

- the -
Bimonthly
Newsletter

The Viewpoint

Christ's Community Church at the Riverview Avenue Community Center

Rev. Mary Kruse Zambrana

"I am the Lord's servant. May it be to me as you have said. But what if we make it twins? A boy and a girl?"

How much initiative should we take in working out our salvation? Whether it is our personal life, or the collective future of the congregation, we operate with limited understanding and limited ability, yet in Christ, with freedom of heart and will.

Philippians 2:12b,13. "...continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose."

We sometimes wait for God to do things when God has instructed us to do those things in His name. (Parable of the man who hid his talent, *Matthew 25:14-30*) We sometimes try to manage situations when God has asked us to be still and wait on Him. (Sarai's plan to give Abram a child, *Genesis 16*)

Moses was so consumed by a sense of inadequacy from being a foster child and not fully fluent in Hebrew life and culture that God allowed him to partner with his brother, Aaron, in leading the Israelites out of Egypt. (*Exodus 4:10-17*) Would the story of the Children of Israel and the Tabernacle worship have been less complicated if Moses had trusted God to help him lead?

Isn't it **trust** that is the vital part? If we trust God's good purposes, we are thinking and acting out of confidence in God and God will steer us. (*Psalms 32:8*)

God works through all things, and we who are made in His image (*Genesis 1:26*) are to create our world with energy and imagination. God gives us everything we need to accomplish His purposes. "Yes" to obedience and waiting on God. "Yes" to full participation and plunging into life. God waits for us to give our assent to and free participation in His purposes before the angel leaves us (*Luke 1:38*).

Our Vision:

To Know Christ
and make Him Known!



Prayer List

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, global neighbors and communities, communities supported by our congregation, the youth of our congregation, youth of the world, people suffering at the border-pray for solutions, shut-ins, victims of war, victims of natural disasters, hate crimes, the homeless, elderly, the hungry, our nation.

"God never loses sight of the treasure which He has placed in our earthen vessels."

— Charles Haddon Spurgeon,

Morning and Evening, Based on the English Standard Version

Stay Informed

The Viewpoint | Page 2



Meet for Breakfast

BREAKFAST

The first Sunday of every month

8:00 a.m. | Fellowship Hall

We serve until 8:50 a.m.

Family and Friends are also invited!

March 3 | April 7

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Coffee hour every Sunday, except the first Sunday when we enjoy breakfast together, following worship service.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Join the women as they continue the discussion on the book; "The Good and Beautiful You" by James Bryan Smith; Discovering the person Jesus created you to be.

March 16 | April 20

9:00 a.m. | Church Library

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

March 2 and 16

April 6 and 20

9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.

Newcomers are welcome



LIFFE CENTER MEAL



March 30

Volunteers prepare and serve an evening meal at the 63rd Street Life Center of Eastern Delaware County.

CHURCH MOUSE

March 8 and 9

April 12 and 13

9:30 a.m. — 2:30 p.m.



Sunday, March 10
Set your clocks ahead one (1) hour

March 3rd

Let's work together to fill our local food bank:

Upper Darby Food Cupboard

Bring your food items to Worship Service



Worship Assistants, Techs, Greeters & Ushers

Worship Assistants, Techs, Greeters and Ushers meeting immediately following worship, to tune up the various roles in worship.

Worship Assistants and Techs:

Sunday, March 3 | After Worship Service

Ushers & Greeters:

Sunday, March 17 | After Worship Service

Please plan to be there

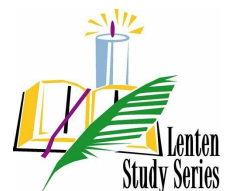
LENTEN STUDY CONTINUES

Wednesday, March 6 | 7:00 p.m.

On-line Lenten Study of the Church on Seven Continents:

Week 4: Africa Church TBA

Isaiah 51:1, "Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn."



Wednesday, March 13 | 7:00 p.m.

