



Kissinger's Church
715 Berkshire Blvd., Wyomissing, PA 19610
Kissinger's Caller
Calling all people to Jesus Christ



January 2020



Are You Prepared For 2020?

by Bryan Seyler

Every generation experiences change.

But sometimes you sense you are in the midst of a truly radical change, the kind that happens once every few centuries. Increasingly, I think we are in such a moment now. Those of us in Berks County who are over age 30 (Ha Ha) were born into a culture that could conceivably still be called Christian. Now, evidence has shown, even in America, people who are churchless (having no church affiliation) will soon eclipse the church.

In addition, 48% of Millennials (born between 1984 and 2002) can be called post-Christian in their beliefs, thinking and worldview.

So, what do we do? Should we at Kissinger's put our heads in the sand and hide? I think we should look at this as an opportunity! One in which we can rely on GOD and not so much on ourselves? Let's look at some facts: What are the reasons even committed church attenders are attending less often? I think the change we're seeing around us might one day be viewed on the same level as what happened

to the church after Constantine's conversion or after the printing press was invented. Whatever the change looks like when it's done, it will register as a seismic shift from what we've known.

***What will the future church be like?
And how should we respond?***

1. The Potential to Gain is Still Greater Than the Potential to Lose:

Every time there is a change in history, there's potential to gain and potential to lose. I believe the potential to gain is greater than the potential to lose. Why? As despairing or as cynical as some might be (sometimes understandably) over the church's future, we must remind ourselves that the church was Jesus' idea, not ours.

It will survive our missteps and whatever cultural trends happen around us. We certainly don't always get things right, but Christ has an incredible history of pulling together Christians in every generation to share his love for a broken world. As a result, the reports of the church's death are greatly exaggerated.

2. Churches That Love Their Model

More Than the Mission Will Die: That said, many individual congregations and some entire denominations won't make it. The difference will be between those who cling to the *mission* and those who cling to the *model*.

When the car was invented, it quickly took over from the horse and buggy. Horse and buggy manufacturers were relegated to boutique status and many went under, but human transportation actually exploded. Suddenly, average people could travel at a level they never could before. The mission is travel. The model is a buggy, or car, or motorcycle, or jet. Look at the changes in the publishing, music and even the photography industry in the last few years. See a trend? The *mission* is reading. It's music. It's photography. The *model* always shifts...moving from things like eight tracks, cassettes and CDs to MP3s and now streaming audio and video. Companies that show innovation around the mission (Apple, Samsung) will always beat companies that remain devoted to the method. Churches need to stay focused on the *mission* (**leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus**) and be exceptionally innovative in our *model*.

3. The Gathered Church is Here to Stay: While some will leave, it does not change the fact that the church has *always* gathered because the church is inherently communal. Additionally, what we can do gathered together far surpasses what we can do alone. Which is why there will always be an organized church of some form. While our gatherings might shift and look different than they do today, Christians will always gather to do more than we ever could on our own.

4. Corporate Christianity Will Die and a More Selfless Discipleship Will Emerge: That leads us here at Kissinger's to evaluate our church, our faith, our

experience and each other according to our preferences and whims. In many respects, even many critics of the church who have left have done so under the pull of consumer Christianity because 'nothing' meets their needs. All of this is in opposition to the Gospel, which calls us to die to ourselves—to lose ourselves for the sake of Christ. As the church reformats and repents, a more authentic, more selfless church will emerge. Sure, we will still have to make decisions about music, gathering times and even some distinctions about what we believe, but the tone will be different. **When you are no longer focused on yourself and your viewpoint, a new tone emerges.**

5. Sundays Will Become More About What We Give than What We Get: The death of corporate Christianity will change our gatherings. Our gatherings will become less about us and more about Jesus and the world he loves. Rather than a gathering of the already-convinced, the churches that remain will be decidedly outsider-focused. And word will be supplemented with deeds. In the future church, **being right will be less important than doing right.** Sure, that involves social justice and meeting physical needs, but it also involves treating people with kindness, compassion in everyday life and attending to their spiritual wellbeing. This is the kind of outward focus that drove the rapid expansion of the first century church.

That's why I'm very excited to be part of Kissinger's Church, that has, at its heart, the desire to create a Church that unchurched people love to attend. While the expression of what that looks like may change, the intent will not.

