



KEMPTON NEW CHURCH NEWSLETTER – March 2026

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

The Decree of King Darius

Daniel 6

19 Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went up vexed to the pit of the lions.

20 And as he came near to the pit, he cried with a grieving voice to Daniel, and the king answered and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

21 Then spoke Daniel with the king, O king, live for ages.

22 My God has sent His angel, and has shut the mouths of the lions, that they have not hurt me, because before Him I was found clean; and yea, before thee, O king, I have not done any hurt.

23 Then the king was very glad over him, and said to take Daniel up out of the pit. And Daniel was taken up out of the pit, and not any hurt was found on him, because he believed in his God.

True Christian Religion 123.4

The Lord fights at this day against hell in every man who is being regenerated...For hell is like a huge lion...therefore unless the Lord kept that lion...bound hand and foot, a man, though rescued from one evil, would of necessity fall into another, and later into many more.

Pastor's Notes

When we look at the story of Daniel in the lion's den, the focus is often on having the faith in the Lord that Daniel did. But there is a good lesson for us in this story when we look at the actions of King Darius too.

Darius made a selfish decree outlawing prayer to any god or man but him for thirty days. As a result, Daniel was put in the lion's den when he was caught praying to Jehovah. Darius was distraught when he realized what he had done. And when he realized Daniel had survived, he rejoiced and then punished those who had convinced him to pass such an evil law.

Like Darius, we all put ourselves ahead of the Lord sometimes. And when we do, we need to repent as Darius did.

The name Daniel means "God is my judge" in Hebrew. If we own what we have done, Daniel (God as our judge), will still be with us and will give us the judgment we need to overcome our sins. As the Lord teaches us in *True Christian Religion* 123.4, hell, like those lions in the pit, wants to destroy us. But just as they cannot destroy the Lord, they cannot destroy us either as long as we come back to Him when we realize we have sinned. So not only does this story teach us to have the faith of Daniel, but to have the willingness of Darius to come back to the Lord after a mistake too.

HOLY SUPPER will be offered on Friday, March 20th, at 4:30 p.m. at OSV.

And as they ate, Jesus, taking bread, having blessed it, broke it and gave to them and said,

Take, eat; this is My body.

And taking the cup, when He had given thanks, He gave it to them; and they all drank out of it.

And He said to them,

This is My blood of the New Covenant, which is poured out for many. (Mark 14:22-24).

The Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, February 3rd and reviewed the status of the current fiscal year budget as well as the proposed budget for the next fiscal year.

The board also heard an update on the West End Renovation Project. Most of the site work is done and the next step will be the handicapped accessible entrance way. We hope the permit process of this phase will be complete soon so the work can begin this spring, with the bathroom and kitchen renovations to follow.

Pastor's Council met on Tuesday February 24th. We discussed some distractions during church (see note below in the WORSHIP section), audio

glitches that have been happening at church services, the need for more pew cushions, the possibility of more 9:00 a.m. services, and timing for getting feedback on a proposed process for looking at our Sunday worship space.

The audio glitches should be remedied by a replacement microphone that will be ordered soon. Regarding pew cushions, a few more will be purchased and made available in the vestibule when they arrive. As far as more 9:00 am services go, pastor's council members will be reaching out with some specific questions in the coming weeks and we will discuss your feedback at our spring or summer meeting. And finally, regarding a process for looking at what to do with our worship space, I will distribute a proposed process prior to the spring society meeting for your feedback.

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WORSHIP

Note: Parents, please refrain from letting children play with the Noah's Ark model during church services. But by all means encourage them to play with it after the service is over. Thank you!

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

Sunday, March 1, 10:00 a.m. Sunday School Service. Usher/Setup: George Cauffman

Sunday, March 8, 10:00 a.m. Family Service. Usher/Setup: Gordon McQueen

Sunday, March 15
9:00 a.m. Young Children's Marionette Service.
Setup: Matt and Sheila Heiter
10:00 a.m. Sermon Service. *Usher/Setup: Jonah Heiter*

Friday, March 20, 4:30 p.m. Holy Supper at OSV.

Sunday, March 22, 10:00 a.m. Family Service. Usher/Setup: Jack Lumsden

Sunday, March 29, 10:00 a.m. Palm Sunday; Sunday School Service. Usher/Setup: Mark Hendricks

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 an internet connection), which will let you join by phone or video.

Wednesday, March 4th, 7:30 p.m. Men's Divine Providence class at OSV.

