



# *Protestant Fellowship Community Newsletter February, 2023*

## **“Imperfect Belief”**

Jesus asked the father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. It has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you are able to do anything, help us! Have compassion on us!” Jesus said to him, “If you are able! All things can be done for the one who believes.” Immediately the father of the child cried out, “I believe; help my unbelief!”

Mark 9:21-24

Have you read or heard the anecdotes about people who have suffered devastating losses or debilitating illnesses and have been admonished with “If you had more faith this would not have happened to you”?

When I returned to the church in the 1980s I joined First Presbyterian Church in NYC, a few blocks north of Washington Square on Fifth Avenue. One gentleman who had been attending for several years finally joined. I recall hearing the preacher relate that he had been reluctant to join because he had a list of unanswered questions and he did not want to join until his questions were answered. I don't recall that I ever heard what his questions were.

When he finally did join, it wasn't because his list of questions was finally answered. Instead, he came to realize that Faith and Belief do not require all questions to be answered; they do not require that all things be understood.

In Hebrews 11, we read “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” We aren't asked to comprehend all matters theological. I, for one, am glad that acceptance by God does not depend on me understanding all matters theological.

*A Prayer to – God of Forgiveness, we thank You for accepting us as we are and not demanding that we first achieve perfection in belief. Guide us to diligently and prayerfully seek to know you better and to place our faith and trust – imperfect as they are – in your Perfection.*

*In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

*Prayerfully submitted by John Hodges*

## In-Person Worship Services for February, 2023

**Each Sunday at 2:00 pm from the chapel;  
also on ACTV channel 976 / 980 (HD)**

**All are Welcome to join us in the Chapel on Sunday Afternoons**

Sunday, Feb. 5, 2023	<p><b>Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany</b> Rev. Mindy Campbell, First Presbyterian Church of Warminster Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated. Organist: Jane Smith; Pianist: Betty Kingston; Chapel Choir.</p>	
Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023	<p><b>Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany</b> Rev. Walt Crocker, Ann's Choice resident Organist: Bud Williams; Pianist: Betty Kingston (Note: Prelude / pre-worship organ program will begin at 1:30 pm.)</p>	
Sunday, Feb. 19, 2023	<p><b>Transfiguration Sunday</b> Rev. Sean Slack, St. James Episcopal Church, Langhorne, PA Organist: Joan Kirk; Pianist: Betty Kingston</p>	
Sunday, Feb. 26, 2023	<p><b>First Sunday in Lent</b> Rev. Amy Martin, Continuing Care Chaplain and Protestant Pastoral Associate, Ann's Choice Organist: Ann Keesey; Pianist: Betty Kingston; Chapel Choir.</p>	
Wed., Feb. 22, 2023	<p><b>Ash Wednesday Ecumenical Service</b> <b>Imposition of Ashes</b> Rev. Kang Na and Rev. Amy Martin, assisted by several residents, will conduct an ecumenical service for Imposition of Ashes at 11:00 am in the Ann's Choice Chapel.</p>	

### **Protestant Pastoral Associate**

Rev. Amy Martin has joined the staff at Ann's Choice, serving in two roles. Most of her time is at Rose Garden and Chestnut Pointe as the Chaplain. And about one-quarter is in Independent Living as the Protestant Pastoral Associate. Stop by her office in Liberty Commons and introduce yourself to her.

### **To Receive this Newsletter:**

Contact Rev. Amy Martin at [Amy.Martin@Erickson.com](mailto:Amy.Martin@Erickson.com) or (215) 443-3831, or in the Pastoral Ministries offices in Liberty. Make sure to include your email address for receipt of this newsletter by email or your apartment to receive it in your cubby.

### **We Need Your Advice!**

Please complete the one-page survey enclosed with the newsletter. Detach it from the Lenten Readings and follow the instructions to return it.

### Protestant Page on the Resident Website:

You may find this worship bulletins, hymns, newsletters and other information about the Protestant Fellowship at [www.acresidents.org](http://www.acresidents.org).

