

# Protestant Fellowship Community Newsletter November, 2023

# "Masterpiece(s)"

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

Ephesians 2:10 (New Living Translation)

In his letter to the church at Ephesus, what does Paul mean by the term "Masterpiece"? Are some masterpieces better than others? Which do you think is better of these masterpieces? Michelangelo's *David*? Van Gogh's *Starry Night*? Da Vinci's *Mona Lisa*? Picasso's *Guernica*? Rodin's *The Thinker*? A Russian triptych altar screen? The buried Terracotta Armies of Qin Shi Huang, the first emperor of China? Machu Picchu? Your young grandchild's latest drawings? You may want to add others to this list. Each is very different. How do you choose?

God created us in His image. Male and Female. Thin and .... Tall and short. Different skin tones. Artisans and farmers and scholars and writers and bankers and doctors and rocket scientists. Each of us is different from the other. And God loves each us equally.

Parsing the language in the first sentence of Ephesians 2:10, we see that the subject and verb are each plural; and yet "masterpiece" is singular. What? Why not "masterpieces" since each of us is different from the other?

Does this mean that as a group, as a collection, with all our faults, that all of us taken together are is a masterpiece? Perhaps, our calling, our purpose, our reason for existence (note the singular nouns) is "to glorify God and enjoy Him forever" as stated in the PC(USA) Westminster Shorter Catechism. In chapter 15 of John's Gospel, Jesus tells His disciples "You are my friends if you do what I command you." His disciples (and we as their spiritual heirs) were appointed "to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last". In Acts and in the Epistles we read and see what it means "to go and bear fruit"; we see the cost of bearing fruit. And in Revelation we get a hint at "forever".

God of the Masterpiece, Speak to us and reveal the nature of Your masterpiece which You created us to be. Guide us to accept and welcome all the elements of Your indescribable masterpiece, and guide us to look forward to that time when time is no more and the masterpiece is complete. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Prayerfully submitted by John Hodges and based on scripture suggested by Helen Hughes

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#### **Worship Services for November, 2023**

Each Sunday at 2:00 pm from the chapel with Prelude at 1:45; also on ACTV channel 976 / 980 (HD)

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

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Sunday, Nov. 5, 2023	Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost Rev. Doug Dwyer, Addisville Reformed Church, Richboro, PA. Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated. Organist: Ann Keesey; Pianist: Betty Kingston.			
Sunday, Nov. 12, 2023	Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost Fr. Daniel Moore, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Doylestown, PA. Organist: Bud Williams; Pianist: Betty Kingston. Prelude will begin at 1:30.			
Sunday, Nov. 19, 2023	Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost Rev. Greg Lauderdale, River Life Church, Doylestown, PA. Organist: Joan Kirk; Pianist: Betty Kingston			
Tues., Nov 21, 2023	Inter-Faith Service at 11:00 am Service in the Ann's Choice Chapel on Tuesday, November 21.			
Sunday, Nov. 26, 2023	Twenty-Sixth Sunday After Pentecost Rev. Amy Martin, Pastoral Associate at Ann's Choice. Part of her time supports the Mission of the Protestant Fellow-ship  Council Operation John Massaur Bionists Betty Kingston			

#### **Ann's Choice Pastoral Associate**

As the Pastoral Associate, Rev. Amy Martin devotes one-quarter of her time supporting the Mission of the Protestant Fellowship Council. Stop by her office in Liberty Commons to introduce yourself and meet her. Or you can call and leave a message for her at (215) 443-3831; or send her an email (Amy.Martin@erickson.com); or write a

Council. Organist: John Keesey; Pianist: Betty Kingston.

3831; or send her an email (Amy.Martin@erickson.com); or write a note on an offering envelope and leave it in the offering plate at Chapel worship. Contact Rev. Martin, or leave a note on an offering envelope to receive this newsletter in your cubby or by email.

