

ECHOES

COVENANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November, 2018

Issue 63, Number 10

Seasons Change



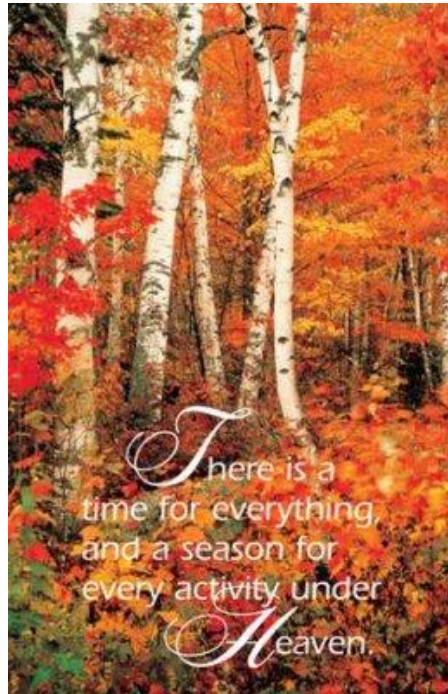
by Pastor
Quentin Wallace

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot. (Ecclesiastes 3:1-2)

When I was in grade school I hated to see the posting of Back-to-School signs in stores, because it marked the eroding of summer and the intrusion of fall. In my own silent protest to hold on to the summer, I would try to wear summer clothing until the temperature was absolutely too cool to continue doing so. Because seasons change, although I didn't want fall and winter to arrive, I couldn't stop it; ultimately I had to adapt.

In the Ecclesiastes passage above, wise King Solomon understood that our lives have seasons as well. In Pennsylvania we enjoy the four seasons: winter, spring, fall, and summer, and at each change we must adapt by modifying our dress, home temperature, and chores accordingly. For example, we put away the snow blower and bring out the lawn mower, or put away the rake as we retrieve the snow shovel, and we turn off the air conditioner and turn on the heat. Whether we like the changes or not we must adjust to the seasonal changes.

Then there are the lucky ones who migrate to a warmer climate until favorable conditions return. As I indicated earlier, I never liked the change from summer to fall, but I had to adjust and make the most of what I could not change.



Recently I officiated a memorial service, and the bereaved family requested that within the liturgy a time of remembrance be offered as an opportunity for family members and friends to share thoughts and memories publicly about the person being remembered. As I listened to their reflections, I ascertained that the deceased person had gone through seasons of life changes; from being young to a person becoming elderly;

being certain about some issues and later being not so certain; and holding one stance at one point in life and taking on another later.

This reminds me of the great change in Governor George C. Wallace of Alabama, who once espoused vitriolic speeches of hate to support his advocacy of racial segregation. One of Wallace's famous speeches included the words; "Segregation Now, Segregation Tomorrow, Segregation Forever." For years Wallace held this position; however, after being paralyzed from the waist down in an assassination attempt, his life changed and so did his stance on racial segregation. It was noted that Wallace met with John Lewis, a Black civil rights activist, to apologize, and later Wallace publicly addressed churches and groups of African Americans to show his change of heart. Eventually Wallace was re-elected Governor in the 1980s with the large support of Black voters whom he had marginalized.

In Philippians, Paul the Apostle contends that God is constantly changing us and evolving us to be more like Christ in tolerance and love of others. We are constantly being changed for the better for God's purpose. Be encouraged today and face each new season with hope while understanding that each season is good, and God has purpose for it. So let us embrace it as we trust that God knows what is best.

Short & Sweet

NOTES OF THANKS

Sandy Leonard sends the following: "Thank you to all for the prayers and continuing support during Randy's illness. He especially loved visits from the Care team and Pastor Wallace. He loved to talk, and they always made time to listen to him. We are truly blessed to have such a loving and caring church family. I pray God will continue to bless you and keep you in His care."

Amber Rieger sends this note: "A huge THANKS to everyone who sponsored a MOOS student this school year and for all other generous donations. If you missed the opportunity to sponsor a MOOS student or would like to give a general donation, then please consider sending in your contribution to the church office in the upcoming weeks. Checks can be made out to Covenant with "MOOS" in the memo line. Thanks again for supporting the ministry of MOOS. Blessings!"

