



A RESOURCE FOR THE CHESTNUT GROVE UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

The Post Newsletter - Pastor Tim Klein

July/August 2021

A Message from the Pastor

Freedom!

Dear Sisters and Brothers of Chestnut Grove,

Our first Sunday of July this year falls on the 4th, a day long-occasioned with the value of freedom that we value as Americans. I believe that the Lord cares about freedom as well. He chose to not make us robots, but gave humanity freedom to choose whether to follow Him or not. Truly, love requires freedom of choice in order for love to be real and genuine.

While we are called to be thankful for the freedoms that we possess of citizens of this nation, we must be reminded from time-to-time that ultimate freedom is found only in knowing God and responding in faith to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Only through Him can we have freedom from the enslavement that sin has

over us as people. It may seem paradoxical, but it is as we deny our self-focused lives and choose to make Christ the center of our life, we actually find true freedom. Yes, our Lord is looking for those that choose to live each day for Him.

So, friends, here we are in the middle of the summer. What is the Lord calling you to do with the freedom that He has given you? I encourage you this summer to use your freedom to do two things. First, consider one new thing that you can do to help strengthen your walk with Christ. Maybe it is spending more time in God's Word than normal or setting aside a time to pray in a more focused way. Maybe it is coming to the Thursday morning Bible Study or perhaps taking part in another spiritual discipline. Use your freedom as an opportunity for personal

growth in your relationship with Jesus Christ.

Second, I encourage you to use your freedom to bless someone in some way. One big opportunity that is coming up is Vacation Bible School. Please pray for this important ministry, but also please consider other ways that you may be able to help as well. Additionally, I encourage you to use your freedom to bless someone in the Name of Jesus. It could be a financial blessing, an encouraging note, a gift, an invitation for them to join you at worship or to share a meal. Again, there are many, many expressions that this can take. But please remember, you are the light of the world. You take Christ with you as you go. Do not be afraid or ashamed to bless others in His Name. Love never fails.

In Christ with you,
Pastor Tim



Annual Susquehanna Conference Update

On June 18th and 19th Pastor Tim and I attended the Annual Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church. This year's conference was done virtually because of the uncertainty of the Covid-19 pandemic at the time of planning and booking of the facility at the Hershey Lodge to host it. While we were not able to see each other in person along with all the other churches in the Conference, the facilitators did an excellent job of creating an experience that was easy to participate and navigate through.

Each day started with a time of worship and greeting prior to getting into the business of the Conference and after each day of business we were brought back together in a spirit of worship and sending. Items covered in the business of the Conference included normal annual reports for approval such as Board of Pensions, Board of Trustees, Council of Finance & Administration, and Committee on Nominations.

There were also nine resolutions up for vote this year. They included:

Res-1 Mental Health

Res-2 Disability Awareness Sunday

Res-3 A Call to Work Towards Unity

Res-4 Reaching People with the Good News of Jesus Christ, the Hope of the World

Res-5 Unity in Mission

Res-6 A Call to End Conversion Therapy

Res-7 The Susquehanna Declaration

Res-8 United Methodist Stewardship Foundation Merger with United Methodist Foundation of Western Pennsylvania

Res-9 United Methodist Stewardship Foundation and United Methodist Foundation of Western Pennsylvania Agreement and Plan Merger

There was much discussion in a highly organized manor for and against the resolutions before coming to a vote that was calculated with-in minutes for all to see the result of each resolution. For those interested in seeing each of these resolutions we can make them available. The tally of votes can be made available once we receive the report from the Conference.

While the majority of the time during these two days was for business there was also celebration of ministry that has happened with-in the Susquehanna Conference despite restrictions due to Covid-19. The churches within the Conference have been creative in their ministry during this time. Also celebrated was the ministry of Bishops and clergy that will be entering into retirement. There was also a time of remembrance and celebration of life for the lives that have entered the presence of God over the past year.

It is the hope of the Susquehanna Conference to meet next year in person at Hershey Lodge June 1, 2 & 3.

Submitted by: *Blain Bargo*

Sermon Series

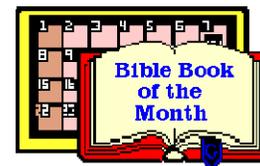
I hope that the sermon series on supernatural events found in the Book of Acts has been a blessing to you. This series will continue through the month of July. I pray that this series will remind us that we continue to live in the Book of Acts today, as the mission of the Church continues. And God's Spirit will help each of us be faithful witnesses of Jesus in our world today.



