

# Sharings

Monthly Newsletter of the Fairview Avenue Brethren in Christ Church (FABIC)

152 Fairview Avenue, Waynesboro, PA 17268

762-3079 ♦ fax 762-0765

[pastorjohn@fabicchurch.org](mailto:pastorjohn@fabicchurch.org) ♦ [office@fabicchurch.org](mailto:office@fabicchurch.org) ♦ [www.fabicchurch.org](http://www.fabicchurch.org)

Pastor John P. Walker

Volume 25 Issue 3

## CELEBRATING SAINT PATRICK

Several years ago, my mother, who was adopted as a baby, searched to find out who her birth parents were. She made an interesting discovery that affects me, as her son. Somewhere deep inside, I'm a bit Irish. My grandfather on my mother's side was from Ireland. That might partially explain my mixed temperament; my grandmother on that side was Scottish, and my grandparents on my father's side were British. The Irish bits make me curious about Ireland and its people.

Before I knew Jesus, Saint Patrick's Day meant only another excuse for parties, including funny plastic hats, shamrocks, and green beer. On this side of the kingdom curtain, I understand that none of those things had anything to do with Saint Patrick Himself.

Patrick was born in the year 387 at Kilpatrick, near Dumbarton, in Scotland. He died at Saul, Downpatrick, Ireland, on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 461; hence, we celebrate Saint Patrick's Day on that date. His parents were believed to be Romans living in Great Britain, in charge of the Roman colonies. A raiding party of Druids and pagans took Patrick captive when he was about 14 and carried him away to Ireland. He spent six years there as a slave shepherd where he learned the Gaelic language and the customs of the people.

During his time in captivity, Patrick turned to God in prayer and found deep faith. In his Declaration, he writes: "The love of God and His fear grew in me more and more, as did the faith, and my soul was roused, so that, in a single day, I have said as many as a hundred prayers and in the night, nearly the same." "I prayed in the woods and on the mountain, even before dawn. I felt no hurt from the snow or ice or rain." Patrick wrote that God told him to flee



## 2015

to the coast where he'd find a ship to take him home, which he did. He was 20 when he escaped.

Patrick immediately began study to be a priest. It was in another dream that he felt the people of Ireland were calling him back. He returned to Ireland in 433, and he and his disciples led thousands to believe in Jesus, building many churches. Legend says that Patrick used the three-leaved shamrock to explain the meaning of the Holy Trinity to pagans. Another legend says that Patrick banished all snakes from the island, though scientists believe it is unlikely that Ireland ever had any snakes.

Today, we honor Patrick for his great faith and his commitment to return to a people who had stolen him from his home and enslaved him. He serves as a great example of someone willing to give everything to follow the example of Christ who loved even those who crucified Him. Patrick lived most of his life in poverty and suffered much for the sake of Christ. Something to think about next time the green hats come out.

~ Pastor John

## Helping Gabby prepare for going to Bethesda Outreach in South Africa!

Gabby Sanfilippo is actively seeking prayer and financial supporters from Christians in our area. Visit her website at [www.thegabbymissionary.com](http://www.thegabbymissionary.com). There is a link at the top labeled "Support Info" and read about becoming a prayer or financial supporter.

Or, you can go directly to the website for Bethesda Outreach International at [www.boi.org](http://www.boi.org) and click on the Pay Portal link on the right hand side of the page.

Or, you can get a commitment card posted on the missions board near the pastor's office with information on how to give.

And lastly, if you are confused, talk to Gabby!

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"God longs for His people to humble themselves and to seek forgiveness and pray for guidance. God's Word says, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 33:12)." *Franklin Graham*

## National Day of Prayer



Coming Thursday, May 2

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

March 4	Morgan Benedict
March 4	Kyle Kauffman
March 5	Karen Simpson
March 5	Wanda Stahley
March 6	Gage Wease
March 8	Sarah Warford
March 14	Abby Long
March 18	Cristina Bundy*
March 20	Andrea Bailes
March 20	Sarah Phillipson
March 21	Michelle Zeigler
March 24	Mattie Lynn Warner
March 30	Wendell Witter*
March 31	Brittany Raffel



\*Missionaries



**Sunday, March 8**  
**Daylight Savings Time**  
**begins**  
**Move clocks ahead one hour!**

## Williams Update

We want to thank you for all your prayers for our trip. It was our impression that the Lord worked through us as we worked with teams and spoke at meetings about how one can know that they are indeed empowering the local community and involving the local church in the ministry of Bible translation. We would ask for prayer as we are in meetings during the next three weeks here in Dallas working with other Wycliffe staff from around the Americas on reflecting on the Mission of God and how Bible translation fits into that and how to build vision on the importance of mother tongue Scripture.