MEMORIALS GIVEN

- In honor of Richard Galen to the Children's Ministry Fund from Lori and Stephen Fuchs
- In memory of Noah Lazo to the Children's Ministry Fund from Richard and Georgi Galen
- In memory of Robert Harnish to the Memorial Fund from Sally Ott
- In memory of Randy Dippary to the Building Fund from Richard and Georganna Galen
- In memory of Randy Dippary to the Building Fund from William and Karen Labiak, Jr.

STUDY INVITATION

Women Seeking Discipleship will begin a new study on Sunday, November 4th, from 4:00-5:30 p.m. in the Chapel/Library. "Exploring Faith, the Bible, and Service" is the mission statement for the group, which will meet the first and third Sundays; concluding at the end of April. The study book is authored by Lisa Harper, entitled *Hebrews: The Nearness of King Jesus*. Each week, the session will close with a short video segment to help prepare for the following week's study. The study books are available for \$12.99 at LifeWay. If you are interested, please contact Glenda Gonzalez or Carolyn Moody.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE SUNDAY

It's that time! Time to start thinking about and baking Christmas cookies! It has been a custom at Covenant for our wonderful bakers to share their cookies on Christmas Cookie Sunday. This special time of holiday hospitality will be held this year on Sunday morning, December 23. Please bring your cookie donations to the Gathering Area kitchen early on December 23, or during the week before. If you bring them in early during the week, please be sure to mark them for this special occasion.

EPAUMC's 6th ANNUAL FAITH

SHARING SEMINAR

"Sharing Faith with New People and Younger People in Today's Context," will be presented by Rev. Jasmine Smothers, lead pastor of Atlanta First UMC and co-author of the best-selling book, *Not Safe For Church: The Ten Commandments for Reaching New Generations*. The seminar will be held at Hopewell UMC on November 10 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Register at etouches.com/jsmothers.

UMW THANKOFFERING

On Sunday, November 18 at 9 and 10:20 our worship services will be led by the women of Covenant. All members are encouraged to Count Your Blessings and give generously to our UMW World Thank Offering. Our speaker for both services will be Minister Brenda. With thankful hearts, bring your coins, currency, and checks to further the mission of God's work.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Covenant is excited to offer a robust Christian education program for all ages. Please bring your children, grandchildren, and neighbors to participate in the various groups.

CLASS	LEVEL	TIME	LOCATION
Sunday School	K-5	9	Upper Level
Nursery	Infant-Pre/Sch	10:20	Upper Level
Connect!**	K-5	10:20	Bethany Hall
Youth **	6-12	10:20	Lower Level

** Not held on first Sunday of the month

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Christmas poinsettias will be available for purchase beginning Sunday, November 25. The plants will be displayed in the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 23rd, through Christmas Eve, December 24th. There are a limited number of plants, so place your order early. The cost is \$6.00 per plant. You may call the church office at 717-393-1561 or place your order with the volunteer secretary on Sunday morning. Thank you in advance for helping to beautify the Sanctuary at this joyous time of year.

We Worship Together



November 4, 2018— 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

All Saints Sunday

One Combined Service at 10:20

Daylight Savings Time Ends

On this first Sunday we will observe All Saints Sunday. Members that have passed since the 2017 All Saints Sunday will be remembered. Pastor Wallace will offer the message at our combined First Sunday Communion service at 10:20 a.m. Music will be provided by the Praise Team and Chancel Choir.

November 11, 2018— 25th Sunday After Pentecost

Stewardship Sunday

Contemporary Worship (9:00) and Traditional Worship (10:20): Pastor Wallace will preach at both worship services at 9:00 a.m. and 10:20 a.m. Both the Chancel Choir and the Bell Choir will participate in the 10:20 a.m. service. Members will offer their Commitment Cards for 2019 on this Stewardship Sunday. Members will vote on the Leadership team nominations following the service.

November 18, 2018— 26th Sunday After Pentecost

UMW World Thank Offering Sunday

Harvest Home

Contemporary Worship (9:00) and Traditional Worship (10:20): Minister Brenda Wallace is the guest speaker on this United Methodist Women's Thank Offering Sunday. She will preach the message at both the 9:00 a.m. & 10:20 a.m. services. The Chancel Choir will sing at the 10:20 service as well as the Lebanon Valley College Chamber Choir. All women are reminded to bring their Thank Offering gift on this morning. The Thank Offering goes to mission support that enriches the lives of many locally and around the world. Also we celebrate Harvest Home on this Sunday. This is the last Sunday for donations of non perishable food items.