In the month of August, we will begin a new sermon series entitled, Lessons from the Life of David. King David was a man after God's own heart and we can discover much about what it means to be a person after God's own heart through a closer look at David's life. I am excited for what the Lord will do in our midst through this series.

If you are unable to attend worship, Pastor Tim's message notes are emailed and posted on the churches website (www.cgumdillsburg.org). Also, Pastor Tim's video sermon is posted every week on Facebook and the Website. Be sure to "like" our posts and "share". You'll help spread the good news of Jesus Christ!

July Bible Book of the Month - 1st & 2 Thessalonians



As we turn the page into the month of July together, I would like to first remind you that our Bible books of the month are always invitations and not requirements. If you sense the Lord is leading you to read and meditate on other Scriptures, please do not feel obligated to read the Bible Book of the Month. I simply offer the book of the month as one means by which the Holy Spirit can be used to guide your time in God's written Word.

With that being said, it is a blessing to share a few thoughts with you about our twin books for July, 1 & 2 Thessalonians. These epistles from Paul the apostle were written around 50 or 51 AD to a church that Paul helped to establish during his second missionary journey (See Acts 17:1-9).

The Christians in Thessalonica were particularly struggling with the questions of the timing of the return of Jesus Christ and what will happen to the Christians that have already physically died. Will they miss out when Christ comes again in glory? In both of these letters, Paul assures these Christians that those that have already physically died will in no way miss out on the celebration that God's people will experience when Jesus returns to earth as ruler and judge. Moreover, Paul reminds them of the certainty of Jesus' return towards the close of each chapter in 1 Thessalonians. In 2 Thessalonians, Paul assures the believers that Christ's return will not be done in secret, but will be unmistakable and other events must precede it.

Finally, two other themes are prevalent in these letters. One of these themes is to make no place for idolatry. And for the former pagans of Thessalonica, turning from idols also often meant turning from sexual immorality as well. The other theme is to avoid idleness. Even though we are to always be ready and excited for the return of Jesus, we are to not become lazy but to be active in our work for the Lord each day.

May the Lord bless your time in His Word this month!

As you read God's Word, may He touch you anew with His goodness, His purity, His grace, and His love. Our Triune God is a God who is faithful and He keeps His promises. May we echo Joshua's prayer in Joshua 24:15 "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

August's Bible Book of the Month will be Joshua.

September's Bible Books of the Month will be 1 & 2 Timothy & Titus.

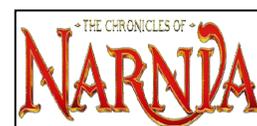


Bible Study - *The Chosen*

Our bible study group meets **Thursday mornings at 10:00AM** to watch and discuss "The Chosen" television series. *The Chosen* is about Jesus and His early followers and it is very faithful to the spirit of God's Word. Join us the next several weeks in the Fellowship Hall at **10:00AM** (new time).

Narnia Small Group

Our Narnia small group meets the **2nd Monday each month at 6:30PM** with discussion on *The Chronicles Of Narnia* book. The plan is to meet in the Fellowship Hall where there is plenty of space. If you would prefer to join us by Zoom, that will be available as well. Please let Pastor Tim know, in advance, if you will be joining by Zoom.



Vacation Bible School

Come join us for a "Roar" of a good time! We need lots of help for VBS. There are helper papers in the lobby or see Dee Gerber. Invite your families and neighbors to our **"Roar"** **VBS July 19-22 from 6:30 – 8:30PM**. There will be crafts, games, snacks, bible stories, and a movie on the final day. There are flyers and registration forms in the lobby or forms can be printed from our church's website: cgumdillsburg.org.

2021 Directory Changes

The directory changes that I have been made aware of since our last newsletter are:

- **Barry Ginder** – 601 Bay Street, Mechanicsburg is not his current address. If anybody can provide his address, please let Deb know.
- Delete the following members who have transferred to another church:

Robert Hildebrand, Jody Kutz, and Jack McCoy

If your contact information changes, please email omcgumc@gmail.com or call the office 717-432-8243 with your new information. Thanks again for your support and cooperation in helping keep this valuable resource tool up-to-date.