On-line Lenten Study of the Church on Seven Continents:

Week 5: Europe —St. Pierre Cathedral, Geneva. Switzerland
Romans 4:1-3

Wednesday, March 20 | 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Study of the Church on Seven Continents

(Possible In-person Finale)

Week 6: Oceania - Ebenezer Malayalam Pentecostal Church, Auckland, New Zealand

Isaiah 6:8

("Mr. Rogers Day" This church is being a good neighbor)

Holy Week

Sunday, March 24 | 9:30 a.m. - Palm Sunday Worship
Service in the Worship Center
"Praise and the Cross" *Mark 11:4-11; Mark 15:16-20*
(Christ gives his life and death)

Thursday, March 28 | Maundy Thursday
7:00 p.m. | In-person and on Zoom
John 13:1-17



Sunday, March 31 | 9:30 am Easter Worship
Service in the Worship Center
"Jesus is Not Here" *Mark 16:1-8*
(Christ told the disciples what to do next)

The Session has resumed meeting in person, to promote a greater sense of God's presence in our meetings. We continue to be grateful for the leadership of bridge pastor Mary Zambrana in this time of transition. After a relatively quick and straightforward Congregational meeting, we are moving forward with our many efforts. In particular, we are pleased to recognize the great support for mission in our church and want to look at how we can better use this strength. Likewise, the joy of seeing increased children's participation in our worship service has spurred us to explore what we might do for high schoolers and young adults. Finally, we will become more active in our communication with Bethel Community Baptist church, who are leasing the former Calvary building from us.



Holton Falk, *Clerk of Session*



Thank you all for your many ongoing prayers for Morgan. He continues to be in good health except for an eye infection for which he is being treated.

Mary Zambrana kindly visited Morgan and surprised him by speaking to him for quite a while in Japanese! He opened his eyes wide and listened attentively to her. It was fun to watch! How often Hiroko spoke to him in her native language and how much he can remember and understand remain mysteries. But he clearly enjoyed Mary's visit! Thank you, Mary.

Thanks are also due to Morgan's Cousin Gigi, who is a faithful visitor, always bringing him a balloon. Over the years she has sent numerous cards to him. Morgan and I both appreciate her attentiveness.

Eloise Smyrl

Our Army recruit, Darlington Yeah, is currently in basic training. He'll be re-assigned when that's finished, but in the meantime, his address is:

E2 Yeah, Darlington
CCO, 1ST BN, 46TH IN
4TH Platoon, Roster #448
9587 2ND Armed Division Road Bldg. 3515
Fort Moore, GA 31905

He writes that he's doing well and feeling like he's where he is supposed to be. He's attending church on Sundays and has joined a Bible study group. He doesn't rave about the food, but it sounds at least adequate!

If you have a chance to send him a card or write to him, please check with our church office first to make sure his address hasn't changed.

Thank you all.

Linda Martin

**Keep in
Touch**

The Viewpoint | Page 4

Weaving Words and Potholder Patterns: An afternoon of respite for church ladies

The ladies enjoyed weaving potholder patterns and lively conversation at the February 10th afternoon social. Mary Zambrana opened with a moment of reflection as to how women are represented in the Bible and how God's love is as ever-present like a loving mother for all who fear and love the Lord. A dozen or so new potholders were crafted in varying patterns and color choices reflecting the inner beauty of each crafter. Thank you, Chawezi Mwantembe for organizing the event and Jean Makita Sashihara for providing the looms and loops for our enjoyment. Looms were available to take home with a donation to the Mudoka Pork Farm.

Debbie Engell

Women gathered on Saturday, February 10th to socialize and release their "creative" juices by making potholders/ trivets. The group included church members as well as friends and family of members. Mary opened with a message of how God is both like a father AND like a mother.

Jean Sashihara has donated her time and creative gifts for the second time as our teacher. She provides all supplies that can be borrowed or taken home. If you choose to take the loom home she asks a donation be made to Mudoka Pork as she is a member of the board. \$80 was raised which goes to the community building project in Zambia that Abel Mwantembe talked about on Consecration Sunday (December 3, 2023).

Lots of befriending, happy chatting and laughter was abundant. Having fun while creating something combined with raising funds is truly a gift from the Holy Spirit.

