



A RESOURCE FOR THE CHESTNUT GROVE UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

# The Post Newsletter - Pastor Tim Klein

## Jan/Feb 2023

## A Message from the Pastor

I find it exciting that 2023 begins with a Sunday. As Christians, we gather each Sunday because it was on a Sunday that Jesus rose from the dead. Truly, Jesus' sacrificial death and triumphant resurrection is more than enough to save those who place their trust in the only savior of mankind.

So as we begin 2023 in worship together, this is the perfect time to dedicate this new calendar year to the glory of God. I believe that if we choose to fix our eyes on Jesus, we cannot help but grow as His disciples greatly this year. And really, that is the whole point of life – to know Jesus Christ and to grow more like Him.

As you begin 2023, I would suggest a few New Year's Resolution ideas.

#1 If you do not already do so, I highly encourage you to take part in reading the Bible Book of the Month each month. This congregational reading will strengthen your faith.

#2 Be a part of one of the new small groups that will be starting in the coming months. These groups will be an amazing tool the Lord is giving us to help in our growth in Jesus.

#3 If you have not watched The CHOSEN yet, you need to check it out. It is an amazing show that the Lord is behind and is using to strengthen the faith of many believers and also is using to bring people to faith in Christ. I would love to see everyone watch season 1 by the end of 2023. Please contact me if you would like more information about this production or if you

would like to watch it in a group setting.

#4 I would like for everyone to take part in a regular Bible study group. One option is the Thursday morning group that meets at 10AM at the church. But I would love to offer another time on an evening or weekend if we have enough interest. I love to teach and I am confident that you would be deeply blessed in participating.

#5 Start and end each day in prayer. This is so important. It sets your course for the day ahead and also closes your day with Christ on your heart and mind. If you would like suggestions on how you can pray, I would be happy to speak with you about this as well.

Together, let's make 2023 our best year yet!

In Christ with you, Pastor Tim



## Larger Church Update

On **November 14, 2022**, Chestnut Grove voted to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. Our Leadership Team is beginning to discern and discuss how we sense the Holy Spirit leading us forward. Please know that there will be more information coming to our congregation in the coming weeks. I invite your prayers for clarity in this process. Thank you!

## New Hope Christmas Blessing Express



What an amazing outpouring of love and support from you!! Thank you!! We continue to be abundantly blessed by our loving and supportive church community. You are the reason families in our community have food on the table. So many of you participated in bountiful food drives and gift drives for our Christmas Blessing Express. Thank you for helping make these loving moments possible for our neighbors in need! *New Hope Ministries of Dlsbg.*

## A Chestnut Grove Christmas Service

On Sunday, **December 18**, our 10:10AM service included youth and children with the congregation singing familiar Christmas songs. The program used was created by Luke Gambill and Rhonda Frazier. ***Christmas Is Jesus*** featured interactive songs and engaging narration to share the message that at its core, Christmas is quite simply...Jesus. Our attendance on that Sunday was 75; how wonderful it was to have so many here to be blessed by their gifts. Thank you for taking part in this special service. We were blessed to have you share your talents and love of Jesus with the congregation!



## Christmas Eve/Poinsettias/Decorations

Our Christmas Eve Service, **December 24**, was also well attended (despite the frigid cold temperatures) with 73 here to celebrate our Savior's birth! Thank you to everybody who ordered a poinsettia to decorate the sanctuary during the Christmas season and to everybody who helped decorate the church earlier in the month! Thank you and it looked beautiful!!



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Mile Missions for 2023

I would like to thank each of you for your generosity in support of our 2nd mile mission giving during 2022. At Chestnut Grove, we have decided to continue our support in 2023 of the five 2nd mile missions that we supported in 2022. These missions and designated giving months are as follows:



**Jan, Feb, March – New Life for Girls**

**April, May – The Chosen**

**June, July – A Compassion Child**

**Aug, Sept – Operation Underground Railroad**

**Oct, Nov, Dec – New Hope Ministries**

## 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays Are “Fight the Debt” Sundays

In addition to our monthly 2<sup>nd</sup> mile missions, it was decided to designate the **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday** (of month's that have 5 Sunday's) to **giving towards our debt to disaffiliate**. The Bible is clear that there is a cost to following after Jesus. In this season at Chestnut Grove Church, part of this cost is the financial burden to disaffiliate from the UMC. I believe that as we target knocking out this debt as quickly as possible will enable us to more fully fund various ministries as we seek to reach new people with the good news of Jesus Christ.

