

“THE CALL”

NEWSLETTER OF THE BEAVERTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

August, 2020

It has been four months since the last "Ramblings." Several very difficult events have happened since that time. The pandemic, the flood, the civil unrest in our nation, that are still taking a toll on many people. Some are asking, "Is this a result of our living in a fallen world and sinful behavior brought them on?" Some others ask "Where is God in all this?" Two questions I've been asked recently.

First, some background about where I am coming from. I am not a theologian. Sometimes I appreciate their insight, and sometimes I disagree with them, however, most often I simply look to the Word. Sometimes I hear, and read, that this is what God said, but this is what He meant. I very firmly believe that God is Author of all Scripture, many scribes, one Author, and He said what He meant, and meant what He said. He did not give us His Word to confound us, but to guide us. That which was hidden has now been revealed.

I Corinthians 2:9-10. *"But as it is written, 'Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered in to the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.' But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes the deep things of God."*

The answer to the first question is "Yes." We don't really know the origin of the virus, although it appears to be in China. We know that in many cases it has spread because people refuse to obey those who were appointed over them and take the necessary precautions. We know that the dams failed because they were not properly maintained. We also know that the civil unrest in our nation is the result of sinful behavior. A rebellious spirit lead to a rapid spread of the virus. A spirit of greed led to the failure of the dams,

and a spirit of injustice lead to the civil unrest in our nation. So the answer to the first question is a simple "Yes." Sinful behavior is the cause of many, most of the difficulties that we experience.

Now the second question: "Where is God in all this?" He is right here in the midst of it all, ready to strengthen, guide, empower, and give us peace and joy in the midst of it all.

In Matthew 28:20 Jesus said, *"...I am with you always, even to the end of the age."* How could He make such a claim when He would have so many followers? The answer is in John 14:16 Jesus said, *"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever."* Verse 17 says in part, *"...you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you."*... God is ever present through His Holy Spirit who indwells us.

We have His Holy Spirit to comfort and guide us, and sometimes, often, the church which He has made of us will be a strengthening and encouraging presence in our life together.

Trust in His Spirit, share the faith with one another, pray for, and with, each other and no trial can take away our sense of peace and joy!

God's blessings,
Pastor Bill

What are your prayer requests?



gathering of friends

time for instruction

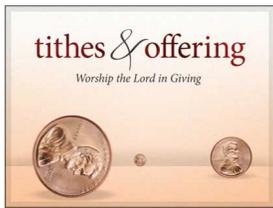
Join Us

prayer for each other

Sunday

August 2nd

7:00 p.m.



OFFERING PLATES AND OUTREACH CUP

The offering plates and outreach cup have been placed in the entry near the office door. The Church Board made a decision to refrain from passing the plates to help stem the Covid virus.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Women's Bible study has begun a new session on the book of Habakkuk. A study guide written by Kay Arthur will be used to guide the discussions.

Habakkuk:
From Doubt to Faith

The ladies (and Pastor Bill) have been enjoying lunch at Nikki's restaurant after the study.

BUILDING FUND

Did you know the church has a "new building fund?" This account was set up several years ago in anticipation of a new Sunday School wing. Prayerfully consider how you can help.

CREATIVE WORSHIP COMMITTEE

A "creative worship committee" has always been a part of the church organization. Recently, Jessica Murrell was appointed by the Nurture Commission to be a part of the committee. If you have any ideas or comments on the worship service, the committee would like to hear from you. You may contact any of the members: Pastor Bill, Pastor Joe, Nancy Shaffer, Peggy McKimmy, Jessica Murrell.



FUNERAL DINNERS—a ministry of this church.

Any one of these ladies or Pastor Bill may be contacted when there is a need.

Claudia Whitmer: 989-435-7632

Peggy Hillman: 989-435-9290

Sherry Garvin: 989-435-0350

Peggy McKimmy: 989-429-8799

Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.