



KEMPTON NEW CHURCH NEWSLETTER – June 2022

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KEMPTON NEW CHURCH: www.kemptonnewchurch.org ■ KEMPTON NEW CHURCH SCHOOL: www.knks.org

SURVIVING THE FIERY FURNACE

Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was sixty cubits, and its breadth six cubits; he set it up in the vale of Dura, in the province of Babylon. And Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the dukes, and the governors, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all with dominion in the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up....

And one proclaiming called with force, To you they say, O peoples, nations, and tongues, at the time that you hear the voice of the horn, pipe, lute, sabbeka¹, psaltery, symphonia, and all kinds of singing psalms, you shall fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king has set up; and whoever does not fall down and worship shall in the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace....

Then Nebuchadnezzar, trembling and in fury, said to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Then they brought these men before the king. Nebuchadnezzar answered, and said to them, Is it with intent, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you are not serving my gods, nor worshiping the image of gold which I have raised up?....

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king...our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us out of thy hand, O king. But if not, be it known to thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

Daniel 3:1-6, 13-14, 16-18

Man lives a moral life from a spiritual origin when he lives it from religion; that is, when he thinks, when anything evil, insincere, or unjust presents itself, that this must not be done because it is contrary to the Divine laws. When one abstains from doing such things in deference to Divine laws he acquires for himself spiritual life, and his moral life is then from the spiritual. For by such thoughts and faith man communicates with the angels of heaven, and by communication with heaven his internal spiritual man is opened, the mind of which is a higher mind, such as the angels of heaven have, and he is thereby imbued with heavenly intelligence and wisdom. (AE 192.2)

PASTOR'S NOTES

As we think about celebrating the birth of the New Church, we can remember what the Lord sent His disciples throughout the spiritual world to preach on the 19th of June in the year 1770: “The Lord, God Jesus Christ reigns, whose kingdom shall be for ages of ages” (TCR 791).

This message can give us great confidence even in hard times if we truly believe it. When we feel pressure to do something we know is wrong and we know the Lord is in charge, we can respond in the way Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego did. We can simply say, “we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up” (Daniel 3:18). And we can say this and do this with full confidence that, ultimately, we will be OK. The Lord will care for us. He will send His angels to help us. He is King.

This really is what it means to believe in the Lord. “To believe in the Lord is to have confidence that He saves; and as only those who live rightly can have this confidence, this, too, is meant by believing in Him” (TCR 2).

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego believed in the Lord so thoroughly they were willing to endure the fiery furnace because it was the right thing to do. If we live rightly, we will have the same confidence in Him.

¹ An Aramaic word for an unknown type of musical instrument.

• **HOLY SUPPER** will be offered this month on Friday the 17th at 6:30 P.M. “Happy are they who are called to the marriage supper of the lamb.” (Rev. 19:9)

• **WE WILL CELEBRATE NEW CHURCH DAY** on Sunday, June 19, at 5:00 P.M. See “June Worship” for details. We will also have a morning service at 10:00 A.M. for adults, but children are certainly also welcome.

• **COMBINED SERVICES: Parents, please take careful note about these services, which happen four times during the summer.** A Combined Service begins with a children’s talk, as with a Sunday School Service, but the children’s talk is not followed by a Sunday School class. Instead, parents are expected to supervise their children in the barn or outside during the adult sermon (making sure people outside are not within the view of worshippers inside).

It is important that all children actually be supervised in order to protect them from hurting others or having to endure the bad behavior of others. Thank you to parents, individually and collectively, for pulling together to make sure our kids are protected.

In the case of rain, certain indoor spaces may be used in addition to the barn, but it’s imperative that an adult be in any room in which there are children, whatever their age. Close supervision matters in these spaces that are developed, used, and cared for by those who work in the school, to whom we need to show respect. All places should of course be left as clean and tidy as you will undoubtedly find them. Available in bad weather (only): the 1st-2nd, 5th-6th, and 7th-8th classrooms, and the Commons.

