News, Notes and Revelations from St. John's Blymire's United Church of Christ

October 2017

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From the Pastor's Desk



Greetings to you and peace from God our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Harvey, Irma, Jose, Maria; earthquakes; fires on the west coast in at least five states..... It sure sounds like there is a message that we as God's people need to hear! I am not one to say that these ARE signs of the end of time, but, it sure does make you wonder — doesn't it? As I have stated other times as well, the natural disasters and the intensity we are experiencing right now are probably similar to experiences others have had in the history of the earth and people who lived then I would imagine thought they were living in the final days of the world. We know that was not the case and we could venture a guess that even today is not the end of the world. BUT, whether it is today, tomorrow or the next millennium when the world ends and Jesus comes again, the ONLY important thing is that we are ready!

Leaders of the church have preached this to every generation of believer that lived. Now, the reason I have taken this turn in my thought process is this: Do you happen to know what anniversary we are able to celebrate this month? If you haven't already heard, this is the (drum roll....) 500th Anniversary of the Reformation! Now, with that statement, I may have just put some of you to sleep or at least caused you to yawn. I know I am one who is not rapt with interest with history but yet, this is an event that is vital to the history of our church!

Through the month of October I hope you will choose to make use of a resource I have developed that daily shares a prayer written by one of many reformers of the church. I have compiled a prayer for each day of the month from a book that shares prayers written by eleven different reformers. Did you even know there were that many??? Generally when we talk about the Reformation we are most likely able to name MARTIN LUTHER and if you really paid attention in confirmation classes you may be familiar with ULRICH ZWINGLI (Reformed Church and later UCC); WILLIAM TYNDALE (the Tyndale Bible...); etc. And we often think that the Reformation sprang up and happened when Martin Luther nailed his 95 THESIS (points of disagreement with the Catholic church) on the door of the All Saints' church in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1571. In actuality, church leaders as far back as JOHN WYCLIFFE (1320-1384) were challenging the authority of the pope and were calling for a complete reform of the church in England. But, with the action of Martin Luther

nailing the 95 thesis on the door of the church, we have the visible "defiance" act and a breaking point for the church. And, because the reformation was an act of defiance toward the Catholic church, the new sect is called "PROTESTANT" - a "protest" to the directives of the Catholic church. So, really, the Reformation was a long term movement but was truly given birth on October 31, 1517. So, HAPPY BIRTHDAY or HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to the Protestant church!

God Bless!

With love, Pastor Lou Ann



SPECIAL SERVICES in OCTOBER

Oct. 1 - Pentecost 17 - World Wide Communion Sunday

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32 **Sermon:** "True to Your Word"

Choir Anthem: "The Welcome Table" Raney

Oct. 8 - Pentecost 18

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46 **Sermon:** "Are We Like That?"

Choir Anthem: "Let the Saints Get Up and Sing" Raney

Oct. 15 - Pentecost 19

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Sermon–Rev. Dr. Laurene Bowers preaching

Choir Anthem: "Are You Dressed For the Wedding?" Martin/Angerman

Oct. 22 - Pentecost 20

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

Sermon: "Where Is Our Loyalty?"

Choir Anthem: "To God Be the Glory" Choplin

Oct. 29 - Pentecost 21 - Reformation Sunday– 50 Year Member Recognition

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46

Sermon: "God-First, Others-Second"

Choir Anthem: "The Family of Faith" Martin



CROP WALK

This year's annual CROP WALK will be held on Sunday, October 8. Walkers will meet at John Rudy Park at 1:30 PM for

registration, with the walk beginning at 2:30 PM.

Emmanuel's Closet will receive a portion of the funds collected by our participants. If you would like to be a walker or sponsor a walker, please see Pastor Lou Ann. Thank you.

Pet Blessing

On Sunday, October 15, at 2:00 PM, Pastor Lou Ann will be leading a Pet Blessing/Remembrance Service at the pavilion. Members and friends are invited to bring their pets to

be blessed. Also families who have lost pets are invited to come for the special "remembrance" part of the service and to bring pictures of the pets that they have lost.



