

ST. BARTHOLOMEW NEWSLETTER APRIL 2021



"To God be the Glory!" (1 Peter 4:11)

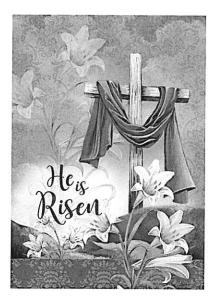
GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF OUR RISEN LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST!

Easter is a very special time of the year. It's the time when we have the opportunity to celebrate and embrace the greatest fact of all time - eternal life.

"If a man dies, shall he live again?" (Job 14:14). Man has been trying to answer that question since the beginning of time. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has the answer which is backed by the proof of His own victory over death. Now He promises to every believer: "Because I live, you also will live" (John 14:19). Elsewhere in John's Gospel He says: "Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live" (John 11:25).

A famous philosopher once said, "I would become a Christian if I could be sure of the resurrection of Christ." We can be sure! The very existence of the Church, built on the fact of the empty grave, proves the resurrection of Christ. The name of Christ and the Church He founded would never have been heard of again if He hadn't risen. That's why there was such an upsurge in the Church and why the once hiding disciples had new found courage. But most importantly we have the evidence in Christ Himself. He said He would rise and He did. The resurrection proves Him to be the Son of God, and as the Son of God He endorsed the Bible, saying: "Your word is truth" (John 17:17).

Death is no longer death in the old sense - eternal death. It is victory and triumph, the door to eternal life. Every believer can express with full assurance and confidence, "I shall not die, but live."



Job writes, "I know that my Redeemer lives, ... in my flesh I shall see God" (Job 19:25-26). With faith in Christ we, through death, enter into the almighty presence of the living and loving God.

We triumphantly and joyfully exclaim, "He lives! He lives!" The very foundation on which our Christian faith rests is the resurrection from the dead by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

May you enjoy this joyous Easter season!

Together in Christ,

Parton Kungen

FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

February 2021

Year-to-date Income: \$22,326.59 Year-to-date Expenses: \$25,339.33 Year-to-date Budget: \$28,328.00

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TRANSFER

Lauren Janous to First Immanuel Lutheran in Cedarburg, WI

KINGDOM WORKERS - APRIL

The following members are listed as Kingdom workers for April in the following areas:

Altar Guild: Judy Baer, Debbie Kamps, Lori Fels

Acolytes: April. 1 – (Maundy Thursday) Kelvin

2 - (Good Fri.) Simon, Natalie

4 - (Easter) 7 a.m. - Ava

9 a.m. - Alandra

11 – Addison

18 - Emma

25 - Kelvin



ST. BARTHOLOMEW MISSION STATEMENT

Sharing the Good News of salvation with others (Matt. 28:19)

Believing in Jesus as our Savior (John 3:16)

Living our faith in what we say and do (James 2:18)

Caring for those in need (1 Peter 3:15; Mark 10:45; Eph. 4:28; 1 John 3:17)

SHARING, BELIEVING LIVING AND CARING

ELDER GROUPS

(A-G) Tanner Behnke (920) 427-6201 (H-M) Ron Detert 756-3439

St. Bartholomew has several special project/memorial funds set up to contribute toward.

These funds include: Landscaping

(N-Z) Gary Lemke

Landscaping Hearing Loop

Concordia Scholarship Fund

853-3846

Debt Retirement

Banners

If you would like to contribute to any of the above funds please place your contribution in an envelope and mark it with your name and envelope number as well as the name of the fund you want the contribution assigned to. You may also use the specially marked envelopes in the literature rack.

SIGN UP FOR EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

Once again, due to limited seating with social distancing, if you plan to attend in-person worship on Easter Sunday, you will need to sign up using Sign-Up Genius. When you sign up, you will be asked how many will be in your group. You are also asked to note in the comment section if you prefer to sit to the front, middle, or back and pulpit (west) side or lectern (east) side. Here is the link to sign up:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054BA9AE28A7FF2-easter



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday: March 28, 9:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday: April 1, 7:00 p.m. with Communion

Good Friday: April 2, 1:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday: April 4, 7:00 & 9:00 a.m. with Communion



A prayer request may be made to any member of the prayer chain. If you are requesting a prayer for someone, let the person know so that they are aware and respect their wishes if they do not want the request given to the prayer chain.

