



From the Pastor's Desk...

By Pastor Quentin Wallace

Hold On No Matter What



I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you. I will uphold you with My righteous right hand. (Isaiah 41:10)

Whatever the circumstances, whatever the call, whatever the duty, whatever the price, whatever the sacrifice—God's strength will be your strength in your hour of need.

- Billy Graham

As I was reflecting on my daily meditation from the "God's Promises" inspirational calendar, the two passages above stood out for me, and I must share my thoughts with you, my Covenant family. As we approach the end of summer and the onset of fall, many of us may be experiencing some uncertainty as to what will happen in the future with the virus. What will happen with the economy? What will happen with so many aspects of our lives?

In the midst of this uncertainty, we must move forward as we hold on to what we know is sure and steady. For example, I have always lived in a two-story home and have grown accustomed to using stairs. As a child I used to run up and down the steps, and I'd even skip a few without worrying about falling, never considering holding onto the handrail. And this was my practice for many years, until a few years ago when I slipped on the carpeted stairs and broke a toe. Now whenever I approach the stairs, muscle memory kicks in and I reach for the handrail. No longer do I run up and down the steps. I have learned to hold on to the rail for stability. We must learn to hold on to what is steady, tried, and proven.

In the Isaiah passage above, the prophet by the same name says that the Lord is our help and is our support and strength all the time, and especially during the tough times. In Isaiah, Chapter 40, the prophet speaks of the Lord as being a re-newer of our strength and a provider of durability. Do you feel as if you need extra strength? Are you feeling low spiritual energy? Perhaps you need the spiritual Geritol that the Holy Spirit gives.

The late renowned evangelist Billy Graham gave the above quote about God's strength in the time of need or low spiritual energy. If we were to sum up Graham's sermons, we would discover, that although his words were delivered differently or used different scriptural references and titles, his message was always the same.

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Sidelights

COVENANT'S VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

Our Vision Statement: **Bringing Christ's Light into the Community and Beyond.**

Our Mission Statement: **We Invite, We Welcome, We Nurture, We Serve.**

Pastor Quentin's theme for 2021 is **Becoming More Like Christ.**

Please be in prayer for Covenant Church.

WAYS TO CONTINUE GIVING

Thank you to our faithful members who continue to support Covenant Church. Here are options for you to give your personal tithes and offerings:

- Mail checks to 110 N. Mulberry St., Lancaster, PA, 17603
- Place offerings in the basket during our drive-in services on Sunday morning.
- Give online. Go to our website www.covenant-umc.com and click on the GIVING link and follow the directions.
- Text 717-769-1063. After the initial setup, giving is easy.

Please call the church office with questions.

Sidelights

PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer request, please call Patti Willard at 717-872-7561. If she is unavailable, please leave a message. Also, if you are interested in being a member of the Prayer Chain, please contact her to add your name to the list.

HOSPITAL VISITATION

Don't forget to notify the church office when you or a loved one is in the hospital. Our Care Team is available to visit and share prayer.

UPPER ROOM

You can purchase the Upper Room daily devotional for only \$1. We have regular and large print in the office.

LOBBY GREETERS

1st Sunday of the Month
Tina Butler

2nd Sunday of the Month
Youth

3rd Sunday of the Month
Mary Lou Hill

4th Sunday of the Month
Phil & Cindy Biechler

5th Sunday of the Month
Cathy Boyd
Bobbie Schwan

We Worship Together

Sunday Worship

Until further notice, in-person worship will be held each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. The service will also be livestreamed on Facebook for those who wish to worship at home.

Additional Online Opportunities During the Week

- Returning in September—Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. on Facebook Live, Pastor Quentin will bring words of encouragement.
- Wednesday at 10 a.m. and Friday at 6 a.m. join our conference prayer call at 605-313-5107 (202700#).

Church Service Survey

Since the COVID 19 pandemic hit, we've had to close and reopen the church two times, had to worship on line, and then were able to gather in person with limited attendance, all to maintain safety. Because the pandemic created uncertainty, and because worship numbers in the summer are typically lower due to vacations, we decided to continue with one combined worship service throughout the summer as a temporary measure. Because our attendance numbers have been less this summer than in the past, we need your input to determine how best to meet your worship needs for September. **There is a survey on the back page which you can cut out, fill in, and bring in to the church office.** The survey can also be completed on Sunday morning via the morning bulletin or by finding the survey at the desk in the lobby. The results of this survey will help us plan for the fall season.

