.

1 Chronicles 14: 8-17

The Pastoral Nominating Committee has been meeting most Sundays to inquire of the Lord, "Whom shall we seek to welcome as the Lord's servant to lead us to the promised fulfillment of Your good purpose?" Scripture and prayer have grounded this band of seven individuals of diverse backgrounds and ways of thinking as we have communed together. The library next to the chapel has become our "upper room". With the congregation's missional survey in hand and our minds and hearts inquiring, searching for the path forward, slowly and steadily our feet have found the firm foundation in unity with the Holy Spirit. While practicing a lectio divina meditation on this passage from 1 Chronicles, I reflected on how similar the PNC and the newly anointed King David inquired of God.

In Chronicles 14: 8-17 after Samuel has anointed David as God's chosen successor to Saul, the Philistines rose up against David in a challenge of God's anointing. Knowing that this challenge was against God, David inquired of God, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will you give them into my hand? The Lord said to him, "Go up, and I will give them into your hand." When David inquired of God, it is implied that he went before the ark of the covenant to be closer to hearing God. David's posture going before God was done in a spirit of humility, a spirit of knowing that God goes before him. David understood the weight of the responsibility as the leader of God's people. David asked for guidance from the Lord not stepping out in prideful thinking from his power and authority but by opening himself humbly before God... seeking *God's voice ahead of his own*.

Likewise, under this mantle, the PNC assuming the weight of responsibility has humbly sought out God's voice in prayer and scripture. David stepped away to be alone when he inquired of God. The PNC, although seven individuals, have met separately alone not seeking ideas or opinions of others but by prayer, in unity of the Spirit, have listened for the voice of God.

In Dallas Willard's "Hearing God", he describes the *weight of authority*, "The quality of God's voice is more a matter of the weight or impact an impression makes on our consciousness. A certain *steady* and *calm* force with which communications from God impact our soul incline us toward assent and even toward active compliance. Our innermost being seems to say Yes, this is true and right." (Willard, Dallas, "Hearing God", pg. 228)

It is my perception that the nominating committee prayerfully awaited on the voice of God through the Holy Spirit to select the members of the PNC. It is reflecting on the process of calling a new pastor, that I see how God has worked through the whole congregation to move us to call a new pastor beginning with the committee who compiled the missional survey. If anyone has asked, "Have you inquired of God?" I affirm that at each step of the journey, "Yes, we have inquired of God!" *Our innermost being seems to say Yes, this is true and right.*

Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen

Debbie Engell



CAMP DEBORAH

Camp Deborah is located outside Lusaka, the capital of Zambia, Africa. It is the passionate work of the Presbyterian women in that country. Christ's Community Church supports the ongoing development of the camp (through a line item in our Mission Budget).

The women continue to work tirelessly, and are now able to hold conferences at the site. Progress really ramped up after the bore hole was drilled (see the water tower that holds the water supply).

They are now raising enough chickens to have a contract with a local supermarket, and are seeing a good return on their investment there.

The conference shelter is now functional. They put canvas on top of the framework during conferences and cover the sides as well if it rains. Eventually there will be a hard roof over the structure.

The two buildings are the bathrooms (recently completed) and the chicken run. They have just completed preparing fields for a soybean crop. They hire people who are out of work to help with the labor, and will eventually have a school and do job-training there.

Our financial support is always welcomed by the women who are growing the camp, and it – and our prayers – are doing far more than we can imagine.

Linda Martin



Borehole



Bathrooms Completed



CAMP DEBORAH PHOTOS CONTINUED



Chicken Run



Conference Shelter



Prepared Land for Soya Beans



Weekly/Monthly Meetings

To know Christ and make Him known!

Christ's Community Church at the Riverview Avenue Community Center

337 Riverview Avenue Drexel Hill, PA 19026

Phone: (610) 259-2696 E-mail: ccc@rcn.com

Website: www.ccchurch.co

Facebook: Christ's Community Church of the Presbyterian Church USA

Instagram: CCChurch_DrexelHill

Sunday worship

9:30 a.m.

Worship Service

In-Person and Zoom

MARCH

- 3 Claire Jones
4 Vero Saylee
5 Donna Kerr
6 Jessica Parker
10 Colleen McDevitt
14 Ian McCoyd
19 Nate Sirkin
20 Sarah Kauffeld
21 Lisa Jeffries
26 Emmanuel Saylee
27 Tom Kocher
28 Brent Kerr
29 Tony Falk
31 Peggy Long



APRIL

- 1 Brent McDevitt
2 Sir Elliott Saylee
6 Debbie Engell
10 Colleen Teti
17 Nathan Johnson
24 Ryan McCoyd
30 Debbie Falk & Adele Battista

Table with 3 columns: Day, Time, and Meeting Name. Includes Sunday (9:30 a.m., Informal Worship), Tuesday (7:00 p.m., AI-Anon), Wednesday (7:00 p.m., NA in Fellowship Hall), Thursday (7:00 p.m., NA in Fellowship Hall), Friday (7:00 p.m., Cub Scouts).

March

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, and Meeting Name. Includes March 1, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 15, 18, 19, 22, 26, 29.

April

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, and Meeting Name. Includes April 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30.

The Viewpoint is a publication of Christ's Community Church at the Riverview Avenue Community Center. Dr. Foster C. Dryden, Jr., pastor; The Rev. Robert Eyre, associate pastor for missional outreach; Linda Evans, editor