### Quiet Reflections and Prayers:

The Chapel at Ann's Choice is open daily for private reflection when worship services and other events not being conducted.

### Bible Study:

Weekly Bible study meets on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am in the Liberty Commons Music Room. Zoom access is available on request prior to Wednesday morning. Rev. Na is leading the Bible study. Contact Rev. Na at (215) 443-4925, Pastoral Ministries offices in Liberty or [Kang.Na@erickson.com](mailto:Kang.Na@erickson.com) for more information about the Bible study or connection information for using Zoom.

The Bible study is deepening our knowledge of **what the Bible is, says, and means**. Everyone is welcome to join us on this journey.

All are welcome so that together we might encourage and challenge one another on the hard road that is Christian discipleship.

### Supporting Our Ministry and Mission:

You can help support the mission projects and ministries of the Protestant Fellowship. Donations may be enclosed in an envelope addressed to Rev. Na and taken to any clubhouse front desk. Donations by check are preferred; please make the check payable to "A. C. – Protestant Fund".

On the memo line, please write "Donation."

If you are having checks mailed from your financial institution, have them mailed to Ann's Choice Protestant Fellowship, c/o Pastoral Ministries, 20000 Ann's Choice Way, Warminster, PA 18974.

### Second Saturday Cinema, in February, 2023:

On Saturday, on February 11, 2023 the Protestant Fellowship will present **The Bishop's Wife** in the PAC at 7:00 pm with a pre-show at 6:45.



In this 1948 comedy, an Episcopal Bishop has been working for months on the plans for an elaborate new cathedral which he hopes will be paid for primarily by a wealthy, stubborn widow. An angel named Dudley is sent to help him.

This program is sponsored by the Protestant Fellowship Council as a ministry to residents, friends and staff at Ann's Choice.

**No** donation will be requested, as your presence is your donation.

### Meditations in the Newsletter:

If you feel led by the Holy Spirit to write a meditation for this newsletter? Contact John Hodges at (215) 32-4969 for information or for assistance in developing a short meditation.

## Rose Gardens and Chestnut Pointe:

Monthly Protestant Communion services have resumed in the Continuing Care communities. Pastoral Visits and Home Communion are still available.

Also, each week, worship bulletins and hymns are delivered to new residents at RG and CP and to those who have asked for them on a regular basis.

Contact Pastoral Ministries at (215) 443-4831 to volunteer to assist with these ministries or if you have questions about them.

## Protestant Fellowship Council

*Our purpose is to bring glory to God in all that we pursue in and through the Protestant Faith Community*

### Members of the Protestant Fellowship Council in 2023

Fr. Ernie Curtin	MT-214	Worship Chair
Gail Dahlen	BC-102	Treasurer
Dolores Ehrenfeld	BC-312	Mission Outreach
Mary Lee Friesz	ML-216	Funerals and Weddings
John Hodges	BC-412	Asst. Treas., 2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday Cinema, Newsletters
Marian Holcombe	BG-314	
Helen Hughes	DT-307	Cubby Stuffers
Robert McQue	BR-301	Secretary, Worship Staff and Ushers
Lynn Swan	BR-201	Council Chair
Janet Wentz	PV-407	Flowers
Bud Williams	TC-107	Council Vice-Chair

## Protestant Fellowship Council:

The next meeting of the Protestant Fellowship Council will be on Monday, February 6, in the Liberty Music Room at 9:00 am. The meeting will be open to any residents who wish to attend.

## Donations for Ukraine Relief:

The Protestant Fellowship Council has donated \$ 5,000 to Samaritan's Purse for its relief ministries for the Ukrainian people. Donations from residents so far are more than \$ 13,000, and that has also been sent to Samaritan's Purse.



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Samaritan's Purse is providing food and non-food relief items through church partners in both Ukraine and Moldova.

For more information, go to their website, [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org). Click on the "Video" tab and select "International Crisis Response". Click on "Ukraine".