

TO OUR GUEST: We hope your time with us today is a blessing and an encouragement. Enough so, you will return over and over again. We are glad you are here.

WORD TO THE WISE

PASTORS: Bob Wix (724) 693-9971, Dustin Wallace (330) 206-1407, Jerry Keller (412) 613-9104 **EVANGELIST:** Faron Franklin, 412-788-8818

We exist to TAKE THE GOSPEL to all people, to TRANSFORM HEARTS to be like Jesus, and TRAIN DISCIPLES to make more disciples.

PROVERBS IS PACKED FULL OF WISDOM JUNE 13, 2021 WISDOM KEEPS YOU FROM TROUBLE

COMMUNION: We serve the Lord's Super each Sunday as was the pattern of the New Testament Church. Immersed believers are encouraged to partake to remember what Jesus did for them on the cross.

INVITATION: If you desire to make a decision for Christ today, come forward during the closing. Someone will greet you and lead you each step of the way. Call Faron if you want to set up an appointment to talk.

YOUTH CHURCH – Grades 1-6 – Youth Center
SUNDAY SCHOOL – Begins at 10 AM – Social Hall
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – 7 PM – Social Hall

MEN'S DISCIPLESHIP GROUP – A men's discipleship group has an open invitation for all men. They meet Mondays in our Youth & Family Life Center at 6:30 PM. The Gospel of Mark will be taught through the lens of discipleship. A workbook will be required. If you have any questions, please see **John Taormina**.



HOT DOG FUNDRAISER FOR MISSION COMMITTEE – Mark your calendar! On Sunday, **June 27th**, after our morning worship, stay after for a meal of Hot Dogs, all the fixings, cold drinks, and games. **Donations will be accepted and will go toward our Mission Committee.** Have some fun, while at the same time support our mission program at Restoration.



JEREMIAH WELBOURNE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY – Jordan and Jessica will be hosting a Birthday Party for Jeremiah on Sunday July 11th after our morning worship in the Social Hall. **It will be a carry-in lunch**, so please bring some food to join us for this big day. The Welbourne's will provide the drinks and dessert as we celebrate the **BIG TWO** for Jeremiah. Everyone is invited to come have a good time.



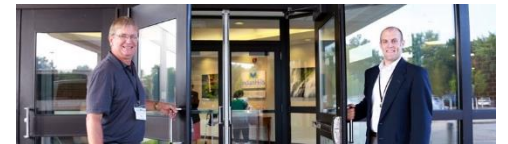
CAMPFIRE OUT BACK – Weather permitting, on Friday June 18th, we are going to put some logs on the fire and sit around the campfire. You are welcome to bring supplies for hotdogs and smores, but not required. **Bring your own lawn chair.** We will start the evening around 6:30 PM and we will end when everyone goes home.



 **WINGS**
Women IN God's Service

ATTENTION ALL LADIES---WINGS PICNIC – June 26th @ Noon - All ladies are invited to the home of Karen Cox. Barbeque Chicken and drinks will be provided. You will need to bring a side dish or dessert and your bathing suit. Questions? Call/text Karen at 412-498-0005. **A sign-up sheet is in the foyer.**

GREETERS – If you are on the schedule to be a Greeter, please get to your post at least 15 minutes early so you are ready to greet those at the doors with a smile and friendly invitation. Welcome to Restoration!



	6/13/2021	6/20/2021	6/27/2021	7/4/2021	6/11/2021
Front Door Greeters	Lynn Thomas	Bert Wingertsahn	Ty Miley	Lynn Thomas	Susan & Ashley Toal
Worship Center Greeters	Becky Lisotto	Gloria Leonard	Becky Lisotto	Marci Wix	Lynda Wiseman
Youth Church	Lara Franks	Lara Franks	Lara Franks	Lara Franks	Lara Franks
PowerPoint	Kathy Hanze	Kathy Hanze	Kathy Hanze	Kathy Hanze	Kathy Hanze
Video Recording	Nathan Wallace	Nathan Wallace	Nathan Wallace	Nathan Wallace	Nathan Wallace
Communion Preparation	Pat Stavish Danielle Lardo	Pat Stavish Danielle Lardo	Pat Stavish Danielle Lardo	Mindy Gordon	Mindy Gordon
Communion Meditation	Josh Freeman	John Billigen	Jim Thomas	Joe Hadden	Bob Wix
Cleaning Team This Week	Trinity Kutchmark	Barb Shultz	Margaret & Laci Pounds	Colleen Glozzer	Karen Cox
Nursery	Rebecca Lisotto	Jessica Wallace	Sierra Erkkila	Lynda Wiseman	Rebecca Lisotto

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." Acts 2:42



FARON'S FOOTNOTE

RESTORATION CHURCH OF CHRIST
Faron Franklin, Evangelist

Jesus Cleans My Stains

In 1966, England charged to glory by winning the football World Cup. It fell on the captain, Bobby Moore, to have the honor of walking up the steps of Wembley Stadium to receive the trophy from the queen.

Asked afterward how he felt during that historic moment, Moore admitted that he was terrified. The queen, he'd noticed, was wearing pristine white gloves. His hands were covered in dirt from the match, and he was going to have to shake her hand. And so, as he walked up those steps, he frantically tried to wipe his hands clean.

Most of us have had some experience of being unclean. But of course, there is more than one kind of being dirty. We can feel desperately unclean on the inside too.

