



Bethany

United Methodist

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2018

PASTORS' REFLECTION

Recently I stood in my boss's office talking about the expansion of LCBC into Lebanon. LCBC is a multi-site church based in Manheim. They have campuses throughout Lancaster county as well as surrounding counties. They are what you would call a mega church. At their launch meeting in Lebanon over 150 packed a rented space to talk about the church planting a new campus in the city. This is exciting news for Jubilee. Over the years we have developed a relationship with them that has brought in hundreds of volunteers to our stores. We are excited about continuing and deepening that relationship with them as they expand into Lebanon county.

However, at the same time, there was a sense of dread. Lebanon is not that far from Palmyra. And here is another church to compete with. What does Bethany have to offer compared to them? Seemly nothing. They have all the programs and bells and whistles that pulls people in. How can Bethany compete with that?

And the truth is we cannot, and really, we should not. Let LCBC be LCBC. God is not calling us to be them any more than God is calling me to play basketball. That is not my skill set, that is not what I am good at.

We all fall into the trap that bigger is better. And sometimes it is. But smaller is not worse. In God's kingdom, it is not about being big, but instead of being faithful.

So how is God calling us to be faithful?

We had thirty kids who came to VBS. A bunch of those had various connections to this church or to other churches. But there were a few who did not really have a connection to any church family. For a week we faithfully showed them God's love.

Many of us faithfully bring items or donate money to the Caring Cupboard. Others volunteer time. These are faithful expressions of God's love that will have an impact far beyond what we see.

God calls us as a church to live out, each day, his love. To share his Gospel. To be light to a dark world. What are the needs around us that are not being met and how do we faithfully step out to bring Good News?

August Worship

Sunday, August 5, 2018- Church Picnic – 10 AM @ Annville COB Pavilion

Sunday, August 12, 2018- John 6: 35-41, 51

Sunday, August 19, 2018 – 1 Kings 3: 3-14

Sunday, August 26, 2018-Ephesians 6: 10-20, Sunday School Promotion Sunday/

Blessing of the Backpacks

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Thank you to helpers, children and all who donated items to make our VBS a great success. We donated 198 lbs. of items to the summer lunch program at the Caring Cupboard for our Mission Project.

We will be having a Promotion Sunday and the Blessings of the Back packs for our school age children on Sunday, August 26.

This year 3 children will be promoted from Kids Zone to Primary Dept.

They are: Lyndon Stover

Sophia Commissing

Zachary Brown

We have Colton Barnhouse going from the Primary Dept. to Jr. High.

SUNBEAM CHOIR

All children are invited to join in the Sunbeam Choir. Rehearsals will begin Wednesday September 5 from 4:30-5. Anyone kid can come and join in. The Choir will perform on the third Sunday of every month (September Thru May). Questions talk to Pastor Jared or Samantha Patrick.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our church picnic is Sunday, August 5 @ 10:00 AM at the Annville Church of the Brethren Pavilion. Come out and enjoy worship, games and food with your church family.

Caring Cupboard Sunday is August 12th. Please bring your donations of non-perishables and toiletries. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Ad Council meeting is August 13th @ 6:30PM.

Anyone interested in sponsoring Alter Flowers, we have openings on Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16, and 23. Sign the flower chart that is on the Railroad St. side of the church or call the church office Tuesdays or Thursdays from 9:-11AM - 717 838-9041

We have a new address for Michelle Patrick

It is: PFC Patrick, Michelle

3rd. Platoon Gladiators

Echo Btry 1/40th FA BN

6050 Rothwell Street

Fort Sill, Oklahoma 73503

WORSHIP LEADERS

Greeters/Ushers: Karen & Dave Finney and Susan & Richard Lasher

Scripture Readers:

AUGUST 5: Pastor Stoltzfus

AUGUST 12: Elizabeth Stoltzfus

AUGUST 19: Pastor Stoltzfus

AUGUST 26: Lisa Harman

Sound System Operators:

AUGUST 5: Barry Smith

AUGUST 12: Dick Lasher

AUGUST 19: Don Brubaker

AUGUST 26: Seth Schell

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 6 - David Patrick

11- Allison White

17 - Danielle White

21 - Amber Schell

22 - Judy Mader

22 - Jacqueline Peiffer

22 - Michelle Patrick

29 - Quinne Walborn

30 - Mark Shenk



