

# WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST CHURCH

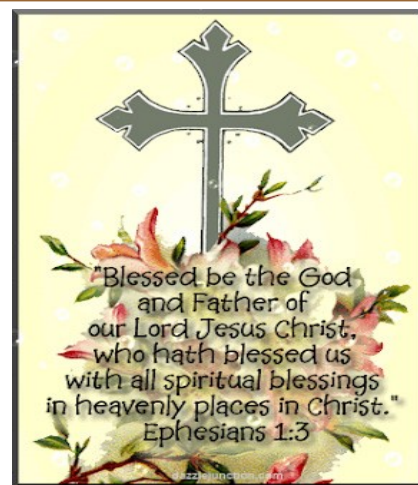
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## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!



JUNE 2021

A FATHER'S LOVE



Years ago, there was a very wealthy man who, with his devoted young son, shared a passion for art collecting. Together they traveled around the world, adding only the finest art treasures to their collection. Priceless works by Picasso, Van Gogh, Monet and many others adorned the walls of the family estate. The widowed elder man looked on with satisfaction as his only child became an experienced art collector. The son's trained eye and sharp business mind caused his father to beam with pride as they dealt with art collectors around the world.

As winter approached, war engulfed the nation, and the young man left to serve his country. After only a few short weeks, his father received a telegram. His beloved son was missing in action. The art collector anxiously awaited more news, fearing he would never see his son again. Within days, his fears were confirmed; the young man had died while rushing a fellow soldier to a medic. Distraught and lonely, the old man faced the upcoming Christmas holidays with anguish and sadness. The joy of the season, that he and his son had so looked forward to, would visit his house no longer.

On Christmas morning, a knock on the door awakened the depressed old man. As he walked to the door, the masterpieces of art on the walls only reminded him that his son was not coming home. As he opened the door, he was greeted by a soldier with a large package in his hands. He introduced himself to the man by saying, "I was a friend of your son's. I was the one he was rescuing when he died. May I come in for a few moments? I have something to show you." As the two began to talk, the soldier told of how the man's son had told everyone of his, not to mention his father's, love of fine art.

"I am an artist," said the soldier, "and I want to give you this." As the old man unwrapped the package, the paper gave way to reveal a portrait of the man's son. Though the world would never consider it the work of a genius, the painting featured the young man's face in striking detail. Overcome with emotion, the man thanked the soldier, promising to hang the picture above the fireplace. A few hours later, after the soldier had departed, the old man set about his task. True to his word, the painting went above the fireplace, pushing aside thousands of dollars' worth of art. His task completed, the old man sat in his chair and spent Christmas gazing at the gift he had been given.

During the days and weeks that followed, the man realized that even though his son was no longer with him, the boy's life would live on because of those he had touched. He would soon learn that his son had rescued dozens of wounded soldiers before a bullet stilled his caring heart. As the stories of his son's gallantry continued to reach him, fatherly pride and satisfaction began to ease his grief. The painting of his son soon became his most prized possession, far eclipsing any interest in the pieces for which museums around the world clamored. He told his neighbors it was the greatest gift he had ever received.

