Don't You Want to Be Royal?

We hear a lot about royalty lately. What with Princess Kate delivering her third child and Meghan Markle, an American actress, preparing to marry Prince Harry. England is not the only country that has a monarchy, A few Arab states (Saudi Arabia) and one or two European countries (Liechtenstein) and Swaziland in Africa, still have monarchies. It may surprise you that Vatican City is a monarchy. The Pope is the king of the Vatican, even though technically he was elected. This makes some sense when you consider that the word of God connects priest with kings, but it does violate God's Word in vesting that power, authority and glory in one earthly ruler.

Sandy and I chafe when we hear Americans fawning over the British royalty, and many in England are convinced that we are envious of their monarchy. It is understandable that we enjoy following what seems to be such a romantic adventure, like some popular TV soap opera, and, once upon a time, there may have been more to celebrate. Nowadays, however, the Royals are very much down to earth and are as likely to be sleeping around and divorcing their spouses as is the common man. Perhaps they should not be held to a higher standard of morality? We certainly are confused about that when it comes to our own leaders in this country.

Let's set the record straight, then. Christians are kings and priests (1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:5,6). We are true royalty in the eyes of God. If God's royal family sinks into sin does God change His standard? Should everyone else be relieved that the ones who are expected to set the example are lowering their standard?

NO!

Do not get carried away with the infatuation of romance among the rich and famous. We are God's Royal Family and He expects us to set a good example for everyone else.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. 1Peter 2:9-12 AB



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840 (570) 886-1838 Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732 May 13, 2018

WELCOME!

| <u>Sunday</u> | Bible Class- 9:30 a.m. |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Worship- 10:30 a.m. |
| <u>Tuesday</u> | Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 a.m. |
| <u>Wednesday</u> | Bible Study-6:30pm |

All the churches of Christ greet you. ROMANS 16:16

Today's Sermon: Deborah: A Mother after God's Own Heart.

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org aicoc.org (Antioch Initiative)

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Scripture: Judges 5:1-9

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS…

- Ladies Class: Tuesday, May 15th. We will be studying Day 4 of Chapter 4 in the lounge. 3 There will be lunch after class.
- Housewarming Celebration- Thursday, May 31st- Sunday, June 3rd. Speakers so far are Don Myers from Montgomery, AL, Larry Krause from Kittanning, PA, and Steve Connors from Horseheads, NY., Orrin Nearhoof from Kentucky, Bill Garrett from Lewiston, PA, Frank Coletta from Clifton Park, NY and Alex Tullis from San José, CA. Also, Jeff Wyeth from Tunkhannock, PA.

Next Potluck: Next Sunday, May 20th



- We will be needing cookies, brownies, etc. for coffee times during the Housewarming, if you want to get a head start. We are also providing a lunch on Saturday, June 2nd.
- Lani will be leaving us in early June. We will only see her a few more Sundays. 🙁
- The gutters are being installed on the building.
 Check out how nice they look on the side toward the parking lot and on the belfry.
- Thank you, Ted, for the beautiful kitchen island/ serving table! We will try it out next Sunday at our potluck! It has big red wheels, so we can work on it in the kitchen, load it up with food and wheel it out to the dining area.
- Wednesday Evening Bible Class is up and running! Join us at 6:30pm Wednesday as we continue our study of Judges.

PRAYERS...

- We pray that our **door-knocking**/leafleting campaign to introduce ourselves to the neighborhood **produces fruit and Bible studies.**
- Prayers for Ruthie and Patty's brother Stan and his wife Robin.
- Prayer of thanksgiving that Connie has a full-time job!
- Please pray for **Sam**, who is studying and working many long hours every day of the week. Pray for success with his college applications and student visa.
- **Dara,** Darlene's sister, is searching for employment, as both of her current jobs have been cutting back hours.
- Pray for Andrea Lentz. Pray for her comfort as she is having trouble breathing. She just returned from hospital because of that. Also pray that she will reconsider Bible study.
- Lori Kashorek continues with experimental chemo treatments for her lung cancer. She continues to be free of brain tumors since her surgery, but relies solely on prayer since she was found to not have a genetic reason for the brain tumors; there is no specific medicine for her.
- Pray for Vicki Joice as she continues Herceptin treatments until June (coming right up!). She has 2 left to do. Also, pray that she doesn't become discouraged dealing with lymphedema on a daily basis.
- Sandy and Arthur's neighbor, **Erin Beiber** has metastatic breast cancer. Pray for her comfort and that she will want to learn the truth about Christ soon.
- Patty and Ruthie's cousin Cathy's husband Bruce has kidney cancer.
- Pray for **Ruthie's** friend and former colleague, **Nancy Black**, who is living at Elderwood in Waverly. She is very grateful for prayers offered on her behalf.
- **Don Myers** back surgery was not successful. He is suffering pain from a swollen nerve and is trying a new medicine for that. He is hoping to have another surgery real soon!
- Dave and Lynne Laton's daughter Natalie has been diagnosed with Diffuse Large B-cell Lymphoma. She had good news that the tumor shrank after her first round of chemo, which takes 3-4 days of infusions. She has finished her fourth round of chemo now.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry: barncat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.