

February 2019

# THE SPICE

A taste of what's happening for women.

*Women's Ministry Mission Statement:  
Encouraging women to connect in  
deeper, genuine relationships  
both with each other  
and with Jesus Christ.*



## Challenge Accepted by Carol Landis

*Why do I participate in the Bible memory challenge?* It's pretty basic. God has used **the passages I've memorized to change me.**

In recent years the controlling presence of anxiety became a factor for me. Anxiousness was probably always present, however, a series of events moved it from something that existed, to restricting life and restless nights. The journey to recognizing triggers and learning to keep anxiety from "nesting," has been a combination of factors. A visit to my family doctor, improved self-care, a healthier diet, and, yes, Bible memory. Particularly two verses and one section of verses. My daily devotional time and journaling kept me afloat during the journey, but 3 years ago when Kristi contagiously promoted Bible memory and convinced me to try, as few as I felt led to memorize, or as many, was when I literally received the boost I needed. Memorizing felt akin to adding an additional layer of clothing in cold weather.

After our Scripture Memory challenge a few weeks ago, I found myself reflecting on this, and realized I didn't even know the exact words to those 3 passages from 2016, nor was I certain of the exact texts, but I sure knew the content, and had a basic idea where they were found. Their message remains firmly embedded within me: "Jesus is light. Whoever follows Him will never walk in darkness" (John 8:12). Yes, *anxiety was certainly darkness.* "Find rest my soul in God alone" (Psalm 62:5). And, "present your requests to God...whatever is true...noble...right...think about things...and the God of peace will be with you" (Phil. 4:4-9). [I choose the Philippians passage because a sister "Bible memorizer" shared her experience in our Scripture memory blog.]

In addition, to the change in me because of memorization, I've discovered **new within familiar passages** making God's Word become *alive*. The verses I mentioned above were quite familiar, but in memorizing them they spoke to my heart in a fresh way giving new insights to the familiar. An example is the word "present" in Philippians

(Continued on page 3)

### THE WORD

**"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God."**

—Colossians 3:16

### Think About It

Sometimes we think we can't memorize anything anymore. But the facts show that our brains are continually learning... *and remembering* many things every day! The enemy would love for you to believe you aren't able to learn verses from Scripture. Why not try something new this year? Grab a friend and challenge each other to memorize some verses this year! You might be surprised what God will do in you, for you, or through you!

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## Making Connections

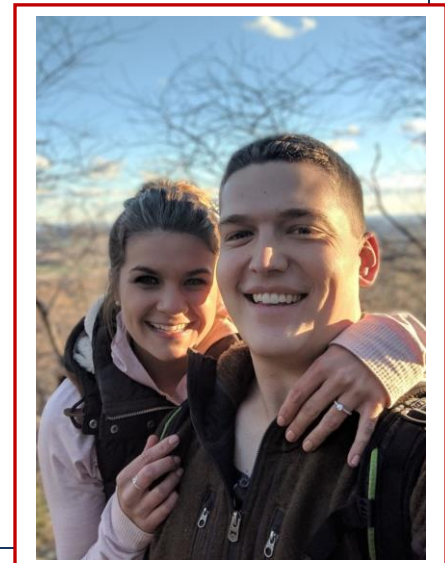
### Meet our Brides ...

**Brittany Halteman** and **Caleb Ramage**. *Caleb and I knew each other long ago but had never been close. During my college years, he was moving about the States with his family and we barely communicated during that time. In August of 2017, we reconnected and kindled a friendship. However, we both had some growing to do, so we didn't start dating then. I went to YWAM (Youth With A Mission) for six months, and Caleb was in New York working with the military. God knew exactly what we needed to learn and where we needed to grow, and those six months prepared us for dating. In January of 2018, Face Time dates started as we were still apart, and we talked about once a week. It was a little awkward at first, but over time, we began to get to know each other better. We shared stories of our adventures during the years apart, and what God had done in our lives, and we started to connect on a deeper level. In March, we got together in Sarasota, and we officially started dating! A lot of prayer went into our relationship because we knew that, for it to succeed, we needed to keep God at the center. God gave us many confirmations, and we grew not only closer to each other, but deeper in our personal relationships with God. After countless prayers, we felt God leading us towards marriage. At the time, Caleb was still working in NY, so he flew down a second time, and proposed on July 11th, 2018. Since then, we've continued pushing each other to grow deeper in our faith, and in our personal lives. It has been a tough journey, being so far apart, but it is so worth it! We are planning on being married in **May of 2019!***