One highlight of our trip was a day spent with Isaac, our co-translator in Ayautla Mazatec. Good news from Isaac:

On January 21<sup>st</sup> 2015 Ayautla once again celebrated the anniversary of the presentation of the Ayautla New Testament. One of the skits performed by the primary school children had to do with animals that used to live in the area but that are now extinct. Isaac's son was a tiger. Apparently, it took his aunt months to make his costume. A huge hit this year was a presentation of how wedding ceremonies used to be held in Mazatec culture. Isaac always gets emotional talking about this day - he says that the community has pledged to always celebrate on January 21<sup>st</sup> no matter what.

Kids are texting in Mazatec.

A group of Mazatecs who went to Mexico City to find work sent requests for New Testaments. Isaac sent them some. "Selfie" is now a word in the vocabulary of Mazatec young people.

Isaac has taught over 200 people to read and write in Mazatec.

Related to our support needs, the Lord has provided more financial partners, and we are now slightly over 80 percent of our Wycliffe proposed living quota for which we very thankful and give glory to God.

*Larry & Cindy*

## March Dates

### Sunday School Schedule

**First Sunday Breakfast,**  
**Sunday, March 1,**  
**9:15-10:15am.** All food is provided. Everyone is invited to come.



**Sunday School Bible Classes**  
**Starting Sunday, March 8th**  
**9:15-10:15am**  
**Adults and Teens**

**The Wired Word—Christian Perspective on Current Events,** current events in light of Scripture, discussion group led by Eric Dampf.

**Membership Class—**Pastor John will begin a new membership class. The class includes a 10-week study on church Core Values and a chance to get answers to your burning questions about FABIC and the BIC denomination. You can sign up by sending an e-mail to [pastorjohn@fabricchurch.org](mailto:pastorjohn@fabricchurch.org) or by calling the church office, 762-3079.

**Ladies Class—“Becoming a Woman of Excellence”.** What does "being strong in the Lord" look like today for you? We invite ladies of all ages to join us as we explore life together, searching the scriptures for what being a woman of excellence means. There will be warm times of sharing, laughter and ministry across generations, (and maybe even some "surviving-life" tips, crafts, cooking and gardening thrown in) as we uncover the treasures and joy of being a woman of God! Feel free to invite friends, relatives and neighbors! Meeting March 8th - May 31st. Coordinated by Kathy Long & Val Dick

**Teens** Grades 6-12 together for Bible study.

**Children** Nursery for birth through age 2, preschool ages 3-5, grades K-5. We have music time (on 1st & 3rd Sundays), prayer for each child's requests, crafts, Bible stories, and healthy snacks!

**Sunday morning prayer, 8:30-9am,** meet downstairs Room B5. Everyone is welcome.

**Refresh! Wednesday prayer and study,** 6:45-8:30pm. Everyone is welcome. The new Wednesday eve study begins on March 11th, "Son of God: The life of Jesus in You". Led by Rick Warren, the video series is based on the feature film produced by Mark Burnett and Roma Downey. "Whether you're exploring the life of Jesus for the first time, or ready to



take your faith to a deeper level, this study gives you practical steps to overcome temptation, suffering, and persecution and leverage these challenges to discover and fulfill God's plan for your life." Sessions include: Jesus' Baptism and Your Baptism; Jesus' Temptation and Your Temptation; Jesus' Suffering and Your Suffering; Jesus' Death and Your Death; Jesus' Resurrection and Your Resurrection; Jesus' Ministry and Your Ministry.