The Pandemic, What Remains

It has been the tradition to open the clergy sessions of annual conference each year with Charles Wesley's hymn, "And Are We Yet Alive." The first verse says: "And are we yet alive and see each others face? Glory and thanks to Jesus give for his almighty grace!" Those words came to mind as I returned to the sanctuary for worship the first Sunday after the COVID-19 pandemic quarantine. The last verse of the hymn says, "Let us take up the cross till we the crown obtain, and gladly reckon all things loss so we may Jesus gain."

Because of the corona virus, some things will change and some things will remain the same. We have yet to learn what will change and what will remain the same. We have learned new ways to communicate. We have learned the value of close personal relationships. Surely, the list will grow.

There is one ministry of the church that shall remain. We will find new ways to communicate the fact that "God so loved the world." That "we love because he first loved us." That we are called to "love one another." The purpose of the United Methodist Church is to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Yes the ministry is EVANGELISM – making disciples of Jesus Christ. Since "Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever," our ministry remains. The ways we do evangelism may change, but the goal is the same.

- Rev. Dr. D. Guy Carrigan

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That is, in this world of ours today we're going to experience setbacks, problems, stumbles, and falls. However, we don't have to be insecure, because the answer is and always has been Jesus Christ. Christ is the handrail that will always be steady. In tough times and good times hold on to the handrail that our God has provided.

As we approach the end of summer and the beginning of fall, be certain that the rail we hold on to will support us and keep us from falling even if we stumble. I'd like to conclude with the lyrics to the song written by Jennie Wilson entitled "Hold to God's Unchanging Hand."

*Time is filled with swift transition.
Naught of earth unmoved can stand.
Build your hopes on things eternal.
Hold to God's Unchanging Hand.*

SAVE THE DATE!

Church Picnic

**Millersville Park
Sunday, September 19**

Details to follow.

Community Outreach Event

The Community Outreach Committee will be hosting a Back 2 Church/Back 2 School Event on Sunday, August 29, 2021 from 2:00 pm—4:00 pm in the parking lot as well as in Bethany Hall. We will have entertainment, food, face painting, balloons, and other fun games for all to enjoy! Come out and enjoy the day with your family and friends. Volunteers are still needed for this event. Please reach out to Cindy Hean and/or Denise Troop.

Church Office in Good Hands

During her first several months on the job, Covenant's new Administrative Assistant Sue Miltenberger has capably applied her office skills and previous work experience to addressing the tasks of the position. Her organizational, technological, and management skills have proved beneficial along with her ability to learn quickly. Sue graduated from Elizabethtown College, and she worked for several years in community service with individuals with disabilities. Commuting from her home in Wrightsville, Sue is in the church office from 8:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Monday through Friday. Thanks to Covenant staff and members who have helped orient her and have made her feel welcome.

Assisting Sue and our church office are four volunteer secretaries. Nancy Groff has been volunteering in this capacity for many years and currently does so on Monday and Thursday mornings. Joan Miller, who at one time worked as Covenant's church secretary, assists on Wednesday mornings. New to helping the church office are Cindy Hean on Tuesday mornings and Esther Mefferd on Friday mornings. Covenant is blessed to have these women who are willing to serve in this way.

Sidelights

NOTES OF THANKS

Sandy Leonard thanks everyone who called, sent cards, and offered prayers during her successful surgery and recovery. She feels truly blessed.

The Galen family would like to say THANK YOU to all of their church family for your love, support, and kindness over these last few weeks during such a difficult time.

90+ BIRTHDAYS August and September

Bob Moss, 95 on 8/10
Christianna Miller, 90 on 8/12

MOOS UPDATE

The MOOS program has been closed since the spring of 2020, but is looking to hopefully reopen for the new school year starting in August, 2021.

