



A RESOURCE FOR THE CHESTNUT GROVE UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

# The Post Newsletter - Pastor Tim Klein

## Nov/Dec 2020

## A Message from the Pastor

### *The Power of Thanksgiving*

One of the holidays that America is most known for is Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving Day and weekend is truly a special time of the year to slow down and to truly thank God for His many blessings in our lives.

While many think Thanksgiving is only a holiday or an excuse to overeat and watch lots of football, as Christians we are reminded that Thanksgiving is to be far more than a holiday. Thanksgiving is to be lifestyle. We are instructed in Scripture to give thanks *in all circumstances*. Why? Because we can trust that if we stay faithful to Christ, His presence will be with us in all circumstances and He will work all things together for our good and for His glory.

So, in these months of November

and December, I strongly encourage you to spend time in Thanksgiving each and every day. Thank the Lord for His grace, thank Him for His faithfulness, thank Him for His love, thank Him for individuals who have blessed You in Your spiritual journey, thank Him for the reality and wonder of the incarnation --- of God becoming flesh as Jesus Christ, thank Him for His presence in difficult times, thank Him for opportunities to minister in His Name, thank Him for family and friends, thank Him for the good news of Jesus, thank Him for the gift of the Holy Spirit, thank Him for His daily invitations to grow in our walk with Him, thank Him, thank Him and thank Him.

There is great power in thanksgiving friends. When we are a thankful people, it is easier for us to see what God is doing. When we

are a thankful people, it becomes natural for us to pray for everyone. When we are a thankful people, it is difficult to become angry or bitter. And when we are a thankful people, we remember that Christ has set us free from the power of sin and shame.

As we follow our Lord together through these special holiday times that we experience in November and December, may we live as thankful people. **I encourage each of you to make a list during these months of fifty things that you are thankful for during the weeks ahead. Pray prayers of thanksgiving over each of these things and God will bless you as you do this. And during our Christmas Eve worship service, I plan to invite you to raise your lists to the Lord as part of our offering to our amazing Triune God.**

Grace,  
Pastor Tim



## State of the Church

I would like to express my thanks to each of you again for welcoming my family and me as your pastor. It is truly an honor and a joy to serve as your pastor! I strongly believe that even in the midst of the challenges of 2020, the Lord is powerfully at work here at Chestnut Grove.

Our Fall Festival was a great success, as we connected with numerous people throughout our community with love and joy in the Name of Jesus. Our choir ministry is energizing and blessing many people! Testimonies of our faith journeys are beginning to be shared in worship to bless and encourage one another. Our Chronicles of Narnia small group is strengthening the faith and many of us. Heavenly Hands continues to shine with the love of Jesus to many children and families. And many of us have volunteered to help maintain a clean sanctuary and beautiful church grounds. Thank you!

And I am excited for what the Lord will do in our midst as we follow Him together in 2021! We have purchased equipment to have free outdoor movie night outreaches into our community. I firmly believe that God will use these and other outreaches as powerful tools to connect with and bless new families in our community. Our Lord has much planned for us and much planned to do through us. Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, our risen and exalted savior. He is our great King and as we follow faithfully after Him, He will lead us forward in advancing His purposes in this world. May Your Kingdom come and may Your will be done. Amen.

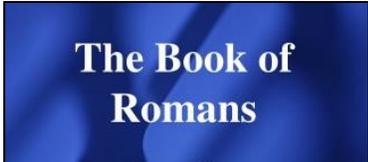
## November Bible Book of the Month - Romans

Unlike many of Paul's letters, Paul's epistle to the Christians in Rome does not primarily seek to address issues concerning believers in Rome. Instead, Paul beautifully explains to them why the gospel of Christ is God's wonderful plan to save the world.

Paul goes into great detail explaining humanity's need for Christ (chapters 1-2) and God's plan to rescue us to Himself (chapters 3-8). Then, (chapters 9-11) Paul addresses the issue of the Jewish people, for as a Jew himself he knew that the Lord continues to pursue the Jews with the good news of their savior. In fact, the Church in Rome brought together both Jews and Gentiles seeking to follow Christ together.