How Shame Feels

Mark's Gospel introduces us to someone who knew all too well what it meant to feel unclean. In Mark 1:40-45, Jesus encounters a leper, someone whose skin condition left him ceremonially unclean according to Old Testament law. Leprosy was a particularly cruel condition. It was regarded as incurable and highly contagious. Those afflicted with it endured both physical discomfort and social isolation, and for something they did not do or bring on themselves. Think about that a moment: They were considered a physical and a spiritual contagion.

That might be how you feel: toxic, radioactive—a contagion.

It might be because of something you have done. In Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, Lady Macbeth had been involved with others in the murder of King Duncan, and it weighed so heavily on her that we hear of her trying to rub the blood off her hands in her sleep. "Will these hands ne'er be clean!" she cries. Shakespeare had incredible insight into the workings of a guilty subconscious.

Ashamed to Be Assaulted

It is not just our own actions that can leave us feeling unclean. Perhaps you have been on the receiving end—a victim of human evil, leaving you with a deep sense of being unclean.

One victim of sexual assault describes it like this:

"I told no one. In my mind, it was not an example of male aggression used against a girl to extract sex from her. In my mind, it was an example of how undesirable I was. It was

proof that I was not the kind of girl you took to parties, or the kind of girl you wanted to get to know. I was the kind of girl you took to a deserted parking lot and tried to make give you sex. Telling someone would not be revealing what he had done; it would be revealing how deserving I was of that kind of treatment."

In her mind, this assault did not leave her with a feeling of her assailant's dirtiness; it made *her* feel dirty. No one deserves to be treated like that—NO ONE! However, she falsely took on the guilt he should have been carrying.

'You Can Make Me Clean'

Pay close attention to this encounter in Mark.

A leper came to Jesus, pleading with Him, and kneeling said to Him, "*If you will, you can make me clean.*" (Mark 1:40)

Again, his leprosy, as far as we know, was not a result of any sin he committed, but according to the law, he was not supposed to approach anyone. He knows, however, that Jesus has unique power—incredible power to restore him, to cleanse him. "*If you will*" may indicate he knows he has no right to such healing. He does not presume that he deserves it.

Jesus is deeply moved by this man's situation. He is not apathetic. Jesus doesn't back away because He is revolted by his condition. He feels for this man—a deep compassion. Jesus does the unthinkable—He touches him. He touched the man and the disease he was carrying. This may be the first time in decades this man had been physically touched by anyone.

This is what Jesus does with the uncleanness of those who come to Him as this leper did. Rather than withdrawing in disgust, he draws near and reaches out to us. He moves toward us, not away from us. "*Moved with pity, he stretched out His hand and touched him and said to him, 'I will; be clean'*" (Mark 1:41). Jesus *is* willing. And the effect is immediate and dramatic. "*Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean*" (Mark 1:42).

More Grace in Christ

Lepers were to be separated from people because they were seen as a danger, a contaminant. When it comes to Jesus, however, it turns out the leprosy was the one at risk.

Jesus's cleanness is a far more powerful contagion than any dirt we can bring to Him. There is always more that's right in Jesus than there is what's wrong in us, more grace in Him than offense in us, more forgiveness in Him than sin in us. The very worst in us cannot compete with the best in Christ. We can't smear Him. He can only purify us. However deep our mess goes, His holiness goes deeper. We will never exhaust it.

I find this hard to believe. I often think my sinfulness is so great that it would cause Jesus not want to touch me. I reason on occasions that my toxicity is too much for Jesus to contain. This thinking sometimes looks like modesty; I am not worthy. Others mistake it for humility. Actually, it is a form of pride — *I am so rotten a sinner that not even Jesus can contend with me.* So, I need to believe what I see in Mark.

All Our Sin and Shame

After his healing, the cleansed man is told in the strongest terms not to tell anyone what has happened. Except—he was to tell the priest, so that he can be certified as ceremonially clean and rejoin society. Jesus is not ready for this to go public. And yet the man does the exact opposite, and the news

rapidly spreads out everywhere. The result?

He went out and began to talk freely about it, and to spread the news, so that *Jesus could no longer*

openly enter a town, but was out in desolate places, and people were coming to him from every quarter. (Mark 1:45)

Notice, the two have swapped places. Previously the leper had been unable to enter towns and had to live in misery away from the public. Now he is back in the community, and Jesus is forced to the desolate places. The outsider and the insider have reversed roles. In a sense, Jesus has become contaminated by this man. And it is key for us all.

How Christ Removes Shame

The cross Jesus took the full extent of your and my uncleanness onto Himself. *Every sin, every wound, every piece of brokenness and shame.*

Jesus went through ultimate exclusion—not just from people, but also from His Father (Mark 15:34). He was made toxic so I can be made fragrant. He was shut out so I could be summoned in. That doesn't mean I never *feel* unclean. There is the ongoing attack of the great accuser. Satan's gonna Satan. But I have a place to look in my war against sin and shame.

Bobby Moore was left to ineffectively wipe his hands on his shorts, but Christ wipes us utterly clean of all that has made us most dirty. —FF

"The very worst in us cannot compete with the best in Christ."



FARON'S FOOTNOTE

RESTORATION CHURCH OF CHRIST
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Pennsylvania Family Camp Meeting

Preaching in the Mountains

June 13-17

WINGS Picnic

June 26

Mission Team Hot Dog Fundraiser

June 27

Hillsboro Family Camp

July 26 - 29

Outside Movie Night

Saturday, July 17

Camp Wallace

August 18-21

Homecoming (8 Years)

September 19

Barnabas Week

October 31 - November 3



If you are looking for a place to fit in at Restoration and have not found it yet, please talk to Faron or one of our elders. They can help you find a place to serve and minister as we work together for the Lord.