

# Christian Education Corner

Mary Ann Sumner

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## VIEW FROM THE PEW

### **Or a View from Afar**

In the next week or so we'll be sending out a follow-up survey to our first one so we can plan specifics for when (and if) we reopen for in-person worship. Like last time, we hope you will all return it so we can plan. Worship would be the first thing to start (we believe) and then, hopefully, some small classes and group meetings. Social distancing is still the biggest concern with getting back together. We appreciate all of you who have been participating in our online classes. We've tried to phase them in one at a time, so we don't get totally overwhelmed. So far, the classes are about the same size as they were when they met in person. We know it's not ideal but it's what we have for now. The Session will be discussing all of this at their next meeting. Safety is still, and always, our main concern.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Until we can meet in-person, our classes will be presented on Zoom (both Sunday and mid-week).

## NURSERY

This time of year it seems everything is having a growth spurt. Thanks to the wonderful photos shared by our families, the nursery children have certainly grown. This month, as you go through your day, think of the fruit of the spirit- Galatians 5:22-23. What are some ways you are growing in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control? Check out YouTube KidSpring Children's Ministry song "Fruit of the Spirit" to help you remember all these virtues through music and motion!

In His Love,

## K-5 CLASS

We will meet on Sundays at 9:00 on Zoom beginning October 11. The class will last about ½ hour. We'll look at one of the children's messages from worship and see what the Bible has to say about it. We'll all talk about what we think it means to us. Mary Ann will be sending Zoom invitations and we'd love to have you join us! Even those of you who live out of town can join in.

## YOUTH CLASSES

The youth will be doing a combined Sunday School/Youth Group ZOOM meeting using an app called "The Chosen." It has videos of the life of Jesus as it may have really looked! You meet the disciples and other characters such as Nicodemus and the Pharisees. Jesus is played as a real person (with a sense of humor and a wonderful way of teaching without being boring). We think you'll really enjoy it. It won't be on Sunday mornings but your leaders – Cecil, Chip, Denise, and Jim will get with you soon with days and times. Make sure you let them know what will work best for you! There will be separate groups for the middle and high schoolers for this course. We hope you'll all join us!

## ADULT CLASSES

### **Old Testament – Isaiah**

Jan Toles

Sundays at 10:00 on Zoom

The Old Testament Bible Study Class has been "walking" through the Bible together beginning with Genesis and now we have arrived at Isaiah. I am looking forward to studying this great book with you; in fact, it is considered by many to be the greatest book in the Old Testament. At a time of momentous international upheaval Isaiah remained firm and sure in the faith he had in His God. He gave a new generation confidence and

courage when he wrote, “But those who wait shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.” Isaiah 40:31. This is the prophet we need to hear today as he calls out “Comfort, yes, comfort my people” in Isaiah 40:1; he is not asking for pity but for strength and empowerment. As we study this magnificent book, we will meet not only Isaiah but also the mighty kings and rulers of his time and witness the rise and fall of their kingdoms. But above all, we will see how Isaiah’s promises of renewal ultimately anticipates the work of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior whose death ultimately resulted in new life for all who trust in him. I hope you will join us in this “journey”! You don’t have to have been in previous classes in this series to participate and you are welcome to join in at any time.

The book used for this class is Wesley Bible Studies series we’ve been using; this will be the Isaiah edition. There is an ebook format which is only about \$3.99 from Christian bookstore and the print books are \$4.99 (on sale). We are happy to order a book for you – just let Mary Ann know if you’d like one (you’ll pick it up at church on a Wednesday morning. You may also order one for yourself and have it delivered to your home. Go to christianbook.com and search “Wesley Bible Studies Isaiah.” Please contact Mary Ann if you would like to receive the weekly invitation to join this Zoom class.

### The Chosen

Jeff & Mary Ann Sumner and Cecil & Toni Rice  
Thursdays at 6:30 pm on Zoom  
beginning October 15

This study is also being used by the youth classes as it is great for all ages. “**The Chosen** is the first-ever-multi-season TV show about the life of Jesus. Created outside of the Hollywood system, The Chosen allows us to see Him through the eyes of those who knew him. No matter where you are in your journey with Jesus Christ, this show is for you.” You may watch the shows by downloading the app on your smart phone (search The Chosen in your app store). It is free. We suggest that you watch the episode

before class, if possible, to get an idea of what we’ll be discussing. Then we’ll watch it together at our Zoom meeting and discuss what we’ve seen. We hope you’ll find it as delightful and informative as we have. Contact the Sumners or Rices if you have any questions.

