

New Basel Church
1075 1100 Ave Abilene, KS 67410
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www.newbaselchurch.org

echo
New Basel Newsletter

JANUARY 2021

Getting To the Barn

The story is told of a farmer who one day decided to plow the south forty acres in his field. However, his tractor needed oil, so he started for the barn to get it, but on the way, he noticed that the pigs hadn't been fed.

As he neared the corncrib, he saw a pile of sacks which reminded him that the potatoes were sprouting. On the way to the potato pit, he passed the woodpile and remembered that the kitchen stove was burning low and needed wood.

While picking up the wood, he saw that one of his chickens was ailing, so he dropped the wood to tend to the chicken and so distraction after distraction came along until the end of the day — and he still hadn't oiled the tractor or plowed the south forty.

Brethren and friends, the only way we will ever “get to the barn” of Christian service is to get our priorities in order (Matthew 6:33). The farmer in the above story didn't have any priorities — he just “rolled with the flow” of events occurring around him.

Is our Christian life ever like this trip to the barn? Do we ever have grand visions of achieving great service, but the service never gets done? Do we have too many distractions, allowing them to interfere with our goal of being a productive servant in God's kingdom?

There's no question that our life contains plenty of pigs to feed, wood to cut and chickens to doctor, but we can't allow them to get in our way of serving God.

If we will make the commitment to serve God (Joshua 24:14-15) and go the “extra mile” (Matthew 5:41), God will make a way for us to “get to the barn.”

Taken from GEWatkins.net

The Cross

A young man was at the end of his rope. Seeing no way out, he dropped to his knees in prayer. "Lord, I can't go on," he said, "I have too heavy of a cross to bear." The Lord replied, "My son, if you can't bear its weight, just place your cross inside this room. Then, open that other door and pick out any cross you wish."

The man was filled with relief and said, "Thank you, Lord," and he did as he was told. Upon entering the other door, he saw many crosses, some so large the tops were not visible. Then, he spotted a tiny cross leaning against a far wall. "I'd like that one, Lord," he whispered.

And the Lord replied, "My son, that is the cross you just brought in." When life's problems seem overwhelming, it helps to look around and see what other people are coping with. You may consider yourself far more fortunate than you imagined.

Taken from varietyreading.com/christian-stories

New Basel Church Council
Monday December 14, 2020

Called to order at 7:02 pm by President Mitch Cromwell

Present:

Elders: Peggy Meuli, Nicole Shrack, Pam O’Neal

Deacons: Holly Bethe, Francis Anderson, Mitch Cromwell

Trustees: Dwight Kamm, Austin Murphy

Vice President Peggy Meuli opened with prayer

Pam O’Neal moved we approve the minutes, Peggy Meuli seconded the motion

Communications:

Peggy Meuli received a Christmas letter and card from Rev. Bob and Alice Park. She will post the letter on the bulletin board.

Christmas letter from Shiloh Ranch

White Memorial Camp Newsletter

Village Manor Newsletter

Salina Rescue Mission asking for a donation for their Christmas Dinner

Mission Aviation Fellowship- asking for donations by December 31st

Samaritan’s Purse newsletter and slip to donate to their organization

UCC Kansas-Oklahoma Conference newsletter from Edith Guffery

Church Women United- asking for donation for Christmas Aide that will go to local individuals

Abilene Area Food Bank - thank you for our monetary donation

Christmas Card from Lila Sybert with a monetary donation enclosed

Reports:

Committee Reports:

Jessica Murphy- presented a search committee report. The committee is working on the website. A new domain was purchased; the web address is: newbaselchurch.org. Shannon Krueger was hired to help move things over to the new website. Jessica has updated pictures and monthly newsletter. The search committee has met 3 times. A new email address was created so they can make contact with potential pastors. (Job Wanted) ads have been posted on Facebook and at Manhattan Christian College (that post has not been put up yet). We have received 2 applicants.

Sunday School Committee- Jessica also reported on behalf of the Sunday School Committee on Christmas events for New Basel. The Sunday School Committee has already discussed going virtual and has prerecorded each Sunday school class. The recording will be put together by Emily Haynes. They were not able to record the song portion of the children's program yet but have brainstormed ideas if we do not come back to in person church before the Christmas Eve service.

Financial Secretary and Treasurer:

Pam O'Neal gave the Financial Secretary's report for November

Holly Bethe gave the Treasurer's report for November

M/S/C Dwight Kamm moved to approve the November Financial Secretary and Treasurer's reports. Austin Murphy seconded the motion.

Elders-

Rich Loftness will be here December 27th and January 3rd.

Deacons:

None

Trustee:

Dwight Kamm- printer in the office was not working; it has been fixed by New Century.

Old Business:

Search Committee- Mitch and Dwight talked to Edith Guffey about being in the UCC. She said they have not received anything saying we would like to leave the UCC. If we would like the UCC to help us with our search they are willing to, but we would have to do our regular offerings. Pam has also talked to a Church in Abilene that is non-denominational and how they find preachers. Bob O'Neal has taken that information to the Search Committee.

New Business:

M/S/C to pay bills that were presented. Pam O'Neal moved we pay the bills. Francis Anderson seconded the motion.

Church Budget for 2021 was discussed and will be presented at the 2020 Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting Date: January 31st. We will have a short church service followed by our annual meeting. No meal will be provided. At the annual meeting, we will take a vote on removing New Basel from the UCC. If we would like to be removed from the UCC we need to send a

congregational vote and our By-Laws showing that the UCC does not own any of New Basel's property.

