

# ECHOES

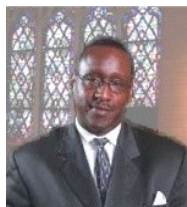
COVENANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

June, 2018

Issue 63, Number 6

## AWAKE and ENGAGED: Save Our Children

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by Pastor Quentin Wallace

*A young man named Eutychus was sitting in the window. As Paul continued talking, Eutychus was falling into a deep sleep. Finally, he went sound asleep and*

*fell to the ground from the third floor. (Acts 20: 9 NCV)*

Sunday, June 10th, is Children's Day, and we want to recognize that God gives us children not only for our blessing, but to teach them by example to bless God, and to be a part of the church's mission and contribute to its growth and ministries. It is the task of all believers from the pulpit and throughout the church to keep our children AWAKE and ENGAGED through worship, Sunday school, Bible Study, children's ministries, VBS, youth programs, and music ministries to name a few. We don't want any of our children to fall asleep on our watch, while we are busy building the kingdom for Christ.

I read an article recently that informs us of the difficulty we may confront in reaching young adults and children for Christ. David Masci from the Pew Research Center composed an article entitled, "Why Millennials are Less Religious than Older Americans," and he goes on to describe how young people (churched and unchurched) are detaching from organized religion and why in the following words:

*Many Millennials have parents who are Baby Boomers, and Boomers have expressed to their children that it's important to think for themselves-that they find their own moral compass. Also, they rejected the idea that a good kid is an obedient kid. That's at odds with organizations, like churches, that have a long tradition of official teaching and obedience. And more than any other group, Millennials have been and are still being formed in this cultural context. As a result, they are more likely to have a "do-it-yourself" attitude toward religion.*

Masci gleaned his information from Michael Hout, Professor of Sociology at New York University, which has studied generational and religious changes in the United States for the past 100 years. Hout highlights that Millennials, persons born between 1981 and 1996, have a lack of trust for formerly viewed reputable institutions like the press, government, and the church. According to Hout, in preparing their children (Millennials) for the world, Boomers provided their offspring with three things, to think for themselves and not to simply follow the status quo, determine one's own standard of right and wrong, and finally discard the concept that good equals obedience. Because the church teaches obedience and presents a biblical moral standard, this places free-thinking Millennials in opposition to the church. Subsequently this has led to a decline in Millennials participating in church due to distrust.

Based on widely publicized scandals in the institutions of government and church where trusted leaders have breached the trust of those who believed in their integrity, these suspicions are not without some merit.

After a twenty-year study, Hout surmises there will not be an immediate turnaround in these concerns of distrust toward church. In the past, it was not uncommon for young people to take a hiatus from church during their college years. However once they married and began families they returned to church so their kids may have a Christian upbringing. Sadly, that phenomenon has changed due to wariness. Social issues such as gay marriage and abortion stances by the church, to name a few, create a point of contention for liberal Millennials who question conservative practices, traditions, and moral rubrics of the church. Keep in mind that Millennials were taught to establish their own moral standards, so in response to their own conscience many claim no religious affiliation at all.

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# Short & Sweet

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## **SEXTON NEEDED**

After 18 years of dedicated and faithful service as sexton of Covenant Church, Vickie Leman has resigned her position as of June 1, 2018. Vickie is planning to serve as the Sunday Volunteer Secretary as she is needed.

Because of Vickie's resignation, the Staff Parish Relations Committee is seeking to hire her replacement. This is a part time position. The responsibilities include opening the church and locking after the Sunday morning services, opening the church for week day evening meetings, and being on call for special events like weddings and funerals. This is an opportunity for a person who enjoys meeting and interacting with people to serve their fellow members and Covenant Church. For more information please contact Greg Smith or Joan Miller.

## **LET'S REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**

The Care Team wants to remember our Covenant shut-ins all throughout the year, not just at Christmas time. Therefore, a shut-in address list, with birthdays listed, will be available to pick up in the Gathering Area at any time. Drop a note or send a card to those members who are no longer able to attend church. This will help to brighten their day.

## **MEAL COORDINATORS NEEDED**

We are still looking for a new person or persons to assume the role of coordinator for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner at Covenant. It is our desire to continue this long standing ministry to our community. If you feel called to serve or would like more information about the role and responsibilities of the job, contact former coordinators Sue Kresge, Greg Smith, or Kathy Smith.