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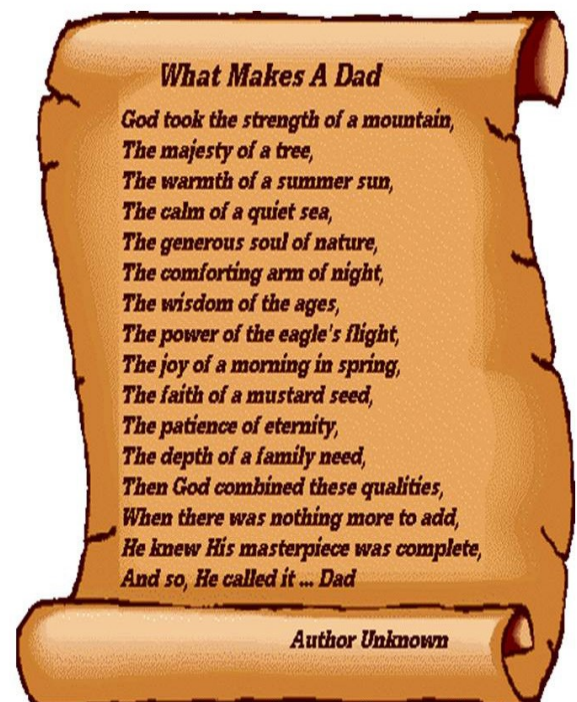
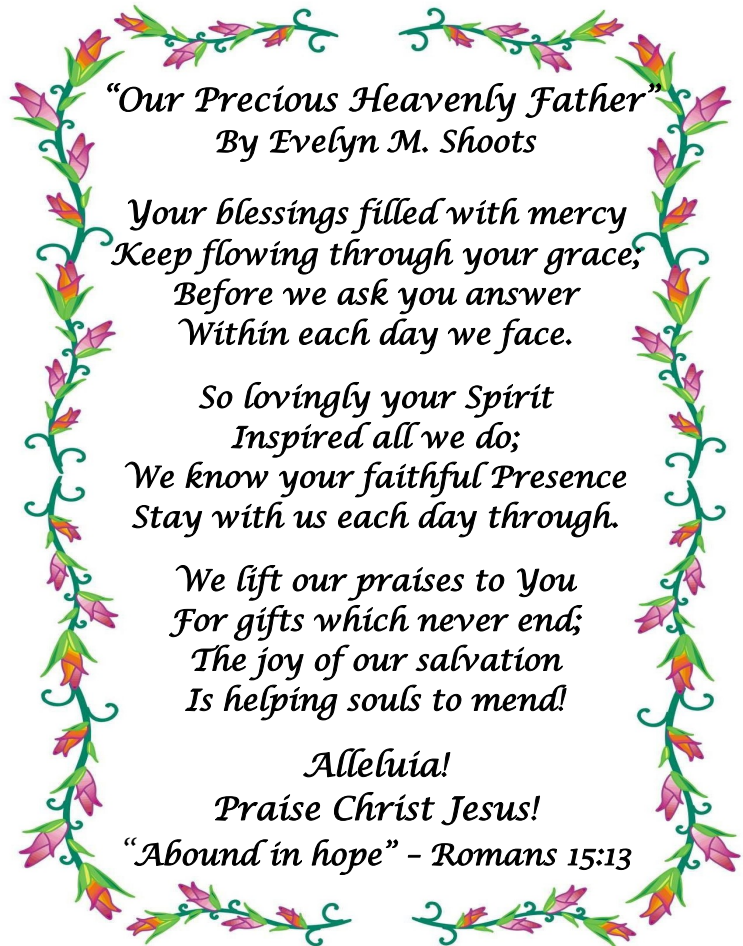
The following spring, the old man became ill and passed away. The art world was in anticipation, that with the collector's passing, and his only son dead, those paintings would be sold at auction. According to the will of the old man, all of the art works would be auctioned on Christmas Day, the day he had received the greatest gift. The day soon arrived and art collectors from around the world gathered to bid on some of the world's most spectacular paintings. Dreams would be fulfilled this day; greatness would be achieved as many would claim, "I have the greatest collection." The auction began with a painting that was not on any museum's list. It was the painting of the man's son. The auctioneer asked for an opening bid, but the room was silent. "Who will open the bidding with \$100?" he asked. Minutes passed, and no one spoke. From the back of the room came a voice, "Who cares about that painting? It's just a picture of his son." "Let's forget about it and move on to the good stuff," more voices echoed in agreement.

"No, we have to sell this one first," replied the auctioneer. "Now, who will take the son?" Finally, a neighbor of the old man spoke. "Will you take ten dollars for the painting? That's all I have. I knew the boy, so I'd like to have it." "I have ten dollars. Will anyone go higher?" called the auctioneer. After more silence, the auctioneer said, "Going once, going twice, gone." The gavel fell. Cheers filled the room and someone exclaimed, "Now we can get on with it and bid on the real treasures!" The auctioneer looked at the audience and announced that the auction was over.