Judy Baer	756-2696
Florence Behnke	(920) 418-4315
Renee Bonick	(920) 296-9164
Sue Detert	756-3439
Lori Fels	(920) 639-3792
Rhonda Geiger	(920) 371-7375
Sandy Haberland	(920) 524-2016
Kris Krueger	756-3912
Faith Sonnabend	756-2779
Diane Zickert	(920) 841-8951
Joan Zutz	756-2501



"This is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us" (1 John 5:14)

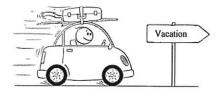
PAVERS

If you would like to place a paver in our Memorial Garden, pick up a form in the church office or literature rack. Cost is \$35 each.

You can purchase a paver in memory of or in honor of someone or some event.

We only place one order during the year so be

sure to order now. Deadline for 2021 orders is April 25.



PASTOR IS ON VACATION April 5-12

Pastor Krueger will be gone on vacation April 5-12. In the event of an emergency, please contact Pastor Thomas Schmitt in Chilton (920) 418-1559 or one of the elders.

A man went to his doctor for a check-up on his hearing aids. The doctor asked, "How did your family like your new hearing aids?"

"I haven't told them yet," the man replied.

"How come?" the doctor asked.

"Well, I decided to wait and just listen to them talking," the man said.

"So, what did you hear?" the doctor asked.

"I've decided to change my will three times already," the man answered.

Helen Helt
 Oneida, NY





Dear Members of St. Bartholomew,

Thank You! What a wonderful blessing to open up your financial gift collected on our behalf!! Yes, we are so very thankful that our broken RV went to the shop last week, and Lord willing will get the needed repairs so that we can travel in ministry again. Lord is in charge and we trust in His provision. We miss seeing y'all and are praying that your church membership is still active and seeking the Lord during this pandemic. THANK YOU! Lord Bless You!

Sending our Love, The Garms Family ☺

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

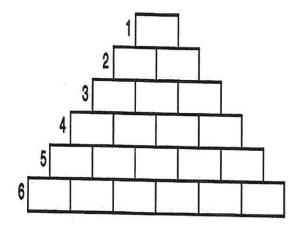


BIBLE TRIVIA

FORM word pyramids using the clues. Each line uses the rearranged letter of the previous line plus an additional letter.

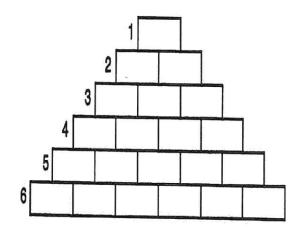
A.

- 1. Vowel
- 2. In the same degree
- 3. Mediterranean is one
- 4. Brother of Jacob (Gen. 25:25-26)
- 5. Relish or condiment
- 6. "A stone that . . . men to stumble"



B.

- 1. Vowel
- 2. In the direction of
- 3. Negative
- 4. Heavy weights
- 5. Goliath was killed with one (1 Sam. 17:49)
- 6. Always give this type of answer



Living Generously

The purpose of this newsletter is to share God's Word so that our members will better understand who we are to be and what we are to do in the light of the Scriptures. It is our hope that this monthly publication will help you grow in your relationship with the Lord and as a Christian steward.

Loving God and Others

God loves us. It's His love that initiated His creation and redemption of mankind. Because God loves us, we can love. The importance of loving is reflected in how Jesus answered the question that He was asked by a Pharisee, who was a lawyer: "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied, "You shall love



the Lord God vour with all your heart and with all vour soul and with all your mind.

This is the great and first commandment. A is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:36-39). Loving God and others are the first and second commandments we have been given as God's disciples and stewards. responding to the Pharisee, Jesus refers to "vour God." This implies that a relationship already existed. Throughout the Old Testament. God had already demonstrated His love. Jesus wants the Pharisee to respond to the love God had already shown to him. We, too, have experienced the love of God. We, too,

willingly want to express our love for God through loving others.

Even though Jesus was asked to state which was the one great commandment, Jesus could not stop at one. He added a second commandment, for one cannot be kept without the other. We are to love God and others, but we know that true love comes only from God. God's love for us enables us to love Him and others. The Apostle John wrote, "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation of our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought to love one another" (1 John 4:7-11).

