

# The Bridge Builder

A Monthly Newsletter from Heritage Presbyterian Church

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## POW-WOW WITH PASTOR BRIAN

I love a good story. We often struggle with the place of a story in our lives. Certainly, we are all part of a story, our family story, our community story, our nation's story. There are always multiple narratives of which we are a part of, not least of which is the narrative of God's ongoing story which must include the likes of us or would not be much of a story worth believing in. This is why I love movies. Now I know that saying you love movies is a bit like saying you love to breathe. Taste in movies is often subjective and often some of the best movies are the ones that make us the most uncomfortable and as followers of Jesus, often leave us wondering if we should be watching in the first place. There is a very important portion of the hippocratic oath that must be taken by all doctors. It states, "first do no harm." I think something in that vein can be said as well for movies, "first, tell a good story." I've seen several good movies this year a few of which have been nominated for Oscars.™ Here are my recommendations for you to watch as these movies become available on streaming or are still in theatres.<sup>1</sup>

**1917:** This movie which comes to us from Sam Mendes is thoroughly enjoyable, insofar as a war picture can be enjoyable. It is one of those rare movies that puts you in the middle of the action as well as the tedium of war. While the two would be heroes of the story are getting ready to go on their rescue mission, we see them dodging their way around a great number of very tired, bored soldiers languishing in British trenches. I think this is an important film historically speaking. While none of the grand strategies of WWI are discussed, and one could make the argument that there weren't many strategies at all, the moment by moment terror of life in the trenches is shown on the screen. It's easy for historians to discuss the necessity of a war, and WWI's necessity is scrutinized more than any other; but soldiers of the war lived their lives in the day to day struggle to keep themselves and their brothers' in arms alive. This is a film that depicts exactly that, even though some of the scenes require a willing suspension of belief (the Germans were not the poor marksmen they are depicted as in the film.)

**Once Upon a Time in Hollywood:** I have been a fan of Quentin Tarantino's film's since I was in high school. Yes, they tend to be over the top in terms of violence depicted, their use of foul language and all the rest but with a few notable exceptions they always tell a good story.

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<sup>1</sup> With the exception of "A Beautiful Day..." all the movies are rated R and not safe for children.

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This film was different from Tarantino's other work, in that the narrative is told from start to finish, with few breaks in between. This threw off the pacing of the film for me, as it seems to move much slower than his other movies which tend to be non-stop action. The movie is the third in Tarantino's alternative history revenge fantasy trilogy. The end of the movie has his trademark violence, but the movie is really about loyalty and perhaps our lost sense of that virtue. Cliff Booth (Brad Pitt) is a loyal friend and stunt double/valet to an aging TV star Rick Dalton (Leonardo DiCaprio.) Booth, throughout the movie, seems to be attempting to hold onto certain virtues he takes seriously, even as the Hollywood of the 1960's experiences the erosion of anything that could be considered virtue. Ultimately, it is Booth and his holding onto this sense of loyalty and companionship that save the day.

**A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood:** Ultimately, not a movie about Mr. Rogers but about someone who is profiling him for a magazine article. Tom Hanks plays Mr. Rogers wonderfully, and let's be honest no one else was going to play the part. We all have some memory of Mr. Rogers from our childhood and he always seemed so comforting to us. As adults, when we go back and watch the program it can feel a little weird. It is strange to see an adult speaking the way Mr. Rogers speaks, but then we remember that the show wasn't made for us, it was made for kids. As Lloyd Vogel seeks to get Mr. Rogers to open up about himself, he finds that he is being cared for by this soft-spoken Presbyterian minister. The most powerful scene occurs when, sitting in a Pittsburgh restaurant, Mr. Rogers asks Lloyd to think of the people who loved him into existence. The moment was a homage to an Emmy acceptance speech Fred gave in 1997. The scene features cameos by the real Mrs. Rogers, and Mr. McFeely. Here, Mr. Rogers essentially invites the watching audience to participate in this moment and you can't help yourself but join in.

**Uncut Gems:** Snubbed by the Oscars, this tense but ultimately entertaining flick stars Adam Sandler in a dramatic turn. The viewer feels the rampant and never-ending anxiety experienced by Howard Ratner (Sandler), as he moves from one enormous, failed gamble to the next, constantly trying to get right with the people in his life, be it a gangster to whom he is related, his soon to be ex-wife, his sometime business partner, his girlfriend, and all of the other people to whom he must owe money. One of the great elements of the film as it goes on is that it leaves one believing that no matter how many of the bets pay off, and few if any of them do, there will still be one more person owed, one more debt collector on the way, one more source of anxiety waiting to pounce. For most of the film, Howard tries to act as though he has it under control, even when it is clear to the viewers that nothing could be further from the truth. Even though gangsters are after him, harassing him, and even striking him physically in his own store, Howard cannot help but brag to everyone that Kevin Garnett (played excellently by Kevin Garnett) is going to be in his store that afternoon to buy jewelry. Howard is constantly trying to be in control. The film carries with it the kind of tension usually reserved for horror movies, as we hope against hope that Howard will get it together if only so that we may finally take a deep breath. The film is about our never-ending quest for control and the tension builds to a surprise ending when the gods finally get their due.

