



New Basel Church
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echo
New Basel Newsletter

MAY 2023

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Is it wrong for a Christian to get mad?

There certainly are verses to say that we shouldn't. Like Ecclesiastes 7:9 "*Do not be quickly provoked in your spirit, for anger resides in the lap of fools.*" Or Colossians 3:8 "*But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.*" It's hard to argue with such direct Biblical commands. The reason the Bible tells us not to get mad can be found in James 1:20 "*human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.*" This means that when we get mad, we're not likely to act very Godly. A quick glance at one's own behavior verifies this!

But wait a minute! Didn't Jesus get mad once or twice? In Mark 11:12-22, it seems fair to say that Jesus was hopping mad. It was the day after Palm Sunday (a really neat day, even if the crowd misunderstood Jesus' purpose) and he was headed to Jerusalem. Passing a fig tree that had no figs, he cursed it, and then went to the Temple to overturn tables and drive the vendors out. If Jesus should have been in a good mood from the day before, why was he so upset?

The first thing we need to understand is that both the fig tree and the Temple were symbols of Israel. Just as the bald eagle and the White House are symbols of the US, so too were these symbols of Israel. And neither was performing as intended. The fig tree was not bearing figs, and the Temple was not leading people to God. As a matter of fact, the Temple was acting as a barrier between people and God. You see, the vendors selling sacrifices on Temple property was a pretty new phenomenon. They had always been located across the

valley until recently, but had just been allowed in. The ones allowed in were the ones that provided the biggest kickbacks to the priests, which predictably raised the price of the animals sold. Additionally, these vendors were specifically in an area called the Court of the Gentiles. This was as far as non-Jewish people were allowed as they worshipped God. This, of course, made worship very difficult.

Jesus was displeased because the priests were actually doing the opposite of what they were intended: they were keeping people away from God, both financially and physically. But it would be wrong of us today to think that we don't do the same thing, just in different ways.

Mahatma Gandhi, the giant of Hinduism, once said that he had no problem with Jesus, just with Christians! "I don't reject Christ. I love Christ. It's just that so many of you Christians are so unlike Christ."

It was the actions of Christians that kept Gandhi from worshipping God! And if that's what made Jesus so mad that day in the Temple, what does that mean about us?

We need to take care so that we don't make the same mistake. In what ways are you keeping people from a relationship with God? Your behavior at work? Your actions and attitude at church? Your activities at home? Be careful that you don't become the one frustrating Jesus!

So is it ok for a Christian to get angry? If that anger is directed at things that drive people away from God, perhaps. But be super careful!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jamie

New Basel Church Council

Monday April 3, 2023

Called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Kenny Chamberlin

Present:

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

Deacons: Judy Barten, Francis Anderson, Mitch Cromwell

Trustees: Drew Snitker, Gary Foltz, Austin Murphy

Pastor Jamie opened with a devotion and prayer

M/S/C to approve the March 6th minutes

Communications:

*News letters from Salina Rescue Mission & Samaritan's Purse

Reports:

Financial Secretary and Treasurer:

Mitch gave the Financial Secretary report for March

Judy Barten gave a corrected Treasurer's report for February and gave the report for March.

M/S/C to approve the Financial Secretary and Treasurer's reports

Pastor's Reports:

Worship: Preached &/or led 4 Sunday worships & Led 1 Worship at Abilene Place

Administration Meetings: 1 Church Council meeting & 5 Planning Meetings

Pastoral Care: 1 Pastoral Visit, 7 Phone Visits, 5 Home Visits

Other: 4 Confirmation Classes, 1 CrossTalk Class Session, 4 CrossTalk Local Meetings,
1 Church Movie Night, 3 Volunteer Readings (RCGS)

Incoming Calls: 2 RE Treasure/ Payroll

3 Vacation days taken

51 Miles.

Elders:

Jen Reiff reported 63 people took communion on April 2nd

Deacons:

Judy will look into our market funds and find out more about where they originated from.

Trustee:

Austin will get with KVK and Wuthnow Heating & Air to requote our annual contract.

Old Business:

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

*We will plan a “spring cleaning” inside the church after vacation bible school.

*Lawn mowing sign-up has been hung by the front door.

*Confirmation Sunday will be Easter Sunday with a reception afterwards in the Fellowship Lounge. The confirmands will also distribute communion to the congregation.

New Business:

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

*The council agreed to set the rental value of the parsonage at \$550 for 2023 tax purposes.

*Judy Barten moved we adjourn, Mitch seconded, M/C

Upcoming Events:

May 1st: Council Meeting 7pm

May 7th: Communion

May 14th: Mother’s Day

May 30th – June 3rd Vacation Bible School

No Other Announcements:

Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm by praying the Lord’s Prayer in unison

Pam O’Neal, Secretary



Elaine Bethe
Naoma Foltz
Dwight Meuli
Cecil Schrader
Bob O’Neal

Judy Lauer
Kelly Schrader
Tammy Anderson
Rodney Anderson

Thank You.

New Basel Congregation,

We, the Confirmation Class of 2023, would like to thank you for your support in our journey of becoming the newest members of New Basel. We appreciate the words of encouragement and support we have received. Our ceremony to be confirmed was very nice and we also appreciate the cake and reception.

Sincerely,
Larissa Cromwell
Molly Hunnicutt
Wyatt Hunnicutt
Bo Rothchild
Benson Smiley



2023 New Basel Confirmands:

Larissa Cromwell, Molly Hunnicutt, Bo Rothchild, Benson Smiley and Wyatt Hunnicutt

MAY INFORMATION

Happy Birthday!

1 st Austin Murphy	18 th Seth Lauer
4 th Dwight Meuli	Kyle Chamberlin
7 th Clema Anderson	28 th William Graves
8 th Andrew Gantenbein	DaLean Barten
13 th Stacy Smiley	Gordon Hunnicutt

Anniversaries

5 th Tim & Jen Reiff	26 th Dwight & Marion Kamm
15 th Mark & Holly Bethel	31 st Dwight & Marvel Meuli



Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Calling all brave Knights & Dames for an epic VBS experience!



**Tuesday, May 30 to
Saturday, June 3**
8:30 - 11:30 a.m.
New Basel Church



Click to Register: →

New Basel, Ebenezer & Mt. Pleasant

<https://www.myvbs.org/dkvbs2023>

Greeters, Acolytes, & Ushers for May

Greeters

Acolytes

7 th	Brady and Marissa Moddlemog	Owen Cromwell
14 th	Clarine Robson and Carolyn Beetch	Blake Murphy
21 st	Ron and Margaret Shouse	Axie Shrack
28 th	Duane & Ila Beemer	Devin Kamm

May Usher: Drew Snitker

Thank you to Austin Murphy for being the April Usher

The following graduates will be recognized during church on May 7th:

Larissa Cromwell – Graduate of Abilene Middle School
 Benson Smiley – Graduate of Chapman Middle School
 Molly Hunnicutt – Graduate of Hope Middle School
 Kaialyn Anderson – Masters from Fort Hays
 Kabreyan Anderson – Graduate of Abilene High School
 Kristan Meyer – Graduate of Abilene High School
 Kaitlyn Reiff – Bachelors in Agribusiness Management from K State

