



From The Pastor's Pen

Pastor Sarah Flack

Dear River Community Church family and friends,

Recently there was a news story about a group that is being honored for their community service work; this group has become somewhat notorious for their irreverence toward Jesus during an annual Easter event. They are not the only ones who are holding such events but they are the most visible in the news at the moment. It's a reminder that blasphemy is not just something we read about in the Bible, and we don't have to look far in the world to find real-life examples of disrespect towards God. As people who love God and are thankful for the salvation provided by Jesus that is freely available to all, seeing scorn directed toward Jesus can make us angry.

But we also need to find room for grief and compassion. We can grieve that our world continues to mock Jesus. Just as many of those who watched Jesus suffering on the cross thought it was okay to hurl insults at Him, many today continue to do so with no understanding or concern that Jesus is God the Son. We can grieve that our world is in such a state that this sort of thing is considered entertainment. And we can also grieve for the individual people themselves whose hearts have so turned from Jesus that they find this acceptable.

In Luke's Gospel, we read of Jesus approaching Jerusalem and weeping over it, and saying these words: "If you knew this day what would bring peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes." Jesus is peace, and He offers His peace in a world that is sometimes anything but peaceful. So we can grieve, as Jesus grieved, when we see people rejecting the true, abundant, and lasting source of peace and hope.

We also need to find room for compassion for those who make a mockery of Jesus. Their actions are wrong. They are sinful. But were we once much different? Ephesians 2:3 tells us this truth: We too all previously lived among them in our fleshly desires, carrying out the inclinations of our flesh and thoughts, and by nature we were children under wrath, as the others were also. Praise be to God that verse 4 of Ephesians 2 is also the truth: But God, who is abundant in mercy, because of His great love that He had for us, made us alive with the Messiah even though we were dead in trespasses. By grace you are saved!

Jesus, who never sinned but instead took the punishment for our sins, lived what He taught in the Sermon on the Mount: "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you" (Matthew 5:43-44). From the cross, as the crowds mocked Him and insult after insult was heaped upon Him, Jesus said: "Father, forgive them, because they do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34). He had compassion for the lost, even those who were hateful and cruel towards Him.

One day each one of us will have to live eternally with the decision we have made about Jesus. In the meantime, those of us who are followers of Jesus should mourn for those who have rejected Him, should have compassion for the lost, and need to be in prayer that they might come to see the truth about Jesus.

Yours in Christ Jesus, Pastor Sarah



Elder Ministry

Dean Wilkie

Last month's newsletter, we talked about intercession for our nation. So in this newsletter let's discuss - not so much things to be praying for, but - the things to be praying against. In a recent article in "intercessors for America", they listed a handful of evil spirits and principalities that are loose in America today. I wanted to share them, define and comment concerning what we're doing battle with.

1) The spirit of Jezebel; this principality works to counteract the work of God and the Holy Spirit. Jezebel was a seducing spirit that we can see as early in scripture as genesis, when Eve, was approached and challenged with "has God said", or "you won't surely die", and "you will be like God". The Jezebel spirit is a very subtle spirit, planting doubt in the place of trust and faith.

2) The spirit of leviathan; this evil principality twist, accuses, manipulates, creating chaos and destruction. When this spirit is manifest through someone, we see such things as - taking things out of context, or the the manipulating of people and situations for their own benefit, and/or others detriment.

3) The spirit of fear; if you want a prime example of "fear mongering", just watch the news especially over the last 3-5 years. The Covid pandemic, is an excellent example of a spirit of fear loose through our news media and our government! But it's ever before our eyes; like we're sure to have an economic collapse, or a government shut down, climate change is always the topic of discussion, and the list goes on and on. We're daily being told that we should fear - something or someone, it's just hopeless! There is appropriate apprehension, but worry and fretting, anxiety, is unbelief.

4) The spirit of delusion; never in America's history have we seen delusion so embraced as we are seeing today. Someone, somewhere, is coming up with some new concept(s), that goes against science, reality, good old common sense, and more assuredly God's word. Still without adequate support and data it is embraced as truth, received and proclaimed as truth, and then persecute those who refuse to accept it as such, but leaning on God's truth. God's word tells us in the last days they will call good evil and evil good. Looking at 1Tim4:1, we read "*Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscious seared with a hot iron. . .*". If ever there was a time when we've seen deceiving spirits and evil doctrines of the demonic at work in America, it's today - it's large and upon us. Pray against delusion by asking God to send His Holy Spirit afresh with His truth. In His strength we need to stand on His truth and speak His truth to circumstances.

