



2023

Pastor's Thoughts

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. Psalm 139:13-16 (NIV)

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." Genesis 1:26-28 (ESV)

In response to the January 22, 1973, decision by the U.S. Supreme Court to legalize abortion-on-demand in all 50 states, on January 13, 1984, President Ronald Reagan issued a proclamation designating January 22 as the first National Sanctity of Human Life Day. Today, churches around the United States still recognize this day to mourn and remember over 63 million lives that have been lost to abortion since its legalization in 1973. I am hopeful that one day we will look back at this season of history not as a win for woman's rights, but a tragic loss and devaluation of human life.

While the Supreme Court overturned Roe V. Wade on June 24, 2022, the ruling has been met with unrest and conflict, including the Supreme Court members being threatened and harassed. Left to the states to further define, the pro-abortion industry has been aggressive and organized in efforts to continue the abortion industry. Our prayers, unity, voice and vote for Life are deeply needed. May we respond to the abortion issue with Christ's love, compassion and humbly speak the truth about the value of all humanity including those who are unborn. May we seek the Lord for his forgiveness, wisdom, help, intervention and mercy.

May we also be willing to support young mothers through our prayers, time, resources, and care. We also need to help undergird ministries like Tender Care Pregnancy Center which offers support to young moms, including sonograms that often convict that the child inside them is not just random tissue, but a living, growing child of God. May the Lord have mercy on us and help us to care for and protect the unborn.

This issue is important for us as followers of Christ because we understand the value of all human life (regardless of color, age, gender, race or creed). Made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26), humanity is wonderfully created and knitted together (139:13-140) by our Creator who has some amazing plans that he appointed for us to do in advance (Ephesians 2:10). Made a little lower than the angels (Hebrews 2:7), God, in Christ, has crowned us with glory and honor. Even though sin has brought death and separation (Romans 6:23a), God has made it possible for us to be reconciled with him through the atoning of His Son Jesus Christ (John 3:16, Romans 6:23b). Christ is our only true Hope in this world!

As Christ followers, we do not have the liberty to look the other way, trying to smooth things over by making this issue about "choice," "a woman's body and right," or "viability" outside of the womb. God's created design for bringing a child into the world begins at conception- END this process at any stage and you end that LIFE. Commanding us not to kill (Exodus 20:13), the Lord calls us to be an advocate for the defenseless (Psalms 82:3-4, Isaiah 1:17, James 1:27) of which babies are one of the most vulnerable and without voice.

The Lord spoke to the prophet Jeremiah telling him that he, "knew him before he was formed" in his mother's womb (Jeremiah 1:4-5), thus suggesting that "viability" in God's mind began even before Jeremiah was conceived.

For those who have experienced the trauma of an abortion, you understand the pain and loss of doing so, yet I pray that you have found forgiveness, healing and solace as you entrust your child into the Lord's caring hands.



February Events & Info

Fusion Youth February Birthday Game Night!!! Invite your friends!!! February 5th!!!

There Is No Fusion Youth On February 12th.



YOUTH SUNDAY!!!

Youth Sunday is right around the corner. We would love to have you help us serve God at our Sunday morning service on February 12th. Practices are Feb. 9th from 6-8pm for the worship team, Feb. 10th from 6-8pm for the skit team, & a worship & skit team practice on Feb. 11th from 4-6pm

FUSION SNOW TUBING NIGHT!!!

Come join us on February 17th at Ski Liberty from 7-9pm for a winter wonderland evening of snow tubing!!! Due to changes in Ski Liberty Policies everyone will need to purchase their own tickets for the 7-9pm time frame on February 17th. Please get your tickets soon, as tickets sellout fast. Please let Matt or Faith know if you need a scholarship ASAP. Looking forward to a fun & snow packed evening!!!



Fusion Annual GLOW Night!!!

That's right, it's time for our February Birthday GLOW NIGHT!!! February 5th meet at the church from 6-8pm & bring your friends for a fun packed night of food, games, & of course GLOW STICKS!!!

