



Views From a Hill

What Is God Growing in You?

March arrives quietly. The light lingers a little longer in the evenings (my favorite part of Daylight Saving Time!). The ground softens, and beneath the surface, long before we see green pushing through the soil, life is already stirring.

That is often how God works in us. Lent is not a season for quick spiritual results. It is a season for slow, hidden growth. It invites us to pay attention to what God may be doing beneath the surface of our lives—before anything looks different on the outside.

This spring, we are walking through Sacred Questions—questions Jesus asked or were asked about Him. At first, questions can feel unhelpful. Instead of questions, we want clear steps, solutions, and measurable progress. But when you read the Gospels carefully, you begin to notice something: Jesus often chooses to form people through questions rather than instructions. “Do you want to be made well?” “Who do you say that I am?” “Why are you afraid?” “What are you looking for?”

Jesus is not gathering information. He is cultivating awareness. He is gently inviting people to notice what could grow in them.

Spring teaches us something similar. A farmer does not stand in a field in early March demanding visible results. Growth is happening long before it can be measured. Roots are spreading. Seeds are breaking open. The work is real—even when it is hidden.

Lent gives us permission to stop rushing our spiritual lives. This season is not about trying harder. It is about becoming more attentive. It is about letting the Spirit quietly expose what needs healing, what needs surrender, and what needs trust. These Sacred Questions are meant to create space for that kind of listening.

In many ways, this builds on what we explored together in our recent Uncluttered series. God often does His deepest work under the surface—before habits change, before clarity comes, before circumstances shift. We may not be able to point to immediate fruit, but something is still being formed.

As you move through the devotional this month, I encourage you to resist the urge to rush to an answer. Sit with the question. Carry it with you into your day. Let it follow you into your conversations, your daily activities, your prayers, and your quiet moments.

You may begin to notice subtle movements: a softened posture toward someone you’ve struggled with, a deeper awareness of your need for grace, a renewed hunger for prayer, a gentle conviction that leads not to shame, but to freedom. These are signs of growth.

In the Bible, Paul reminds us that God is the one who gives the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6). Our role is not to force the process, but to remain open to it. So as the earth around us begins to wake up again, here is a simple question worth holding close: **What might God be growing in you right now?** Not what you wish would change. Not what you feel behind in. But what is already beginning—quietly, faithfully, and patiently—by the grace of God. May this season help us trust the slow work of God.

Much love,

Brad



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month will mark one year since I came to PCFS as your temporary, part-time pastor. In my role as a pastoral caregiver, it has been an honor to walk alongside many of you in times of sickness, uncertainty, and deep grief. I have loved reconnecting with many of you after 25 years away from this, my home congregation.

So, here we are again in the season of Lent – a time to kneel before the cross in grateful surrender. Thank you, Jesus, for leaving your glory behind to live among us, to teach us, to show us what it looks like not just to say the prayer, but to live the prayer, “Not my will, but your will be done.” During Lent, let’s pray this even more fervently for our congregation as we trust God to call our next pastor. “Not our will, but God’s will be done.”

God knows what we need. God knows who we need. And, God knows who needs to be here with us. It’s not just the pastor who brings gifts to us, we have gifts to bring to him/her too. I certainly found that to be true when I was serving in Shippensburg and serving in Spring Run. I gained more than I ever gave.

Friends, as we begin a second year together, these words from Philippians 1:3-6 reflect my heart for you, *“I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.”*



PNC UPDATE...

Dear Falling Spring friends:

Your Pastoral Nominating Committee continues to work toward a “call” of a caring, talented, and Spirit-led pastor for shepherding our congregation. We just completed our 17th meeting since beginning the process in late August. Each meeting has included two or more hours of interviews via Zoom meetings with candidates, discussion of discernment to quantitate and compare spiritual gifts of the pastors who have applied to our position, and prayers for guidance.

As I stated in my update at the Annual Congregational Meeting, we have narrowed our choices to a small group of qualified pastors. We continue to trust the Holy Spirit to guide us to the best match possible for advancing God’s Kingdom as we see it working here within our church family. We do appreciate your trust, continued prayers, and words of encouragement which have been extended to us.

Thank you!

