



New Basel Church
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echo
New Basel Newsletter

JUNE 2022

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Another dark day of unimaginable pain. Another headline that makes the nation stop what they are doing to learn what happened. Another national crisis in which people of all political opinions return to their same old arguments and name calling. Another community devastated and forever scarred. Another lunatic with a gun bent on murdering the most innocent people he can find. Another mass shooting at a school.

Our hearts break for these families and this Texas community, and we shake our heads in helpless grief. Questions remain: Why would someone do this? Was there something about the parents that failed to stop this? Were there warning signs? Where were friends and acquaintances raising alarms? Where were counseling services that perhaps could have headed this off? Where were the cops?

And where was God? Why didn't God stop this? How could God stand by and watch this unfold? Doesn't God care? Is God even watching? Is God dead?

Ever since Adam and Eve were kicked out of the Garden of Eden, humans have suffered the effects of evil in our world. And the questions asked in the above paragraph are so old that they are even asked within the pages of the Bible itself! Even though it might seem to us blasphemous to entertain such unrighteous thoughts, these same questions were asked by someone experiencing profound grief.

Psalm 44 was written by The Sons of Korah, who were a group of people heavily involved in leading daily Temple worship. While we don't know who or when,

someone had hurt the Jews badly, and a national lament was crafted.

It goes something like this: We've heard the stories about how you blessed and protected our ancestors, but I don't see it. We're covered in shame, and our enemies are laughing at us. Where are you? We need your help!

As Christians, we need to be aware that people today are asking some of these same questions, and we need to be ready to give an answer. Even if we are personally hurting too, and are looking heavenward for answers right along with the rest of the country! Be honest about your feelings (the Sons of Korah were!) and remind yourself and others. God did not create this evil, human sin and hatred did. God has not turned his back on us, but fervently wants us to lean in to his love. And God wants Christians to love these hurting people.

God's hand is not seen in the person killing so many innocent children. Rather, God's hand is seen in the many hugs afterward that sought to comfort and protect. God's hand is seen in the many donations of money, time, and flowers. God's hand is seen in the prayers offered by the Holy Spirit on behalf of parents whose own spirits did not know how or what to pray. And God's hand is seen even now in calling people into a relationship with him.

In Romans 12, Paul instructs Christians to weep with those who weep. And our nation is weeping over the senseless murder of so many. But as you weep, be ready to answer tough questions. They've always been there.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jamie

New Basel Church Council
Monday May 2, 2022

Called to order at 7:06 p.m. by President Kenny Chamberlin

Present:

Elders: Kenny Chamberlin, Nicole Shrack, Pam O’Neal

Deacons: Holly Bethe, Mitch Cromwell

Trustees: Drew Snitker, Austin Murphy

Pastor Jamie opened with a prayer

Pam O’Neal made a motion to approve the minutes. Austin Murphy seconded. Minutes were approved.

Communications:

Samaritan’s Purse Update

The Salina Rescue Mission asking for donations

St. Jude Children’s Hospital asking for donations

KVK annual maintenance contract

Reports:

Financial Secretary and Treasurer:

Pam O’Neal gave the Financial Secretary’s report for April.

Holly Bethe gave the Treasurer’s report for April.

Pastor’s Reports:

Work Summary for 4/4/22 – 5/1/22

Worship- Preached and/or led Sunday worship 4 times, 1 Maundy Thursday

Administration Meetings- 1 Church Council, 1 VBS Planning, 2 Baptism Planning, 1 Graduation Sunday Planning

Pastoral Care- 1 Home Visit, 5 Hospital Visits, 5 Phone Visits

Other- 2 Dinners with the Bonnemas, 1 Cross Talk Zoom Meeting, 4 Financial Peace University Classes, 2 Volunteer Reading Sessions, Purchased DVD for Parlor, Heartland Adjustment (roof damage assessment)

Incoming Calls- Dean Mangus, First Congregational Church of Emporia, RE Pastor Search (for his opinion and help with hiring not seeking Pastor Jamie); Pastor Richardson, Ebenezer Church, RE World Day of Prayer

Vacation Days

This Month:0

YTD: 3

Milage: 52 miles

Elders:

Pam O’Neal reported 61 took communion on April 17th (Easter), and 67 took Communion on May 1st.

Deacons:

None

Trustee:

Mark Larson Rescue Roofers will be Re-Roofing the parish hall and North side of the sanctuary. This is covered by insurance.

Tin for the old barn: John Meuli got an estimate for materials which are roughly \$1,500. That does not include labor. The trustees will discuss the next steps.

Old Business:

Bible School update: Registration form will soon be out. VBS dates are May 31st- June 4th. We still need teachers for VBS. If interested please contact Pastor Jamie.

5th Sunday Brunch: Bring your favorite breakfast dish. Brunch will start at 9:30 a.m. and Service will start at 10:30 a.m.

Scholarship update: Deadline was May 1st. Austin reported for the Scholarship committee that a few applications were received. They will be reviewed and announced at a later date.

May 15th Pastor Jamie will not be preaching. Pam O'Neal has the pulpit filled with Reverend William Marshall.

Update that Women's Fellowship agreed to supply the Kitchenette instead of the Parish Hall Kitchen.

New Business:

M/S/C to pay bills that were presented. Drew Snitker moved we pay the bills. Mitch Cromwell seconded the motion.

Church Picnic Date: To be announced

Church Improvement Fund offering: July 17th make a note in the check memo to designate it for the Church Improvement

Membership application for Duane and Ila Beemer. Council voted to accept their membership.

Pastor Jamie asked for vacation time July 31st – August 7th. Council approved his time off.

Pastor Jamie brought up discussion about baptisms and how New Basel Church see baptisms. Pastor and the deacons will further discuss this and come back to council with recommendations.

Mitch Cromwell moved we adjourn and Austin Murphy seconded.

Upcoming Events:

May 29th Sunday Brunch 9:30-10:30

May 30th Memorial Day

May 31- June 4th VBS

June 5th Communion, Pentecost Sunday

June 6th Council Meeting 7 p.m.

No Other Announcements:

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m. by praying the Lord's Prayer in unison

Nicole Shrack, Secretary

JUNE

BIRTHDAYS

13th Allie Gfeller
 14th Nathan Kamm
 15th Bo Rothchild
 19th Tayler O'Neal
 20th Doug Pryor
 29th Tony Herman



ANNIVERSERIES

7th Bill and Carolyn Graves
 Charlie & Sue Holloway
 11th Kevin & Stacy Smiley

Upcoming July Birthdays

5th Diane Loftness 6th Sara Hunnicutt
 Deborah Lathan 9th John Meuli



Duncan Reiff and Travis Beetch at New Basel Graduate Recognition.

Greeters, Acolytes, & Ushers for June

Greeters

Acolytes

5 th	Kenny & Janet Chamberlin	Molly Hunnicutt
12 th	Cecil Schrader & Tony Herman	Austin Smiley
19 th	Francis & Clema Anderson	Axie Shrack
26 th	Gary & Deb Foltz	Sterling Bonnema

June Usher: Kevin Smiley

Thank you to Drew Snitker for being the May Usher.

Happy
 Father's
 Day!

The righteous man walks in his
 integrity;
 His children are blessed
 after him.

Proverbs 20:7

