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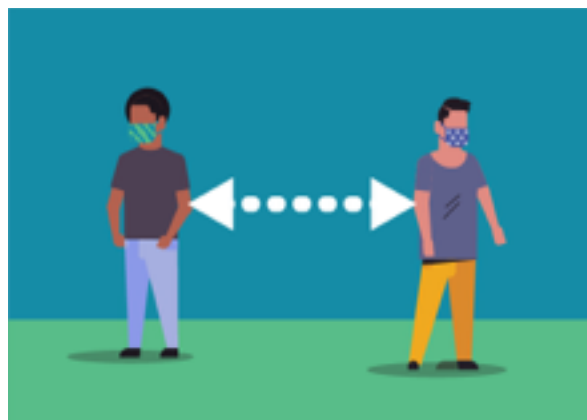
Social Distancing Part 2

Last month I requested help from the
Congregation for the April Newsletter
And -WOW- did you come through.

We are still in the same situation this month.
We are still social distancing, jobs are on hold or gone,
Schools are closed and students are working at home
As are their parents in many cases.

How are you doing?
How are you managing?
Where is your spiritual life heading through this time of pandemic?

I hope you hear what God is saying to you
Through the words of your friends in Christ.



May New Month Same Rules

By Elaine Peacock



OK I know we are all getting tired of trying to keep up with the COVID-19 virus rules it seems just when we think we know the answers they change the questions. May usually means warmer days so we can get out and enjoy walks, taking in the beautiful flowers and just spending time with the ones we love.

Mother's Day is one of those special days. Mom does so much for us every day we love to pamper her on her special day, but the way things are going instead of a nice dinner in a restaurant it may be pizza in the backyard.

Mid-month is Armed Forces Day and the end of the month is Memorial Day with parades and speeches. I hope by time May 25th rolls around we can give our veterans the recognition they deserve. The day that stands out is May 7th - the National Day of Prayer. This is the day we all can thank God for our loved ones, our wonderful country and the freedom we enjoy, it may be a bit different this year but nonetheless God is listening for our prayers so send God one day.

May Dates

May 10- Mother's Day

May 17-Scholarship Sunday

May 31- Pentecost



Birthdays

Jeff Romaine

Susan Davis

Stuart Carroll



May Birthday Remembrance- Cynthia Petrides would have celebrated her birthday in May. We remember her on this first birthday after her passing.

Memorials.....



| Given By | In Memory Of | Designation |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------|
| Eleanor Haling | Grace Sangle & Jack & Jackie Sangle | Undesignated |
| Nancy Shimmel | Steven Verduin | Music Fund |
| Gerry Mamalis | Steven Verduin | Music Fund |
| Lorna & Kevin Carroll | Steven Verduin | Music Fund |
| Bruce Davis | Steven Verduin | Music Fund |
| David & Janet Hackbarth | Steven Verduin | Music Fund |
| Marcy & Ron Califre | Steven Verduin | Music Fund |
| Wayne Hills H.S. Staff | Steven Verduin | Music Fund |
| Terrie Burger | Steven Verduin | Legacy Garden |
| Ellen & Paul Lockwood | Donald Lynch | Undesignated |
| Lorna & Kevin Carroll | Donald Lynch | Undesignated |
| Caroline Winter | Steven Verduin | Music Fund |
| Wayne & Carolyn Haussler | Steven Verduin | Music Fund |

Eleanor Haling sends prayers and greeting to all her friends at PRC.



I was reminded at this stressful time that when I/we are experiencing difficult times I sing "How Great Thou Art". God has seen me through many situations-joyful and not so-but He always carries me through. I take comfort in the fact that God will guide us, and everything will be just as He has planned. As we face the unknown, I also take comfort that although we are fearful, we are never alone- I feel God's presence.

Thanks to Patti for sharing a video of Carrie Underwood performing this as her song of the day earlier! I am so grateful for our PRC family.

Prayers to all, and the Peace of Christ be with you,

Love,
Nancy Shimmel



Submitted by Wayne Haussler

In this difficult, scary time we should be looking upwards for guidance. Let me back step a moment. I am an engineer, over 40 years in that profession. I was born to be an engineer. I do not believe something until I "see the numbers and run the math". As far as Heaven, and all associated things goes; I do not have to "believe it exists" because I know it exists, no question about it; it exists! There are four episodes in my life that prove its existence. The first three are proof that heaven is and HE is watching out for us, and the fourth, well that is the absolute proof.

First episode, the late 1980s:

I have nasal congestion, it started in the 1960s. Now they call it "chronic sinusitis". I finally went to an ENT doctor in the late 1980s. He looked and said, not much he could do. But, maybe, fixing my deviated septum would at least help a little. Not a critical thing, but maybe. (It didn't help.) But, when I went to have it done, they found that I was diabetic. Just starting diabetic, not even full blown. And because they found it so early, the only side affect is my need to take daily medication - not a problem at all. Yes, I will probably die in my 80s, but 80 years is a good life and plenty of time to see my children have children of their own. That was over 30 years ago. Why did I have myself checked at that time after waiting 30 years? If I had got to the doctor earlier they may not have found the diabetes. Maybe HE gave me a little push.