Besides any financial contributions to help knock out that debt, your prayers for God to help us in this way are also deeply appreciated. I am excited to celebrate God graciously helping us to quickly knock this thing out. I will keep you informed as to where we are and what goals we have in this endeavor. We designated our **Christmas Eve 2022 offering** to go towards our disaffiliation debt and would like to express deep gratitude to the congregation for their rich generosity and desire to knock out this debt quickly to free up the church to fund other ministries.

## Sermon Series

Beginning **January 1**, we are starting a new sermon series based on the Apostle Paul's correspondence with the church in Corinth. Years ago, Dr. Timothy Valentino, one my seminary professors, once told us that “if you ever do a sermon series on 1 Corinthians, call it “*Church Gone Wild.*”

It is a fitting series title, because Paul's letter's to the Corinthian believers reveals it is a church that was still rather immature in their transformation to Christlikeness. But they are a reminder that we do not have to be perfect to be made holy and acceptable to God. He receives all who come to Him in faith and surrender.



### Message Titles:

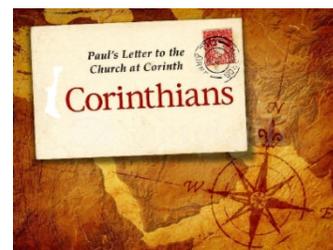
- 1-1-2023 *Who Are the Corinthians?*
- 1-8-2023 *Follow THE Leader*
- 1-15-2023 *Honor God with Your Body*
- 1-22-2023 *To Eat or Not to Eat*
- 1-29-2023 *Should I Cover My Head and Close My Mouth*
- 2-5-2023 *Love & Power*
- 2-12-2023 *An Essential Truth*
- 2-19-2023 *The Ministry of Reconciliation*

## January Bible Books of the Month – 1 & 2 Corinthians

Hello Brothers and Sisters and welcome to 2023! I believe that this year will be an amazing year of growth and discipleship here at Chestnut Grove!

For our first Bible book of the month of 2023, I stand amazed at God's grace and sense of humor. I put together the schedule for the biblical books many months in advance and had no idea at the time that I would also be starting a new sermon series on themes from 1 & 2 Corinthians beginning on January 1st, 2023. I take this as a sign that God is ordering our steps.

As we explore these powerful letters from the Apostle Paul to the church in Corinth, there are several things to remember. For one, Corinth was known to be an especially ungodly city. But in the midst of this darkness, the truth and power of the gospel had taken root and lives were being transformed. Next, the Corinthian correspondence reveals that maturity in Christ is a process that takes time and



understanding. The believers in Corinth had many questions for Paul, and the Holy Spirit was guiding Paul to respond to these questions with clarity and wisdom. Additionally, these letters teach us that it is good to ask questions to God and God-appointed leaders, who will be able to offer help in your living out your faith in Christ in practical ways. And finally, in a town that cared much for status, these letters teach the Corinthians (and us) that greatness in the Kingdom of God is found by growing in God's love and by humbly serving others in His Name.

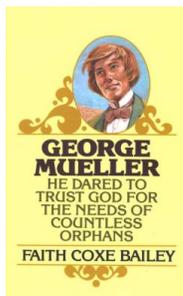
Finally, may you find these literary structures helpful for both of these letters. These were put together by Dr. Doug Buckwalter, a fantastic New Testament professor I was blessed to learn from in seminary. For the month of **February** we will be in the books of 1 John, 2 John and 3 John.

### **Special Presentation**

This year we celebrate the Sanctity of Human Life on January 22, 2023. During worship **January 8**, Leona Rega, Executive Director of Human Life Services in York, will be sharing with us a little bit about the organization she works for and the many programs and counseling they have available to the community. Leona is the sister of Paul Miller who recently led our outdoor worship.

### **Book Study Group**

Our schedule for 2023 will be meeting in Jan, March, May, Sept, and Nov. With less to read, we hope more people can participate.

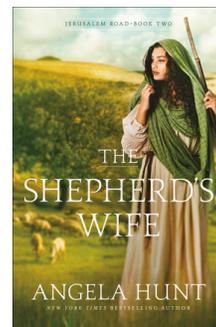


The book to read for our **January 9** gathering is "George Muller" (by Faith Coxe Bailey). George Mueller (1805-1898) was a leader in the Plymouth Brethren movement in England and a founder of Christian orphanages. This story tells of his conversion to the Christian faith and his subsequent ministry to orphans in Bristol. Starting small, Mueller was eventually housing, educating and training 2,000 boys and girls. His faith in God's ability to provide for his work and the children offers some astounding stories of how God works daily miracles. A good book of faith and encouragement.