FUSION Middle School Retreat!!!

Calling ALL middle schoolers!!! Come join us on this fun packed weekend just for YOU!!! Our Fusion Middle School Retreat will be March 3rd, 4th, & 5th at Camp YoliJwa!!! The cost is \$100 & that will cover all your meals, transportation, bed, games, speaker, worship, & many more fun activities!!! Signup today! Registration forms are coming soon! See pastor Matt to get signed up!!! Signup deadline is January 22nd. If you need a scholarship please see Matt or Faith before the signup deadline.



- If you have any questions about these events please contact Pastor Matt 443-846-5094
- Check us out on Facebook at [FUSION Youth Ministry](#) & get signed up for emails & texts!



The new year has started. Make-It-Days for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes have begun. What an encouragement it is to meet with men and women who seek to serve the Lord by enabling the church family to pack shoeboxes which, in turn, open doors for whole families to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.

Last year, FBC's shoeboxes went to Mali, Burundi, Madagascar, and the Republic of Congo in Africa. They also went to Ecuador and Peru in South America; Guatemala, Central America; and a Hard-to-Reach country. This is exciting because this is the first time our boxes have gone to Central and South America. FBC supports missionaries in Peru. Perhaps some of our shoeboxes will help their ministry.

As we begin preparing this year, you have the opportunity to help. First and foremost, we need your prayers. Pray for wisdom for the Shoebox Team here at FBC as well as around the world as we prepare for this year's collection. Pray for childrens' hearts to be open to the Gospel.

We also need donations of:

- empty prescription medicine bottles
- plastic bags that newspapers come in
- lightly used T-shirts without side seams
- Ziplock style bags - any size
- colored pencils
- sharp scissors that will cut fabric

Donations may be placed in the woman's baptism room behind the sanctuary.

If you have questions contact Karen Arentz or Fran Rohrer.

Thank you so much for being a part of this ministry.

The FBC Shoebox Team



NEW!

Men's Gathering

will be starting on the first Saturday of each month. Continental breakfast will be served and a teaching and prayer time will follow.

This is open to all men. The first one will be on Saturday, Feb 4th @ 7:30am

**WORSHIP
LEADER
OPPORTUNITY**



POSITION AVAILABLE!

We are looking for a
Contemporary Worship Leader.
(10 -15 hours/week, \$18-20 per hour)
go to:
www.fbcgettysburg.net
for details



W2 Group

This group of Widows and Widowers meet on the last Sunday of each month following the second service to support and love each other.

