



Fairfield Good News

WORSHIPPING THE LORD FOR OVER 300 YEARS!

January 2021

January

January 10

Worship online and
Congregational
Meeting online.

January 17

Sanctity of Human
Life Sunday
Baby Bottle
Boomerang

Two Constants in the New Millennium by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

A full century ago my great, great grandfather reminisced in a New Year's sermon over the changes he had witnessed in his 79 years.

"Our letters were sealed with wax, and postage was 15 cents. There were no stamps, no envelopes, no steel pens, but our thoughts were 'wafted on the pinions of a gray goose quill.' The typewriter, photograph, telephone and telegraph have been invented. In college I saw Morse's horse-shoe magnet," he recalled. Perhaps you can remember the first televisions. Today the Internet shrinks the globe.

"The first of the century grass was cut by a scythe; grain by a sickle, and thrashed with a flail," recounted the Rev. Charles Henry de Long. "I remember cradling my father's wheat and holding horses to tread out the grain." Today huge combines do the work of many men.

My 93-year-old mother can remember her father's horse and buggy. In our lifetimes men have walked on the moon, and every five years our scientific knowledge doubles.

What has been constant throughout the past century? Change. Yet the pace of change itself seems to be accelerating.

How do we prepare for change?

One of my heroes is Joshua. Moses, that towering figure who had led Israel for 40 years, was dead. Now his assistant had to step into Moses' giant sandals and assume leadership in the most precarious and unsettling of times. Israel was about to cross the Jordan River at flood stage and attack the heavily fortified city of Jericho. The Israelites had been slaves, then desert nomads. What did they know of war? They couldn't stay where they were, but to go where God was leading was frightening, fraught with change. God prepared Joshua with these words: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9).

Change is one constant, but the other constant is God himself, the One

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who never changes, who sees the end from the beginning, and for whom the future holds no surprises. God has made us a solemn promise: to be with us always. That promise holds wherever we are, and is not invalidated by the unexpected. In whatever success we enjoy, amidst whatever failure we suffer, God has promised to be there with us.

I really don't like roller coasters. I don't like to scream all the way down. I don't like fear. Unfortunately, life in the new millennium is likely to be that kind of ride, with its dizzying heights, its gut wrenching turns, and its freefall downslopes. But we have a seatmate who is God himself, there to steady us, protect us, and guide us. Today he repeats to us those timeless words that echo across the centuries and millennia: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

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IMPORTANT: CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON JANUARY 10 AT 11:30 AM

Our meeting this year will be a Zoom meeting (no surprise)! This week you will be emailed the link and phone-in number for the meeting along with committee reports. Those who do not have email will receive US postal mailed copies of the reports this week. This hopefully will give you time to review the reports prior to the meeting. You will also get a One Call Now from Deb with instructions on how to attend the meeting. Consistory encourages every member of the church to attend the meeting if possible. Worship this Sunday will be online only, the links to attend the service at Lincoln Park at 10 AM is on the next page.

Despite all the "shut downs" this past year due to the pandemic, your consistory has been working very hard to make sure we worship the Lord regularly either in-person or online, that we celebrated our 300th anniversary in some ways, albeit limited. We have missed you, thank you for your support and thank you for sending in your tithes and offerings to pay our bills.

We very much look forward to being able once again to greet each other, have a cup of coffee or meal together, worship together in our sanctuary, sing praises to God, read His Word and pray together and are hoping that will happen soon—
God is Good !!

Worship Services

Our worship services will continue to be held in person in our sanctuary Sundays at 1:00 PM for the foreseeable future. Going forward a couple of months Joe Cusack, Tim OHugh, Eric Farrar and Craig Kozan will rotate bringing the message.

The usual social distancing precautions will be in place.

For those who cannot attend our in-person services, First Reformed in Lincoln Park livestreams their service on their website: <https://www.frc-lpnj.org/page/180007493/180121159/Live-Streaming> <https://>

and facebook page: [https:// www.facebook.com/1stLP](https://www.facebook.com/1stLP).

Or you can watch it later on their YouTube site:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCy27VJQiqsgZqEvSWKkpxWA?view_as=subscriber



January 4 June and Gene Favatella

What is your new year's resolution???

What is a New Year's resolution? Something that goes in one year and out the other.

My resolution was to read more, so I turned on the subtitles on my TV.

At the beginning of the year, I made a resolution to lose 15 pounds. Only 20 more to go!

Note: Tuesday evenings at 7 PM, prayer warriors gather in Fellowship Hall to pray for the needs of the church. You are welcome to be a prayer warrior and join them.

Sunday, January 17

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

We will participate in Baby Bottle Boomerang with First Choice Women's Resource Ctr. this year. There will be plastic baby bottles to fill with your change at church BUT you can also use a jar you have at home. We will turn in our offerings in February. There are new laws coming out regarding abortion so protection for the unborn is more important than ever.



HAPPY NEW YEAR



Wordsearch

Search for the words going up, down, left and right.

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| A | Z | N | A | G | A | V | A | R | T | X | E | I | Q | I |
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CELEBRATION

COUNTDOWN

EXTRAVAGANZA

FIREWORKS

GATHERING

INVITATION

JANUARY

MIDNIGHT

NOISEMAKER

PARTY

RESOLUTION

TRADITION