November 25, 2018—Last Sunday After Pentecost

Christ the King Sunday

Contemporary Worship (9:00) and Traditional Worship (10:20): Pastor Wallace will preach during both worship services. Music will be provided by the Chancel Choir during the 10:20 a.m. service.

December 2, 2018— 1st Sunday in Advent

Holy Communion

One Combined Service at 10:20

We worship together on the first Sunday of the month. Pastor Quentin will bring the message at 10:20 a.m. and Holy Communion will be observed. Both the Praise Band and the Chancel Choir will provide the music for worship.

Blue Christmas

The holiday season is hard for some of us, but we as a Church Community want to remind you that you are not alone. God sent Jesus to us as an infant, whose birth we celebrate, to bring Hope and Comfort. Pastor Sally is planning a special service for Sunday, December 16, at 2:00 p.m. "Blue Christmas" is a Service of Remembrance and Hope, for those who are mourning or struggling during

this season. The service will include Scripture, Prayer, Candlelight, Quiet Meditation, and the Sacrament of Communion. If you, or someone you know, could benefit from this kind of Christmas experience, AND/OR if you want to be present to support those who are struggling, letting them know that they are not alone in their grief, you are invited to come.

Volunteers for November

November 4

Anchorite: 10:20 - Marilyn Keener

Hallway Greeter: 10:20 - Betty Farkas

Lobby Greeters: 8:40 - Ruth Neuman & Brenda Roth; 10:00 - Lori Brown & Tina Butler

November 11

Anchorite: 10:20 - Janet Seyfert

Hallway Greeter: 10:20 - Joan Miller

Lobby Greeters: 8:40 - Cindy & Bob Hean; 10:00 - Youth

November 18

Anchorite: 10:20 - Cindy Hean

Hallway Greeter: 10:20 - Grace Fisher

Lobby Greeters: 8:40 - Mary Lou Hill; 10:00 - Rev. Guy & Sandy Carrigan

November 25

Anchorite: 10:20 - Janice McElroy

Hallway Greeter: 10:20 - Denise Troop

Lobby Greeters: 8:40 - Mee Kyung Schuler; 10:00 - Janice & Harold Ulmer

NOVEMBER USHERS

Don Dale, Head Usher

Linda Henning, John Longenecker, Glenn Miller

DECEMBER USHERS

Don Dale, Head Usher

Dave Beznoska; Bill Grau, Jr.;

Ron Kimmich, Donald Herr

THANKSGIVING DINNER UPDATE

The Outreach Team shares some happy news and sad news. Thanksgiving of November 1985 brought a new outreach ministry to Covenant Church. The ministry of the Thanksgiving Dinner was quickly embraced and supported by the people of Covenant. Originally begun as ministry to lonely people within Covenant, it quickly became a ministry to the community. Covenant was the second church in Lancaster County to host a Thanksgiving Dinner on the actual holiday.

The sad news is like many ministries, the dinner has run its course. While you have generously supported the dinner, the number of guests has been reduced by half over the past four years. Many other venues, Water Street Mission, churches, and restaurants now offer free dinners on the holiday.

The Outreach Team spent the past eight months searching for new leaders to organize the Thanksgiving Dinner without success. So after much discussion, the Outreach Team has decided to look for a new outreach ministry to replace the Thanksgiving Dinner. We celebrate 32 years of a Thanksgiving ministry and move forward in faith to other opportunities.

The happy news is that the opportunity for your support of a food ministry still exists. Our Food Provider team faithfully supplies a monthly meal to those in need at Grace Lutheran Church. As we search for a new servant ministry to replace the Thanksgiving Dinner – and your ideas will be welcomed – please know your ongoing support of the Food Provider meals is sincerely appreciated.

On behalf of Outreach, we applaud you for your support for the past 32 years and to ask for your continued prayers for us all as we seek new ways to serve our Risen Savior.

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

Here's to Good Health



National Pneumonia Day

Did you know that November 12th is National Pneumonia Day?