## **BOEHM'S CHAPEL TO CELEBRATE "HERITAGE SUNDAY"**

Boehm's Chapel Society's annual 'Heritage Sunday' will be held June 24th, beginning at 4:00 p.m., in the historic 1791 chapel located at 13 West Boehms Road, Willow Street.

A brief business program will segue directly into the worship program, featuring Anne Brockley, historian of Otterbein UMC, Lancaster, as guest speaker. Brockley will present a twenty-minute PowerPoint program on the history of the Otterbein congregation, established in 1904 as a mission of Covenant Church. The program is based on her anniversary book, "Otterbein Church -110 Years of History and Service." Limited copies of the book will be available after the worship program. At the conclusion of the worship section of the program, light refreshments will be available on the porch of The Tying Shed.

## **CATCH A BARNSTORMERS GAME...**

And support IMPACT! Missions at the same time. It's IMPACT! Missions Family and Friends Night Out with the Lancaster Barnstormers on Saturday, June 23. Plus, get a real bang out of the fireworks show after the game. Gates open at 5:30 PM, with the first pitch at 6:30 PM. Tickets are \$12.50, and \$4.00 goes to IMPACT! Missions for every ticket you buy. But you must use the code "18impact" when you purchase your tickets, either online, by phone, or at the gate. To purchase tickets online, go to [www.lancasterbarnstormers.com/ticket-pricing/](http://www.lancasterbarnstormers.com/ticket-pricing/), or call 717-358-9859. IMPACT! Missions is a local faith-based housing ministry supported by your gifts and many Covenant volunteers.

## **SUMMER MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST**

The Saturday men's breakfast will continue during the summer at the Oregon Dairy Restaurant, 2900 Oregon Pike, on the fourth Saturday of each month at 7:30 AM. The dates are:

- Saturday, June 23
- Saturday, July 28
- Saturday, August 25

The purpose of the breakfast is to share with men of the congregation in a way that we don't by simply seeing each other in morning worship. Men need fellowship with men. Here is your opportunity to do just that. We will have breakfast together, each one responsible for their breakfast. There will be some inspirational thoughts from the Bible, some personal sharing, and prayer together. We begin promptly at 7:30 and conclude precisely at 8:30 AM. Please follow the weekly notes in our worship folder for update information regarding each month's meeting!

## **COVENANT BELLS**

The Covenant bells will be ringing again this fall but not without your help! For anyone interested, there will be a short meeting on Sunday June 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 in the chapel/library. If you are unable to make the meeting but are interested in ringing, please email me @ [handeringram@comcast.net](mailto:handeringram@comcast.net). Looking forward to making a joyful noise to the Lord this fall!

# We Worship Together

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## June 10, 2018— 3rd Sunday After Pentecost

### Children's Day

**Contemporary Worship (9:00) and Traditional Worship (10:20):** Pastor Wallace will bring the message during both worship services. The Chancel Choir will sing at the 10:20 a.m. service. This is the last Sunday for the Chancel Choir to sing with Bill Kepner directing.

## June 17, 2018— 4th Sunday After Pentecost

### Father's Day

**Contemporary Worship (9:00) and Traditional Worship (10:20):** Minister Brenda Wallace will deliver the message at both the 9:00 a.m. & 10:20 a.m. services. Special music during the 10:20 service will be provided by a men's quartet.

## June 24, 2018—5th Sunday After Pentecost

**Contemporary Worship (9:00) and Traditional Worship (10:20):** Pastor Don Zechman will preach during both worship services. John Hamilton, violin, will offer special music at the 10:20 a.m. service. Please join the SPRC in honoring Vickie Leman, Sue Kresge and Pastor Don for their many years of faithful service. Refreshments will be served in the Gathering Area after each service.

## July 1, 2018— 6th Sunday after Pentecost

### Holy Communion

**Contemporary Worship (9:00) and Traditional Worship (10:20):** Pastor Wallace will offer the message at the 9:00 a.m. service. Holy Communion will be observed. During the 10:20 a.m. service, Tony Seyfert, trumpet, will provide special music.

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Surprisingly, Millennials do believe in Heaven and Hell, and consider themselves to be spiritual but not religious. Because of this belief, many seek God in other places like walking in the woods or spending time out in nature creating a Do-It-Yourself religion.

While this is happening in the world and may sound hopeless to us, it is not. Churches across every denomination are experiencing the same phenomenon. To contradict Hout, many children who grew up in church do continue going to church even though they may not attend their home churches. My purpose for composing this article is to gain needed support for children, youth, and young adult ministries for both church and un-church people.

