



There's nothing good on the TV; the dishes are washed, dried, and put away leaving you free to revisit Einstein's Theory of Relativity. As a person of faith you expect that by studying physics you view God's creative output, getting clues to what God is up to. You head on over to the Eastern Monroe County Library. Once there, you recall Arthur C. Clarke was an author with advanced degrees in physics and think he might be a good resource for explaining Einstein's ideas. Wandering among the stacks you find Dr. Clarke's **2001, a Space Odyssey**. This is a fascinating read with a great deal of physics sprinkled through the pages. Only now you notice you have wandered into the fiction section. To be specific, you are in the science fiction section. The library has kindly organized itself in ways that give you information about the nature of its books before you even lift one off the shelf. Fiction often has a basis in reality, but it's designed to tell stories. Dr. Clarke wrote gripping yarns that may fascinate you while teaching a little science on the side. Science fiction speculates and may stray far from our shared physical world to tell its stories. Often such books are written to share deeper truths about human nature and experience. Many volumes found in fiction tell you true truths.

Your quest for understanding how God's creation works cannot end in the fiction section, though. Books by and about Einstein's theories are found in the 530's Science/Physics non-fiction stacks. These books do not stray far from the science in the service of a good plot twist. They are reliable and can be used to check the information in other parts of the library.

I was deeply troubled when I realized that the Bible is a library. It may be bound in one volume but within those pages are many different kinds of writing. Unlike the folks at our public library the people who collected the books of the Bible did not label the types of books. Some of the authors crossed over modern categories in the space of one book. For me, respect for the Bible begins in understanding what we hold when we hold the work of generations long gone from this earth. It is a message of faith with roots in early human experience. Not all of the books can be labeled non-fiction because some tell stories, like Jesus' parables, that didn't happen but happen all the time. There's some controversy about where to shelve these books of the Bible, but it helps to understand what sort of book you are reading in this marvelous library compiled by faith as it points us to God.

### **Church News / Upcoming Events**

Thank you to the following folks who came out on Saturday morning to help Spring clean the CE building in preparation for the upcoming Hostel fundraising season: Cathy and Olivia Klingler, Sharon Murphy, Maggie DellaFera, Mary Bartha, Michelle Siproth, and Barb Dickinson.

The **2021 Stewardship Campaign** will be underway November 1<sup>st</sup>. Mary and Tom Bartha are the coordinators this year. A mailing to all members was done this week so you should be seeing something in the mail very soon. There will be updates during Service as the campaign progresses. Please prayerfully consider your personal involvement in this campaign, whether it is through giving, volunteering time, and/or praying for our church community.

The **Church Life Committee** will be having a Bazaar on Saturday, November 7, 10 AM – 3 PM. The Bazaar will take place in and around the CE building, weather permitting. We will be adhering to current social distancing, wearing of masks, and limiting the number of people permitted inside the building at one time. There will be a basket raffle and items and crafts for sale. Help will be needed on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> as well as the morning and day of the event. If you are available to help in any way or have any questions please contact Maggie DellaFera at 570-460-3466.

There will be a **Congregational Meeting** on Sunday, November 15, immediately following Service. Members will have an opportunity to nominate and vote for new Church Officers, approve changes to the current by-laws, and vote to move forward on the foundation project. If you're interested in being nominated for any of the available positions or have any questions please contact the Church Office.

The **Presbyterian Woman** continue to participate with the *Girls on the Run* shoe drive. There is a bin in the back hallway of the CE building and another one in the narthex. Please donate any type of shoe - men's, women's, children's - in clean, decent shape. The bins will be emptied on a regular basis so that we do not have a stinky shoe smell in the church.

We continue to be a great resource for members of our community through our **Food Pantry**. Non-perishable donations are always needed. Some suggestions include: fruit, pasta, mac and cheese, drink boxes, canned chicken, white and brown rice, salad dressing, noodles, cereal, pancake mix, syrup, and paper towels. If you need to get in touch with Ginny Sodano, her phone number is 570-476-9393 and her email address is [gsodano@ptd.net](mailto:gsodano@ptd.net). A big "thank you" to Ginny for all she does with this important ministry!

**Prayer Concerns** Please pray for the following people:

*Tim and Diane Bowman –*

Tim has been hospitalized with pneumonia. He had covid-19 earlier this year as well. He is currently living at Slate Belt Nursing Home because of his Parkinson's. Diane is well. Prayers for strength for her would be appreciated.  
*104 Kistler Street, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301*

*Jil Hawk –*

As many know, Jil broke her foot before our move to Shawnee on Delaware. She has gotten permission to wear a tennis shoe around the house but she still has to take it easy!  
*PO Box 305, Shawnee on Delaware, PA 18356*

*Linda Jennings -*

Linda fell, hurt her shoulder, and is doing better, thanks to physical therapy. Continued prayers for the healing process.  
*151 Naomi Lane, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301*

*Kiki Pollack –*

Kiki has been diagnosed with brain cancer and has been undergoing chemotherapy.  
*1109 Woodland Xing, East Stroudsburg, PA 18302*

*Mary Resh –*

She fell and broke her femur. Surgery resulted in a pin being implanted in her leg. She is currently in stable condition in the hospital and will be going to a rehab facility as soon as they are able to move her.  
*Grace Park, Apt. 119, 1170 West Main St., Stroudsburg, PA 18360*

*Joshua Siegle –*

Joshua is the youngest son of our Ministerial Assistant, Lori Siegle. He has joined the Active Duty component of the U.S. Army and has started basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.  
*107 Helen Street, Stroudsburg, PA 18360*

*The Wolbert Family –*

Prayers of peace and healing at Mary's passing.

### **Contact Me**

You can reach me a number of ways:

- call the church office, leave a message, 570-421-5518,
- call the manse, 570-664-6829,
- email to my new email address [pastor@shawneepresbyterianchurch.com](mailto:pastor@shawneepresbyterianchurch.com),
- on the porch (Jil and I haven't been on the porch quite as much with the cooler weather), or
- stop by my office in the CE building on Tuesday or Thursday morning from 9 AM-12 PM!

**Reminder:** If you want to get in touch with the office please use the new email address - [info@shawneepresbyterianchurch.com](mailto:info@shawneepresbyterianchurch.com).

It's great to be connected!

God Bless!

*Darcy*