



A JOURNEY OF *Stones*

Newsletter of First Church
Barboursville United Methodist Church WV

This issue:

A JOURNEY OF STONES

BY PASTOR TERESA

Dear Friends,

As we enter into our LENT Season, we have the opportunity to identify and to let go of some of the attitudes and actions that make it hard for us to follow Jesus.

We have talked about the talents God has given us. And how our finances have been entrusted to us to be used for His glory. And how important it is to understand the Spiritual impact of giving. The world tells us that the most important thing in life is to have as many possessions as you can. To be rich and well off.

We have found that greed will keep us focused on ourselves and miss the needs of those around us. And we have learned how discontentment can take the things that God has given us and make them seem "NOT GOOD ENOUGH". The more you have... the more you will be tempted.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**A JOURNEY OF
STONES**
PAGE 01

**A JOURNEY OF
STONES**
Continued
PAGES 02

WAITING ON GOD
PAGE 03

WAITING ON GOD
Continued
PAGE 04-05

CLM CORNER
PAGE 06

**INHOUSE WORSHIP
BEGINS! / WEBSITE
ANNOUNCEMENT**
PAGE 07-08

CONNECT
PAGE 09-10



A JOURNEY OF STONES

CONTINUED

The truth is...

you can never be fully be connected to God if your still connected to your treasures. And no matter how much we try to be completely devoted to God life gets in the way. And soon our needs become our wants. And those wants will most likely take our eyes off of Jesus. And we can easily judge others by their actions of greed and discontentment. but it's hard to see it on ourselves.

And now, we are on a Journey of preparation. A journey of discovery as we learn more about who God is and what God has done for us.

It's journey of transformation. As we allow Gods spirit to remake us into the image of Christ.

I'd like you to think about this journey as a journey of stones. In which we lay aside every weight and the sin that so easily entangles us and run the race that God has set before us. Each week we will uncover another stone along the way. A stone that reminds us of who we are in Christ.

PSALM 51:2-3
WASH ME THOROUGHLY
FROM MINE INIQUITY,
& CLEANSE ME FROM
MY SIN.
FOR I ACKNOWLEDGE
MY TRANSGRESSIONS:
& MY SIN IS EVER
BEFORE ME.





WAITING ON GOD

ARTICLE BY ALENA DUPRÉ // EEW MAGAZINE // SPIRITUAL

Article By Alena Dupré // EEW Magazine // Spiritual

The Bible says in Isaiah 40:31, “They that wait upon the Lord will renew their strength,” but if you’re honest, you don’t always feel strong while you’re looking for God to manifest His promises, provision and power.

If you are feeling weak in the wait and are growing weary of your internal struggle with doubt, here are 5 empowering Bible stories that will help you stay in expectation of a move of God.

Abraham and Sarah’s Promised Child

In Genesis 18:1-15, God promised to give Abraham and Sarah a child, but Sarah couldn’t believe it. In her mind, both she and her husband were too old and her time of child-bearing had passed. The thought of her bringing life into the world seemed ridiculous. But Sarah was wrong, because nothing is too hard for God. Though she initially laughed in disbelief, we see in Genesis 21:1-7 that God did the impossible. The couple welcomed a son named Isaac. This story reminds you that it’s never too late for God, and His promises don’t expire.

Continued on page 4



WAITING ON GOD

CONTINUED

Daniel's Delayed Answer

In Daniel 9:1-19, we see God's faithful servant, Daniel, praying fervently for help, clarity and understanding. At first, nothing seemed to be happening. But after 21 days passed, Daniel received his answer. Remarkably, Daniel 10:1-12 reveals that the Lord heard Daniel's prayer and sent an answer the same day, but the forces of darkness fought against God's angelic messengers. Satan delayed the answer, but he couldn't deny it. This story reminds you that, while you wait, Satan is fighting your breakthrough at every turn. Though he may hold it up for a little while, he can't stop you from receiving your God-ordained answer.

