

Jacob's Creek Family Retreat

July 19 – 22, 2020

"The Ten Blessings"



Dear Friends,

This year's Jacob's Creek Family Retreat will be running from July 19 through 22. If you've joined us in the past, we look forward to seeing you again. If you've never been before, I can promise you a wonderful experience! Every year we have a theme that helps us focus our attention on specific teachings from the Lord's Word and on how we can actively make them a part of our lives. I'm happy to announce our theme for 2020: **The Ten Blessings**.

Eternal happiness – we wish for it. We all want to experience the Lord's many blessings. Yet, sometimes the pathway to real lasting happiness can be astonishingly counterintuitive! Instead of making assumptions about what we think will make us happy, we need to allow the Lord to show us. In the Gospel of Matthew, the Lord opens His *Sermon on the Mount* with just such a challenge. In "The Ten Blessings," or "The Beatitudes," the Lord provides us with a Divine list of the qualities we must embody to experience the eternal blessings He created us for. Some things on this list may seem more obvious; while others may cause us to rethink our approach to life and the question, "Where does lasting happiness really come from?"

This year's pastoral staff will include the Reverend Mac Frazier (Pastor of the Washington New Church), the Reverend Brett Buick (Pastor of the Kempton New Church) and myself. Our camp directors are Blake and Paul Messman, and Jamie and Julie Uber. With their help and the help of MANY other dedicated volunteers this promises to be another great year! We urge you to register early so you don't miss out. If you know of friends who would enjoy Jacob's Creek, please invite them. We look forward to welcoming one and all!

Rev. Matthew Genzlinger
Jacob's Creek Family Retreat Pastor

MATTHEW 5:3-12

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of the heavens.

Blessed are they who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst
after justice, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall have mercy.

Blessed are the clean in heart,
for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called the sons of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for
the sake of justice,
for theirs is the kingdom of the heavens.

Blessed are you when they shall reproach
you, and persecute you, and say every
wicked saying against you, telling lies, on
account of Me.

Leap for joy and rejoice, for your reward
is great in the heavens.