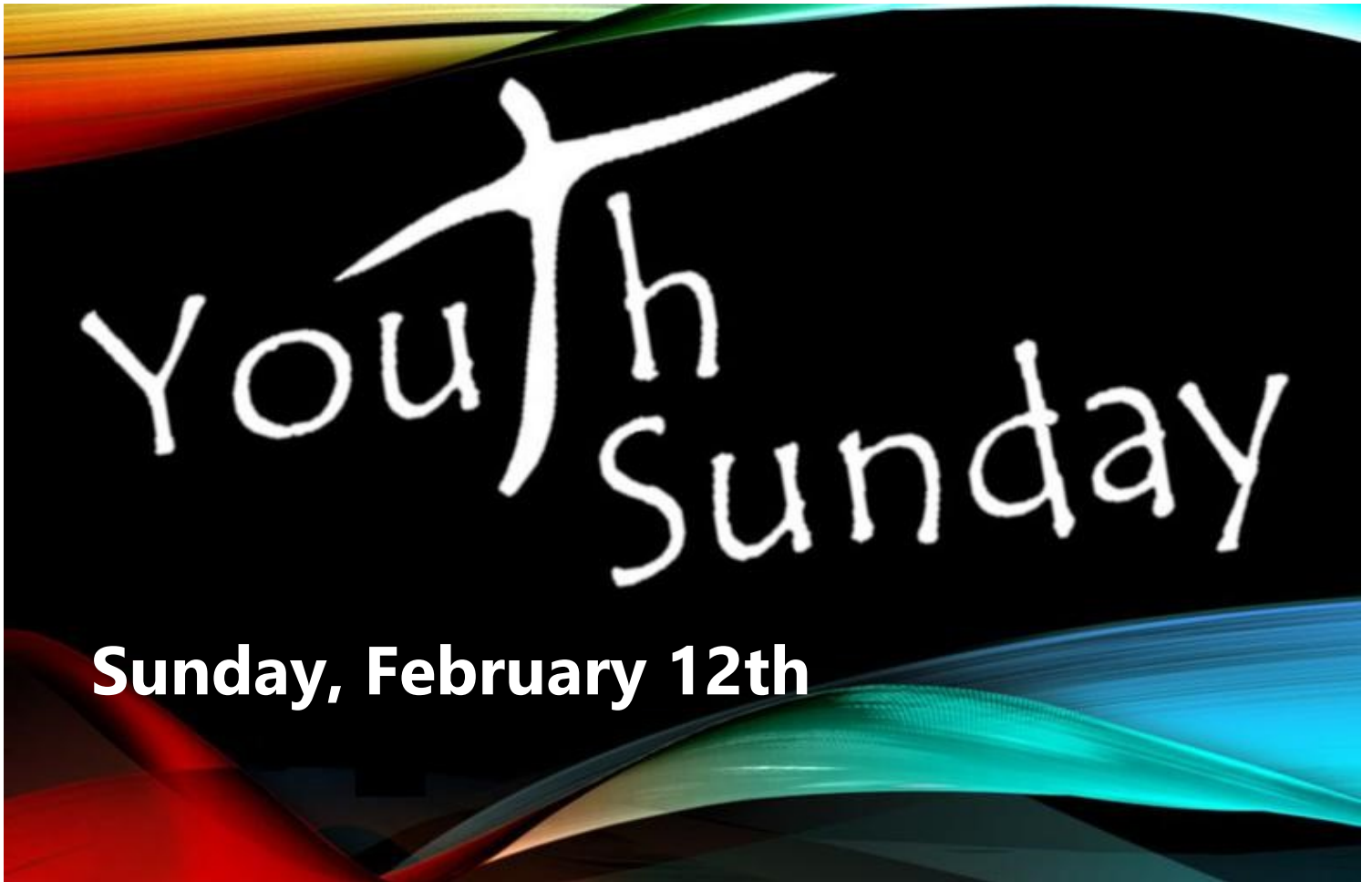
NEXT: February 26th
Steph Gigous is the guest speaker.
She will be speaking on God's grace and provision



Every
Wednesday
5:50 - 7:30pm
Dinner at 5:15pm



**SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY
18TH
7:30AM**



**Sunday, February
12th
following second
service
Bring a soup to share!**



Samaritan's Purse in remote Alaska

Villages in the tundra surrounding Scammon Bay are not connected to any road system and must rely on barges, cargo ships and airplanes. As with many of Alaska's secluded communities, the hardy people of Scammon Bay do a lot of living off the tundra, spending the spring and summer weeks gathering and storing fruit, fish, and moose meat ahead of harsh winters. Their buildings take a beating from the elements. That's why Samaritan's Purse volunteers spent 18 weeks working hard to help build a worship center and a parsonage for Covenant Church that will withstand the brutal climate. The buildings are kept stable by adjustable steel-frame foundations that adapt to the drastic freeze-thaw movement of the tundra.

In October of 2022 Samaritan's Purse staff and volunteers joined church members and village leaders to dedicate the new worship center and parsonage. Mayor John Uttareuk is a long time church member and was so grateful for their work and glad that it got finished just ahead of winter.

