



Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2019

**Glorifying God by Making, Maturing, and
Mobilizing Enthusiastic Disciples for Jesus Christ**

PASTOR'S REFLECTION...

A confession... I struggle with making faith, my relationship with Christ, a priority. This may sound funny, since in some ways this is what I am paid to do. Yet, I find it hard to be motivated sometimes. Different things demand my attention and often the first thing to go when life gets busy is quiet time, time for personal reflection, and time with God. I make time for the things needed to write a sermon, or to lead a church, but often I struggle with building my personal relationship with God. There are seasons when everything seems to click, and this is not a problem. And there are seasons when this is a bigger issue.

I share this because our mission statement talks about maturing disciples for Jesus Christ. Faith is a journey, an ongoing learning process that in some ways takes intentional work. I know in the seasons when I struggle, I need to focus more on it, be more intentional. I have friends that I can talk to that can hold me accountable or encourage me. This is all part of the process of maturing.

No matter the time in life that we are at, all of us have room to grow, things to learn. Our faith can always be deeper, stronger, and more mature. Starting September 8, we will be exploring this in our Faith Training Series. Just as you would go to the gym to build muscle, to lose weight, and live a healthy life, Church serves as a gymnasium of faith, helping us grow and learn. How do we then carry those practices into the rest of our week. And so, each week will feature some 'homework' to help us in this endeavor.

Hope you join us.

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP...

Sunday September 1, 2019 Luke 14:1, 7-14 (Communion)

Sunday September 8, 2019- Faith Training: You are what you Love- Philippians 1:3-11

Sunday September 15, 2019- Faith Training: Gaining Wisdom- 1 Timothy 3:14-17

Sunday September 22, 2019- Faith Training: Prayer- Matthew 6:7-13

Sunday September 29, 2019- Faith Training: Giving- 2 Corinthians 9:5-15

MAINTENANCE UPDATES...

Thank you to all that helped raise money for our new front doors. The doors have been ordered. Since they were custom doors we are waiting for them to be built and sent to the installer. Once that happens installation will begin. We do not have an exact timeframe at this point but will keep you updated.

Over the past couple of months, we have also had some issues with water getting into the youth classroom. The flat roof on top of that has exceeded its life. It is a product that was rated for 20 years but is going on 25. We have done some temporary things to help the roof but it will need to be replaced at some point.

CAMPING MINISTRY...

As you know Liz and I are heavily involved with the ministry at Pocono Plateau, one of awesome camps of the Eastern PA Annual Conference. While summer camp is over, the ministry of these camps does not end. Retreats and other activities fill the calendars of these places over the course of fall, winter, and spring. Continue to pray for the staff that make these events happen and the lives that are impacted.

I have a table in the gathering room that highlights some of the upcoming events at camps around the conference. Check it out for more information.

One specific project that is happening at the Plateau is a new high ropes course. This course will allow groups of 8 to work together high above the ground, building trust and friendships among the members.

This is a really cool and different opportunity that will be somewhat unique to the Plateau. Visit <http://www.poconoplateau.org/> to find out more information or for ways to donate. You can also help at the Hero Dash on September 21 which is raising money for this as well. See Liz for more information.

Thanks. – Pastor Jared

SUNBEAM CHOIR...

All children and youth are invited to join the Sunbeam choir as it begins practice on Wednesday September 4th. Each Wednesday they meet downstairs and practice from 5-5:30. The group will perform on most third Sunday's September thru May.

ANNOUNCEMENTS...

Caring Cupboard Sunday is September 8th. Needed items are boxed potato sides, canned pasta, ketchup, mayonnaise, ramen noodles, crushed tomatoes, applesauce, jelly, chunky soups, sugar, flour, paper towels, napkins, toilet tissue and shampoo.



Ad Council will be meeting Monday, September 9th @ 6:30 PM. All are welcome to come.

It's hard to believe summer has come and gone and now it is time to start ordering those delicious sub and pretzel sandwiches again. Orders are Due Sept. 18th with pick-up on Sept. 26th. The order form is on the Information Table in the Gathering Room. All proceeds will be going toward the flat roof.



LOYAL WORKERS...

The Loyal Workers are having a Bakeless Bake Sale September 15. All proceeds will be going for supplies needed for our bazaar November 2.

The Loyal Workers will be meeting Monday, September 16th @ 6:30 PM to plan for our bazaar November 2. Everyone is welcome to attend and help make this a success.

Before you know it, October will be here and it will be time for Trick or Treat Night. Please help us collect treats for our goodie bags. Small bottles of water would also be appreciated. A basket will be in the gathering room for all contributions. Thank you.

CHILDRENS DEPARTMENT...

Thank you for all who gave their time, talents, donations, pennies, and prayers for a fantastic week of Bible School.

Vicki

Promotion Sunday is September 1. Kinsley Stover will be promoted from the Kids Zone to the Primary Department.

FLOWER CHART...

September 1 - Open
September 8 - Open
September 13 - Open
September 22 - Open
September 29 - Larry & Joan Strait

The Flower Chart is in the vestibule on the Railroad St. side of the church.
Sign up for your favorite Sunday to sponsor flowers for our church.

WORSHIP LEADERS...

Greeters/Ushers: Tim & Barb Laraia and Richard & Sue Lasher

Acolyte: Cade Barnhouse

Scripture Readers:

September 1: Pastor Stoltzfus
September 8: Paul Leicht
September 15: Pastor Stoltzfus
September 22: Barry Smith
September 29: Pastor Stoltzfus

Sound System Operators:

September 1: Dick Lasher
September 8: Don Brubaker
September 15: Seth Schell
September 22: Barry Smith
September 29: Dick Lasher

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

September 1 – Betty Gussler	9 – Karen White
1 – Elsa Patrick	14 – Thomas Gussler
2 – Lucille Peiffer	23 – David Brandt
2- Cade Barnhouse	26 – Barry Smith
5 – Wanda Watts	27 - Dylan Schell
7 – Allison Deimler	28 – Andrew Reigle
7 – Jared Stoltzfus	



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