Our book study for **March 13** will be "The Shepherd's Wife" (by Angela Hunt). In this historical fiction book, Yeshua of Nazareth has two sisters: Damaris, married to a wealthy merchant's son, and Pheodora, married to a simple shepherd from Bethlehem. When Pheodora's husband suffers an unexpected reversal of fortune and is thrown into debtor's prison, she returns to Nazareth, where she pins her hopes on two she-goats who should give birth to spotless white kids that would be perfect for the upcoming Yom Kippur sacrifice.

In the eighteen months between the kids' birth and the opportunity to sell them and redeem her husband from prison, Pheodora must call on her wits, her family, and her God in order to provide for her daughters and survive. But when every prayer and ritual she knows is about God's care for Israel, how can she trust that God will hear and help a lowly shepherd's wife?

If you need help ordering either of these books, let Pastor Tim know asap. Also, please contact Pastor Tim if you are interested in attending any of the book studies or would like more information. We would love more folks to be a part of this group!



## Undecorating the Hanging of the Greens

Even though our Christmas decorations enhanced the beauty of our sanctuary, these too must be taken down and preserved for next December. With that said, please stay after worship Sunday, January 8, to help take down the decorations. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Like when we put them up, it's a great time of fellowship with one another.

## Ash Wednesday – February 22, 2023



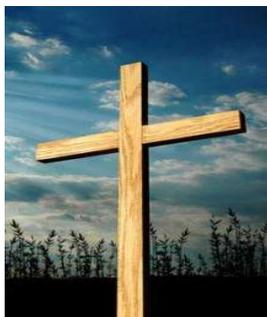
On **February 22**, we are blessed to gather with several of our sister churches to begin the Holy Season of Lent together. This will be another opportunity to invite the Holy Spirit to do a special work of grace within us as we turn our attention once again to our Lord's indescribable sacrifice of Himself on our behalf. The service will begin at 7:00PM and more details on this special worship gathering will be coming soon.

## Directory Updates

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

- **Bryan, Shawna, & Jacob Crone** – Joined the church November 6, 2022
- **Sandy & Charles Fisher** – Transferred to St. Matthew ELC in December 2022

If your contact information changes, please email [omcgumc@gmail.com](mailto: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. The plan is to work on a 2023 Directory in February/March.



## Vision Statement

**Our Vision as Chestnut Grove Church is to be a light on a hill sharing the love of Jesus Christ!**

---

**“What Is Love” Word Scramble** (The following thoughts are from 1 Corinthians 13:4-6. Finish each idea with the word given in the passage. The first letter of each word is provided. Answer key on page 6)

1. Love is p\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Love is k\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Love does not e\_\_\_\_\_.
4. Love does not b\_\_\_\_\_.
5. Love is not p\_\_\_\_\_.
6. It does not d\_\_\_\_\_ others.
7. It is not s\_\_\_\_-s\_\_\_\_\_.
8. It is not easily a\_\_\_\_\_.
9. It keeps no record of w\_\_\_\_\_.
10. Love does not delight in evil but r\_\_\_\_\_ with the truth.



**2023 Teller Schedule**

Date	Head Teller	Assistant Teller
1/1/2023	Wendy Bargo	Angie Thompson
1/8/2023	Tammy Strayer	Carolyn Myers
1/15/2023	Wendy Bargo	Betty Jane Diven
1/22/2023	Tammy Strayer	Carol Mowery
1/29/2023	Wendy Bargo	Angie Thompson
2/5/2023	Tammy Strayer	Carolyn Myers
2/12/2023	Wendy Bargo	Betty Jane Diven
2/19/2023	Tammy Strayer	Carol Mowery
2/26/2023	Wendy Bargo	Angie Thompson

**2023 Liturgist Schedule**

Date	Liturgist
1/1/2023	Candace Gerber
1/8/2023	Kyra Gerber
1/15/2023	Steph Reynolds
1/22/2023	Keith Albert
1/29/2023	Blain Bargo
2/5/2023	Candace Gerber
2/12/2023	Kyra Gerber
2/19/2023	Steph Reynolds
2/26/2023	Keith Albert

**2023 Soundboard/PowerPoint**

Date	Soundboard	PowerPoint
1/1/2023	Blain Bargo	Sue Mowery
1/8/2023	Bryan Crone	Candace Gerber
1/15/2023	Candace Gerber	Bryan Crone
1/22/2023	Blain Bargo	Candace Gerber
1/29/2023	Bryan Crone	Sue Mowery
2/5/2023	Blain Bargo	Bryan Crone
2/12/2023	Bryan Crone	Sue Mowery
2/19/2023	Blain Bargo	Candace Gerber
2/26/2023	Blain Bargo	Sue Mowery