Doug Martzluf, PNC Chair

Worship, Reflection and Renewal at Falling Spring

March Worship Schedule:

- March 1: Who Do You Say That I Am? Rev. David Bowerman in the Chapel and Sanctuary, Brad in the FLC.
- March 8: Do You Want to Be Made Well? Gene Reineman in the Chapel and Sanctuary, Brad in the FLC. **Don't forget to "Spring ahead" your clocks!*
- March 15: Why Are You Afraid? Rev. Meagan Boozer in the Chapel. At 10 AM, there will be one service in the FLC for Tweens Sunday.
- March 22: Do You Love Me? Brad in the Chapel and Sanctuary, Gene Reineman in the FLC.
- March 29, Palm Sunday: Who Is This? Paul Quesenberry in the Chapel and Sanctuary, Brad in the FLC. Communion will be served at all services.
- April 2, Maundy Thursday service at 7 PM in the Chapel. Communion will be served.
- April 3, Good Friday service at 7 PM in the FLC.

Easter Sunday is April 5, and this is a great opportunity to invite your friends and neighbors to church! Who will you invite?

Lenten Worship Nights—A midweek pause for your soul.

Wednesdays, Feb. 25 - March 25, 6:30 - 8:00 PM in Rooms 107-108.

This Lent, step out of the noise and into a space for reflection, renewal, and hope. Worship nights are a relaxed midweek gathering designed to help you breathe, reflect, and reconnect with God and others. Coffee and conversation. Worship songs and guided prayer. Real-life testimony. Scripture that speaks to everyday life.

Amazing Grace—the Story of William Wilberforce

Wednesday evenings, April 8 - 29 in Rooms 107-108.

Join us for a four-week session to learn about the life of William Wilberforce, a courageous believer who dedicated a large part of his life toward ending the British slave trade and reforming society. Heather Brindle will share historical information to enhance the viewing of the movie, "Amazing Grace," based on the true story of Wilberforce. Insight on John Newton, who penned the song Amazing Grace, is also part of the film. You will be inspired by the faith and perseverance of these two men as they work with empathy and passion to change history. Please note, this film has some content that may be difficult to watch.

KIDS' MINISTRY

JOIN US

3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25:
6:30-7:30 J-Walkers & Tweens
7:30-8 Joyful Voices

3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29:
9-9:50 Sunday School

Upcoming Events

3/15: Tweens Sunday and spaghetti lunch fundraiser
4/1: Easter Celebration and Egg Hunt
6/15-6/19: Vacation Bible School

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our Bible buddy Amanda, the red panda, will help us learn about some important leaders from the Old Testament.

J-WALKERS: We will use Biblical stories and real life examples to learn about building Christian character. March 25th will be a special Easter lesson.

TWEENS: We will be planning and practicing for Tweens Sunday. On the 25th we will be doing an Easter escape room.

J-WALKERS

Room 101: Age 4 - Grade 2

TWEENS

Room 103: Grade 3 - Grade 5

JOYFUL VOICES

Room 101: Age 4 - Grade 5



The Tweens + pool noodles = lots of fun!

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.

-Philippians 4:6

Jenn Smith, Director of Children's Ministry
pcfskids@pcfalloingspring.org



FALLING SPRING

YOUTH MINISTRY

March Update:

February was such a long but wonderful month! We saw 19 of our students and 6 adults join together with other local churches for a wonderful winter retreat. We are celebrating that 3 of our students made first time decisions to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and savior that weekend!!

We spent Wednesday nights focusing on a series about relationships: with parents, with friends, and dating relationships. Digging into conversations about how these different types of relationships can honor God was life giving for many. In March we will be focusing our Wednesday evenings on the life of Daniel, and how we can learn to have fearless faith.

Many are looking forward to Camp Falling Spring July 12-17th. We are still working on nailing down adults to help with this week of camp. So, if you would like to know what it might look like to serve our youth ministry at camp please reach out to me. Also, please be praying for the CFS Planning Committee, the students who will attend, and the camp speaker as they begin to prepare. Registration will open on April 1st.

Blessings,
Sam Ray

Upcoming:

March Youth Group
4TH, 11TH, 18TH, 25TH

Movie Night
MARCH 14TH 6-8:30PM

Serve Saturday
MARCH 28TH 9AM-NOON

Easter Escape Room
4/1/ 7:30-8:30PM



Message From Session

Session would like to thank God first and foremost for guiding us with love and grace through the transition year without a pastor. His blessings were in abundance for the loving and faithful hearts of His church. We would also like to thank our Staff, Trustees, Deacons, Building and Grounds, and all committee leaders, committee members, volunteers, small group leaders, our PNC, and those who quietly step up when something needs done.

