



PASTOR'S KEYBOARD

Many years ago I remember as a teenager a ministry called, "Lighthouse Family and Youth/Young Adult Ministries." I did not become a member of this organization but I did read and follow a lot from their writing and pamphlets. I trace my fascination with Lighthouses back to that time. I began at that point to see a connection between the, "Lighthouse" and what

I read in the bible about letting your light shine. From John 8:12 (NIRV) we read: "When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, **"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."** Jesus also spoke about the purpose of light in the gospel of Matthew. Matt.5:14-16 (NIRV) **14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill can't be hidden. 15 Also, people do not light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand. Then it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven.**

For a boat or ship coming into the shore from the open sea, the lighthouse serves a lifesaving function. The Lighthouse shines at night or in very dark inclimate weather to stand out for the boats and ships to see and take note. By making a geographical orientation to the lighthouse the ships at sea can tell where they are in relationship to hidden rocks or other dangers. They can also determine if they are oriented correctly to enter the harbor. By shinning it's bright lite and fixed location; the ships are able to find both safety and danger.

As followers of Christ we shine our light for many of the same reasons. We shine our light together, sometimes in different directions, but for everyone to take a reference. Are we getting to close to troubles that can be avoided? Are we following the right path to be in the center of God's Will? Do we know where we are in relationship to God and others? These are all questions that can be answered as we let the light of Christ shine through. Psalms 119:105 (NIV), **"Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."**

The light also stands in opposition to the darkness. Where darkness isolates us and draws us inward away from others; the light opens us to our surroundings and shows us one another. With the light we can be in relationship with one another, adding and joining beyond our solo exsistance. 1 John 1:7 (NIV), **"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin."** Let us all remember that the light that is Jesus Christ, is stronger than the darkness and has and shall always overcome the darkness. John 1:5 (NIV), **"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."**

Psalms 119-105 (NIV)

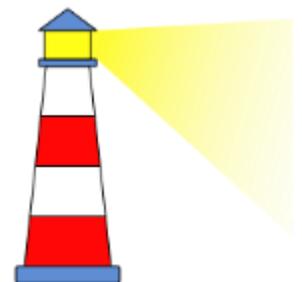
Your word is a lamp for my feet, a *light* on my path.

Matthew 5:14 (NIV)

Matthew 5:16 (NIV)

Ephesians 5:8 (NIV)

For you were once darkness, but now you are *light* in the Lord. Live as children of *light*.



Church Servants

Deacons on Call - Bev Hann, Chair

January 17 - February 20

Barbara Kesselring

863-382-1472



SENIOR DAY OUT MINISTRY

This program is every Tuesday beginning at 9:00 AM and running till 2:00 PM. Each week we will do a different activity such as indoor shuffle board, dominoes, crafts, bingo, travel logs, short day trips, and movies. A hot lunch will be provided with the program.

Due to limited seating on our church bus and to keep everyone safe and healthy, our Senior Day Out program will be limited to 14 people. The program will be held in Blough Hall so there is plenty of room to social distance as you feel is necessary. Hand sanitizer and masks will be available and temperature checks will be done each Tuesday. If transportation is needed to the church we can provide that.

Each person must be able to ambulate on their own and be able to climb the steps onto the church bus for trips. If you use a walker or wheel chair, as long as you can get on the bus on your own, you are welcome to join us.

If you have any questions, please feel free to talk with Pastor Dave or Terry.

ADDRESS & PHONE CHANGES

Margaret Lindower - cell # 517-425-0901 - Michigan home In Sebring now but

Northern address is: 120 Stony Ridge Ct. Hillsdale, MI 49242

Miriam Bernhard - use Dan's address: 17529 Mandarin Circle Winter Garden, FL 34787

Gene & Dorothy Gensinger c/o Miller's Merry Manor, Apt 49 600 W Oakhill Ave Plymouth, IN 46563

Dean & Julia Ramer Apt. G 25



MESSAGES FROM MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

*No matter if you prayed, called, sent a card, sent an e-mail, provided food, sent a gift, paid your respects, that somehow, in some way you expressed your sympathy, shared our sorrow; we can't thank you enough for loving on us during this difficult time. God Bless You! Margaret, Steve, Rose (Clason)



The Ladies Aide continues to meet every Wednesday from 9—12. Even with being small in numbers we have been busy. We lost Roena this year. She is so much missed. At the end of the year we were able to give out 10 quilts, 10 lap robes and 2 body Christmas blankets. If you like to sew, or if you want to learn how to put

quilts together we would love to have you join us.

Ladies Aide

The 2020/2021 Church Directories are now available in the church office.

If you want to receive a digital copy please send us your email address and we will send you the pdf version. The address is: sebring.church.brethren@gmail.com

If you would like us to mail you a printed copy please let us know that as well (either by phone call, email or regular postal mail). Thank you! Pat

If you want an end of the year statement of your financial giving, please let Sharon Kesselring know.

Thank You!