Then there's the last major spirit.

5) The spirit of entitlement; Rm 1:20-23, we read "*they did not glorify Him as God, nor were they thankful*". We have more to be thankful for than any other nation on earth! We've been arguably more blessed, more prosperous, and for a period of time possibly more advanced than any other nation. These are all from the right hand of blessings of the Lord God Almighty. BUT - we have forgotten to honor our God, we have forgotten the principles that built this country, we have forgotten that our very breath is bestowed by the word of Christ and that by Him, for Him (and to Him), ALL things exist. We have forgotten to fear the Lord, in the awe and reverence that He is worthy of. We have forgotten to be grateful to those that have gone before us. Instead we've chosen to be selfish, entitled, and

rather than worship the Almighty God of the universe, we choose to worship the god of self and to obey the desires of our own flesh and the pride of life, rather than seek the Lord and His will. Entitlement and pride work hand and hand, and are very prevalent in America today. Pray that humility would be poured upon our nation.

As I'm writing this for the newsletter, memorial day observance weekend is upon us. As I'm thinking of the things that we have forgotten in the spiritual, I feel compelled to ask if: have we forgotten the beaches of Normandy, have we forgotten the battles of the Pacific theater? Have we forgotten the dough boys intrenched with gas mask on to survive? Have we forgotten the sentence of the declaration of independence which reads "with a firm reliance on the divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor". In fact concerning the writing of this document and the founding of our nation; this did cost our founding fathers their lives, fortunes, families, businesses, and many things they held dear.

As we pray in accordance with His will and His word against every evil spirit, let us pray with focus or purpose. Jm 5:16 refers to fervent prayer, or prayers of urgency, praying enthusiastically, with passion or intensity. Pray frequently, pray generously, persisting in prayer, not fainting even if/as we grow weary. Then we will see God move and the power of the Spirit manifest. Pray for an outpouring of His Holy Spirit, pray that He would breathe afresh upon our churches once again and make us a house of prayer. We can be "Difference makers", we can be "nation changers". Pray with power! Pray with me - Father, darkness increases but greater is he that is in us than he that is in the world, and we will not be afraid. Heavenly Father, you are stronger than every foul spirit and principality. At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow - therefore we proclaim Jesus over our communities, our state, our nation, casting down every principality and every power or anything that exalts itself over You Lord. We exalt You and proclaim You God of America, turn our nation Lord, call Your people once again, and we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

In Christ service

Dean W.





Grief Ministry

Laura Schafer

How Are You Doing?

I have been asked that question numerous times in my life. Never has that question been so hard to answer as it has been since June 10, 2012 when my son went to be with the Lord. I still don't know how to honestly answer that question. Right this moment, I may be okay, but then an hour later or a day down the road I may be overwhelmed with sorrow. I can go from joy to sorrow and back again in moments. How am I doing? Most of the time I don't even know. Sometimes I even get frustrated that I am unable to express my own feelings. Some sorrow is so painful, so deep, that it cannot be expressed to anyone else. Sometimes there are just no words. Have you ever felt that kind of sorrow and pain? Eleven years and I am still unable to express the deep sorrow of losing a child. How do you express the anguish of planning a child's funeral or the agony of knowing that in that cardboard box is all the evidence of a life lived and lost. Not only is this sorrow beyond description, it is also beyond comprehension.

Even so, there is one who understands what I cannot. Scripture tells us God is the good Father (Psalm 103:13) who knows the deepest and most private parts of our hearts. His Son is known as a Man of Sorrows who is acquainted with grief (Isaiah 53:3). The Holy Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep to utter (Romans 8:28). I know for me, there have been times when all I can do is cry out "God I need you." and the Holy Spirit intercedes for me. I find great comfort in these verses.

