

## A Trifecta of Truth

By Joe Violi

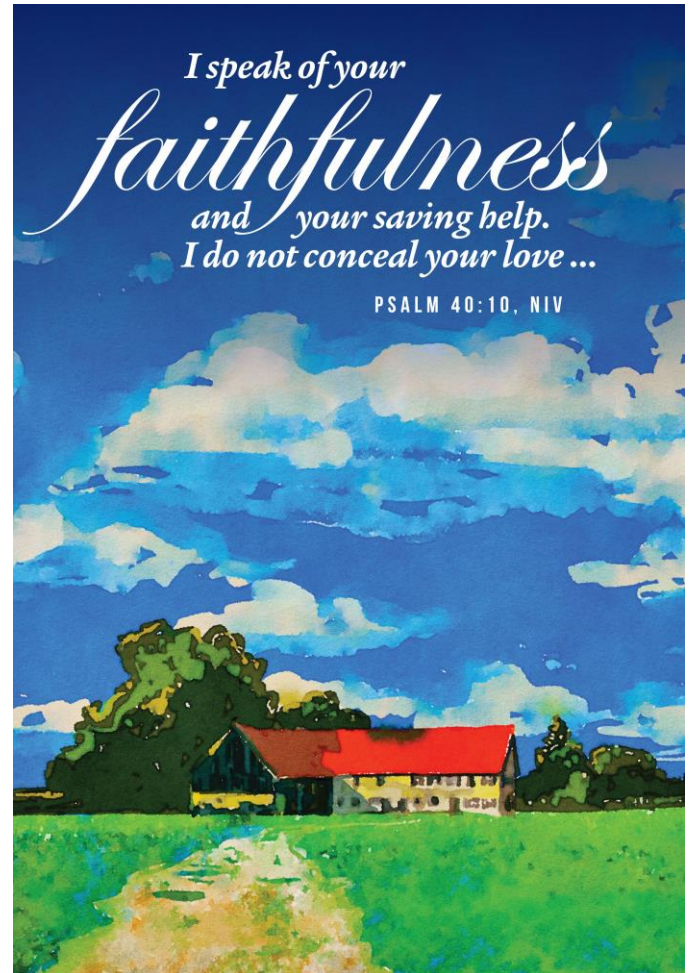
Perhaps you are familiar with the verse in the book of Ecclesiastes that tells us that “*a cord of three strands is not quickly broken.*” (4:12) There are many applications of this principle, but I’d like to focus on the three strands that sustained me during my recent move and change in my ministry role.

After twelve years at Penn State, and nineteen years in total serving in The Navigators campus ministry, I accepted a new role last summer, still with The Navigators, and am trusting the Lord to begin and grow a new ministry among twenty-something young adults in the Philadelphia/South Jersey region. Before, during, and since this transition, I found/find myself coming back to three strands of truth (or the “trifecta of truth” as I call them and wrote in my journal).

The first of these is God’s abiding presence; the fact that He is always with me and will never leave nor forsake me (Matthew 28:20, Hebrews 13:5). Knowing that I’m never truly alone, and that the Lord is intimately familiar with everything I experience at every moment of every day is both comforting and convicting, but I’m so glad it’s true!

The second strand of this trifecta is God’s complete faithfulness to His Word, to His promises (Numbers 23:19, Psalm 117:2). Without this amazing truth, how could we trust anything God says? But praise God that His words *are* altogether true, and He *is* altogether faithful to do what He says!

Finally, the trifecta wouldn’t be complete without love; specifically, God’s love for us and the life-giving truth that nothing can separate us from the love of God found in Jesus (Romans 5:8, 8:35-39). That’s right, nothing...not my own sin and rebellion, not the



sin of others, nothing in heaven or on earth! What wonderful news! What sustaining truth!

I love this quote from Christian speaker and author, Tom Skinner. Tom says, “*I spent a long time trying to come to grips with my doubts, when suddenly I realized I had better come to grips with what I believe. I have since moved from the agony of questions that I cannot answer to the reality of answers that I cannot escape, and it’s a wonderful relief.*” The truth is that there is much I don’t know and will likely never know completely this side of heaven. But I can cherish, embrace, and rest in what I *do* know. For me, this can be summarized in this trifecta, these powerful three strands of truth.

So how about you? Maybe your favorite, most  
Continued on page 2...

## “A Trifecta of Truth,” continued...

meaningful truths about God and His Word look a little different than mine. What are your strands of truth? What one, two, or three things about God and His Word are you absolutely convinced of? Identifying these would be a very worthwhile pursuit if nothing currently comes to mind. Then, once identified, let these become an anchor for your soul (Hebrews 6:19) to sustain you no matter how uncertain our days are, or how rough the waters of life become.

Just as I've recently experienced a significant life transition, Windsor Chapel is currently faced with a transition of another sort. Now more than ever, we need to allow God and His promises to minister deeply to our individual hearts and to our corporate heart as the Body of Christ.



## Happy Birthday!

Blessings to all who celebrate a birthday this month. May you feel the love, joy and presence of the Lord as we all celebrate your special day with prayers and warmest wishes.

Allison Warner	May 10
Jonathan Ventura	May 11
William MacQueen	May 12
Rosadella Trahey	May 23
Jean LaRosa	May 29

## Elders' Corner

By Tom Taylor

My dear brothers and sisters, I hope this finds you looking to Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith. Yes we are fearfully and wonderfully made, and God has called us out of this present darkness to walk in His light, His love and by His power. Remember in our weakness, in our times of greatest need God's grace; His ability towards us is perfected. We are complete in Christ. In this world we are to have tribulation, but Jesus told us to be of good cheer. He has overcome the world.