The Woman with the Issue of Blood

In Mark 5:21-34, we read about a woman who had been bleeding for 12 long years. Can you imagine? She exhausted all her financial resources trying to find a cure. But after all the disappointment, she didn't give up hope! This tenacious woman exercised her faith and pressed her way through the crowd to get to Jesus. When she touched the hem of the Savior's garment, instantaneously, she was healed. This Bible story reminds you to be tenacious like her. Don't lose your faith in the struggle. If you wait, believe and keep on pressing, God will reveal His power.

continued on page 5



WAITING FOR GOD

CONTINUED

Lazarus Raised from the Dead

John 11:1-44 tells the story of Lazarus, Jesus' beloved friend, who died of an illness. By the time Jesus showed up on the scene, he had already been dead four days and Lazarus' family was convinced that there was no hope. But Jesus, who said "I am the Resurrection and the Life," commanded Lazarus to come forth out of the grave. And just like that, the dead man rose, still wrapped in his grave clothes. This Bible story assures you that, when it looks like the moment for change and breakthrough has passed you by, God still will produce a miracle for you—all for the sake of His glory.

The Man Stuck at the Pool

In John 5:1-15, we see Jesus speaking with an invalid man who had been languishing at the pool of Bethesda for 38 years. So much time had passed, there appeared to be no hope of change. But Jesus had mercy on him, and commanded the impotent man to get up and walk. At Jesus' command, he sprang up and was miraculously healed. This Bible story reminds you that, this long wait will come to an end. Be prepared.



God will extend His mercy to you and change things for the better also.

And there you have it! Although waiting is surely tough, if you remember that God is faithful, you'll do much better during your waiting season.

Keep meditating on the awesome miracles you see in these Bible stories and add a few of your own to the list. All the while, believe God to stretch out His hand of mercy and work things out favorably for you, too.



CLM CORNER

ALLEN DIAMOND CLM CANDIDATE ALLEN.DIAMOND77@GMAIL.COM
681-268-9168

Greetings everyone Here we are with a new month and a great new one too. Meteorological Spring started on March 1st. With the 1st day of spring being March 21st. Also March 28 will be Palm Sunday.

Also March is a month to celebrate your Irish heritage with St Patricks Day March 17. And through the entire month.

Also Ken Willard is offering free classes through Portico along with other classes through wvumc.org

LEADING WORSHIP, an Advanced Lay Ministries Course, will be offered in five (5) weekly sessions via Zoom on Thursdays, April 8, 15, 22, 29 & May 6, 2021 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.

Advanced Lay Ministries Course

LEADING WORSHIP

Thursdays, April 8, 15, 22, 29 & May 6, 2021 6:30pm – 8:30pm via ZOOM

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Been asked to be on the Worship Team or Committee? Wonder what goes into planning a worship service? This course will focus on the basic understanding and skills necessary to lead worship in the United Methodist Church through exploration of important topics, such as: the basic pattern of United Methodist worship and its origins basic resources for planning and leading worship various worship styles and what they mean for us today.

WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?

This Advanced Lay Ministries course may be taken, in addition to the Basic Lay Servant course, to become a Certified Lay Servant and it is required to become a Certified Lay Speaker. It is designed to help worship leaders and pastors (either occasional or regular) to: understand and communicate the uniqueness of United Methodist worship be effective leaders in planning and revitalizing worship lead their congregation into a deeper and richer experience of God through worship.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: Worshipping with United Methodists by Hoyt L. Hickman (ISBN9780687335268). Available at The Upper Room Bookstore (\$11.99) or Amazon.

TO REGISTER (required): Please contact Pastor Donna Hinkle at 302-228-6193 or donnahinkle@yahoo.com

Also several other classes are being offered too. I will get a complete list of all classes and give to Pastor Teresa. You can also contact Pastor Donna Hinkle at 302-228-6193.

C. Allen Diamond CLM

FIRST CHURCH GUIDELINES (Revised as of 3-5-21)

P L E A S E R E A D

In-person worship will begin **Sunday, March 14th**. Traditional service will meet again at 11:00 am. with a limited number of people in attendance to maintain social distancing. However, the date, times and additional services could change based on the federal, state and local government guidelines. It is VERY important for us to follow the guidelines.

IF WE FAIL TO KEEP THESE GUIDELINES, WE WILL NEED TO STOP INHOUSE WORSHIP.