**Protestant Page on the Resident Website:** You may find worship bulletins, hymns, newsletters and other information about the Protestant Fellowship at 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.

**Rose Gardens and Chestnut Pointe:** Monthly Protestant Communion services have resumed in the Continuing Care communities. Pastoral Visits and Home Communion are available. Contact Pastoral Ministries at (215) 443-4831 to volunteer or if you have questions.

#### **Bible Study:**

Weekly Bible study meets on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am in the Liberty Commons Music Room. Zoom access is available. Rev. Na is leading the Bible study in October on a variety of New Testament topics. Contact Rev. Na at (215) 443-4925, Pastoral Ministries offices in Liberty or <a href="mailto:Kang.Na@erickson.com">Kang.Na@erickson.com</a> for more information about the Bible study or connection information for using Zoom.

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



## **Supplies for Operation Christmas Child**

The Protestant Fellowship Council is collecting items for shoebox gifts that will go to children around the world. The Protestant Council is being joined in this project by the



Catholic Council and the Jewish Residents Council.

Items should be new and unused; creams and liquids are **not** allowed; toy weapons and violence related toys are **not** allowed. School supplies, personal care items and clothing are allowed. A list of approved items is posted on the Protestant Fellowship page of the resident website, <a href="www.acresidents.org">www.acresidents.org</a>. Monetary donations will also be accepted and used to buy additional gift items.

#### Donations for Ukraine Relief and for Turkey / Syria Earthquake Relief:

Since March 2022 when Russia invaded Ukraine more than \$22,000 has been sent by the Protestant Community to help with relief efforts. And we have been supporting relief efforts for those devastated by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria; a total of \$4,000 has been sent to Samaritan's Purse.

#### **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. Martin 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."

To make a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA to the Protestant Fellowship, check with your tax advisor and IRA financial manager. Checks should be payable to

"A. C. – Protestant Fund" with "Donation" in the memo.

Checks should be mailed to "Ann's Choice – Protestant Fund c/o Pastoral Ministries, 20000 Ann's Choice Way, Warminster, PA 18974"

**Daylight Saving Time Ends:** Daylight Saving Time officially ends in the wee hours of Sunday morning, November 5, at 2:00 am. Remember to "Fall Back" when you reset your clocks Saturday night, November 4.



Centennial Singers of Warminster: On Tuesday, November 28, 2023, the Protestant Fellowship will again present Centennial Singers of Warminster at 7:30 pm in the Ann's Choice Chapel. The doors will open at 7:00.



All residents, employees and guests are welcome to join us for this musical treat. A free-will offering will be received at the conclusion.

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

On Veterans Day, Saturday, **November 11** we will present the 1950 movie *The West Point Story* in the PAC at 7:00 pm with a pre-show at 6:45. Broadway director Bix Bixby, played by James Cagney, is reluctantly persuaded to help cadets at West Point put on a show. This program is sponsored by the Protestant Fellowship Council as a ministry at Ann's Choice. **No** donation will be requested, as your presence is your donation.



## Are You Called to Serve on the Protestant Fellowship Council?

The Council is responsible for leading and managing the ministries and worship of the Protestant Fellowship. There are different, important roles for this ministry of leadership. Forms are available in the mailrooms, in the Narthex (lobby) of the Chapel and in Pastoral Ministries for giving suggestions of fellow residents (including yourself) who might be called to this service and ministry. In December, at the annual meeting of the Protestant Fellowship, we will hear

reports of our activities and ministries during 2023 and will elect (i.e., call) new members to serve on the Council beginning in January, 2024.

Pray for discernment. Contact any Council member for more information.

## **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	Polly Riddle	BG-120	
Dolores Ehrenfeld	BC-312	Bob Swan	BR-201	
John Hodges	BC-412	Lynn Swan	BR-201	
Helen Hughes	DT-307	Janet Wentz	PV-107	
Robert McQue	BR-301	Bud Williams	TC-107	