Sue Parker



Evan Beweh's Baptism | January 14

The Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Delaware. Son of Veronica and Samuel Beweh



The Viewpoint | Page 5

Deacon's Corner

We had a wonderful time at our first Soup and Games fellowship time. All 5 soups were outstanding. Thank you Mary for starting it off with an icebreaker game. The kids enjoyed Candy Land, Connect 4, both regular size and jumbo size, along with some other games. Most of the adult folks just liked catching up. Thank you to everyone who helped and participated.

Reminder, there are cards on the window sill before you enter the Chapel; Get Well, Birthday, Thinking of You etc. Sign your card and label the person's name on the envelope. The Deacons will mail the card for you.

Blessings,

Aaron, Nathan & Heidi



The Viewpoint | Page 6

A Lenten Reflection: What does It mean to be a Good Neighbor?

Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37-39 NRSV)

"It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" was the opening line of the theme song sung by ordained Presbyterian minister, Mr. Fred Rogers as he invited all the viewers into his home and hospitality each week-day afternoon. His gentle demeanor made children feel safe. He transported children via trolley to the Land of Make Believe to help young ones from tots to teens cope with unsettling and difficult topics through puppet characters like Daniel Striped Tiger, Lady Elaine Fairchild, King Friday XIII, Queen Sarah, Henrietta Pussycat, X the Owl, and Grandpere. There were also the neighbors who dropped by including Mailman Mr. McFeeley, Neighbor Aber, and Handyman Joe Negri. Currently, on PBS, Daniel Tiger, the son of Daniel Striped Tiger, and his friends continue the legacy of Mr. Rogers Neighborhood.

Did you know that Mr. Rogers Day is Wednesday, March 20 (his birthdate) on the Presbyterian Church calendar? When I read the date commemorating his ministry on the calendar, a rush of childhood memories flooded over me and got me thinking about being a good neighbor. Am I a good enough neighbor and what I might do better?



The first scripture that pops from my childhood memory is the "Golden Rule" where Jesus says, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." (Luke 6:31 NRSV) Matthew 7:12 expands the rule to include "In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets." I think we need rules and laws to understand the boundaries of conduct in relationships. The Golden Rule is the rule I follow for conducting relationships with others as I continue to grow more in Christlikeness. But then I thought there's more.

I'm then reminded of the attributes of Christlikeness, the fruit of the Spirit which is where my internal compass is situated. From my internal compass, everything I do flows from it. In Paul's letter to the church in Galatia, he writes, "By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. (Galatians 5:22-23 NRSV) The condition of my heart matters because agape love or perfect Christlike love, makes the law and commandments secondary or less needed guidelines because I know what the right thing is to do.

The message is simple but clear. I know what is right and there is power in knowing I know what is right and how I should conduct myself. To help me keep Christ's love inside of me fresh and vital, I belong to a community with you, the family of Christ's Community Church. I know we are good neighbors. We have been and are good neighbors in many ways. We donate food to the food cupboard, make meals for the Life Center, fund many missions at home and across the globe, host various groups including NA, Al Anon, and the Cub Scouts plus we have the dance group. We have welcomed into our home and fostered the lives of young people. We have been there for each other in times of sickness and sorrow, and in joy and commencement. We are good neighbors. Can we be more neighborly? And what would that look like because "everyone" is our neighbor near and far.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mister_Rogers%27_Neighborhood

Debbie Engell

"Our anxiety does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows, but only empties today of its strengths."

— C. H. Spurgeon

The Viewpoint | Page 7

The Liberian Mission: A Slow and Steady Sure Success

(Report from Elder Eric Myers)

As one of the missions supported by the Christ's Community Church, The Liberian Mission was started in 2017 when the church responded to the call of God to provide a spirit-led support to the Zahn people in of Nimba County in Liberia, West Africa, through a rural community organizing and economic empowerment work in the Zahn Chiefdom in Liberia.

Slowly, this vision and effort is helping to organize a rural community, alleviate poverty and create a voice for the people of the Zahn community.

Through this initiative and support, a rural community organizing effort has created a community organization (the Zahnleawon Community Development Organization-ZALCDO) which is slowly serving as a catalyst for various self-help initiatives in the Zahn Chiefdom.