Please use the online service option if you:

- Have flu like symptoms
- Fever of 100.4 degrees or higher in the past 14 days
- Exposure to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19
- Have a family member who is waiting test results.
- Any medical reason where you or a family member is high risk
- If you are 65 or older per the Governor's recommendation and feel you are at risk
- Are uncomfortable with any of the procedures outlined
- Would rather stay at home

In-House person worship will remain "touchless"

- Doors will be opened at 10:45 am.
- Allowed seating in pews will be marked
- MASKS are mandatory. (even with those who have had shots)
- No paper passing, no bulletins, no passing collection plates
- NO SINGING

With distancing and sanitizing requirements, the opening of the building will be limited to the sanctuary, 1st floor bathroom (emergency only) and hallways.

Only one entrance will be available for use. **Please do not hinder the flow of people arriving and leaving service creating a bottle neck. You can visit outside of the building.** Do not roam around the church building. This is to limit the number of locations that will need sanitized after the service. Certain items have been removed from the Sanctuary that could be touched and pass along COVID. That includes tables, nametags, pamphlets (upper rooms), hymnals, bibles, envelopes, pens, pew cushions, etc.

PLEASE DROP YOUR OFFERING INTO THE OFFERING PLATE NEAR THE ENTRANCE.

Continued on page 9

The sanctuary and the restroom will be disinfected before and after the service. We encourage everyone to bring their own masks, but the church will maintain a small supply in the event someone does not have one. Trash cans will be available for the disposable masks. A touchless hand sanitizer is available. Families will be able to sit together during the service

- o Service will be 30 to 40 minutes.
- o Use the no-touch thermometers to verify no one enters the church if their temperature is 100.4 degrees or higher.
- o We will dismiss rows at the end of service. Pastor will exit through the front doors first.
- o No singing yet - (only humming)

- o Social distancing needs to be maintained.
- o No hand shaking or hugs.

Additional notes

- o church office will remain closed during the weekdays to the public.
- o Church will not yet be open for other organizations for meetings and other activities.
- o Church meetings will continue to be via ZOOM. Unless otherwise indicated.
- o The kitchens would not be available for use.

Please help us keep inhouse worship services ongoing.

IF WE FAIL TO KEEP THESE GUIDELINES, WE WILL NEED TO STOP INHOUSE WORSHIP.

The decisions of the RELAUNCH TEAM will be determined and guided by the CDC, Federal, State, and Local Government as well as the WV United Methodist conference advise that is safe to return to normal operations.

This entire document will be updated based on the conditions, environment, federal, state, and local guidelines as well as guidelines from the WV Annual Conference.

These new guidelines were voted on and approved by the FIRST CHURCH RELAUNCH TEAM
3-5-21

IN HOUSE WORSHIP SERVICE BEGINS SUNDAY, MARCH 14TH. 11:00 AM.



Beginning March 14th. we will meet again!

Please read the guidelines carefully.

Doors will open at 10:45 am.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED!

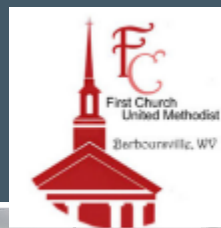




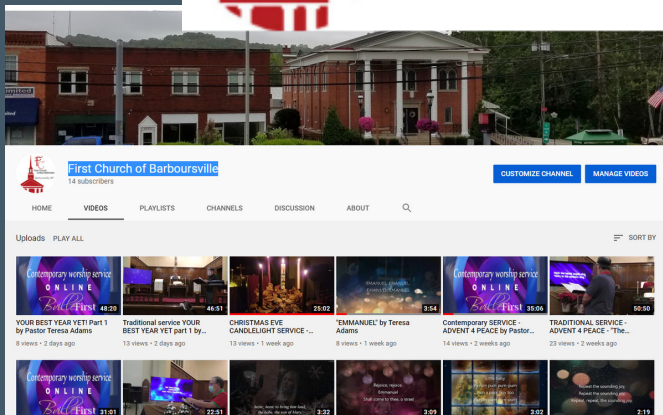
First United Methodist Church - Barboursville WV
@FUMCWV · Religious Organization

Edit

Follow



First Church of Barboursville
YouTube



DOUBLE CLICK
ABOVE TO GO TO
OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL

SUBSCRIBE



We are located on the Corner of Main & Water Streets
in the Village of Barboursville
PO Box 293 Barboursville, WV 25504
firstchurchbville@gmail.com
304-736-6251