

# SOUTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

464  
3-13-83

## Ministers

Richard M. Cromie  
John E. Mehl  
John J. Lolla, Jr.  
Beverly W. James  
Thomas C. Flynn, Music

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Nine and Eleven O'Clock

March 13, 1983

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THE PRELUDE Music by The Southminster Ringers-I

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

THE NARTHEX CANTICLE The Hour Cometh Hutson

\*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 1 Nicaea  
Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, who breathed the breath of life into creation: now send the promised power of your Spirit into our company. Where doubt has threatened faith, give us new strength to trust in you. Where self-concern has limited our love, enable us to stretch out caring hands. Grant us pardon for our sin, and fill us with a holy will to live for you. In Jesus' name, amen.

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*THE GLORIA PATRI

\* \* \*

THE SACRAMENT OF INFANT BAPTISM

THE CHORAL RESPONSE

THE FELLOWSHIP MOMENTS

Please sign and pass the friendship pads along your pew.

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children in grades 1-3 are now excused to Room 408.

THE ANTHEM

O Be Joyful In The Lord  
The Chancel Choir

Cox

THE PRAYER OF COMMON CONCERNS

THE LORD'S PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE

THE OFFERING

The Offertory

arr. Bock

I Will Sing My Great Redeemer's Praise  
The Chancel Choir

\*The Doxology

\*The Prayer of Dedication

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

II Corinthians 1:1-11

THE SERMON

"HOW TO LIVE WITH CANCER"

Dr. Cromie

Text: "From such terrible dangers He saved  
us, and will save us; and we have  
placed our hope in Him that He will  
save us again." II Corinthians 1:10

\*THE RECESSIONAL HYMN NO. 324

Finlandia

Be Still, My Soul

THE BENEDICTION and CHORAL RESPONSE

Bright

The Grace of God

THE POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Lemmens

---

\*Congregation standing. \*\*\* Ushers will seat those waiting.

The 11:00 Worship Service is broadcast live over WPIT-AM  
(730 on the dial) each Sunday.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP  
9:00 a.m. March 13, 1983

THE PRELUDE

The Southminster Ringers-8  
Fred Wagner, director

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: THIS is the day the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Leader: This is the DAY the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Leader: This is the day the LORD has made.

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THE ANTHEM

Supplication  
The Chancel Choir

Spevacek

HYMN SING

NEWS OF THE PARISH

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

Small Rain

Parker

The Calvin Choir and Ringers-7

Peggy Anchors, directing Lee Oehrle, accompanist

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

II Corinthians 1:1-11

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (In Unison)

This is the good news which we received, in which we stand,  
and by which we are saved: that Christ died for our sins  
according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he  
was raised on the third day; and that he appeared to Peter,  
then to the Twelve and to many faithful witnesses.

We believe he is the Christ, the Son of the living God.  
He is the first and the last, the beginning and the end,  
he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

THE SERMON

"HOW TO LIVE WITH CANCER"

Dr. Cromie

Text: II Corinthians 1:10

THE BENEDICTION

THE CHORAL RESPONSE

O May the Peace of God

Butler

THE SACRAMENT OF INFANT BAPTISM is being administered this morning to Amy Lynn Kilchenstein, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kilchenstein (Wendy Thomas).

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are the gift of Dr. and Mrs. James A. White in memory of loved ones.

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- 9:50 NEW MEMBERS' CLASS-Room 104
- COMMUNICANTS' CLASS-Fellowship Hall
- WESTMINSTER BIBLE CLASS-Parlor
- MEN'S BIBLE CLASS-Southminster House
- SUNDAY SEMINARS:
  - \*ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE BIBLE-Dr. Nancy Lapp-Fell. Hall
  - \*DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE-John Ambrose of Outreach
  - South will discuss models for help-Recreation Hall
  - \*HOW DO YOU SPELL PRESBYTERIAN?-Room 407
- 11:00 CHILD CARE for infants is available in the Crib Nursery. Classes for 2's in 301; 3's in 304; 4's in 211; 5's in 212. Carol Choir in Room 408.
- 12:05 COFFEE HOUR-Fellowship Hall
- 4:00 SOUTHMINSTER RINGERS- I & II-Room 408
- 6:30 CROSSCURRENTS-Youth Lounge

