



New Basel Church
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echo
New Basel Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2024

Grace and Peace to you,

Time is such a funny thing. One day, when I was on wheat harvest, time seemed to stop for a moment. It was the 4th of July, and just after someone lit one of those big mortars that you drop in a tube, a puff of wind blew the tube over and launched the thing; directly under our fuel truck. I distinctly remember watching it roll, and then explode. I was running (we all were), and I have this mental picture of me, frozen in time with both feet off the ground, and seeing all those beautiful colors illuminate the truck from underneath, sparks shooting in all directions. In that moment, time seemed to come to a standstill.

On the other hand, it sometimes feels like time speeds up and elapses faster, giving us sayings like, “Time flies when you’re having fun!”

Either way, it somehow never seems like we have enough time to get everything we need to get done completed.

For us, time flows in one direction: from the past to the present, and on toward the future. This is how we understand the laws of cause and effect that we encounter every day; something in the past happened, and that affects the present and/or the future. Things that will happen in the future, however cannot affect things from the past. True, events in the future might affect our *perception* of past events, but they cannot change the events themselves. This is what humans are used to. All of science relies on cause/effect relationships governed by this concept. But this is *not* what happens when we are talking about the church and the reign of God. Allow me to explain.

In his book, *Evangelism After Christendom*, Bryan Stone talks about

salvation and the church’s role in it. “The salvation offered by the church to the world is not something it first receives and then offers to others. It is received only and insofar as it is offered to others.” In other words, a future cause (the church’s salvation) has a present effect (the church offering salvation to others.) Time runs backwards!

Other examples are easy to conjure. One example might be The Lord’s Prayer, which states that we receive forgiveness *as we forgive others*. We receive forgiveness only and insofar as we forgive others. Furthermore, Christians are called to share their faith with others, and when they do they receive faith. Normal time does not permit someone to share something, either forgiveness or faith, and then end up with more forgiveness and faith, but such is the nature of the reign of God. Time appears to run backwards.

What this means for Christians today is that we shouldn’t worry so much about not having everything perfect in our lives before we talk to our friends about Jesus, or know the Bible completely before we lead a Sunday School class, or whatever. It is in the sharing that we gain.

The God that created time wants to bless you and enrich you, but also wants you to grow and mature in service and love. Step out in faith to teach, lead, serve, or however God is calling you. And as you do, God will give you the faith, skills, and forgiveness you need. It’s about time!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jamie

New Basel Church Council

Monday January 15th, 2024

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

Present:

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

Deacons: Mitch Cromwell, Judy Barten

Trustees: Drew Snitker

M/S/C to approve the December 2023 minutes as printed.

Communications:

Thank you for donations from: Salina Rescue & Neighbor to Neighbor

Reports:

Financial Secretary and Treasurer:

Financial Secretary given by Mitch Cromwell

Treasures report were given by Judy Barten

Pastor's Reports:

Work Summary for 12/4/23 – 12/31/23

Worship: Preached &/or led 3 Sunday worships, Christmas Eve Service

Administration Meetings: 1 Church Council meeting, 7 Worship Planning (phone)

Pastoral Care: 6 Phone Visits, 3 Home Visits 2 Hospital Visits

Other: 1 CrossTalk Class Session, 2 CrossTalk Local meetings, Church Movie Night, 3 Volunteer Reading Session at RCGS

Vacation Days: 5 This month, 14 Year to date

Professional Development Days: 0 this month, 10 Year to date

Mileage: 28

Elders:

Jen Reiff reported 56 took communion on January 7th

Deacons:

Judy discussed the Deacons getting together to discuss mission money spending

Trustee:

N/A

Old Business:

*Annual Meeting meal will be potluck

*Christmas Eve Offering was \$827.52 and donated to Hospice of Dickinson Co.

*Annual meeting Agenda – books have been printed

*Bob is still looking for people to serve on Council as an Elder & Deacon

New Business:

- *M/S/C to pay bills that were presented
- *Janet ordered 24 Lilies to be here at Easter

Upcoming Events:

- January 19th – ECHO articles due
- January 28th – Annual Meeting & Meal
- February 4th - Communion
- February 5th - Council meeting

No Other Announcements:

Meeting adjourned at 7:38p.m.
 Pam O’Neal, Secretary

Congratulations to Julie Rock who graduated from Kansas State University in December with a Bachelor’s Degree in Medical Laboratory Science. Julie attended Sunday School at New Basel and was in the 2016 Confirmation class.
 She is the daughter of Brian and Candace Rock and has taken a position at Salina Regional Hospital. Our thoughts and prayers are with Julie as she begins her career in the medical field.



Easter will be here before we know it, and again this year the church will be decorated with Easter lilies given in honor or memory of friends and/or relatives of New Basel Church. If you would like to have an Easter lily purchased in memory or honor of someone, please contact Janet Chamberlin no later than Sunday, March 10th. The cost of the Easter lily will be \$13.00. Please watch for order forms in the Sunday church bulletins in February.



	<p>Elaine Bethe Maxine Kauffman Naoma Foltz Dwight Meuli</p>	<p>Judy Lauer Kelly Schrader Bob O’Neal Tony Herman</p>
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FEBRUARY

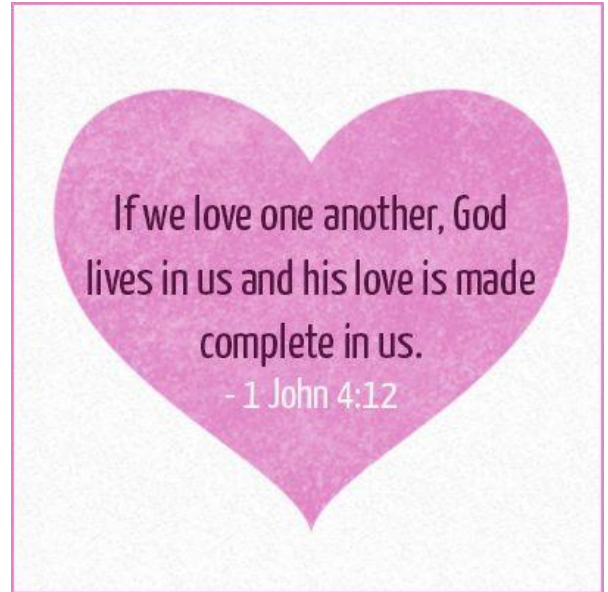
**Happy
BirthDay**

2nd Janet Chamberlin
6th Duncan Reiff
10th Bob O'Neal
13th Gary Foltz

15th Lynn Barten
19th Deanna Stalder
21st Jennifer Barten Leichner
Austin Smiley
22nd Ron Pryor
24th Justin Beetch
Kayce Reiff
28th Ila Beemer

Upcoming March Birthdays

2nd Cecil Schrader
Carolyn Graves
3rd Marvel Meuli
5th Clayton Gfeller
6th Keenan Reiff
7th Pastor Jamie Bonnema



Greeters, Acolytes, & Ushers for February

Greeters

Acolytes

4 th	Duane & Ila Beemer	Sterling Bonnema
11 th	Lynn & Julie Kauffman	Blake Murphy
18 th	Tony Herman and Doug Pryor	Owen Cromwell
25 th	Jen Reiff and Duncan Reiff	Austin Smiley

February Usher: Mitch Cromwell

Thank you to Chris Bethe for being the January Usher

