Did you see that? Jesus conquered the world!
I keep running into brick walls - it feels like I’m not getting anywhere! But its not up to me to win. Jesus did that on Easter morning. What is up to me is to live into the victory Jesus provided.

That means listen, study, follow. Listen for that still, small voice beyond my experience - listen for the hurt, the joy, the meaning in the situation before us.

Study the Word and how God and Jesus interacted with people - in the Old and New Testament. They were straight-forward, stern, caring, always trying to bring forward the best.

Follow Jesus’ footsteps. He stepped into many difficult situations, but since He took time to pray and listen to God, He knew how to handle each one. We too will have difficult times, but we are not alone. We walk with the victor. Check in with Him and learn the next steps.

Pastor Ken

John 16:30–33 (NRSV)
31 Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? 32 The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each one to his home, and you will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me. 33 I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!”

From the Pastor

APRIL
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES
4 Jessica Somers
8 Jordan Midland
16 Kim Kessler
17 Danny Dendler
20 Carol Goubeaux
21 Jared Hatch
23 Tara Zinner
24 Clifford Hoblit
27 Rodger Hamilton

Note:
If we have not listed your birthday or anniversary, please contact the Pastor so we can correct the list.

Castine Area Food Bank
April food item is Cereal
We now have access to a female Biblical counselor. She feels called to help women, children and teens find the solutions in God’s Word to their life problems (depression, self-image, addictions, relationships, etc.). If you would be interested, or know of a need, contact Pastor Ken.

Submitted by Kim Kessler

"Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; . . . - Psalm 39:12

"Lord, teach us to pray." –Luke 11:1

"After Jesus said this, He looked toward heaven and prayed." –John 17:1

"They all joined together constantly in prayer." –Acts 1:14

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests." –Ephesians 6:18

"Pray continually." -1 Thessalonians 5:17

Throughout the Bible, believers are called to pray. But what is prayer? What does it mean to "pray without ceasing?" And does prayer really make a difference?

The statement below tells it all:

The story is told of four high school boys who couldn't resist the temptation to skip morning classes. Each had been smitten with a bad case of spring fever. After lunch they showed up at school and reported to the teacher that their car had a flat tire. Much to their relief, she smiled and said, "Well, you missed a quiz this morning, so take your seats and get out a pencil and paper." Still smiling, she waited as they settled down and got ready for her questions. Then she said, "First question--which tire was flat?" Sermons.com
Dear Pittsburg Congregation,

Do you ever pray about things that feel remote or impossible? In 2006 my Bible study in Orlando decided to start praying that the Masada* people, living in a far away country, would get a Bible of their own. There's several million Masada speakers, but very few Christians. Those who dare to speak about Jesus are persecuted. Thirteen years ago, our frequent prayer for a Masada translator seemed remote and removed from my everyday life.

A few years ago I stopped praying faithfully for the Masada, but God has continued to be faithful. In February, I (Nate) was sitting at my desk and got an email about Kai*, another translator coming for training this spring. As I researched Kai's hometown, I was shocked. I realized they are coming to help translate the Bible for the Masada, the far-away group we prayed for 13 years ago! Now we get to witness God's answer close up!

Please pray for protection and focus for Kai* and the other 20 students who will start the linguistics program at the end of March.

Pray that those students who have suffered persecution would find healing and renewed strength during their studies.

We thank God for each of you who faithfully pray for our family and our ministry, even when our requests seem to come from a far-away land.

Nate and Ivy

*Names changed for sensitivity

Life Updates...

Five years ago, Nate began taking some strong meds to try to preserve his eyesight. His doctors now agree that in April he can begin slowly lowering the dosage. We praise God for his protection thus far and pray that the blurry vision will not return. We thank all of you who have prayed with us on this journey.

Air pollution is normally very high this time of year. On a particularly bad day last week, Ivy wore a N95 mask to cook in our open-windowed kitchen. Not easy for taste-testing! Pray for God's joy and patience to fill us even on weeks where we feel trapped inside. Also, please pray for rain to clean the air. Many of our neighbors do not have the luxuries of air purifiers or sealed-up homes.
If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please contact the Pastor at pitsburgcob@yahoo.com

No, we don’t handle snakes. Skit below is about Numbers 21 and the complaining wanderers.