SCHEDULE OF DUTIES for OCTOBER

GREETERS:

October 1 - Nancy Taylor

October 8 - Kathi Sterling

October 15 - Charlie Diehl

October 22 - Carl & Sharon Criswell

October 29 – Joel Frey

GIFT COLLECTORS:

October 1 - Sally Bosley

October 8 - Sandy Koicuba

October 15 - Greg & Sonja Ness

October 22 - David & Susan McDowell

October 29 - David & Susan McDowell

ACOLYTES:

October 1 - Barb Adams

October 8 - Steph Frey

October 15 - Carol Barnhart

October 22 - Ed & Judy Bishop

October 29 - Renne Myers

SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS:

October 1 - Terry Doll

October 8 - Ed Adams

October 15 - Chase Matthews

October 22 - Wyatt Myers

October 29 - Eli Matthews

CAMERA OPERATORS:

October 1 - Greg Ness

October 8 - John Sterling

October 15 - Todd Miller

October 22 - Terry Doll

October 29 - Greg Ness

LAY READERS:

October 1 - Janie Montgomery

October 8 - Sonja Ness

October 15 - Barb Marshall

October 22 - Tim Sleeth

October 29 - Jeri Jones

COFFEE SOCIAL HOSTS:

October 1 - To be announced

October 8 - Beth March

October 15 - To be announced

October 22 - To be announced

October 29 - To be announced

LIGHTING OPERATORS:

October 1 - Joel Frey

October 8 - Greg Ness

October 15 - Greg Ness

October 22 - Sterling Boyd

October 29- To be announced

VIDEO OPERATORS:

October 1 - Sydney Brown

October 8 - Jeri Jones

October 15 - Judy Bishop

October 22 - Nelson Leader

October 29 - Nelson Leader

ALTAR GUILD: Jean McDowell & Barb Adams

DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER: October 15

<u>OCTOBER</u> <u>BIRTHDAYS</u>



May God Bless You on Your Birthday!

- Kayla Roelke
 Michael Matthews
 Annie Cowher
- 2. Adin Luckenbaugh
- Timothy Luckenbaugh
- 4. Ethan John
- 8. Tarrence Ness
 Barb Adams
- 9. Kari March
- 10. Lucy Smith
- 12. Mary Innerst
- 17. Paul Leiphart
- 21. Shayne Boyd
- 22. Mike N. Knaub Calvin Leader
- Diana Myers
 Marjorie Stringer
- 24. Lori RoelkeZane PopeBrian Bosley

- 26. Amber Roelke
- 27. Brenda Miller
- 31. Macklin Woerner Jaron Picking

CELEBRATING OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Oct. 8 - Todd and Lisa Miller - 24 years

Oct. 18 - Ronald and Madeline Heindel - 60 years

Oct. 23 - Jeffrey and Lynz Leader - 13 years

Oct. 26 - John and Kathi Sterling - 4 years

FINANCIAL REPORT

Red Brick Chapel

Cemetery

Month-2017	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Income	Expense
January	\$13,069.96	\$14,011.17	\$503.43	\$181.75	\$354.55	\$850.00
February	\$10,907.93	\$5,404.56	\$3.09	\$211.14	\$0.29	\$0.00
March	\$11,915.46	\$13,831.65	\$1,153.48	\$423.97	\$0.32	\$251.56
April	\$9,693.50	\$9,902.05	\$528.42	\$293.05	\$40.30	\$376.81
May	\$11,958.80	\$8,938.88	\$1,003.57	\$100.58	\$0.27	\$947.00
June	\$8,679.72	\$13,211.83	\$353.54	\$284.53	\$0.19	\$2,515.00
July	\$11,233.38	\$8,194.28	\$3.64	\$144.18	\$6.56	\$2,121.58
August	\$10,150.20	\$8,481.16	\$3.62	\$124.75	\$100.39	\$1,965.00
September						
October						
November						
December						
Total	\$87,608.95	\$81,975.58	\$3,552.79	\$1,763.95	\$502.87	\$9,026.97