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### **Ash Wednesday**

It's time to prepare for the time of preparation...Lent, that is. Ash Wednesday is February 26. It will start the 40 days of preparation for the commemoration of Christ's crucifixion and death on Good Friday, culminating in the joyous celebration of His resurrection on Easter morning.

This year Heritage will observe Ash Wednesday with a worship service at 7:30 pm on February 26. There will be the imposition of ashes at this service to remind us of what we really are without God. Please join us in worship on Ash Wednesday and throughout Lent.

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### **Fellowship Hour Snack**

We would love for you to bring a Fellowship hour snack sometime. Remember, this should just be a light snack. If you want to bring a special snack for a celebration (birthday, anniversary, new job, etc.), you are more than welcome to. Just please be sure to sign up in advance. The signup sheet is in Fellowship Hall – thanks in advance for your participation!

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### **Bellevue Community Meal Ministry**

Join us Monday, February 24 as we minister to those in need of a little companionship and conversation over a Heritage cooked meal. We will serve and then eat with the diners. All you have to do is share a tiny bit of time. We will leave from the church at 5:00 pm, and return by 8:00 pm. See Jaime Griffin, Lisa Janssen or Melanie Thomson if you have any questions about this ministry of love. Thank you so much for your continued support.

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### **Nursery**

The volunteers for the nursery have been doing a great job, but we are always in need of more help. Any members of the congregation and high school students who are interested in helping out in the nursery, please email Karen Hayworth. Her email is khaywort@yahoo.ca

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## **Mission, Service & Outreach**

### **Prayer Ministry**



*...Please pray for those we know who are ill or have concerns:*

Bobbie Berg - member  
Barbara Berger - classmate of Donna Johnston  
Marine PFC A. J. Boeh - grandson of Dolores Boeh  
Betty Jane Burke - cousin of Wayne Dillner  
Annette Curtis - friend of the Johnston's  
Evan Dillner - grandson of the Dillner's  
Bob Donaldson - former member  
Leslie Dunn - sister of Pam Dierker  
Joyce & Pete King - Donna Johnston's sister & brother-in-law  
David Martin - nephew of Terry Martin  
Mike McAleer - member  
Tim McAleer - member  
Cammy Nichols - daughter of Donna & Bill Johnston  
Marine LCpl Jacob Nichols deployed to Japan - grandson of Donna & Bill Johnston  
Alan Pettengill - Nancy Pettengill's brother  
Alta Pettengill - Nancy Pettengill's mother  
Michael Seapker - son of Carol Jo & Milt Seapker  
Maggie Snyder - former member  
Ralph Tissue - Brother of Carol Harvey  
Connie Vitale - member  
Elaine Wilson - member  
Caroline Wise - member

If you would like prayer or know someone who should be added to this list, please contact Terry Martin in the church office at 412-366-1338 or [heritagepcusa@verizon.net](mailto:heritagepcusa@verizon.net). Also if you are willing to prepare and deliver a meal, drive to doctor appointments or grocery shopping, or can babysit, we have an "at need" individual that can be paired up with you.

#### **PRAYER CHAIN**

If you wish to put something on the Prayer Chain, first contact Terry Martin in the office between 8:30 am and 2:30 pm, Monday through Friday 412-366-1338 or at [heritagepcusa@verizon.net](mailto:heritagepcusa@verizon.net). If your request is other than the church hours, please contact Donna Johnston at 412-364-3340 or [dmj5393@verizon.net](mailto:dmj5393@verizon.net). Thank you.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS	
Hank Cibula	2/3
Tammy George	2/3
Morgan Halyama	2/3
Lex Felkar	2/6
Colleen Brown	2/9
Hank Lawhead	2/14
Katy Joseph	2/18
Bob George	2/21
Ben King	2/23
Bobbie Berg	2/24
Tilly Joseph	2/28