There is a quote by Simon Sinek, "So goes the leader, so goes the culture". This past year allowed us to lean on and be led by God our Father, and allowing Him to work in and through us has made all the difference. Therefore, as we begin the new year, and when a new pastor is ordained to us, we must continue to be led by God first.

As the new year begins, we said a heartfelt thank-you to Dana Baker and Sue Bodner for serving our congregation as elders, and for all they have done to allow others the opportunity to experience God's Kingdom. We also welcome Gene Reineman to Session.

The following has come before session:

1. Update on the manse.

Initial findings of a walk-through with some field experts found the condition of the manse to be too dire and costly to have prepared in time for an incoming pastor.

Based on the findings of the initial inspection, Session has asked Trustees to create a Manse Task Force to explore all possibilities for the manse and costs associated with each. From those findings, we will discern the future of the Manse.

Anyone wishing to serve on this task force is asked to contact Deb Stewart: cookin@comcast.net

2. Session approved a one-year pause for 2025 in the use of 10% of benevolence funds in the fourth quarter funds for Mission and Outreach. The congregation has joyfully supported the M&O mission this past year, and allowed our church to support many local and international ministries.
3. Deacons were asked about the transition from Parishes to Family Groups. After a brief discussion, it was determined both systems have gaps and unfortunately, some church members are missed. It is important to remember we all have a role in reaching out to our neighbor and connecting someone in need with a deacon. Being ordained as a deacon makes you known and visible as a caring heart to reach out to. It does not come with radar and a sixth sense for knowing when someone needs you. For deacons to connect and do their good works, we should all be deacon liaisons.
4. Our campus is aging and, as we have seen this past year, many necessary building parts and mechanics are in need of replacement. We have been blessed with talented and stewardship-minded sextons over the years who have "made things work" at minimal cost to the congregation. Many pieces of equipment are out of date and in need of replacing. But beyond that issue, is the vision for what we feel this campus can be in the future. This combination of factors has inspired Session to look into a capital campaign in the near future.

Our next session meeting is Monday, March 2 at 6:30 pm in Room 207 of the Christian Education Building.

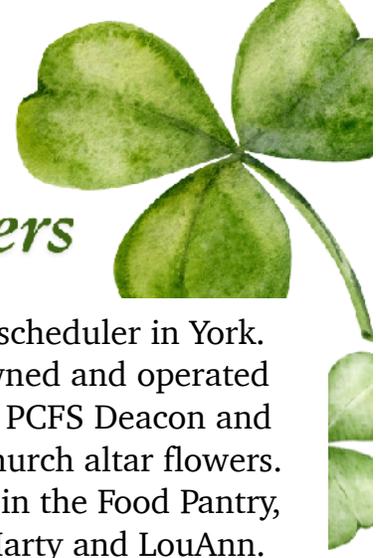
Enjoy the blessings designed for you on this day,

Cheri Kearney

Clerk of Session



Hello March



Meet the Food Pantry Volunteers

Lorraine Schwartz is retired from Wellspan Health where she was a surgery scheduler in York. Prior to Wellspan, she was a financial auditor for Dentsply of York and she owned and operated Drapery's by Lorraine. She now resides at Menno Haven. Lorraine is a former PCFS Deacon and currently volunteers two days a week in the church office and manages the church altar flowers. She continues to be an active member of Presbyterian Women. When serving in the Food Pantry, Lorraine does the computer intake of clients and seasonal decor along with Marty and LouAnn.

Vicki Kaye is an RN retired after 42 years at Chambersburg Hospital. Vicki also volunteers at our church library and is an active member of Presbyterian Women. Vicki lives at Menno Haven and enjoys daily 7-mile walks. Vicki keeps the pantry stocked with cereal.

Elise Overcash retired following a 25 year career teaching voice at CVSM. She is currently a member of the Falling Spring choir and the Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC), and formerly a member of Session. Elise resides at Menno Haven. When volunteering at the Food Pantry, she assists clients with food selection.

Bill Myers is retired from sales where he was in the snack food business for over 20 years. Bill is a history buff and enjoys traveling. Bill resides in Orrtanna. He is our dairy man at the Food Pantry.

Mike Breslin was part owner of an "at-home" care company, "Christian Companion Senior Care". Mike also worked at United Telephone Company for 11 years. He is on the board of the YMCA. Mike enjoys fly fishing and he has authored two published books - *Pass the Pierogies* and *Robbing the Pillars*. Mike resides in Chambersburg. He handles the meat distribution at our Food Pantry.