Slowly, the Zahn community is acclimating to working together through a single community structure (ZALCDO), outside of government and political control. This is significant because rural communities in Liberia historically rely on government for all of their development needs, a government that hardly shows up when expected.

Since its organization and registration with the government of Liberia in 2018, ZALCDO has organized farmers in Zahn into 13 farming cooperatives. In 2020 during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, food produced by these Co-ops became a lifesaver when most parts of the country faced food shortages due to the suspension of travels in parts of the country.

Slowly for the first time in Zahn, there is an economic self-help organization in the Chiefdom, helping small farmer groups in all of the 13 towns in the Chiefdom to practice farming as a business in order to generate income for their members, lend some of their group savings to provide small loans to community members, and generate interest incomes for their groups.

Slowly, this spirit-led support by the church is also raising unexpected leaders in the Zahn community. Since its inception, the Liberian Mission's most difficult challenge has been its poor leadership capability. Since its creation, ZALCDO has not had the leadership it needs to develop, implement and monitor its programs, and this has led to the poor performance of the mission. However, and surprisingly, six (6) of the nearly 35 Co-op groups created by ZALCDO have proven to be unrelenting and are determined to lead the pack. These groups have found a way and the ability to lead themselves and create and implement their own programs. As a result, these groups are becoming the future of the Liberian Mission.

After what appeared to be not only a lack of leadership but a loss of a clear direction, the mission is naturally and slowly reinventing and reforming itself, charting its own course, setting its own direction, and determining its own future and destiny. It's a slow and steady success.



"Hope itself is like a star- not to be seen in the sunshine of prosperity, and only to be discovered in the night of adversity."

— Charles Haddon Spurgeon

The Viewpoint | Page 8

Christ's Community Church
at the Riverview Avenue Community Center
337 Riverview Avenue
Drexel Hill, PA
(610) 259-2696

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.
In-Person and on Zoom

Email: ccc@rcn.com

Website: www.ccchurch.co

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

Instagram: CCChurch_DrexelHill

Happy Birthday to you!

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
- 7 Kayla Kauffeld
- 10 Colleen Teti
- 17 Nathan Johnson
- 24 Ryan McCoyd
- 25 Laura Johnson
- 27 Rob Eyre
- 30 Debbie Falk

The Viewpoint is a publication of
Christ's Community Church
Rev. Mary Zambrana, Bridge Pastor
Rev. Robert Eyre, associate pastor for
missional outreach;
Linda Evans, editor

March / April Weekly/Monthly Meetings

Sunday	9:30 a.m., Informal Worship Virtual Worship Service
Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Al-Anon in the Parlor 7:00 p.m., NA in Fellowship Hall
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

March 2, Saturday	9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship
March 3, Sunday	8:00 a.m., Breakfast in Fellowship Hall 9:30 a.m., Worship Service Worship Assistant Training after Worship Service
March 6, Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Lenten Bible Study
March 8 and 9	9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m., Church Mouse
March 10, Sunday	Daylight Saving Time Begins 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 11:15 a.m., Session Meet
March 13, Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Lenten Bible Study
March 16, Saturday	9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship 9:00 a.m., Women's Group Meet
March 17, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service <i>March Birthday Celebration</i> Usher and Greeter Training after Worship Service
March 20, Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Lenten Bible Study
March 24, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service Worship Ctr <i>Palm Sunday</i> Maundy Thursday
March 28, Thursday	Good Friday Holiday—Office Closed
March 29, Friday	Life Center Meal
March 30, Saturday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service Worship Ctr
March 31, Sunday	<i>Easter Sunday</i>

April

April 6, Saturday	9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship
April 7, Sunday	8:00 a.m., Breakfast in Fellowship Hall 9:30 a.m., Worship Service
April 12 and 13	9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m., Church Mouse
April 14, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service Session Meet
April 15, Monday	May/June Viewpoints Deadline
April 17, Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Property Team Meeting
April 20, Saturday	9:00 a.m., Women's Group Meet 9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship
April 21, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service <i>April Birthday Celebration</i>
April 22, Monday	Earth Day
April 28, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service