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- 3:30 BROWNIE TROOP-Recreation Hall
- 6:00 THE SOUTHMINSTER ADULT SINGLES-Fellowship Hall. All members of the congregation are invited to hear Miss Elinor Fleming, former Christian Education Director, speak on "Faith As a Journey" at 7:30. Reservations needed for dinner only.
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#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

- 3:00 YOUTH MINISTRIES FOR 9-12th grade
- 8:00 CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

- 7:00 LENTEN BREAKFAST for Senior Highs-Youth Lounge  
12:45 U.P.W. LUNCHEON-Fellowship Hall  
7:00 NURSERY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

FRIDAY, MARCH 18

- 9:30 DROP-A-TOT CHILD CARE-Room 212  
WOMEN'S HANDBELL TEAM-Room 406  
11:00 THE ADULT INTEREST CENTER will enjoy "Renaissance Festival '86 - The Flowering of Pittsburgh," given by W.B. Froelich, Executive Director of the Pittsburgh Regional Planning Association. 12:00 lunch, 1:00 cards, chess, pool, films, folk dancing, hand-crafts, income tax advice, knitting and crocheting.

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NEXT WEEK Dr. Cromie will preach the sermon entitled "PEACE IN OUR TIME...ON GHANDI, YOU AND ME..."

A SPECIAL MEETING OF OUR CONGREGATION-CORPORATION will be held next Sunday following the 11:00 service for the purpose of a discussion regarding our concern for Camp Windy Ridge.

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THE MOST REVEREND ANTHONY A. BOSCO, Auxiliary Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, will be our featured guest at the third Lenten Dinner, Sunday, March 20 at 5:30 in Fellowship Hall. Call the church office for reservations.

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PLEASE REMEMBER to return your Worship Plus One commitment cards to the church office.

ANYONE WISHING TO ORDER MEMORIAL LILIES for Easter Sunday, please call Dorothy Lust (344-6021). The final date for ordering is March 20. The cost is \$9.00.

OUR SYMPATHY to Mrs. George A. Rehbein on the recent death of her husband, Mr. George A. Rehbein.

THE CHURCH NOMINATING COMMITTEE requests names of potential nominees for officers for Session, Trustees and Deacons. If you have any suggestions, please write a note to the church office or speak to one of the ministers.

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK: St. Clair Hospital-Marilyn Daugherty and Ann Marie Walther. Mercy Hospital-William Difenderfer.

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"HOW TO LIVE WITH CANCER"

March 13, 1983

Text: "From such terrible dangers He saved us, and will save us; and we have placed our hope in Him that He will save us again."

II Corinthians 1:10

I am so well aware, my friends, of how sensitive this topic is to some of you. What to the rest of us is an intellectual question, or a spiritual concern, or even a personal puzzlement as we try to unravel the various tangles around what happens, why, to whom, to so many in the world, there is no leisure to peruse it as an idle topic for the mind. It dwells deep within the soul. Back when I was in seminary, I was instructed not to mention the word cancer from the pulpit, it would create such fears and frustrations for the people of the pew. And, while I suspected at the time that it was bad advice indeed, still I confess in over twenty years of preaching I have never before handled this topic of how to cope with cancer. I bring it to you today, tenderly, and also timidly, knowing that some listening and reading know far more about it than I do. You have been my teachers. What I have to say comes from the life and struggles of far too many people with whom I have experienced this almost infinite worry which begins on the day the doctor comes to say, "We think it's cancer, and here is what we have to do."