### YOUTH GROUP

Jim & Denise Mueller

Sunday, October 4 from 9-11 am, we need all youth to help with the HUM (Halifax Urban Ministries) drive thru food drive like we have done for the last two months. It’s a great way to continue to give back to our community while putting smiles on the faces of those in our church community that are social distancing and this is one of their main outings. Please let us know if your youth can participate! (All must wear masks and we will certainly have hand sanitizer on hand!)

### WESTMINSTER INSTITUTE

#### OUR GOOD OLD DAYS

Kitty French

I was thinking about all those huge department stores that used to be in downtown Pittsburgh. It was a big deal for a teen to go downtown. You had to dress like you were going to church on Sunday. They sold EVERYTHING. Do you remember that they had a whole line of elevators in the back of the store with a uniformed operator for each one standing outside to welcome you. When the door closed he announced what you could find on each floor before the door opened. There were also clerks to wait on you in every department. I doubt that the stores are there now, but it's fun to remember how things were back in Our Good Old Days. I can't think of one thing that is the same today & it may be difficult for your grandkids to even imagine. The best part is that it is like leaving part of yourself for them to enjoy long after you are gone. Give it a try, you have nothing better to do today!! Take a trip down memory lane!!

### THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Jeff Sumner

Thursdays at 11:00 am on Zoom  
(no class on October 7)

We will once again use the series, “The Present Word.” Dr. Sumner is moving the study to **Thursdays** as we record the worship services on Wednesday mornings. Please note that if you live out of town you may now join in this Bible study! We have ordered a few books that will be \$7.00. If you would like one please contact Mary Ann at 386-756-2111 or [maflam@aol.com](mailto:maflam@aol.com). Once they arrive, we’ll have you stop by the church on a Wednesday morning to pick it up. For those of you who are out-of-town or don’t want to stop by the church you may order a copy at [pcusastore.com](http://pcusastore.com) and search “Present Word Fall 2020.” Be sure to select Participant’s Book. If you don’t plan to attend the Zoom class and want to study on your own you will need to get the book. Let Mary Ann know if you’d like the weekly invitation to attend this class.

The Fall 2020 study reminds us that we are commanded by God to love one another as God loves us. The first unit “Struggles with Love,” looking at familial love, jealousy, and destruction. Love and reconciliation in the Joseph story prevail in spite of harsh and negative circumstances. Unit II centers on love for the stranger, the poor, and enemies. Jesus’ parable of the good Samaritan and First Corinthians’ sermon on love illustrate love for one’s neighbor and depicts the height of human love coming from divine love. The third unit explores how believers love by serving, looks at the abiding love of God through the Holy Spirit, reveals the expression of God’s love in the formation of the early Christian community, and tells of the love of neighbor as fulfillment of the law of God.

## SCAM CORNER

Cecil Rice

This month I want to take a few minutes to talk about something that a lot of folks are doing (me included). That’s taking a ton of pictures and video on our cell phones. We need to make sure we don’t LOSE those pictures should our cell phone get lost, stolen, or damaged. If you’re not aware of the “cloud” it’s secure internet space

that people can use for different things. There are free options for storing pictures (Google Photos and Amazon Photos) where, with your account, you can set your phone up to automatically upload every picture or movie you take, and then there are paid options (Microsoft and Apple). You may wonder why you’d choose to pay instead of go with free. For us in the Rice house, it means that we can select certain picture folders that are in the cloud and share them securely with friends and family. It really doesn’t matter which service you choose (as long as it’s one of the big ones, like the 4 listed here today) but I do recommend you choose one of them to make sure and keep your photos safe. This is an ounce of prevention keeping you from a “go forward moment” should your phone or the memory card in it decide it doesn’t want to work anymore .... Below are links to the sites (in alphabetical order: Apple Cloud: <https://www.icloud.com/> AmazonPhotos: <https://www.amazon.com/photos/welcome> Google Photos: <https://photos.google.com/> Microsoft One Drive: <https://onedrive.live.com/> If you need any help or advice, feel free to send me an email at [webmaster@wbts.org](mailto:webmaster@wbts.org)



Watch your inbox (or mailbox) around October 5 for another short survey as we look toward resuming in-person worship. We do not have a time in mind and the Session will meet this month to discuss it, but we’d like to have your input. The safety of each of you and our staff members is our foremost consideration. It WILL come so we appreciate your continued patience as we move toward that day.