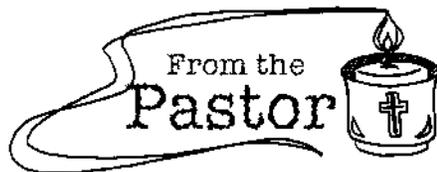


Valley Views



VOLUME 29, NUMBER 6

JUNE 2022



Pastor Mike Hill

"Finding Forgiveness, Freedom from Remorse"

By Samuel Mills

A recent visitor commented: "I know that to be forgiven, we must come to God with a humble and sorrowful heart. But my problem is that I cannot sense when I am sorrowful enough to receive forgiveness from God."

That message obviously comes from a humble and contrite heart, and that is a marvelous Christian trait!

However, if it were to be as suggested, that our sins can be forgiven based only upon how remorseful we are, then perhaps we should ask:

How much sorrow and regret does God require before extending forgiveness?!
What is this unidentified level?

When Christians sin and then come to terms with what they have done they usually do so with a sense of guilt.

Sorrow and Remorse

I certainly believe that sorrow and remorse for sin should prompt Christians to seek forgiveness. But I am not aware of scripture that designates a level of (pain and guilt) that must be experienced before mercy is extended.

If we go by feelings to decide when our sins are forgiven, how do we know when we reach an acceptable level of true repentance and spiritual sorrow?

Christians doing bodily harm to themselves, causing pain to their bodies and emotions is abhorrent to God. So how far are we to carry our remorse?

Punishing our soul through self-induced guilt and torment to receive forgiveness is a waste of time, and even sinful. Punishing ourselves is not the way we receive forgiveness.

Receiving God's forgiveness does not depend on how much emotional pain we can cause ourselves to feel.

Because emotion will not bring forgiveness and peace; that will come from our request to God for forgiveness, rested upon our faith in what Jesus accomplished on the cross.

Receiving God's Forgiveness

Guidelines From Scripture

You Must be Born Again:

- "Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So, it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." (John 3:7-8)

Jesus Our Advocate:

- "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." (1 John 2:1-2)

Repent:

- Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, (Acts 3:19)

Confess:

- "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

Forgive Others:

"And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses." (Mark 11:25)

Ask God for forgiveness:

"God knows all about your sins, and yet loves you immeasurably." He dotes on you, and according to Psalm 139, He knows your thoughts and the next words before they are spoken.

According to Jesus, He knows the number of hairs on your head, and all your needs even before you ask, Luke 12:7), (Matt 6:8).

He knows all your strengths and weaknesses and will not expect more than you can deliver; He will be with you and never place more on you than you can bear. (2 Cor 12:9)

God loves Sinners more than He hates their sins. He also knows that regardless of how hard they try, they will still sin.

Jesus endured all the temptations to sin, yet is the only one who ever lived a sinless life.

- "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin." (Heb 4:15, NKJV)

God, knowing that mankind could not be sinless, loves us so that He sent Jesus, the "Lamb of God," to die in our place.

- "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16, NKJV)
- "For I will be merciful and gracious toward their wickedness, And I will remember their sins no more." (Heb 8:12, AMP)

Christians may have rightfully suffered guilt and remorse for their sins, but to do so after receiving forgiveness is not helpful.

Confidence in receiving forgiveness comes by faith and trust in Jesus and what He accomplished on the cross.

- "As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. Just as a father loves his children, So, the Lord loves those who fear and worship Him [with awe-filled respect and deepest reverence]. For He knows our [mortal] frame; He remembers that we are [merely] dust." (Psalm 103:13-14, AMP)



Parsonage Work Day! Thursday, June 9th - Volunteers are needed to help clean and prepare the parsonage for Pastor Dave and Jean's move in day on Friday, June 10th.



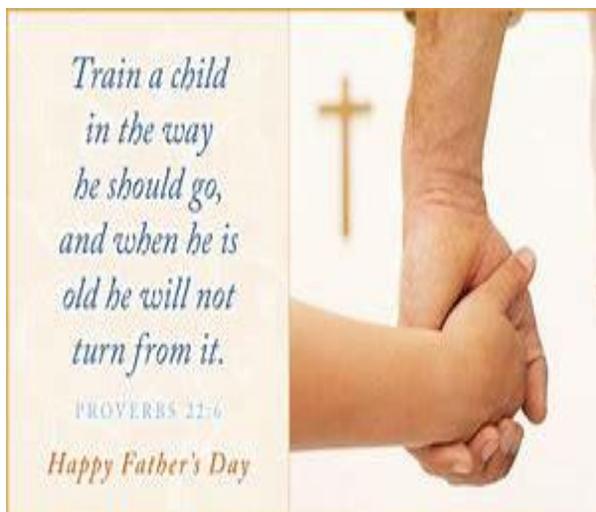
Pastor Mike's official moving date is Wednesday, June 8th. He will be leading worship until June 26th.