Special Prayer List - 1-18-21

To All of our Church Family,

Please continue to update our prayer list by sending us those changes. You can email or phone changes to the office. Thank you. Please make sure you put your name on it so we know who made the changes.

Recent Church Family:

Rudy Bawel (at The Palms) (asking for prayer)
 Sharon Burner (trouble with shoulder surgery)
 John Cooke (Stephanie's husband, home recovering)
 Corona Virus - especially nursing homes where it is rising
 Nation's Unity
 Jerel Eller (Prostate cancer)(Barb K's son-in-law)
 Ken Frantz (health problems)
 G. Berdine Frey (mild stroke; partial loss of her left side, companion, Dale Bender passed away)
 Bev Hann, Coolief surgery to reduce hip pain. Home.
 Bill Hann (dementia) (cancer - petscan 21st, chemo 26th)
 Jonathan Hollenberg (prayers for positive life changes)
 Miriam Kauffman (Highlands Hospital) (Heart & Meds)
 Barbara Kesselring (Heart racing) (Upcoming Ablation)
 Tony Kesselring (Barbara's Son) (Lymphoma)
 Bob Knowlton (still struggling with covid symptoms)
 Darlene Knox (Hospital w/2 brain tumors) (husband Ed, health problems as well) (see Amanda O)
 Faye Livengood (Mild case of covid)
 Walt Livengood (Home)
 Scott Lofton (Gail Strome's son) (was in Winter Park Hospital, home now)
 Baldy Miranda
 Marcel Miranda
 Melissa Hollenberg Nunez (Thankful - still negative from covid even though husband and in-laws all had it)
 Phil Petry (Brain Tumor) (Pet scan, amblyotry, no pain)
 Evelyn Petry
 Kelsey Schoendorf, (Seth's friend from the district, breast cancer age 27)
 Dan & Yvonne Schwartz (dealing with many losses)
 Andrew Strickland (Gayle Strome's nephew)(Leukemia) (very strong treatments)
 Charles & Sheila Wallace (Health Issues)
 Archie Wolfe (chemo)(cat scan shows improvement)
 Esther Sue Wolfe
 Ryan, Jarred, (Prayers) See Yvonne for details
 Gary (Yvonne's cousin) (Admitted self for alcohol treatment)

Prayer for Leadership team, filling the "Clerk" position & the new year finances

Ongoing Church Family:

Abide 21
 Jim Baker,
 Lizz Batts & daughter, Paisley
 Bob Benedict
 Joan Bohrer
 Louise Bohrer
 Carolyn Colver
 Carol Cooper's son (Health Issues)
 Gail Diehl (Assisted Living in PA)
 Colleen Drew (Gayle Strome's daughter)
 Scott Lofton
 Glenn Mayer (Esther W's Nephew)
 Terrell Morris
 Beverly Noffsinger (Hospice) (Palms Health Care)
 Jim & Amanda Osborn
 Harold Picking
 Pastor David & Terry Smalley
 Virginia Tharpe (Assisted Living LP)
 Nick Vela (Prayer for positive life changes)
 Randy Walker (Lorraine Walker's Son) (ALS)
 Lucy Wilson,
 Wednesday "Grab and Go" & Friday Food Pantry handing out food, clothing, Bibles, blankets

JOYS: Camp Chaplain, Sherry Raymer had covid for 4 weeks - back to work finally

Thank you from Barbara Kesselring for the help in "undecorating" the church

*RECENTLY DECEASED:

- *Ruby Martin passed away Dec. 16.
- *Ruben Miranda (Baldy & Marcel's son)
- *Dale Bender, G Berdine's companion
- *Don Yoder
- *Marilyn Zimmerman
- *Dr. Jeannine Petry (Yvonne's friend & Phil Petry's cousin) died of covid.
- *Ralph Kennel & Cynthia Simmons (friends of Schwartz's)
- *Al Mosher (Lea Miller's good friend)

All prayer chain requests need to go thru Barbara Kesselring. Requests will remain on our list for four weeks. To continue requests for a longer period of time, please give updates to **Barbara Kesselring (863) 381-8316 or email: kessellb@embarqmail.com**



Dear Church Family:

January 2021

Happy New Year 2021!!! Let's hope this year is a better year than last year was . I had a very nice but simple Christmas. Christmas Eve was great because it was so peaceful, first the Candlelight Service here at the Sebring Church of the Brethren, going to Stephanie's to exchange gifts and then onto Midnight Mass (at 9pm these days). I miss those big Christmas gatherings with family and friends. I was able to have a few friends over for New Year's Eve. We took advantage of my new family room on my closed in back porch. It was wonderful and I have so much more storage and sitting room. I look forward to the day when the pandemic is under control and I can host a church picnic in my new room. I am blessed that I could do this in the midst of all the trials and tribulations the pandemic has caused. Now I am working on cleaning my garage which is an even bigger undertaking. Wish me luck. Wishing you a Blessed New Year!

In Christ's love,

Pat Hollenberg

Church Secretary



SEBRING CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

700 S. PINE STREET
SEBRING, FL 33870