The banner hanging in the pantry and seen here in the photo, was designed and donated by Mike. Thank you, Mike!

Stay tuned! We will feature more of our Food Pantry Volunteers next month.

Marty Walker,
Food Pantry Coordinator



Deacon Updates

Family Group Details

Hello Falling Spring,

For those of you who may not know me, I'm Kira Wright, one of your Deacons at PCFS and the Moderator of the Board this year. I'm reaching out, not only to reintroduce all your Deacons, but to convey how we can serve you as part of the Falling Spring family.

Deacons exist to care for the congregation and PCFS family. That care could come in the form of praying for you, visiting in times of need, and figuring out ways that the church may be able to help meet any other needs you may have.

As many of you know, we've made changes to how we have organized the congregational "parishes". The congregation is now organized into seven different Family Groups. Like any change, we have learned what works best and what doesn't.

Each Family Group has at least one assigned Deacon, and you will be receiving an email in the next few days from yours. Follow this [link](#) to learn a little about all of us, including how to best contact us and our favorite meeting places.

- Kira Wright

Roses for Babies

For many years, there was a wonderful tradition at Falling Spring, where families of newborns received a silk rose. After the baby was born, a rose was displayed at the front of the worship spaces, and then the Deacons would deliver the rose and a card to the family. We would like to reinstate this tradition, as a way to share love with these beautiful growing families.

For us to start this up smoothly, we would like your help! We would love for you to contact the church office by phone 717.264.5715 or email office@pcfalloingspring.org to share the good news of a newborn! We will then make sure there is a silk rose prepared for the family of the newborn at the next Sunday service. Please let the church office, or your Deacon, know if you have any questions.

Thank you!



News from Presbyterian Women



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Thanks for supporting our Soup Sale!



Even though “Ole’ Man Winter” kept us from taking some in-person orders, we still were successful in adding to our coffers to support our missions. We have learned that January is not the best time, so look for us to hold future soup sales in the fall. Some of you asked for this so you could include soups in gift boxes.

PW of the Synod will hold a Women’s Retreat July 16-18 at the Antiochian Village in Ligonier, PA. The theme is “Joy on the Journey”. There are “Save-the-date” flyers posted around campus and registration forms will soon be available. Sue Mummert has the details if you are interested. There are scholarships available through PW at Falling Spring and /or PW of the Carlisle Presbytery.

If you would like to know more about Presbyterian Women, contact any of our CT members: Linda Fisher, Becky Fritz, Judy George, Marilyn Griffin, Wanda Hutchings, Vicki Kaye, Sue Mummert, Pat Phenicie-Grandel, Lorraine Schwartz, Karen Stover and Joy Zimmerman.



Come and join us. We always need more helping hands.

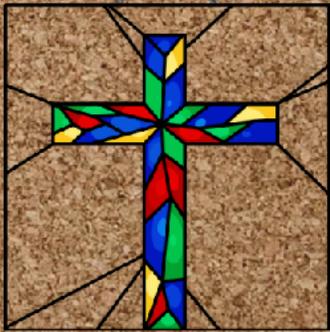
Welcome to the World,
Lamar David Law VI!

Lamar David Law V, "Davey", son of Kendyl and Dave Law. Grandson of Barb and David Law and great grandson of Joy and Pete Zimmerman. Davey was born December 19, 2025. Congratulations!



April Newsletter Deadline

THE DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL NEWSLETTER IS
EOB WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18TH.
PLEASE SUBMIT ALL INFORMATION TO THE
CHURCH OFFICE EMAIL:
OFFICE@PCFALLINGSRING.ORG



LOVE
LIVE
LEARN

EASTER CELEBRATION
EGG HUNT

WEDNESDAY APRIL 1
TIME 6-730PM
221 N. MAIN ST. CHAMBERSBURG

TWEENS SPAGHETTI LUNCH FUNDRAISER

WHEN: SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH @11:20AM

WHERE: FLC

COST: ADULTS (18 & UP) - \$10

KIDS 6 -17 YRS. - \$5

KIDS AGE 5 & UNDER - FREE



TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE
THROUGH MARCH 11TH.
GET'EM ON WEDNESDAY
EVENINGS, SUNDAY
MORNINGS OR CONTACT
JENN.

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE TWEENS SIGHT & SOUND TRIP.