A note from Judah regarding DP class: Classes will continue from March 4th except when I'm away preparing for our move to Tennessee and the Duck River Church of the New Jerusalem. If you'd like to attend DP occasionally, and want to know whether it's happening that Wednesday, I can add you to the list of men I text with updates about class. 484-878-7026

Thursday, March 5th, 10:00 a.m. Heaven and Hell class at OSV. Read HH 499-506

Thursday, March 19th, 10:00 a.m. Heaven and Hell class at OSV. Read HH 507-511

Tuesday, March 24th, 7:30 p.m. Arcana class at Maggie Odhner's.

If all goes well (*Se Deus quiser* in Portuguese) we should be able to finish the Arcana Coelestia in May. The reading for our class on March 24, after Carrie and I get back from Florida, will be AC 10685 – 10733, which will cover the end of Exodus 34 and the whole of Chapter 35, with something about what gives life to the will and understanding, and the fourth earth in the starry heaven. I wish I knew how to express this to at least the fifth use, but since we use zoom and some will be at home and some will not, I am not sure how to do this. If you read about the last part of the fourth earth in the starry heaven you may understand the problem.

Wednesday, March 25th, 9:30 a.m. Mom's Morning class at OSV.

CONTRIBUTIONS COMMITTEE

We are currently behind in our basket contributions, with 4 months to go.

You may be able to take advantage of the new 2026 \$1,000 per person tax deduction - if you take the standard deduction (91% of Americans do).

To have your basket cash or personal checks credited to your name for tax purposes, ask Kenan Smith (Treasurer) or Peter Genzlinger (Business Manager) for envelopes with a private ID number. That will allow for tracking and a year-end receipt from our finance team.

MEETINGS:

There are no meetings scheduled this month.

RECURRING EVENTS

Choir Practice:

Join us in singing every Monday evening from 6:45 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. in the society room. Call, text or email Anni with any questions 215-892-5825 annipowellmusic@protonmail.com

Ladies Handwork: Wednesdays from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., at Old School Village.

Moms and Tots: Friday, March 6th and March 27th, from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in the gymnasium at OSV

NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special GC Appeal – Supporting Worship and Clergy in ASIA

On Sunday, March 8, we invite you to join with General Church members in a one-day appeal to support the New Church in Asia, with a special focus on translating the Heavenly Doctrines into Korean.

Supporting this project helps ensure the Writings are accurate and accessible for generations to come. This careful, scholarly work requires time, expertise, and ongoing financial support.

Your sponsorship of these uses will help the General Church to grow and serve internationally.

Consider a gift today to foster our fellow New Church friends in Korea.

You may participate by:

1. Sending a check to: General Church PO Box 708 | Bryn Athyn, PA 19009
Please note *Asia Appeal 2026* on the check
2. If you attend church in person please look for appeal envelopes.
3. Give online using QR code here:



Join us in advancing this important work.

For more information, contact:

Mark H. Wyncoll, GC Advancement
484.809.4022

Greg Clay, GC Advancement Chair

Theta Alpha Laws of Life Essay Contest 2026

Eligibility: 15–16-year-old girls worldwide (Sophomores in HS in the US)

Prizes: 1st Place: \$200 USD, 2nd Place 150 USD, 3rd Place 100 USD

Suggested Length: 500-600 words (two pages double-spaced)

Topic: Your Laws of Life.

“Laws of Life” are a set of rules, ideals, or principles by which a person chooses to live. What is important to you? What ideals do you hold deep in your heart? Think about the people and experiences that have helped you form these laws. Pick a topic to write about:

1. A personal experience/lesson learned that affects how you live/view your life now.
2. An aphorism or quote that inspires or guides you.
3. You can use an analogy, a quotation, a story, or a parable.

Form for Submission:

1. Essays are to be in English (Google Translate can be used for this purpose).
2. No name or identification can be on the paper itself to allow impartial judging.
3. Name and address need to be included in the envelope or email.

Submissions are to be sent to Theta Alpha International PO Box 154, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009, USA, or emailed to scholarships@thetaalphainternational.org. They must be received by March 27, 2026.

For exemplars, three winning essays published with permission are available in the May, 2016 Theta Alpha Journal which can be found here: [Theta Alpha Journal May 2016](#) (Pages 18, 21, 24).

Home for Sale: Large Home at 1701 Breezy Acres Road. 4BR 4BA looking for a private sale (to save 6% without realtors) looking to pass on savings prior to listing with agent.