Stunned disbelief quieted the room. Someone spoke up and asked, "What do you mean, it's over? We didn't come here for a picture of some old guy's son. What about all of these paintings? There are millions of dollars' worth of art here! I demand that you explain what is going on!" The auctioneer replied, "It's very simple. According to the will of the father, whoever takes the son ... gets it all."

Puts things into perspective, doesn't it? Just as those art collectors discovered on Christmas Day, the message is still the same: the love of a Father, whose greatest joy came from his Son who went away and gave his life rescuing others. And because of that Father's love, whoever takes the Son gets it all.

*Author Unknown*





## June 6th Communion Sunday

Welcome: Leanna Shirley  
Scripture: Virginia Chase  
Greeter: Roberta Miller

**June 13th**  
Welcome: Leanna Shirley  
Scripture: Sharon Scurlock  
Greeter: Roberta Miller

**June 20th**  
**Father's Day**  
Welcome: Leanna Shirley  
Scripture: Dan Scurlock  
Greeter: Roberta Miller

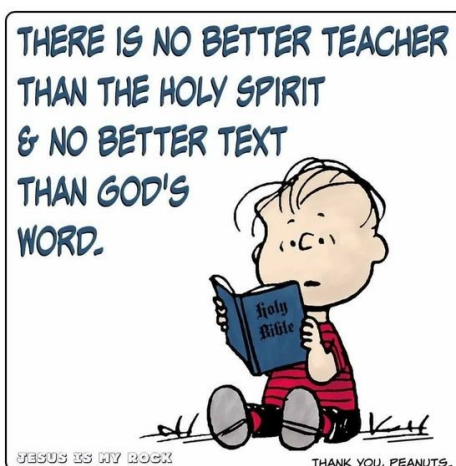
**June 27th**  
Welcome: Leanna Shirley  
Scripture: Valerie Bandemer  
Greeter: Roberta Miller



**Thank you for joining us as we worship post~COVID, and understanding for the following restrictions.**

**EVERYONE will socially distance & attendees must wear masks if not fully vaccinated.**

**Gloves, masks, and sanitizer are available. The area is sanitized before each event.**



### An Ode to Dad

When I was a little girl, my father always let me help him with car and home repairs. Afterward, he used to say, "I couldn't have done it without you!" If he deemed a job too dangerous, he would seat me out of harm's way and have me read poetry aloud to him. He insisted this eased his work and would thank me just the same. I didn't write my own poetry until my father's last years. Now I have two published poetry collections and several awards. I couldn't have done it without you Dad!

~Laura Grace Weldon  
Litchfield, Ohio  
*Reader's Digest—June 2020*



**Bible Study**  
Wednesdays at 10:00 AM

**Prayer Group**  
Saturdays at 9:00 AM

**Jackie Taylor' Service**  
Miller's Funeral Home  
June 5, 2021 at 1:00 PM  
Funeral Reception in Fellowship Hall at 3:00 PM

**LINK Articles**  
for July due to  
Joyce Shutts ~ June 18, 2021

**Father's Day**  
April 20, 2021

**Advisory Council Meeting**  
April 21, 2021 at 6:00 PM  
**PLEASE bring your reports!**



Jun. 6 ~ Carol Dubois  
Jun. 10 ~ Stacie Goff  
Jun. 11 ~ Elizabeth Hirschman  
Jun. 11 ~ Chris Pires  
Jun. 12 ~ Sally Kubica  
Jun. 15 ~ Stan Eney  
Jun. 20 ~ Bonnie Healy  
Jun. 25 ~ Justin Vander Meid  
Jun. 26 ~ Ken Goff  
Jun. 28 ~ Ashley Marie Dubois  
Jun. 30 ~ Betty Wynne





**“ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING”  
THEME ~ “LET LOVE FLOW!”**

2020 was unlike any year we have witnessed in our lifetime; wild fires, extremely active hurricane season, massive explosion in Beirut and on top of all this the prolonged COVID-19 global pandemic. And yet, even with so much that is unclear about the future, one thing is for certain: through this ministry of One Hour of Sharing, you continue to “Let Love Flow”.