Because of the pandemic, we have not been able to do any fundraising activities. So we are looking to our church partners for support going forward. All donations will help to prepare financially for the reopening and are greatly appreciated. Donations should specify Covenant UM and the MOOS program on the check. Thanks in advance for your support.

Sidelights

GIFTS RECEIVED

In memory of **Georgi Galen**, gifts to the Noah Fund have been received from:

Cynthia Purdy	Grace Fisher
Carole Horn	Jennifer Engle
Joan Miller	Sandra Leonard
Barbara Petro	Jean Rarig
Ruth Neuman	Cynthia Smith
Nancy Groff	Lois Neidermyer
Kegel's Produce	Carol Zeszotarski
Virginia and Douglas Landis	
Janice and Michael Anderson	
James and Doris Work	
Thomas and Sharron Gilbert	
Ron and Chris Kimmich	
Bill and Nancy Grau	
Robert and Janet Galen	
Bonnie Henson Communications	
Rev. Sally and Bruce Ott	
Alvin and Emily Johnson	

In memory of **Aileen Longenecker**, gifts have been received from:

Ruth Neuman
James and Doris Work
Rev. Sally and Bruce Ott
Lois Neidermyer (Dolly Kepner Fund)

In memory of **Donald Bransby**, gifts to the Dolly Kepner Fund from Lois Neidermyer and Beth & Tony Wonski.

In memory of **Mary Jane Leighty** from Lois Neidermyer.

In memory of **Mae Meringer**, a gift to the Dolly Kepner Fund from Charles F. Snyder Funeral Home.

In memory of **Rev. C. Robert Landis**, a gift to Red Bird Mission from Joan Miller.

In honor of **Cindy Smith**, gifts to Red Bird Mission from Carole Horn, Joan Miller, and Lois Neidermyer.

**"FEAR NOT, FOR I AM
WITH YOU; BE NOT DISMAYED,
FOR I AM YOUR GOD; I
WILL STRENGTHEN YOU, I
WILL HELP YOU, I WILL
UPHOLD YOU WITH MY
RIGHTEOUS RIGHT HAND."
ISAIAH 41:10**

Covenant Members in Business

Aunt Sandy's Attic

Sandy Leonard
Antiques, Collectibles, Books, Art, etc.
545 W. Market Street, Marietta, PA 17547
717-426-5091

Conestoga Innovations Promotional Products

(for all your advertising needs)
Wanda Snyder, 1.800.759.8885 or
sales@conestoga-innovations.com

Dale Building Designs

Donald A. Dale, 872.4263
2086 New Danville Pike, Lanc., 17603
www.DonDaleDesigns.com

Groffs Family Funeral

& Cremation Services, Inc.
Thomas S. Buter, 394.5300
528 W. Orange St.

Interiors by Kristen

Kristen Stemmer, 875.4014
2086 New Danville Pike, Lanc. 17603

JM Services

Jeff McGary
Interior & Light Exterior Painting,
Handyman
717.330.9616 or jcmcgary@comcast.net

Kresge Computer Consultation

Roger Kresge, 299.4613 or
rkresge123@comcast.net

Miller Optical

Glenn & Maryanne Miller, 393.2020
Glasses, Contacts, and Exams
Lancaster & Willow Street

Richard B. MacDonald

Attorney at Law
312 W. Orange St., Lancaster
717.394.1508

Willard Hypnosis Center

Roger J. Willard
3304 Main Street, Conestoga PA 17516
717.872.7561 or willardhypnosis.com

Here's to Good Health!

ALZHEIMER'S...Know the Signs! Early Detection Matters

Alzheimer's disease is a progressive brain disease that disrupts memory and thinking, as well as reasoning skills. It may be difficult to tell the difference between age-related changes and the first signs of Alzheimer's disease. Here are 10 warning signs shared by the Alzheimer's Association.

Memory loss that disrupts daily life. In early stages a person needs to rely on memory aids like notes, electronic devices, or family for things they used to handle on their own. Asking for the same information over and over. Forgetting important dates of events.

Challenges in planning or solving problems. This person may have trouble following a familiar recipe or keeping track of monthly bills. They may have difficulty concentrating and take much longer to do things that they did before.

