'enabling every person to experience the living Christ in transforming ways"

Experience | Connection | Growth | Impact



February 28th, 2024 #1,026

Friends



"And friends are friends forever - If the Lord's the Lord of them." These are some of the lyrics of a song written by Michael and Debbie Smith in 1983. It was written for a dear friend in their small group at the time who was moving away. It was written in about 30 minutes and was sung to him later that night. Michael W. Smith told *American Songwriter* magazine July/August 1987: "I've gotten tons of response from that song. And it's a song that relates to kids who have lost friends in car accidents, in death, or even going to summer camp and having to leave new friends."

Yesterday at Ray Neiman's funeral I thought about this song in

two ways. I saw many friends there. Some I had not seen in many years. In some ways, it was like I had just seen them the day before, as our conversations seemed to pick up where they had left off.

The second thing that made me think of this song was as I thought about Ray and friends from that church and others who had gone to be with the Lord. I will see them again. We will be friends forever as we will spend eternity together. Many of you have had loved ones go on to be with the Lord, recently or in the past year. They are your friends forever, your family forever, because the Lord was Lord of them too. This gives us great comfort.

But there is another thought that has come to mind. We have another friend forever. That friend is Jesus. In John 15.14-15, Jesus called His disciples friends and therefore we are His friends also. "You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you." What we know about this friendship is that it will be forever. We enjoy it now and will forever. Jesus promised that He is preparing a place for us and He will return to take us to be with Him. (John 14.1-4)

And so let us rejoice in our friendships here on earth. Let us celebrate and give thanks to God for those who we loved who know the Lord and now are with Him. And let us enjoy Jesus' friendship now and look forward to the day we see him face to face.





Prayer & Praises

- Sandy Harlacker requested prayer for Keith Eisenhart. Keith is in the York Hospital and will have tests this week.
- Ellen Krause requested prayer for the family of Ray Neiman. Ray (Neiman's Garage & attended Bethany Church) passed away last week. Please keep his family in your prayers.



- Please pray for Victor Riddle's pain to subside.
- Joyce Ilgenfritz passed away. (Jim Miller's Sister) Please pray for the family during this time.
- Sandy & Bob Billett requested prayer for the family of a friend, especially his wife. Gerald Waters passed away unexpectedly after a fall. Please pray for his wife and family during this time.
- Please pray for Ruth Cook. She is still struggling to maintain her heart rate, but has also lost her appetite. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Glenn Hammond requested prayer for his sister, Sandy George. Sandy's husband passed away last Tuesday after a 2 year battle with cancer.
- Emily Lipsitz requested prayer as she goes tomorrow to get a second opinion about her thyroid.
- Gerald Cook requested prayer for his wife, Ruth as she has a racing heartbeat.
- Please pray for continued healing for Victoria Good. Merv & Tina had to take her to the hospital Friday evening for an infection and sepsis. Pray that the antibiotics work and her body starts to heal.
- Please continue to pray for Gloria Gerber. They have determined that she didn't have a stroke, but is waiting to be seen by her physician to determine what issue she is having.
- Please pray for Ashley Frantz's Dad, Curvin. He has scar tissue and needs to watch his diet.

Ongoing Health Concern Prayers

*Kathy McWilliams	*Sarah Sabold (Smeltzer)		*Ken Warren	*Mary Fisher
*Alyssa Leakway	*Gloria Gerber	*Missy Braden	*Bryce Baublitz	
*Julie Waggoner	*Bill Barley	*Brandon Little	*Derek Meck	*Mark Lipsitz
*Josh (Bonnie Tyson's Grandson)		*Ruth Cook *Vic	tor Riddle	

Cancer Special Prayers

*Julia McCartney *Greg & Sandy George *Butch Warren's brother *Ted Erb (Traci Kauffman *Kathy McWilliams brother-in-law Phillip *Tom Kimmel family) *Bob (Ron Engle, friend) *Sandy Harlacker *Ellie Basko *Mark Yonker *Keith Kauffman (Kerry Kauffman's brother) *Jean Beck *Donald Moore *Butch Warren

CBC and CBC Region 3 Prayer Requests

Weekly Prayer Point

As we walk closer each day to the Father our prayers will begin to line up with the will of the Father. Our goal is to be so intent on His will that our tongues would not even be able to ask for things that are not according to His will! As we delight ourselves in Him, He will put His desires in our hearts so we know how to pray according to His character and will. (Psalm 37:4) Today, let us ask the Father , in agreement with His word, to put His desires in our hearts so we can pray with Him!

Please pray for the following congregations and pastors:

- Asher Glade Congregation in Friendsville, MD and Pastor Michael Saturday
 - Amazing Grace Worship Center in Uganda
- We are asking prayer for pastor Lewis in the Congo he has been under attack spiritually and threatened physically for his life. Pray protection for him his family and his church. Pray his mind remains strong and focused on each day. Pray daily









This week

Wednesday 2/28 *Sisters Bible Study 9 am *Life Group 6:30 pm Sunday 3/3 *9 am Come Worship! Monday 3/4 *Open Gym Sports Soccer 6:30 pm Tuesday 3/5 *Women's Fellowship 6:30 pm

<u>Next Week</u>

Wednesday 3/6 *Life Group 6:30 pm *Men's Vocal Practice 7:45 pm *Women's Choir Practice 7:45 pm Sunday 3/10 *9 am Come Worship! *Widows/Widowers Luncheon Noon Monday 3/11

*Open Gym Sports Kickball 6:30 pm Tuesday 3/12

*Commissions Meeting 6 pm *Board Meeting 7 pm







March 4th

Soccer

March 11th -

Kickball

March 18th - the last night will be community choice which will be voted for on March 11.

There will be a Kids Zone where young children can play while their parents enjoy the sports activities for that night.

No registration is necessary, just show up. If you would be interested in helping to set up, tear down or help in the Kids Zone, contact Josh Stewart at 717-430-9243.

Widow and Widowers Luncheon



February 28th & March 13th All the ladies are invited at am in Shepherd's Hall

A Bible Study for Women

Women's Fellowship is planning a spectacular event to support Tender Care Pregnancy Center.

> This year's event will be a Baby Shower Tea on April 6, 2024 from 11 am - 1:00 pm.

We hope every lady in the church will mark their calendars and plan to attend.







EASTER BERLIN:

Saturday, March 23rd: 11:00am East Berlin Community Park 10,000 Easter Eggs, Free Lunches erli

Bermudian will provide Bibles, Prize Eggs, Games to win Prizes, and share "What's Happening" info about Bermudian Volunteers will be needed to help set up, operate the display, and tear down.

Age Groups for Eggs: 0 to 2; 3 to 5; 6 to 8; 9 to 12. RAIN DATE: March 30th.



Camp Eder...Summer is just around the corner. Wondering how to further your children's walk with God and keep them focused on Him and less on all the digital gadgets and worldly ideas.

Camp Eder has camp durations and topics for all ages from kindergarten through grade 12.

Bermudian Church will pay half of the fee up to \$120.00. So if you would like your child to attend see a member of Christian Education.

Isaiah 40:31 but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.