This is the 33rd Samaritan's Purse construction project in Alaska since our 2006 home rebuild efforts in Hooper Bay, just southwest of Scammon Bay. A man named Tony who is a lifelong Scammon Bay resident volunteered alongside the team to help build the church. He said the volunteers were not only building a church but were trying to help people build their lives as well. Earlier a typhoon pounded Tony's home and the roof was shredded. The volunteers then explained to Tony that they were going to replace his roof, put in insulated windows, ceiling, walls and floor. Tony's tough, but when the volunteers told him what they wanted to do, he broke down crying.

Volunteers expressed that they could not have imagined how wonderful the experiences of working and serving alongside the villagers like Tony would be. Please pray for Scammon Bay Covenant Church and their leaders asking God to use this church to reach many people for Christ and that God would raise up faithful leaders who would share His love in all the communities where Samaritan's Purse has built churches and other structures.

Missionary raised in FBC now serving in the heart of Africa

Alexis has finished her language school and is now in her new home in the deserts of Africa. In two years, she has learned a new language and a new culture and now she will once again go through a radical change in culture and be exposed to yet another language, but will be able to communicate with those around her. She has gained so much confidence in these past years. Her prayer partners have literally watched her transform from being confused and frustrated to someone who is confident and ready to minister to the women God has called her to serve. Please keep her in prayer as she completes the biggest transition of her life in these next couple of weeks. Pray that she can meet these challenges while showing God's love to the people around her.

Listed below are some of the challenges she will face:

Her toilet will be a hole in the ground and her shower a bucket bath

She will be exposed to frequent illnesses from mosquitoes, water and food

Unexpected guests will come to her house at anytime

Travel will be difficult and time consuming

The climate will be hot and dry, the landscape brown and flat

There will be no more hiking, biking, climbing or solo excursions

Alexis is willing to embrace these challenges and is happy to be working within a team, sharing a home with other godly ladies, being around animals and having a lot of outdoor time. We pray for God's blessing and protection as she serves.

Bill and Kathy Martin serving in Dakar, Africa

In our university student outreach ministry, we recently held a Thanksgiving-themed event where students learned how to carve watermelons (pumpkins hard to find here), heard about how the Pilgrims came to the New World looking for religious freedom, and discussed a Bible passage. Oh, we ate some food, too! Apple pie, sandwiches with turkey, stuffing and cranberries, and other snacks



Kathy took one of her art classes to nearby [Ngor Island](#) this past Tuesday, and Bill went along to assist. The eight students started landscape or seascape pieces using pastels. The short boat ride over to the island in the morning was a little rougher than we expected, as it was high tide, but we all got there and back safe and sound.



We are thanking God for all of you that have contributed to the project for the new Christian elementary school and neighborhood outreach center in a poor suburb of Dakar. Of the total needed, 78% has been raised! The national church was able to purchase the building in August under a special arrangement where they paid 60% of the total sale price with 2 additional installments to be paid later. The 1st of those installments is due Dec 10, and we need an additional \$1,400 to fully fund that payment.

LAY VISITORS MINISTRY

**See Pastor Carl if you would
like to join this ministry.**



Answers *for* Women

Abide

HOLDING FAST IN SUFFERING

**See Carolyn Tuckey
Some tickets still available**

For this month's Elders Corner, I thought it would be good to review again what our constitution says about our Elder's function and purpose at FBC. This past year, the Elders have purposed to meet twice a month for a time of prayer, intercession and discussion of current issues that pertain to and affect church life and health. I am grateful that our Elder's love the Lord, His Word, and our church family! Please know that we desire to make ourselves available to pray with you and to support your family in these challenging days. We hope that you will call upon us should a need arise, and that you will keep us in prayer. Blessings, Elder Carl

Below is taken from our current constitution:

The Elders and the Elder Board, guided by the Holy Spirit, have the responsibility of overseeing the spiritual welfare of the church congregation as well as guarding the truth of God's Word; being able to explain our church's doctrine as embodied in our Statement of Faith and Belief and to defend against false teaching both from without and within the church. Spiritual welfare, as described in Scripture, will include ministry to the sick, anointing with oil and other duties.

