



ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Elders: Five men received three or more nominations to replace Paris Hagen as elder: Brent Allebach, Brian Keeler, Kyle Rank, Loren Parmer, and Wendell Weaver. We will get back to you by the end of September. We ask everyone to be in prayer for the Holy Spirit's leading.

We have a need for "coffee" for **coffee time**. Please put your cans of coffee in the kitchen.

The **Bucks/Montgomery Chapter of TFC Global** will be holding their 41st Annual Banquet. It will be held at the Franconia Heritage Restaurant on Oct. 9 at 6pm. There will be music by The Crossover Quartet and an update on TFC Global. There is no charge for the banquet but we need to know if you want to attend. For more information or reservations, contact Loren Parmer.

Come out to the **Pregnancy Resource Clinic Walk** on Sat., Sept. 25, at Franconia Community Park. This annual event raises funds to provide resources/support to women facing unplanned pregnancies.

Pastor Charlie is **inviting men** to an unforgettable weekend of spiritual renewal and freedom through **an encounter with God**. Information & registration at www.mensencounterpa.org.

Opportunity to serve your congregation! A **volunteer** is needed to run the **"Take a Meal Program"**. Please contact Linda Allebach if you are interested in taking leadership of this or if you have any questions!

There are **service opportunities** over the next few months in Darby and Eastwick, PA. Please contact Harold Mellott if you would like to volunteer.

There is a trip being planned to **Paradise, CA** for an **MDS (Mennonite Disaster Service) Response workweek**. The dates will be January 16-21, 2022 and we are looking for up to 12 people. The work will consist of constructing new homes. For more information, please see Harold Mellott.



SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.

John 12:46

WELCOME

We're glad you've joined us today! As we are empowered by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to extend God's healing, hope, and forgiveness to all. Our prayer is that you receive grace and peace from Jesus Christ as we worship together.

THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY:
AWAKE Prayer Meeting | 7 PM

LOOKING AHEAD

Pumpkin Carving & Painting
Event | October 23



TODAY'S WORSHIP

Gathering: The Church as Community
Song of Worship | Janelle Knechel
Greeting | Charlie Ness

Singing: The Church Worshiping God
Songs of Worship

Learning: The Church Studying God's Word
Scripture Reading: John 12:44-50 | Gerald Derstine
Sermon: "Is God Silent?" | Matt Raley

Responding: The Church Ministering
Song of Response
Offering
Congregational Prayer (call or text requests to 267-380-0402)

Sending: The Church Going Out on Mission
Benediction

Today's Nursery Care:
Alyssa & Luke (Service)
Michele D (Sunday School)



THE DOCTRINE OF SCRIPTURE

By Matt Raley

Our declaration of hope starts with the Bible. The physical world (or *general revelation*) reveals a lot about God (Ps 19:1-2; Ro 1:19-20). But it is only in the Bible (or *special revelation*) that we learn how God will save us from sin and death.

Here are some important words we use to describe the Bible.

Scripture means "writings." This is how the biblical authors refer to their work in the Old and New Testaments. Spoken words can disappear from memory, but written words are permanent (Mt 5:17-18). We can recover them. That's why one of Jesus's favorite phrases is, "It stands written."

The biblical authors describe Scripture as *inspired*. God "exhaled" or "breathed out" all the words of the Bible through the human authors (2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Pe 1:21). The writings have human qualities, but their ultimate source is God himself. He makes Scripture powerful (Heb 4:12-13).

Today, we describe the Scriptures as *inerrant*. In the original writings, there were no errors. Of course, it is simpler to say that God's words are true, as Jesus does (Jn 17:17). But in the last two centuries, people have played games with the word "true." They often want to edit the parts of the Bible they think have errors. The games people play with the Bible's words are endless! But the foundation of our hope is that God does not lie (Ja 1:12-15).

One of our most important words to describe the Bible is *sufficient*. What God says is powerful to change us. People seem to want more than what God says. They would rather follow their favorite theory, politician, or teacher. But what every person needs most is the power that comes from receiving God's Word (Ja 1:19-21). No other writings have this power.

We say, lastly, that Scripture has *authority*. If God inspired the writings, and if they are inerrant and sufficient, then the Bible is the judge over all our ideas, plans, and actions. Christians often say that we need to stand *on* the Bible. I disagree. We need to stand *under* it.



PRAYERS AND PRAISES

Please remember to lift up **Arlene Delp's family** in their time of grief after her passing last week. A visitation will be held on Tuesday, September 21 at TMC, from 10-11am, followed by a funeral service at 11am.

Please keep praying for **Ponci and Gina Canaviri's son Danny**. He is still in the hospital and his fever continues to spike. He has not been able to move beyond a liquid diet after a diagnosis of ulcerative colitis.

Curt and Gladys Nice's daughter Kathy continues to have a strong recovery from her surgery to remove a brain tumor. She is walking and talking well. At this time, we do not have word on biopsy results, but no cancer is expected.

Please continue to pray for **Stacey Knechel's mother Annette**, who is under treatment to correct her heart rhythm. Ask for the Lord's healing and grace during her ongoing recovery.

This week, let's lift up **school bus drivers** in prayer. Ask the Lord to give them strength, patience, and protection as they transport our children to and from school each day.

Let's also pray for **Indonesian Community Christian Fellowship**, our Fellow Mosaic Conference church in Colton, CA. Ask our Father to bless their worship, empower their service, and embolden their witness.



IS GOD SILENT?

John 12:44-50
September 19, 2021

I. Question

II. Belief

A. Inspiration

B. Truthfulness

C. Sufficiency

D. Authority

III. Hope