



COHANSEY BAPTIST CHURCH
THE LAMPLIGHTER

February, 2011

714 Roadstown Rd.

Bridgeton, NJ

08302



**A Message
from
God's Word**

2 Timothy 4:21 "Do your utmost to come before winter."

Winter can be one of the most depressing times of the year. Credit card bills come in from all that Christmas overspending, and winter is already here, which means that we have very few days over the next couple of months that will permit us to pursue all those outdoor activities that we enjoy.

Winter doesn't have to be a dark, dreary time in our lives. In fact, the Apostle Paul in one of the last letters he ever wrote laid out some pretty good advice to his close friend, Timothy, advice that we should take, too.

Paul was in prison in Rome and he knew that the sands of time were running out on his life. Think about it. What would you say to a close friend with your last words? Any of us in similar circumstances would likely reserve what precious time we had left to deal with the most important priorities in our lives. It was no different with Paul.

Paul's final words to Timothy are found at 2 Timothy 4:9-21. Clearly, Paul knew he might not survive beyond winter, so he urged Timothy to come immediately. He asked for three things: His coat that he left in another city, his parchments (the equivalent to today's Bible), and one last opportunity to see Mark, writer of one of the four Gospels, and someone about whom Paul had some regrets.

Interestingly, the opportunity to see Mark was number one on Paul's list of final requests. It was very important to Paul because he once misjudged Mark's worthiness to carry the Gospel message. We really don't know why. Many think Mark may have become homesick while with Paul and Barnabas on a trip to Turkey. At any rate, the Bible records that Mark, "departing from them, returned to Jerusalem." (Acts 13:13)

Paul was on fire to spread the Gospel Message and obviously could not understand Mark could abandon the call to serve the Lord. Paul's inability to understand the reason for Mark's hasty departure not only strained his relationship with Mark but also with Barnabas, Mark's uncle and Paul's companion on his first missionary trip. Barnabas left Paul over the rift while on their second missionary trip.

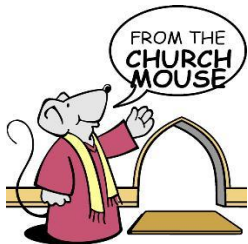
The Bible tells us that "all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28) Such was the case with Paul and Barnabas. The Lord used this rift between these two great servants to double the ministry. Barnabas took Mark and headed for Cyprus while Paul teamed with Silas, who accompanied him through Syria and Cilicia. (Acts 15:39-40)

I don't think Paul ever offered the apology to Mark that Mark was owed. That's why I think it was one of the last things he wanted to do before he left this world. Regardless of what may have caused the rift between Paul and Mark, Paul knew he had rushed to judgment, which is why he said of Mark to Timothy, "Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry." (2 Timothy 4:11)

Winter is rapidly approaching here, too. We may not be in the last days of our lives, but many of us have broken relationships created by premature judgments, words we wish we could take back, actions we should not have taken. Winter doesn't have to be filled with dark days. Make a call to the "Mark" in your life. Set up a visit, swallow your pride, and apologize for what you said or did. 2011 could become a very special year for the two of you.

Taken from devotions.com

NEWS



All Lamplighter items are due no later than February, 15th

If you have any articles, poems, stories, photos, ads or articles for the Lamplighter issue please put them in my mailbox in the little room off the choir loft, call me @ 455-2574, email me @ nohowmom@comcast.net , send them to me @ 77 Barretts Run Rd., Bridgeton, 08302 or hand them to me before or after morning worship. Thank you!



To all of those dedicated people who faithfully assemble our newsletter every month. We really appreciate you and the time you give in service to the Lord.



The 2011 Flower chart is now posted. If you are led to provide altar flowers for a special Sunday please sign the chart in the proper date and speak with a member of the Flower Committee. Thank you.

Flowers



Jr. BYF Helpers Needed

The Christian Education Board is looking for someone to help with the Jr. BYF for the rest of the year. This person(s) will be working with Pastor Don Harrington, Phyllis Harrington and Barbara Woodward from Berean Baptist. For more details or if you are interested please see Julie Fleetwood.



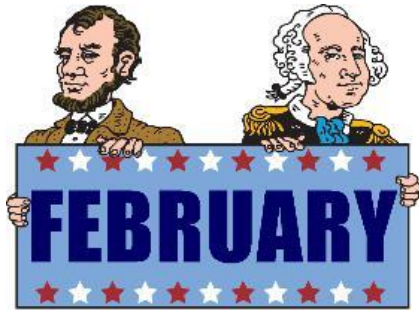
Children's Sermon

We currently have only 5 volunteers for the weekly worship Children's Sermon time for the year. Please prayerfully consider becoming a volunteer to share with our kids for 3 minutes before they are released to Children's Church. With 10 volunteers each person would only have to share twice a year. Contact Jodi in the office at 455-7787 if you are interested.