The Elder board has the responsibility for the spiritual oversight of all boards, but it does not supplant the functions and activities of those it oversees. The Elder Board is responsible to God for the congregation, to maintain Biblical doctrine in all aspects of church life and practice. To that end, the Elder Board has the authority to review and approve the reputation and character of all persons who deliver sermons to the congregation and may require notes or even a transcript of said sermon if they judge that to be necessary. It has the authority to deny any person the opportunity to present a sermon to the congregation. To that end, the Elders have the authority to review and approve all Christian education materials, handouts, tracts, videos, tapes, websites, etc. and such other media categories that may appear and be used to propagate doctrine. They have the authority to prohibit the use of any such materials and to advise and correct teachers in cases in which they may have been used. They have the authority to, on behalf of the church, remove members from the congregation after following the procedures in this constitution, and to restore members after repentance and expression of desire to be restored.

The scriptural qualifications of an Elder are set forth in 1Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. He must be blameless (above reproach), the husband of but one wife (this does not disqualify a single man who has never been married, widower, or the exception Christ made of divorce from adultery. Any other situation would have to be reviewed on a case by case basis). Other qualifications: He must be at least twenty-five years of age and, display spiritual maturity, and be recommended by the Elder Board.



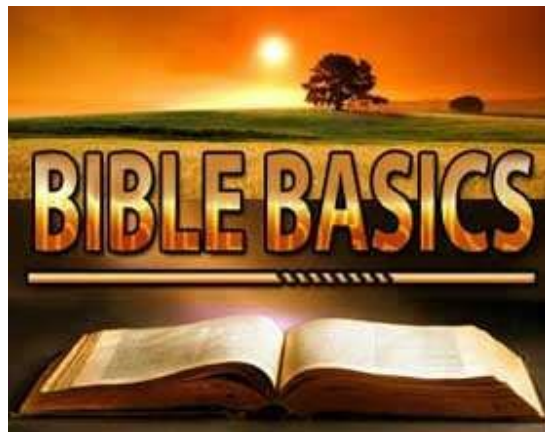
Attention FBC Ladies!

Heather Kelleher and Ruth Blinn are starting a women's hiking group, open to all women 18+, for fun, health and fellowship. Hikes will be on the second Saturday of each month at 1pm. There will be an easy and a moderate hiking option at each location, as well as time to just be together. If you are interested, please sign up at the welcome center. An email group of interested ladies will be made for future communication. There is no pressure to make every hike, just join as you are able. All hikes will be weather dependent, so be sure to join the email group so you receive all updates. Please see Heather or Ruth with any questions. Happy Trails!

SCAN THIS WITH YOUR SMART PHONE



**This wonderful resource
of Christian materials is available to you for
FREE!!**



Do you have a desire to get to know your Bible better? Are you interested in a more thorough understanding of the people and places recorded in God's Word? A fundamental knowledge is essential to drawing closer to Jesus in our own life experience, and in this course you can immerse yourself in hands-on learning, taught in a very practical and easily understood method. Basic Bible knowledge will awaken your love for reading the Bible and leave you hungry for more.

Wanda Gallimore has taught Basic Bible knowledge courses since the late '70's after attending a week-long seminar on how to teach Thru the Bible in a year. Since then she has always been hungry for more and has attended many other Bible teaching seminars. Teaching Bible courses has been her passion for years and she is anxious to begin this class on February 5th in the Music Room from 9 to 10 am on Sunday mornings.

SUNDAY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CLASSES

BOOK of JOSHUA (McBeth) 9:00am Lewis Hall (Sept 4)

ROMANS (Punchard) 10:30am Lewis Hall

BIBLE BASICS (Gallimore) 9:00am Sunday

MIDDLE/HIGHSCHOOL CLASS 9:00am Youth Room

NURSERY 10:30am

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (ages K-5th grade) 10:30am Lewis Hall

KID'S BIBLE FELLOWSHIP 9:00am

Focused Learners: (ages K-5th grade) Lewis Hall

Active Learners: (nursery/preschool) Lewis Hall

LIFE GROUPS

TUESDAY

GOSPEL OF LUKE (J. Harris) ZOOM 6:30-7:45pm

2nd/4th Tuesday - Ladies Only!