Thank-You Corner

I was surprised with a huge basket of love from Chestnut Grove. Carol Clayton, I hope you did not throw your back out carrying this basket to the front door! Thank you so much for taking the time to bring this to our house.

I am overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of our church. I don't know what else to say but "thank you"!

Sam and I are so fortunate to be a part of this congregation. We have always felt at home in this church and respect and love those who come here.

This has been a challenging year for us but through God's grace we will see our Way through.

We are anxious to come back to church but it may be a little bit longer until we can do that. At this time I am not permitted to be among crowds or even have visitors in the house.

Your cards have really meant a lot to me. The basket...well, I have never seen anything quite like it. I am opening a few items a day so it really is the gift that keeps on giving!

Thank you again for caring and thinking of us during this challenging time. Sam and I are so blessed and cannot wait to see everyone again.

We miss you.

Love to all, *Kathi and Sam Chambers*



We want to say thank you for your continued support of New Life For Girls. Your contribution makes a huge difference in helping to sustain this work. Lives are being changed and you have a part in all of that! Your gift essentially has the potential to impact generations of women, children, and their entire families.

Thank you and God bless you!

New Life For Girls

To our Church Family,
We wanted to let everyone know that Chestnut Grove has been such a blessing to John and I through the years, and we feel so thankful to be a part of that family! Your prayers and your gifts are well received and your love for us overflows. Thank you so much! We have no idea what the future holds for us, but what we do know, is God will be with us in this next journey as well! Hopefully we will be able to come and worship with you all in the near future.

In Christian Love and Fellowship,
Your friends *Cindy & John Estes*

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

Samaritan Fund

Chestnut Grove UM Church has started up the Samaritan Fund again. If you would like to give towards this fund, please mark your payment accordingly. This fund is designated for blessing folks in need in our community.



2021 2nd MILE MISSIONS

Jan, Feb, March – New Life for Girls - \$955.00

April, May, June – Operation Underground Railroad

July, Aug, Sept – A *Compassion* Child

Oct, Nov, Dec – New Hope Ministries

A Compassion Child - We are a child-advocacy ministry pairing compassionate people with children living in extreme poverty to release the children from spiritual, economic, social, and physical poverty.

2021 Teller Schedule

Date	Head Teller	Assistant Teller
7/4/2021	Wendy Bargo	Betty Jane Diven
7/11/2021	Tammy Strayer	Lorraine Hanson
7/18/2021	Sue Mowery	Carolyn Myers
7/25/2021	Wendy Bargo	Betty Jane Diven
8/1/2021	Sue Mowery	Lorraine Hanson
8/8/2021	Tammy Strayer	Betty Jane Diven
8/15/2021	Wendy Bargo	Carolyn Myers
8/22/2021	Sue Mowery	Lorraine Hanson
8/29/2021	Tammy Strayer	Betty Jane Diven

2021 Liturgist Schedule

Date	Liturgist
7/4/2021	Blain Bargo
7/11/2021	Keith Albert
7/18/2021	Candace Gerber
7/25/2021	Laurie Bush
8/1/2021	Kyra Gerber
8/8/2021	Steph Reynolds
8/15/2021	Blain Bargo
8/22/2021	Kyra Gerber
8/29/2021	Laurie Bush

2021 Soundboard/Powerpoint

Date	Soundboard	Powerpoint
7/4/2021	Candace Gerber	Sue Mowery
7/11/2021	Blain Bargo	Sue Mowery
7/18/2021	Blain Bargo	Sue Mowery
7/25/2021	Blain Bargo	
8/1/2021	Blain Bargo	Sue Mowery
8/8/2021	Candace Gerber	Sue Mowery
8/15/2021	Candace Gerber	Sue Mowery
8/22/2021	Blain Bargo	Candace Gerber
8/29/2021	Blain Bargo	Sue Mowery

2021 Cleaning Schedule

Date (Sat.)	Volunteers
7/3/2021	Steph Reynolds
7/10/2021	N/A
7/17/2021	Bruce Trostle
7/24/2021	N/A
7/31/2021	Brian/Dee Gerber
8/7/2021	N/A
8/14/2021	Tammy Strayer
8/21/2021	N/A
8/28/2021	Patsy Kellison