6. Online Church Will Become More of a Front Door than a Back Door: There's no question that today online church has become a back door for Christians who are done with attending

church. While online church is an amazing supplement for people who can't get to a service, it's still an off ramp for Christians whose commitment to faith is perhaps less than it might have been at an earlier point. Within a few years, the dust will settle and a new role for online church and online ministry will emerge. Online church has the potential to become a massive front door for the curious, the unconvinced and for those who want to know what Christianity is all about. In the same way you purchase almost nothing without reading online reviews or rarely visit a restaurant without

checking it out first online, a church's online presence will be a first home for people which for many, will lead to a personal connection with Christ and ultimately the gathered church.

What Do You See? Ultimately, I have a lot of hope for the future of our church. I hope you do, too. The mission is too important to feel otherwise. I think we should focus on our mission: To make the Bible come alive through worship, prayer, study and fellowship while serving others with love and respect.

Coming Events!



Paolo's: Listen, Learn, Lunch Thursday, January 2 at 11:00am

Paolo's Restaurant (Shillington).
An After-Christmas party – everyone is invited! RSVP to Andee Swoyer.



Patriot Night Weds., January 15 7:00pm Rep. Mark Gillen Serving parts of both Berks and Lancaster Counties.

Health Event Saturday, January 18, 1:00pm (Details to be announced.)



Fellowship Luncheon Sunday, January 12

Join us for our monthly Fellowship Lunch. Sign up at the kitchen window to bring a potluck dish.



February 7, 7:00pm Learn some new games; play some favorites. Bring your favorite board game and a snack or beverage to share.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Dave Reinwald:

610-223-6941

davidreinwald7@gmail.com

Wendy Sharp:

Administration

610-372-5606

kissingerschurch@yahoo.com

Office hours M/W/9:00-3:00

Friday 9-noon

Dan Brownell:

Music Director

484-638-2980

CHURCH COUNCIL

(date)=Year term expires

President—Heidy Coldren (2021)

484-256-2580

hcoldren@yahoo.com

John Lindemuth, vice pres.

(2020)

Cheryl Harting, sec. (2021)

David Bytof (2022)

Ron Heilman (2020)

Sandy Kurtz (2021)

Jeff Kring (2022)

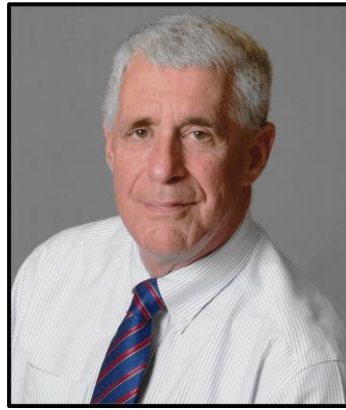
Bryan Seyler (2020)

Doug Swoyer (2022)

Pastor Dave Reinwald

Kissinger's Mission Statement

Where the Bible comes alive through worship, prayer, study and fellowship while serving others with love and respect.



The Faces of Kissinger's

We continue our column featuring members of Kissinger's. Each month a different member(s) will be featured.

I started attending Kissinger's in the spring of 2011, after reading about the congregation being in the process of leaving the ELCA to become an independent Church. As I was walking across the parking lot on my first visit, I saw Rod, Annamae, and Martha; whom I knew from the previous church we all had attended. The four of us joined Kissinger's Church on August 7, 2011.

I have a daughter, Laura and a son, Jason and a grand puppy Dozer. I live in Brecknock Township, close to Maple Grove Raceway. I enjoy the outdoors, camping, kayaking and my Jeep in the summer, and a good snow or two in the winter.

I am semi-retired, having worked in the potato chip and pretzel industry in sales and management positions before finishing my full-time working days selling custom built car trailers. I am preparing to start a ride-sharing business which will give me the opportunity to meet interesting people and afford me some freedom to set my schedule.

Currently I am serving on Church Council, and a member of the Growth and Development Committee and the Safety-Security Team. My desire is to assure that every person who enters our doors can experience the Bible coming alive in a safe and secure setting and then having the confidence to share that experience with others.

(This is a replacement for the annual report previously submitted by the Kares Team.)