2021 scripture emphasis is Isaiah 49:8-12. Please read it and think about what it is saying. It articulates a stunning vision for a world of justice and equity; a world where everyone has enough, and all live in safety and abundance. It is also a vision for a world of interconnectedness. In this vision, what is good for you is also good for your neighbor; what is good for one country is good for the world; and what harms any one of us harms us all.

OGHS has and continues to work on bringing clean water to every village in the world. When people have clean water life changes both literally and figuratively! Clean water means women in Nicaragua don't have to spend their whole day walking to the source, they have opportunities for learning and vocational growth. Children in Kenya no longer spend their days carrying heavy buckets, but instead go to school. There are many ways clean water improves people's lives and economy. Sharing through One Great Hour of Sharing is much like Isaiah's Kingdom vision.

Please give freely and in abundance to One Great Hour of Sharing offering this month. We all came through 2020 and have much to be thankful for. Let's Share what we have and Let Love Flow.

***“Nobody hungry, nobody thirsty,  
shade from the sun, shelter from the wind,  
for the Compassionate One guides them,  
takes them to the best springs.”***  
Isaiah 49:10 (MSG)

Thank You each one,  
Your Missions Committee

*Thank you for your loving support!*



**NEWS FROM David and Michelle Heed:**

This grandma is taking care of the grandkids because dad and mom died. The dad used to beat the mom so much out of his extreme drunkenness. After several injuries, the mom died from being beaten by her husband. He died a few years after because the alcohol caused complications with his health. Now the grandma is taking care of her grandkids. She asked for health insurance and she even had a few bucks to contribute toward it. We provided it for her so that her grandkids can get the care they need from common illnesses. We are also getting all of the parents of Waotao to give her beans and corn from their farms for her life. God bless her, and God bless those grandchildren.



## Pray for the People of Goma: IM Global Servants Safe after Devastating Volcanic Eruption in Democratic Republic of the Congo

**VALLEY FORGE, PA (5/27/21)**—On the evening of Saturday, May 22, 2021, the skies of the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo turned red as Mt. Nyiragongo erupted, just outside the town of Goma where IM Global Servants Ann and Bill Clemmer serve. The lava flow ceased about three kilometers outside the town after burning schools, churches, and over 500 homes in its path. While not as devastating as the 2002 eruption, upwards of 8,000 people fled from their homes; about 180 children were

separated from their parents in that exodus and are still missing. The Clemmers are currently in Goma, and they are safe and well. As regional consultants, they work with IM partners Heal Africa and IMA World Health. Bill provides support to health care workers, hospitals, and clinics that offer life-saving maternal and child health services, while Ann coordinates educational and relief services to orphans, vulnerable children and widows alongside HEAL Africa's dedicated national volunteers. For now, the 250-bed Heal Africa Hospital is evacuating. Many schools and businesses are closed as people contemplate departure. Authorities warn that the frequent seismic tremors that began after the lava flow ceased could cause a second and more devastating eruption.

"The Heal Africa housing campus where we reside is in a fairly safe location, and we are in constant communication and supported by IM, the national IMA headquarters, and Heal Africa staff who have also remained," Ann and Bill say. "On Sunday morning a number of children showed up at Sunday School, looking for safe haven. Thankfully, several teachers were there to welcome them. Most of the women we have been working with have been struggling to eke out a living on the rocky lava flow at the base of the volcano. We hear all the homes in one of those neighborhoods were burned to the ground. We're hoping to be able to get out and better assess the situation soon."

HEAL Africa is currently assessing its greatest needs in the aftermath of this crisis, and IM is sending an OGHs emergency relief grant to assist.

Please pray for continued safety for the Clemmers and everyone living in the area. Pray that the seismic activity stops and does not cause a repeat of the 2002 volcanic eruption. Pray also for all who have lost their homes, and that disruptions to water and electricity could be quickly restored.

For more details, please read this journal from the Clemmers: <https://www.internationalministries.org/volcanic-eruption-in-goma-democratic-republic-of-congo/>.