**Kaitlyn Bergey** and **Andrew Kriebel**. *I am happy to announce on August 25, 2018, we got engaged. Our engagement was one of the best moments and turning points so far. He proposed at one of the most beautiful Sunflower Farms ever. Since sunflowers are my favorite, he knew it was the best time to get down on one knee. This farm was in Sussex County, New Jersey. This was an experience that we will remember forever. We are also starting the process of our wedding planning! Our wedding date will be **May 2, 2020**. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers during our wedding planning and special day.*

**Carrie Gehman** and **Ben Nixon**. *Ben and I are high school sweethearts. We have grown together through some of the most important years of life. I can't thank God enough for giving me Ben, a man who has been there by my side teaching, helping, loving and encouraging me. Ben and I are looking to have a wedding in **May 2020**. We both love nature and going for hikes. We took advantage of the one sunny day that we had during fall to go for a hike. Once we got to a lookout, we had lunch and before turning back he directed my attention off him and when I turned around, he was already down on one knee with the box in his hand. I could not believe the day finally came! We look forward to the future and what God has planned for us.*



(Challenge Accepted, continued)

4:6. "Present" stirred my mind to imagine my requests (needs, concerns, and/or fear) as a *present* to God; and intentionally giving them to Him, enabled me to experience a freedom I had not known before.

Also, memorizing **keeps me in God's Word**, no matter how *little*, or *much*, or, how *perfectly*, I retain what we memorize.

Finally, the blog helps me practice Hebrews 3:13. "**Encourage one another** daily...so none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness."

So, I leave you with a challenge. Ask God what He desire you to include in 2019? Does He see it important for you to add Scripture memory to your repertoire of responsibilities? And if He leads you to do so, there is a wonderful group of sisters waiting to cheer you on.

## What's Happening for Women

### *Women's Bible Study*

You are invited to a 6-week study of  
**Love Walked Among Us, Part 2**

**February 12<sup>th</sup> to March 19<sup>th</sup>**

7-9 pm

Led by Doris Diener in her home

Contact Kristi Wile or Doris Diener if  
interested.

**No cost. Bring your Bible!**

No need to purchase the book.

You need not have attended the fall study of same title.

### Attention Mothers of Preschoolers:

Kathy Wenger's home is open to you on

**Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30 pm.**

You may come and go when it suits you best.

If you have a chance to grab it, bring your  
favorite recipe to share. We seem to have a  
good time whenever we gather!

(Infants are welcome.)

Please let Kathy know if you can come even if  
it's last minute!

Email [mkwenger@comcast.net](mailto:mkwenger@comcast.net)

Or Text 717-519-7180

Address: 8 Rosy Ridge Court, Telford.

**Don't forget your recipe!**

### **Franconia's Women's Ministry is Adopting an Outreach Ministry!**

Our Women's Ministry is passionate about ministering to the women of our congregation. But we don't want to stay inwardly focused because Jesus told us to go out into the world. We want to reach outside of ourselves and support an organization that is already ministering to women in our community. With



the recent changes in the Abortion Bill in New York State, we want to be aware and provide support where we can for this important outreach. **Heather Nyce** has agreed to be our contact with the clinic, and we will hear more from her and how we can support PRC of North Penn in the future. Watch for more information!

(Thank you, Heather!)

Project of the Month: New flat, twin sheets

# February

A Taste of What's Happening for Women



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p><b>Love Walked Among Us, Part 2</b>, study begins Tuesday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> and will meet weekly from 7-9 pm, for 6 weeks.</p> </div>						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Prayer Shawls 7-9 pm	<b>Winter Bible Study</b>	Mothers of Preschoolers 6:30-8:30 pm		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		Sewing Circle 9am-3pm  Prayer Shawls 7-9 pm	<b>Winter Bible Study</b>	<i>Valentine's Day</i>		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		Prayer Shawls 7-9 pm	<b>Winter Bible Study</b>			
24	25	26	27	28		
		Knotting Comforters <u>9am-3pm</u> Prayer Shawls 7-9 pm	<b>Winter Bible Study</b>			

## Contact for more information

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