



Waiting Well by Kaylee Leaman

I absolutely adore the Christmas season. I have never grown out of the childlike excitement for Christmas many of us experienced as children. This year, I have been thinking about how that should be the way in which we anticipate the second coming of Jesus. Let yourself recall that feeling from childhood or maybe if you're like me, how you still feel, as you prepare for every Christmas dinner, every special church service, and every cozy night by the Christmas tree. I recently did a book study on Heaven that has filled me with such great anticipation for what is ahead. In this study, the author explained in detail an ancient Jewish tradition in which, after a betrothal, the groom would go and prepare a place for his bride. This would be an extension of his father's house. When this was complete, he would go to take his bride who has been preparing herself, preparing her belongings, and waiting with her oil lamps full. She would not know the day or the hour when her groom would return for her. Sound familiar? In Matthew 25:1-13, Jesus tells the parable of the 10 virgins. He used the experience that His people would have understood to urge them to ready themselves. I hope we can do the same as we get our homes and hearts ready for Christmas. Let this common experience remind you what your heart is truly longing for. Your heart, my heart, along with all of creation is waiting with great expectation that Christ will return and will make all things new. All of this will pass away. I hope you all will join me in asking ourselves the following questions, "Am I waiting well? Am I making good use of the time? Am I getting to know Christ, the bridegroom, better while I remain on this side of eternity?" He WILL return for His church. My prayer for each of us is that we are found faithful when the day arrives. Keep your lamps full, ladies!

Lord, You are faithful to Your word. We trust that when You say You're returning for us, that it means You will indeed return. I pray that You would deepen our understanding of that truth. May we be thrilled by the thought of meeting You face to face. Would You help us cast away things that entangle us? We know that You are worthy of that. Strengthen and equip us to wait well for that glorious day. Amen.

December/January |



WOMEN'S MINISTRY MISSION STATEMENT: Encouraging women to connect in deeper, genuine relationships both with each other and with Jesus Christ.



Making Connections

Meet **Myra Landis**.

Hi, my name is Myra Landis, and I have been attending Franconia since I was born. My parents are Eric and Bethany Landis, and I have a younger brother Jude. I grew up going to Penn View from pre-k to 5th grade and then switched to Souderton for middle and high school. I graduated from Souderton high school early in January of 2025. I am currently attending Montgomery County Community College to get my associate's degree in business management, and I will be graduating this spring. I am planning to get my real estate license after graduation. I am currently working two part-time jobs at the Harleysville Carwash and at Burn Boot Camp in Harleysville. I am the lead child-watch team member at Burn, and I enjoy planning activities for many kids while their parents work out. If I am not at either of those jobs, I am often babysitting kids from church or Burn! I also teach kindergarten during Sunday school and have been doing that for a few years.



During my free time, while there isn't much, I enjoy hanging out with my friends, working out, reading, and going on vacation with my family. We like to go to our mountain cabin often and travel to new states in our RV. Some of my favorite memories from Franconia are service trips with the youth group. I enjoyed every single one and I loved to hear from the people we were helping. Also sharing my faith stories with the youth group and hearing others' faith stories has impacted my faith for the better.

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”
Jeremiah 29:11*



Get Involved!



Photos from Bunco Game Night on Nov. 14



December and January issues have been combined. This will allow women involved with The Spice extra time to participate in celebrating our Savior's birth and time also for rest. May you enjoy that as well.



Other Upcoming Activities

Sewing Circle

Tuesdays, Dec. 9 and Jan. 13
8 AM – 4 PM

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Tuesdays, Dec. 9 and Jan. 13
at 7 PM





* *FUN Holiday & Winter Activities* *



- Make a winter wreath for your home
- Give back to a local charity - donate clothes / toys
 - Cut and hang paper snowflakes
 - Christmas Lights Drive
- Visit a Christmas Market and walk around
 - Bring out family photo albums
 - Spend a day in a winter town or city
 - Start a winter morning ritual
 - Shovel your neighbor's driveway
- Drive around and photograph winter scenery
 - Buy festive socks / Dress your pets up!
 - Cook a meal together
 - Plan your goals for the next year 2026!
 - Read a book in a cozy spot
 - Have a spa day at home
 - Plan a winter staycation
 - Have a hot chocolate & pjs day
 - Declutter your home for the new year
 - Take up a new indoor hobby
 - Go ice skating / Sledding / Make snow angels
 - Wrap up and go for a winter walk / Go stargazing
 - Write in a journal or Make a gratitude jar, practice daily
 - Try a new baking recipe / Or learn to make soup or bread
 - Random act of kindness / Tell someone you appreciate them



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