



HARVEY MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1120 Arnold Avenue
Point Pleasant, NJ 08742

FEBRUARY MESSENGER 2020

The Meaning of Life

What is the meaning of Life?

Someone wrote and defined the meaning of life on a website so let me share it with you:

On the first day, God created the dog and said: "Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past. For this, I will give you a life span of 20 years."

The dog said: "That's a long time to be barking. How about only 10 years and I'll give you back the other 10?"

So God agreed.

On the second day, God created the monkey and said: "Entertain people, do tricks, and make them laugh. For this, I'll give you a 20-year life span."

The monkey said: "Monkey tricks for 20 years? That's a pretty long time to perform. How about I give you back 10 like the dog did?"

And God agreed.

On the third day, God created the cow and said: "You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer's family. For this, I will give you a life span of 60 years."

The cow said: "That's kind of a tough life you want me to live for 60 years. How about 20 and I'll give back the other 40?"

And God agreed again.

On the fourth and fifth day, God was busy creating other things, but on the sixth day, God created man and said: "Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this, I'll give you 20 years."

But man said: "Only 20 years? Could you possibly give me my 20, the 40 the cow gave back, the 10 the monkey gave back, and the 10 the dog gave back -- that makes 80, okay?"

"Okay," God said. "As long as you're sure."

So, that is why for our first 20 years we eat, sleep, play and enjoy ourselves. For the next 40 years we slave in the sun to support our family. For the next 10 years we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren. And for the last 10 years we sit on the front porch and bark at everybody.

And that, my friends, is the meaning of life. Now you know.

--Various Internet sources.

I know it is meant to be funny... but is this the meaning of life? Or, is the Epicurean notion of "eat, drink, and be merry"... for "there is nothing better for people than [these]" (Ecclesiastes 8:15) the meaning of life?

What is the meaning of life? When this question was asked a while ago in Life magazine, Martin Marty -- a church historian at the University of Chicago at the time -- answered by saying, "Love. To love and to be loved."

Talking about love, we celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14th with giving flowers, chocolates, and (even) jewelry. The day is filled with the warmth, fuzziness, and (even) Cupid's arrows. Nonetheless, Saint Valentine (or Valentinus about whom we celebrate the day) was a priest of Rome or the former bishop of Terni. He was commanded by Claudius to denounce his faith or face his death.

His love for the Lord God, he would choose his death on February 14, 269. Before his death, St. Valentine would extend his love and minister to the faithful, prisoners, and even jailors (even his enemies).

According to Wikipedia:

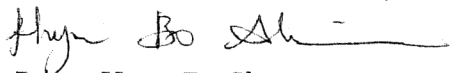
“... Saint Valentine is said to have cut hearts from parchment (to remind of God’s love for them), giving them to these soldiers and persecuted Christians (a possible origin of the widespread use of hearts on St. Valentine’s Day)....

“Another [hagiography] is that ... Valentine gave his testimony in prison and through his prayers healed the jailer’s daughter who was suffering from blindness. On the day of his execution, he left her a note that was signed, ‘Your Valentine.’”

Love for God and love for God’s people (even what we would consider as the enemy), St. Valentine would give up his life! Yet, if we praise him for what he had done, I am certain he would shy away by saying, “I was following my Lord Jesus who has shown me how to live.” Indeed, Jesus’ love for God and love for His people would choose the path to the cross, giving up His life on the cross!

Love for God and love for His people... how about that for the meaning of life for us all who confess that we are Christians (the literal meaning of the followers of Christ)? Something for us to ponder on during the month of February and especially on the Valentine’s Day.

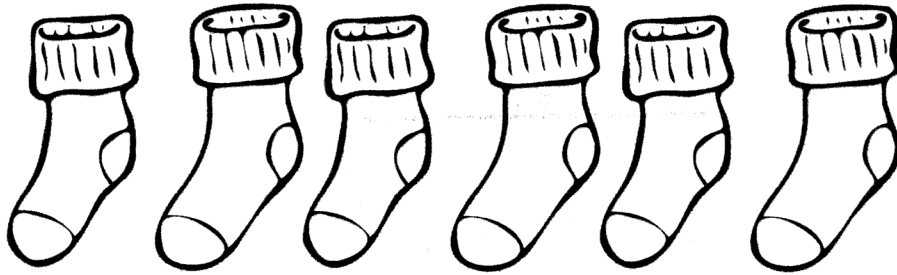
With the love of Jesus Christ,



Pastor Hyun-Bo Shim



"In Christ' name we welcome everyone, share faith together, and serve the world."



