



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE ✨

Virginia Goss

SCRIPTURE

John 9: 1-17

Evan Hughes  
Pew Bible pg. 102

ANTHEM

*"Send out thy light and thy truth"*  
(Ps. 43 and 20)

**Charles Gounod**  
The Chorale

SCRIPTURE

John 9: 18-41

Pew Bible pgs. 102-103

SERMON

"Spiritual Blindness"

Dr. Mitchell

### **THE RESPONSE**

HYMN #280 (Hymnal)\*

*"Amazing Grace"*

### **COMMISSIONING OF CAMP JOHNSONBURG VOLUNTEERS**

We are called by God to be the church of Jesus Christ, a sign in the world today of what God intends for all humankind.

**The great ends of the church are the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.**

The call of Christ is to willing, dedicated discipleship. Our discipleship is a manifestation of the new life we enter through baptism. Discipleship is a gift and a commitment, an offering and a responsibility.

*George Brown, Stan Dickerson, Jack Fisher, Anne Gordon, Ken Gordon, Sarah Gordon, Linda Morris and William Paull, by God's grace we are saved, and enabled to grow in the faith and to commit our lives in ways that serve Christ. God has called you to this particular service. Let us pray:*

### **COMMISSIONING PRAYER**

Faithful God, in baptism you claimed us, and by your Holy Spirit you are working in our lives, empowering us to live a life worthy of our calling. We thank you for leading these volunteers to this time and place. Establish them in your truth, and guide them by your Holy Spirit, that in your service they may grow in faith, hope and love, and be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever.

**Almighty God, in Jesus Christ you called disciples and, by the Holy Spirit, made them one church to serve you. Let your Spirit rule your church, so that we may be joined in love and service to Jesus Christ, who, having gone before us, is coming to meet us in the promise of your kingdom. Amen.**

Friends, you are commissioned to serve as volunteers at Camp Johnsonburg. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him. May the God of peace make you holy in every way, and keep your whole being, spirit, soul, and body, free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Ms. Goss

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

**THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Offertory

*Devotional Piece*

**D. Klotzbeacher**  
Organ

Hymn #592 (Hymnal)\*

*"Doxology"*

Prayer of Dedication\*

Ms. Goss

**HYMN #101 (Hymnal)\*** *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

**RESPONSE\***

*Choral Amen*  
*(Hamburg)*

**D. Klotzbeacher**  
The Chorale

**BENEDICTION\***

**POSTLUDE\***

*Cornet*

**D. Klotzbeacher**  
Organ

**\*ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**

## **Announcements**

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**Visitors!** We hope you will find a warm welcome here. We invite you to consider membership in our church family. Please speak to our Greeter or Pastors after worship for more information; or if you would like to be contacted, please provide us with your address and/or email address in the red “friendship pad”.

**Childcare is provided during worship.** Children from birth to age 2 may be taken to the infant room, and children age 3 through kindergarten are welcome in the toddler room. Linda Protinick is the Nursery Coordinator.

**Worship Bags, Children’s Bulletins & Coloring Pages!** All three are available in the narthex, and are offered with the hope that children who want to will be able to worship alongside the whole church family.

**Hearing devices** are available for your convenience in the narthex.

**Coffee Hour** today is hosted by Stan and Helen Dickerson.

**Head Ushers** are Bob and Carol Kane.

**Greeter** is Jack Britton/Heidi Knowlton.

**Prayer Chain** If you have a prayer request, or if you would like to become part of the “chain” of church members, who pray daily with and for people with a particular need, please call the church office at 609/395-0897.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Church members with special needs:** Bill Chermak; Robert Dyke; Paul Furchak; Cyndi Girardet; Tyler Katsoff; Pete Keve; Lola Madsen; Beatrice Mabutho; Evan Pease; Joanne Petto; Russ Richardson; Marge Scott; Wilma Shimer; Audrey Smith; Margo Wegner and Ina Zimmer.

**Meadow Lakes members with special needs:** Joe Kelly and Beverly Robertson.

**Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked:** David Anderson’s father, Robert; Betty Borgeson’s sister, Martha; Nancy Chonko’s mother, Shirley; Phyllis Dyke’s friend, Diana; Linda Ferguson’s friend, Rose; Joan & Gordon Fraser’s son, Iain; Gail Geijer’s son, Dan; Patricia Grasso’s mother, Eileen; Fritz & Mary Jane Hager’s daughter-in-law, Liz; Barbara Hannon’s brother-in-law, Michael; Dorothy Klotzbeacher’s sons, David & Danny; friend of the congregation, Alex Pendjurin’s friend, Paige; CPNS Teacher, Noël Kinney’s son, JP; Beatrice Mabutho’s sister, Phyllis; Sharon Ramkishun’s niece, Kaitlyn; Pat Scott’s niece Brenda; Nancy Stewart’s friend, Joan; Mary Szczepanik’s nephew, Kevin; Roger Suttmeier’s friend, Shonna; Loida Wilson’s mother, Loli; and Walter & Barbara Wright’s daughter, Maire.