Kissinger's Kares Team Annual Report

Team Members: Barb Hess, Ed Hess, Ron Misiaszek, Pat Misiaszek, Shirley Lindemuth, John Lindemuth, Kerry Rogers, Theresa Manmiller, Joe Manmiller, Becky Singh, Dan Tobias, Pastor Dave, Doug Swoyer, Andee Swoyer, facilitator.

Our first meeting of the New Year was on 1/6/19. The following list of activities is what the Kares Team worked on throughout the year.

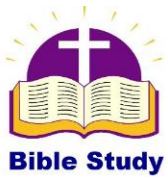
- Alternative transportation for Garnetta Gruber was researched including taxicab companies, BARTA bus co., Seniors Helping Seniors, Diakon, rental cars, UBER & Lyft (but need an app).
- No alternate transportation is feasible because of costs.
- The Lindemuths volunteered to coordinate pick-ups to and from the church for Garnetta. Sandy & Rich Moyer, Becky Singh, Heidi Coldren, Lindemuths, and Misiaszeks all said they could help with either round-trip or a one-way trip to church.
- A fee of \$10 will be given to drivers for a round-trip transport of Garnetta and \$5 for a one-way trip.
- Monthly visits to homes and personal care facilities.
- Theresa & Joel Manmiller designed and printed Holiday cards for residents at Manor Care in West Reading. This is their ministry for the past 17 years.
- Get-well, Sympathy and Thinking of You cards are sent out on a regular basis.
- Some transportation has been provided to and from medical appointments.
- Pastor Dave and a Kares Team member did home visits with communion to shut ins. All are welcome to partake in these visits.
- Phone calls are also made to people while they are on the "mend" to let them know we care.
- Folders were made with each team member's name, pairing them with church members, who currently need to be contacted. Additional sheets will be added as needed.

A list of Kare recipients that our team has contacted or visited throughout the year:

Phyllis Trupp	Lois Angstadt	Garnetta Gruber	Lois Bordner
Gene Kasper	Dale Fisher	Joan Colsher	Barb Hess
Marie Kasper	Kathy Reifsnyder	Margarite Painter	Helen Ernst
Cheryl Tobias	Keith Hoffman	Rose Nave	Larry Clouser
Susan Polityka	Barb Hoffman	Helen Highley	Richard Bender
Barb Henne	Lois Barrett	Terry Price	Linda Delp
Bud Ray	Ken Fischer	Marguerite Little	Rita Tallent
Helen Ray	Ed Hess	Ken Ernst	Sue Ann Geras
Dale Wilkins			

Meetings are held the first Sunday, every other month, immediately following church service. Come and join us!

Respectfully submitted,
Doug & Andee Swoyer



Bible Study Opportunities at Kissinger's

Wednesdays at 1:00pm

The Pastor's Bible study focuses on the scripture passages from the Sunday Services.

Saturdays at 10:30am

This Study is held at the home of Barbara Adams.

The 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 6:30pm.

6:30pm they gather for light refreshment. The study begins at 7:00pm.



January Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following friends and members of Kissinger's. Please notify the church office if your name was missed.

Jayden Faust	5
Stella Hatgiannis	8
Jeanne Neidermyer	9
Andrew Santos	12
SueAnn Geras	14
Ronald Burns	15
Darren Price	23
Tammy Keener	24
Beverly Judd	24
Terri Kline	25
Ruth Graul	27
Kenneth Fischer	28



Need a New Year's Resolution?

Here are Some Suggestions!

Forgive Past Grudges:

As a Christian, you are expected to forgive those who have hurt you. (Note: This doesn't mean what they did is okay, but you do need to get rid of any grudges or unforgiveness you may be harboring in your heart.

Be a More Loving/Involved Spouse, Parent or Friend:

We may all be guilty of letting our relationships slide at times. Don't promise to "do better." Get specific. What are actions you are going to do this year to improve your relationships and when are you going start?

Join a Bible Study:

A great way to dig into the Bible for greater insights, but you can find some great community this way as well, which is also important.



Welcome to Our New Members

On December 15 the following people officially became members of Kissinger's Church.

