



## What is Compelled?

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Compelled will be the avenue that is used by the Director of Evangelism, Church Renewal, and Community Development to communicate to the church. Twice a month there will be an article added to the magazine, in hopes that in the end this magazine will give a comprehensive understanding of evangelism and our mission here at FPC Lancaster. An updated magazine will be available on the website as well as in the foyer each week, with copies of articles available for you to keep.

The purpose of this magazine will be to teach, encourage, and challenge the congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Lancaster to understand and practice evangelism. The magazine will include theological articles about evangelism, question to meditate and reflect on in your own personal life, information on evange-

lism and outreach events, update on past events, and anything else that seems relevant to our cause. This magazine hopes to keep this congregation motivated and excited about the efforts here at FPC to fulfill Christ's mission in our city. It is the belief that a better understanding of evangelism will in turn drive individuals to practice it in their own lives.

The name "Compelled" comes from 2 Corinthians 5:14, where Paul speaks about the love of Christ that compels us. Christ reconciled us to the Father through His sacrifice on the cross. In the same way, we are now given the ministry of reconciliation, so that we might share the message of Christ to the world. We are called to help reconcile the world to Christ, our advocate. Brothers and sisters, this is not an option for us, this is something that we are compelled to do because

of the sacrifice that was made for us. Let us not forget how we have been reconciled, and let us take the ministry of reconciliation seriously. So as believers, we are compelled...and this magazine was named such so that it would help compel us to live out our faith.

Please read 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 below, and think about what it means to be an ambassador of the ministry of reconciliation. May this text compel you.

"For Christ's love compels us, since we have reached this conclusion: if One died for all, then all died. And He died for all so that those who live should no longer live for themselves, but for the One who died for them and was raised. From now on, then, we do not know anyone in a purely human way. Even if we have known Christ in a purely human way, yet now we no longer know Him like that. Therefore if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come. Now everything is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed the message of reconciliation to us. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ; certain that God is appealing through us, we plead on Christ's behalf, "Be reconciled to God." He made the One who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."