Second episode, 2015:

I had tinnitus, a ringing in my left ear, for many years. I was told nothing could be done, but then one day in 2015 I suddenly said, I know nothing could probably be done, but I am going to have an ENT look at it anyway. Tinnitus is a non-curable condition, I will always have it. But when I went to the ENT he did a hearing test and immediately saw that there was something else wrong. Within a week of that visit I had a MRI scan of ear and brain. It found an almost undetectable tumor heading for the brain stem. Several months later radiation (called Gamma Knife) surgery stopped it. If I hadn't gone for that hearing test you wouldn't be reading this story, you would be reading my obit. Why did I suddenly go for that test. The tinnitus was not even bothering me, I had learned to ignore it. So why did I go for that test then? Maybe HE gave me a little push again.

Third episode, 2018:

My mother was in the Preakness Healthcare Center, a nursing home; heading towards her 93rd birthday. One morning, when my brother went to see her, as he did most days, she said she had visitors overnight. Her two husbands came to visit her. One, my father, who died in 1950, and her second husband, who died in 1999. They came to her to assure her that they were waiting for her. She died shortly thereafter, peacefully, in her sleep. Was it just her mind playing tricks on her? I don't think so because she never spoke of any visions before or after this episode. Her mind remained clear up to the day she passed, often accurately telling us about others who had come to visit her there in the nursing home.

Heaven exists:

This story is absolutely true, no assumptions, no exaggerations, and for the most part, documentable.

It is WWII and a Sergeant in the US Marines, the man who will become my father, returns from the Pacific and marries his high school sweetheart. Several years later they had me. Then came the Korean War and my father, a US Marine reservist was called up and left for Korea. I was just over 1 year old.

About six months later, on a Sunday in December in 1950, back here in Jersey, I am in my playpen in the kitchen of a two-family house where we live with my mother's parents. My mother is in the adjoining bedroom folding clothes. My mother hears me saying "bye bye Da Da". She had been teaching me to say "Da Da" in anticipation of my father's returning from Korea, but that is still many months away. She looks into the kitchen and sees me standing in the playpen, holding on to the side, and waving at the backdoor as I say "bye bye Da Da". She opens the backdoor door expecting to see a neighbor, but no one is there. She calls upstairs to her parents to see if they had come downstairs, but they hadn't. She then calls her in-laws in Garfield to see if they had stopped by, but there was no answer.

My grandparents in Garfield, were not home because they had finished dinner and while watching TV my grandmother started to choke, unable to breathe as if something was caught in her throat. Grandpa tried to help and then called for an ambulance. It arrived and the medics administered oxygen, but still no change. They quickly got her into the ambulance and started for the hospital.

But just before reaching the hospital my grandmother stopped choking. She was admitted just in case, but no damage to her throat was found.

Several weeks later a telegram arrived from the U.S. War Department. "We regret to inform you that your husband was killed in action"

In the summer of 1951, my father's U.S. Marine unit returned to the US. Our family met with "Red" who was my father's best buddy. Besides bringing back my father's personal effects, they talked about what had happened. My father was with his mortar unit when he was shot in the throat. They tried to get him to a MASH unit, but he died on the way. This happened in the early morning. We, in 1951, compared times on the fateful day, using official records from the hospital here in Jersey and the Marines in Korea: Remember Korea is on the other side of the world, some 12 hours away, more or less.

The record showed that when he was shot in the throat; there in Korea, his mother, my grandmother, started to choke here in Jersey. When he died, she stopped choking.

Just after he died, there in Korea, I in my playpen here in Jersey, waved bye bye to Da Da.

I don't have to believe in heaven and a life beyond death, I know it is a fact. It exists. And someday, when my time has come, I will see him again and I will say Hi there Da Da.

**A Sunday School Teacher had just finished the story of the
2 sons
and she asked "who in the family was most upset of the
return of
the younger son?" A little boy raised his hand and said
"the fatted
calf."**

Good News

With everything shut down we still have good news to share!

*Jo-Ann Sisco is keeping us connected with daily trivia challenges.

*Wednesdays at 10 AM- join fellow members and friends for **Virtual Coffee Hour!** Directions on how-to-join are sent by email a day or two before along with the invitation link to click to join the meeting. If you prefer to talk without seeing everyone (and/or being seen), there is a call-in number that is provided as well.

*Sundays with John Burden..... Pastor John has been providing weekly messages for us via youtube. There are 2 ways to view. 1. Via the website (www.pomptonreformed.org) under the Watch Online heading, click on the service you want to see. The new week is posted shortly before 10am on each Sunday. 2. PRC Facebook page. (If you don't have Facebook, you will need to sign up, then search for Pompton Reformed Church click to follow and look for the post.) Click on the post to see the service. Each sermon is terrific and you can watch as many times as you like. We started with just the message and now have almost a full service.

*Tina Iraggi Thompson coordinated a town-wide effort to provide snacks and essentials to our healthcare heroes in local hospitals as well as our police, fire department and first aide squad. What an effort, Tina!!! Tina is still accepting donations; physical or monetary.



Riff on Dr. Seuss

Submitted by Lorna Carroll

The buildings were big and people would smile
And travel they would mile by mile.
But sick they become, in numbers it grew
Businesses worried, communities too.
Things stopped for a bit, the world slowed its roll
The virus has certainly taken its toll.
But what they then saw from slowing things down,
Is in fact they now had less reasons to frown.
Families now gathered, what game shall we play?
Pass me the blue crayon, give Mommy the grey.
Dad's home guys! He'll read us a book
then all of us together will cook.
The lungs of the planet caught a small break
less travel meant less pollution to make.
People did realize they'd all be OK
They don't need so much to get through the day.
Maybe this virus that caused so much stress
Showed the whole world that more can mean less.

Written by XXXXXX

Inspired by Dr. Seuss



June Newsletter
submissions
Are due by May 31.
Please email to
khuysers@msn.com