Difficulty completing familiar tasks. Someone with Alzheimer's may have trouble driving to a familiar location, organizing a grocery list, or remembering the rules of a favorite game.

Confusion with time or place. People living with Alzheimer's can lose track of dates, seasons, and the passage of time. They may have trouble understanding something if it is not happening immediately. Sometimes they forget where they are and how they got there.

Trouble understanding visual images or spatial relationships. Having vision problems is a sign of Alzheimer's. This may lead to difficulty with balance or trouble reading. They may also have problems judging distance and determine color or contrast, causing issues with driving.

New problems with words in speaking or writing. They may have trouble following or joining a conversation. They may stop in the middle of a conversation and have no idea how to continue or may repeat themselves. They may have trouble naming a familiar object or use the wrong name, like calling a watch a hand clock.

Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps. A person may put things in unusual places. They may lose things and be unable to go back over their steps to find them again. They may accuse others of stealing, especially as the disease progresses.

Decreased or poor judgement. They may use poor judgement when dealing with money or pay less attention to grooming or keeping themselves clean.

Withdrawing from work or social activities. They may experience changes in the ability to hold or follow a conversation. As a result they may withdraw from hobbies, social activities, or other engagements. They may have trouble keeping up with a favorite team or activity.

Changes in mood and personality. Persons can become confused, suspicious, depressed, fearful, or anxious. They may be easily upset at home, with friends, or when out of their comfort zone.

The Alzheimer's Association says that if you notice any of the warning signs in yourself or someone you know, don't ignore them! Consult your physician or visit alz.org/10signs for more information.

Please remember to keep washing your hands!!

Cindy Smith,
Wellness Coach

Sidelights

GROCERY CARDS

You can continue to support the Mission Outreach of Covenant by purchasing your grocery store gift cards through the mail. Please mail your check to Covenant UMC at 110 N Mulberry St 17603 with a note. We have \$50 Stauffer's cards; \$25 and \$50 Giant cards.

Please make your checks out to Covenant UMC. After receiving your check, we will mail your grocery store cards to your home.

KEEP YOURSELF IN THE "LOOP"

If you don't already receive the weekly "News to Go" via email, and if you don't receive Calling Post phone messages from Oklahoma City (It's really Pastor Quentin!), give your contact information to the church office.

FLOWERS

If you want to place a centerpiece or vase in memory or in honor of a loved one, the cost is \$28. Please contact the church office Monday-Friday, 8:30-2 at 717-393-1561.

TABS NO LONGER COLLECTED

Soda can tabs are no longer being collected. Please just recycle the entire can with the tabs intact. Thank you.

Covenant Welcomes New Music Staff

Upon hearing the news of Kyle and Bethany Zeuch's resignation from their positions as Chancel Choir Director and Accompanist respectively, the Staff Parish Relations Committee has been hard at work seeking to fill those vacancies. Job postings were listed, resumes were reviewed, phone conferences were held, and auditions were conducted. Ultimately, this months-long process led to the hiring of the following individuals. We are indeed blessed that the Lord has led them into service at Covenant Church, and we look forward to them sharing their talents as they express their commitment to Christ through music.



Larry Rappoldt, Director of Music

Covenant's new Director of Music is Larry Rappoldt. Larry earned degrees in music education from Gettysburg College and Wilkes University, as well as additional credits from West Chester University and St. Joseph's University. Since 1974 Larry has served as an organist for church services, recitals, and weddings. He has directed church choirs and various Christian vocal ensembles for 27 years.

For 32 years, Larry worked in the Coatesville Area School District where he taught band, orchestra, and music classes. During his tenure, the high school marching band was frequently recognized for their excellence, as was the Gordon Middle School band which he also directed. Larry also served as the district's Music Coordinator for 17 years.

Presently and for the past 12 years, Larry provides instrumental instruction for students at Conestoga Christian, Berks Christian, and West Mont Christian Academy. Recently he added the Music & Arts Center in Exton to his busy teaching schedule.

Larry and his wife Meg have been married for 40 years. They have two children—Laura, who is in her fourth year teaching, and Sarah, who is a senior at Kutztown University. Meg is a Human Resource Manager for the Devereux Foundation.

