

the Messenger

CELEBRATING
50 God's
 ove
 YEARS of MINISTRY
 1971 – 2021

February 2022



ALL PERSONS over the age of 2 are required to wear a mask covering nose and mouth AT ALL TIMES INDOORS.

Read the Messenger **online** at godslovenewtown.org/connect/newsletters or scan this code with your phone.



LAST CALL! January: Animal Ministry Collection

This collection benefits homeless pets with donations to the [Bucks County ASPCA](#) and the [Women's Animal Shelter](#). Specific items requested include:

- Purina One dry food for cats or dogs (unopened)
- Dog waste disposal bags
- Toys (new) for cats, dogs or other small animals
- Laundry detergent or liquid dish soap
- Towels (clean used or new)
- Non-clumping clay cat litter
- Frontline plus for dogs or cats



More detailed wish lists for both shelters are posted at the links above or on the kiosk in the **Lobby of Love** ♥.

Place donations in the **blue basket** in the **Lobby of Love** ♥ by **January 31**. **Questions?** Contact **Diana Pazicky**.



ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, February 13, 2022

ONE SERVICE at 9:30am

NO Christian Education Classes

Meeting begins at approximately 10:30am

Annual Meeting business items will include election of council members, approval of the 2022 budget, and voting on the [proposed changes to the constitution bylaws](#).

Annual reports will be **sent by email** and available for **pickup by Sunday, February 6**. Please make sure you read your annual report! We will be limiting the number and length of verbal reports at the meeting to keep the meeting short.

Bible Book-of-The-Month Study

Isaiah Chapters 1 – 39

Monday, January 31 • 7:00pm **ON ZOOM**

Our Bible book for **January** will be the first part of Isaiah. Read through Chapters 1 – 39 at your own pace with the help of [this Reading Guide](#), then join the discussion led by **Vicar Brandi**.



For the month of **February**, we will read the next section of the book of Isaiah: Chapters 40 – 55.

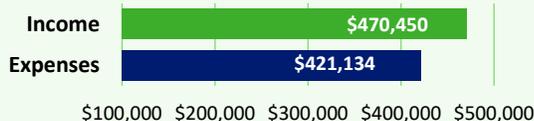
2021 End-of-Year Statements are in your church mailbox. (Those without boxes will receive their statement in the US Mail.)

Please review your statement and contact me with any questions.



John Tidd, Financial Secretary

Financials through December 2021



As of the end of 2021, our mortgage balance is **down to \$107,899** including all regular payments and additional debt-reduction payments for the year.

Please feel free to see me with any questions you might have.
Bob Smoose, Treasurer

Scripture Readings
for February 6

Isaiah 6:1-13
Here am I; send me

1 Corinthians 15:1-11
The least of the apostles

Luke 5:1-11
Jesus calls to fish for people

God's Caring Stitchers • Fridays, February 4 and 18
1:00pm – 2:00pm in Room A1/A2 (mask required)

The Knit and Crochet Group is celebrating their **20th Anniversary in February**. This group was created with a handful of people and has grown to over 30.

The group started with members from our congregation and now we draw from crafters in our community, too. In 2002, we gave our handmade items to 7 different organizations in our community and last year we gave to 18.

All our members give freely of their time and talents and at the same time give support to each other. We hope to have a big celebration later this year!

Questions? Contact **Cindy Sundstrom**.



God's Love Quilting Circle
Saturdays, February 12 and 26
10:00am to 3:00pm in the mods

We are Back!

Join this group two Saturdays per month to work on your quilting project or learn the craft of quilting in fellowship with others.



Questions? Contact **Sherry Stark**.



God's Love 50th Anniversary Concert Series

Sunday, February 13 at 3:00pm
Newtown Chamber Orchestra "Soloists on Stage"

NCO is an all-professional orchestra dedicated to bringing classical and modern chamber music to the community. They promote new chamber works by contemporary composers, encourage young musicians of the community and feature solo performances by local and internationally known artists. **Admission to this concert is FREE**, made possible by the Henry and Ruth Pfister Performing Arts Fund.