Even though I have experienced sorrow beyond comprehension, that is not all I have experienced. One of the strangest things for me has been the heights of joy and peace that come alongside the deep sorrow. Like two rivers flowing from the same source, yet never touching. As difficult as it is to express that deep sorrow, it is also difficult to express the peace and joy that come, knowing Derek is in the presence of his Lord and Savior, my pride that he gave sight to a blind person with his organ donation, the comfort of hearing friends describe his kind deeds and giving heart. In all honesty, the rivers that run side by side are not the same. The river of joy is more like a gentle creek, gently bringing a sense of peace, comfort, compassion and hope through the Holy Spirit's constant presence, even as the river of sorrow threatens to wash over us in a torrent of sadness. I once read that Spurgeon said "the deeper the waters, the higher our ark mounts toward Heaven. The darker the night, the more we prize our lamp. We have learned to sing in the dark with the thorn at our breast."

Therefore, I press on, trying to sing in the dark with God's lamp lighting the way. Despite my pain, despite my sorrow, despite my loss, my life and the world goes on. I must go on and do what the Lord has called me to do. I am a mother, a friend, a neighbor. Derek may have been called home, I have been left here on earth. While his race is complete, I must still run mine. The loss has frightened me but I will not let it define me. God still has work for me to do so I will continue to sing in the darkness guided by His light.



Women's Ministry - The Circle

Wendy Falzano & Charlotte Frese



Well, it seems summer is on its way!

Just a brief write up this month to share what's going on with the women's ministry.

We gathered together on Saturday, May 20th and played "Name that Tune." It was a walk down memory land and so much fun! Thank you to Nancy Carey for putting the game together and playing the tunes!

We will not be meeting in June as our scheduled date is the same date as Lillian's daughter Amy's memorial service and the TI graduation. Our hearts go out to Lillian. It is always a hard thing to lose someone we love especially when it is our child. It just seems unnatural for our children to pass before we do. But we thank God when we know they accepted Jesus and take comfort in knowing **WE WILL SEE THEM AGAIN**. We do, however, miss them while we wait. We ask for continued prayers for Lillian during this time of grieving and loss.

At our July gathering, July 17th, we will have our Sonshine Sister reveal. We will be meeting at our usual time of 10:00. Even if you do not have a Sonshine Sister, please join us. It is always fun to listen as the sisters try to guess who had their name. If you do have a Sonshine sister, remember to bring a small little gift with a signed tag/card for the revealing.

Some things we have planned for our future gatherings, "Knitting 101", Mason Jar Lanterns, Sip and Paint, Wheel of Fortune.

Our focus is not so much on what we do but that each gathering offers the opportunity to get to know each other better and perhaps share some joys, pains, laughs, tears, praise, concerns, love and encouragement.

So, if the 3rd Saturday of the month works in your schedule on any given month, stop in and join us. It can be for all or part of the gathering. Whatever may work for you.

Our Gatherings are the 3rd Saturday of the month from 10-12

All women are welcome!

All ideas are welcome!

Co-leaders are welcome.

We are here for you!!

For more information, suggestions, or questions, contact Char Frese (315)221-1303 or Wendy Falzano (518)526-6149.



Emergency Preparedness Are You Ready?



WHAT IF YOUR POWER GOES OUT?

There is always a chance your power can go out. We live in the North Country, it happens. Being prepared and knowing what to do can make the situation less worrisome and easier to get through.

How to Stay Safe When a Power Outage Threatens

Before a Power Outage - Prepare Now

1. Take an inventory now of the items you need that rely on electricity. Have manual items available if possible.
2. Talk to your medical provider about a power outage plan for medical devices powered by electricity and refrigerated medicines. Find out how long medication can be stored at higher temperatures and get specific guidance for any medications that are critical for life.
3. Plan for batteries, generators, candles and other alternatives to meet your needs when the power goes out.
4. Make sure your phones are always charged. Consider purchasing a solar power bank to charge your cellphone (these can be purchased on amazon or in local stores).
5. Install carbon monoxide detectors with battery backup in central locations on every level of your home.
6. Sign up for local alerts and warning systems. Monitor weather reports.
7. Have flashlights with extra batteries for every household member.
8. Have enough nonperishable food and water. Also water to flush toilets will be needed.
9. Use a thermometer in the refrigerator and freezer so that you can know the temperature when the power is restored.
10. Keep gas tanks full. Have an emergency bag for each vehicle supplied with a few bottles of water, nonperishable foods (granola bars, nuts, etc), small radio (keep batteries separate), blanket, jumper cables, etc.