**Kids Club begins**  
**Wednesday, March 4!**  
**Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00pm**  
**March 4 through May 13**  
**for ages 4 years old**  
**through 5th grade**



The theme is "Parable Quest", an Amazon rain forest adventure through the stories Jesus told. Each meeting will include Bible stories, crafts, music, and a snack. Questions, contact the Admin Team for Kids Club: Abby Long, Michael Spielman, Diane Hamilton, and Karen Harbaugh.

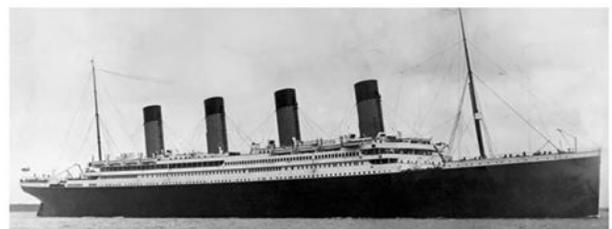
**Please pre-register** by contacting one of the people above for a registration form, or call the church office, 762-3079, or email [kidsclub@fabricchurch.org](mailto:kidsclub@fabricchurch.org). Forms will also be available on the lobby literature table and on the church website, [www.fabricchurch.org](http://www.fabricchurch.org). You may also register on the opening night of March 4.

Parents are invited to be a part of the Wednesday evening study and prayer time while children are at clubs. If you are planning to come and need nursery care for younger children, please contact Karen Harbaugh, 597-1785. We will be glad to arrange for nursery care if it is needed!

**The film, "The Drop Box",** will be playing at Gateway Gettysburg theatre on March 3, 4, & 5 at 7:00pm. Our Social Activities Team is organizing a group to go on **Thursday, March 5.**

Contact Julie Miller if you would like to carpool. The film is a documentary about a man in Korea saving abandoned infants. It is a story about faith, hope, and love. For more info about the film, and to view a trailer, go to [www.thedropboxfilm.com](http://www.thedropboxfilm.com).

**Caribbean Cruise Mystery Dinner Theatre, March 14, two serving times**  
**5:00pm & 7:00pm.** Price is \$35 couple/pair, \$20/person, \$65 table of 4 (fundraiser for youth group). Come join the Mystery Dinner aboard the "Empress of



(more on page 4)

**Roxbury Camp  
Spring Senior Day  
Thursday, May 12, 2015  
9am-2:30pm**

**Featuring Russ & Dee Dee Tibbits**

Russ and Dee Dee have been singing together for over 35 years. They formed the Michigan based gospel group Living Truth in 1980, recorded seven albums, and raised two musical daughters while on the road full time for 18 years. They now enjoy being worship leaders, and traveling to music festivals where Dee Dee teaches hammered dulcimer, Irish whistle, and harp. Their love for Jesus is first and foremost as they use unusual instruments to bring glory to God.

Pastor John will be presenting the devotional for the day. There will be group singing from the hymnal and a concert by the Tibbits. Lunch is provided. To register call 717-532-2208, or email [seniorday@roxburycamp.com](mailto:seniorday@roxburycamp.com).

**Dates (continued from page 3)**

the Sea", a "who-done-it" mystery in the setting of a trans-Atlantic luxury liner of the 1920's. You'll be part of the upper crust of British & American citizenry figuring out who among the servers, diners, ship-hands, and on-board patrons has committed a crime among upper class English Gentry. We have a delicious meal of Jamaican chicken with mango and black bean salsa on rice, with salad, drinks, and dessert.

FABIC youth are selling tickets for the "trip" and dinner, or call Church Office 717-762-3079, Steve Long 717-681-5664, Eric Dampf 724-581-1352, or Roni Remaley 240-273-2125.

**Sunday, March 29—Palm Sunday**

*A special day of celebrating our Lord Jesus, and the beginning of Holy Week!*

**Thursday, April 2—Maundy Thursday**

Footwashing and communion, 7pm

**Friday, April 3—Good Friday Service**

Honoring the Lord in worship by remembering His sacrifice on our behalf, 7pm

**Sunday, April 5 worship 10:30am**

***EASTER RESURRECTION CELEBRATION***

# The Source

**Ages 12-18**

Join "The Source" group on Facebook for info & updates



**Sunday School, 9:15-10:15am, Bible study.**

Friends and fun - learning the Word of God together! Teacher Rose Ray.

