

PROTESTANT FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



September 2020

"The mouth of the righteous man utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks what is just."
Psalm 37:30

PFC Council member Dr. Polly Riddle continues her missionary story...

"In 1996 at my church's Annual Conference, I felt called to the ministry and answered that call. My pastor said that Spanish-speaking pastors were needed. Then I told Gold, "If you want me in the Spanish ministry, you have to update my Spanish." My attempts at a Master's Degree in Spanish netted me many graduate hours but failed to achieve my goal. But God used three *Polly* ways to bring it about.

First was Antarctica. My husband Ira and I took sabbaticals for half a year in 1997. En route to Ushuaia, via Buenos Aires, I broke my tibia.

The Spanish-speaking doctor put me in a cast and instructed me not to walk too much. Thus, I stayed close and asked someone in Spanish to take my picture. She did and asked me about my cast and my Spanish. At the cruise ship, a couple from Chile came aboard. Since they knew no English, all the Spanish speakers came out – I recognized God's provision.

Back at the school where I taught English to Speakers of Other Languages, in a lesson on occupations, one student said his father was a preacher at the Spanish church. That began a 5-year relationship with his family, the church, and his replacement. I guided him on American culture, and he guided me in the modern Spanish church.

Finally, Palmer Seminary had a special ministry to Latin American pastors. There were courses and books in Spanish. I spoke another kind of Spanish there. The male pastors enjoyed conversing with their "gringa." Polly had updated her Spanish!

In Summer 1998 I was asked to go on mission to Mexico. They needed a general translator and help for the American doctor to minister to patients. I said I was in seminary and couldn't get away, but two months later I was asked again in desperation. I said the seminary was in the mission business and would have to understand.

In October 1998 I flew to Texas and boarded a train in Mexico towards Creel. We settled in the small town. The doctor setup his workstation, the nurses their dispensary. There was a children's Bible School component and one of construction. Even though I didn't know many medical terms, I learned to ask if there was phlegm and what color, for how long, and yes/no questions. Ironically, the more Spanish I learned, the less I could hear and comprehend. I learned to ask them to write down the medicine they were taking; it was usually the same in English.

I was appreciated so much that I was asked to return the next year. Most of the people were the same. One gal asked me to help her tell the Christmas story to children. Rather than read her computer translation, I told the story my own words in Spanish. There was a native pastor entertaining the children as I spoke, but they were listening to me, too. When I realized I had succeeded in that special moment, I went away for a few minutes to thank God for that experience. I had been blessed in a very special way."

~ Submitted by Dr. Polly Riddle

WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICES

**2:00 PM LIVE BROADCAST* FROM THE CHAPEL
ACTV CHANNEL 976 / 980**

- September 6** **Communion Service (“BYOB”)
Rev. Charles Chapman
Retired Baptist clergy
Organist: Susan Bishop, Pianist: Audrey Wister**
- September 13** **Rev. Susan Sciarratta
Ann’s Choice Pastoral Associate
Organist & Pianist: Betty Kingston**
- September 20** **Rev. Dr. Stephen Treat
Council for Relationships
Organist: Joan Kirk, Pianist: Audrey Wister**
- September 27** **Rev. John Lutz
St. Andrews United Methodist Church
Warminster, PA
Organist/Pianist: TBD**

***Live broadcast only. Please do not attend Chapel until restrictions are fully lifted.**

Supporting Our Ministry and Mission:

During this time where Chapel services are broadcast, you can still help support the mission projects and ministries of the Protestant Fellowship. Donations may be enclosed in an envelope addressed to Rev. Sciarratta and taken to any clubhouse front desk. Donations by check are preferred; please make the check payable to “Ann’s Choice, Inc. – Protestant Fund”. On the memo line, please write “Donation.”

TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL – Please e-mail Susan Sciarratta at susan.sciarratta@erickson.com and provide your preferred e-mail address.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Quiet Reflection & Prayer

The Chapel at Ann's Choice is open daily from 8:00am – 2:00pm.

Save the Date!

The Annual General Meeting of the Protestant Fellowship is Monday, December 7 at 10am. Next month begins the nomination process to fill 4 new vacancies on the Council. Pray about this wonderful opportunity to help steer our fellowship!

Virtual "Zoom" Bible Study

Continues Wednesdays from 10am-11am on "The Parables of Jesus"
Contact Susan Sciarratta to receive the connection information. If you have internet and audio/video on your device, go to zoom.us, click "Join Meeting" and enter the Meeting ID 874 9178 6291, and Password 2020.

If you prefer to participate by telephone only (no video), call 1-646-558-8656 and enter the Meeting ID 874 9178 6291, followed by "#".

Send an email to Susan.Sciarratta@erickson.com and she will send you the Zoom connection information and direct link, or call Susan at 215-443-4925 if you require hard copies and prefer to connect by telephone.

Starting late September, the next study is on "The Screwtape Letters," by C.S. Lewis. If you need a copy of this book, please contact Susan and she will place a bulk order. A separate study guide will be provided to you.

2nd Saturday Cinema - **Cancelled for September**

Rose Gardens & Chestnut Pointe

Large group activities are cancelled until further notice
Pastoral Visits and Home Communion are still available
Contact Chaplain Susan at 215-443-4925

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