During a Power Outage

1. Keep freezers and refrigerators closed. Monitor temperatures with a thermometer. The refrigerator will keep food cold for about four hours. A half full freezer will stay cold for 24 hours and a full freezer will stay cold for about 48 hours. After 4 hours, if the refrigerator temperature is heading towards 40 degrees, use coolers with ice if necessary for the items in your refrigerator. The refrigerator has to be 40 degrees or less.
2. Use food supplies that do not require refrigeration to keep from opening the refrigerator door as much as possible.
3. Sources of cooking during this time are: Camp stoves with propane or charcoal grills. If you have a gas or propane stove it should still work. To avoid carbon monoxide poisoning, use generators, camp stoves, or charcoal grills outside and at least 20 feet away from windows.
4. Listen to local news. Go to a community location or shelter with power if heat or cold is extreme.
5. Turn off or disconnect appliances, equipment, or electronics. Power may return with momentary “surges” or “spikes” that can cause damage.

Be Safe After

- When in doubt, throw it out! Throw away any food that has been exposed to temperatures 40 degrees or higher for two hours or more, or that has an unusual odor, color, or texture.
- If the power is out for more than a day, discard any medication that should be refrigerated, unless the drug’s label says otherwise. If a life depends on the refrigerated drugs, consult a doctor or pharmacist and use medicine only until a new supply is available.



Worship Ministry Terence Falzano

Isaiah 7:14

*“Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign;
Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall
call his name Immanuel.”*

It is wonderful to hear all the voices in the congregation praising Christ Jesus!

If you desire to worship at the "Tent Revival" summer outreaches, please speak with any of the servants on the worship team.

Those three dates and times are:

Frink Park July 30th at 5 PM

Alexandria Bay Pavilion August 5 at Noon

Cape Vincent Amphitheatre August 11 at 3 PM

On The Battlefield!

MISSIONS - Konomala Seth & Kaitlyn Sanford & Family

It's amazing how much different things can feel depending on your perspective. Things that feel huge today can seem so small in retrospect. Time gone by can serve as that perspective-changer...but an important part of life is learning how to live with a proper perspective on TODAY. How do we deal with the perceptions and feelings that seem all encompassing right NOW?

We all need to keep growing in this, don't we? As parents we're trying to teach our kids how to align their thinking with what is actually true; even when feelings about that one, specific, utterly important dress (we definitely have girls!) seems like the only thing that matters in that moment. Regardless of whether it's an 8 year old or an 80 year old, the decision is the same: are we willing to submit our feelings and perceptions to what is actually true?

All that to say: we are constantly needing perspective-adjustments as we trust Jesus to establish His church in Konomala. We are seeing amazing things happen in some peoples' lives. The joy we feel as we see people choose to live in truth is mixed with the sadness and empathy that we feel as we see some others really struggle.

This new life that Jesus is offering is characterized by freedom, grace, and dependence. But to those living in independence and pride, Jesus' way can seem silly and sometimes outright repulsive. As a church we are in a season of social tension. Some people within the church are feeling a lot of tension because of pressure from within their own family. Others are pulling away because they fear the social repercussions of breaking ties with their old religious circles.

Real life is messy. There are seasons of growth and seasons of struggle. Whether we are the ones struggling or we're alongside others who are struggling, we have to learn to recognize and submit our thoughts, perceptions, and feelings to the truth. Only as we grow to know God more will we experience the eternal life that He is offering. In faith we can choose to see things from the perspective of eternity.

That's the choice before us personally as we struggle with our own self-centered independence, and it's the same as we help other people. We all need to recognize and embrace that Jesus is the only one who can offer true life.

Please pray for:

1. Pray that we continue to personally humble ourselves and choose to embrace what is true in Jesus.
2. Pray that our brothers and sisters in Konomala would recognize what is happening in their own hearts. And as they recognize what's at stake, pray that they would rest in Jesus as their only possible source of life.
3. Pray that God would give us wisdom as we point our kids and our friends towards things that are true.