Throughout God's Word, He calls us to love everyone which includes not only our families and friends but our enemies, neighbors, and strangers. Jesus tells His disciples that, when they feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick and visit those in prison, they are really doing it for Jesus (Matthew 25:35-40). When we love our neighbors, God's love is perfected and shown in us.

God's Instruments of Love

As God's stewards, we receive blessings upon blessings from God Who loves us and wants the best for us. God gives and keeps on giving. However, Scripture is clear that

our stewardship is not seen in what we get from God but rather how He uses us to share our blessings with others. As His instruments, we are His hands, feet, and mouth to the world. We receive in order to give. We find it easier to receive blessings, but, by nature, we are not inclined to be sharing people. Because we are selfish and greedy people, we are more interested in keeping what we have and wanting even more. To enable us to be loving and sharing stewards, God changes our hearts. transformed hearts filled with God's love, we seek opportunities to use the blessings He has entrusted to us to help others. God's blessings pass through us to others. We are blessed to be a blessing.

The Blessing of Wealth

Is it sinful to be wealthy? Are you suspicious of someone who has a lot of money? Conversely do you consider wealth to be a sign of God's favor? If so, does that mean that those who don't have much money are not in God's good graces? What does the Bible say about this? Let's look at two Biblical characters, one on each end of the financial spectrum.

First is Abraham. When Abraham left Ur to go to Canaan, he took his nephew Lot with him. We read in Genesis 13 that the flocks and herds of each man grew so great that they had to separate. Although God had given the whole land to Abraham, Abraham gave Lot first choice. Lot chose the best land, but still Abraham's animals multiplied. Abraham, out of his wealth, gave the best portion away, and God continued to bless him.

Many years later, Jesus is in the temple where He observes the worshipers putting

money into the temple treasury. He saw rich men dropping their coins in and then "a poor widow put in two very small copper coins" (Luke 21:1-4). She was the one He blessed with His words of commendation, for she gave all she had.



What these two had in common was their willingness to share what they had with others. God supplied their needs and enabled them to give to others. Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 9:11, "You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." Yes, wealth is a blessing that God gives, and, as His stewards, we rejoice in the opportunities He gives us to share that blessing as He directs.

All Creation Belongs to God

As God's stewards, we acknowledge, through faith, that God has created and owns all things. All creation belongs to God the Creator. "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein" (Psalm 24:1). The Apostle Paul wrote, "We brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world" (1 Timothy 6:7). Since all we have is God's, shouldn't we use what we've been given for His purposes? Because of God's grace in Jesus, we are empowered to live lives according to His will and purpose.

Blessings as you Live Generously!

Planning a Routine

If you've ever uttered the phrase, "my head is about to explode" you know your brain won't reach critical mass and self-destruct. You say it because your mind has been pushed to exhaustion as a result of the thousands of decisions we make every day. Many of those decisions require immediate deliberations about our options. Other decisions are so routine they are performed subconsciously. We make coffee, brush our teeth, or perhaps even drive to work without thinking because we've performed the task so many times.

Where does exercising fit into the above scenario? Perhaps each day a decision has to be made whether or not to exercise or if at some point we'll decide if something else takes priority. In the moment, we can talk ourselves out of what's best for our health. One way to thwart last-minute changes is to make the decision in advance. In a study published in Psychological Science, researchers studied a trait they called "planfulness" and its correlation to how often people exercise. The study confirmed that those who plan for exercise whether a week or even just a day in advance exercise more consistently. That settles the debate: making the time for exercise is more effective than finding the time.

Planfulness involves putting in writing on your calendar the days and times in the coming week you'll exercise. Yes, that still involves thinking, but it's being made before your day gets going and provides protection against the hour-by-hour decision-making of what you'll do next. Eventually, the plotting of your waking hours and how you'll use them will turn into what makes exercising easier: a routine.

Routines take the constant thinking out of the equation because they become imbedded in the day – they become second nature. For example, just like making coffee each day, you know exercise is going to happen. Just like brushing your teeth, exercise is what you do each day to care for your health. Just like driving, you won't have to think about how to work the buttons on the treadmill or think through which sidewalks to walk down because those decisions will be second nature – you've done them many times before.