As on every Sunday, please supervise your children when church is over, whether in the Society Room or outside.

• **WOODS / OUTDOOR SERVICES:** On the last Sunday of each summer month (June 26, July 31, August 28, and September 25), there will be an indoor 9:00 A.M. Family Service and a 10:00 A.M. Family Service in the woods. If it rains, the 10:00 A.M. Woods Service will be held indoors, **and the 9:00 A.M. indoor service will happen as well** (this is a change from last summer, when the 9:00 A.M. service would be cancelled on a rainy day).

How to get to the woods: Park at the church, cross the street, and walk down the lane, following the signs. There is also parking in a field at the end of the lane, on the right, for those who prefer not to walk. Please stay on church property

(toward the left as you travel the lane), and avoid driving onto our neighbor’s property toward the right.

There have been some requests for an outdoor Sunday service to take place on Klein’s Hill (instead of in the woods). I will discuss this idea with Pastor’s Council at our June 14 meeting. Please let me or a member of the Pastor’s Council know if you have any thoughts about this idea that you would like us to consider. (Council members: Schuyler and Sarah Heinrichs, Luke and Sarah Heiter, Seth and Heather King, Doug and Zanna Robertson, Roger and Kathy Schrock, Gerald and Jenna van Zyverden, Rob and Eloné Zimmerman)

• **AT the KNC SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING** on May 12, we heard that the church finances are in great shape for the current fiscal year. There will be a balanced budget and a surplus, as well, which may help us draw less from the endowment than we planned, which is especially good in a down market. It was also announced that in September the Building Committee will present two plans for addressing the priorities of 1) a handicap accessible entrance to the church, 2) handicap accessible bathrooms in the church, 3) improvements to the kitchen, and 4) parking to coordinate with the handicap entrance ideas. This presentation will happen at a Feast of Charity on Friday, September 23.

• **SUMMER DOCTRINAL CLASSES:** In addition to the June morning classes being offered by Lawson at OSV, Andy, Lawson, and I are offering three classes on the 1877 three-fascicle publication called *Words for the New Church* (the authors were not named). This document is what got the Academy movement started and led to the establishment of the General Church. (For a further explanation of this, feel free to contact any one of the three of us.) As soon as we have figured out how to make copies of this available to anyone wanting to attend these classes, we will let you know—we hope by June 9. The prologue begins: *“The Heavenly Doctrines as unfolded in the Writings of Swedenborg we joyously take as our guide in conducting the serial. Indeed as we come into a more searching culture of these Writings, we discover more and more the vastness of their scope. They find us everywhere. And these Doctrines being themselves Divine are the measure of all else....What more therefore can we have...than these grand disclosures which are the final analysis of all that has respect to GOD, and to Man, and to the relation between the two?”*

Location: Old School Village lounge

Dates (Wednesdays): July 13, August 3, August 17

The END of MAY

Friday, May 27, **DEADLINE** for KNCS parents to get busing forms to the school office. Sincere thanks for those already returned and those soon to arrive! 😊

Sunday, May 29

10:00 A.M. Family Service

Usher/Setup: Steve Hendricks

2:00 and 6:00 P.M. Dance Steps Studio Recital at Kempton Community Center

Monday, May 30, NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day

WORSHIP

- 10:00 AM services live streamed: kemptonnewchurch.org.
- Services can be heard in the library. Parents with babies or little ones are always welcome to be in there, where a basket of board books (not library books, please) is available. Please leave the room in orderly shape. Thanks!

Sunday, June 5, 10:00 A.M. Combined Service

(Please see “Pastor’s Notes” regarding this kind of service.) Usher/Setup: Jay Nash

Sunday, June 12, 9:00 A.M. Young Child’s Service

(location: the Commons in the school addition)

Setup: Dale and Tovah Smith

10:00 A.M. Family Service

Usher/Setup: John Cole

Friday, June 17, 6:30 P.M. HOLY SUPPER

Sunday, June 19

10:00 A.M. Adult Service

Usher/Setup: Seth Wyncoll

5:00 P.M. New Church Day Pageant Service.