### QUESTIONS

I asked God to take away my pain. God said, No. It is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole. God said, No. Her spirit was whole, her body was only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience. God said, No. Patience is a by-product of tribulations. It isn't granted, it is earned.

I asked God to give me happiness. God said, No. I give you blessings. Happiness is up to you.

I asked God to spare me pain. God said, No. Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me.

I asked God to make my spirit grow. God said, No. You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful.

I asked for all things that I might enjoy life. God said, No. I will give you life so that you may enjoy all things.

I ask God to help me LOVE others, as much as he loves me. God said... Ahhhh, finally you have the idea.

*Inspirational Christian Connection*

## FEAR, FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP

Grace unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We are now at a juncture with COVID-19 to adopt major changes at home, at the workplace, and at church. Let's consider the following as they relate to returning to congregational worship on Sundays and Bible study on Wednesdays:

### FEAR

Fear is a universal natural instinct. It arises with the threat of harm, either physical, emotional, or psychological, real or imagined. We fear natural disasters, thunder and lightning, heights, flying, the oceans, darkness, crowds, pain, diseases, and viruses like COVID-19. When it comes to COVID-19, we are nervous and anxious about symptoms like headache, fatigue, sore throat, nausea, coughing, and difficulty breathing. Our anxiety become more heightened if we have been diagnosed with medical vulnerabilities (i.e., chronic medical conditions like autoimmune disorders, high blood pressure, heart disease, lung disease, cancer or diabetes) because medical science indicates that people with the aforementioned illnesses are at the greatest risk for severe disease if infected with COVID-19.

But now, we are all knowledgeable about the best ways to protecting ourselves from this coronavirus (and other viruses) which include: *washing your hands frequently with soap and water, not touching your face, practice social distancing, and especially avoid close contact with people who are sick, coughing and sneezing*. We can avoid spreading germs by coughing into the crook of our elbow and staying home when we feel sick. Here are some truths that I feel comfortable sharing with you at this time:

- All COVID-19 vaccines currently available in the United States have been shown to be safe and effective at preventing COVID-19. Get vaccinated as soon as possible!
- Based on what we know about vaccines for other diseases and early data from clinical trials, experts believe that getting a COVID-19 vaccine also helps keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19. Get vaccinated; it won't hurt you.
- Getting vaccinated yourself may also protect people around you, particularly people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 (Center for Disease Control and Protection, May 2021).

It is true that fear causes people to live far below their ability or optimal level of functioning. If we are not careful, a thousand fears will attack us when we awake in the morning. Following the safety protocols, you should feel comfortable enough to return to congregational worship at church on Sundays at 10:00 am. I believe I have the backing of medical science and scripture to say, don't give in to fear. Scripture contains the phrases, "Don't be afraid" and "Do not fear" more than 300 times. The Bible repeats the command, "fear not" exactly 365 times, or one for each day of the year (Dr. C. Livingstone Allen: 1913-2005).

### FAITH OVER FEAR

Faith is the assurance that the things revealed and promised in the Word are true, even though unseen, and gives the believer a conviction that what he/she expects in faith, will come to pass. Faith is an active trust in God, a belief in what God says is true that results in action. Our faith allows us to trust God and ask Him to lead in the affairs of our lives. In times of crisis, it means everything to be able to trust God...not your own knowledge or strength. It is comforting to feel the strength of the prayers of our brothers and sisters in Christ (1 Corinthians 12: 26-27) and to know that you are not alone.

*(Continued on page 7)*

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Faith makes it possible to accept that nothing happens outside the knowledge and permission of an omnipresent, omnibenevolent and omniscient God. During a crisis people often ask, why? Why do things like this happen? More pointedly, where is God in all this? In the Old Testament you find lots of scriptures crediting or blaming God for their suffering, for example: "It is good that a person should hope and quietly wait for the salvation of Yahweh...For the Lord will not cast off forever. For though He causes grief, yet He will have compassion according to the multitude of His loving kindness" (Lamentations 3:26-32). The aforementioned passage indicates that, people of Israel believed in the sovereignty of God over all creation. They believed that, since God all-powerful, nothing could happen apart from God's dominion. This led them to believe that, if you're hurting God must have caused it, either to punish you or teach you a lesson. Is there a spiritual lesson you learned from COVID-19?