Pneumonia is a common lung infection caused by germs, such as bacteria, viruses, and fungi. It can be a complication of the flu, but other viruses and bacteria can cause pneumonia. Anyone can get pneumonia but some people are more at risk than others.

Pneumonia symptoms can vary from mild to severe. Treatment depends on the cause of and the symptoms along with your age and overall health. Healthy people can recover in one to three weeks, but it can be life threatening. The good news is that Pneumonia can be prevented!

Your prevention plan needs to include an annual flu shot and washing your hands often. People at risk with other health issues and those 65 and over should talk to their health provider about getting a vaccine for pneumococcal pneumonia.

Symptoms of pneumonia include complications from a respiratory infection (especially flu), cough, and fever. Chills and shortness of breath are the most common. Some other symptoms can be stabbing chest pain, headache, excessive sweating and confusion, especially in older people.

Risk factors to be aware of would be age, children under 5 and adults 65 and older, smoking, a recent viral res-

piratory infection, or COPD (chronic lung disease). Other serious illnesses such as heart disease, weakened immune system, and recent surgery have the potential of leading to pneumonia.

How to prevent pneumonia? Get that flu shot every year, check about the pneumonia vaccine, don't smoke, and have good health habits like eating a healthy diet, getting plenty of rest, and exercising

. Have a happy and healthy month!

Cindy Smith
Wellness Coach

UMW Pledges

UMW Pledge

Any yearly pledge money to the mission work of UMW should be given to Linda Henning or Chris Kimmich no later than Sunday, November 25, to go toward our 2018 pledge. Funds to Covenant UMW are used in two ways, so please mark your envelope as you would like your gift split.

- **LCR** – Local Church Responsibility will be used for programs we support within Covenant Church.
- **Pledge** – Is money that will go to the district and is used to support mission and missionaries locally, nationally, and around the world. UMW supports healthcare, education, and safe environments for women, children, and youth globally.

Feel your heart expand as you help support these much needed services.

Trunk or Treat

On Wednesday, October 17th, the Parish Resource Center hosted a Trunk or Treat event. Minister Brenda signed up Covenant to participate. The youth department, along with the Outreach and Nurture committees, got together to create an "ark." Minister Santa used her car for the "ark" costume. The committees met and bagged and tagged almost 200 baggies of candy. The tags had information about Covenant on one side and trivia questions about Noah's ark on the other side.

The Parish Resource Center reports that they had 12 vehicles participate. This included 6 churches, 2 non-profits, and Snyder's Funeral brought one of their hearses. They had 400 people registered and were still receiving calls on that day.

We were able to give out all the bagged candy in addition to the reserves we brought along to share. Thank you Youth, Outreach, and Nurture teams for all your hard work.

Financial Report

The Finance Team has recently determined a need to keep the Covenant Family up to date on the state of our church finances. Therefore, starting this month, a report like the one below will be published in the Echoes. Please review the information carefully and use it as you prayerfully consider your stewardship—your time, talents, and resources—in support of Covenant Church. If you have questions regarding the report, please feel free to contact any member of the Finance Team.

Below are Income and Expenses for September				
which represents 75% of the year				
		Budget	September YTD Actuals	Percentage of Budget
INCOME				
	Envelope Offering	\$300,000.00	\$222,305.00	74%
	Plate Offering	\$3,300.00	\$2,256.32	68%
	Special Offerings	\$8,500.00	\$342.25	4%
	Trusts	\$22,800.00	\$16,896.14	74%
	Parking Lot	\$22,000.00	\$20,063.50	91%
	Use of Bldg	\$1,500.00	\$1,125.00	75%
	Day Care	\$10,000.00	\$6,000.00	55%
	Miscellaneous	\$6,450.00	\$4,501.85	70%
	BB&T	\$109,621.28	\$60,000.00	55%
		\$484,171.28	\$333,490.06	69%
EXPENSES				
	Missions & Benevolence	\$52,152.00	\$38,313.46	73%
	Evangelism	\$310.00	\$240.00	77%
	Christian Education	\$5,900.00	\$3,833.62	65%
	Worship	\$2,265.00	\$2,255.93	100%
	Program Administration	\$26,000.00	\$19,110.78	74%
	Personnel	\$280,299.28	\$206,782.01	74%
	Property	\$117,245.00	\$82,986.65	71%
		\$484,171.28	\$353,522.45	73%

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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

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