How often people hear those words. Let me give you a few general statistics which are relevant to the subject. One out of four people in the United States has or will have cancer somewhere along the way. If you are over sixty years of age, the ratio is reduced to one out of two. Two out of three families are directly affected by cancer. Almost half a million Americans died from the disease last year alone. Many of them, by the way, were due to unnecessary delays and fears and refusal to follow through on signals which the body frequently

gives. Not all, of course. You have heard around the edges of your life, I am sure, of the concern and conflict which serious illness of any kind brings to families. I read a devastating study by a New England psychologist that in families where leukemia has changed the life of a child, only one out of ten survive without sever disruption to the marriage and the home. Surely things are forever changed.

There are of course, also, theological questions surrounding it all, as to why cancer comes, and when it comes and how it effects individuals and families of God's people. Why it is all so important, I wish someone else were writing this message because I would be delighted to hear what he had to say. Of all the six hundred things that I thought of to share with you, I have condensed is to six. Those of you who listen and read carefully will immediately understand why I choose the headings which I did. It is in the form of an acostic of six letters. The first begins with "C".

\* \* \* \* \*

I. I think the first thing a religious person and a family has to do is to Conquer the fear. What once was true of leprosy and the plague and tuberculosis and other dreaded illnesses now is true in what Orville Kelly calls the "canceraphobia" of our time. We talk about cancer as if it is some sinister force direct from Satan himself. That it is an alien power with super human tendencies to annihilate us all. It evokes such demonic feelings and fears in us all. Our euphemisms betray us for while I, too, smile with people who say, "I've got the big C," we both know what we are doing. We are keeping it at a distance.

When the word cancer is mentioned, it evokes a wide variety of responses but what actually is cancer? At its simplest, it is nothing more than a cell gone wild, a cell which refuses to answer the regulatory signals from the brain

so that when it touches against another healthy normal cell, while it should stop reproducing, it does not. It goes crabbing and clawing its way to the parts of the body that are susceptible to it. It is actually a group of diseases, a large class with four huge categories and several subdivisions of those. An increasing number of them are increasingly susceptible to treatment. Thanks be to God and to the research teams all around the world.

There are four specific types of treatment and I applaud them all. I think the worst advice you can ever give a person is: "Don't let them fool and fiddle with you. They will ruin the remaining time you have left." For whether it be surgical treatment, radiation, chemotherapy or the various immunological avenues progress has already become the hallmark of the day.

You owe it to yourself and you owe it to your family and you owe it to the future to allow those who with whole heart and great brains come into the topic of oncology. I advise people not to be ridiculous. There are worse things in life than death. But I thank God for the concern and care and skill of those who work in the field. I have seen miracles of God and miracles of treatment in the twenty years I have been a pastor. And so many listening and reading this are living witness to what I mean.

So I am saying in the first place that we need to be more open about our phobias. When you call a fear by its name, you usually disarm it. Then we can go on to handle it in a rational, spiritual, dynamic approach to conquer it. The first thing we need to do is to conquer the fear of the word. For now cancer can be controlled. One day soon it will be cured.

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II. The second thing I want to say begins with an "A". I will not say that it is easy, but while you try to conquer the fear you must go on to Anticipate a

struggle. For those who have been through it will tell you a struggle it surely is. But then Chaim Potok is there to say that all beginnings are hard whatever they are. You and I can easily recall the various journeys of our life through uncharted seas: like the first day you went away from home, or the day you lost your parents, or the first day at boot camp with your sweetheart back home, or the first day of your illness. It is not fun to hear that you are losing control or that you must now surrender to treatments and doctors ad infinitum, ad infinitum.

The struggles within the body and emotions are real and earnest. It is like a dear friend of mine said not long ago, "I feel like there is an alien in my body." Fear and anger and depression are common. It is the loneliest disease, someone said, in all the world. You must walk that lonesome valley whether it be into the radiation room, into the O.R. or into the privacy of your soul. This is strange new territory to conquer and the way is rugged and often steep. Some things help with the struggle. Don't underestimate it, if you are a member of the family or friend or if one day it should be you, it is a wholehearted, unending, almost soul demanding, struggle to win.

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III. Thirdly, beginning with an "N", I say Never give up. I have mentioned miracles of treatment. I see the most remarkable things happen often in only a few months. I see peoples lives open up to the future. I see the children of those who are struggling and suffering take on new depth. When the Bible says all things work together for good, I am here to tell you I so often see it so. Never give up.