**2023 Cleaning Schedule**

Date (Sat.)	Volunteers
1/14/2023	Carol Clayton
1/28/2023	Steph Reynolds
2/11/2023	Brian/Dee Gerber
2/25/2023	Tammy Strayer
3/11/2023	B. Minnich & P. Kellison
3/25/2023	Carol Clayton
4/8/2023	Steph Reynolds
4/22/2023	Brian/Dee Gerber
5/6/2023	Tammy Strayer

**"What Is Love" Word Scramble (answer key)**

1. patient
2. kind
3. envy
4. boast
5. proud
6. dishonor
7. self-seeking
8. angered
9. wrongs
10. rejoices

**Communion List - 2023**

Date	Name
January	Shirley Fetterolf Jean Zeigler
February	Patsy Kellison Shawna Crone
March	Betty Jane Diven Dee Gerber
April	Angie Chiricos Tom Chiricos

## Upcoming Meetings/Events/Worship

Thursday	1/5	10:00AM	Bible Study
Saturday	1/7	2:00-3:00PM	Pastor Tim Small Group
Sunday	1/8	8:45-9:45AM	Men's Ministry Group
Sunday	1/8	9:30AM	Kids For Christ Resumes
Sunday	1/8	10:10AM	Sanctity of Human Life-Leona Rega
Sunday	1/8	After Worship	Undecorate from Christmas
Monday	1/9	6:30PM	Book Study
Thursday	1/12	10:00AM	Bible Study
Saturday	1/14	2:00-3:00PM	Pastor Tim Small Group
Sunday	1/15	After worship	Leadership Team Meeting
Monday	1/16	6:15PM	HH School Board Meeting
Thursday	1/19	10:00AM	Bible Study
Saturday	1/21	2:00-3:00PM	Pastor Tim Small Group
Wednesday	1/25	6:15PM	Leadership Team Meeting
Thursday	1/26	10:00AM	Bible Study
Saturday	1/28	2:00-3:00PM	Pastor Tim Small Group
Sunday	1/29	10:10AM	Communion
Sunday	1/29	After worship	Outreach Team Meeting
Thursday	2/2	10:00AM	Bible Study
Thursday	2/9	10:00AM	Bible Study
Sunday	2/12	8:45-9:45AM	Men's Ministry Group
Thursday	2/16	10:00AM	Bible Study
Wednesday	TBD	6:15PM	Leadership Team Meeting
Wednesday	2/22	7:00PM	Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday	2/23	10:00AM	Bible Study
Sunday	2/26	10:10AM	Communion
Thursday	3/2	10:00AM	Bible Study



### January

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

### February

- 3 – Oliver Seik
- 11 – Rebekah Crone
- 13 – Laurie Bush
- 13 – Flo Hoffman
- 25 – Taylor Wilt

### March

- 1 – Sophia Burns-Kline
- 2 – Wendy Bargo
- 5 – Anna Klein
- 8 – Jake Crone
- 29 – Ken Schoffstall
- 30 – Stephanie Reynolds



**Pastor’s Message ..... Page 1**  
**Larger Church Update ..... Page 2**  
**New Hope Ministries Christmas Blessing Express ..... Page 2**  
**A Chestnut Grove Christmas Service ..... Page 2**  
**Christmas Eve/Poinsettias/Decorations ..... Page 2**  
**2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Mile Missions ..... Page 2**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sundays Debt Giving ..... Page 3**  
**Sermon Series ..... Page 3**  
**January Bible Books of the Month ..... Page 3-4**  
**Human Life Services Special Presentation ..... Page 4**  
**Book Study Group ..... Page 4**  
**Undecorating the Hanging of the Greens ..... Page 5**  
**Ash Wednesday Service ..... Page 5**  
**Directory Updates ..... Page 5**  
**“What Is Love” Word Scramble ..... Page 5**  
**2023 Teller and Liturgist Schedule ..... Page 6**  
**2023 Soundboard/PowerPoint & Cleaning Schedule..... Page 6**  
**2023 Communion Schedule ..... Page 6**  
**Upcoming Meetings/Events/Worship..... Page 7**  
**January/February/March Birthday’s ..... Page 7**  
**Table of Contents ..... Page 8**

Chestnut Grove UM Church  
 450 Chestnut Grove Road  
 Dillsburg, PA 17019  
 Website: [www.cgumdillsburg.org](http://www.cgumdillsburg.org)

[Addressee]  
 [Street Address]  
 [City, ST ZIP Code]