

Weekly Connection Newsletter

Souderton Brethren in Christ Church

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churchoffice@soudertonbic.org
and find us on Facebook

February 20, 2025

www.soudertonbic.org

Office hours: Tues-Thurs 9am-1pm

Prayer Gatherings

Each Wednesday in person at the church office and on zoom @ 1:00 pm. Zoom meeting ID: 461 338 2306

Password: 6b0j8y. The zoom link is https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4613382306?pwd=NU5Ra25u
WmJ4bDJ0bFpXYmEzRUZ4QT09

Iglesia Cristiana Pastor: Rony Guerra Contact: <u>iglesiacristianasouderton@gmail.com</u>

This Sunday

POTLUCK Breakfast @ 9:00am Combined Sunday School @ 9:30am Worship @ 10:30am

Iglesia Cristiana Worship @ 1:00pm

Join the livestream:

www.soudertonbic.org/stream www.youtube.com/@soudertonbic

Thank you for your faithful giving!
Give in person at the offering box, by
mail, or at our website.

Pastor KrisAnne's Korner

A child jumps off a platform into her dad's arms. A trapeze artist lets go of their swing in mid-air and reaches toward the hands of their partner. An aging parent signs over control of their assets to their children. Every one of these scenarios takes an extraordinary amount of trust, a willingness to let go of control, an abandonment of oneself to the will of the other. The dad could drop the child. The trapeze artist could be off on their timing and miss that crucial moment when they were supposed to catch their partner. The adult children, now in charge of their parent's assets, could mismanage them and take advantage of their access.

In the middle of this week's scripture passage-which contains a lot of guidance for relationships-Jesus seems to go off on a little tangent about trust and prayer. "Ask, seek and knock," he says, "for of course your Father in heaven is eager to give good gifts to you!" I've repeated these verses since I was a child, and yet, I still struggle to follow these instructions. If I'm honest, I often approach asking, seeking and knocking in prayer with quite a bit of hesitation. This is what I sound like: "Hey, God, if you want to... If it's your will... If it would please you... But I understand if you don't or won't...." And then with those qualifiers in place, I go on to ask for what I'm wanting or needing.

Some of this is because it feels presumptuous to be very direct with God. Who am I to say what the God of the universe should do? But some of it is a lack of trust. I've been disappointed in prayer before. Not just disappointed... Devastated. I jumped off the platform into God's arms, and it felt like I crashed to the ground and broke some bones. Was I wrong to ask, seek and knock? Where were the good gifts God promised to His children when it felt like my world fell apart? I'm not sure that even today I have a good answer to that question. The reality is, sometimes God says no when we ask, seek and knock.



Perhaps the good gifts are just different than I was expecting - I wanted an immediate fix to my pain, my family's pain. God wanted to give me Himself - His presence, grace, strength, renewal, spiritual healing.

True trust- true faith- means laying aside my expectations and trusting the goodness of God in my life beyond my expectations. Sometimes I only see His goodness toward me years later, looking backward. So I keep asking, seeking and knocking. I try to lean into Jesus' invitation to be direct and trust. I hope you'll lean into trusting God this week as well.

Prayer Requests:

Send any prayer requests to: Pastor KrisAnne at 215-254-8348 or <u>KrisAnne.Swartley@soudertonbic.org</u>, or your deacon.

MDS Relief for CA Wildfires

MDS is monitoring the disaster in CA and will offer support where needed. If you would like to donate to MDS the link is provided below:

Donate Here

Read more about MDS involvement at: https://mds.org/story/california-wildfires-mds-focuses-on-long-term-hope/



Additional links are below to donate:

Red Cross: Click here to donate.

Salvation Army: Click here to learn more

World Central Kitchen: Click <u>here</u> to learn more. California Fire Foundation Wildfire & Disaster

Relief Fund: Click here to learn more.

My Coins Count

We're collecting during Worship on Mar 16 & 23rd. The My Coins Count Project typically raises more than \$130,000 from across the state of PA. Last year \$130,918 was raised from the My Coins Count collections for MCC education projects.

Zimbabwe Missions Trip Joe Corbi Fundraiser

See one of the folks below to order your gourmet pizza, cookie, pie, assorted snack and support our missions trip!



Jonathan, Maribel, Marie Alleman, TJ Greiser, Christine Zucal, Adilate, Ndodana, Mac, Thelma, Mercy Moyo, Tham, Miselani, Candice, Callie Ndlovu, Steve, Georgia Myers, Jon, KrisAnne, Heidi, Ben Swartley,

Mark your calendars!! March 22

Zimbabwean Dinner Fundraiser!!

More info to come . . .

Sunday School Class

<u>Winter</u> Adult

Class –



*<u>Practicing the Way</u> Learning to follow after Jesus (Access the RightNow Media QR code below for free videos)

Scan the QR code to create your free account and start browsing.



*<u>The Study of Romans</u> led by Dan Zagorski *continues*

Announcements

Memorization Contest Deadline

Recite the memorized passages to Pastor KrisAnne or Diana on or before March 2, 2025

Small Groups!

Contact a leader if you are interested in joining the following:

Sundays in Souderton @ 6:30pm – Barb Snyder Saturdays in Hilltown @ 6:30pm – Swartley's Mondays in Lansdale @ 6pm – Moyo's

Kenbrook Pantry Collections Are you up for a "challenge"?

Help us support Kenbrook's pantry with the following:

• 36 gallons of Bleach (sterilizing is important!)

AND

- As many containers of drink mix as possible
- lemonade, pink lemonade, tea or orange drink
- no fruit punch.



Kenbrook made **1220 gallons** of drink last year!

Calendar:

- Tue: Iglesia Cristiana Worship @ 6:30pm
- Wed: Prayer on Zoom or in Person @ lpm
- Wed: 7:00 pm Youth Group
- Thu: 7pm Worship Team practice, Iglesia Cristiana Bible Study

Upcoming Events:

- Feb 10-Feb 26: RamPacks Community Wide Food Drive
- Feb 26: Sort RamPacks food donations at SBIC
- Feb 28 Mar 2: JumpStart Middle School Retreat @ Kenbrook
- March 5: D-Group
- March 16 & 23: My Coins Count collection during Worship
- March 22: Zimbabwean Fundraiser Dinner
- March 29: Atlantic Conference @ Parker Ford Church, Pottstown, PA
- April 17: Maundy Thursday meal and foot washing @ Silverdale BIC