When Winston Churchill was called back hom to his preparatory school, eighty-five years old at the time, he was to give a speech to the graduates. Having

sat through about forty-seven commencements, and having spoken at quite a few myself, it has to have been the greatest graduation speech of all time. When the youngsters had received their diplomas, Sir Winston stood up at the microphone and cleared his voice, leaned forward and said: "Never give up!" Then he stood back from the microphone, cleared his voice again, leaned forward again, and said, "Never give up!!" He stood back once more, he looked around, cleared his throat again, leaned into the microphone and said, "In conclusion, I want to tell you, "Never give up!!!"

Now I want to tell you, if you are talking about a child in your family, don't ever give up on a child! If you are talking about a marriage which is shaky, don't ever give up on a marriage! If you are talking about any kind of illness of the body, mind or soul, never, never give up! Your life has purpose. It has meaning God is there in the middle of it. The "N" in my outline says Never give up.

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IV. Then, when it gets difficult to keep on "never giving up", it is time for another "C". The fourth thing I want to tell you is when you need it Call for help. You do not have to be a hero. One of the biggest problems people tell me of any kind of cancer, even those that are estimated to go for decades, is that you lose control. We like to be in control of our lives, thank you, Lord. Do not ask me to surrender my control to anybody else because I can take care of me. I always have and I always will. I said, "You do not have to be a hero." When Jesus Christ was afraid of the pressures which life put upon Him, what did He do? He cried. When He needed help, He called His disciples to Him and talked to them. When everything has changed (although nothing has changed because you are still you) you can be certain you will need help, both the patient and the family. And your foolish pride should never stand in your way.

To the friends and family of those who have cancer or have had it, I say in quiet ways, let the patient set the pace. Your needs are important, too, but in the family setting, with it is a variety of needs. I often hear friends saying, "Well, I would have gone to see him except that I didn't want to bother him." I never have nerve to say it, but I want to, who is kidding who. You are afraid to go because you don't know what to say. I tell my fellow workers, I tell anyone who will listen to me, it is better to go than not to go.

If I had only known how serious it was or how lovely she was, sure I would have come. Well now, nonsense! You and I already know how fragile is our time. We have boundless testimony of the days passing into decades, like a weaver's shuttle goes click, click, click, says Job, so my days go by. Others confess that not knowing what to say, they stayed away lest they say the wrong thing and make matters worse. May I respond quietly, there almost never is a wrong word to say. Usually no word at all is necessary, just an "I'm sorry" and "I'm here" is all you need to say. Family members often say to me, "I wish we could have talked but she never seemed to want to." Perhaps she didn't. But perhaps she was protecting you. Keeping our fear and pain from others often is a course a patient chooses. But then at times the other, grateful, refuses to intrude. I suggest you talk, of serious things and all. At other times you need to talk about the football game, or the weather, or the transitoriness of life. Whatever, I often envy doctors because they have a stethoscope. At least they have something to do with the nervousness of their hands. In the room where cancer is I have to go in by myself. But it is better to be there and to share what love means, even when you do not know what to say. We all need to be loved. We all need self esteem. We all need to be thought important. In those regards, it does not matter whether you have cancer or not. We are all the same in those

needs. To the friends and family, I say, "Be there." To the patient, I say, "When you need help, ask for it. Call for it and it will be there."

There are many places, more formal, trained and dedicated, by the way, where help can be received. Many different agencies, depending where you live, can provide listening ears, and helping hands, and shared stories of how to manage through it all. Your own doctor should be able to assist you. Your clergyman. The social worker at your hospital. The public and private agencies of The American Cancer Society and others with more specialized skills, depending on your needs, are there.

Friends are there, and family too, and fellow travelers. The peculiar comment ends the fourth suggestion. We usually do not receive help unless we ask for it. Call for help.