Balance of Undesignated General Fund @ September 1, 2017

\$12,319.85

Balance of Red Brick Chapel Fund @ September 1, 2017 (Includes \$45,450.11 Endowment)

\$73,840.81

Balance of Cemetery Fund @ September 1, 2017 (Includes \$741,721.82 CD's, Trusts, UCC Foundation—transferred \$9000 from UCC Foundation to B B & T Bank)

\$750,337.68

Financial Assistance Given through Hand of Hope Fund - 2017

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	#		Total		Monthly	Available			
	Families		\$\$\$	Donations		Balance			
Beginning						\$	397.38		
January	1	\$	50.00	\$	84.27	\$	431.65		
February				\$	116.61	\$	548.26		
March				\$	71.58	\$	619.84		
April	1	\$	25.00	\$	115.87	\$	710.71		
May	3	\$	75.00	\$	20.02	\$	655.73		
June	3	\$	75.00	\$	139.95	\$	720.68		
July				\$	109.37	\$	830.05		
August	2	\$	75.00	\$	55.02	\$	810.07		
September									
October									
November									
December									

Total 10 \$ 300.00 \$ 712.69

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Freda Berry

The Haven at Springwood 2321 Freedom Way York, PA 17402 717-718-3615

Peggy Luckenbaugh Room 704B Colonial Manor Nursing Home 970 Colonial Avenue York, PA 17403



Anita Spahr 36 West Main Street

Dallastown, PA 17313 244-7392

Dale Wise

Room 106A Manorcare Kingston Court 2400 Kingston Court York, PA 17402



A1C Ness, Brandon 98950 East Harmony Lane Tucson, AZ 85748



HOMEWOOD AUXILIARY

"Let your light shine" is this year's theme of the Homewood Homes

Auxiliary. For Homewood health care center residents, the Homewood Auxiliary is a light that brings joy and compassion to them. When our representative, Stephanie Frey, asks for your support of the Auxiliary please say "YES." It only costs \$3.00 to join. Thank you.

HURRICANE DONATIONS

We are currently collecting items to fill cleaning buckets to



send to the victims of recent hurricanes. There is a box in the Gathering Room for you to put your donations. Beside the box is a list of supplies that are needed. If you don't wish to purchase the actual items, monetary donations are always welcome and will be used to buy items that are not donated. We will continue to collect at least through the end of October.



WE NEED YOU!!!!!! To VOLUNTEER!!!!!

We are in need of someone willing to work with Faith Kidz (Wednesday evenings from 6:30

to 8:00). BARB MARSHALL will be involved with this group for this year, but needs to step down next year. We would like to have you work with the group now to see what they have been doing as their format. Please let BARB MARSHALL, JANIE MONTGOMERY or Pastor Lou Ann know if you are interested!

A big thank you to those volunteers who stepped up to help teach the children's Sunday school class.

This year's annual bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 11, from 8:00 AM until 2:00 PM. We will be serving breakfast and lunch. There will also be Crafts and a Bake Sale. We are not going to



have the Granny's attic items this year, but please continue to work on your crafts and don't forget your bake sale goodies! Thanks for your help.

Mark your calendars also for our annual Christmas Party which will be held on December 2 and our Cookie Walk on December 9.



MEN'S GROUP

Join the men of Blymire on Tuesday,

October 10, at 7:00 PM at the church. Bring a friend to the meeting. As always we have an open discussion on joys and concerns. Those attending the meeting please bring information on potential guest speakers for future meetings. Come join us for a time of sharing. REMEMBER ALL MEN ARE WELCOME.



FAITH KIDZ will be meeting at 6:30 PM every Wednesday in October. We will have a Halloween celebration on the 25th.

CHICKEN POTPIE DINNER

On Saturday, October 21, at 5:30 PM we will once again be serving a delicious potpie dinner. The cost is \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children ages 5-12, under 5 years free. To attend, you must buy a ticket in advance. See Nelson Leader for tickets or call the church office.



