



Contagious Faith by Carol Landis

"When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men...they took note that these men had been with Jesus" (Acts 4:13).

Her eyes were closed; tears were sliding down her checks, yet her face was serene as she sang: "For Jesus has risen and we shall not die!" This scene, still etched in my mind decades later, took place during my friend's funeral. The woman singing was his mother. Yes, there were tears but I was sure the words she was singing expressed deep and sincere beliefs. As a teen in the 1970's era, I was well aware of hypocrisy within the Christian church, yet also realized God's children could never be perfect. I couldn't put it all together, but I believed Greg's parents had the "real" thing. I wanted that kind of faith.

The evening following Greg's accident his parents invited his high school friends to stop by their house. Death had created a void so dark and huge that although prior to his death few of us had any personal interaction with them, we went. Tears flowed as we loved on each other. To be "held" in community, and witness genuine faith in the midst of overwhelming grief was life-changing. As our visits continued, the strength and peace of these two people was contagious.

Who am I? What do my responses show? In daily "blimps" or full-blown crisis, can those around me see I've been with Jesus? Living in the midst of a door closing (Jesus' death), an unfathomable miracle (Jesus' resurrection), and witnessing another unexplainable occurrence (Jesus' ascension), the actions of Jesus' disciples in Acts 1 are a lesson in living out one's faith.

They all joined together (v. 14). When fear and doubt dominate, as Pastor Josh shared Easter Sunday, we need to be intentional to physically place ourselves within a community of faith.

They prayed constantly (v.14). Corporately; privately. While living in deep sadness, continuously talking to God ignites trust and hope.

They recognized and acted on what was needed next (vs.21-26). Grief and disappointment can cause us to act in ways that are not helpful or paralyze us. God leads us to wise next steps.

The Holy Spirit arrives (Acts 2:4). When God's Spirit "shows up," and we experience the power of His Spirit, feelings of devastation lose their power. An eternal perspective develops, and we receive strength through the Holy Spirit. And God's strength flowing through us is contagious.

Lord Jesus, in every "blimp" or crisis, please help me ask, and depend on, the powerful presence of Your Spirit. Amen.

June 2023





Making Connections

Meet our Brides!

Hannah Mellinger & Tim Landis

Tim and I were set up by our sisters back in the summer of 2021. Tim proposed in February 2023, and we are planning to get married in May 2024, after I graduate. Tim is currently a gas tech at Penn Valley Gas, and I am pursuing my bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Cairn University. After I graduate, I plan on finding a local teaching job and am open to wherever God leads me. Once we are married, we will be living in an apartment in Telford. We both love being outdoors playing games and going on walks. We look forward to what God has in store for us as we prepare for our marriage.



Mikayla Frederick & Mason Valentino

Mason and I met through a mutual friend at the beginning of our sophomore year at Messiah. We got engaged almost three and a half years later, on February 18th in Baltimore, Maryland. Mason took me to the Baltimore Aquarium because of my love for sharks and then we walked around the harbor "to the restaurant" that Mason claimed we had reservations at, where he then proposed. We are getting married on July 7th, 2024, and then living in the Mechanicsburg area where Mason will finish up grad school at Messiah and I will continue teaching.



Get Involved!



Come join us for a Ladies'
Walk in the Park

Tuesday, June 6th
7:00 pm

At Franconia Park
(Allentown Rd. entrance)



All are welcome! This is an informal gathering for fellowship, exercise, and enjoying God's creation. Walk and talk as long as you like!

Next walk: July 11th

Pictures from our Ladies' Outing to Chanticleer Garden



June 2023

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

CONTACT US: franconiawomen@gmail.com

Carol Landis | 215-723-2981 | caroldanlandis@gmail.com

Gail Reinford | 267-372-2168 | kgreinford@comcast.net

Heidi Yoder | 330-243-4689 | benheidiyoder@gmail.com

Janet Derstine | 215-723-7413 | bjderstine2@gmail.com

Jill Fallon | 610-287-3501 | bnjfallon@verizon.net

Julie Kratz | 717-525-3040 | jskratz@gmail.com

Julie Stitt | 610-287-7688 | sjstitt1@verizon.net

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