Pastor Dave Shultz will be moving into the parsonage on Friday, June 10th.



The Elimsport United Methodist church would like to invite members and friends to a Farewell Luncheon for the Hill Family on Sunday, June 26th, at noon. Meal, beverage, and table service will be provided. Please come and enjoy fellowship as we gather together to express our gratitude and appreciation to Pastor Mike and his family for their years of service.



Various means to keep updated:

website: evpumc.org

Face book: Elimsport United Methodist Parish

Electronic sign at Elimsport church

email Pastor Mike: hjebm@comcast.net

email church: elimsportumc@gmail.com

Call Pastor Mike: 570-547-1386

Text Pastor Mike: 570-974-8590 (please identify yourself when texting)

Be pro-active in getting the word out to others in the church.

Please be sure to check the church website evpumc.org and Elimsport United Methodist Parish face book for up to date church news.



It's that time of year again. VBS 2022 will be held Sunday, July 10th through Thursday, July 14th from 6 to

8:30 pm. Dinner provided. Kids ages pre-school thru kids entering 7th grade. Friday, July 15th will be our closing program and carnival at 6pm. This year's theme is Monumental-Celebrating God's Awesomeness!! Kids will explore the vastness of God's power and the depth of his love for each of them. Let's go off road for a Monumental adventure through the colorful canyons and sun baked trails of the Southwest. Discovering epic adventures that will help kids encounter God's power and love!!! Any questions please contact Taryn Myers, Christa McCormick, or Sharon Heintzelman.

Pastor Mike's new address will be:
45 Rte. 864 Highway, Montoursville, Pa. 17754



Please let Pastor Mike know of anyone graduating from High School, College or any other venue of higher education. We will be honoring the graduates on Sunday, June 12th at both churches.



- Items for July's newsletter are due June **20th**.
- Items for the weekly bulletin's need to be to the church office by **Wednesday morning** each week.
(Items received after these dates are not guaranteed to be printed.)

The next VBS meeting will be Thursday, June 16th at 7 pm.



Elimsport Administrative Council will meet Monday, June 13th at 6:30.



St. John's Administrative Council will meet Thursday, June 9th at 7:00.



Helping Hands-

Thank you for your donation to the Easter Egg Hunt. Without our generous sponsors, we wouldn't be able to keep this tradition alive. We were so blessed that it didn't rain.



Wednesday morning breakfast at the Elimsport church is Wednesday mornings, from 7:30 am to 9:30 am.



Thanks again,

The Easter Egg Hunt Committee

Pastor Mike is in need of medium and large sized cardboard boxes up to 36". If you have any you would like to get rid of, please let Pastor Mike know.



There will be a blood drive on Tuesday, June 7th from 2-7 at the church fellowship hall.

Anyone leaving items on the back pew at St. John's please label where the items are to go. (Footprints of Montgomery, Son Light House, etc)



Kid's Corner



ELIMSPORT VALLEY UNITED METHODIST PARISH

Worship Schedule:

Elimsport UMC

Worship 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:30 am

St. John's UMC

Sunday School 9:15 am
Worship 10:30 am

Parish Youth Group

Check weekly Bulletin for current schedule and events
(at Elimsport)

Parish Bible Study

Varies according to the season.

Parish Office:

16145S. RT 44 HWY
Allenwood, PA 17810

Parsonage Phone:

(570) 547-1386

Pastor Mike's Cell:

(570) 974-8590

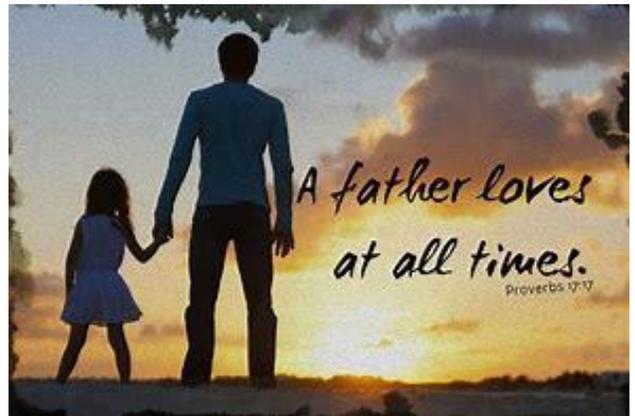
Parish Website:

www.evpumc.org

Parish email:

elimsportumc@gmail.com

www.evpumc.org



Our Mission Statement at Elimsport UMC



We gather together as a community of Christian believers to worship, fellowship, and to learn more about God. By the unity of the Spirit and the support of each other, we are able to reach out to the community and the world.

Our Mission Statement at St. John's UMC



The purpose of St. John's is to both evangelize and nurture. We are called to show God's love in our world by giving aid and by spreading the Good News of Christ. We in turn provide an atmosphere for nurturing where Biblical truths are shared enabling people to become spiritually enriched. By providing this, people will learn and through learning, become more effective witnesses.