\* \* \* \* \*

V. Then the fifth thing I want to say begins with an "E". Are you ready? Enjoy whatever life is left! Did you hear that? Enjoy whatever life is left. Now we do not need to be morbid. In many cases these days we are talking about indefinite years of useable life which remain. Ten years from now we will be talking about decades not days. Sometimes though dearie me, it all caves in and life expectancy takes on a little narrower focus. What was a leisurely strokk, comes raging down like a flood in the narrow valleys of your worry. If you are not careful, it will engulf you. The best way to approach any crisis of our life is to see it as a new mirror in which you can look at yourself again. What we always knew in theory, we now know in practice: life is fragile.

That's the one thing God cannot do, He cannot make a life which isn't fragile. In that designed fragility you need to say, as Victor Frankel said at Auschwitz when he thought he was going to die, "The one thing I've learned is that a single moment can flood my life with meaning."

Think about your life. Think about the most significant things which have ever happened to you. Most of them come in moments, right? Most of them are special little periods of time. The years and decades blend together as one. John Cowper Powys is one of my favorite authors. When he was over eighty, he wrote a book called, "The Art of Growing Older." I recommend it to you, especially if you are in the middle or latter years. Dr. Powys wrote, "It is like a journey home after a long walk on the beach. And I love it so much down there along the shore. The closer I get to home, the more open my eyes become, and the more I look forward to the moment when I can sit down to rest from it all and to think through everything that life has given me. Then I concentrate my vision on those rare occasions when I realize how precious is the remaining portion of my journey."

And you know what the problem is, don't you? You know what the source of the problem is? We think we own this life. That we have a right to eighty, ninety or ninety-eight years of perfect unending joy. Right? We subtly believe that the universe owes us happiness and peace and tranquil days. But there comes the Bible to say, "Oh Lord, teach us to number our days, and if they be four-score, yet they are so often full of sorrow, and we know how precious they are." When Harold Russell, the famous movie actor lost both of his hands, he said something that applies to all of us wherever we are, but especially those who are under the special gaze of our sermon. He lay in the hospital wondering how he would ever go out again, he was so horrified at the disfigurement of his life (a word and a fear so often associated with cancer surgery). He said then it finally occurred to him, "It is not what you have lost which matters, it is what you have left." It's not what you've lost, it's what you have left! You need to determine to enjoy whatever life you have otherwise you will squander what is our most precious

possession in the world - our time and more, our time together. Not that only cancer patients do it, we all squander time away. There is no right or proper way to handle the shock or "grief" of learning to deal with cancer. But the suggested course normally runs to the positive. It is not what you have lost. We all lose a day each passing dusk and dark. It is what we have left which matters. If you sit and feel sorry for yourself or grouse and grumble until the end of time, so be it. But you and the others all around who love you, will miss the most treasured times of all.

\* \* \* \* \*

VI. Then the final thing I want to say begins with an "R" - Renew your faith. The "R" says renew your faith. I do not say it because I am a minister. I am a minister because I have to say it. For just about when you have had enough, when you cannot stand it a moment longer, all of a sudden along comes St. Paul to hold you by the hand and in his words and in the words of Jesus Christ, Paul says, "God comforts us in our affliction so that we can comfort others. We were utterly crushed, but that was to make us rely upon God and not on ourselves. He will deliver us; and I have placed my hope in Him that He will deliver us again."

You think you have problems, do you want to match them with St. Paul? He was born into a high family but grew up and old with an awful malady that would never go away. It embarrassed him time after time after time. He rejected the faith of his fathers and became an outcast from his family. He says himself that five times he was lashed with forty lashes minus one. He was stoned. He was shipwrecked. And he says, "I spent many a sleepless night." You know what that is about if you have ever faced a struggle with cancer. "My fellow Christian people," he says, "betrayed me." His temper exposed him, but he wrote, "I boast in my weakness so that Jesus Christ can be my strength. And in the middle of my toughest hour I find my faith the strongest."