Attention!

All Church committees and organizations!!!! I need you to send me any announcements about events that are going on. Our Lamplighter readers would like to know what is coming up each month. Let's get excited about our church and activities. . . ADVERTISE!!!!!!



Birthdays

- 1 Billy Williams, III
- 4 Ashleigh Elwell
Daniel C. Williams, II
- 5 David Ely
- 9 Kevin M. Stanfa, Sr.
- 10 Kim Mayhew
- 11 Joshua Bonham
- 12 Jeanette Bokma
Ida Smith
- 13 Jim Johnson
Kim Johnson
Cindy Fithian
- 14 Kristine Halter
Frances Newkirk
- 15 Danny VanMeter
- 16 Ryan Hitchner

18 Bobbi Jo Hitchner
Megan Davis

23 Kelly VanMeter

24 Nicole Gandy

26 Jeremy Dickinson

DO WE HAVE YOUR BIRTHDAY?

If not please call the church office or email Nola Willis
at nohowmom@comcast.net

Other Special Dates this Month

- African-American History Month
 - Ground Hog's Day, February 2, 2011
 - Abraham Lincoln's Birthday, February 12, 2011
 - Boy Scout Sunday, February 13, 2011
 - Valentine's Day, February 14, 2011
 - President's Day, February 21, 2011
 - George Washington's Birthday, February 22, 2011





Keep these people in your prayers as they deal with various health problems. Pray for wisdom for the doctors and that God's mercy will cover them and His peace will bring comfort.

Healing and Restoration

Donald Brammer
 Mary Davis
 Ronnie Dennis
 Jean Eckerd
 Erin Keen
 Jana Carman
 Those affected by the Australian floods

Sympathy

The Family of Ron Munyon
 The Family of George Johnson

Shut Ins

Janet Bonaldo
 Ashley Guntow

Jeanne Gressman

Retirement Homes

Donald Brammer

Service

Mike Dunkelberger	Nicky Mihalecz
Ryan Fithian	Brian Schrier
Andy Guth	Jacob Schrier
Kyle Mihalecz	Doug Shimp
Russell Shinn	Jeff Shimp
Andrew Tobin	Shauna Sloan

Battling Cancer

Richard Bacon, Sr.	Jose` Nieto
Gloria Branca	Louise Orsini
Annie Foster	Jerry Oswald
Martha Gandy	Ed Peterson
Dianna Hill	Denise Larro
Emily Horton	Colleen Riley
Giavana Krumaker	Ron Rouver
Jayne Bickings	John Robinson

Jonathan Lopez
 Robert Marks, Jr
 Jeff Mortimer
 Marion Nickopolous
 Sandy Turner
 Tony Joyner

Mike Scavelli
 Brenda Snyder
 Charlene Clark
 Pat Rodia

If you have any prayer requests or praises that you would like in the Lamplighter please email or call me with those requests. Thank you. Nola Willis

Where Can I Go?

Where can I go...
 When my world is topsy turvey...
 Or things all around me seem unsure...
 If the people who surround me...
 Make no sense?

Where can I go...
 On days when the sun refuses to shine...
 Or when I need special peace
 To refuel my soul...
 To re-charge & face it all anew?

Where can I go...
 If I need to feel strong, when I am week...
 When the smile on my face...
 Isn't quite the same...
 As it usually is?

Where DO I go?
 I come to You...
 Where there is always SONshine...
 To Your arms, where people pale in comparison...
 To Your ways, that light my path.
 Where else could I go...but to Your love that surrounds me.
 Thank You Lord.

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"I love to think of nature as an unlimited broadcasting station, through which God speaks to us every hour if we will only tune in."
 —George Washington Carver



Here is a great inspirational story for all friends, giving us a valuable lesson of life in an amusing way. Hope it makes us live our lives more consciously.

A young and successful executive was traveling down a neighborhood street, going a bit too fast in his new Jaguar. He was watching for kids running between parked cars and slowed down when he thought he saw something. As his car passed, no children appeared.

Instead, a brick smashed into the Jag's side door!

He slammed on the brakes and backed the Jag back to the spot where the brick had been thrown. The angry driver then jumped out of the car, grabbed the nearest kid and pushed him up against a parked car shouting, 'What was that all about and who are you? Just what the heck are you doing? That's a new car and that brick you threw is going to cost a lot of money... Why did you do it?'