Our annual Fall Fest will be held at the pavilion on Saturday, October 28, at 6:00 PM. There will be food, games, a craft, flashlight pumpkin hunt and Trunk or Treat. Invite your family and friends. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

HALLOWEEN CANDY NEEDED!!!!!!!

Lots of individually wrapped candy is needed for the

Fall Fest There is a collection box in the gathering room.

S.O.S. (SISTERS OF SERVICE)

The SOS will hold their next meeting on Monday, October 16, at 6:30 PM at the church. Donna Hartley will lead devotions and Linda Flinchbaugh will provide refreshments.



TEENS will be meeting at the church at 6:30 PM on Sundays, October 8, 15, and 29. On the 29th we will have a Halloween celebration.

Our Women's Book Club will hold their October meetings on Tuesdays, October 10 and 24, at 10:00 AM in the Gathering Room. We will continue to discuss Wishing You Well by David Baldacci. New members are always welcome to join us.



Crafty On Sunday, October 22, from 2:00-4:00 PM, Lisa Deeter will teach us how to make 3-D Pennsylvania German Christmas ornaments called "Scherenchnitte"

to add to our holiday decorations. The name literally means scissors cut.

You will be given patterns and paper to make two ornaments, angels and a tree. If there is not enough time to finish both in class, you will have learned the technique to be able to finish at home.

Lisa will also share patterns and show examples to make scherenschnitte holiday cards. While we are crafting she will be sharing some PA German Christmas history and stories with you. A traditional Christmas treat will be provided for snacking.

You will need to bring the following supplies with you: Fine point sharp scissors for paper cutting (like Fiskers Softgrip Touchpoints for fabric and paper, available at Walmart), X-acto knife, cutting mat.

The cost is \$25 and deadline to sign up is October 15.



EMMANUEL'S CLOSET

October 2017



In addition to the regular monthly food, Emmanuel's Closet

would like to give out extra holiday bags and gift cards for meat to enable our clients to prepare special meals for Thanksgiving and Christmas. You can help by bringing in food to use for the holiday meals.

The extra Thanksgiving bags will be given out November 11 and November 18. The extra Christmas bags will be given out December 9 and December 16. If you are planning to donate items for the holiday bags, please bring them in at least two weeks before the give outs so Amber has time to sort them and shop for anything that is needed to supplement the donations. Thank you in advance for helping to make the holidays brighter for our clients..

Cartridge Recycling

Don't forget to bring in your empty printer cartridges and place them in the box in the Emmanuel's Closet bin in the Gathering Room. This year we were able get several hundred dollars worth of free school supplies from Office Max and Staples by using the rewards earned from recycled cartridges.

Christmas Project



Christmas will be here in a few months and we are already starting to make preparations for Christmas gifts for the children of Emmanuel's Closet clients. If you would like to help with

this project, you can pick up a name tag from Greg Ness beginning November 5. Each tag is numbered and will list the sex and age, along with suggested gifts for the child. As we did last year, we are asking that you spend approximately \$50 on each child, either with an actual gift or a gift card. All gifts must be brought to church no later than November 26. They will be distributed on December 9 and December 16.

E.C. Continuing Needs

Juice

Cereal

Peanut Butter/Jelly

Spaghetti Sauce

Boxed Dry Pastas

Helper Meals

Dessert Items

Condiment Items

Canned Tuna/Meats

Canned Broth

Canned Fruit/Vegetables

Coffee/Tea

Deodorant, Soap, Shampoo

Toothpaste, Toothbrushes

Toilet Paper, Tissues, Paper Towels

Dish Washing Liquid

Laundry Detergent

All-Purpose Cleaners

Baby food, diapers, wipes

Children's books/toys

Small household items

Please, NO Expired Food Items We are especially in need of canned fruit, peanut butter, jelly, juice, cereal, and laundry detergent.

We are now accepting fall and winter clothing. Items should be clean, in good repair and unstained.