Thomas à Kempis was a great and marvelous Roman Catholic scholar who had a gentleness about his meditative life. A German in The Fifteenth Century, he wrote that one day when he was faced with illness, ~~he said,~~ "I cried out to God, 'Oh Lord, how will I ever make it to the end!'" Then, "I heard a little voice whispering back to me, 'Thomas'; 'Yes'; 'Did I ever fail you? When you were a little child, did I not carry you in my arms; and when you faced the passions of your youth, did I not deliver you from all their might; and in the reigning view you had over the top of your middle years, and when you walked too near the fire, ... have I ever failed you, Thomas?'" Thomas said meekly, "No." And the ~~voice~~ voice said, "Well do you think that I would fail you now?" And Thomas said, "No, no, .... you have delivered me and .... you will deliver me." St. Paul adds: "I have placed my hope in Him that He will deliver me again." And aye, He will. You cannot often live without a renewal of your faith.

~~And, that wonderful~~ <sup>Then,</sup> Orville Kelly is waiting for us at the close. He is the man in whom cancer was discovered in 1973. Rather than be defeated, he became the founder of Make Today Count, one of the helpful organizations where people with cancer get together to talk about what they can do to help themselves, and to help each other. There are a myriad of ways in which you can help if you want to, or where you can receive help if you want to receive it.

Back then he wrote the following prayer (From Until Tomorrow Comes):

Give me the strength to face each night before the dawn  
Let me count each passing moment  
As I once marked the fleeting days and nights,  
And give me hope for each tomorrow.  
Let my dreams be dreams of the future.  
But when life on earth is over,  
Let there be no sadness --  
Only joy for the golden days I've had.

Only joy for the golden days I've had .... or as Annie Dillard used to say, "The dying always say thank you, they never, ever say please."

~~Now and forever more. Amen.~~

- D** Conquer the Fear
- A** Anticipate a Struggle
- N** Never Give Up
- C** Call for Help
- E** Enjoy Whatever Life is Left
- R** Renew your Faith

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John E. Mehl

John J. Lolla, Jr.

Beverly W. James

Thomas C. Flynn, Music

*John Mehl TD*

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Nine and Eleven O'Clock

March 13, 1983

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"HOW TO LIVE WITH CANCER"

Dr. Cromie

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THURSDAY, MARCH 17

- 7:00 LENTEN BREAKFAST for Senior Highs-Youth Lounge  
12:45 U.P.W. LUNCHEON-Fellowship Hall  
7:00 NURSERY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

FRIDAY, MARCH 18

- 9:30 DROP-A-TOT CHILD CARE-Room 212  
WOMEN'S HANDBELL TEAM-Room 406  
11:00 THE ADULT INTEREST CENTER will enjoy "Renaissance Festival '86 - The Flowering of Pittsburgh," given by W.B. Froelich, Executive Director of the Pittsburgh Regional Planning Association. 12:00 lunch, 1:00 cards, chess, pool, films, folk dancing, hand-crafts, income tax advice, knitting and crocheting.

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NEXT WEEK Dr. Cromie will preach the sermon entitled "PEACE IN OUR TIME...ON GHANDI, YOU AND ME..."

A SPECIAL MEETING OF OUR CONGREGATION-CORPORATION will be held next Sunday following the 11:00 service for the purpose of a discussion regarding our concern for Camp Windy Ridge.

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THE MOST REVEREND ANTHONY A. BOSCO, Auxiliary Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, will be our featured guest at the third Lenten Dinner, Sunday, March 20 at 5:30 in Fellowship Hall. Call the church office for reservations.

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PLEASE REMEMBER to return your Worship Plus One commitment cards to the church office.

ANYONE WISHING TO ORDER MEMORIAL LILIES for Easter Sunday, please call Dorothy Lust (344-6021). The final date for ordering is March 20. The cost is \$9.00.

OUR SYMPATHY to Mrs. George A. Rehbein on the recent death of her husband, Mr. George A. Rehbein.

THE CHURCH NOMINATING COMMITTEE requests names of potential nominees for officers for Session, Trustees and Deacons. If you have any suggestions, please write a note to the church office or speak to one of the ministers.

