



Experience | Connection | Growth | Impact

January 31st, 2024 #1,022

Everyone is Doing It!

Growing up, there were times that I wanted to do something that my friends were doing, or many in my school were doing and my parents said that I could not participate and do it. I of course thought they were being harsh and I told them in some way that "everyone was doing it." I know at least once they used the proverbial parental response, "If everyone jumped off a cliff, would you follow them?" I am sure I walked away in disgust.

But this is not just the scenario of a rebellious teenager. It is often our attitude as Christ followers as we try to live the Christ-like life. We read the words and commands of scripture and then we look at the world and culture and see that "everyone" is doing something different, something opposite those words. And what is worse, they are having fun doing it. Sadly, what then happens is that we conform to what they are

doing, because everyone is doing it.

C. S. Lewis

"When the whole world is running towards a cliff, —he who is running in the opposite direction appears to have lost his mind."

Paul gave us words of teaching in Romans 12.2. "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will." Paul is teaching that we are not supposed to do what everyone else is doing. In fact, most of the time we need to be going in the opposite way from what everyone is doing. That is what the C. S. Lewis quote means.

The Christian band Leeland, gave us a great song to drive this point.

<u>Opposite Way - www.youtube.com/watch?v=cVggN_1V7MA</u>

Living in the same town - For all these years - Doing the same old things

Hanging with the same crowd - And it's starting to get crippling - You've never felt in place

And you tell yourself it's all okay - But something's different today - You want to run the opposite way

And it seems like you're locked in a cage - And you need to find a way of escape When everyone is setting the pace - It's okay to run the opposite way

The Father sent His Son down - The light of men - The cross He bore was crippling Rejected in His own town - They couldn't see the sun shining - He knelt in the garden and prayed Father, let this cup pass from me - It's not Your will for me to stay Your will for me is the opposite way

And it seemed like He was locked in a cage - And He couldn't find a way of escape But through the cross He conquered the grave - My Jesus ran the opposite way Oh, and through the cross He conquered the grave - Oh, He ran the opposite way Yeah, through the cross He conquered the grave - So you could run the opposite way

Prayer & Praises

- Please pray for Frances Kunkel's family. (Marilyn Julius' mother) Frances passed away last night. Please pray for comfort for her and her family during this time and rejoice that Frances is now with the Lord.
- Please pray for Jill Whorley. A long-time friend of Colin's. This past Friday, Jill suffered a brain aneurysm and had surgery, but it now in a coma. Pray also for her husband and 2 children, ages 13 & 18.
- Let's Pring Together
- Joanne Miller shared a praise that her sister Linda Whiteford is finally getting relief from her pain and is starting radiation treatments and was discharged to her daughter's home.
- Amanda Stewart requested prayer for Emily Fields (former co-worker). Her 3-month-old had heart surgery on Monday.
- Deb Henry has an unspoken prayer request.
- Kathy McWilliams requested prayer for Deb lozza who had stroke symptoms and spent Saturday at the Emergency Room.
- Bob Meck requested prayer for Richard Stober. Richard has entered into hospice care in his home in Hershey.
- Thank you for praying for the Lipsitz family through Covid!
- Pray for Emily Lipsitz as she is going for a second opinion on her thyroid.
- Bob Meck requested prayer for Bob Shambaugh (a very close friend) who has been diagnosed with liver cancer. He starts chemo this week and is currently in West Shore Hospital.
- Kathy McWilliams surgery went well on Friday. They drained a fair amount of fluid and inserted a draining tube. Pray for continued healing.

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

Cancer Special Prayers

*Greg & Sandy George *Julia McCartney *Butch Warren's brother *Ted Erb (Traci Kauffman family) *Kathy McWilliams brother-in-law Phillip *Tom Kimmel *Bob (Ron Engle, friend) *Sandv 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

Lord Jesus; we come before you this day to ask for divine strength and guidance for those that have been given the honor to bring your word to fellow believers. These special people have been given a desire to not only follow your word but explain their meaning. This is not an easy task because there are always those that have a better idea. But we are not to be ashamed of the gospel and God will always give power and grace to those that have been called. Amen 2 Timothy 1:8-11

Please pray for the following congregations and pastors:

- Caimeto Congregation in San Juan, Puerto Rico, with Pastor Evelyn Rosario.
- Montesion Congregation in Las Marias, Puerto Rico, with Pastor Carmen M. Mercado Arce.





Important Dates and Information

This week

Wednesday 1/31

*Life Group 6:30 pm

Sunday 2/4

*9 am Come Worship!

Monday 2/5

*Newsletter Prep

Tuesday 2/6

*Newsletter Assembly

Next Week

Wednesday 2/7

- *Life Group 6:30 pm
- *Women's Choir 7:45 pm
- *Men's Choir 7:45 pm

Sunday 2/11

- *9 am Come Worship!
- *Widows/Widowers Luncheon Noon

Monday 2/12

*Open Gym Sports 6:30 pm

Tuesday 2/13

at 7:45 pm

*Commission Meeting 6 pm

*Board Meeting 7 pm







We are in need of someone to clean the church.

This is a part-time paid position.

Contact Randy Becker



Julie will be out of the office on Friday, February 2nd, 2024.

I can work remotely. You can email me and I will take care of it the next day I am in if it needs to be printed or done in the office.

You can also text
717-578-3408.

Youth Group Snow-Tubing Event

February 25, 2024 2:00-4:00 PM

Avalanche Express

2 hour ticket - \$38 for ages 6+ / \$30 for those under 5

They do not have a height/weight restriction but everyone goes in their own tube and must be able to get in and out by themselves. The church will pay for youth to attend this event. Youth being those children ages 12-18.

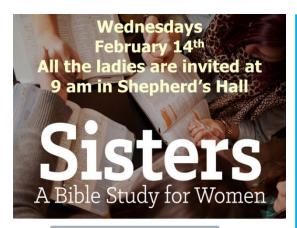
Reservation deadline for the youth is February 11.

Everyone is invited to join in but you will need to make your own reservation and pay on your own. Reservations need to be made online. **AvalancheXpress - Snow Tubing - Ice Skating - York, PA** Tickets could sell out so order you tickets as soon as possible.

Weather will possibly cause this event to be cancelled but their policy is not to refund. In the event of closure, they will give a digital so you can reschedule.

After the tubing the Firsters have invited everyone back to their home for pizza! So, you will need to let Gary and Linda know if you will be returning to their home.

Christian Education Commission



Commission Meeting at 6 Pm Board Meeting at 7 Pm FEBRUARY 13TH







FREE OPEN GYM SPORTS NIGHT OUTREACH

Josh Stewart has come up with a great opportunity for us to reach out to people in our community by using the Gathering Place as an open gym. Our hope is that members of Bermudian church, unchurched members from the community and especially those who desire some socialization in the winter months will come and join us for these nights.

The open gym sports activities will take place from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM on six consecutive **Monday nights** running from February 12 through March 18.

A different sport will be offered each night. The order of occurrence will be: cornhole, volleyball, basketball, soccer, kickball and then 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.