For me, morning exercise has become a natural part of my day. When the alarm goes off, there's no need for me to decide what to do. I automatically get out of bed, reach for my sneakers and grab the workout clothes that will complement that morning's activity. Healthy, habitual routines may seem mundane, but what you'll find is that once established, they are a dependable, driving force that can kick in on those days you may not feel like caring for your health.

Did You Know?

A study published in the Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology found that pregnant women who exercised three times a week for 20-minutes improved their child's brain function and development. In addition, the babies of mothers who exercised were slightly ahead of other babies in their ability to grip, jostle and control how they rolled.

Get Your Dosage of Green

A very small study in *Frontiers in*Psychology showed that spending just 20
minutes outdoors in God's creation – your yard,
park or green space – can help lower stress
hormone levels.

The research involved 36 people who spent three days a week for eight weeks outdoors where they could either walk and/or sit during their "green time." Researchers used saliva samples to measure cortisol levels (a stress hormone) before and after being outdoors. The results showed that being outside at least 20 minutes was associated with the biggest drop in cortisol levels.

(from "Better Health" Spring 2021)



St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church

Voters Meeting Minutes January 31, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 8:00am by President Gary Koerth.

Pastor led in opening prayer.

Members Present: 22

Secretary Minutes: Debbie Kamps made the motion to accept the secretary minutes. Second by Gary Lemke. MC

Membership Gains/Losses:

- Gains:
 - o None
- Losses:
 - Nicole Wittmann by transfer to Trinity Lutheran, Oshkosh
 - Tyler Koerth by removal due to joining another denomination
 - Whitney & Jensyn Kees by removal due to joining another denomination
 - o Ralph Haberland by transfer to the Church Triumphant
- Tanner Behnke made the motion to accept the membership action. Second by Lori Fels.
- A motion was not made to accept the membership gains/losses from the last voters meeting on October 25, 2020, so a motion was made for the following membership actions at this meeting:
 - o Gains:
 - Kenzie Marie Schneider by baptism
 - Hadley Elizabeth Boldt by baptism
 - Losses:
 - Jeff, Holly, Mattea, Tanner, Gunner, Bailee Schlender by transfer to Zion Lutheran, Greenleaf (Wayside), WI
 - Tim, Melissa, Emily, Evan, Rachel Pope by transfer to Zion Lutheran, Greenleaf (Wayside), WI
 - Wally Sonnabend by transfer to the Church Triumphant
 - Melva Riemer by transfer to the Church Triumphant
 - Lorraine Evel by transfer to the Church Triumphant
 - Gary Lemke made the motion to accept the membership action. Second by Dave Kamps. MC.

Treasurer's Report

- At the end of the year, we were \$11,051.18 ahead
- At the start of the year, we are \$6,280.51 ahead
- The gain through the year was due to the PPP loan which was forgiven
- There is a 2nd round of PPP loans, but we do not qualify
 - Need to have a 25% reduction in revenue in order to qualify for the loan

• Balance of the loan at the end of the year is \$75,663.13

Board Reports

Elders

- All services are live streamed on the church's Youtube channel
- Midweek Lenten services will be held

Stewardship/Evangelism

- We will be sponsoring a flower basket this year
- · Looking to donate a Christmas tree to the city center
- We are unsure if the parade will still be on this year, so the float is on a stand still

Trustees

- The roof will need to be redone in about 3 years
 - Looking to do a metal roof
- Fuhrman was coming to check the heating units
 - We will now be back on their annual service schedule

Pastor's Report

- October 25th: 293 souls and 249 communicants
- As of January 31st: 288 souls and 245 communicants
- Midweek Lenten Services will be held
 - o Places of the Passion
 - No imposition of ashes this year
- Military Bible Sticks
 - o There will be a challenge again between St. Bartholomew and St. Peter
 - o Bible sticks are \$25 each
- "Soup"er Bowl Challenge
- Pennies for Life ends January 31st
- · Contact information is needed
 - o Please send in your contact information to the office
- Currently no broadcast on the local T.V. station
 - There is picture but no sound
 - Not sure if we will be bringing it back
- Looking for Worship Assistants
 - Duties include counting people in attendance, playing the organ (if we do not have an organist present, that simply entails pushing some buttons), video recording (starting and stopping the recording), ringing the bells
- Vacancy at Hilbert continues

