



First Church of the Brethren
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churchoffice@rsfirstchurch.org

Pastor: Rev. Dr. David A. Crumrine dcrumrine@rsfirstchurch.org
October 2024

Living out our faith

Being the hands and feet of Jesus, serving with open minds and hearts.

We exist to be a community of welcome and worship where people find peace, purpose, and power through Jesus Christ.

Historical rankings of our past Presidents are about as useful as political polls. The results usually are more about the author's personal agenda and who they ask for input. In the opinion of some, these rankings only become worth noting when a past president receives high marks from ALL sides.

And that's a lesson for us as Christians.

Take, for example, George Washington. No matter where historians judge his less than perfect military record, and his founding work as our first president, he is consistently ranked in the top two or three of all U.S. presidents. Did he make mistakes? Absolutely. Lots of them. But he's still consistently ranked in the top echelon of our past leaders.

"General Washington does err." noted contemporary founding father Thomas Jefferson. "But he errs with integrity."

If we accept that integrity is what happens when we make every effort to walk daily with the Lord, then yes, we will continue to make mistakes because we are human. But as Proverbs 16:7 says "when the Lord takes pleasure in anyone's ways, he causes their enemy to make peace with them."

I can't guarantee that your efforts to walk with Lord and follow His commands will get you ranked at the top of any historical survey. I can't even guarantee that the effort won't make some small people envious. But I will promise that you'll end up near the top of the Lord's list of favorites.

Do good and...
share what you have,
for such sacrifices
are pleasing
to God.

Hebrews 13:16

Pastor Dave



LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT submitted by Kaye Russell, LT Chair

- The Leadership Team met on 9-3-2024. The next meeting will be held on 10-1-2024.

CHRISTIAN ED TEAM

This team is now being chaired by the LT Exec Team through the end of 2024. Tasks of the team and two coordinator positions were reviewed. Rally Day plans were finalized. Fall SS teachers have been secured; more substitutes for elementary level would be appreciated. ReCharge will begin on 10-5. Teachers for the elementary level are still needed weekly or once monthly, or however your schedule permits would be helpful. Please talk with Angie Russell. Additional Children's Church leaders/helpers are also still needed. Again, speak with Angie R. if you have any questions or interest. Denominational Jr Youth Sunday will be held 11-4. Both Jr and Sr Youth will participate.

HOSPITALITY & COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

38 people attended the August Faith Night at the Curve. The team will provide snacks for Rally Day fellowship. There will be a 5th Sunday all church meal on 9-29.

WORSHIP TEAM

Choir practice resumed on 9-4. The first Sunday to sing will be 9-15. No update on when the new choir loft chairs should be arriving. The piano in the sanctuary will be tuned in the next month or so. Pastor Dave & Terry H. would like to see more participation from the attendees on Sunday mornings. And additional participation from the worship leaders. They will work on this. A children's play will be presented during worship on 12-1. Good Grief will sponsor a "Blue Christmas" service during morning worship on 12-22.

MISSIONS & SERVICE TEAM

Pennies for Witness will be the Children's story focus on 10-6. Children will be collecting donations throughout the congregation and a Missions video will be shared. Heritage Fair Impact Team is working on food and a children's project. Discussion began on ideas for the traditional "White Gift Offering." Discussed the name and its origin. More discussion to follow.

FINANCE & FACILITY TEAM

Marlys Hershberger and Cindy Estep have agreed to serve on the Daycare Liaison Team along with Mindy Wagner, Bryce Nooyen, and Pastor Dave. Door locks for the outside doors will all be rekeyed to use the same key. The elevator electrical room door lock will also be changed and a list of people having a key will be placed inside the elevator for emergency use. Proposed 2025 budgets are due back to Bryce N. by 10-13. All teams will need to meet and establish their proposals before that date. Annual team reports will need to be in to the church office by 10-27 so that the Forum packets can be prepared. Our next Congregational Forum will be held on 11-24 immediately following worship. New updated mapping and signage is being completed to be placed throughout the building.

