



*In God
we trust*

BrvilleFIRST

Newsletter of First Church
Barboursville United Methodist Church WV

WHERE DOES OUR HELP COME FROM?

BY PASTOR TERESA

There are so many things that are out of our control right now. And many of us are experiencing anxiety and we can be distracted by the smallest thing. We are more forgetful. We are fatigued. And we feel emotionally drained. And you can pick and choose from any of those things that are on your mind and focus on it. And that one thing becomes a bigger thing until it consumes all of your thoughts. And when it consumes us, our joy is taken away. Even our joy of the Lord. So how can we reclaim our joy? How can we refocus on the things from above? Listen to Psalm 121.

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the mountains—
where does my help come from?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord,
the Maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot slip—
he who watches over you will not slumber;
- 4 indeed, he who watches over Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5 The Lord watches over you—
the Lord is your shade at your right hand;
- 6 the sun will not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord will keep you from all harm—
he will watch over your life;
- 8 the Lord will watch over your coming and going
both now and forevermore.

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A Veteran's Story: The Hand of God

BY TRICIA GOYER/2004 / CROSSWALK.COM

There are many memories of war that last a lifetime. Memories of buddies lost right before one's eyes, of prisoners, of battle. Sometimes these memories meet me at the strangest times, but there's one memory above all that has changed me forever. Bastogne, and the Battle of the Bulge, can be considered no picnic. I was wounded there, and I remember sixty years ago as if it were yesterday. Our unit had been corralled in a low area. I was a medic, and this is where we'd based our headquarters.



As a medic, you go where you're needed. One day we received a radio message that they were desperate for medics in the next town. The infantry had taken severe punishment, and they'd lost two medical men who'd been shot. My medical officer approached me. "Come on, Pete, we've got to move out." I'd been over talking to a couple radio operators, my good buddies. I said goodbye to my friends.

Continued on page 3...

GREATER LOVE
HAS NO ONE
THAN this,
that he LAY
DOWN HIS life
FOR HIS FRIENDS.

*what we suffer now
is nothing compared
to the glory He will
reveal to us later*

romans 8:18



A Veteran's Story: The Hand of God

CONTINUED

Then I jumped into the jeep as the driver, with Major Harold G. Stacy beside him, and we headed off. But to get to the next town we had to cross a high point, a very high point. We didn't know it at that time, but the Germans had that area pegged with their big 88 guns. As we hit the top of that hill, a gun shell went over us. It landed about 50 feet away—at the most. The next one landed right in front of us. We knew then we had to abandon ship. The Major jumped out one side, and I dove out the other. On my side of the road I spotted the slightest gully, and into it I jumped. I knew I had little protection and figured I was a goner since the Germans were firing from my side. Then, something amazing happened. As I lay there, I felt someone pushing on my back, pushing me deeper into the ground and telling me to get down. Rounds three, four, and five landed on the jeep. There was nothing left. But as I lay in that ditch I had a sensation of protection, one I'll never forget. When it was over, blood dripped from my nose and ears. The Major was okay, but I had concussion problems from the shells that shook the ground. It took five days of rest before I could resume my duties. And even though I looked fine on the outside, something had changed within. I'd been a Christian since I was a small child, but I had even greater faith after feeling the protection of the Lord pressing upon me. I'm still a strong Christian today because of that experience. Many people can deny the fact that God exists, but not me. I've felt His hand . . . and heard His whisper in the midst of war.

Story by LeRoy 'Pete' Peterson, told by Tricia Goyer.

THANKSGIVING *Blessing Box*

If you are planning to provide a Thanksgiving Blessing box
PLEASE EMAIL Pastor Teresa
so that she can put you on a list.

SHOPPING LIST

for blessing box

\$25.00 GIFT CARD from Kroger
for the purchase of a Turkey and pie.
2 cans of green beans, peas or mixed.
1 large box of instant mashed potatoes.
2 jars of Turkey gravy.
1 large jar of applesauce.
1 box of stuffing
1 can of cranberry sauce
Anything else you would like to add.



PRAY for the family
who will receive your
blessing box
and pray for our
volunteers delivering
the boxes.

THANK YOU!



A ministry of BvilleFIRST



What about Thanksgiving?

THIS ARTICLE IS ADAPTED FROM HOMELIFE MAGAZINE BY CHYRSTAL STINE

November is here, and many of us are concerned about Thanksgiving. What will it look like? Many of us will not be going to the relatives for Thanksgiving due to COVID. But why not take this opportunity to do something new?

Instead of focusing on missing the regular holiday activities and not spending time with our some of families on Thanksgiving day, let's use this time to think of new ways to stop, and thank God for all we are thankful for, even during COVID-19!

God has given each of us gifts, right where He's placed us. Whether we use them in our daily work or we offer them as we serve our friends and family during this time of social distancing. The truth is, we are all facing isolation in one way or another. And it is wearing on us all. So use this time to lean into who God made you to be and how He created you to serve.

Listen to how The Message Bible paraphrases Romans 12:4-13.

"So since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvelously functioning parts in Christ's body, let's just go ahead and be what we were made to be, without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with each other, or trying to be something we aren't. If you preach, just preach God's Message, nothing else; if you help, just help, don't take over; if you teach, stick to your teaching; if you give encouraging guidance, be careful that you don't get bossy; if you're put in charge, don't manipulate; if you're called to give aid to people in distress, keep your eyes open and be quick to respond; if you work with the disadvantaged, don't let yourself get irritated with them or depressed by them. Keep a smile on your face. Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it. Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good. Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle. Don't burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder. Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality" (Rom. 12:4-13,MSG).

