

April 2020

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*

Centering Our Thoughts for Times like These

By Carol Landis

Our lives now include the Coronavirus. In addition to infectious germs, this virus brings continuous media updates on the virus itself, and the latest restrictions to bring it under control. And we are faced with many unknowns. Unknowns have power to erode our confidence; our peace; and our joy. And so, while remaining aware of current updates, it also feels important to be centered on what is known.

We do know who our God is. He is omnipotent. He is omnipresent. He is omniscient. **Nothing is beyond his power; there is no where He is not present; nothing surprises Him.** It is important to remain aligned with our foundation.

Our God has told us to expect trouble. Then, He assures us that within the trouble He will give us peace (John 16:33). Philippians 4:6-7 highlights our role to receive the peace He promised. Anxious feelings remind us to present our concerns and worries to God in prayer. And to do so with thanksgiving because of who our God is. Then, **“the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus”** (v.7). Where our thoughts “nest” matters.

We know our loving Heavenly Father promised to be with us in all circumstances. We can know for certain He will never leave us alone. Two promises that encourage me are: **“Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age”** (Matt. 28:20). And, **“do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand** (Isaiah 41:10).”

This abrupt halt we did not desire is a good time to **“be still and know” that He is God** (Ps. 46:10). And, to keep our thoughts steadfast on the known truths so His perfect peace will pervade our hearts (Isaiah 26:3).

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God is Faithful (aka Confessions of a Worry-Wart) By Louise Halteman

When I was asked to write an article for THE SPICE, I immediately thought, “Oh, I can do that.” Then I started writing – and stopped. Whatever could I write about that would be of any interest at all to anybody? Then I thought of Pastor Josh’s words in a sermon several weeks ago. He quoted the song that I currently hear on the K-Love radio station by Casting Crowns. It includes the words, “I’m just a nobody, trying to tell everybody, all about Somebody who saved my soul...”

Looking back, throughout my life, I can surely see how God has been so faithful to me. As a little girl growing up, my mother and I spent a lot of time together, often at church functions. My mother provided a very stable lifestyle which included regular church attendance and involvement. Bible School, Pioneer Girls, Sunday School, and then Youth Group, Mom’s and Kid’s Bible Study, and on and on. I remember having lots of fears about various things growing up, probably normal for any child. My parents divorced when I was 11, but I kept a close relationship to my father and saw him regularly. He made a real effort to see me and do things with me in order to stay close. My Christian education complemented those times outside school where I was growing and learning about God. God is faithful!



Louise with her mom



When Brent and I got married in 1986 and two years later had our first son, we became more active in a local church and again got connected to church which brought so many good friends and wonderful learning opportunities about the love of God. Brent and I weren’t attending church very regularly around the time we got married, but we both agreed that we wanted that for our children, and knew the importance of connecting with a Bible believing church for our family. God is faithful!

Several years later, Brent and I bought a local small business and worked together for 12 years. After that we sold the business and weren’t really sure what would come next. Would we have to move? What about school for our boys? Could they still go to Penn View and Christopher Dock? What would happen to our family? Would Brent and I be able to get jobs doing something we enjoyed? God supplied both of us with jobs that provided what we needed for our family. That transition was very smooth. God is faithful!

In 1984 my Mother moved to Florida. My brother has lived in Florida since 1975 and she found a lovely place to live, close to his family, where the lifestyle, weather, and maintenance were easier for her. Since my Mom was 40 years older than I, growing up I often thought if my parents were living when I turned 40, I would be fortunate. I was often concerned that something might happen with my Mother’s health while she lived in Florida, although nothing serious ever did. Mom moved into Peter Becker Community in 2010, when she was 90. We got to spend seven years together, seeing each other and/or talking almost daily. I’m so thankful I had that time with Mom. She lived to be 97 years old, and we spent much time together, laughing, telling stories, and caring for each other. Towards the end of her life she suffered from moderate dementia, but she had glimpses of clarity that were such a blessing! The day she went home to Jesus I was given a gift to be there with her, watching Jesus usher her into heaven. I will never forget it! God is faithful!

Now, as a Nana, I see our sons choosing wives that are God fearing! They are planning weddings, raising families, and living for Jesus! What could be better for a Mother than to see her family believing in God, still learning about His will for our lives, and praising Him for the people he brings into our path to learn from, and realize the amazing, constant and abiding love God has for us. What a blessing! GOD IS FAITHFUL!

Years ago I was talking with a friend about worry. She said she told her husband once, “If you would worry a little more, I wouldn’t have to so much!!” I often think of that and smile. My husband tells me, “You worry just to worry.” I know it’s not God-honoring to worry. So I’m consciously working on praying and praising God instead of worrying. GOD IS FAITHFUL! May we mirror his faithfulness in our lives!



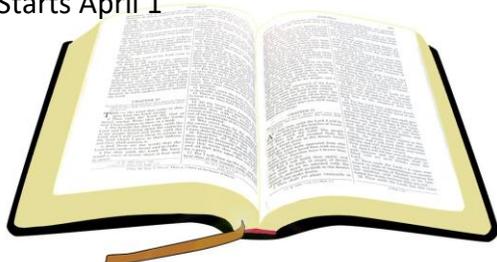
“The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.” 1 Thessalonians 5:24

What's Happening for Women

All events are subject to change or cancellation due to COVID-19 restrictions. We will try to keep you updated.

Bible Memory Challenge

- Choose a scripture
- Memorize/meditate on it for a month
- Share your experience with other women
- Starts April 1st



- If you are still interested in participating, contact Carol Landis at franconiawomen@gmail.com

Upcoming Women's Events:



We hope to reschedule for the end of April or beginning of May.

Women's Speaker

Saturday, May 16th

Topic: *"Finding confidence in Christ to make wise choices for our families while balancing social pressures and information overload in regards to discipline, work/home schedules, use of cleaning products, foods, vaccines, etc."*

**Childcare will be provided*

Stay tuned for more information on both of these!

Attention

Mothers of Preschoolers:

Kathy Wenger's home is open to you on **Thursday, April 16th**
6:30-8:30 pm.

Relax and chat with other women in the same stage of parenting as you. Come and go when it suits you best. Infants are welcome.

You may contact Kathy by email @ kathywwenger@gmail.com or by text @ 717-519-7180.

Address: **8 Rosy Ridge Court, Telford.**

Save the Date:

Comforter Blitz

Scheduled for June 23 & 24!

Project of the Month:

Bar Soap (Dove for Infant Kits)

Place your donations in the basket outside the library



April

A Taste of What's
Happening for Women

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
				Gideon Bible Study 9:15-10:45am Uninvited Bible Study 7:00-9:00pm		
7	8	7	8	9	10	11
		Prayer Shawls 7-8:30pm		Uninvited Bible Study 7:00-9:00pm	Good Friday	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Easter Sunrise Service 6:30am Morning Service 10:15am		Sewing Circle 8am-3pm Prayer Shawls 7-8:30pm		Gideon Study 9:15-10:45am Mothers of Preschoolers 6:30-8:30pm Uninvited Study 7:00-9:00pm		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		Prayer Shawls 7-8:30pm		Uninvited Bible Study 7:00-9:00pm		
26	27	28	29	30		
		Knotting Comforters 8am-3pm Prayer Shawls 7-8:30pm		Uninvited Bible Study 7:00-9:00pm		

Contact for more information

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