HARVEY SOCK DRIVE

The number one thing requested by the homeless and less fortunate are socks, all kinds of socks, any socks to help keep their feet warm. Harvey will be having an ongoing sock drive to help out those in need. A "Sock Box" is located in the lobby between the sanctuary and the hall. So far we have collected more than 100 pair of socks! Let's make it 200! Any questions, please see Jeff or Triche.

SERVICE



We need acolytes, ushers, and greeters. Please use the sign up lists located in the lobby. Become part of our service, no experience necessary.

The Flower Chart

Our flower chart has many openings. The cost is the same at \$30 for two bouquets. You can split it with someone else or get both for yourself. The flowers will be displayed on either side of the altar and mention of your dedication will be in that Sunday's bulletin.



Hispanic Worship Services

Great News! The Hispanic Worship services are now being held every Sunday at 5p.m. Their very capable leader, Miguel Rosario, has agreed to assume direction of this group succeeding Rev. Allen Ruscito. Communion is also served on the first Sunday of each month. A small core group has been coming, but we know that there are many more out there needing to hear and respond to the Word of God.

Please spread the word. Everyone is welcome, children and adults. Any questions please call 732-701-1165 or 732-892-1660. Thank you.



Prison Ministry

The Prison Ministry team visits the Church of the Reconciled, the chapel at East Jersey State Prison, every quarter. Their next visit is planned for March 15th. While visiting a prison may be a scary thought to some, please remember we are told to visit our brothers and sisters behind bars. All are equal in God's sight! If you are interested in joining us, please see Andrew Maggs or call him at (732)-759-1830 to get an application.



Page Turners Reading Club

The next meeting of the Page Turners is on February 15th at 2:00pm in the Newman Room. The book is "The Fist Phone Call From Heaven" by Mitch Album. Please see Gail Hulse for details.

praise God and Amen,



Prayer & Praise Hours

Praise Hour is held in the Newman Chapel on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month at 6:30p.m. For the month of February, Praise Hour will be held on the second and third Wednesday due to Ash Wednesday. Gail Hulse and Gerry Ferrara lead the service each week with prayer, music, a message, and healing. Communion is celebrated on the fourth Wednesday of every month. Invite your friends to come experience the joy! On the off weeks, please join us for **Prayer Meeting at 6:30p.m.**



Harvey's Closet News

Harvey's closet is now open! Come see our refurbished thrift shop. Thanks to Jeff, Bill, Dee, Jan, Lois and everyone else who made this possible. The hours are the same...Wednesday through Saturday from 9:00 am to noon.
Time to go shopping!

INDOOR



**WALL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH,
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
2414 OLD MILL ROAD
SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS**

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2020

9:00 AM TO 1:30 PM

**KITCHEN ITEMS, KNIC-KNAC'S, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, SMALL APPLIANCES,
SMALL FURNITURE, SPORTS EQUIPMENT, POCKET BOOKS, LINENS,
LAMPS AND A WHOLE LOT MORE!!**

February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:00 Hispanic Ser. Groundhog Day	3	4	5 6:30 Prayer Mtg.	6 8:00 Grayce Choir	7	8
9 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Church Council 4:00 Friendship din. 5:00 Hispanic Ser.	10	11	12 6:30 Praise Hour Lincoln's Birthday	13 8:00 Grayce Choir	14 St. Valentine's Day	15 2:00 Page Turners Reading Club
16 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:00 Hispanic Ser.	17 President's Day	18	19 6:30 Praise Hour	20 8:00 Grayce Choir	21	22
23 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Congregation mtg. 5:00 Hispanic Ser.	24	25	26 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service	27 8:00 Grayce Choir	28	29 9-Noon Pet Pantry

News & Notes

There are openings on the following dates for Acolytes:

February 2, 16, 23...March 1,22,29...April 5,12,19,26

There are openings on the following dates for Ushers:

March 29...April 5, 12 Please see Triche or call 732-892-1660.

Prayers for all who have been ill, injured or just in need. The Pet Pantry is still in need of cat food **AND** litter...Friendship dinners return on February 9th...there is a congregation meeting after the service on February 23rd.

"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."
1Corinthians 13:13 NIV