Upcoming Meetings/Worship/Events:

Thursday	7/1	10:00AM	Bible Study- <i>The Chosen</i>
Sunday	7/4	10:10AM	Communion
Thursday	7/8	10:00AM	Bible Study- <i>The Chosen</i>
Monday	7/12	6:30PM	Narnia Small Group
Thursday	7/15	10:00AM	Bible Study- <i>The Chosen</i>
M-Thurs	7/19-22	6:30-8:30PM	VBS: Theme is Roar
Thursday	7/22	10:00AM	Bible Study- <i>The Chosen</i>
Sunday	7/25	10:10AM	Communion
Monday	7/26	6:00PM	School Board Meeting
Wednesday	7/28	6:00PM	Leadership Team Meeting
Thursday	7/29	10:00AM	Bible Study- <i>The Chosen</i>
Thursday	8/5	10:00AM	Bible Study- <i>The Chosen</i>
Monday	8/9	6:30PM	Narnia Small Group
Thursday	8/12	10:00AM	Bible Study- <i>The Chosen</i>
Thursday	8/19	10:00AM	Bible Study- <i>The Chosen</i>
Wednesday	8/25	6:00PM	Leadership Team Meeting
Thursday	8/26	10:00AM	Bible Study- <i>The Chosen</i>
Sunday	8/29	10:10AM	Communion



The Book of Acts

J A M E S X I L E F H X Y X M
 G G R E T E P A U L F N L L N
 W D G Q E T H I O P I A U X O
 W X Q R P S A P P H I R A U I
 B T T J H O P I L I H P S P A
 W X D E E C N H A T C E D R Z
 G C O R N E L I U S O S A I M
 Z M O U N T O F O L I V E S S
 S W L S A N M E L I T A D C I
 E V A A N E M O R W N M K I T
 S Z I L A P P I R G A M C L P
 V S D E N B E A U T I F U L A
 R T Y M I X B S A B A N R A B
 R O L I A J L Q S N E H T A P
 S A L I S D A M A S C U S R A

Agrippa
 Ananias
 Antioch
 Athens
 Baptism
 Barnabas
 Beautiful
 Cornelius
 Damascus
 Ethiopia
 Felix
 Jailor
 James
 Jerusalem
 Lydia
 Melita
 Mount of Olives
 Paul
 Pentecost
 Peter
 Philip
 Priscilla
 Rome
 Sapphira
 Saul
 Silas
 Stephen
 struck dead

From the Leadership Team...Coming in September:

- We will resume Sunday School opportunities...time of SS and other details are to come.
- We will resume the ministries of Ushering and Greeting on Sunday's . There will be a sign-up sheet in the lobby closer to September.
- We will also have a sign-up sheet in the lobby for folks to donate altar flowers. They could be in dedication, honor, or memory of whomever and the flowers can be purchased at your place of choosing or brought in from your own flower beds.
- We will also resume our occasional fellowship meals following worship beginning sometime in September. We will let you know the date and details of our 1st one when they are available.

COVID-19 Compliant Reminders

- Hand Sanitizer will be provided.
 - Communion is sealed elements provided.
 - Each person must decide for themselves if they are comfortable returning to in-building worship.
 - We will sing.
 - Offering plates will be up front in sanctuary for you to put our offering in during worship.
 - We plan to resume the ministries of ushering and greeting in September.
 - Please stay home if you are sick.
- Subject to change...the leaders of the church will be in touch when there are changes to this list.

Prayer Chain

To share a prayer need with the email prayer chain, contact Pastor Tim at 717-600-6139 or tklein@susumc.org

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



July

- 28 – Bill Minnich
 29 – Kayla Klein

August

- 5 – Tammy Strayer
 7 – Leah Klein
 9 – Ken Orth
 12 – Pastor Tim Klein
 18 – Gretchen Grozalis
 23 – Erdene McClure
 24 – Carolyn Myers
 24 – Timothy Klein
 25 – Charlie Bush
 25 – Grant Bush
 27 – Lexey Pugh
 29 – Carol Clayton
 30 – Dee Gerber

September

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

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

Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

Happy birthday! Happy birthday!



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