Bill and Diane Macauley
Cindy Wenzel

INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION



In case of inclement weather, closings or changes in worship time, will be announced on WFMZ (wfmz.com or the WFMZ TV, Channel 69.) and Facebook.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

*We Have a Class
for You!*

Sundays at 9:00 AM

- ◇ Dave Kauffman is teaching the “Gospel of Luke”
- ◇ Bryan Seyler continues the “Study on Angels”.
- ◇ Pauline Seyler will be teaching classes for children ages 5 through 12.

Website www.kissingerschurch.org

Email kissingerschurch@yahoo.com

Facebook www.kissingers.church.3

CHIPMUNK NEWS

Friends,

As I’m writing this, a lot is happening in Washington D.C. A much-anticipated report from Justice Department Inspector General Michael Horowitz revealed that our very own FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) made many bad decisions and errors during and after the 2016 Presidential campaign.

Then, just yesterday, a judge from our FISA Court (United States Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court) wrote a scathing letter to, again, the FBI, rebuking that organization for misconduct in applying for FISA warrants.

And, today, for only the third time in American history, a sitting President will be impeached.

Perhaps you have heard of the term, “deep state”? Many call it a conspiracy theory. But I’m beginning to wonder. Regardless, the Bible speaks of a spiritual, “deep state”.

Ephesians 6:12 states, *“For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places”.*

Interestingly, when I met Judge Jeanine Pirro after singing at an event at Penn’s Peak a few months ago, she stated to me (perhaps because she knew that I am a pastor) that she felt that we were in a spiritual war. Hmm.

Regardless of where we stand in regard to what is happening in our nation’s capital, we must be fervently in prayer for ALL of our leaders (1 Timothy 2:2), asking God to give them honest, non-partisan hearts to make better decisions for our country.

But, most importantly, let us be aware of Satan’s “deep state” that is daily coming after us. Let us be urgent in prayer for our own souls and the people God puts in our path. The devil can never prevail against people who pray.

Blessings,
Pastor Dave

Facing the Facts

from *God Came Near* by Max Lucado

How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them!
Psalm 139:17 NKJV

Aging is a universal condition. But the way we try to hide it, you would think it was a plague!

There are girdles which compact the middle-age spread for both sexes. There are hair transplants, wigs, toupees, and hair pieces. Dentures bring youth to the mouth, wrinkle cream brings youth to the face, and color in a bottle brings youth to the hair.

All to hide what everyone already knows: we're getting older.

Just when the truth about life sinks in, God's truth starts to surface. He takes us by the hand and dares us not to sweep the facts under the rug but to confront them with him at our side.

Aging? A necessary process to pass on to a better world. *Death?* Merely a brief passage, a tunnel. *Self?* Designed and created for a purpose, purchased by God himself.

There, was that so bad?

Recipe of the Month: Pasta e Fagioli

Craving something hearty, healthy and warm? Pasta e Fagioli is the answer. This soup comes together in no time and is super adaptable. (As in, chop up whatever you've got in your crisper and throw it in the pot!)



INGREDIENTS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 2 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil | 2 (15-oz.) cans Great Northern Beans |
| 1/2 lb. spicy (or sweet) Italian sausage | 1 (15-oz.) can diced tomatoes |
| 1 medium yellow onion, finely chopped | 4 c. chicken broth |
| 2 medium carrots, peeled and finely chopped | 2 sprigs rosemary, leaves finely chopped |
| 2 stalks celery, finely chopped | 1 1/2 c. ditalini pasta (or other small shape) |
| 3 cloves garlic, minced | Freshly grated parmesan, for garnish |
| kosher salt | Freshly chopped parsley, for garnish |
| Freshly ground black pepper | |

DIRECTIONS

1. In a large, deep pot over medium heat, heat oil. Add sausage and cook, breaking up with a wooden spoon, until cooked through, about 5 minutes. Stir in onion, carrots, and celery and cook until slightly softened, about 5 minutes.
2. Add garlic and cook until fragrant, 1 minute more. Season with salt and pepper, then add in beans (with their liquid), diced tomatoes, chicken broth, and rosemary. Bring to a boil, then stir in ditalini.
3. Reduce heat to medium and cook until pasta is al dente, about 8 minutes. Taste and adjust seasoning if necessary.
4. Serve in bowls garnished with parmesan and parsley.