

Is it Time to Leap?

Arthur Barry

As we get to the end of February it is always intriguing to think about those whose birthdays fall upon February 29 in a leap year. They can choose whether they want their birthday to be on February 28, or on March 1. Which would you choose? And why am I asking that question? Partly because my brother, Chris, who passed away last year was born on February 28, and I have been thinking about his birthday approaching. But it causes me to ponder about God's timing for major events. Does He take leap years into account when He makes up His calendar of events?

Well, what if Jesus returns on February 29...perhaps even next year, 2024, which is a leap year? Would you be worried as to how to enter this in your diary? ("Jesus came today. Of all days to pick, He chose Feb 29th, and I cannot make up my mind whether to enter this as happening on Feb 28th or on March 1st.")

I am having a bit of fun here, of course, but it causes me to ponder a little deeper about the coming of our LORD. Does He have it marked on a calendar...perhaps a reminder on His smart phone? Does He take into consideration the movement of the Sun, or calculate the alignment of the planets? Are there particular days, or seasons that He might want to avoid? Would rush hour on a Friday afternoon be too much of a challenge for Him? Again, I am speaking foolishly, so let's hear from our Creator Himself.

Matthew 24:42 Therefore, *stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.*

Revelation 16:15 *"Behold, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen exposed!"*

2 Peter 3:10 *But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.*

The Creator of the universe is not constrained by the laws of the universe, but there is a law that constrains Him in regard to the end of all time. He is not concerned about losing or gaining a day. He does not want sin to cause Him loss to Satan's gain. He does not want anyone to perish (2 Peter 3:9) so He waits till all who will repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, have done so.

Then He will come to take us home, and we will leap for joy.



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840

(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

February 26, 2023

All the Churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

Today's Sermon: Flee Like a Bird to the Mountain

Steve will be preaching today.

Scripture Reading: Psalm 11

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

Bulletins are archived on the website.

Notes for Sunday morning and Wednesday evening classes are available on the website.

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Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- ❖ **Sunday Morning Bible Class:** Arthur is teaching from Romans.
- ❖ **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** 6:30pm March 1, on Zoom, Arthur is teaching from 2 Peter.
- ❖ **Next Potluck and Bring-a-Friend Sunday – March 19.**
- ❖ **Ladies' Class –Tuesday, February 28. Women of the Genesis, Chapter 8, Rachel.**
- ❖ **Next 5th Sunday Singing – April 30 at Ithaca.**
- ❖ **Ladies' Prayer Brunch and Devotional- God's Peace and Hope- March 25th** from 10:30-1 here at Valley Cities.
- ❖ **Men's Prayer Breakfast- May 13,** here at Valley Cities.



Ladies, please keep up with our plans for the Ladies' Brunch which will take place on March 25th. We have started planning the menu and crafted name tags and favors with a butterfly theme.



MAGI boxes –

Think about toys...we now have 80 light up balls! We need a jump rope in each girl's box and a yo-yo for each boy. We have ordered 40 pairs of shorts for the boys, using money donated for that purpose. Please check the whiteboards in the collection room and plan on filling in items as needed. Thank you!

PRAYERS

- **Miki's friend Monique has had some relief from the high pressure in her eye and will be re-evaluated for pain meds dosage. Please pray that it all works out well for Monique.**
- **Arthur is seeing a specialist soon to determine whether a pacemaker is what he needs. He had a CT scan on his abdomen and was declared "essentially normal". Please keep him in prayer as he navigates his care for congestive heart failure.**
- **Dan Myers has been given a clean bill of health as far as the aneurism and cancer in his lungs. Thanks be to the Lord for restoring him to health.**
- **We send prayers of thanksgiving that our sister Ruthie has a new furnace all installed and working!**
- **Bonnie Davis' brother-in-law Tom is being treated for a cerebral hemorrhage. Pray for his complete recovery.**
- **Jerry Lowe's daughter Rhonda told us that he is in the hospital again. He has pneumonia and is dehydrated. He also has an abdominal aneurism that appears to be getting bigger. Please pray for Jerry and also for Rhonda who isn't able to be with her dad at this time.**
- **Please pray for Jay Sanabria, a friend of Miki's who suffered a burst appendix which caused an infection for which he now requires surgery.**
- **Miki's friend Carol Lou, who had a stroke last week and was placed on a ventilator, has regained consciousness and there is no brain damage. She still cannot breathe on her own, but please pray that doctors will be successful in weaning her off the ventilator in the coming weeks and that she will make a full recovery.**

Pray for these people:

- **Pat Gutherie,** lung cancer, chemo
- **Mike Walls,** pray that he will be cured of dementia. Pray for strength for Carrie.
- **Jim Sexton,** esophageal cancer
- **Tresa Shirrell's mom, April,** terminal cancer, salvation
- **Ukraine.**
- **families of the victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria.**

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