Breaking The Chains Biblical Recovery Ministry

~ Ken & Michelle Kavanagh



Regaining Power In The Midst Of The Storm

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.
(Ephesians 6:10)

Several years ago, over the course of a few days, the weather report had predicted a storm coming that would bring rain, ice, snow and heavy gusts of wind up to 50 miles an hour. I had to drive into the storm at a slower pace as the rain and snow came down and the temperature dropped. It wasn't a bad drive, but a couple hours later the weather worsened and the few miles home caused me to drive more cautiously since it had turned icy. Once home, the weather became worse and I said a silent prayer for my family to come home safely, which they did. By bedtime, the wind gusts were strong until early the next morning. During the night as the storm continued, I found myself praying periodically for God's protection. We then lost power so I went downstairs to put more wood in the stove so we would have heat, and set a candle out so I could see. Since my family would be getting up soon to go to work, I brought a candle upstairs and set it in the hallway so they would have some light to see where they were going and wouldn't harm themselves. I then went back to bed and when I awoke a few hours later, the power had returned and the wind had calmed down some.

My job in disaster services taught me to be prepared and ready for an emergency and I took it as part of my job in the home as well. I learned early on that not having reserved food and supplies on hand could make for a difficult time in the midst of a storm, especially if the electricity went out and it was too dangerous to go outside for a few days. Without reserved supplies and being unable to get out to buy what you need, you can easily feel isolated, anxious, worried and even irritable when your needs can't be met and your communication is down. It's not a good feeling, especially if the storm lasts longer than expected, and that's when mistakes can be made out of emotion.

In the midst of a storm or trial, we must always have reserved spiritual nourishment on hand just in case our power goes out and we feel disconnected with God. We do this by praying and reading the Word of God daily, applying the Word of God in our lives, and by believing in his promises. The more we read, pray and exercise the Word of God, the stronger we become and the more reserved spiritual nourishment we will have to draw on. Sometimes, when the problems and trials are difficult, we might become tired and feel like we've lost our strength in the midst of the storm, leaving us feeling fearful, worried and feeling disconnected from God who gives us that strength and power. How does this happen? This can happen when we allow fear and worry to consume our thoughts and we focus more on the storm than on God. There are times, however, when God might be silent in the midst of a storm to see how we will handle it or to make a point or get our attention. If we have reserved spiritual supplies, then we will wait out the storm, remembering His promises, until that storm ends. However, if we do not have reserved supplies, the storm can be frightening and the wait may seem long.

In the midst of a storm that knocks out the power, we must remember one thing...the power will eventually come back on and the storm will eventually cease. When we have spiritual reserves, we are able to ride out the storms of life more easily, keep others warm and calm, and shed the light of Christ in the midst of the storm so others will be able to see and not harm themselves. On the flip side, when we keep our focus on Christ during a storm, He will keep us warm and protected, making sure all is well, and shedding enough light for us to see what is before us so we don't stumble.

When you are faced with a crisis, do not fear or allow yourself to worry. Take it before the Lord and trust that He will provide what you need to get through your storm at that moment. Then just wait out the storm patiently, praying through it and trusting that God is in control.

Psalm 27:14 - *Wait for the Lord; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the Lord.*

Church Notes

Men's Ministry

Men's Ministry meets the first Saturday of each month at the church. Come join them for breakfast, fellowship and fun! For more information, see J.D. Flack or contact him at 315-405-0330.

Community Dinner

Our next community dinner is Monday, June 19th. Take out begins at 4:30pm and dining in begins at 5:00pm. Check out the coupon to hand to a friend or family member! →

Seek Me!

Beginning Sunday, June 11th at 9:00am, we will seek God in prayer in the conference room every Sunday prior to service. All are welcome to join us in prayer.

Free Bread

Just a reminder about our free bread every week. We get all sorts of bread, cookies and pastries every week through Panera Bread's donation program. Pick up day is every Wednesday from 9am - 6pm at the church. Pass the word, especially to those in need.

Deacon Ministry

Do you need assistance or in need of food? For assistance, stop by the church office and pick up a request form and fill it out. If you or someone you know are in need of food, we have an emergency food pantry at the church.

Donations to the Deacon's Fund are always appreciated. They can be placed in the red envelopes found in the chair pockets or by noting the donation on your tithe envelope. Drop the envelope in the tithe and offering box at the church.

Community Dinner Coupon

We have enclosed a Community Dinner coupon to hand out to your friends and relatives to invite them to enjoy a free dinner!



Free
Community Dinner

All are welcome!