THURSDAY

BOOK OF EZEKIEL (P. Carl) @ FBC 9:30am

HARMONIZING THE GOSPEL (Weber home) 6:30pm

DEEPER STILL (Gallimore) @FBC 1:00pm Every other week

SATURDAY

MEN'S GATHERING - 1st Saturday of each month

MEN'S BREAKFAST - 3rd Saturday of each month

ALL BOARD SUMMIT

FEBRUARY 24, 25



Snow Tubing!



Youth Snow Tubing

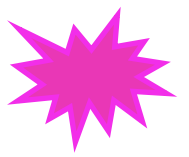
Friday February 17th 7-9PM
Liberty Mountain

Can You Guess The Hymn?

Help me the slow of heart
to move
by some clear winning
word of love;
Teach me the wayward
feet to stay
And guide them
in the homeward way



10 Questions



Supernatural Fire

1. What two sinful cities were destroyed by fire and brimstone from heaven?
2. When the Israelites were wandering in the wilderness, what did they follow by night?
3. According to Daniel, this astonishing person had a throne like a fire of flame. Who was he?
4. What did the seraph touch the trembling Isaiah's tongue with?
5. According to Revelation, where is the place reserved for those whose names are not in the book of life?
6. What did the cherubim use to guard the entrance to Eden?
7. How did God first appear to Moses?
8. What strange phenomenon accompanied the plague of hail in Egypt?
9. What mountain did the Lord descend upon in fire?
10. What two sons were devoured by fire for making an improper offering to the Lord?

Our Ministry Team

Senior Pastor

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Associate Pastor

Sean Fitzgerald
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Youth Pastor

Pastor Matt Rice
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Traditional Worship Leader

Loren and Louise Lustig
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Secretary

Kathy Negro
kathy_negro@fbcgettyburg.net

SonShine Christian Preschool

director: Natalie Potter
sonshine@fbcgettyburg.net

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Fridays 8:30 -12:30

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CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE & FACEBOOK PAGE

www.fbcgettyburg.net

Answers for JANUARY

Encounters With Angels

1. The angel of the Lord appeared to the banished Hagar and told her what to name her child. What was the child's name?
ISHMAEL (GEN 16:1-12)
2. How many angels rescued Lot and his family from the doomed city of Sodom?
TWO (GEN 19:1-22)
3. What apostle was released from prison by an angel who opened the prison's iron gate?
PETER (ACTS 12:1-19)
4. The prophet Balaam could not see the Lord's angel, but his talking donkey could. What was it about the angel that made the donkey turn away?
HE WAS HOLDING A DRAWN SWORD (NUMBERS 22:22-35)
5. Joshua encountered an angel who was captain of the host of the Lord. What was the angel's purpose in appearing to Joshua? **TO GIVE HIM INSTRUCTIONS ON CONQUERING JERICHO (JOSHUA 5:13-15)**
6. The angel of the Lord instructed Philip to go to Gaza. What person did he encounter afterward?
THE ETHIOPIAN EUNUCH (ACTS 8:26-39)
7. What was the name of the angel who appeared to Mary and to Zacharias?
GABRIEL (LUKE 1:5-38)
8. This man's mother was visited by an angel of the Lord who told her she would have a son who would be dedicated as a Nazarite. Who was he?
SAMSON (JUDGES 13:1-20)
9. Elijah was nurtured by an angel after his flight from Israel's evil queen. Who was the queen? **JEZEBEL (1 KINGS 19:1-8)**
10. Jacob is the only person known to have wrestled with an angel. What kindly act did the angel perform after the wrestling?
HE BLESSED JACOB

ANSWER TO HYMN: O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee #442

All articles for the newsletter must be submitted by the 20th of the previous month.