



Construction by Carol Landis

The rumble of a dump truck motor and grunt of a digger were the background noise as I began writing this article. A trench was being dug from the back to the front of our house, preparing the way for 4-inch pipes to send our waste to the local sewer authority. Our sand mound was no longer functional.

A few months prior, moisture on our hall ceiling, led to discovering pin holes in small copper pipes. Next, wall paper was removed revealing moldy drywall as well. This led the way to removing much more drywall and uncovering more pipes. Eventually new plastic pipes replaced those copper ones, and new drywall was put in place.

Construction. It seems we've had our share in recent months. Although obviously necessary, it's not something I would have chosen. In addition to the interruption of daily life, there's dirt, noise, and expense.

However, those exposed pipes became a visual which led me to examine myself. Were there leaks in my heart? Were there unaddressed molding places of fear or hopelessness covered over with a pleasant exterior? And, how about my heart's septic system? Was the forgiveness, grace and mercy I'd received properly flushing out all "waste?" Was sludge present? Any raw sewage leaking through? It's not nice to see the wrong within; much easier to overlook or minimize leaks and clogs as part of being human. But like our ceiling, and sewer, they eventually will demand attention. And in the meantime, how contagious is faith when burdened by these?

While it seems easier and tempting to overlook or minimize heart leaks and clogs, how contagious is faith when burdened by these?

Home repairs and heart repairs require intentional, deliberate action. We were very blessed to have contractors we trusted to handle our home repairs. And for heart repairs, thankfully we have an amazingly competent and faithful Contractor God. He specializes in replacing leaking pipes and removing sludge in hearts. When we recognize our sin and ask Him to forgive us, we are promised: "Let the wicked forsake his way and...turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy...and he will freely pardon" (Isa.55:7). How freeing! Sisters, let's throw off everything that hinders and place our trust in our Divine Contractor for each repair. Those glaringly obvious, or ones fermenting under the surface.

Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and...fix our eyes on Jesus" (Heb. 12:1-2).

July 2021 |





Making Connections

Hi, my name is Ashley Bergey. I am the wife of Devin Bergey and the daughter of Brian and Sandy Clemens. I also have an older brother and sister-in-law, Chad & Courtney, and a younger sister, Amber, who attend Franconia as well.

I grew up attending Franconia and was baptized when I was 16. I was very involved with the youth group growing up and loved the community I found here. I met Devin when his family started attending Franconia back when we were in middle school. We started dating our last year of high school and have been together ever since!

I attended public school in the Souderton Area School District up through eighth grade and then went to Christopher Dock for high school. I was grateful for getting an education with a Christian perspective and met some of my closest friends while I was at Dock. After high school I attended Messiah College where I majored in nursing. This was a difficult time for me because nursing was a difficult major, but also because Devin attended Grove City College, so our relationship became long distance. We grew a lot as a couple during that time and were married in May 2017.

In July 2016 I started my first nursing job at Lehigh Valley Hospital on a surgical/telemetry unit. I quickly realized that this was no longer the Christian bubble I became accustomed to growing up in. The experiences I have had both caused me to question and strengthen my faith. It was certainly interesting working in the hospital last year throughout the pandemic, but even though there was a lot of fear, I would go in for my shift with an overwhelming sense of peace. I knew this was from the many prayers that were being lifted up on my behalf. I recently got a new job at Lehigh Valley Hospital in the surgical staging unit. I started this job in March and have been enjoying the change of pace!



When I'm not at the hospital I enjoy baking--I love finding new recipes to try! I also enjoy reading, going for walks throughout our neighborhood, and last year I started learning how to quilt from my mom. Devin and I love to travel, so the past year and a half was a little disappointing with the travel restrictions, but we look forward to traveling in the future.

Some of my favorite verses come from Lamentations 3:22-23. "Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed; for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." A lot of times I can dwell in regret and be consumed with shame and guilt, but these verses are a sweet reminder that God's mercies are new each morning. I'm working on resting in these truths and learning to accept the grace that Jesus offers.



What's Happening for Women

Comforter Blitz

Who: YOU!! Even if you don't quilt or sew, you can tie a knot.

What: Two days to knot as many comforters as possible!

When: July 13 & 14, 8am-5pm

Where: Upper Fellowship Hall

Why: We want to send comforters to those in need

What else: Lunch will be provided both days

Childcare (Infant-preschool) will be provided

on Wed. (July 14) from 9:30-12:00

Come when you want ~ Stay as long as you want!

You don't want to miss the fun this year!

For additional information, see flyers on the Women's Ministry table in the foyer

Join us for fellowship, fresh air, and exercise!

Walk in the Park

Tuesday, July 27

7:00pm

at Franconia Park

(meet near the Pavilion

at the Allentown Rd. entrance)

Walk for however long you want.

You are welcome to invite your daughters and friends.

No signups necessary.

We hope to see you there!

A Prayer for You:

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:16-19

July 2021 |

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 Communion	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Comforter Blitz! 8am-5pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 7pm	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Walk in the Park 7pm	28	29	30	

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