

September 2021



The Perry Scope

Perry Hall United Methodist Church Newsletter
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A Message from The Pastor



So, how are you doing today?

The past two years of the pandemic has led to an increasing number of persons struggling with anxiety, depression, and other mental health issues. The pandemic has also caused many to struggle spiritually and perhaps even question their faith. The pandemic has increased our concern about our finances, health, and many other areas of our life where we once felt secure.

The pandemic has impacted everyone's life to some degree. So much so that we have begun to speak of it as "the new normal".

I believe though that in Jesus we find hope that goes beyond whatever we might perceive as the "new normal". Hope that reminds of these words "Behold, I am making all things new" (Revelation 21:5). It is this hope that I believe will see us through to the other side.

So, remember even in the most uncertain times – God is at work in us, through us and all around us to offer the world hope. May that hope bring you peace today.

Peace!

Pastor Vic



Schedule Change!!

On September 5th we will be moving the start of church to 9:30 am. Sunday school will be held concurrently to church. Coffee hour will follow the church service. We are still in conversation as to when we might add a second service to the schedule and what time that will be.



Welcome Back!

WE CAN'T WAIT to see you in class again!
 Sunday School has changed a little this year.

Students will go to church with their parents at 9:30 and worship with their families for the first 15 minutes of the service.

At 9:45, students will be led downstairs to their classrooms.

Sunday School will begin at 9:45 and end at 10:45. Parents can catch up with friends during Coffee Hour from 10:30 -10:45 a.m. – and then pick up their children in their Sunday School Classrooms at that time.

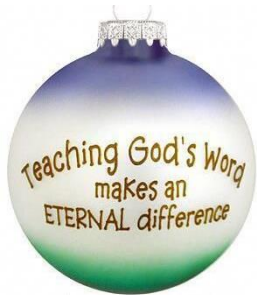
We are SO looking forward to being together again to learn more about Jesus!

SEE YOU ON SEPTEMBER 12th!



Thank you, Noel !

After many years of her commitment to beginning our little ones on their Faith journey, Noel Knepper is stepping down from her role as our Pre k/Kindergarten teacher. We will miss you Noel, and thank you dearly for your tremendous dedication and the loving, nurturing care you gave to our children while teaching them about Jesus They (and we) were very blessed to have you as their teacher. May God bless you always, Noel.



**We need
 YOUR help!
 We are
 looking for:**



- Substitute Teachers
- Helpers to lead Children to their Classrooms at 9:45 (on a rotation basis)
- Pre-K/Kindergarten Teacher (potential need – no students in this class now)

If you can help fill this need to guide our children in their faith, please contact Joyce Ziegler. THANK YOU!



**It's
 SHOE BOX
 time again!**

Our PHUMC Sunday School will again lead the church in collecting shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

More information will follow a little later into the Fall, but remember:

- Shop for School Supplies for your OCC boxes NOW! Children in many countries cannot attend school without supplies. And it's a GREAT time to catch back-to-school sales and clearance sales once school starts!
- You can learn everything you need to know now at the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child website:
<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>
- OCC Shoeboxes are requested at PHUMC anytime before Nov. 21, when Pastor Vic will bless our shoeboxes and we will send them on their way.

Who's Hungry?



IT'S SPAGHETTI TIME!

Saturday, September 18th

3-6 pm or until sold out!

Carry out ONLY!!

\$10 per meal

Meal includes:

- Large portion of spaghetti and meatballs
- Tossed Salad w/dressing
- Bread w/margarine
- Dessert
- Canned beverage or water
- Utensils

A complete meal! Just take it home and enjoy!

You can pre-order by calling the church office at 410-256-6479, or call Denise at 443-787-8687.

We are looking for a limited number of works for both Friday, the 17th and Saturday, the 18th. Anyone interested in helping prepare and service the carryout meal, please contact Denise ASAP.



Covid News

Currently masks are not required for fully vaccinated people but are recommended. Hand sanitizer is available.

A modified communion service will allow us to be able to not use the small, prepackaged cups and wafer – however they will still be available for those who choose to use them.

Please if you are feeling sick or have been exposed to covid – stay home. We will continue to post the service online after church.

We will continue to follow the recommended guidelines from health officials. If the numbers continue to spike we may need to reinstate some restrictions.

10,000 REASONS

HOW THANKFUL ARE WE ??? We are reminded in the popular Christian contemporary song, “Bless the Lord, Oh My Soul” that there are “10,000 reason for my heart to find” - - - that is, to be thankful and bless our Lord.

Can we at PHUMC accept that challenge?

As we approach November and the season for giving thanks, our Sunday School classes will be leading the church as we count our blessings - LITERALLY! Sometimes our busy lives don't allow us to really think about just how many things we are blessed with, things we take for granted or never give thanks for. It can be something as simple as “trees” and “birds” to specific blessings like “my Aunt Carol” and “the 12th Infantry I served in.” Our hope is for folks to really think of the things for which they are thankful and compile that list.

Our “10,000 Reasons” kickoff will be held on Sunday, October 31st when we will share our challenge with the congregation and for the first time sing “Bless the Lord, Oh My Soul”.

Beginning on that first week until Sunday, November 21st, families and individuals can bring the list they've compiled of things for which they are thankful to church. There will be a basket by the sanctuary doors in the narthex where they can put their list. At the beginning of the service, one of our Sunday School classes will bring the basket of reasons up to the altar.

If the list is private, its owner can just write the number on the front and staple it. No one will read it. Those lists not private can also be totaled (Thank You!) to help the Sunday School to tally the reasons. If not, we can total it, for sure!

Sunday School classes will tally the lists each week to see just how many blessings for which we are thankful until the last Sunday before Thanksgiving (which will also be the Sunday we dedicate the OCC shoeboxes going to many who have so much less to be thankful for.)

Each week, a total “Blessings” email will be sent out via mass church email, along with a reminder to those who have yet to bring in their list. And then hopefully, and prayerfully, our list of blessings from God will total much more than 10,000!

