

“YOU ARE THE SALT AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD”

Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

‘You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house.
16 In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.’

During the month of February, we will read and reflect upon of the great discourse of Jesus, which we know as the Sermon on the Mount. We will read its famous opening verses, the Beatitudes. With statements such as ‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven’ Jesus challenges our attitudes and our actions.

On Sunday February 9th, we will learn how does Jesus addressed the disciples and used two simple images, salt and light. We are familiar with the phrase ‘salt of the earth’ when it is applied to people judged to be really good, even exceptional, but not everyone will know that these are originally the words of Jesus. On reflection, we might consider it rather strange. Someone who ‘rubs salt in a wound’ adds insult to injury. Such is not Jesus’ meaning here. Rather we need to think of how salt enhances the taste of a meal.

Jesus is actually talking about salt which has lost its taste and which is good for nothing but to be thrown away. The challenge he is putting before the disciples is the risk of losing their zeal, losing their enthusiasm for his message, and thereby offering people something weak and insipid instead, something short of the good news. If we begin to present only the easy parts of the good news, we risk offering something that does not deliver the fullness of life.

The second image is that of light, a much easier image to understand. These words of Jesus have given rise to the popular phrase ‘Don’t hide your light under a bushel!’ People often speak of ‘following their dreams’, considering that the way to self-fulfillment is to achieve ‘what I want’ regardless of others. The life-giving challenge Jesus brings is that we should allow our light to shine, but that it is the light given us by Christ. The true greatness of the Christian is to offer to others Jesus and all the hope that he brings, by lives which are transparently good, full of salt and light.

LECTIONARY FOR FEBRUARY

February 2

Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Mathew 5:1-12

February 9

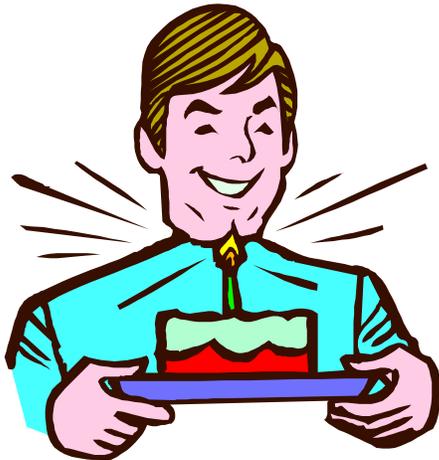
Isaiah 58:1-9a; Psalm 112:1-10
1 Corinthians 2:12; Matthew 5:13-20

February 16

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119
1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

February 23

Leviticus 19:1-2,9-18; Psalm 119:33-40
1 Corinthians 3:10-11.33-40; Matthew 5:38-48



HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS TO:

<i>Lisa Marcelino</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Annelie Jeanne Jones</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>William Heinaman</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Joanne Murphy</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Thomas Henel</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>John Cammaratta</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Joseph Stamer</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Alexander Mellor Henelsmith</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Celina Faye Henelsmith</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>John Henel</i>	<i>19</i>

<i>Mark Halterman</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Johnson Michael Tan</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>James Stamer</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>Susan Henel</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>Walter Baldwin, Jr.</i>	<i>27</i>

and many, many more happy birthdays for all!!!!



NOTICE

For the time being, Doris Henel has been volunteering her time to type the printed part of the Messenger. Communication is very important to a church and until Jamilla Lashley (our new secretary) feels comfortable with knowledge of the organizations of the church, we will continue it this way. We will inform you if a change in the Messenger takes place. In the meantime, if you have any information you would like printed in the Messenger, please notify Doris Henel (Djhenel@aol.com or 908-486-5571). Is your birthday listed in our newsletter or any members of your family? Let us know and we will include them in the appropriate month.

Keep us informed about meetings and how your committee is progressing. If you are having a special event, let us list it so that everyone will know they are invited. Are you changing a date for a meeting? Just tell us and it will save making a lot of telephone calls. In this winter weather, we do not want people coming out for meetings that have been re-scheduled and not everyone knows about it.

Let's keep the lines of communication open in our church!



DON'T GIVE GOD INSTRUCTIONS – JUST REPORT FOR DUTY!



After a long illness and many stays in hospitals and nursing homes, Kime Smith died on Saturday, January 4, 2014 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in Rahway. He was a member of our church for over 50 years and was very active as the Troop Committee chairperson of Boy Scouts in our church.

The funeral service was held on Thursday, January 9th at 12:00 noon in the Leonard-Lee Funeral Home with burial at Rosedale Memorial Park in Linden.

Kime attended Sunday School in our church as a child and has resided in Linden for over 70 years.

He was a junior engineer with Merck Sharp and Dohme Research Labs in Rahway for 38 years before retiring in 1984. While working at Merck he became part of the process development group in the research division. He has several patents in his name, working in the development to mass produce cortisone, a breakthrough for the treatment of Parkinson's disease.

He was the loving husband of Natalie Stencavage Smith, who passed away in 1999. He is survived by his children, Kime H. Smith, Jr. of Concord, Calif, and Gertrude (Trudie) Winters of Toms River, N. J. Both children were very active in our church as youngsters until they moved from this area.