The author of Hebrews (Hebrews 10:19-25) calls us to draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith.... He tells us to hold fast the confession of our Hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful and to let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds. The only way we can do this is together; worshipping, praying, hearing the Word, fellowshiping and serving others...

We are the body of Christ, and we need one another. Paul tells us it is not one part or two parts that cause the body to grow, but all parts. That's you and me. May I encourage us to hear from God how He wants to use us in the church, in our families, in our neighborhoods...

Here are a few quotes that I have found helpful:

*How do you spot a person who needs encouragement? It is simple: the one who is breathing.* (Truett Cathy)

*What adrenaline is to the body, encouragement is to the soul.* (Jon Tyson)



On Sunday, May 12, we will celebrate Mother's Day. It is an opportunity to honor, love and cherish the special women who have given us life or have cared for us as their own. We ask the Lord to bless these cherished women who have nurtured us, taught us and prayed for our well-being. Our hearts are overflowing with gratitude to all mothers whose love is wondrous evidence of God's tender guiding hand.

## Further Up and Further In

*Inviting dialogue to encourage growth in  
and among us*



By Cindy Bills

### Where Do I Go From Here?

Once upon a time, I had a file—a large file—of printed directions to a multitude of destinations. Over the years, I had collected directions to the homes of friends and family members, parks and recreation areas, shops and restaurants, and destinations of special interest. Since I have an extraordinarily poor sense of direction, I took that file very seriously.

Now, of course, I have a GPS to help me find my way. While it isn't perfect, I am most grateful for the readily accessible and reliable help in getting me from Point A to Point B. I appreciate the adjustments that accommodate for traffic patterns and help navigating around unexpected road closures and accidents. But my favorite part of using a GPS is its non-judgmental help when I am lost. Either because I have misunderstood the GPS and taken a wrong turn or because I thought I knew how to get to my destination without help, I sometimes find myself confused and frustrated, and even anxious. But almost without exception, my GPS comes through and guides me from where I am back to the right path.

As useful as it is, my GPS is not able to help me with a far more serious challenge: the times when I get lost in life. As I try to find my own way, take a wrong turn, or slip down a rabbit hole, there are times when I lose sight of my Master and have no idea which way to turn. But as the Apostle Paul would say, Thanks be to God! The Lord will never leave me to wander according to my own devices, and He has provided His Word and Holy Spirit to guard and guide my return onto the path He would have me on. And unlike my GPS, He never makes a mistake.

I can learn from my GPS! Like my GPS, the Lord doesn't shame me for my errant ways. And just as I find my literal way by following the instructions of my GPS, I can find my metaphorical way by following the Lord's instructions ("When all else

fails...."). I can humble myself before the Lord; I can confess and repent of my independence and disregard of Truth. I can listen to the wisdom of my brothers and sisters in Christ, and I can make choices that are consistent with His Word. And then when I become distracted, self-focused, and lost again, I can humble myself before the Lord and repeat the process....

The author of the letter to the Hebrews exhorts us to run the race of faith with perseverance. May we do so with joy as we learn to follow our Lord and depend upon Him to guard and guide us.

*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. (Psalm 119:105)*

***Please feel free to contact Cindy (609-275-8557) or  
cynthialbills@gmail.com to continue the dialogue....***

## Financial Update

(Through March 31, 2024)

*"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want..."*

	Actual	Budget
Income	\$32,696	\$44,500
Expense	\$44,016	\$44,500

## Spread the Word!

The exciting 5-Day Club will be returning to Windsor Chapel July 15–19, from 7:00–8:30 pm, for all children ages 5–2.



The children will enjoy music, dynamic Bible stories, games, outdoor play, inspiring missionary stories, creative learning activities, snack time and more! Everything is free! Please invite your friends and neighbors. Everyone is welcome!



## Sunset Behind Me

By Janet Berrill



Not long ago, I went for a walk in my neighborhood in the late afternoon. This was before the clocks changed to Daylight Saving Time, so I knew if I stayed out too long it would start to get dark. I was walking east and ahead of me the sky was a bluish gray color, the color it gets just after the sun sets. I decided I should probably head home, so it didn't get dark while I was out. I turned around to go back, and I was amazed at the sky in the west. I'm sure you've seen amazing sunsets at some point, so you can imagine the red, yellow, orange, and pink colors that filled the sky. It was awesome! I took a picture of it, but the picture just doesn't capture the breathtaking view.

I thought about how this was behind me, and I had no idea it was there until I turned around. Had I kept walking east, I would have missed the sunset completely. I only saw it because I looked in a different direction.

I immediately thought about the parallel with my spiritual life. I recalled a summer when one of my sons was having a difficult time. I prayed and prayed for him, but nothing seemed to

be changing. It was like walking toward the blue-gray sky—kind of depressing, no color, no joy, no indication of better times ahead.

Yet God was working. He heard my prayers and He was on the move. Like the brilliant sunset behind me when I was walking, God was right there with me. He knew exactly what was happening, and He was doing something about it. From my viewpoint, I couldn't see anything changing with my son. Sometimes we assume that if we don't see God do something that means He is not doing anything. But that is not true. God can be working miracles, and we can be totally unaware of it.

The summer ended and my son went back to college. I continued to pray for him. A few weeks later, he called me to say things had gotten dramatically better. I was finally seeing the result of my prayers.

The point I want to make is that just like the sunset behind me, there is an awesome, glorious God who is with me all the time. Sometimes I don't see His glory because I am focused on the wrong thing, like the difficult situation with my son. But He is still there with me. To see the sunset when I was walking, I had to look in a different direction. In the midst of a difficult situation, I may need to readjust my viewpoint to see God; I need to take my eyes off the problem and ask God to open my eyes to His presence all around me. God is far more glorious than any sunset He paints across the sky. Lord, give us eyes to see!

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**If you have any items or information you would like to share in the newsletter, please e-mail:**

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