**Sunday morning worship, 10:30am.** All teens are encouraged to come!

**Wednesday Youth Group every week, 6:45-8:30pm.** Bring your friends for Bible study, games, food, friend time!

**Caribbean Cruise Mystery Dinner Theatre, Sat., March 14,** serving dinner at 5pm and 7pm. This is a fundraiser for the youth. Want to help?? Contact Steve Long or Eric Dampf.

**Prepare for Easter.** Join in on special times Thursday and Friday, April 2 and 3, 7pm.

**Watch the bulletin and Facebook (The Source) for updates!** Join the group, "The Source Youth Group", to get notifications of the latest news and impromptu events. Want to receive the bulletin by email? Just let us know, at [office@fabicchurch.org](mailto:office@fabicchurch.org).



## Wills Seminar

- **On Saturday, May 16, at 9 a.m.**, John Burns from the Brethren in Christ Foundation will lead a wills seminar at Fairview Avenue BIC Church. Bill Dick, a Christian attorney with his own law practice and a member of our church, will also be present.

A valid will and powers of attorney are vital to ensure that your wishes are carried out, and the best time to address these issues is now. No one wants the state to determine, through its pre-arranged formulas, how your children will be cared for and your estate will be distributed. Unfortunately, however, this is what could happen without these documents in place.

In the wills seminar, they will share with you the reasons for needing a will, living will, and medical and financial powers of attorney, as well as what may happen if you do not have these documents. You will learn what needs to be included in your will, and how to best benefit those persons and charities you wish to remember. You may find it advantageous to be present even if you already have a will, living will and power of attorney. There will be an opportunity for plenty of questions and answers.

- **The Brethren in Christ Foundation** is a nonprofit corporation which provides financial resources for ministries, congregations, and individuals of the Brethren in Christ Church. Their mission is to encourage faithful stewardship of material resources through individual investment and planned giving opportunities, and to provide financing for congregations and pastors. The Foundation offers a variety of services to help meet your financial planning needs. Their products, from simple investments to planned giving arrangements, are designed to benefit both your family and the church.
- **John Burns** has served as the Director of Advancement for the Brethren in Christ Foundation since 2010. In that role, he is responsible for working with both Brethren in Christ congregations and individuals in the area of planned giving, and also oversees the Foundation's Ambassador program and its Matching Grants for Outreach ministry. John attends Summit View BIC Church and lives in Gap, PA.
- **Bill Dick** is a Christian attorney with 38 years of experience in the practice of law, and is also a Certified Financial Planner. He is the senior partner of the law firm of Dick, Stein, Schemel, Wine & Frey, LLP. His many areas of practice include estate planning – wills, trusts, living wills, and powers of attorney. Bill lives in Waynesboro, PA, where he is an active member and deacon of Fairview Avenue BIC Church.



**From Wikipedia** Legend credits St. Patrick with teaching the Irish about the doctrine of the Holy Trinity by showing people the shamrock, a three-leaved plant, using it to illustrate the Christian teaching of three persons in one God. For this reason, shamrocks are a central symbol for St. Patrick's Day.





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Waynesboro PA 17268

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

***Info on***

***First Sunday Breakfast***

***New Adult Sunday School  
classes***

***New Reach Kids Club***

***New Wed. Adult Bible Study***

***Movie: "The Dropbox"***

***Caribbean Cruise Mystery  
Dinner Theatre***



**Fairview Avenue Church Weekly Schedule**

*Our building is handicap accessible*

***Every Sunday morning***

- ◇ Prayer 8:30-9:00am
- ◇ Sunday School 9:15am
- ◇ Worship 10:30am

***Every Wednesday***

- ◇ Reach Kids Club ages 4-grade 5, 6:30-8pm
- ◇ Adults: Refresh: A mid-week Spiritual Boost, Wednesday evenings, 6:45-8:30pm
- ◇ Youth Group ages 12-18, 6:45-8:30pm

***Agape Group*** meets on 2nd & 4th Sundays at various homes for food, fellowship, and spiritual encouragement. Visitors are always welcome; call to find out location. Leaders Steve & Lori Eberly, 597-8071.