



The Post Newsletter - Pastor Tim Klein

Sept/Oct 2020

A RESOURCE FOR THE CHESTNUT GROVE UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

A Message from the Pastor

Although September is considered the 9th month of the year, it is also a time of new beginnings. The new school year begins (although it also often now begins in later August), and fall schedules kick into gear. In this year that has been far from normal, I believe that this sense of seasonal change can remind us that our present challenging circumstances will pass. As Christians, we just need to keep our eyes on Jesus and walking forward. I believe that the Lord is calling us here at Chestnut Grove to thrive as a Christian community, even in these difficult times. For the Lord is

with us and will never leave us.

Over the course of the next couple of months, there will be more ways that we can experience community today. First, on Labor Day weekend our Café will be reopened! Each Sunday from 8:30-10:00, the Café will be a great place to grab a drink or a bagel and catch up with brothers and sisters. Also, on the 6th, Sunday School will commence once again! It is wonderful to be learning and growing together.

On Saturday October 17th from 10-2, Chestnut Grove will offer a free outreach to our community through our Fall Festival Event. Please

contact Tammy Strayer about ways you can help with this event. I look forward to many opportunities ahead for Chestnut Grove to bless our surrounding communities through outreaches like this. Finally, beginning September 6th, I will be leading in a new sermon series on the Beatitudes. The Beatitudes are found in Matthew's Gospel in 5:3-12 and they are statements of what a blessed life looks like from God's perspective. I am excited to unpack each of these statements of blessing and how we can live them out in our daily lives!

Following Christ With You,
Pastor Tim



September Bible Book of the Month - Acts

Just as it is hard to picture the Bible without the book of Genesis (our Bible Book of the Month in August), so it is difficult to envision the Bible without the Book of Acts. Acts is Luke's sequel to his gospel and

Acts lays out how the Church exploded from a few dozen followers of Jesus Christ to a movement that was quickly spreading to much of the world. We see in the Book of Acts that because the good news of Jesus Christ is true and powerful, people from town after town are brought into God's Kingdom through faith as the Holy Spirit opened people's hearts and minds to believe in our Savior and Lord.

Another link between Genesis and Acts is in regards to language. In Genesis, God confuses the languages of the people, because of their pride and their refusing to live out God's command to spread out over the world (see Genesis 11). In Acts, God enables believers in Jesus to speak of the wonders of God in languages that they did not ever understand, which was a sign to those gathered that Jesus is the promised Messiah and that He was now exalted to God the Father's right hand in heaven (see Acts 2). As you read Acts, remember that Christ's Kingdom continues to advance each day. And you, brothers and sisters, continue to carry the light of Christ to a world that needs Jesus. Let's keep shining!!

Lord's Blessings,

Pastor Tim

Back to School Blessings

Sunday, **September 6**, is our Back to School Blessings worship service. If you are a teacher, a student, or administrator, we will have a special time to pray for you during our worship service.

Back to School Prayer

Dear God,

Help me to,

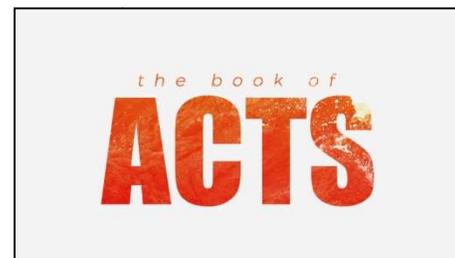
Use my **eyes** to see new friends,
Open my **ears** to **listen** to my teacher,
Open my **mind** to **learn** new skills.

Let my **heart** love everyone around me,

Help me to **grow** and **learn** each day,

I want to be the **best** that I can be this **school year**.

Amen



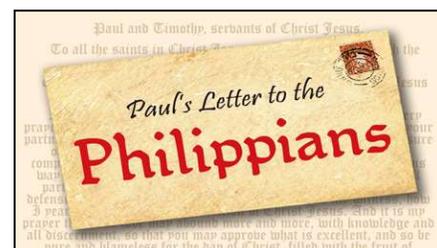


Pastor Tim's Messages – Upcoming Weeks!

I will be leading in a new sermon series on the **Beatitudes beginning September 6**. The Beatitudes are found in Matthew's Gospel in 5:3-12 and they are statements of what a blessed life looks like from God's perspective. I am excited to unpack each of these statements of blessing and how we can live them out in our daily lives!

New Teaching Series on Paul's Letter to the Philippians

Pastor Tim will be leading a 9:00AM Adult Sunday School study on the epistle or letter to the Philippians beginning **October 4**. This is a letter on the joy that comes from following Jesus. With the present challenges in the world and country, this letter is an excellent opportunity to remember the importance of joy in all circumstances.



New Chronicles of Narnia – Small Group to Meet – They are Not Just for Kids!