Healing Hearts Inspirations

October 2017



"Do not ask the Lord to guide your footsteps if you are not willing to move your Feet"

Anonymous



TELL THEM!

In my lifetime people have come in and out of my life constantly, and so rarely have I told them how much I care for them and appreciate them. Many of them I'll never see again, and thus I'll never have the chance to tell them what they've meant to me. Many of them I still see regularly, yet I don't tell them how much I care for them. And this even though I know how much it means to me to hear the same thing from other people. If it means a lot to me to hear it from others, then wouldn't it mean a lot to others to hear it from me?

My major problem is that I've spent my whole life thinking that others aren't really affected by what I think or say to them. In short, I think that they don't really care if I love them or not--they can get along just fine in life without ever knowing that I do love them. As a boy and a young man, I shied away from sharing such feelings because I was sure that they just didn't matter. As a man, that thought is so deeply ingrained in me that I have a hard time fighting my way past it and telling people that I love them while they're here with me.

It really is a tragedy that we don't spend more time sharing such feelings with others. While I'm sure there are some people who would feel awkward if I told them, as long as I'm sincere and I tell them with no expectations of anything in return, most people would appreciate being told how much they mean to me.

And telling people that we love them can help us to contribute in a very real and very positive way to the world in which we live, for the more people there are in the world who feel loved, the more people there will be in the world who are able to share love with others. Tom Walsh

Nature is the living, visible garment of God.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Being called different is like being called limited edition. Meaning you're something people don't see that often. Remember that.

JESUS CALLING

I speak to you continually. My nature is to communicate, though not always in words. I fling glorious sunsets across the sky, day after day. I speak in the faces and voices of loved ones. I caress you with a gentle breeze that refreshes and delights you. I speak softly in the depths of your spirit, where I have taken up residence.

You can find Me in each moment, when you have eyes that see and ears that hear. Ask My Spirit to sharpen your spiritual eyesight and hearing. I rejoice each time you discover My Presence. Practice looking and listening for Me during quiet times. Gradually you will find Me in more and more of your moments. You will seek Me and find Me, when you seek Me above all else.

Sarah Young





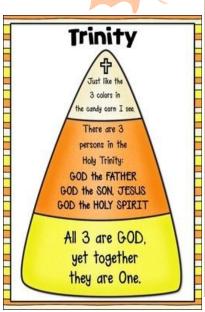


HIS FIRST CHOICE

You are God's child. He saw you, picked you, and placed you! Jesus said, "You did not choose me, I chose you!" You are God's child. Replacement or fill-in? Hardly. You are His first choice. The choice wasn't obligatory, required, compulsory, forced, or compelled. He selected you because He wanted to. You are His open, willful, voluntary choice. He walked onto the auction block where you stood, and He proclaimed, "This child is mine."

1 Peter 1:19 says, He bought you "with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." You are His child forever. Your struggles will not last forever—but you will. The promise is in 2 Timothy 2:12. "If we endure, we shall also reign with Him." Believe it. Clutch it. Tattoo it on the interior of your heart! You are God's child! Max Lucado

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak but their echoes are truly endless."



You are the person who has to decide. Whether you'll do it or toss it aside. You are the person who makes up your mind. Whether you'll lead or will linger behind, Whether you'll try for the goal that's afar. Or just be contented to stay where you are.

Edgar Guest

A CHRISTIAN HALLOWEEN POEM

As Halloween approaches and before we know The moon will be casting its golden glow. The air will be crisp with much cooler days The leaves full of color to brighten the way.

The fields are all full and ready to glean,
Children laugh at the pumpkins they've seen!
Apples are ready to pick from the trees
Then cider will promptly be made from these.

The Lord looks down on our fun Fall days
And watches about as we go on our way.
The harvest is ripe in the fields of the soul
Make sure "to glorify Him" is our goal!

Witches and monsters we close our eyes to
But Lord, open our eyes to those who need You!
Send the workers far out in the fields
Glean from their work what You'd have them yield.