DEACON'S REPORT

Deacon meeting and prayer gathering will be held on 9-15. Worldwide Communion will be offered on Sunday, 10-6 at 6:30pm.

PASTOR'S REPORT

The Pastor will be applying to the denomination for a 3rd year "Faith in Action" grant to be used for our ReCharge Program. It was noted that for the 2nd year, the family of Marjorie Rhodes will be making a monetary donation to the ReCharge Program as well.

- The Gifts Discernment Team has met and is working on slate vacancies. Please consider serving if you are like to serve, please be in touch with Dan Hammel.



HELPING HANDS IN OCTOBER

Greeters Cathie & Michael Pollard

Deacon Greeter Kaye Russell

Fellowship Time

Genesis Class

October	6	13	20	27
Organist	Cathy Petre		Terry Hershberger	
Pianist	Cathy Neal	Brenda Fluke-Garber	Marcia Fleck	Brenda Fluke-Garber
Worship Leader		Pattie Conlon	Children	
Storyteller	Sandy Norris	Pastor Dave	Bethann Frederick	Linda Steele
Children's Church	Jodie & Terry Dellinger	Tammy Carter	Angie Russell	Terra Gartmann Melinda Green
Acolyte				Jona & Ella Gartmann
Welcome Center	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland
Parking Lot Greeters	Don Bookhammer	Don Myers		
Flowers		Hospitality	Memory of Brielle Harmon	Honor of Darlene Wyland's 80 th BD
Bulletins		Hospitality		



Every year on the first Sunday in October, on October 6 this year, Christians around the globe celebrate World Communion Sunday. It is a day to remember that Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church and that every Christian Church and any denomination that promotes Christian unity are one. On this day, people draw faith and inspiration from seeing that they are part of a community that

boasts millions of believers and worshippers.

WHAT IS LOVE FEAST? It is a time of worship in four parts that brings to life the self-giving, transformative love we see in Jesus.

We celebrate the October love feast with an evening service held in the fellowship hall. Soft lighting throughout the entire service is woven together with scripture, prayer, meditation and singing.

After taking time for self- reflection, we take turns washing each other's feet— each one washing and being washed, serving as Christ to one another. Men and women separate for feet washing and hand washing.

As we share a meal, we slow down enough to pay attention to one another. Families sit together for a simple meal of bread, beef, topped with hot broth, grapes, cheese and crackers.

Once we have completed the meal, we quietly share Holy Communion, the bread and the cup that remind us of Jesus' great gift as we renew our commitment to follow his example of sacrificial love.

In breaking bread and sharing the cup, just as Jesus did with his disciples, we remember the ultimate gift of love—Jesus' own death and resurrection. Our remembrance calls us to share that love by becoming more like Jesus!

We invite you to join us at 6:30 pm. Childcare will be available. Should you need transportation please contact Dave & Valerie Smith.



Sisters
OF FAITH

later than October 13th

ALL LADIES WELCOME

Tuesday,

6 pm

October 15th

Jethro's

RSVP to Janet Imes

or Valerie Smith



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

October 19th

8 am

Breakfast at

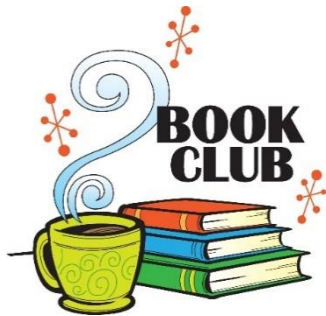
The Dream,

Hollidaysburg

All men invited!

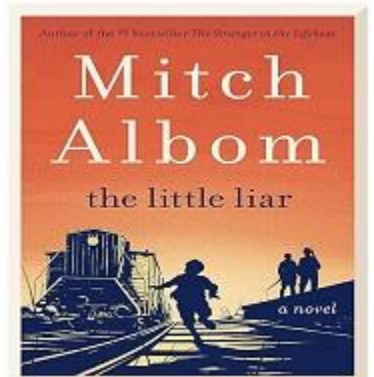
Meetings are the third Monday of each month at 10 am in the Parlor.