He was also the brother of Donald A. Smith of Marion, N. C. and the late Ruth Hoff; cherished grandfather of 7 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren.

Although his bad health had not allowed him to attend our church in recent years, those that knew him and remembered his involvement in Boy Scouts and those busy paper drives will always have fond memories of him. A few of those scouts from those years so long ago attended the funeral service at Leonard Lee because of those memories.

Kime will be missed by his loving family and many friends.



We were sorry to hear of the death of Margaret Morrow on Thursday, January 16, 2014 at Peggy's House in Scotch Plains. Margaret (Peggy) was a good friend of Charles Ettel and he brought her to our church a few times, including a number of our church meals. We were pleased to meet her and found her very friendly and enjoyable to talk to.

The funeral viewing was held at Mastapeter Funeral Home in Roselle Park with a Funeral Mass at the Church of Assumption and interment in Graceland Memorial Park in Kenilworth.

Peggy lived most of her life in Roselle Park. She was a volunteer for Union Hospital and the Center for Hope Hospice in Westfield. She was predeceased by her husband, Richard P. Morrow.

We extend our deepest sympathy to her family and friends, including Charles Ettel. We know he will miss her.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

<u>GIVEN BY</u>	<u>IN MEMORY OF</u>
Doris Henel Horsch Family Isabel Hamilton Kathryn Gmitter	Albert Henel Ralph Horsch Loved Ones Fred and Randy Gmitter
MaryJane Koslosky & Curtin Family MaryJane Koslosky & Curtin Family Ruth Schulte Dick & Jean MacAlpine	Mary & Dee Dalziel George Koslosky Loved Ones Ken & Norma MacAlpine
Gertrude Baldwin Helia & Richard Deus Charles Lamont & Jayne Cocco	Loved Ones Loved Ones Gertrude & Betty Lamont
Doris Stamer Lorraine & Bob Carhart	Loved Ones Parents & Loved Ones
Lorraine & Bob Carhart Ida Peralta	Gregg Carhart Husband & Loved Ones
Suzanne & Jamilla Lashley	Geoffrry Lashley

Our church was beautiful and so were the poinsettias. We thank Gertrude Baldwin for taking charge of the ordering and setting up. This will probably be the last year she will be doing this. She is looking for someone to take on this responsibility – not just for Christmas but also for the Easter lilies. Please speak to her if you can help. The job includes taking the orders, ordering them from the Nursery (they deliver them) and setting them up in church the day they arrive. There are always people that are willing to help.

BITS AND PIECES

Jayne Cocco has put her home up for sale since her father, Charles Lamont, is no longer living in the apartment that was attached to her house. He lived in Genesis Nursing Home for the past months but has now moved to a smaller place and seems more content. His doctors said he could no longer live alone, and since Jayne works, it was necessary to make a change. Charles understood it completely and is happy that Jayne lives close by. Jayne recently bought a condo very near where her previous home is and she is moving into her new place this weekend. Her new address is (use this address for Charles, also): 673 Deering Road, Pasadena, Md. 21122. We wish Jayne and Charles good luck in their new locations!

Congratulations to Don Beyer who was successful in running for Councilman of the 2nd Ward. And what a nice thing he did for some of the residents of his ward during the recent heavy snow storm. He took his snow blower and plowed out as many as he and his son Chris could do until they ran out of time and energy. We know his help was really appreciated!

Best wishes Don, in your new elected position. You are a caring person and I know you only want the best for Linden!

The President of the Board of Trustees reported recently that he had a communication from members from New Canaan UMC to rent Aldersgate Hall. It is nice to know that they still have fond memories of their time with us. While they were meeting in our buildings their church and individuals rented Aldersgate Hall many times and were always very pleased with the facilities.

FEBRUARY 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 9:30-1:30 Fencing School
2 9:30-Choir Rehearsal 10:30Worship Service	3 7pm-BOARD OF TRUSTEES 4:30-9:30 PM - Fencing School	4 10:30-Bible Study 12 Noon-United Meth. Women- Aldersgate Hall 4:30-9:30 PM - Fencing School	5 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sch	6 4:30-9:30 PM - Fencing School	7 5:30-8:30 Champion Youth	8 9:30-1:30 PM - Fencing School
9 9:30-Choir Rehearsal 10:30-Worship	10 4:30-9:30 PM - Fencing School	11 10:30-Bible Study 4:30-9:30 PM - Fencing School	12 4:30-9:30 PM - Fencing School	13 4:30-9:30 PM - Fencing School	14 5:30-8:30 Champion Youth	15 9:30-1:30 PM - Fencing School
16 9:30-Choir Rehearsal 10:30-Worship	17 4:30 to 9:30 PM Fencing School	18 10:30-Bible Study 4:30 to 9:30 PM Fencing School	19 4:30 to 9:30 Fencing School	20 4:30 to 9:30 Fencing School	21 5:30-8:30 Champion Youth	22 9:30 to 1:30 Fencing School
23 9:30 – Choir Rehearsal 10:30- Worship	24 4:30 to 9:30 PM Fencing School	25 10:30-Bible Study 4:30 to 9:30 PM Fencing School	26 4:30 to 9:30pm Fencing School	27 4:30 to 9:30 Fencing School	28 5:30-Champion Youth	