

*THE PARISH CRIER*  
**EMMANUEL (BAUST)**  
**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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*From the Pastor's Desk*

**April 2021**

Last year at this time I was writing about how we need to cancel our in-person Holy Week and Easter activities because of the threat of the newly discovered pandemic virus, COVID-19. At this point we have navigated a year of canceling all sorts of plans and functions. Visiting each other, patronizing businesses, and all sorts of "normal" activities have been curtailed and we are all ready to get going with whatever our "new normal" may turn out to be.

Since we have begun the process of mass inoculation against COVID, we are now able to do a few of the activities that we have put off for so long. Among them is worshipping in person. Yes, there are still some restrictions and there are those who will, with good reason, choose to stay at home for a while yet, but we are making good progress and we are able to see some light at the end of the tunnel.

This year we will have a shortened Maundy Thursday service at the church and broadcast on Zoom. A recorded Good Friday service will be offered by Caring and Sharing for the community. We will have an Easter Sunrise Service but this will be offered only in person as we can't Zoom from the cemetery. An Easter Service will be performed, as usual, both in person and via Zoom. As you can see we are still not quite back to pre-COVID performance but we are doing all we can do to continue to offer safe and meaningful programs here at Baust Church.

We continue to live in the hope that we will come out of our current troubles renewed and revitalized and ready to minister in our community. As the Apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans, chapter 15, verse 13, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." I wish you a wonderful Easter and a much more hopeful rest of the year!

Easter Blessings,

***Pastor Jeff and Cathy***

## Greetings Fellow Families & Friends



Hopefully by Easter all winter weather will be gone. Hope you were able to enjoy some of the nice weather recently.

Beth Raver continues to work on the online giving. It sounds like we will soon be in operation for those who wish to use this method for their giving or donations. It will be on the website.

In accordance with our bylaws a second quote for upgrading the sound system was presented to the consistory members by Mike Paxton. Consistory members will vote on the 2 quotes on March 23.

Pastor Jeff presented a presentation from the Membership Committee entitled "*Enhancing Membership, Mission, and Ministry At Baust Church*" — a look at 2021 and beyond. The content will be discussed at the April consistory meeting.

Next month I hope to give you a final word on the church email. Online Giving and the next step in upgrading the sound system.

I hope you all have a very Happy and Blessed Easter.

**Sandra Stonesifer**, Consistory President



### Holy Week Events

April 1 -- Maundy Thursday Service, 7 p.m. – short, social distanced service with communion in church. Masks are required.

April 4 -- Easter Sunrise Service, 6:30 a.m. -- service on top of cemetery hill

April 4 -- Easter service, 10 a.m. -- with communion, masks required. In person or by Zoom.

Please come even if you haven't contacted us prior to the service.

### What's the Pastor Reading Now?



Once in a while I present a book for your consideration that I am very sure most of you will not even consider reading. The book for April is one of this variety. The reason I do this is because I believe this work to be of some importance to the very few who want a much more in-depth understanding of the scripture. This book, entitled "*Christobiography: Memory, History, and the Reliability of the Gospels*," is a wonderful work by Craig S. Keener who is Ada Thompson Professor of biblical Studies at Asbury Theological Seminary.

Keener is taking a very interesting approach to the study of the Gospels. He views them through the lens of ancient, first century Greek biographies. He attempts to draw conclusions about how historically grounded first century audiences would expect the gospels to be based on their genre. His analysis is presented in about 500 pages with an additional 200 pages of indexes and bibliography - well documented to say the least! Keener believes that the gospels were written within living memory of the subject and that those who read them would have expected the accounts to be historical.

If you have ever wanted to approach the study of the Gospels from a very different point of view you will certainly want to try this book out for size. It will give you much to think about.



**MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2021**

Income:	\$	9,454.86
Expenses:	\$	8,978.66
<b>Balance:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>476.20</b>

**YEAR TO DATE**

	\$	20,807.92
	\$	17,535.28
	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,272.64</b>

**Capital Fund**

2020 Carryover:		\$34,784.51
2021 Donation/Fundraiser	\$	200.00
Transfer from Mem. Fund	\$	0
Expenditures:	\$	0
<b>Remaining Balance:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>200.00</b>
		<b>\$36,584.51</b>

**Memorial Funds**

Begin. Balance 01/01/21		\$55,775.09
2021 Donations:	\$	225.00
Transfer to Capital Fund	\$	0
Expenses:	\$	0
<b>Balance:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$56,000.00</b>

*Carolyn Dutterer,  
Treasurer*

**2021 Mission Trip**

<b>Fund Carryover from 2020</b>		\$ 2,500.56
Donations & Fundraisers:	\$	0
Trip Expenses:	\$	
<b>Balance:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$2,500.56</b>

**SOCK Designated Funds**

Beginning Balance 1-1-21		\$ 775.02
Income 2020	\$	0
School donations	\$	0
<b>Balance:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 775.02</b>

**Fundraising Updates**

We will have completed our 2<sup>nd</sup> 2021 fundraiser by the time you read this. Once again, it was a success. The profit from our Sub, Sandwich and Pizza Sale was \$426.65.

The Spring Tea for this year has been canceled due to COVID. Hopefully, by Fall we will be back on track that we can offer an in-person tea.

**Soup and Sandwich Sale**



Our first Soup and Sandwich Fundraiser was a big success! We sold 140 quarts of soup and 160 sandwiches raising over \$1,100. Thank you to everyone who supported us with your donations of ingredients, time, orders and delivery service. The majority of our sales came from outside the church, so all of you are great salespersons!

And many thanks to the generous donors who specifically gave additional money so that we could make and deliver quarts of soup to some of our members and friends of the church who are not able to attend our services. We delivered soup to over a dozen members.

Thanks to all of you who participated in any way, it takes a team to be successful and our outreach was very much appreciated.

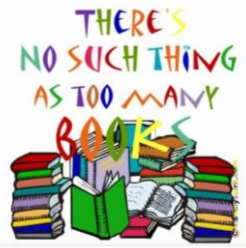
**Susie, Jane & Beth**, Co-Coordinator



## **SOCK Sale**

We are excited to host our spring book and clothing sale in April. Our sale may look a little different this year you will still have the same great shopping experience!

We will offer the sale over two different weekends - April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> will be books only. April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup> will be clothing only. We are moving this to two weekends to provide a safer distancing in the Parish



House for our shoppers. Donations of books and clothing will be accepted beginning April 1<sup>st</sup>. We ask that all books be dropped off by April 15<sup>th</sup> to allow for sorting and organizing. Any Spring and Summer clothing will need to be at the Parish Hall by April 28<sup>th</sup> for final sorting and display.

Thank you,

***Susie Lawrence and Dotty Smith***

## **New Mailing address for Church**

Any mail correspondence to the church should be sent to :  
Emmanuel (Baust) United Church of Christ  
P. O. Box. 44  
Taneytown, Md 21787

The Physical Address remains the same:  
2950 Old Taneytown Rd.  
Westminster, MD 21158



**APRIL**



- 4 – Evan Brandenburg
- 11 – Betty Heltibridle
- 16 – Morgan Paulsen
- 18 – Ron Corbin
- 18 – Ben Brandenburg

- 21 – Shelly & Eric Boone
- 25 – Bob & Helen Miller
- 29 – Chris & Beth Raver

**ARTICLES FOR THE MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER  
ARE DUE TO HELEN MILLER BY  
SUNDAY, APRIL 18th.**