Join us as we discuss the monthly selection on October 21, 2024



The Little Liar by Mitch Albom

Beloved bestselling author Mitch Albom returns with a powerful novel that moves from a coastal Greek city during the Holocaust, to America, where the intertwined lives of three survivors are forever changed by the perils of deception and the grace of redemption. Eleven-year-old Nico Krispis never told a lie. When the Nazi's invade his home in Salonika, Greece, the trustworthy boy is discovered by a German officer, who offers him a chance to save his family. All Nico has to do is convince his fellow Jewish residents to board trains heading to "new homes" where they are promised jobs and safety. Unaware that this is all a cruel ruse, the innocent boy goes to the station platform every day and reassures the passengers that the journey is safe. But when the final train is at the station, Nico sees his family being loaded into a large boxcar crowded with other neighbors. Only after it is too late does Nico discover that he helped send the people he loved—and all the others—to their doom at Auschwitz. Nico never tells the truth again. In *The Little Liar*, his first novel set during the Holocaust, Mitch Albom interweaves the stories of Nico, his brother Sebastian, and their schoolmate Fanni, who miraculously survive the death camps and spend years searching for Nico, who has become a pathological liar, and the Nazi officer who radically changed their lives. As the decades pass, Albom reveals the consequences of what they said, did, and endured. A moving parable that explores honesty, survival, revenge and devotion, *The Little Liar* is Mitch Albom at his very best. Narrated by the voice of Truth itself, it is a timeless story about the harm we inflict with our deceptions, and the power of love to ultimately redeem us.



OCTOBER Birthdays

10/1 Cathie Pollard
 10/2 Rick Dillon
 10/7 Bill Hagstrom
 Mya Giordano
 10/10 Jona Gartmann

10/10 Ken Miller
 10/12 Elaine Frazier
 10/14 Bonnie Butler
 Sandy Smith
 Carolyn Grubb

10/16 Crystal Burns
 10/18 Dan Hammel
 10/20 Jameson Walters
 10/23 Alexander Eicher
 10/31 Liliana Padilla

October ANNIVERSARIES

10/2 Gary & Connie Fluke
 Pattie & Jerome Conlon
 10/3 Andy & Amanda Keith
 10/5 Ramon & Kaye Burket
 10/9 Jon & Terra Gartmann
 10/10 Earl & Becky Bryson

10/10 Mitchell & Danielle Conrath
 10/15 Terry & Jodie Dellinger
 10/17 Doug & Brenda Garber
 10/20 Ken & Barbara Miller
 10/21 Mike & Crystal Burns
 10/27 Mike & Becky Bianconi

Sunday School schedule for the second Sunday of each month

All classes are invited to the Fellowship Hall following worship. Nursery through 5th grade teaches will take their students to class at 11 am. Jr & Sr Youth may stay in the Fellowship Hall for the sermon discussion or proceed to their classroom at 11 am. Adults remain in the Fellowship Hall for sermon discussion.



October 13, 2024

A basket for cards will be in the Overflow Room that morning. Please plan to attend Fellowship Time where we will celebrate Pastor Dave.



All children 5th grade and under are invited to the Fellowship Hall on October 20th at 8:30 am for **Pancakes with the Pastor**

Children will also be participating in worship service that morning. Parts will be handed out during Recharge and practices will be scheduled.



October 31

6 – 8 pm

Anyone wishing to set up in the parking lot is asked to please let Beth Burns know. Watch bulletins for more information. Donations of items to hand out will be received all month. Please place your donation on the round table in the Overflow Room.



Help Needed for ReCharge!!

See Valerie Smith if you are interested in cooking a meal for our church family at 5:45 on Wednesday evenings during the months of October - March. Valerie is looking for cooks, helpers to serve, and helpers to clean up each week.

Angie Russell will have sign up sheets in the overflow room through September for volunteers to help with the children's lessons each week from October - March. She is looking for volunteers for the following classrooms: Nursery, PreK (3 & 4 year olds), Grades K-2, and Grades 3-5. Activities are provided for you and are usually 30-40 minutes in length. Please contact Angie with further questions or to sign up.