June 19th
Smork
Coleslaw
Macaroni Salad
Roll
Dessert

July 17th
Hamburgers
Picnic Fixings
Dessert

River Community Church, 38844 Bartlett Rd, Clayton

Donations are appreciated



The deCycles

The deCycles, a cross country cycling youth group based in Bloomington, Indiana, will pedal their bicycles 1500-miles in 23-days from Bloomington, Indiana to the Atlantic Coast in Maine. Most of the riders are new to cycling and have trained diligently to prepare for this trip. They will cycle 600-miles through Indiana, Ohio, and New York along the shorelines of Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, and the St. Lawrence River. The remaining 900-miles will be through New England, Vermont, New Hampshire and all the way to the Atlantic coastline of Maine. Each participant has to reach deep into themselves to connect with Divine Spirit. This empowers them through adversity & exhaustion. The result has been transformational in so many ways.

River Community Church will be opening our doors to give the youth and their adult chaperones a place to sleep for the night. They will be arriving at the church at approximately 4:00 PM on Wednesday, June 28th. We would like to give them a heartfelt RCC welcome and provide a cookout dinner for them as well as get to know them and make them feel at home.



A SPIRITUAL BICYCLE ADVENTURE BEYOND BELIEF

deCycles pedaling across America

*Doing all they can
with what they have!*

visiting

Wednesday, June 28

**River Community Church
Clayton, NY**



SHARE IN THEIR JOY & SONG



WORDS OF WISDOM...

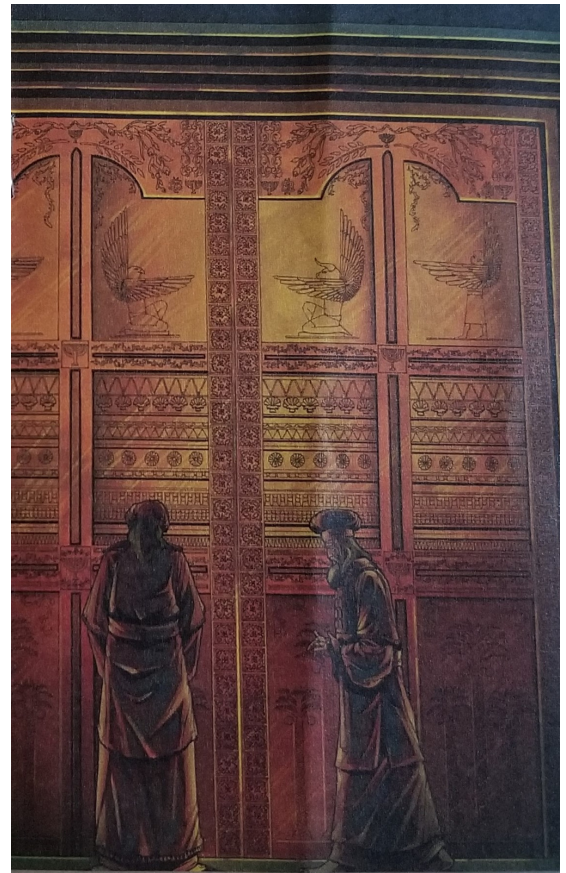
by Wendy Falzano

How to Freshen up Stale Bread in 5 Easy Steps

1. Check for mold. If your bread looks like a science project, it's too far gone. If it's merely dry and stale, there's still hope.
2. Add moisture. Brush or spritz water all over the bread. Use more if the loaf is very dry and/or has a thick crust. Use less if the loaf has a thin crust or just needs a little pick-me-up. I've actually run the crust of a stale loaf directly under the faucet for a brief second without the bread getting soggy. However, if the loaf is cut with the inner bread exposed, it's better to use a brush on the crust.
3. Wrap it. Use aluminum foil to make an airtight wrap around a very dry, dense loaf. For a day-old baguette, you could get away with putting it back in the paper bag it came in; just roll the top closed.
4. Heat it. Put the bread in a cold oven, then turn the heat to 300° F. Let the loaf slowly heat up for 10 to 15 minutes, depending on the density and dryness of the bread. Start checking the bread after 10 minutes. Here's what's happening: The water turns into steam, which is trapped by the wrapping. The bread absorbs the steam and plumps right up.
5. Crisp it. When the inside of the bread feels moist enough for your taste, open up the wrapping and put the bread back in the oven, right on the rack, for about 5 minutes. If the bread is in a paper bag, remove it from the bag before putting it back into the oven. This step draws excess moisture out of the crust and makes it pleasingly crisp again. Plus, your kitchen will smell like warm, fresh bread. And what's not to love about that?

