

PFAFFTOWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

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Church Staff

Rev. Rodney Stilwell

Minister

Rev. Tim Shoaf

Minister of Music & Programs

Traci Canter

Office Administrator

*Please come and join us and see what's happening at
Pfafftown Christian Church!*



We would ❤️ to have you visit and worship with us!



February, 2022

THE VISITOR



“Be still, and know that I am God.
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth!”
The LORD of hosts is with us;-
the God of Jacob is our refuge. Psalms 46:10-11

Since its opening, the play A Raisin in the Sun has been acclaimed for sharing the story of an African American family’s life and struggles in the south side of Chicago during the 1950’s. The family’s leader is “Mama,” a model of perseverance and faith. Her unwavering faith in God leads, protects, and sustains her family through many hardships.

In one memorable scene Mama’s faith shines bright. The daughter, Beneatha, is struggling with life’s realities and unfairness. She doubts Mama’s faith and challenges her belief in God. When Beneatha is reminded that God is in charge, she replies that “God hasn’t got a thing to do with it.” Mama is kind but warns her daughter, “You ‘bout to get your fresh little jaw slapped!” But Beneatha continues, “. . . there simply is no blasted God . . .” After a moment of reflection, Mama slaps her daughter, and makes her repeat this declaration, “In my mother’s house there is still God.”

“There is still God,” – be quiet and reflect on that for just a second.

In the verses above we find some instructions. Take a moment each day to pause and be still, just a moment. And in that moment “Be still, and know that I am God.” When we do this, we can find strength to stand strong against all that surrounds and challenges us.

In recent years we’ve had all sorts of turmoil, changes, and loss. We’ve suffered through a pandemic, local school shootings, snow cancellations, a bitter presidential election, economic shortages, as well as the death of many loved ones. We need to confess that it’s been more than hard. But in the midst of it all, we can be still for a moment and affirm, “**There is still God!**”

Blessings, PCC! ~ Rodney

Transfiguration Sunday

February 27, 2022

The Gospel of Matthew records: “Jesus was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light.” Come, worship with us at 11:00 a.m. on the 27th and celebrate the glory of God revealed in Jesus and look to see the glory of God as it can be revealed in your life!



“If I am thinking correctly,” said Pooh “a new baby is probably undoubtedly the grandest gift that could ever be.”



CONGRATULATIONS!

Welcome to God’s world, **Camden Jacob Kingsbury (CJ)** born 2:15 p.m. on Sunday, December 26, 2021 (which is Rev. Rodney’s Stilwell’s birthday too)! Congratulations to **all** the Stilwell family! We hope to meet this beautiful bundle of joy and love very soon!

February Worship Schedule

Sunday, February 6 ~ Rev. Rodney Stilwell

Sunday, February 13 ~ Rev. Rodney Stilwell

Sunday, February 20 ~ Rev. Rodney Stilwell

Sunday, February 27 ~ Rev. Rodney Stilwell



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Worship Committee is still seeking volunteers to help prepare communion for the upcoming months beginning January - June, 2022. A sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex. Thank you in advance for your continued service. Should anyone have any questions, please contact Lynda Bryant or Jo Stanley. Thank you!

2022 GIFT OF THE MONTH

January Crackers	May Salad Dressing & Condiments	September Canned Greens
February Instant Potatoes	June Canned Meats (Salmon, Beef, Spam, Tuna)	October Applesauce (Please no glass jars)
March Pancake Mix & Syrup	July Toilet Tissue	November Sugar, Flour, Baking Items
April Instant Oatmeal & Grits	August Peanut Butter & Jelly	December Beef Stew

Crisis Control | Neighbors Helping Neighbors
www.crisiscontrol.org

CRISIS CONTROL MINISTRY

During the month of February, we will be collecting Instant Potatoes for Crisis Control Ministries (CCM). Pffaltown Christian Church continues to faithfully support CCM. There are so many families right here in our community that desperately needs our help and prayers. Thank you, church family, for always supporting this wonderful, local ministry.

Remember in Prayer

Bereavement: The Kushner Family - Customers of Alan and Debbie Fletcher

Church Family: Skip Stanley, Jeanette Shropshire, Sarah Ingram, Alan Fletcher, Jack Groff, Kevin Cline, Mary & Tommy Timmons, Lynda Bryant, Frank and Pat Barber, Garland and Sue Terry, John Grice, Julie Tilley, Betty Tilley

Others: Jason Alexander: Friend of Jack and Mary Groff
Mike Booth: Friend of Pam Backi
Jerrie Connelly: Sister-in-law of Betty Barker
Jan Everton: Sister of Jo Stanley
Bill Flynt: Cousin of Robert Flynt
Elaine Grice: Sister of John Grice
Brenda Guthrie: Friend of PCC
Betty Haddock: Mother of Sharon Binkley
Cayden Kingsbury: Grandson of Rodney & Beth Stilwell