Unfinished Business

• Delegate to the South Wisconsin District convention

- As of January 31st, the convention is still going on and will be June 13th –
 15th
- Looking for someone who might be interested in attending
- Nominations for District & Circuit positions
 - o District President Rev. John Wille, Rev. Nathan Meader
 - o Regional Vice President Rev. Nathan Meader
 - o Circuit Visitor Rev. Thomas Schmitt, Rev. Zach DeArmand
 - District Secretary Rev. David Totsky
 - o District Board of Directors Rev. Darrel Bergelin
 - Dave Kamps made the motion to go with the above nominations for District & Circuit positions. Second by Lori Fels. MC

New Business

- · Election of Officer
 - Lori Fels to Board of Stewardship/Evangelism
 - Kris Krueger made the motion to approve Lori Fels to the Board of Stewardship/Evangelism. Second by Sue Juno. MC
- Bob & Pat Endries Brillion Church Fund
 - This is a new fund set up by Bob & Pat Endries for all the churches in Brillion
 - The church has received a check for \$7,500
 - For the first 5 years, the church will receive a check for \$7,500, and then the following 5 years, the church will receive a check of \$5,000
 - If anything is left after 10 years, then it is divided equally between all 6 churches
 - o This is not to be used for budget items
 - Distribution will take place every year in November
- Bylaw Changes
 - Updated wording in a few sections
 - MEETINGS
 - 4.1 Regular meetings of the Voters' Assembly shall be held in the months of January, April, and October.
 - This was updated to: Regular meetings of the Voters'
 Assembly shall be held in the months of January, April, and
 October. Meetings will be held in person, however under
 certain circumstances identified by the church council,
 members may attend either by audio conferencing or
 electronically (ie. Web conferencing, video conferencing,
 etc.)
 - 4.3 All meetings of the Voters' Assembly shall be announced by word or in the bulletin in all church services on the preceding two Sundays or by a mailing to the membership. Whenever a meeting has thus been announced and convened, at least twenty voting members present shall constitute a quorum...
 - This was updated to: Regular meetings of the Voters' Assembly shall be announced by word and in the bulletin in all church services on the preceding two Sundays and by

electronic means at least two weeks before the meeting. Whenever a meeting has thus been announced and convened, all voting members present shall constitute a quorum...

- 4.4 Special meetings of the Voters' Assembly may be called by the Church Council or by the Board of Elders or by the pastor with the approval of the president as the need arises. The purpose of all special meetings must be included in the announcements as described above.
 - This was updated to: Special meetings of the Voters' Assembly may be called by the Church Council, the Board of Elders, the pastor with the approval of the president, or ten (10) voting members. Announcements of special meetings shall be made in the services of the two previous Sundays or in the services of the previous Sunday when accompanied by notification by mail, email, text, or some other electronic means. The purpose of all special meetings must be included in the announcements.

ELECTION OF CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

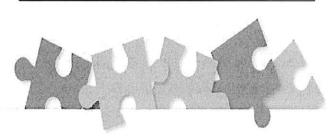
- 7.0 The nominating committee for each year shall consist of the vice president and a senior outgoing member of each of the Boards of Elders, Trustees, Stewardship/Evangelism, and Christian Education, with the pastor as an advisory member...
 - This was updated to: The nominating committee for each year shall consist of the vice president and a junior member of each of the boards, with the pastor as an advisory member...
- Gary Lemke made the motion to approve the By Law changes. Second by Bob Behnke. MC
- Synod Convention Referendum
 - Due to the pandemic, they are looking to move the Synod convention to 2023
 - District conventions can then be done this year or next year
 - o This year the district convention will not be held at Concordia
 - o "Yes" vote means postpone and "No" means to keep it
 - Hank Horn made the motion to say yes to the referendum. Second by Bob Behnke. MC.

Adjourn: Debbie Kamps made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:47am. Second by Kris Krueger.

Pastor led in closing prayer

Shawna Kiesow Secretary All eyes were on the radiant bride as her father escorted her down the aisle. When they reached the altar and the waiting groom, the bride kissed her father and placed something in his hand.