In Acts 20 we find a young man in worship who fell asleep and eventually fell out of a window during worship. Although Paul stopped preaching, went down, and revived the young man, the question is, "How did the young man fall asleep in the midst of worship?" Was it boring? Why was he in the window? Were the older members not watching as he was dozing off? Was Paul, the preacher, so engaged in his message and pleasing the older listeners

that he didn't notice what was occurring with the young man?

After reviewing the article on Millennials above and Acts 20, I ask, "Are our children or young people falling asleep for the things of God as they encounter this secular culture?" If so, how can we help them stay awake and engaged? Jesus said, "Suffer the children to come to me." The Bible says, "Start children off on the way that they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." We are currently brainstorming ways to keep our children engaged, as well as ways to attract others with no faith background at all.

Besides the ministries we have in place, we are seeking your assistance with reviewing current programs and in creating future programs. Parents and Christian families are the key resources for teaching our children and children of the community about God in order to build and renew their trust in church.

At Covenant, no child will doze off and fall out the window on our watch.

# Volunteers for June

## June 3

**Anchorite:** 10:20 - Janice McElroy

**Hallway Greeter:** 10:20 - Ruth Neuman

**Lobby Greeters:** 8:40 - Faye Zechman

10:00 - Lori Brown & Tina Butler

## June 10

**Anchorite:** 10:20 - Carol Brower

**Hallway Greeters:** 10:20 - Bill & Nancy

Grau

**Lobby Greeters:** 8:40 - Cindy & Bob Hean

10:00 - Youth

## June 17

**Anchorite:** 10:20 - Denise Troop

**Hallway Greeters:** 10:20 - Lou & Linda

Henning

**Lobby Greeters:** 8:40 - Mary Lou Hill;

10:00 - Sandy & Guy Carrigan

## June 24

**Anchorite:** 10:20 - Corey Dick

**Hallway Greeters:** 10:20 - Merle & Nancy

Groff

**Lobby Greeters:** 8:40 - TBD; 10:00 - Janice

& Harold Ulmer

## JUNE USHERS

Head Usher will recruit each Sunday's ushers.

June 3: Dave Beznoska

June 10: Don Dale

June 17: Dave Beznoska

June 24: Dave Beznoska

# Covenant Members in Business



## **Conestoga Innovations Promotional Products** (for all your advertising needs)

Wanda Snyder, 1.800.759.8885 or  
sales@conestoga-innovations.com

## **CTC Lollipop Company**

414 N. Pine Street, 717.509.5916  
Tues.-Fri. 11am-7pm; Sat. 9am-2pm

## **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 and Brad McGary  
Interior & Light Exterior Painting,  
Handyman, and Junk Removal  
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

## **Steve's Automotive Technology**

Steve Sultan  
PA Safety and Emission Inspections  
1027 Dillersville Rd #16  
666.3646

## **Willard Hypnosis Center**

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

# Mount Gretna Bible Festival



## **Tabernacle Ecumenical Worship Services**

All services begin at 7:00 p.m.

**Friday, June 1:** "God Is Surprising" —  
Pastor Jim Goudie

**Friday, June 8:** "God Is Looking For Exorcists" —Rev. Dr. Stephen McKinney-Whitaker

**Friday, June 15:** "God Is Full of Grace and Truth" —Pastor John Ludwig, Jr.

**Friday, June 22:** "God Is in Control" —  
Pastor Brian Messler

**Friday, June 29:** "God Is, Therefore We Are" —Rev. Holly Millershank

## **Summer at the Tabernacle**

All events begin at 7:00 p.m.

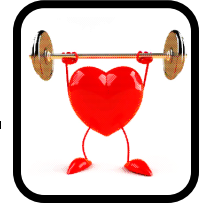
**Sunday, June 10:** Lancaster Mennonite Children's Choir

**Sunday, June 17:** Andy Roberts and the Jazz Quartet

**Sunday, June 24:** Silver, Wood and Ivory (Flute and piano duo)



# Here's to Good Health



## Summer Safety Checklist

### Sun Safety

- ◆ Wear sunscreen
- ◆ Wear a hat and sunglasses
- ◆ Stay in the shade if you get too hot
- ◆ Drink plenty of water
- ◆ Only dive off pool diving board
- ◆ Swim where you can be seen by lifeguard
- ◆ Face waves instead of turning back to them