The young boy was apologetic.

'Please, mister.....please, I'm sorry but I didn't know what else to do,' He pleaded. 'I threw the brick because no one else would stop...'

With tears dripping down his face and off his chin, the youth pointed to a spot just around a parked car.

'It's my brother, 'he said 'He just rolled off somehow and fell out of his wheelchair and I can't lift him up.'

Now sobbing, the boy asked the stunned executive, 'Would you please help me get him back into his wheelchair? He's hurt and he's too heavy for me....'

Moved beyond words, the driver tried to swallow the rapidly swelling lump in his throat... He hurriedly lifted the handicapped boy back into the wheelchair, then took out his handkerchief and wiped his fresh scratches and cuts. A quick look told him everything was going to be okay.

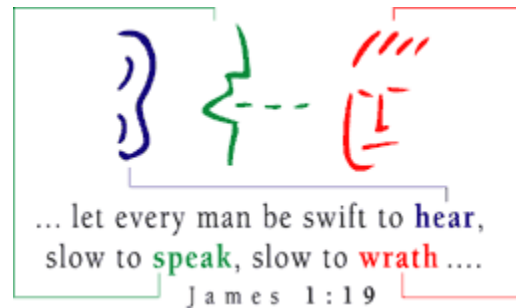
'Thank you and may God bless you,' the grateful child told the stranger.

Too shook up for words, the man simply watched the boy pushing his wheelchair-bound brother down the sidewalk toward their home.

It was a long, slow walk back to the Jaguar. The damage was very noticeable, but the driver never bothered to repair his Jaguar's dented side door.

He kept the dent there to remind him of this message: **'Don't go through life so fast that someone has to throw a brick at you to get your attention!'**

God whispers in our souls and speaks to our hearts. Sometimes when we don't have time to listen, He has to throw a brick at us. And then it's our choice to listen or not.

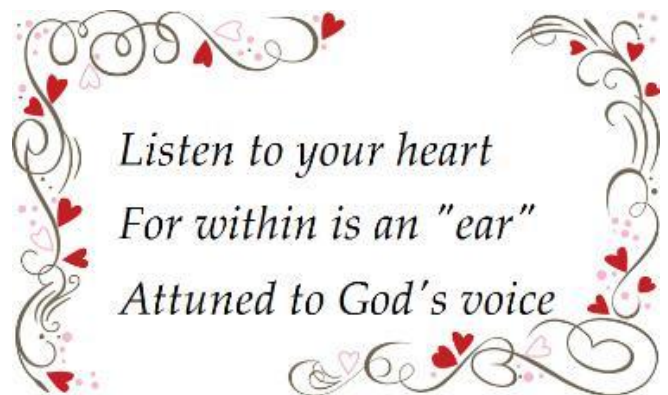


Hang on!

When a couple received a rose bush as a gift, they planted and cared for it, eagerly waiting for it to bloom. A few months later, a bud finally appeared. Day by day, it began to fill out. The couple's anticipation grew when they could see that the rose would be bright red.

One day, they were surprised to notice that the green around the bud had been pulled away and the flower petals were torn apart. They asked their young daughter if she knew what had happened. "I just couldn't wait any longer," she said, "so I blossomed it myself."

The psalmist tells us to "Wait for the LORD ..." (Psalm 27:14, NRSV). Instead of trying to help God along, let him bring things to fulfillment in his perfect time.





JOURNAL

Mama Luti learns to read and lead

[Miriam Noyes](#), Missionary



People come to our literacy classes for a variety of reasons. For Luti, it was her ardent desire to enter God's Word in the Bible for herself. We had our first literacy training in the Vanga area in 2001. One of the participants, president of the Kikosi village Baptist women, who was also a primary school teacher, immediately started classes and Luti joined.

Luti's father was a skilled mason who worked in construction in a variety of places. One of these places was Lusekele, where we live and work. In those days people weren't sure that girls should be in school. What could a school teach a girl what she needed to know when she grew up to be a woman?

Luti started primary school, but when she was in third grade her mom got sick and needed help. Her older sisters and brothers weren't available to take care of her mom and see that food got on the table, but she was. She dropped out of school. When her mother died, she continued to be her father's

housekeeper and farmer. School became a dream of her childhood past.