Chuck Kolstad: Son-in-law of Evelyn Nifong
Sue Miles: Friend of Jo Stanley
Tony Petrack: Friend of Betty Simpson
Dene Pitts: Friend of Traci Canter
Plemmons Family: Friends of Alan & Debbie Fletcher (Kate Plemmons - Kidney transplant 1/25)
John Shoaf: Cousin of Tim Shoaf
Mike Stokes: Friend of Pam Backi
Patsy Terry: Daughter-in-law of Garland and Sue Terry
Judy West: Cousin of Ann Fletcher

Please contact Traci at the church office when someone needs to be added or removed from our prayer list. This will assist us in keeping our prayer list updated for our bulletin and newsletter publications.

Notes From Tim

A hymn that is a "favorite" to many in our congregation as well as thousands of people all over the world, is the hymn *How Great Thou Art*. This hymn has an intriguing history and story!

The history of the hymn begins in 1886 with Mr. Carl Gustaf Boberg (1859-1940). He was a Swedish pastor, editor, and member of the Swedish parliament. Mr. Boberg was enjoying a nice walk in the beautiful countryside on the southeast coast of Sweden. He was suddenly caught in a midday thunderstorm. A severe wind began to blow and after the storm was over, Mr. Boberg looked out over the clear bay. He then heard a church bell in the distance. And the words to *How Great Thou Art* began to form in his heart...

*O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder,
consider all the worlds Thy hands hath made.
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!*

Can you imagine what Boberg felt as he formed these words? There had come such calmness after the fierce storm he could only utter those words of peace and majesty.

This poem, titled *O Store Gud* ("O Great God") was published in 1891 in *Witness of the Truth*, the weekly newspaper that Boberg edited. In 1907, Manfred von Glehn translated the text into German, "Wie gross gist Du." In 1927, a Russian pastor, Ivan Prokhanoff, made a Russian adaptation.

Carl Boberg wrote this poem with no thought of it becoming a hymn. He did not write any music for the text. After publication, the poem was apparently forgotten, but several years later, Boberg attended a meeting and was surprised to hear his poem being sung to the tune of an old Swedish melody. Stuart K. Hine, a missionary to Poland, later translated the poem to English and made his own arrangement of the Swedish melody, and so we now have our present version of "How Great Thou Art."

The chain of events that made this hymn popular provides part of the intrigue. In 1951, James Caldwell introduced it to audiences at Stoney Brook Bible Conference on Long Island. The Billy Graham Evangelical team, which included Cliff Burrows and George Beverly Shea, began to sing the hymn at revivals spreading the popularity of the hymn. From an obscure poem, it became a well known and loved hymn. The hymn drew new attention

in Sweden and America which led to its publication in many hymnbooks, bearing witness to the young and old in proclaiming how awesome God is in nature and in life itself.

There are many things in life that can be explained from a secular perspective, the lightning, the birds singing, the sounds of thunder are just a few. There is also an awesome reality that those events, the beauty of nature after a storm and the faith of at least two people who experienced those very things provided the backdrop for people across the world to sing this hymn. For those in church on a Sunday morning, I hope we will always hold the history of this hymn in our hearts. Especially as the sun shines through the stained-glass windows or the thunder booms outside the sanctuary, because there is a beauty that each of us can experience even in the storms. This hymn shows that life can be unpredictable. It was not the original author of the poem or the author of the music that brought this hymn into the hymnbook in churches today. It was through others that saw this hymn as a means to worship and proclaim the awesome and powerful nature of our God.

Today, millions across the world continue to sing this beautiful song. Giving God all praise, glory, and honor for whom He is -- the Creator of this vast universe!

Thanks be to our wonderful and loving God!

Tim

*Portions of this information were taken from 100 Hymn Stories by Kenneth W. Osebeck and a document written by Dr. Lindsay Terry – The St. Augustine Record.



CWF NEWS

The final total collected for Meals on Wheels was \$1,100--thanks to everyone who gave to this special fund raiser.

CWF will not meet in February.



Who Am I?

Who is this beautiful ray of sunshine? This precious lady has been at PCC since 1960 and has served on more committees than can be counted! She even served as the church secretary! Answer can be found hidden somewhere within this news-letter... please look for an * and their name.)



SAVE THE DATE
SPRING LUNCHEON
March 20

We are planning a Spring Covered Dish Luncheon for our church family following the Sunday Worship Service on March 20, to be held in the DFH.

(More details will be forthcoming in the March Newsletter).

ELDERS
TEACHING • GUIDING • SERVING

Elder's Schedule
February - April, 2022

MONTH	LEADER	BACK-UP
February	Lynda Bryant	Betty Simpson
March	Ken Davis	Tony Bryant
April	Ruth Saalweachter	Steve Clodfelter

Ash Wednesday

March 2, 2022
7:00 PM