

MARCH 2023

Journeys

A PUBLICATION OF CARVERSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



WHEREVER YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, WE WELCOME YOU HERE.

The Soul (Part 1: In Christian Scripture)

“Soul” is one of those words we frequently hear in worship and other religious places. But what is the soul? We can’t see it or touch it—or talk to it.

It’s a fundamental term in the Bible. Jesus cites Deuteronomy 6:5 in the greatest commandment: *You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.* This first clause of the greatest commandment appears also in Matthew and Luke, and uses the same phrase – *with all your soul*.

One authority reports that the Greek word for soul occurs more than 100 times in the New Testament. The frequency of its occurrence illustrates its importance in early Christian thought.

For New Testament writers, “the soul is the seat and center of the inner life of the human, and the location of the feelings and emotions. . . . [It]

survives after the death of the body, and receives the rewards and punishments of the afterlife. . . . The soul is the most important possession a person has.”¹

If the soul survives the death of a person, then it exists apart from the human body, which New Testament authors refer to as flesh. “The Greek word *sarx* . . . denotes the flesh of both animals and humans. It often appears with the word ‘blood,’ as in ‘flesh and blood,’ to signify the physical being of the human. . . .”

The apostle Paul described the flesh in negative terms: *For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death* (Romans 7:5).

A 2011 translation of this verse reads: *When we were self-centered, the sinful passions aroused through the Law were at work in all the parts of our body, so that we bore fruit for death.* (In other

passages, Paul describes the flesh in more positive terms. This contrast has occupied some scholarship for centuries!)

New Testament thought adds one more dimension to the individual person, *pneuma* or spirit. “The spirit is the breath, that which gives life to the body. . . . The spirit is the seat of insight, often giving persons glimpses of things not visible to the naked eye.”¹

This is especially true when we associate spirit with Jesus. Then spirit becomes “. . . the divine attribute of the human being.”¹

The Holy Spirit descended to Jesus after his baptism in the form of a dove to announce: *This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased* (Matthew 3:17).

“Soul” and “spirit” are closely related. Each relates to dimensions of our inner life. Matthew (12:15 ff.) cites an Isaiah passage to identify Jesus as God’s chosen use both terms:

Many followed Jesus, and he cured all of them, and he ordered them not to make him known. This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

“Here is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved, with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the gentiles.”

For many people, these usages of the word “soul,” along with “flesh” and “spirit” are definitive; that is, what they meant in biblical times is what they mean now.

Other people are more comfortable expanding their meaning to reflect new kinds of knowledge that didn’t exist twenty-plus centuries ago.

So next month’s *Thoughts for the Soul* will focus on contemporary views of soul. The 2011 translation cited above suggests how our understanding has evolved—an evolution that relates in part to the New Testament Greek word for soul, *psychē*.

— Pastor Fogal

¹ White, Sidnie Ann, “Human Person.” In Bruce M. Metzger and Michael D. Coogan, *The Oxford Companion to the Bible*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993, pp. 295-296.



LENTEN STUDY SERIES

What do the Old Testament prophets have to say to our lives today? That’s the question we will explore in our Lenten Study Series.

A revered Old Testament scholar (and United Church of Christ minister), Rev. Dr. Walter Brueggemann, leads discussions via a DVD that relate our faith to the Old Testament message.

Sessions will take place after worship, beginning at about 11:00 AM and lasting for about 45 minutes. Promise—this will be an interesting and challenging learning experience! ~Pastor Fogal





**Help Save a Life in March:
Donate Blood at CUCC**

EASTER FLOWERS

By Jeanne Brown

Spring is coming! The Easter flowers have been ordered. We will have the traditional arrangement of flowers in front of the altar on Easter Sunday. You can help make the sanctuary beautiful by purchasing these pots of flowers. They will bring a bit of spring into your home or be a nice gift for someone. You can select your flowers from the following list:

- Lilies..... ~ \$8.65
- 6 – bulb Tulips..... ~ \$6.55
- 3 – bulb Tulips..... ~ \$3.75
- 3 – bulb Hyacinths ~ \$6.55
- Single Hyacinths... ~ \$2.80
- Mini Daffodils..... ~ \$3.30

A list of people who purchased the flowers will be in the Easter Sunday worship program. If you want a dedication, please give me that information with your order.

The **deadline** for orders and payment is **Sunday, March 26**. Please make **checks payable to Jeanne Brown**.

You will be able to pick up your flowers following the service. If you have any questions, please call me at **215-348-3614**.

Thank you.

Very few people actually get to take an active role in helping to save a life. By taking an hour out of your day in March, you’ll get to make a real difference.

Carversville United Church of Christ is teaming up with the American Red Cross to host a community blood drive on **March 25th from 10am to 3pm**. The blood drive will be held in the social hall of the church.

All potential donors in good health are welcome and each will be properly screened on site for eligibility. Odds have it that someone you know will need blood during your lifetime. In fact, every two seconds someone in America needs blood, from trauma victims to cancer patients, mothers giving birth to premature babies and so many more. In our local area, the Red Cross has needed more donors so community drives such as this make a big difference.

Be assured, each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows high standards of safety and infection control. The Red Cross takes precautions to help ensure the safety of its employees, volunteers, and donors.

We encourage you to help our local community and please come out to support our drive – we look forward to your participation and seeing you there. Please note, that Carversville UCC will be promoting the blood drive on our Facebook page, our web site and throughout the community so, if you cannot donate, please help us spread the word about this important, lifesaving event!



SCOUT SUNDAY REVIEW

On February 5, the Boy Scouts of our troop 64, along with their families, celebrated Scout Sunday during the regular morning worship service. It was nice to have the Scouts participate in the service. Congratulations to Julian Bravo for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. On behalf of the congregation, Tom Repas presented Julian with a certificate honoring his achievement.

