imagination to acquiesce to doom and gloom. But to see a better world, to see new life, to see a new story, to believe that "all will be well, all manner of things shall be well . . . " This requires courageous hope, faithful imagination. Has this sort of courageous imagination been required of you? How might it be required in your current situation?

Notes

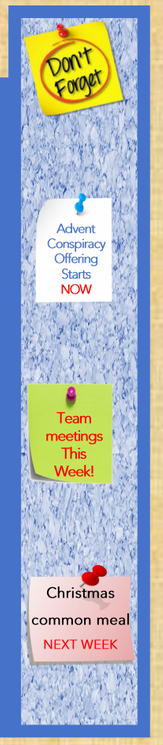
Advent Conspiracy 2017

This year it is our privilege to help support a brand new church plant on the Mid-Atlantic District.

Impact Church led by Eric Valenstein will launch September of 2018.

We'll be receiving an offering the four Sundays of Advent to help this Church plant get off the ground.

Advent Calendar of Events



December 10th
Second Sunday of Advent: Parents Day Out
— Register your children with Delores.
12:45PM– 4 PM

December 17th
Church Christmas Common Meal
— Meat is provided *Bring your favorite Christmas dish
12:30PM

December 20th
All Church Christmas Caroling
— Soup before caroling and hot chocolate after!
6 PM– 8 PM

December 24th
Christmas Eve Services
— Two services
4:00PM & 11:00PM

Church Staff

Rob Kazee, Pastor
rpkazee@gmail.com ~ 202-997-1222

Dave Myers, Pastor to Families
dmmyers79@gmail.com ~ 707-338-7290

Jeff Wolfe, Pastor of Spiritual Formation
jeffwolfe125@gmail.com ~ 717-261-6173

Becky Wolfe, Office Administrator and
Pastor of Congregational Care & Fellowship
rwolfenaz@gmail.com ~ 717-514-6275

9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School
11 AM - 12:30 PM Worship Service
617 16th St. New Cumberland, PA 17070
717-774-6444

email: office@tablelifechurch.org *web:* www.tablelifechurch.org

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TABLELIFE CHURCH

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Table Life Church

Order of Worship
Second Sunday of Advent
10 December 2017

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude Music
Welcome
Call to Worship
Worship Reading

We Listen to the Scriptures

Pastoral Prayer
Offering
Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40.1-11
Sermon Series: "Christmas According to Isaiah"
Sermon Two: "Christmas Comfort"

We Come to the Table

Passing the Peace of Christ
Prayer of Consecration
The Lord's Prayer
We Eat and Drink Together
Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life
Gossiping the Good Stuff
Doxology
Blessing and Sending

If you are a guest with us today,
Please take time to fill out a Connection Card.
Ushers will have a welcome mug for you in the Café.
Thank You!

Please visit us on our website, www.tablelifefchurch.org
for details of events.
Also you will find, photos, monthly newsletters,
bulletins, online giving and you can also
send prayer request to the prayer chain.

COMING SOON

Dec 10 Market Street Ministry	7:24AM
Dec 10 Second Sunday of Advent: Parents Day Out	12:45PM
Dec 12 Team Meetings and Board Meeting	6:30PM
Dec 17 Church Christmas Common Meal	12:30PM
Dec 20 All Church Christmas Caroling	6:00PM
Dec 24 Christmas Eve Services	4:00PM & 11:00PM

Official Church Calendar ~ www.tablelifechurch.org/

Sermon Reflection Guide

Isaiah 40.1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her
that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all
her sins.

A voice cries out:
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and
hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord
shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for
the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?"
All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of
the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the
breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are
grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word
of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good
tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem,
herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the
cities of Judah,

"Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with
might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock
like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Question for Everyone

(1) I love a quiet place. Silence is my friend. (10) I avoid silence like the plague. Noise is my constant companion. Where are you on this range?

Quietness and Trust

"The church is not a special interest group that has to make its demands known. We don't have to "fight for our rights" anymore than Jesus did. We don't have to mimic the noise of special-interest anger. We can be an alternative of quietness and trust. In a world that surely must grow weary of the harsh blare of ideological anger, the church is to be a haven of quietness and trust, a gentle refuge of peace" (Brian Zahnd, Water to Wine). Response? Is our church a gentle refuse of peace?

Two Kinds of Silence

There is a silence that pulsates with the palpable presence of God, a silence that is gift to the recipient. But there is another sort of silence, a silence of longing and loneliness. There is a silence in which it seems as if God, if God even exists, stands passively like an Easter Island statue, a great big rock of apathetic passivity. Response? How do you interpret divine silence?

Comfort

To comprehend the power of the word "comfort" one must understand that it shatters a very long silence. Prior to this declaration of comfort, for two hundred years the people of God were stripped of self-defense, vulnerable before their captors. They learned the language of bitterness, complaint and lament as they languished in Babylon. Are you given to despair? How do you respond when a hopeful voice tries to offer you comfort?

Courage

Consider the courageous imagination that enables the prophet to speak comfort to a people so utterly defeated vulnerable, and surrendered to their helpless state. Who could have possibly imagined that better days were on the horizon, much less a return to Jerusalem, the city of God? It requires very little faithful