Faith is absolute reliance on God. In the New Testament, Peter walks on the water towards Jesus was a demonstration of solid faith, but his faith wavered in sight of the great waves and he sank (Matt. 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-52; John 6:16-21). We learn from this story that life is a product of thoughts and thoughts reflect our faith. The way of faith is the supernatural way—it is trusting, obeying, and relying on God. Peter failed when he started to trust in sight, senses, human wisdom and strength. Join me in trusting God with our lives—in all things. Don't be afraid! Faith makes it possible to believe what seems impossible. "Imagine never letting a bad moment ruin your day ever. Imagine being so resilient that finding the silver lining in any given situation becomes second nature. Imagine switching out feelings of panic and stress with feelings of confidence and capability" (Social Media).

## FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship is a relationship of inner unity among believers expressed outwardly. Our fellowship with others is only as good as our fellowship with Christ. No matter where we are in our faith, fellowship provides us with strength. Being around other believers gives us the chance to

learn and grow in our faith. Fellowship is doing God's will together. It's time to return to church, if you are physically able to do so. Some people have been away from church for more than a year. What are your lingering fears to return to congregational worship? Somebody writes, "It was a wonderful experience to return to church after being away for more than a year. There was just something being there that calms me down, makes me feel connected and whole, and simply allows me to breathe again."

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Peter Grinion

## Father

When I am *tired*,  
You give me the **strength** to go  
on.

When I am *discouraged*,  
You give me *hope*.

When I am *afraid*,  
You give me *peace*.

When I am feeling *alone*,  
You bring me *comfort*  
And You fill my *spirit* and *soul*

## 2 Corinthians 6:18:

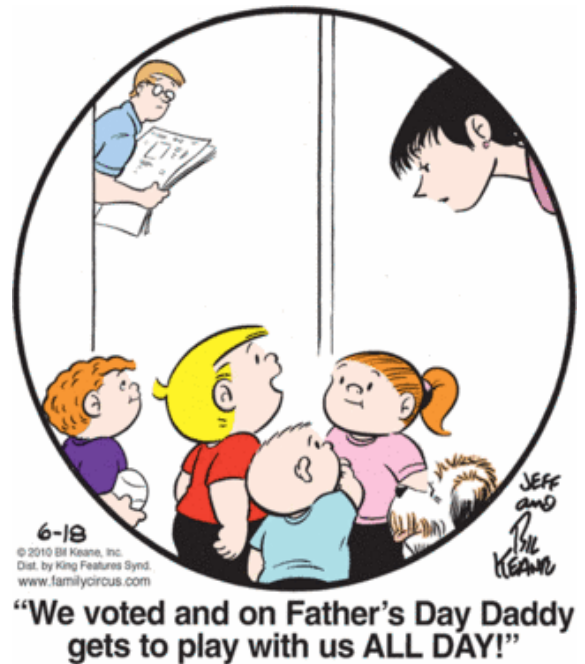
"And I will be a father to you,  
and you shall be sons and  
daughters to me, says the Lord  
Almighty."



## GOOD VIBRATIONS

My dad died unexpectedly at age 78, leaving our family heartbroken. During the funeral mass, my sister felt her phone vibrate in her purse. She was a little surprised that someone would be calling her, knowing she was at dad's funeral mass. Afterward, she found there was a message: "Hi, this is your dad," said the male voice. "I wanted to let you know I made it home." The caller obviously had the wrong number, but the message was clear. My dad had completed his journey to heaven and wanted us to know. Thanks, Dad—until we meet again.

by Nancy Perkins, St. Johns, Michigan  
Reader's Digest



## SIX LITTLE STORIES WITH LOTS OF MEANINGS

- (1). Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is faith.
- (2). When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That is trust.
- (3). Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarms to wake up. That is hope.
- (4). We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is confidence.
- (5). We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. That is love.
- (6). On an old man's shirt was written a sentence 'I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience'. That is attitude.

Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories. Remember—Good friends are the rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace!!