### Insect Safety

(especially camping and hiking)

- ◆ Use bug spray
- ◆ Wear clothes that cover arms and legs
- ◆ Shower and check your whole body for ticks

### Water Safety

- ◆ Swim with a buddy
- ◆ Try not to swallow water

### Food Safety

- ◆ Wash hands before and after eating
- ◆ Eat lots of fruits and veggies
- ◆ Keep cold food cold and hot food hot

### Grilling Safety

- ◆ Always grill outside in a well ventilated area
- ◆ Keep grill stable to avoid tipping
- ◆ Use long handled utensils
- ◆ Wear safe clothing, no loose

hanging shirt tails

- ◆ Be ready to extinguish flames, use baking soda to control a grease fire
- ◆ Never move a hot grill

### Driving Safety

- ◆ Always buckle up
- ◆ Don't drive distracted by other passengers, cell phones, radio etc. Stay focused
- ◆ Don't drink and drive
- ◆ Never leave children or pets in a hot car
- ◆ Carry a first aid kit

Have a Happy and Safe Summer!

Cindy Smith, Wellness Coach

## TRASH TO TREASURE



### Our "Shipwrecked" Vacation Bible School needs your help!

Please considering collecting and donating the following "trash" items to our VBS Program.

We will collect the following items until July 1st: empty toilet paper rolls, empty paper towel rolls, empty gift wrap rolls, empty gallon jugs, paper grocery bags, newspaper, wire hangers, empty 16 oz. water bottles, boxes (all shapes and sizes), packing materials (craft paper and bubble wrap), and leftover paint (tans, browns, greens, purples). Thank you.

## WARMED HEART EVANGELISM

When John Wesley "felt his heart strangely warmed" he had what I call a religious experience. It was a moment when God spoke to his heart through the writing of Martin Luther and St. Paul who wrote the letter to the Romans. Many are the times when God uses a person who is close to Him to reach another person. Think of the persons through whom God has spoken to you. The Holy Spirit brings the warmth and passion of a warmed heart to assure you of God's love. God will bring other person into your life to share your faith. May His love move you to speak to others of that love of God in Jesus Christ. That is evangelism.

What are you doing to bring the warmth of God's love to others? Ask God to lead you to a person whom you can invite to worship this week. Ask God to make it easy for you to speak of your faith in Jesus Christ to one other person this month! That is evangelism! Please share your experiences with Pastor Guy, Director of Evangelism.

## Church Library Update

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If you need some light reading for vacation or just sitting out on your porch or even enjoying the air conditioning at home, check out the fiction books on the wall bookshelves or the Guidepost Series on the free standing bookcase.

Do you want a non-fiction work? You can find a great selection on the middle section of the wall bookshelves.

Maybe your Sunday School Class or Share Group needs a new study. You can find a list of Bible study books we have along with a list of topic studies. These books and lists can be found in the lower cabinets of the wall bookshelves. You will also find study books on the shelves of the floor to ceiling wall bookcase. On those shelves you can find books of some favorite authors.

Need Bibles, hymnals, a commentary or reference book? Check out what is available on the shelves of the free stand bookcase in the front of the room. Children and youth books can be found on the free standing bookcase in the back of the room.

All these books can be taken out for any length of time. Just sign out whatever books you take in the notebook on the counter. When you are done with the books you have taken, please return them to the return basket on the counter. Happy reading and studying!

## Thanks...

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**Flo Wyland** thanks Cindy Smith for supporting her during her recent hospital visit.

Recently **Dick Galen** was given a drawing from a man that has long attended the Food Providers meal at Grace Lutheran Church. Dick shares the poignant picture with Covenant. You will find it printed on the back of the church calendar.

## Youth News

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### Youth Car Wash Fundraiser

Unfortunately we postponed our car wash based on the forecasted weather. It turned out to be a beautiful day. We will be rescheduling, so don't wash your cars too often. We will let you know the new date.

### Summer Camps at Mt. Gretna

We are blessed at Covenant that our youth have the opportunity to attend Summer Camps. There are scholarships available through Gretna Glen in addition to funds from the church to help those with financial needs. There are brochures at the church if you need additional information.

### Second Sunday Greeters for 10:20 Service

Please look for the youth on second Sundays as they serve as greeters in the lobby. They appreciate your encouragement.