**We pray for all people** who are in need in our wider community and please remember family and friends in our nation's service. Members of our church family are encouraged to make prayer requests for relatives serving in our armed services, most especially those serving in harm's way.

***Prayer Requests in the Bulletin:*** *In order to keep the prayer request list up to date, we will print the names of friends and family of church members who have prayer requests for one month. After that time you may call the church office to have a name reappear on the prayer list.*

Please be sure to **sign** the "**Pipeline to Session**" cards found in the pews if you have any questions/concerns for the Session. This is a great way to give "kudos" as well!

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION and YOUTH MINISTRY**

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***Please pray for our Confirmation Students*** as they work on their faith statements this morning. Together with Pastor Hannah and their teachers, the confirmands are spending the morning worshipping, praying, writing and proclaiming, "*This I believe...*"

**Lent in the Library:** "Every gift from God reveals God's love, but no gift reveals God's love more than the gift of the cross." Join us for the conclusion of our Lenten Bible Study from Max Lucado's *He Chose the Nails* (quoted above), on Sunday, **April 2, from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.**, in the Library, led by our Pastors.

**Book Club!** The Christian Ed Committee is starting a book club. The first meeting will be held on Wednesday, **March 29** at 7:00 p.m., hosted by Vicki Waciega (postponed from 3/15 due to snow). Vicki's address is 3 Red Oak Drive, Plainsboro, NJ 08536. We're reading *Love that Boy* by Ron Fournier.

**Library News!** "**Jonathan Edwards on the Experience of Beauty**" The Library Committee is pleased to announce the arrival of a new publication written by our own Pastor Lou Mitchell. He has studied the life and times of Jonathon Edwards throughout his ministry. By writing this book, Lou shares Edwards' concept of Beauty as "the sense of the heart" and how we as believers can become a part of that beauty. This book presents a very interesting understanding of the religious experience. It is available in our church library now.

**Mark Your Calendars for our Upcoming 30<sup>th</sup> Adult Retreat!!!** Imagine yourself enjoying the natural beauty and peaceful surroundings of the Fellowship Deaconry in Liberty Corner, New Jersey while deepening your faith along with others from our church family. Our upcoming Annual Adult Retreat will take place on April 28 and April 29. Telling the story of God's love through scripture, music and art led by the Rev. Suzanne Schafer-Coates.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Adult Retreat. For those of you who have never attended but are wondering what it's like now is a wonderful time to find out. To those of you who have attended in the past, we hope you'll join us again.

Look for the sign-up table during coffee hour. Transportation is available via the church van. Barbara Santoro will be our driver. If you have further questions or would like more information, please see Dorothy Klotzbeacher or call her at (732)521-2026.

**Join us for Sunday School each Sunday morning!**

9:15 - 9:30 a.m. Gathering Time in Fellowship Hall for ages 2 - 8th grade

9:30 - 10:15 a.m. Sunday School for ages 2 - 8th grade, check the Sunday School Bulletin Board for classes and classrooms

9:15 - 10:15 a.m. High School Sunday School in the church library (Rm 1 during Lent)

**Celebration Sunday!** Join us **April 9** from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. for an intergenerational morning of Christian Education in the fellowship hall. We'll hear and study the Palm Sunday story, hunt for Easter Eggs, and have crafts for all ages (from 2 – 102!).

**YOUTH GROUP – bring your highs and your lows!**

5:30-6:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group

6:30-8:00 p.m. High School Youth Group

**CPNS**

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Spring has finally arrived and Summer is just around the corner. CPNS is offering a summer program for two weeks in June and two weeks in July. Our program will be based on our developmentally appropriate CPNS curriculum and taught by our own CPNS teachers. Each day will be a new adventure filled with music, literacy, art, science and math. The registration form can be found on our website. Feel free to call Janice at (609)655-8663 or email her at [CPNSchool@comcast.net](mailto:CPNSchool@comcast.net) for more information.

Don't forget to tell your friends and neighbors about our developmentally appropriate academic Christian preschool. We don't want anyone to miss the opportunity to give their children the strongest foundation for their child's academic success.