Heaven's Gates & Hell's Flames, a drama is being presented at Faith Assembly, Roaring Spring, October 6th, 7th and 8th. All three nights begin at 7 pm. In a powerful way, this drama portrays eternity, Heaven and Hell. For families with children under 9 years of age nursery and other activities will be available.



We extend our sympathies to the family of Carl Hoover who passed through the gates of heaven on October 12, 2024. Carl was a baptized at First Church in 1963. A Celebration of Life will be held on his birthday, October 12th at 11 am at the church. Please keep his sister Diana Walls, and his family, in prayer.



BRETHREN Disaster Ministries

Turkey & Waffle Dinner Fundraiser

November 2nd, 4-7 pm

Fellowship Hall of
First Church of the Brethren
901 Bloomfield Street
Roaring Spring, PA

Donation: Adults \$13; Ages 5-12 \$5; 4 and under free

Make your ticket reservation by calling Jan in the office 9 am to noon, 814.224.4113.

(Limited tickets will be available at the door)



Sunday, November 3rd

Noon

Fellowship Hall

Those 55 and over are invited to a meal to honor you and your service to Christ and for sharing his love with others. Please sign up at the Welcome Center so we know how many to plan for.



We will be requesting names of those you would like to see called as Deacons

OPEN BALLOT FOR CALL OF DEACONS

Biblically and historically, the Church of the Brethren has **called** rather than elected Deacons. The church considers Deacons to be a **set-apart** ministry, whereby the congregation recognizes the gifts of specific individuals inviting them to a position of leadership.

The duties assigned to the Deacons are:

- Ministering to the sick, unfortunate, and needy
- Overseeing Baptism, Love Feast, and Communion
- Consulting with the pastors on issues of membership
- Encouraging persons to consider ministry vocations
- Providing a caring ministry as Undershepherds

The church has held up the biblical standards found in **1 Timothy 3:8-13** which calls for Deacons to be spiritually mature, persons of integrity, faithful to the teaching of scripture, and exhibit a life of obedience to God.

After prayerful consideration, on October 27th we will be ask you to write name(s)of those you feel would serve well as Deacons. *2024 Deacons are eligible to be called again.

Please read what the Constitution states about Deacons as you make your decisions.

SECTION 10 - Deacons

1. The Deacon Body shall consist of all duly called and installed Deacons of the church as defined by Annual Conference and the Middle District of Pennsylvania. The duties of this body shall be to assist the Pastor(s) in counseling and ministering to the sick, the unfortunate, and the needy; to assume general oversight of the physical arrangements for observing the ordinances of Baptism and Lovefeast; to cooperate with the Pastor(s) in the visitation of members to maintain the standards for credentials of membership; and to counsel and approve all candidates for the ministry.

2. Any member of the congregation in good standing is eligible to be called to the Deacon Ministry. (A member in good standing shall be

defined as one who is faithfully fulfilling his/her baptismal vows. These vows are confessions of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and worshipping, serving, and sharing in the programs of the congregation by prayer, regular attendance, loyal service, outreach, and faithful stewardship).

3. Deacons shall be called to a term of 5 years of office, with no limit to the number of terms to which they may be called. Any Deacon serving 20 or more years may elect to become Deacon emeritus. The process of calling Deacons shall be detailed in the Deacon minutes. Changes to the process must be approved by the congregation at a Congregational Forum.

4. The Deacons shall elect their own chairperson/officers. The Senior Pastor (and Associate Pastor) shall serve as ex-officio members of the Deacon Body.