The guests in the front pews responded with ripples of laughter. Even the pastor smiled broadly. As her father gave her away in marriage, the bride gave him back his credit card.



PUZZLE EXCHANGE

The puzzles have all been placed on shelves in the first room on the left-hand or east side past the hallway to the Fellowship hall. Feel free to take one or two home to work on. If you have any puzzles you'd like to donate, please make sure all the pieces are in the box and just place them in that room.



Donations Needed

The Decorating Committee is looking for monetary donations to help the cost of outdoor flowers, flower pots, and also for potting soil for indoor and outdoor flowers. You can put money in the offering plate marked Decorating Committee or you can also make a donation by



bringing it to the church office.

Thank you!

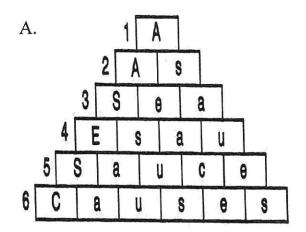
A woman was visiting a church one Sunday. The sermon seemed to go on forever, and many in the congregation fell asleep.

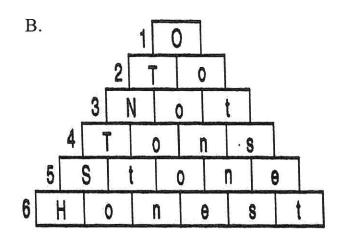
After the service, she turned to a very sleepy-looking gentleman sitting in a nearby pew, extended her hand in greeting, and said, "Hello, I'm Gladys Dunn."

Without a moment's hesitation, the man replied, "You're not the only one, ma'am, I'm glad he's done, too!"

– via Rev. Dr. Karl R. Kraft Dover, DE

ANSWER KEY TO BIBLE TRIVIA







Birthdays

	2nd	Amber Klepps	16th	Bob Behnke
	2nd	Bryce Denor	17th	Faviola Emmer
	4th	Simon Geiger	17th	Mark Krahn
	5th	Stephanie Petersen	20th	Cara Geiger
	7th	Parker Gade	23rd	Amy Krahn
	7th	Tracy Hurda	24th	Megan Boldt
	9th	Lillian Petersen	25th	Linda Streck
	10th	Savannah Day	27th	Sue Graf
	13th	Roger Bladow	27th	Collin Maeder
	13th	Dave Buboltz	27th	Hannah Maeder
	13th	Debbie Kamps	27th	Jacob Maeder
	15th	Adolfo Vargas	28th	Bryce Michael

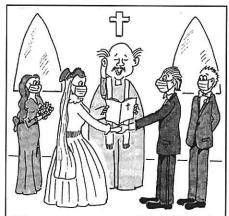
ANNIVERSARIES

19th	Dan & Patsy Geiger
20th	Elliot & Dorothy Maile
21st	Zach & Amanda Zoellner
20th	Tony & Susan Wittmann
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30th Russ & Mary Boldt



Please forgive us and politely notify us if an anniversary or birthday is missing from the list. *Thank you*.



"You may now unmask and kiss the bride — if you recognize her as the woman you intended to marry."

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com ©Rev. Dr. Karl R. Kraft Reprinted with permission

FEBRUARY SCRIP TOTALS

CARD NAME	TOTAL	PROFIT
Amazon	100	2.50
BP	800	12.00
Culver's	70	3.50
Econo	1,575	47.25
Exxon	100	5.00
Festival	200	6.00
Home Depot	50	3.50
Kohls	50	2.00
Kwik Trip	225	9.00
McDonalds	10	0.40
Menards	75	2.25
Michaels	50	2.00
Piggly Wiggly	200	6.00
Shell	200	10.00
Subway	10	1.00
Walmart	175	4.38
TOTALS	\$3,890.00	\$116.78



Three friends from the local congregation were asked, "When you're in your casket, and friends and congregation members are mourning over you, what would you like them to say?"

Artie said, "I would like them to say I was a wonderful husband, a fine spiritual leader, and a great family man."

Eugene commented, "I would like them to say I was a wonderful teacher and servant of God who made a huge difference in people's lives."

Al said, "I'd like them to say, 'Look, he's moving!"