## **MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS**

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**An Inspiring story:** 15,000 sheets of tin, 5,000 pounds of roofing nails and 1,700 sacks of cement---what is the story behind these items? These items are being used to build 500 homes in Haiti. This material has been paid for by people and organizations like ours who contributed to the Friends for Health, a clinic in Haiti. The clinic personnel visited the homes in 20 communities. 500 homes were chosen for Stage I of the building process which would involve communities that are in the closest proximity to the clinic in Gattineau. If the house was destroyed or severely damaged and the homeowner owned the land on which the house stood, he or she would be offered 30 sheets of tin (for the roof) roofing nails and 4 sacks of cement to rebuild his/her house. Stage II of the building project will involve communities that are further up the mountain from the clinic. Much the same procedure will be followed, and more homes will be built!

After four months, people are beginning to feel safe, dry and secure living, as they are, under the new, shiny tin roofs glimmering in the sunlight. Does it make your heart warm a bit to know that money from our Mission Grant Fund has helped to provide these new homes for many Haitians?

## **OTHER NEWS**

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**Wilma Shimer** celebrated her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday with family and friends at Rob Shimer's home in Southbury, CT on March 12. In attendance were her sons, John and Rob, their wives Laurie and Peg, and grandchildren Brianna and Meredith. Wilma thanks everyone for the many cards and sends best regards to all her dear friends of the church congregation.

**Adult Bible Study:** Please join an adult Bible study at Bob Kane's home on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. We are studying the 10 promises of God with a Shelia Walsh DVD. We are on week 9: the Promise of More. Each promise is a separate study so missing one week isn't an interruption. Mitra Kelly is the leader for this series and Bob is the facilitator. Call the Kane's for more information at (609) 799-1106. This Bible Study is open to all and includes members from a variety of churches.

## **OUTREACH**

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**It is almost spring, and time to gather again with old and new friends for Lunch or Dinner for Eight.** We are looking for guests and hosts or/ hostesses for this semi-annual event. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall waiting for your name. Questions please call Carol Fisher at (609)655-5153 or Ann Mooney at (609)655-4283.

## **SENIOR FELLOWSHIP**

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**Senior Exercise Schedule:** March 27, March 30, April 3, April 6, April 10, April 13, April 17-NO CLASS, April 20, April 24 and April 27

## **STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE**

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**Counting Teams:** 3/26 (Team #3) – 4/2 (Team #4)

	<b>Week Ended 3/19/17</b>
Weekly Offering	\$2,520
YTD Offerings	\$123,001
YTD Expenses	\$103,691
YTD Net Income/(Loss)	\$19,310
YTD Per Capita: \$2,341 (11% of \$21,636)	

## OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

<p><b>March 26, 2017 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent)</b>            9:15a Sunday School - All areas            9:15a Lenten Bible Study – Lib.            10:30a Worship followed by coffee hour            11:00a Meadow Lakes Worship Service            2p-5p Girl Scout Gold Award Ceremony – FH (S. Mavoides)            4p–5p Cranbury Scout Band–upstairs CR            5:30p-6:30p Middle School Yth Grp–FH            6:30p–8p High School Yth Grp–Yth Rm</p>	<p><b>March 27, 2017</b>            10:00a Senior Exercise            7:00p Brass Choir            8:00p Al-Anon-McK Rm</p>
<p><b>March 28, 2017</b>            9:00a <u>Bulletin Material Due</u>            9:30a Staff Mtg.-Church Office            3:30p Lenten Bible Study – Mtg Rm @ Meadow Lakes            4:15p Children’s Choir-Sanctuary            7p Presbytery Mtg.-Jamesburg            7:30p Deacons - Lib.            7:30p AA – McKnight Room</p>	<p><b>March 29, 2017</b>            7:00p Book Club @ Vicki Waciega’s home            7:00p Bell Choir</p>
<p><b>March 30, 2017</b>            10:00a Senior Exercise            10:45a Website Cmte Mtg.-Library            7:30p The Chorale - Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>March 31, 2017</b>            9:00a Bulletin Assembly-Church Office            5:00p High School Youth Group leaves for Retreat @ Camp Johnsonburg – VAN            6:45p-8p Wolf Pack Mtg. – McK Rm</p>
<p><b>April 1, 2017</b>            High School Youth Group Retreat @ Camp Johnsonburg - VAN</p>	<p><b>April 2, 2017 (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent)</b>            9:15a Sunday School - All areas            9:15a Lenten Bible Study – Lib.            10:30a Worship with Communion followed by coffee hour            11:00a Meadow Lakes Worship Communion Service            12:00p High School Youth Group returns from Retreat @ Camp Johnsonburg - VAN            4p–5p Cranbury Scout Band–upstairs CR            5:30p-6:30p Middle School Yth Grp–FH</p>