What a beautiful reminder that we each have a role to play in God's kingdom. He has uniquely designed us so that we can love one another well, even when we don't celebrate the same way, attend all the Facebook events, or decorate with the same enthusiasm as the neighbor down the street. Some of us might be passionate about hospitality, while others are gifted encouragers. But we can all encourage and support one another during this time!



What about Thanksgiving?

CONTINUED...

Looking for ideas for a new way to celebrate Thanksgiving?

1. Deliver homemade pies to every church member who is homebound or living in a nursing home.
2. "A Wall of Thanks" is a visual expression of thanks. Use white paper to cover a focal wall in your home. Invite family members of all ages to use markers or paints to artfully express thanks to God all month long.

God is always available for us and that His steadfast love endures forever is a major reason for us to rejoice with thankfulness and gratitude. During November, place a piece of paper or make a sign over every door that says *"I Will Enter His Gates with Thanksgiving In My Heart"*!

Here are some other scriptures you could use.

Psalms 100:4-5

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Philippians 4:6

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Colossians 3:17

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Barboursville FIRST

4 AREAS OF MISSION

COMMUNITY NEEDING HOPE – Outside of our church walls are families struggling to get by. Some of them have been receiving monthly Food cards.

MISSION – Form a new ministry that would continue to offer hope and assistance to these families.

ONLINE COMMUNITY- We are gathering a new community of visitors watching our online messages. These people have never attended our church.

MISSION- An online website that would offer them an online church experience. Providing a Message, music, small group, prayer, discipleship, etc.

ONLINE CHURCH COMMUNITY- We have about half of our church watching sermons online. And about an 1/8 are trying new technology like ZOOM and Tithley giving.

MISSION- Education in using online applications to connect them better to church. Finding ways to encourage them to try small groups and bible studies by zoom.

CHURCH COMMUNITY NOT ONLINE

– We have about ¼ of the church that has no interest in new technology. Some of these members have little or no internet. Some are SHUT-INS. Many of them are just waiting for things to be normal again.

MISSION – Finding ways to connect with them without internet. Providing Newsletters, sermons on DVD, Hymns and music CDs. Porch visits, calls, cards, emails, etc.



UPDATE ON SHARECARE

BY PASTOR TERESA ADAMS



The mission of SHARECARE is to research, plan and develop new ways to address our four areas of need.

The mission of **SHARECARE** is to research, plan and develop new ways to address these four needs.

“Care Packages of Love” are being delivered through the month of November. They will contain things like the Newsletter, Upper room, Sermon DVD's Music DVD's, and Trina's father recorded ten hymns for a CD and the Pastor made copies for the baskets. There will be gift cards and other things. We will be making care packages for our shut-ins and those having no means to use zoom or Facebook.

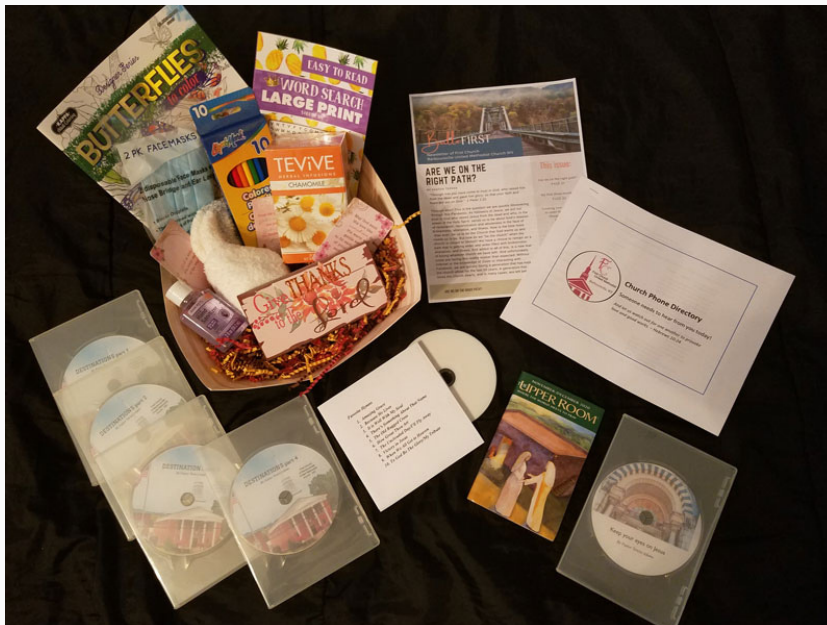
Thanksgiving blessings boxes. If you are planning to provide a Thanksgiving Blessings box, PLEASE EMAIL PASTOR TERESA so that she has you down on the list.

Pre-recorded LIVE traditional service

Is available and posted on Facebook Sundays at 11:00 am. Please email your prayer request.

Contemporary style worship service

The Contemporary worship service can be watched whenever you like. A link will be sent to you via email and it will be posted on Facebook.





ADVENT IS APPROACHING!

Yes, there's a good chance that we will not have Advent inhouse worship services... but this will not stop us from having a service. I am praying for new ways to celebrate this years Advent season.

If your family would like to read a scripture for Advent and can record yourself reading... Please email me. I can send you one of the readings.

Look for our special ADVENT activities coming up soon in our MIDWEEK SHOUT!

1970 - 2020
50 Years
WE WILL NEVER FORGET

50th Annual Memorial Service

November 14, 2020 | 9am
We Will Never Forget.

MARSHALL

Due to safety precautions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, seating on the plaza is by invitation only. This ceremony will be offered via live stream.
www.marshall.edu/neverforget