Following the service everyone gathered in the social hall to enjoy a fellowship time prepared by the Scout families. We were treated to a delicious assortment of foods and left with full tummies and big smiles. Many thanks to Troop 64 for the wonderful treat! We are very proud of all you have accomplished as a troop.



FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

from Sue Wulf

The need for food in our community continues to exist. Last month I took money that was donated for the Food Pantry and bought a lot of coffee. The item they are requesting for my next shop is toilet paper so I'm loading up the car. There will still be room in my car for the following also requested items: ketchup, mayonnaise, mustard, sugar and flour.

There are so many wonderful causes to donate to, but please don't forget about the hungry tummies right here in our community. Thanks for caring and sharing!



CARVERSVILLE DAY AT CARVERSVILLE UCC

One of the events that was suggested last year at our "Congregational Conversation" was to hold a Pancake Breakfast on Carversville Day. This year the event is set for Saturday, May 13.

Since the folks who come to Carversville Day use our parking lot, it's like having a captive audience. They'll have to walk right past the doors to the Social Hall!

Not only would we serve a pancake breakfast, but Jeanne Brown is also setting up her tables with goods like those sold at the Pork & Oyster Dinner. Proceeds from Jeanne's table will go to the Women's Fellowship.

There will be more information about the breakfast in the April newsletter.





We will also ask for baked goods, but no cookies because of the contest in the village. These items always sell out quickly.

New for this sale will be a jewelry table. Ladies, if you have costume jewelry you no longer wear, consider donating the pieces.

The proceeds will go to the Women's Fellowship, as usual.

If you have any questions, please call me at 215.348.3614. Thank you.

WHAT'S THE BOOK GROUP DOING?

The Book Group gathered on Valentine's Day for a LOVE-ly discussion of The Omega Factor by Steve Berry. After a slow start to the book, we agreed that the plot (or plots) thickened, and it was a thriller. Our discussion, of course, wandered from Mary's bones to ninja nuns to vodka to horseback riding. Not sure how we do this, but our discussions are GREAT. Left open for another discussion- What exactly does "woke" mean?

Jackie Putman will be our next hostess with entertainment provided by Harley! We'll meet on Monday, March 27, at 9:15 am to discuss The Night Circus by Erin Morgenstern. We'd love to have you become part of this wonderful fellowship that always sends us home with a big smile and a happy heart. Happy reading!

CARVERSVILLE DAY CRAFT SALE

by Jeanne Brown

We will have a craft sale in the social hall on Carversville Day on Saturday, May 13, 2023. The sale replaces the Oyster & Pork Supper craft room.

Visitors park at the church and can stop to shop on their way to and from the village.

If you are a crafty person, you still have time to create items to donate for the sale. We have always had a great variety to offer our customers.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rev. Robert E. Fogal, PhD.
Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. ~ 1:00 p.m. and by appointment.
Email: pastorfogal@gmail.com
Cell phone: 610-945-4955

Lynn Bullock, Organist
Email: lynnbullock8@gmail.com
Cell phone: 215-260-1569

Chris Ochadlick, Office Admin.
Wednesday and Thursday ~ 8:00 a.m. ~ 1:00 p.m.
Office phone: 215-297-5166
Email: carversvilleucc@gmail.com

Email: carversvilleucc@gmail.com
Website: CarversvilleUCC.org
Facebook.com/carversvilleucc

3736 Aquetong Road, PO Box 26
Carversville, PA 18913
Office phone: 215-297-5166





The festival committee has been very busy and are very excited to bring you up to date.

As you can see, we have re-invented ourselves and hope you love our new logo as much as we do (thank you, Elizabeth). Our event will no longer be a “Holiday Food Festival” but will now be known as the “Winter Wonderland Shop & Pantry” sponsored by the Carversville United Church of Christ. This means we welcome ALL crafters!

Our event will be held on Saturday, November 11, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. As before, we will have several raffle baskets, (including two lap quilts donated by our quilters), gift cards (not just food related) and a vintage table. We are busy making Stocking Stuffers as well.

Chef Dan Gallo of Thyme and Plate Catering (formerly from the Carversville Kitchen) will be serving a luncheon menu for purchase during the day. I’ve seen the proposed menu ~ its mouthwatering!

We are also hoping to put together an Art/Photography Show in one of the rooms adjacent to the Social Hall. If you know of anyone who may want to display/sell (smallish) pieces of art, send them my contact information. We’re very excited about this new addition.

Keep on the lookout! Our new “Jingles” will be making an entrance the second Sunday of the month beginning March 12, 2023. To refresh, the money donated to the “Jingle Jar” will be used to help purchase items for our fabulous Raffle Baskets.

We’re looking forward to the best event ever. You can contact me with any questions/suggestions at cathyprice2@verizon.net.

Cathy Price, Chairperson



PRAYING HANDS

Here is a list of those who would benefit from receiving cards this month. We encourage you all to reach out to these people as it will mean a lot.

Nancy and Jim Hale- 657 Spring Valley Road,
Doylestown, PA 18901

Catherine Halper- P.O. Box 564, Lahaska, PA
18931

Judy and Frank Le Vien- 6264 Point Pleasant Pike,
Doylestown, PA 18902

Sally Seeton- 1850 Lower Mountain Road West,
Furlong, PA 18925

Gordon Keckeissen- 555 N. Broad St., #508A,
Doylestown, PA 18901

Jack and Patsy King- 503 Windrush Bay Drive,
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

DJ Kling- P.O. Box 195, Carversville, PA 18913

Jim Cleaveland- 26 N. Lafayette Ave., Morrisville,
PA 19067

Lon and Pat Pritchard- 1131 West Kings Highway,
Coatsville, PA 19320