Followed by gifts for the children and a bring-your-own picnic with potluck dessert.

Usher/Setup: Doug Robertson & Nathaniel Cole

Sunday, June 26

If not raining:

9:00 A.M. Family Service. Live streamed

10:00 A.M. WOODS Service

Usher/Setup for Woods: Laban Genzlinger

If raining:

9:00 A.M. Family Service

10:00 A.M. Family Service indoors. Live streamed

Usher/Setup for 10:00 A.M.: Laban Genzlinger

CLASSES

Please contact the minister leading the class if you would like to attend virtually. He will share a Zoom link with you (if the location has internet connection), which will let you join by phone or video.

Wednesday, June 1, 10:30 A.M., Six Stages of the Last Judgement, and then the New Church.

With Lawson Smith. Old School Village lounge

Wednesday, June 8, 10:30 A.M., “Charity” nos. 199-204. With Lawson Smith. OSV lounge

Wednesday, June 15, 10:30 A.M., “Charity” nos. 199-204. With Lawson Smith. OSV lounge

MEETING

Tuesday, June 14, 7:30 P.M. Pastor’s Council Mtg. Library

EVENTS**REGULAR THINGS:**

Every Tuesday, 9:00-10:00 A.M. Weeding at the church and school. Starting June 7.

Every Wednesday, 3:00 P.M. Ladies and Girls Handwork at OSV

Every Thursday, 10:30 A.M. Chair Yoga at OSV. With Kerry Smith. Donation-based.

Every Friday & Saturday, 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Caleb’s Café. Starting Friday, June 10

Perhaps/probably every Sunday: Family Soccer. See Jordan Cooper’s notice ahead.

Friday, June 3

▪ 10:00 A.M. KNCS School Closing. Parents, please have students in their classrooms between 9:45 and 9:55 A.M. Thanks!

▪ 7:00 P.M. KNCS High School Commencement. All invited. Lawn outside the Society Room

Wednesday, June 8

9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. KNCS Woodshop

Catch-Up Session. See Gavin’s notice ahead.

Saturday, June 11

10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. New Church Day Craft Sale. Society Room

Wednesday, June 15

9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. KNCS Woodshop

Catch-Up Session. See Gavin’s notice ahead.

From Your CONTRIBUTIONS COMMITTEE

This is the last month of our School Endowment Fund Drive. We would love your contributions to this important long-term use.

Thanks too for all the giving this fiscal year. Amazing generosity, all!

NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Do NOT Plan to Publish a Note Home, our weekly publication, next week (on June 2)

..... **But We DO Plan to Publish One on**

Thursday, June 9. Please submit notices for it by 8:00 A.M. on Tuesday, June 7. After the 9th, we expect the Note Home will start up again in early September, as usual.

The Next Newsletter: Please submit notices for the July newsletter by 8:00 A.M. on Monday, June 27. It will be sent out Thursday, June 30.

To KNCS Parents: On Friday, June 3, please have your children arrive at their classrooms between 9:45 and 9:55 A.M. for school closing.

KNCS Woodshop Catch-Up Classes: For the first two Wednesdays after school closing (June 8 and 15), woodshop class will be held at KNCS from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. This is only for those students who have not yet completed their woodwork projects and wish to do so. – Gavin Stewart

Children's Gifts for New Church Day on June 19th: It's almost here, and I have a few important requests:

1. If your children cannot attend the 5:00 P.M. June 19th service, PLEASE let me know so I can hold their gifts separately for pickup another time. It is a small thing that really makes the job easier. Call or text me.
2. Please let me know of any visitors that will be attending the service, as we like to give a gift to every child.
3. We always seek donations to make the purchase of gifts and materials possible. If you are inspired to give to this use, please make checks to *Heart and Hand* and send to Judy Synnestvedt at 72 Mountain Road, Kempton, PA 19529. Thanks.
4. Finally, if your child no longer uses a gift or book from previous years, I am always glad to recycle, reuse, or rehome.