"Soup-er Bowl" of Caring Food Drive
February 7 through February 13

Please bring a can (or cans) of soup, other canned goods or non-perishable items and drop them in the marked box in the

Lobby of Love ♥. They will be delivered to **Interfaith Food Alliance** in Morrisville.

This organization grew from the Food Insecurity Alliance founded by the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Yardley. IFA sponsors the Family Backpack Center located at Morrisville United Methodist Church and advocates and educates about local hunger. It partners with many religious communities, civic organizations, non-profits, and governmental groups.

Please join us in making this a super "Soup-er-Bowl" of Caring.

Questions? Contact **Chris Tidd or Janet Nordberg**.



GIVE
Blood

Red Cross Blood Drive
Friday, March 4

2pm – 7pm in Fellowship Hall

We all know the need for blood has never been greater. To help meet that need, we will host four blood drives in 2022.

The first will be Friday, March 4. **Appointments are required** and can be made by using the **NEW Signup Hub** in the Commons, [THIS LINK](#) or visit godslovenewtown.org/signups.

Questions? Contact **Beth Meyers**.

HOPE (Help Other People Eat) • MARCH

With Spring just around the corner, the need for food is still in high demand. Please help support our mission HOPE by providing food for the Wednesday bagged meals or the Sunday Supper. This food goes directly to the homeless in Bristol.

Use the **NEW Signup Hub** in the Commons, [THIS LINK](#) or visit godslovenewtown.org/signups to provide a hot meal or to donate items for the bagged meals. Place donations in the **Lobby of Love** ♥.

Questions? Contact **Sandy Anthony**.



February Collection: Blessing Bags

February's Collection of Blessing Bags will be distributed to those in need through our AHTN Shared Meals and our HOPE mission. Our goal is to collect enough to last through the year.

Starting Feb 6 In the **Lobby of Love** ♥ you will find drawstring backpacks with a list inside of personal care items that are needed by people who are housing insecure. Please choose a bag (or bags), fill with the items on the list and return it to the **Lobby of Love** ♥ by the



end of February. These simple items, that most of us take for granted (toothbrush/paste, shampoo, soap, bandages, etc.), mean the world to folks who are homeless. Let's show the love this February by helping those in need.

Questions? Contact **Sandy Anthony**.



February is the month of love and we love books! Each class will focus on a few authors; culminating with Dr. Seuss' birthday in the beginning of March. At home, the children write down the names of books they have read on hearts, and we hang them in the hallway. The children look forward to exchanging cards at their Valentine's Day party.



4s Pajama Day



We show our love for others through service projects. Our collections continue for the church ministries. The 2s and 3s will assemble Breakfast Bags for Caring for Friends. The 4s will participate in the annual Sue Heinze Memorial Hop-A-Thon to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in the spring.

Registration for the 2022 – 2023 school year is underway!

We continue to offer classes for 2s 3s, and 4s. Our 2-day 3s class is a "Young 3s" for children turning three by December 31.

If you or someone you know would like more information or a tour, please call the office 215-497-0506 or email the school glcps@verizon.net. Information and the [registration form](#) are available on the [preschool webpage](#), as well as our [Facebook page](#)

preschool registration



Our congregation and friends continue to bless others around the world. In January we received the following thank you letters:

- **Seafarers International House in NY**—Henryk Behnke
We continue to deliver Christmas-at-Sea satchels to seafarers who cannot be with loved ones. On their behalf we thank you for your generous donation of knit items and supplies that filled 27 satchels. Seafarers are essential workers helping to transport medicine, fuel, food, etc. In short, **90% of world trade!**



- **Bear Creek Camp**—Collin Grooms, Director
While learning and singing, the woods once again fully echoed with the glee of campers returning to this place (after a COVID hiatus last summer). It's been an incredible year here at camp. We continue to look forward to our ministry and mission in an ever-changing landscape. Thank you once again for your support this year! [Church Council approved a donation of \$1,000]

Thank you to all congregational members who completed their *Gifts of Service Form* and returned it to the church office. These forms are currently being compiled and you should receive a call or email from one of the lay leaders of the ministries in which you expressed interest.