One of my favorite Christian authors is C.S. Lewis. Lewis had an ability to communicate and teach in a variety of ways (lectures, non-fiction writing, fiction writing, etc.) and to people of all ages. One way that

Lewis powerfully wrote of God and our Christian faith is through his Chronicles of Narnia book series. I did not read the Narnia books until I was an adult and have been immensely blessed by the spiritual truths that they point to in the Scriptures. These 7 books are filled with spiritual truths about God and have the potential to strengthen people's love for God and God's Word.

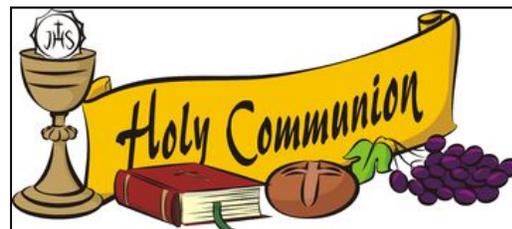
Beginning this fall in October, I plan to have a monthly gathering to discuss these books together. Besides everyone having an opportunity to share their reflections, I plan to share numerous biblical connections found in each story. Whether you've read all seven books or have never heard of them or of C.S. Lewis, this group is an opportunity for you to grow in your walk with Jesus Christ.

If you are interested or would like more information about this exciting opportunity, please contact the church office (717) 432-8243 or Pastor Tim (717) 600-6139. **Deadline for joining the group is September 30th**. If you'd prefer to participate via Zoom, that can be arranged as well.

God Bless!
Pastor Tim

Communion Schedule (change for Sept/Oct)

Since Pastor Tim is on vacation September 27, Blain Bargo will be leading worship that Sunday; and we will be moving communion to the following Sunday, October 4 (World Wide Communion Day). We will also have communion the last Sunday of October (Reformation Sunday).



Fall Festival – October 17, 2020



I am pleased to share that Chestnut Grove is now preparing for our Fall Festival Event! There will be games and food to enjoy and fellowship to be shared. This will be an outdoor event and we will do our best to social distance.

The event will be on Saturday, **October 17th** from 10 AM-2 PM. Please contact Tammy Strayer for further details and to find out how you can help.

This is a free event to our community. Please help promote this event to neighbors and families that you may know.

Kitchen Renovation in the works

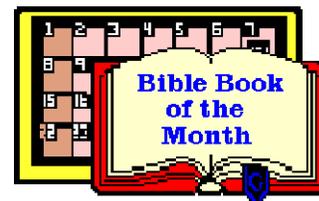
I am excited to share that this fall our trustees approved renovations to our kitchen.

This renovation will enable us to have a kitchen that is commercial grade and will be able to better bless the community through the use of this kitchen! Please be in prayer for a very successful renovation.

Thank you!

Bible Book of the Month Update

I have personally been blessed with our congregation-wide Bible book for the month. I have heard from others that this has been a blessing to them as well. I pray that you have been blessed in your time in God's Word.



I would like to announce that for the month of:

- **October** our Bible book of the month will be Psalms
- **November** we will be in the book of Romans and
- **December** we will be in the book of Exodus

More information will be made available for the upcoming books in the weeks ahead.

COVID-19 Compliant Reminders

- All children must stay with their parents at all times, except the children's time during worship.
- Restrooms are limited to 1 person at a time unless you're family.
- Masks are optional. Please wear mask when walking around the building.
- To the best of your ability, you must social distance at all times especially entering the exiting the building.
- Hand Sanitizer will be provided.
- Communion – sealed elements provided.
- Each person must decide for themselves if they are comfortable returning to in-building worship.
- Respect others right to social distancing in the parking lot.
- If you use a hymnal during worship, do not return it to the rack, but leave it on the seat.
- We will sing.
- Offering containers are provided to drop your offering in on your way in or out.
- Please stay home if you are sick.

Subject to change...the leaders of the church will be in touch if/when there are changes to this list.

Contact Information

Church Office phone: 717-432-8243
 Pastor Tim's email: tklein@susumc.org
 Deb's Racer's email: omcgumc@gmail.com
 Heavenly Hands Daycare phone: 717-432-2082
 Heavenly Hands Daycare email:
 heavenlyhands5@verizon.net

Upcoming Meetings

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|--------|-------------------|
| Wednesday | 9/23 | 6:00PM | Ad Council Mtg. |
| Wednesday | 9/23 | 7:00PM | SPPR Comm. Mtg. |
| Sunday | TBD in November | | Charge Conf. Mtg. |



Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

September

5 – Dennis Bush
 19 – Candace Gerber
 25 – Deborah Bell

October

2 - Leota Negley
 3 – Bruce Trostle
 15 – Paul Hoffman
 19 – Jack McCoy
 25 – Charlie Darr
 26 – Keith Albert

November

12 – Sue Mowery
 18 – Tom Chiricos
 21 – Shirley Fetterolf
 21 – Shirley Jones
 30 – Angie Chiricos

Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

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Send next newsletter articles to Deb Racer at omcgumc@gmail.com

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