Halloween time can be fun -- it's a treat!

But do things that honor God on the streets.

Hand out kindness with your goodies this year

You never know what seeds will fall near!

A seed that will sprout and soon grow to be Lord, another ripe harvest for Thee! Give us words and deeds on this night That give others peace, not fear and fright.

Lucy Cain

If you would get arrested for being a Christian would there be enough evidence to prove it?





Revelations for OCTOBER from "Bly Mire" Mouse

BLY'S HEALING HUMOR — Why does a milk stool only have three legs? Because the cow has the udder!!!!! Submitted by BUCC (Blymire's U.C.C.) one of Bly's offspring. NOBODY took me up on the invitation to submit a joke so I had to borrow from my family. COME ON...... you all know jokes.... good or not so good! (If I don't get any jokes from you all, I will have to ask Jeri.... 'nuff said?????)

I know I usually focus on "in house" items for this column, but I definitely am saying a daily prayer for all the people who suffered loss with Harvey, Irma, Jose, Maria, and whatever other hurricanes will wreak havoc with our world this year. But, beyond that, there are a number of fires wreaking havoc on the west coast and a lot of people have lost homes and property because of them. Then, there was the earthquake in Mexico. It is almost becoming overwhelming to imagine how many people are suffering! But, we definitely keep our prayers going for all who are suffering, we pray for all who are going to these areas to help clean-up and rebuild, and we pray for God's blessings to be on all the monetary donations as well as all the cleaning supply donations! So far it is very heartwarming to hear of how so many businesses from our area are filling busses and trucks with supplies and taking them to the affected areas! GOD BLESS THEM ALL!!!!!

From the Church

Mouse

We had a good time at the Faith Formation Class kick-off where we watched "THE SHACK", we ate awesome CHICKEN CORN SOUP and had delicious PULLED PORK sandwiches. THANK YOU NELSON for the superb food!!!! And, THANK YOU to the volunteers who stepped up to help teach the children's class! Four teachers — JEAN McDOWELL, JANIE MONTGOMERY, BARB ADAMS, and DIANA MYERS will lead the class and when there is a fifth Sunday, SANDY INNERST will teach the class!!! AMAZING! And, for the adult class, I heard that they are beginning a journey called "Making Sense of the Bible" by Adam Hamilton. (I like his teachings!) This all sounds EXCITING!!!!!!!! Join us!!!

THANK YOU to all who are participating in our craft sessions! I see the participants are having a great time! (I have been watching from the door to my mouse house!) And, we have some really neat opportunities coming up this month and next!!! THANK YOU MARTI for arranging these!

If I thought things were busy here the past few weeks, HAH!!! We are now beginning to gear up for the annual Bazaar — NOVEMBER 11th is the date. We are opting out of participating in Christmas in Dallastown this year so we hope you will help out and pass on the word to all your family and friends to support us for our fund raiser! You know, we do offer the BEST food available!!! (Do I sound a bit biased?)

We also share our thankfulness for all the support you provided for the Apple Dumpling Sale. These are some of the best available! THANK YOU MARTI and NELSON for being our organizers!

Remember also the upcoming POTPIE dinner!!! ADVANCE SALES ONLY!!!! Get your tickets while you can!

Looks like we have a lot of activities coming up again. JOIN US for all the fun and faithful happenings at Blymire's U.C.C.!

Your faith-friends, BLY and MIRE and family!

Make this sign to hang on your wall as a daily reminder of God's amazing gift of grace.



What you need:

- White poster board
- Large wooden letters that spell GRACE
- Painter's tape
- Tempura paint
- Paper plates
- Paintbrushes
- · Colored pens or markers

What you do:

- 1. Place the poster board on the ground (outside, if possible).
- Put tape on the back of the letters and secure them to the board. No tape should be visible.
- Paint and draw all over the poster board. Be creative with splatters, handprints and so on.
- 4. When paint is dry, remove the letters and hang up the poster.



VIN , 71:1 inhol ".taint" suesel figuroust YURMEZ: "For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came