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK: St. Clair Hospital-Marilyn Daugherty and Ann Marie Walther. Mercy Hospital-William Difenderfer.

Sensitive Topic for some, told not to mention

INTRO

194, 2 + 3 families, over 60-100, 1/2 million died  
Many due to delay; Home Conflict. Postponed question  
I wish some one else were preaching, I would love to hear it  
Six Categories out of 600 possible

① Let's Conquer the Fear Leprosy, T.B. Plague Cancer/HIV  
What is it, a cell gone wild, Crab clawing its insidious way  
Susceptible to Treatment, past 10 yrs. All treatments SILENT  
Admin Treatment ① you ② family ③ research  
Controllable now - Curable soon. It is Tough

② So, ANTICIPATE A STRUGGLE - all beginnings are hard Joining the Fight  
First day away from school, An alien in Body; LOSING  
Control, Melancholy disease, Anja, depression, This is  
Not Humiliating, of course he's not. He's in a momental STRUGGLE

③ Never Give up I see miracles, I believe in miracles Church  
Church Never give up - on Self Chud, Marriage, Life  
The time comes to surrender - you will know it.  
Secrets, Trick: Keep goals in mind - etc. Never Give up.

④ Call for help - You don't have to be a hero. Family let patient  
set pattern. we all need self esteem, Reassurance  
Someone to listen, Abandon not - Go See Him  
Year for honest conversation -

⑤ Enjoy whatever life is left ... Now years or decades, Frankel  
in Auschwitz a single moment can feel a life time. Last  
day on vacation - Youngs - a long walk home on beach  
Do something - Tidy up - Speak to others - don't  
Waste the time. Life is lived in the off of our days.

⑥ Renew your Faith

along comes Paul - God comforts us in our affliction  
... I have placed my hope that he will deliver me again  
Wiedemann -

Thomas a Kempis in illness - How shall I ever  
make it? I have never failed you  
Thomas a Kempis!

Orville Kelly

Core

Make today count

Give me strength to face each night before the dawn  
Let me count each passing moment as I used to count the  
months & years

Give me hope for each new tomorrow

Let my dreams be of the future in which I hope to live

And, when my life on earth is over (wherever that will be)

let there be no sadness

only joy - for the golden days I've lived!

or as Anne Dillard said it "The dying never  
always say thank you - They never say please

THE SERMON

"HOW TO LIVE WITH CANCER"

Dr. Cromie

Text: "From such terrible dangers He ~~delivered~~ saved  
us, and will ~~delivered~~ save us; and we have  
placed our hope in Him that He will  
save us again." II Corinthians 1:10



Introduction: Scientific topic Did not mention, need to be relevant, one of 4; over 60 1 of 2; 2 out of 3 families directly affected. 450,000 died last year. Many of them due to delay, fear, & following of signals

- ③ Concern & conflict in homes - leukemia children 1 of 10 w/o severe disruption
- ④ Historical questions
- ⑤ I wish some one else were reading or it > would love to hear what he would say.
- ⑥ What I know comes from experience of others. Practical advice from Xanthopoulos "how to live w/ cancer, five the

Six Categories for the Six Hundred which occur

① Conquer The Fear

leprosy, T.B. Phage

Cancerphobia, as if an alien force, even heart trouble a far more serious & life threatening Does not endure - What is it?

Amoxicillin  
S. with one  
one Sulfamonom  
Bleat vs.  
"ProBiq"

a cell gone wild, Crab Claws, it's way across the body - a group of diseases in four large categories

Increasingly susceptible to treatment 4 types ① surgery, radiation, chemo, immunology  
I advise treatment Bad advice not to - no unnecessary items but ① to you ② Thru you love ③ future research pursue all reasonable avenues of treatment some rel - let's do it - others afraid etc

Some here & there. Sontag we have dual passport

- ① Prognosis for now controlled Why? Dr Vincent De Vita 80% environment  
Diet 35%, cigarette 30%, alcohol 10%, alcohol 3%

Not that it will be easy, say he who has never had cancer

II So Meanwhile I go on to say Anticipate A Struggle

10

All beginnings are hard, POTOK

Journey through uncharted Seas, Desert,

like the first day away from Home, parents die,

first day at Boot Camp w/ sweetheart home.