### Save the date - July 22-26 is VBS!

The theme is "SHIPWRECKED". We will be having a youth class this year. Please encourage young people to register for this amazing opportunity to get better anchored with the Lord. Registration begins June 1st. You can register on-line at [covenant-umc.com](http://covenant-umc.com).

Children and youth are the future of our church. We are seeking to invite neighborhood children, in addition to the children and grandchildren of our church members. Min. Santa is excited about making phone calls and extending personal invitations. Do you know of any young people that we can invite? Send Min. Santa their contact information and she will reach out and invite them to attend our youth programs.

### Upcoming Events

The youth will be attending an ESCAPE ROOM EXPERIENCE, A SATURDAY AT KNOEBELS, AND AN EVERYBODY'S BIRTHDAY EXPERIENCE, in the next couple of weeks. Please pray for our safety and that we may have fun and continue to grow in faith, love, fellowship, and numbers. Also, please continue to pray for all the church members working with the children and youth. We are facing a spiritual battle for the souls of the young people in this city and nation. Please pray for us as we seek to provide a place where young people can thrive spiritually and emotionally.

# MANIFEST Urban Alliance Formed

On Friday, May 18, seven local UM congregations and LUMINA made a covenant together to become joined in a formal urban alliance, under the guidance of Rev. Will Brawner and Dr. Anita Powell of the Urban Commission of the Eastern PA Conference of the United Methodist Church. Members of this newly formed body are:

Christ, Covenant, First, Grandview, New Creation, Otterbein, and Ross Street United Methodist Churches, along with LUMINA. They signed a letter of understanding with the Urban Commission, who granted us \$6,100 to begin our work. They then sealed their commitment to each other in a simple celebration of the Lord's Supper.



They have learned that affordable housing and a deteriorating sense of community is a problem in Lancaster, a city of over 59,000 people. The poverty rate here is nearly 30%, with some neighborhoods over 50%. Slumlords keep the poorer neighborhoods in continual chaos by outbidding low income families who want to buy a home at a manageable price. These absent landlords overcharge rent, fail to keep up with maintenance, and change tenants repeatedly. Home ownership, which could stabilize a neighborhood, is 43%, less than the national average of 63.9%.

The new alliance has chosen the name Manifest, because we are responding to a call to manifest God's love and presence in a specific neighborhood in one of the poorest sections of the city. (Manifest also means Methodist Alliance for Neighborhood Invigoration: Faithfully Embodying the Spirit Together!) Together we are actually adopting a residential block, and partnering with the Christian housing ministry IMPACT! Missions to renovate a blighted property on that block.



For years, 112 New Dorwart Street has stood vacant and vulnerable to criminal activity. IMPACT! Missions now owns the house and provides insurance, a work plan, and staff to lead in the demolition and rebuilding. Manifest will work to raise up volunteers for the work crews and neighborhood involvement teams, and we will encourage our congregants and supporters to donate funds to help pay for supplies.

LUMINA has been chosen as the clearinghouse/coordinator for all volunteer personnel and funds; as Executive Director of LUMINA, Correen Russo has been appointed the administrator and chief communicator for Manifest. The completed house will be sold at a low to middle income price, with incentives to attract first time buyers who earn no more than twice the national poverty rate. The family will receive training on home ownership and maintenance. Deed restrictions will keep the house owned and affordable, to help add stability to the neighborhood. With this project, together we will not only rebuild a house, but also rebuild trust and relationships and begin the resurrection of community. The new ministry was announced in all of the churches on Sunday June 3.

## YOU'RE INVITED!

The Dedication day will be celebrated with a block party in the 100 block of New Dorwart Street on Sunday, June 24, from 3-6 p.m. We are planning an assortment of engaging activities and services to benefit the neighbors. We hope to have live musicians from our churches and a special prayer service from the front porch of the house.

# **Covenant UM Church**

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Lancaster, PA 17603-3507

Office Telephone: 717.393.1561

Senior Pastor's Phone: 610-334-3440

Office Hours: M, W, Th, 8:30-3:30; Tue., Fri., 8:30-Noon

## **Church Staff**

The Reverend Quentin E. Wallace, Senior Pastor

The Reverend Donald E. Zechman, Nurture & Worship

The Reverend Sally Ott, Visitation & Witness

Minister Santa Jenkins, Youth Director

The Reverend Dr. Guy Carrigan, Director of Evangelism

The Reverend Theodore C. Mefferd, Pastor Emeritus

The Reverend William Keeler, Pastor Emeritus

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