In time she married, children came, and in time she started sending them off to school. Maybe that's what reawakened her regrets at her aborted school career, and the door to knowledge that had only just cracked open for her. She faithfully participated week after week in church and women's meetings. She watched the speakers bring story after story and teaching after teaching from the Bible. She longed to be able to go to that well herself and sometimes she would hold someone's Bible. But the treasures and mysteries remained locked inside.

Finally the Kikosi women's president started a literacy class for them. Here was her chance! It was hard work. Other women dropped out, but she was going to get what she wanted at last. Little by little she learned, until she finished the class. The last part of the class even consisted of Bible stories. She read them, and read from the teacher's Bible, and anyone else's that she could take a peek at. She started using the stories in teaching herself, and joined the Bible study league in Kikosi.

At this point I heard from her teacher about her one graduate, but didn't meet her. In my subsequent visits to Kikosi, Luti was too shy to approach me to talk about it. Finally 2 months ago, a League retreat took place at Lusekele, and she was there. We were in the same small group. She pulled me aside and said, "I was in the literacy classes at Kikosi. I learned to read and write. Now I am the leader of the League Bible study group in Kikosi (learning all these marvelous things from God's Word myself and with his people). Thank you!" She even had a Bible in hand.

Thank you to the literacy workshop trainers. Thank you to Rose Mayala the literacy coordinator. Thank you to all those friends who have shared a special gift over the last ten years. God has brought us together to change the world just a little for women like Luti. Because of this movement of God's Spirit, another dedicated Christian is able to exercise her gifts in leading the church.

Miriam



Memory Verse:

And be renewed in the spirit



of your mind.

~Ephesians 4:23

Jokes:

What is a paper snowflake?
Frosty the Snowman's baby picture!

What does a snowman eat for breakfast?
Frosted flakes!

What do get when you cross a snowman and a vampire?
Frostbite!

There are two flies on the kitchen table. Which one is the football player?
The one in the sugar bowl

Puzzle:

A Love Letter

In the New Testament, John writes a letter about God's love and the love we should show to other people.

DIRECTIONS: Working from left to right, write down all the 1's in the word blanks. Continue with the 2's and finally the 3's. Then read about love, from 1 John 4:11-12, NIV.

lives 3	in 3	us 3	Since 1	and 3	God 1	so 1	loved 1	his 3
us 1	love 3	we 1	If 2	also 1	is 3	made 3	we 2	ought 1
to 1	love 2	love 1	one 1	complete 3	one 2	another 1	in 3	us 3
another 2	God 2							

1 John 4:11-12, NIV

Answers: Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. If love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

Quiz:

First Corinthians 13 is a popular Scripture reading at wedding ceremonies. The so-called "love chapter" provides an extended definition of what Paul calls "the greatest" gift (verse 13).

Which of the following characteristics of love isn't found in 1 Corinthians 13?

- A. Love is patient.
- B. Love rejoices in the truth.
- C. Love believes all things.
- D. Love is childlike.

February 2011

Church Meetings, Activities & Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>African-American History Month</p>		1. 9 a.m. – Prayer Group 7 p.m. – Music Com. Mtg. 7 p.m. – Missions Board Mtg.	2.  <p>Groundhog Day</p>	3.	4.	5.
6. Communion Sunday 10 a.m. – Morning Worship 11:30 a.m. – Sunday School 12:30 p.m. – Shut-In Communion 6 p.m. – Jr./Sr. BYF @ Berean	7. 7 p.m. – Choir	8. 9 a.m. – Prayer Group 6:30 p.m. – Trustee Mtg. 7 p.m. – Deacon Mtg.	9.	10. 	11.	12. Lincoln's Birthday
13. Youth Sunday 10 a.m. – Morning Worship 11:30 a.m. – Sunday School 6 p.m. – Jr./Sr. BYF @ Berean	14. Valentine's Day 10 a.m. – Manor Service 7 p.m. – Choir	15. Lamplighter Items Due 9 a.m. – Prayer Group 7 p.m. – C.E. Board Mtg.	16.	17.	18.	19. 
20. 10 a.m. – Morning Worship 11:30 a.m. – Sunday School 6 p.m. – United Praise & Worship @ Berean	21. Presidents' Day 7 p.m. – Choir	22. Washington's Birthday 9 a.m. – Prayer Group 7 p.m. – ABOUTFACE 2011 Meeting	23.	24.	25. 	26. Sr. BYF 30 Hour Famine
27. 10 a.m. – Morning Worship 11:30 a.m. – Sunday School Sr. BYF 30 Hour Famine	28. 7 p.m. – Choir				Make us fully aware of your loving presence and of your truths for our daily lives, dear Lord.	