It is not fun to hear that cancer has come

losing control, Expect it to be different. Struggles

w/ Body + w/ Emotions are really same

"An alien" in my Body

Each is different. Some run, some fight, some retreat

at all, some are depressed, all - each are angry  
at the disease, doctors, self, God, family.

Fear, Anger, depression Common, what is, is normal

The loneliest disease in the world. You must walk the

lonely some valley - into the radiation room, into the OR -

into your private rooms.

Jesus wept! afraid

Some might help w/ the struggle but it's there -

Tears + doubts are supposed to be there

There is no right way to do it -

Some suggest stages - denial, anger to  
acceptance, but I find them all mixed

III So I say Next

3

Never give up

I've made treatment, I believe in the  
miracles of God

Churchill

Never Give Up - Three times  
on Son, Parent, Marriage, goal, dream  
But Never give up on self

Point ④ What you need it

④ Call For Help

You don't have to be a hero. Jesus knew how to weep. Jesus was honest when he was lonely. Seek the help you need. While everything has changed nothing has - you are still you.

To Friends & Family & Say let Patient set face  
Variety needs - feel abandoned - can't  
call grief - Don't say you don't want to  
listen - It is better to go than not to go  
Share the burden.

~~Problem is off~~ We also need to be loved & respected  
a reassuring word. He said it doesn't matter  
he never loved me for my body. We also need  
to give and receive love. Friends & family  
cannot abandon.

One help is to have a framework into which to  
put it all.

⑤ Enjoy whatever life is left. In many cases now years  
dedicated, sometimes not, but  
ordained me - moralized now

It can be a reflecting mirror - See it all

Frankly a single moment can flood life with meaning

Do something: like a vacation with one day left - more than a summer  
friendship: John Cooper Powys - like going home from a long  
Take on See & do the thing you want to start with on the beach!

Orville Kelly Wrote Today's Comment

"I don't console myself dying of Cancer (That I am) but living despite it. I don't look on each day as another day closer to death, but as another day of life to be appreciated & enjoyed."

Our problem is often the illusion that life belongs to us... but we are entitled to 70-80-90 years of peace & tranquil days.

Teach us to number our days, How precious

It is not what you have lost, but what you have left which matters.

Harold Russell

(VI)

Renew your FAITH

Along Come Paul, Just when you are lonely ~~and~~ <sup>The Bible</sup> take you by the hand.

God Comforts us in our affliction  
So that we can comfort others. We were utterly crushed but that was to make us rely on God. He delivered us & he will deliver us. I have placed my hope within that he will deliver me again....

Need Framework for it all, when life goes into no depth you need to have no depth there. Paul is passing on experience - Sentenced to death, Thrown in flask, 5 times lashed, 5 times whipped, sleepless nights, my fellow X's betrayed me, my tongue exposed me. but I boast in my weakness so that X will be my strength.

Thomas & Kempis, when faced with a dilemma  
cried out Oh Lord how shall I ever make it to the end?  
Whispered back a voice

Thomas Did I ever fail you in the past?

Did I? Now did I.... silence....

Thomas, did I ever fail you in the  
past when you were a child, in the young  
passions of your youth, I delivered you.  
In your middle years, when you walked too  
near the fire -

Have I ever failed you?

St Thomas said meekly, No Lord, No, not ever.  
Well I will not fail you now.... I will not  
fail you now.

Care

I close with Orville Kelly Make Today Count

Orville Kelly

Give me the Strength to face each night before the dawn  
let me count each passing moment

As some marked the fleeting months & years.

Give me hope for each tomorrow

let my dreams be dreams of the future.  
(in which I hope to live)

But when my life on earth is over

let there be no sadness -

only ~~the~~ joy for the golden days I've had.

or as Annie Dillard said

The dying always say Thank you

They never say please....

Now I know more  
of me