



New Basel Church
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echo
New Basel Newsletter

APRIL 2023

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Do you ever look around, and feel like you don't understand modern culture? Do you ever watch the television and wonder how people can think and act the way they do? Do you ever watch the news about what's going on in the capitol and feel like a stranger in your own land? If so, you're not the first.

Peter, the leader of the disciples, was a lucky guy. He was a fisherman by trade, but because of his association with Jesus, got to see and do some amazing things. He even got to write a couple books of the Bible! One of those books is 1 Peter, where he wrote to a bunch of people that felt like strangers in the world, and he gave several reasons why they could rejoice even so. Go look at 1 Peter 1:1-12.

In verse 1, he says that God's elect, God's chosen, are strangers or foreigners. One thing about foreigners is that they find it hard to understand why people act the way they do *because it isn't their custom!* At the same time, he gives the first reason why we can rejoice: **God loves us!** God chose us, just like Jesus chose Peter. It's not that we did anything to deserve this, but because of who God is. But God's love doesn't stop there: verse 2 also says that the Holy Spirit is continuing to work on us, making us more holy. God loves us enough to *not* leave us as we are! The most obvious way we know that God loves us, however, is that (v2) Jesus shed his blood for us. Right after Easter, this is pretty clear in our minds. But we can rejoice in that God loves us in choosing us, in continuing to work in us, and in the blood of Jesus!

We can also rejoice, even if we feel as awkward as strangers in a strange land, because **God has given us hope.** Verse 3 says that, because of Jesus' resurrection, we can look to heaven, as well as (v4) the inheritance kept in heaven for us, where it can't be touched by this world. And in verse 5, we have assurance of ultimate salvation, shielded and protected by none other than Almighty God!

Verses 6-7 tell us that we can rejoice because **God has a plan.** Yes, we do have to suffer grief and trials in this world, but this is temporary. God uses these difficulties to strengthen our faith and glorify Jesus Christ. Put simply, God takes a bad situation and uses it for good! And by the way, He does it all the time!

Then in verses 10-12, Peter gives another reason for rejoicing: **we understand.** The Old Testament is full of people who knew God was up to something, but didn't know what. But now that Jesus has been revealed, and we have heard the Gospel preached to us, we know more of God's wondrous grace than they ever did!

The last thing I would like us to consider is the fact that Peter was chosen by God to write. Peter was amazingly lucky to be with Jesus, to be sure, but he had some amazing failures as well. After all, it was Peter that denied Jesus three times on the night he was betrayed. How amazing, then, that he would say with such assurance that God loves us, God has given us hope, God has a plan, and that we now understand God's plan for salvation! Rejoice!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jamie

New Basel Church Council
March 6th, 2023

Called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President Kenny Chamberlin

Present:

Elders: Kenny Chamberlin, Jen Reiff, Pam O'Neal

Deacons: Judy Barten, Francis Anderson

Trustees: Drew Snitker, Gary Foltz, Austin Murphy

Pastor Jamie opened with a devotion and prayer.

Corrections to last months meeting minutes were suggested. Francis Anderson made a motion to approve the changes to the minutes. Gary Foltz seconded. Minutes were approved.

Communications:

The church received the appraisal from the Dickinson County Appraisal office.

Reports:

Financial Secretary and Treasurer:

Judy Barten gave the Financial Secreateary's report and Treasurer's report for February.

Pastor's Reports:

*Preached &/or led 4 Sunday worships *Attended 1 Council meeting & 1 Women's Fellowship meeting
*4 Phone visits *3 Home Visits *4 Confirmation classes *1 Cross Talk class session *4 Cross Talk local meetings *1 Church movie night *4 Volunteer readings *Camp Marydell Men's Retreat *2 Incoming calls
*51 miles

Elders:

Jen Reiff reported 50 people took communion on March 5th.

Deacons:

None

Trustee:

None

Old Business:

*A spring cleaning/church work night is planned for Thursday April 20th.

*We have updated the 2023 Church Committees List. The new list will be available for everyone to have in the next weeks.

New Business:

*M/S/C to pay bills that were presented.

*Instead of Lent offering this year we will do a collection from the congregation when someone is in need throughout the year.

*Lawn mowing sign up will be hung up by the front door.

*Confirmation Sunday will be Easter Sunday with a reception afterwards in the fellowship lounge. The Hospitality Committee will be in charge of this.

*We will have communion the first Sunday of the month on Palm Sunday April 2nd & Easter Sunday April 9th.

The Women's Fellowship has decided to dissolve the group and would like to take the money that they have and use it to update the Parish Hall & kitchen.

*Vacation Bible School will be May 30th – June 3rd (Tuesday – Saturday)

*Kenny will take care of getting the Palms and Easter Lily's for Palm Sunday and Easter.

*We will have a sign-up sheet for Church Spring Cleaning.

Judy Barten moved we adjourn, Gary Foltz seconded M/C.

Upcoming Events:

March 12th Day Light Savings

March 24th Echo articles due

April 2nd Palm Sunday

April 2nd & 9th Communion

April 6th Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm at Ebenezer Church

April 9th Easter Sunday

No other announcements:

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m. by praying the Lord's Prayer in unison

Pam ONeal, Secretary

Thank you everyone for the prayers,
cards, calls, and visits during the time of
Ed's shoulder surgery and time of
recovery.

We both greatly appreciate everything,
Ed & Jan McAdams



Please Pray For.....

Elaine Bethe

Naoma Foltz

Dwight Meuli

Cecil Schrader

Judy Lauer

Kelly Schrader

Tammy Anderson

Rodney Anderson

APRIL INFORMATION

Happy Birthday

1 st Jan McAdams	22 nd Elizabeth Haynes
3 rd Katie Kamm	Katie Haynes
4 th Judy Lauer	24 th Ryan Reiff
8 th Gabe Barten	25 th Andrea Koster
11 th Devin Kamm	Kaityn Gantenbein
12 th Logan Palenske	27 th Sandy Miller
19 th Angela Bonnema	Sam Shrack
21 st Nicole Shrack	29 th Mark Bethe
	Ty Barten

Anniversaries

April 10th Lynn & Suzie Barten
 April 25th Sam & Nicole Shrack

Upcoming May Birthdays

1 st Austin Murphy	8 th Andrew Gantenbein
4 th Dwight Meuli	Lyle Miller
7 th Clema Anderson	



Pastor Jamie Bonnema will preach at the joint worship service at Ebenezer Baptist Church on Thursday April 6th at 7pm.

Scholarships

The 2023 New Basel scholarship application deadline is May 1st. Students wishing to receive a scholarship should be a graduating senior in high school or enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited institution of post high school level. For a scholarship application, please visit our website www.newbaselchurch.org and click on the News tab.

Greeters, Acolytes, & Ushers for April

	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>
9 th	Kevin & Stacy Smiley	Austin Smiley
16 th	Holly Bethe & Chris Bethe	Savannah Smiley
23 rd	Carolyn Beetch & Clarine Robson	Blake Murphy
30 th	None needed	

April Usher: Austin Murphy

Thank you to Mitch Cromwell for being the March Usher



Larissa Cromwell, Molly Hunnicutt, Wyatt Hunnicutt, Bo Rothchild and Benson Smiley will be confirmed during Church service on Easter Sunday with a reception to follow.

Easter EGG HUNT



For 5th grade and under

Easter Sunday at 10am
 New Basel Church