Available for tours starting JUNE 1st. Looking to sell to a Kempton Family. 20 minutes door to church. Busing for kids to get them to school. Email nbmarcune@gmail.com

Senior Project Invitation: For my senior project this year I have been sewing a skirt and two dresses. For part of my project, I will be putting on a fashion show to present the clothes I have made. The show will take place in the society room on Friday, March 20th at 1:00 p.m. Anyone who would like to come is welcome, and if you have a camera with a flash on it, it might be fun to bring it. Because there are only three items of clothing that I am showing, to make the event even more enjoyable there will be a potluck lunch, so if you would like to bring something, please do. The fashion show itself won't take very long, probably only ten minutes, but since I'm not sure how long the potluck will last, I am leaving the end time open. Thank you, and I hope you can make it! -Tovah Cole

Caleb's Café will be closing early, at noon on Saturday March 7th, and for the week of spring break the café will only be open Saturday, March 14th from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (closed March 12th and 13th).

Kempton New Church Fundraiser 5K Run/Walk and Kids' Dash:

When: Saturday, May 23rd, 8am start

Where: Kempton Community Center. The course will include the adjoining Albany Township fields and running loop, ending back at the Community Center.

Who: Anyone up for running or walking a 5k course on mixed terrain. Children will be invited to sign up for a short distance race at no charge.

Cost: (2 Levels). Cash or check. Checks made out to Kempton New Church (Memo: 5k Race).

1) 5k race entry: \$10

2) 5k race entry & t-shirt: \$20 (must sign up by April 18th)

There is a box on Jen's desk for entries Please consider signing up to run! Tell your friends! We also need volunteers for course marking, parking and other race-day help! Would you like to be a sponsor or have a prize to donate for winners? Contact us with any questions and offers! Eliza 781-879-7186, Shayne or Vivienne!

Link to 5K registration form:

[file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/KNCS%205K%20Registration%20Form%20\(1\)-1.pdf](file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/KNCS%205K%20Registration%20Form%20(1)-1.pdf)

Care Package thank you notes:

~ Thank you so much to the whole Kempton society for the lovely care package!!! I look forward to it all

Winter  What a wonderful slice of home to get so far away! So much love, Bethany

~ I really appreciate the letters and other things that the students and faculty gave! Thanks, Pearse Judson

~ Thank you to everyone at KNCS for the tasty snacks, helpful supplies, and thoughtful letters. I'm humbled to always have a piece of Kempton with me no matter where I go! Theo Judson

Teen Tinkering – Cancelled for Saturday, February 28th.

Feast of Charity potluck sign up:

Hello Friends! The Feast of Charity on February 27th will be Potluck. We have added a link on the Kempton New Church website so that folks may post what they plan to bring as a food offering for the meal. This may help some decide what they will bring. <https://www.kemptonnewchurch.org>

It is important to note that posting your meal contribution is not mandatory! Please come and bring whatever you like. We are confident that it will all work out fine.

In order to sign up, you can click “Register” and create a username and password on the website. If you have trouble logging in and posting your entry, no worries! Send me a text and I will post it for you. Thanks very much and we look forward to seeing you all for an evening of fellowship and doctrinal instruction! Roger Schrock 484-390-1922

Women’s Clothing Swap:

Hope to see you at 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 28 in the loft of the red shop at 39 Kempton Road. Reach out to Shilah with questions: 267-251-3544, Shilah.rose@gmail.com

Daylight Savings Time: Turn clocks ahead at bedtime on Saturday, March 7th. DST begins March 8th, 2026.

Kempton New Church School information:

Work Party: Saturday, February 28th 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

A note from Dan Brown: I need help during the work party, installing about 50 ceiling tiles in the society room. If you have it, bring a utility knife, tape measure and builders square/straight edge. Thanks.

KNCS 9th – 12th grade: no classes on Friday, March 6th.

KNCS Winter Break: March 9th – 13th. School resumes Monday, March 16th.

Parent-Teacher Conferences: Friday, March 27th.
No School for 1st – 6th grades.

Dear Society,

The Gallery of American States is coming down this Friday. It has been such a success and enjoyed by so many! Thank you to so many of you for your contributions!

I will do my best to return items to everyone and will put a box of things that did not have labels on them on a tray under the stairs that go up to the middle school. You are welcome to look through there to find an item if you are missing anything after the sorting.

Katrin

ANNIVERSARIES

A universal conjugal sphere proceeds from the Lord, and pervades the universe from its first things to its last, thus from angels even to worms. The reason why such a sphere of the marriage of good and truth goes forth from the Lord is that it is the sphere also of propagation, that is, of proliferation and bearing fruit; and this is the same as the Divine Providence for the conservation of the universe by successive generations.

Conjugal Love 92

Congratulations and Best Wishes to:

Rob and Eloné Zimmerman

on the 3rd – 14 years

Ray and Eden Norfo

on the 4th – 8 years

Carl and Patricia Odhner

on the 22nd - 55 years

John and Erika Walker

on the 26th - 43 years