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES	
Sue & Hank Cibula	2/9

<b>Worship Volunteers for February</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Worship Leader</b>	<b>Sound System/Projection</b>	<b>Nursery (Worship)</b>	<b>Ushers</b>
2/2	Reed Harvey	Scott Campbell Julia Cibula	Carolyn Briggs Connie Vitale Sarah Vitale (Helper) <b>(B) Karen Hayworth</b>	Matt Joseph Melanie Thomson
2/9	Peter Wildfong	Randy Thomson Rick Berg	Joanne Dunmyre Erika Jani Mia Vitale (Helper) <b>(B) Melanie Thomson</b>	Winn Dunmyre Roy Halyama
2/16	Donna Johnston	Winn Dunmyre Quentin Halyama	Julie Halyama Courtney Young <b>(B) Dolores Boeh</b>	Lex Felkar Roy Halyama
2/23	Rick Berg	Jim Cummins Wendy Cibula	Karen Hayworth Nancy Wise <b>(B) Julie Halyama</b>	Roy Halyama Matt Joseph

**B = Backup for Nursery**

Please consider joining our volunteers, contact the following:

Nursery Worker, call Karen Hayworth 412-259-8056

A/V & Sound System, call Jim Cummins 412-364-3172

Usher, call Roy Halyama 412-548-3270

#### **Projection Crew Phone Numbers**

Rick Berg 724-709-8601

Julia Cibula 412-720-3550

Wendy Cibula 412-720-3550

Pam Dierker 412-812-3599

Quentin Halyama 724-799-4645

#### **Sound Team Phone Numbers**

Scott Campbell 412-369-8873

Jim Cummins 412-364-3172

Winn Dunmyre 412-367-4771

Bill Johnston 412-364-3340

Randy Thomson 412-715-4283

Thank you for taking the time to serve!

	<b>Communion Preparation</b>	<b>Communion Servers</b>	<b>February Counters</b>
<b>February 2</b>	Julie Halyama	John & Wendy Cibula Lex Felkar	Reed Harvey Connie Vitale
<b>February 16</b>	Linda Campbell	Carolyn Briggs Reed Harvey Melanie Thomson	



### **Communion Dates**

DAY	DATE
Sunday	February 2, 2020
Sunday	February 16, 2020
Sunday	March 1, 2020
Sunday	March 15, 2020
Thursday (Maundy Thursday)	April 9, 2020
Sunday	April 19, 2020
Sunday	May 3, 2020
Sunday	May 17, 2020

<b>February CHILDREN'S SERMON SCHEDULE</b>	
DATE	TEACHER
February 2, 2020	Pastor Brian
February 9, 2020	Ted Griffin
February 16, 2020	Cyndi McAleer
February 23, 2020	Pastor Brian

Heritage Calendar of Dates February, 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2  10:00 am Worship Service <b>Communion</b> 11:15 am Sunday School Adult Bible Study NO Youth Group	3	4	5  6:00-7:45 pm CARE	6	7  7:00 am Men's Breakfast at Bob Evans in Cranberry	8
9  10:00 am Worship Service 11:15 am Sunday School Adult Bible Study 5:00-6:30 pm Jr. Hi Youth Group 6:30-8:00 pm Sr. Hi Youth Group	10	11	12  4:00 pm SAF Team Meeting	13  1:00-4:00 pm Presbytery Meeting at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary 5:00 pm Worship Team Meeting	14  7:00 am Men's Breakfast at Bob Evans in Cranberry	15
16  10:00 am Worship Service <b>Communion</b> 11:15 am Sunday School Adult Bible Study 5:00-6:30 pm Jr. Hi Youth Group 6:30-8:00 pm Sr. Hi Youth Group	17  6:00 pm Session	18	19  6:00-7:45 pm CARE	20	21  7:00 am Men's Breakfast at Bob Evans in Cranberry	22
23  10:00 am Worship Service <b>Congregational Meeting following the service</b> <b>No Sunday School</b> 5:00-6:30 pm Jr. Hi Youth Group 6:30-8:00 pm Sr. Hi Youth Group	24  5:00 pm Bellevue Meal Ministry	25	26  7:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service	27	28  7:00 am Men's Breakfast at Bob Evans in Cranberry	29

CE=Christian Education  
 MT=Mission Team  
 MFC=Membership, Fellowship & Care  
 SAF=Stewardship, Administration, Finance  
 FH=Fellowship Hall



**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE  
AT  
HERITAGE**

**10:00 am Worship Service**

**11:15-11:50 am Sunday School  
Adult Bible Study**

**HERITAGE CHURCH OFFICERS**

**ELDERS**

Christian Education

Wendy Cibula '22

Worship

Peter Wildfong '20

Mission Team

Karen Cummins '21

Jaime Griffin '22

Stewardship  
Administration & Finance

Milt Seapker '21

Membership,  
Fellowship & Care  
Carol Jo Seapker '20

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**FEBRUARY, 2020 NEWSLETTER FROM**

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**Pittsburgh, PA 15237-1518**

***Proclaiming the good News of Jesus Christ  
to our community and the world!***