Then (chapters 12-15), Paul explains how Christians are to order their lives in light of the good news of Jesus Christ. These chapters are filled with godly instruction. Finally (chapter 16), Paul concludes his powerful letter with greetings to many people he knew in this church whom he so longed to visit.

For the month of **December** we will be in the book of Exodus.



The Book of  
Romans

## Worship Themes Through the End of 2020

Living a Significant Life – Several Dead Ends and One Strong Foundation - November 15, 2020

Living a Significant Life – Working With Joy - November 22, 2020

Living a Significant Life –The Family of God - November 29, 2020

Wonder of Christmas Series – Part 1 - December 6, 2020

Wonder of Christmas Series - Part 2 - December 13, 2020

**CANTATA SUNDAY!!** – December 20, 2020

Wonder of Christmas Series – Part 3 - December 24, 2020

Wonder of Christmas Series – Part 4 - December 27, 2020



## Church Conference Meeting



Our annual church meeting will be right after our worship service **November 22**. Our York District Superintendent, Cathy Boileau, will preside over the meeting. This will be an opportunity to gather together to celebrate all the Lord has done in and through us in 2020 and to also prepare us to succeed in God's purpose for us in 2021. All are encouraged to attend this meeting.

## Hanging of the Greens

My spirit rejoices in God my Savior - *Luke 1:47*

On Saturday, **November 28** at 5:30PM everyone is invited to help decorate the house of Our Lord to celebrate His birth.

It's also a great time of fellowship with one another.

Light refreshments will be provided.



## Renaissance Choir

The Dover Renaissance Choir will be sharing their talents with us Sunday, **December 6**, during the worship service. Under the direction of Samantha Roberts, The Renaissance, our select choir at the high school, was started by Mr. Jeffery Snyder in 1975. Since that time they have received many honors and accolades for being a superior ensemble. The group was selected to sing in the White House on two different occasions. Renaissance has also performed in Carnegie Hall three times.

## Children's Christmas Play

**Were You There?** - Come back 2000 years as we hear the story of Jesus' birth. Please invite your family and friends to join us as we rehear the children tell us about the joyous birth of Jesus on Sunday, **December 13**, during the worship service.



## Christmas Meal

As of this writing we are planning to have our Christmas Meal after worship, Sunday, **December 13** in the Fellowship Hall. We will spread the tables out to allow for social distancing and we will have assigned servers. See the sign-up sheet to find out what areas they are asking for help with. If you have any questions, contact Shirley Fetterolf.



## Choir Cantata

The Choir will be presenting their Christmas Cantata titled *The Saints' and Angels' Song*, Sunday, **December 20** during worship (10:10AM). The joyous miracle surrounding the birth of Christ continues to be one of the greatest stories ever told! And now, *The Saints' and Angels' Song* is another proclamation of that blessed event, as told through new songs, traditional carols, and stirring narration! Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors to come and be blessed with this glorious Good News of the Christmas story.

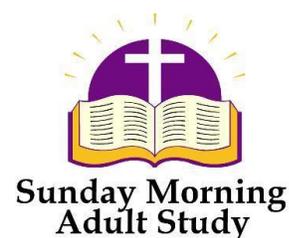


## Christmas Eve Service

Our Christmas Eve Service will be Thursday, **December 24** at 6:30PM. Come celebrate our Savior's birth!

## Adult Sunday School

All are welcome at 9:00AM. November and December is being led by Tammy Strayer. During January and February, Pastor Tim plans to lead a study on the Gospel of Matthew.



## 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

Sunday	11/22	after worship	Church Conference Mtg.
Monday	12/14	6:30PM	Narnia Group Meet
Wed	1/27	7:00PM	Leadership Team Mtg.



November

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

December

3 - Robert Hildebrand  
 8 – Kyra Gerber  
 17 – Sam Chambers  
 20 – Cameron Trowbridge  
 26 – Percy Sites  
 27 – Rob Putt

January

1 – Virginia Thran  
 2 – Joanne Witmer  
 4 – Ron Brady  
 11 – Caydon & Grayson Reynolds  
 12 – Brian Gerber  
 13 – Gerry Holley  
 14 – Blain Bargo  
 22 – Brian Clayton  
 23 – Chris Faber  
 30 – Ruth Albert  
 31 – Levi Seik

Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

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