As Director of Music at Covenant, Larry will direct the Chancel Choir and oversee the entire music program of the church, a charge that he is obviously qualified to undertake. Larry will begin at Covenant on August 15. His first Chancel Choir rehearsal will be held on Wednesday, September 1, and the choir's first Sunday will be September 12.

Ruby Rublesky, Accompanist

Ruby Rublesky is a 2020 graduate of Millersville University with a BA in Piano Performance. During her time at Millersville, she had extensive experience in accompanying vocal and instrumental soloists, as well as vocal and instrumental ensembles. Since 2019, Ruby has worked for the Oxford Arts Alliance where she serves as an accompanist, a private piano instructor, and a music theory and composition teacher. Prior to her affiliation with the Oxford Arts Alliance, Ruby served as a private music instructor at Creative Pursuits Studio and Cavod Academy of the Arts.

Ruby grew up in a musical Christian family including six children. She started playing piano at age six and started her own music lesson business when she was just sixteen years old. She has been playing and teaching ever since. Ruby's primary responsibilities at Covenant include accompanying the Chancel Choir and providing accompaniment for special music throughout the year.



August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Holy Communion 8:45a Adult, Children & Yout 10a Worship & FaceBook L	2 7p Narcotics Anonymous	3 6p Opera Lancaster Board	4 10a Conference Call Prayer 11a Staff Meeting	5	6 6a Conference Call Prayer (7 8:30a Care and Share Breal
8 8:45a Adult, Children & Yout 10a Worship & FaceBook L	9 7p Narcotics Anonymous 7p Worship Meeting	10 7p Church Council	11 10a Conference Call Prayer 11a Staff Meeting	12 4:30p Shalom Partnership I	13 6a Conference Call Prayer (14
15 8:45a Adult, Children & Yout 10a Worship & FaceBook L	16 8a Community Table 7p Narcotics Anonymous	17 7p Trustee Board	18 10a Conference Call Prayer 11a Staff Meeting	19	20 6a Conference Call Prayer (21 9a IMPACT! Missions Workc
22 8:45a Adult, Children & Yout 10a Worship & FaceBook L 1p Penn Square Music Fest	23 7p Narcotics Anonymous	24	25 10a Conference Call Prayer 11a Staff Meeting	26	27 6a Conference Call Prayer (28
29 8:45a Adult, Children & Yout 10a Worship & FaceBook L	30 7p Narcotics Anonymous	31	1 10a Conference Call Prayer 11a Staff Meeting	2	3	4

September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1 10a Conference Call Prayer 11a Staff Meeting	2	3 6a Conference Call Prayer (4 8:30a Care and Share Breal
5 Holy Communion 8:45a Adult, Children & Yout 10a Worship & FaceBook L	6 7p Narcotics Anonymous	7 6p Opera Lancaster Board	8 10a Conference Call Prayer 11a Staff Meeting	9 4:30p Shalom Partnership I	10 6a Conference Call Prayer (11
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26 Covenant Anniversary 8:45a Adult, Children & Yout 10a Worship & FaceBook L	27 7p Narcotics Anonymous	28	29 10a Conference Call Prayer 11a Staff Meeting	30	1 6a Conference Call Prayer (2

COVENANT

United Methodist Church

110 North Mulberry Street

Lancaster, PA 17603-3507

Office Telephone: 717.393.1561

Senior Pastor's Phone: 610-334-3440

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Church Staff

The Reverend Dr. Quentin E. Wallace, Senior Pastor

The Reverend Sally Ott, Visitation & Witness

The Reverend Dr. Guy Carrigan, Dir. of Evangelism

Sara Petersen, Dir. Children & Youth Ministry

Jeffrey McGary, Echoes Editor

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Web Page...<http://www.covenant-umc.com>

Church Service Survey

Place a check mark next to the statement that best describes your worship needs. Completed surveys can be returned to the church office.

☐ I enjoy traditional worship only.

☐ I enjoy contemporary worship only.

☐ I enjoy blended worship with both traditional and contemporary features.

Survey runs until August 6.

Covenant United Methodist Church
110 N. Mulberry St.
Lancaster, PA 17603-3507
Return Service Requested