Covid 19 Decisions- Dickinson County is requiring masks for indoor activities. A business can be fined up to \$500 if caught not wearing masks. At this point they have left churches out of the wording. We will continue to keep our church doors open and stay up to date on new mandates.

Church Council discussed and voted to move our Christmas Eve Service to a virtual program. It will be posted on our Facebook page.

We will still take a Christmas Eve Service Offering. Check can be mailed to the Church at 1175 1100 Ave Abilene, KS 67410. The charity of choice this year will be St. Jude Children's Hospital. Please put St. Jude's or Christmas Eve Charity in the memo area of your check.

Benevolence funding was distributed to local organizations. \$400 was given to each:

Neighbor to Neighbor

Church Women United

Cedar House

Shiloh Ranch

Hope Center

Abilene Food Bank

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday December 23rd Echo Articles Due

Christmas Eve Service December 24th Virtual on Facebook

Christmas December 25th

Council Monday January 11th at 7pm

Annual Meeting January 31st

Farm Sale- March 6th

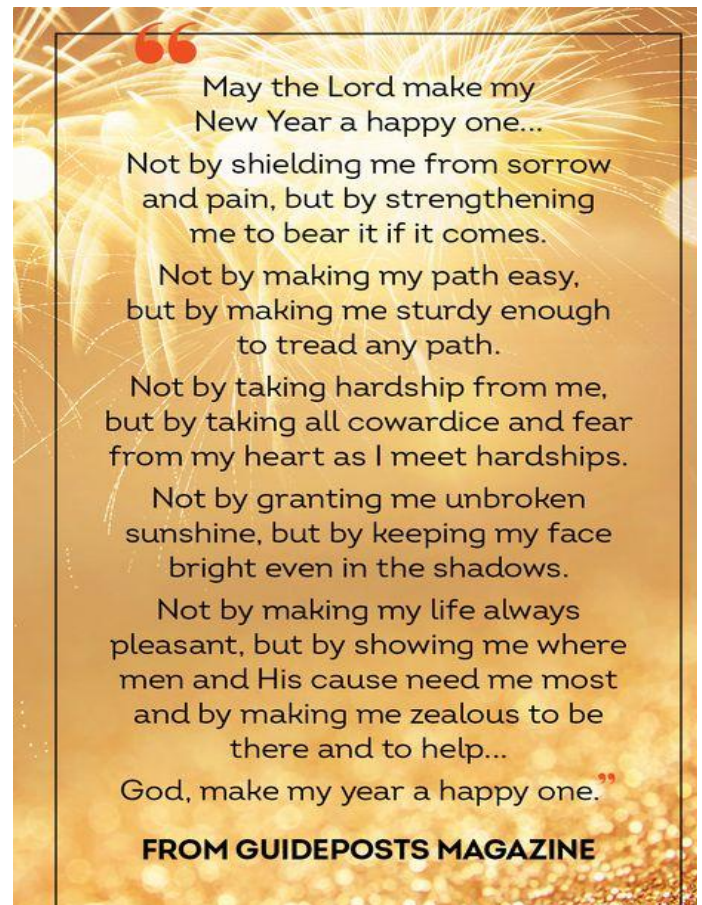
No Other Announcements:

Meeting Adjourned at 9:05 pm by praying the Lord's Prayer in unison

Nicole Shrack, Secretary



Thank you to Gordon & DeAnne Strunk and Delmar & Rosella Curran for the American Flag donated to the New Basel Cemetery in memory of Carla Marie Hoffman.



Dwight & I want to thank you all who remembered us with flowers, visits, telephone calls, cards & letters during the five long months Dwight was hospitalized & since his return home. Your remembrances certainly helped pass the time there & also boosted our moral. Dwight is now walking with a walker even though he was told by his surgeon that he may never walk again. We feel we have been truly blessed to have recovered this far & to have so many caring friends. Thanks so much for remembering us! We're looking forward to the day when we can join you at church again.

Dwight & Marvel



Eunice Pryor
Elaine Bethe
Joe Foltz
Naoma Foltz
Harold Provance
Wanda Murphy
Dwight Meuli
Kelly Schrader

Sandy Reiff
Don Reiff
Tammy Anderson
Judy Lauer
Suzie Barten
New Basel Search Committee
Pastor Bill & Carolyn Graves
Jan McAdams

JANUARY INFORMATION

Birthdays

2nd Travis Beetch
 6th Jessie Hoffman
 12th Dalton Provance
 15th Gene Hoffman
 19th Carolyn Beetch
 Jen Reiff
 27th Benson Smiley
 31st Randy Barten



Anniversary

January 25th - Seth & Judy Lauer

Thank you to all the Children & their Parents, Sunday School Teachers, Organist, Readers and those who provided the beautiful special music for the Christmas Eve Program. A special thank you to Emily Haynes for putting the program together for all to view on Facebook.

Also thank you to all who decorated the church in all its Christmas finery.

Greeters, Acolytes, & Usher for January

	<u>Greeters:</u>	<u>Acolytes:</u>
3 rd	Gordon & Sara Hunnicutt	Molly Hunnicutt
10 th	Sam & Nicole Shrack	Axie Shrack
17 th	Kevin & Stacy Smiley	Farrah Rothchild
24 th	Randy & Judy Barten	Allie Schrader
31 st	Jen Reiff and Joan Reiff	Duncan Reiff

January Usher: Chris Bethe

Thank you to Dwight Kamm for being the December Usher



The Annual Church Meeting for New Basel will be held on **Sunday, January 31st**. There will be a short service followed by the annual meeting. There will not be a luncheon this year. Please plan on attending as there must be enough members for a quorum.

*******Reminder there is no Sunday School January 3rd.
 Classes will resume on January 10th.**