May. Jun. Jul. Aug. 2025

Volume 9 Issue 2

# **Upcoming Events**



## Premarital Group Sessions

For engaged and newly married couples

Aug 27. Sept 3. Sept 9. (2025)

9:15am to noon and 1:30 to 4:30 pm

RSVP by Aug. 20, 2025



More seminar details in next newsletter



## Where are you?

Gen. 3:9 And the Lord God called Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? When did God not know something? I think we would all agree that God

If you get to where you are going will it be where you want to be?

knew where Adam was. Why would he ask, "Adam, where are you?" I believe God wanted Adam to take a look and recognize where he is, and not only that, but also admit where he is. What about you and I? Does God ever ask you and I, "\_your name\_, where are you?" Not because He does not know where we are, but He wants us to look at and admit where we are. It is important to stop and take a look where we are at. What path are we on? The path we are on leads us somewhere, and when we get to the end of the path we are on, will we be where we want to be?

What is our focus? Are we focusing on the destination and walking the path that takes us there, or are we focusing on the path and making changes when the path gets too difficult? If we focus on the path, we will not end up at the destination where we want to end up. The Apostle Paul had a destination focus. Phil. 3:14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Paul

Trust in the Lord with all thy heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths.

focused on the destination and accepted the path that took him there, even though he was hungry, destitute, shipwrecked three times, beaten with many stripes, stoned and left for dead, etc. He did not change his path; he pressed toward the mark- his destination. He endured the path. However, King Solomon had a path focus and he did not end where he started. 1 Kings 11:4 For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect

with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father. Here is a question to ponder: Where will the path I am on take me in five, ten, or twenty years from now? God asks, "Where are you? It will determine where you end up. Dave Lichty



"Call or come in person and a prayer team will care and pray for you."

First Wednesday night of each month 7:00- 9:00

Third Wednesday afternoon of each month 1:30-4:00

#### YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

YOUR DONATION will provide mentoring and offer hope to those in pain, hopelessness and despair. Your generosity can provide a lifeline to those in need and offer them a brighter future as they find hope and healing in Christ.

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### **Show me Your Scars**

Scars bear testimony to injury. They tell a story and resurrect memories of the incident that created them.

Last winter my son fell on concrete while playing football, skinning his elbow to the bone. I bandaged him for weeks and watched as a rim of pink flesh slowly covered the raw wound. Recently I commented on his large scar. "I'd better have a scar," he said. "I left a two-foot-long skid mark behind!"

Not all wounds are physical. In fact, emotional wounds are more difficult to care for and heal than skinned elbows. It is easier to boil leaves, smear salve, and wrap gauze than to travail in prayer, cry the tears, and process forgiveness.

Scars are tender. Years later if someone bumps the scar or gives it a scratch, it is sensitive. Our natural tendency is to protect and hide our scars. If we allow them to be exposed, we risk being criticized. Or we might be blamed for not healing up as nicely as we should have.

It seems easier for everyone when scars don't exist. But scars are part of living in a fallen world, and here is the beautiful thought: scars are acceptable to God. After Jesus' resurrection, He still had scars. God chose not to erase the evidence of Jesus' suffering.

When the disciples were together and Jesus miraculously appeared in their midst, they did not recognize Him. They were afraid. Even after He said, "Peace be unto you," they thought He was a spirit. But when He said, "Behold my hands, and my feet, and my side, handle me and see," they believed and were filled with joy.

It was the evidence of His suffering that assured them they were seeing the resurrected Jesus. I am fascinated that God used scars to reassure these sorrowful, doubting followers.

I am not advocating that we walk around with unhealed, bleeding wounds, leaking pain and trauma onto those around us. Christ offers cleansing and healing for our deepest wounds. Scripture has many promises we can use to bind and soothe our broken hearts. It is also a good idea to invite someone safe into our woundedness to offer perspective and honest council.

I suggest we be willing to allow others to get close enough to see and handle our scars. By this they can know that we have suffered, survived, and healed. There is hope for them.

When we appear to be scar-free, even though that would seem ideal, we are unapproachable to those around us who are dealing with still-open wounds. The evidence of scars is a testimony of God's healing and grace. They say, "I understand. You are safe with me; I have been where you are. Let me hold your story while you heal."

And when it is my turn to be wounded, let me see your scars. Remind me of the Great Physician. Say, "Peace be unto you."

Sylvia Yoder



We as a board and staff of PHM are excited to welcome Eric Horst to our board of directors. Eric and Rose have been mentoring others and bring experience, energy and compassion to this position. Eric operates an excavating business (Alltask) along with a broiler breeder flock on their farm near St Jacobs.

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