Deacons

Mitch & Bethann Frederick (2026)
Sandy Norris (2026)
Pattie Conlon (2026)

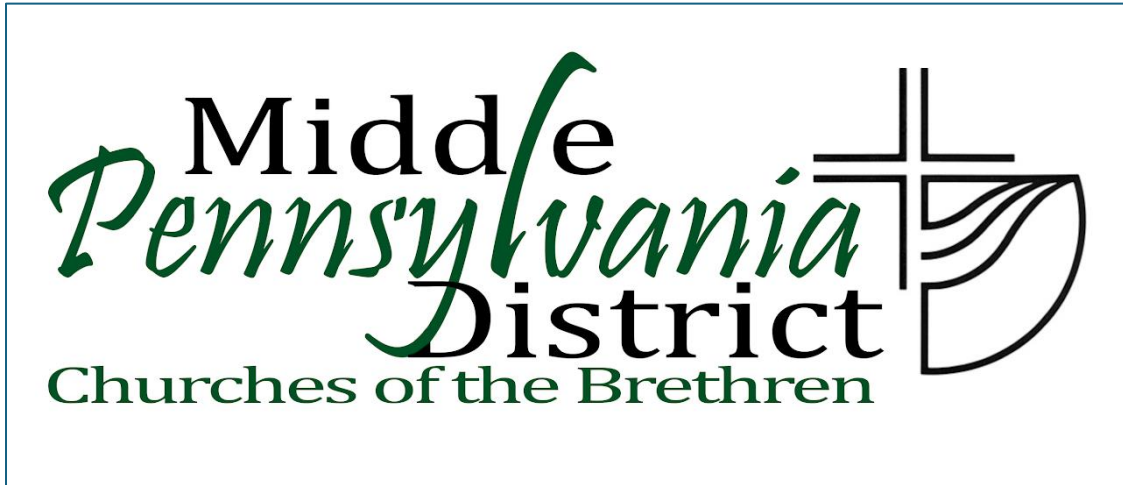
Mike & Becky Bianconi (2027)
Dave & Valerie Smith (2027)
Paul & Julie Witkovsky (2027)

Betsy Garach (2028)
Krista Snyder (2028)
Linda Steele (2028)
Doug & Brenda Garber (2028)
Dan & Sharon Hammel (2028)

Missions & Service Team Highlights – Middle PA District

Our congregation is part of Middle PA District— 53 Church of the Brethren congregations located in Central Pennsylvania. Other Pennsylvania districts are: Atlantic Northeast District, Southern PA District, and Western PA District.

We are pleased to support Mid PA District in mission & purpose.



Mission & Purpose

The Mission: The Middle Pennsylvania District is a community of believers in Christ, continuing His work peacefully, simply, and together. Building on a common heritage and vision, the District exists to encourage and strengthen the life of the member congregations for service and witness to the good news of salvation in the name and love of Christ.

The Purpose: The District has the three-fold purpose of (1) administering and coordinating the religious/business activities of the Church of the Brethren, within District bounds; (2) assisting congregations in carrying out their unique mission; and (3) enabling member congregations to join together to participate in shared mission.



District Center/Office in Huntingdon, PA




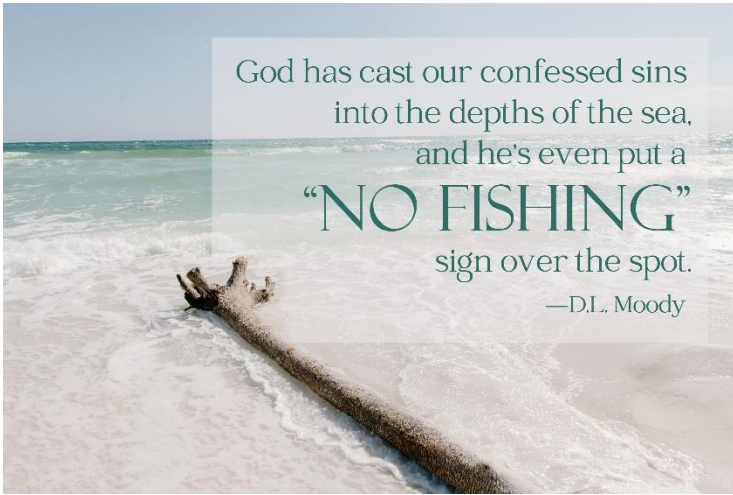
Admin Asst Kris Shunk

Current District Executive Interim Team:

Mark Liller
Janet Sell
Rebecca Zeek

October calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>29</p> <p>9:25 am Worship</p> <p>10:30 am Sunday School</p> <p>11:45 am - 12:45 pm 5th Sunday Fellowship Meal</p> <p>4:00 pm Christian Education Meeting</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9:30 am Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 pm Leadership Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00 am Ladies Aid Quilting</p> <p>1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry</p> <p>5:45 pm - 7:30 pm ReCharge</p> <p>6:15 pm Virtual Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 am Bulletin Submission Deadline</p> <p>9:00 am Breakfast Fellowship</p> <p>6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Knitting Group in Parlor</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Parking Lot Fundraiser</p> <p>9:00 pm - 11:00 pm 5th Quarter</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p>9:25 am Worship</p> <p>10:30 am Sunday School</p> <p>11:45 am Deacon Prayer Gathering</p> <p>6:30 pm Love Feast</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:30 am Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 pm Good Grief</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 am Ladies Aid Quilting</p> <p>1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry</p> <p>5:45 pm - 7:30 pm ReCharge</p> <p>6:15 pm Virtual Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 am Bulletin Submission Deadline</p> <p>9:00 am Breakfast Fellowship</p> <p>6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Knitting Group in Parlor</p>	<p>11</p> <p>5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Parking Lot Fundraiser</p> <p>9:00 pm - 11:00 pm 5th Quarter</p>	<p>12</p> <p>District Conference</p> <p>11:00 am Carl Hoover Celebration of Life</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Food Bank Collection </p> <p>Pastor Appreciation Su...</p> <p>9:25 am Worship</p> <p>10:30 am Fellowship Time</p> <p>11:00 am Sunday School</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30 am Bible Study</p> <p>1:00 pm Newsletter Submission Deadline</p> <p>6:00 pm Sisters of Faith</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00 am Ladies Aid Quilting</p> <p>1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry</p> <p>5:45 pm - 7:30 pm ReCharge</p> <p>6:15 pm Virtual Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 am Bulletin Submission Deadline</p> <p>9:00 am Breakfast Fellowship</p> <p>9:00 am October 27 Bulletin Submission Deadline</p> <p>6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Knitting Group in Parlor</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Fellowship Hall Reserved</p> <p>8:00 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Fellowship Hall Reserved</p> <p>8:30 am Pancakes with Pastor</p> <p>9:25 am Worship</p> <p>10:30 am Sunday School</p> <p>11:45 am Deacon Prayer Gathering</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:00 am Book Group</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30 am Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00 am Ladies Aid Quilting</p> <p>1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry</p> <p>5:45 pm - 7:30 pm ReCharge</p> <p>6:15 pm Virtual Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 am Breakfast Fellowship</p> <p>6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Knitting Group in Parlor</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:00 pm Wade Rhodes Wedding Rehearsal</p>	<p>26</p> <p>2:30 pm Wade Rhodes Wedding</p>
<p>27</p> <p>9:25 am Worship</p> <p>10:30 am Sunday School</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:30 am Bible Study</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:00 am Ladies Aid Quilting</p> <p>1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry</p> <p>5:45 pm - 7:30 pm ReCharge</p> <p>6:15 pm Virtual Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9:00 am Bulletin Submission Deadline</p> <p>9:00 am Breakfast Fellowship</p> <p>6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Trunk or Treat</p> <p>6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Knitting Group in Parlor</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00 am - 11:30 am Youth Practice</p> <p>4:00 pm - 7:00 pm BDM Fundraiser Dinner</p>



God has cast our confessed sins
 into the depths of the sea,
 and he's even put a
"NO FISHING"
 sign over the spot.
 —D.L. Moody

"The fullness of joy is to behold God in all."
 —Julian of Norwich

"It is great wisdom to know how to be silent."
 —John of the Cross


"Not seeing results? Feel like giving up?"

Consider this: The last thing to grow on a fruit tree ... is the fruit." —
 Unknown

"Too many Christians know they're saved — but that assurance just doesn't make it from their brain to their face." —H.B. London

Address Service Requested



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