Didn't get a chance to fill yours out? [CLICK HERE](#) to print out the form; when complete return it to the church office.



PSALM 100:2, ESV

Ministry Leaders: Be on the lookout soon for an email with additional information from Vicar Brandi.

"The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it."
Genesis 2:15

The first half of February seems dominated by pink and red, cards and candy. But people not in a loving romantic relationship can sometimes feel left out of the festivities. Of course, all people need love—and certainly love is not limited to the romantic kind.

Author **Leo Buscaglia**, who became known as "Dr. Love" for writing about the topic, said,

"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around."

Jesus taught that loving one another is second only in importance to loving God (*Matthew 22:37-40*), and that when we love one another, God lives in us (*1 John 4:12*).

There are so many ways to do that—beyond candy hearts and roses! But Valentine's Day is as good a reminder as any.



FREE at-Home COVID-19 Test Kits



REQUEST THEM

ONLINE: Residential households can order a set of 4 **FREE** at-home tests from the federal government at special.usps.com/testkits.

PICK THEM UP IN PERSON: The county health department is distributing at-home test kits **FREE** of charge at **Sesame Place** on Wednesday, February 2 from 10am to 6pm, or while supplies last. Visit buckscounty.gov/1523/COVID-19-Rapid-Home-Test-Kit-Information for more information.

Congregation members and friends can dedicate **Altar Flowers** in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special person or occasion on any Sunday of the church year. Visit godslovenewtown.org/signups or [CLICK HERE](#) to select your desired Sunday and indicate your dedication text.

Please send a **donation of \$40 for each week** you select. Place a check, payable to God's Love with "Altar Flowers" in the memo line, in the offering plate, mail or drop off at the church office. You can also pay online at godslovenewtown.org by clicking on the "Donate" button.



Have you tried out the online church directory yet? Last fall we launched our digital directory for use by congregation members. It has received positive reviews for its convenience and ease of use and the best part is that it always includes the latest contact information. Access instructions are available [HERE](#). Please call the church office if you need the password.

FEBRUARY						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>"Always be kinder than you feel."</i> —Unknown</p>		<p>1</p> <p>African American History Month</p>	<p>2</p> <p>GROUNDHOG DAY Bell Choir 6:30p Vocal Choir 7:30p</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Knit & Crochet 1p</p>	<p>5</p>
	<p>6</p> <p>Worship 8:45a & 11a Education 10a Worship Min Noon</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Counters 9:30a</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Christian Ed 7p Rejoice! 7:30p</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Bell Choir 6:30p Vocal Choir 7:30p</p>	<p>10</p> <p>COVID Team 7p</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Worship 9:30am NO EDUCATION</p> <p>ANNUAL MEETING 10:30am</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Counters 9:30a</p> <p>Happy Valentine's Day</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Advocacy 7p Rejoice! 7:30p</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Bell Choir 6:30p Vocal Choir 7:30p</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Church Council 7p</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Knit & Crochet 1p</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Worship 8:45a & 11a Education 10a</p>	<p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>President's Day Men's Study 7p</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Counters 9:30a</p> <p>Mutual Min 7:30p Rejoice! 7:30p</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Bell Choir 6:30p Vocal Choir 7:30p</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Quilters 10a-3p</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Transfiguration of Our Lord</p> <p>Worship 8:45a & 11a Education 10a</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Counters 9:30a TLC Meeting 10a</p> <p>Bible Book of Month 7p</p>	<p><i>Sometimes, Lord, you appear to us in brightness; sometimes, we hear your voice out of a cloud. Whatever our circumstances, may we be assured of your presence. Amen</i></p>				



In case of inclement weather, please watch your email and the church website godslovenewtown.org for announcements about possible cancellations or schedule changes. If we are forced to cancel a worship service, an automated phone call will also go out to the phone numbers we have on file.



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