– Heather King

Sunday Soccer: I am starting to plan this season of Sunday Soccer! If anyone in your family would play pickup soccer on Sunday afternoons this summer, either regularly or occasionally, please contact me. Any information, even just general interest, is useful in helping me decide how often to play, what time, etc. Thanks! Jordan Cooper

Whatever Weeds Are Considered to Be, you are invited to uproot them at the church and school this summer—every Tuesday from 9:00-10:00 A.M., starting on June 7. Call Char Jungé with any questions.

MAY Saw So Much Delight at KNCS! Only a few of the highlights were –

- 1) on the 6th, **Boys and Girls Day** (with boys doing landscaping and girls making blankets for preemies in the NICU),
- 2) on the 19th, a stellar performance by the 9th-12th grades of **Twelve Angry Pigs**, an instructive comedy made truly hilarious by Director Kerry Smith's inventive (and much) tweaking of the script (to paraphrase someone's review of the Youth Group's talent show last winter, "Not to make those who missed 'Twelve Angry Pigs' feel bad, but if you did miss it, you are SO sorry!"),
- 3) on the 24th, the **K-8th Spring Concert**, which showcased a variety of entertaining and touching songs (and included two special guests from the high school on piano and guitar), and
- 4) on the 26th, the **5th and 6th grade Country Fair**, where each student gave an enthusiastic, informative, beautiful presentation (complete with an offering of special food for the visitors) on the nation he or she had studied.

Well done, all! We thank the students as well as the teachers and those behind the scenes who cared to provide these experiences for our children—and for us.

You Are Invited: If you would like to be involved in the New Church Day Pageant this year, please contact us. There are so many ways to contribute, small and large—behind the scenes, in the scenes, music, tech, whatever works for you. Let us know, and we would love to have you.

– Jordan and Becky Cooper

ANNIVERSARIES

The universe was created by the Lord a most perfect work; but in that universe nothing was created more perfect than woman, beautiful in face and graceful in manners; and this to the end that man may render thanks to the Lord for this bounty, and may repay it by the reception of wisdom from Him. Conjugal Love 56:5

Congratulations and Best Wishes to:

Jamen and Briana Schrock

on the 1st - 20 years

Bob and Sue Robertson

on the 2nd - 71 years

Bob and Marilyn Hunsaker

on the 7th - 64 years

Steve and Denise Hendricks

on the 7th - 47 years

Jordan and Becky Cooper

on the 9th - 15 years

Hugh and Margaret Heinrichs

on the 10th - 61 years

Josh and Shannon Weil

on the 11th - 6 years

Bob and Vera Jungé

on the 12th - 69 years

Ian and Wellesley Keal

on the 12th - 46 years

Josh and Michele Brown

on the 13th - 24 years

Aaron and Anna Asplundh

on the 14th - 25 years

Dale and Gray Glenn

on the 21st - 53 years

Gale and Emily Smith

on the 24th - 62 years

Jesse and Leona Fritch

on the 27th - 24 years

Seth and Heather King

on the 29th - 26 years

Justin and Anndwyn Hendricks

on the 29th - 14 years

Cairn and Seni King

on the 30th - 15 years

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[Repeat] New Church Day Craft Sale: 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., Saturday, June 11. Society Room. New Church Day commemorates the day (June 19, 1770) the Lord sent His disciples around the spiritual world to preach the gospel that the Lord

God Jesus Christ reigns (TCR 791), so this seems a good time of year to encourage the making of beautiful and useful things—to share with others—that reflect the doctrines of the New Church. Whether it's traditional artwork, household items, or adornments, it would be really neat to have items inspired by stories or concepts from the Sacred Scripture or the Heavenly Doctrine available, and we'd like to involve all ages in the endeavor. So, crafters and artisans—start thinking about and creating church-themed things to share! More details to follow. Please contact me (Ayisha) if you're interested in having a table for your work. – Ayisha Synnestvedt and Natalie Buick