Now that I have an air fryer, I find if I put it in and set the timer for 5 minutes, it will start the timer once the oven is heated and in no time I have bread that is like fresh baked.

Doors of the Bible



The Temple's Inner Doors

"For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins." (Hebrews 10:4)

Nearly 500 years after Moses, King Solomon built the first temple in Jerusalem. Two doors were placed at the entrance to the inner sanctuary, the place of God's holy presence. Because sin separates us from God, only the ceremonially clean high priest could enter these doors. This happened only once a year on the holy day of Yom Kippur, as the priest brought the blood of a sacrifice into the Lord's presence to cover the sins of the people.

On this "Day of Atonement," the Israelites could have their sins temporarily covered through the sacrifice of a goat, and thus receive God's mercy. Though the blood of these animals could never fully take away man's sin, they pointed forward to the most important sacrifice of all. Jesus obtained eternal redemption for us through the sinless "once for all" offering of himself to God as a sacrifice for sin.

Recipes

As our Community Dinner on May 15th was a great success, we wanted to share the two meatloaf recipes from the dinner, family size!

Classic Meatloaf

1 cup tomato sauce
 3/4 cups old fashion oats
 1 egg
 1/4 cup chopped onion
 1 teaspoon garlic powder
 1/4 teaspoon pepper
 1 1/2 pounds ground beef

Mix all ingredients together. Place in loaf pan and bake at 350 degrees for 1.5 hours or until temperature is 160° F - 165° F.

Sweet Baby Ray's Meatloaf

2 lbs ground beef
 1 medium onion, chopped
 1/2 medium pepper (any color), chopped
 1/2 cup bread crumbs
 Water
 1/2 tsp pepper
 2 tsp garlic powder
 2 tsp Italian seasoning
 2 eggs, slightly beaten
 1 cup Sweet Baby Ray's BBQ Sauce, divided

In large bowl, add ground beef, onion, peppers, and all seasonings. Whisk eggs and add to the mix. Add enough water to bread crumbs until smooth or easy to stir, stirring constantly. Add to hamburger mixture. Add 1/2 cup BBQ sauce to mixture and mix well hamburger well.

Turn into loaf pan and form into a loaf. Bake covered for 1- 1 1/2 hours at 350° F. 30 minutes before meatloaf is done, uncover and add the rest of the BBQ sauce to the top of meatloaf and bake 30 more minutes uncovered or until done (160° F - 165° F).

HAPPY
 BIRTHDAY

06/02 Patterson Douglas Sr
 06/07 Patsy Kidwell
 06/07 Nancy Carey
 06/13 Janelle Matthews
 06/14 Fran King



06/24 Bob and Fran King

Northcountry Music Fest
 July 8 & 9
 Long Falls Park
 Carthage

Food Booths
Jump Houses
25+ Booths

BAND SCHEDULE - Saturday July 8
 3pm - 3:30 - Undeclared unplugged.
 3:40 - 4:10 - Adam & Sue, CNY Favorites.
 4:20 - 4:50 - Jake & Terah, From Watertown
 5:00 - 5:45 - Thurane, From Arizona
 5:55 - 6:45 - Nathan Sheridan, from Tennessee
 6:55 - 7:30 - Elijah, from Pennsylvania
 7:50 - 8:35 - Undeclared, Regional favorites
 8:45 - 9:30 - Tricord, from Georgia.

FIREWORKS at Dark. Gates open at 2pm
 Sunday July 9 - 11am - 2pm

Bring a Lawn Chair. No Coolers allowed

If you are able please bring some items for the VEM Food Pantry

WE THANK THESE SPONSORS

Mars Hill Network
 First Baptist Carthage
 511 State St.
 315-726-5031

TRICORD
 Sat. July 8
 Carthage NY

ADAM & SUE
 NORTH COUNTRY MUSIC FEST

THURANE
 NORTH COUNTRY MUSIC FEST

JAKE & TERRAH
 NORTH COUNTRY MUSIC FEST

BECOMING ELIJAH
 Sat. July 8, 3-9:30pm
 Sun. July 9, 10am-2pm
 Long Falls Park
 Carthage NY

NATHAN SHERIDAN
 NORTH COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL
 JUNE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2015

UNDEFEATED
 NORTH COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL
 JUNE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2015

VEM - Village Ecumenical Ministries of Carthage
 793

CABIN 3 - THE OUTPOST
 World Vision