July 4th, 2022, at the Pavilion-of-Patriots on Old Philly Pike: Many thanks to Chris and Heather Smith, who have again invited us to celebrate Independence Day on their property—from roughly 4:30 P.M. onward—with BYO picnics and potluck desserts. They also invite calls from people with ideas or who are interested in organizing/taking charge of “ideas” (the flag, the pledge, the anthem, tables for desserts, games, a parade if desired, 76 trombones, etc.). If this office is given any further information that would help people plan ahead (“Can I start building my elaborate float right now?!), we can publish it in the June 9 Note Home or the July newsletter (being published June 30).

[Sharing Their Marvelous Swimming Spot Yet Another Year]: You are invited to cool off in our pond this summer at any time (including the 4th of July!). Please also feel free to use the changing room that's right there. Most important: Children must have adults watching over them. Thank you – and enjoy! – Doug and Zanna Robertson

Tennis Clinic at the Kempton Community Center Gym and Tennis Courts: July 18-22, 2022. An introductory program designed to give children the opportunity to play tennis as a team sport, just like other youth sports. Everyone plays! Everyone has fun! Low-compression balls and modified equipment will be used. No prior tennis experience is necessary.

5:30-6:30 P.M. 5-8 year-olds

6:45-8:00 P.M. 9-12 year-olds

See the attached flyer for more details and to register.

Kempton Fair: Thursday-Saturday, June 16-18, 2022. 10:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. Truck and tractor pulls; antique tractor parade; music; food; livestock; rides and midway; line dancing; shows and contests; exhibit hall; and much more. \$10/person (\$5/person if arriving before 3:00 P.M.), age 12 and under free all day. www.kemptonfair.org

Real Estate Alert! We are about to sell our cottage at 4260 Pine Street on Chincoteague Island, Virginia. Next to Assateague Island, where the beach is natural and the ponies run free! Finishing up some improvements. Should be available end of June. In town on a quiet side street; 2 bedrooms; 1 ½ bathrooms; AC/heat pump; new roof; new septic; outside shower; and spacious storage shed. Will be asking \$275,000. Anyone interested in owning a piece of an ISLAND? – Andri Muth



A BIT MORE

Night Rain

Night rain begins with splattering.
Drops drum down hard on our tin roof.
In our bed we retreat
Under sheets, blankets.
But, in the garden bed,
Lettuce stretches out
Broccoli emerges
Peas climb
Reaching for the cold, dark, night rain.

– Thos Powell

carrying moonlight
into the house
white peony

– Margaret Chula

Watching the Youngest Coloring

He can't make a stroke without his mouth moving.
He leans in close with the green,
speaking to his hand, the page,
the crayon itself as it leaves
the sheen of its intriguing trail.

To be eaten alive in what we do—
this blessing that the child has,
a task that takes his heart and voice
right out of him—he is
nowhere earthly for a time.

And I recall the children I have seen
like this,
in awe of what they do.
Ah, blessed, blessed drawing,
bring me too for just a time

And for the moment
I am lost, in the year, in the color,
with a child in a kitchen.
I forget which one you are—
come remind me what we are drawing.

– Janna King

Tambourine, tambourine
Elves a-dancing on the green
Hand in hand and toe to toe
Round the fairy ring we go

Tambourine, tambourine
Circle round the king and queen
Down we fall and here we lie
And watch the world go spinning by

– Clyde Watson

Now, little children, you and I
Have walked beneath the autumn sky;
With old Jack Frost in wintry land
We've gone together hand in hand.
In spring we've plucked the daffodil
And buttercup on every hill;
And now in summer you and I
Must close the book and say goodbye.

– Unknown teacher