



From the Pastor's Desk...

By Pastor Quentin Wallace

What God Has for You, Is for You!



"Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my name.'"
Nehemiah 1:8-9

*He who has ears, let him hear.
Matthew 11:5*

When I was nine years old I had a strong desire to have a puppy for my pet. Of course, kids don't always share what they're thinking or feeling with their parents, so I didn't know how my parents felt about dogs, but I wanted a puppy. One day a little boy came by with the cutest brown and black puppy he didn't want, so my sister and I talked him into selling us the puppy for fifty-three cents. When we took the puppy home, to my surprise, my parents allowed us to keep it. We named the puppy Lassie after the famous Collie of the same name on TV.

About eight months after enjoying Lassie, we left the puppy alone outside in our fenced in backyard for a moment, feeling Lassie would be safe enough until we came back. Sadly, when we returned to the backyard, Lassie was gone. My sister Pam and I were broken-hearted; what happened to our puppy? Would we see Lassie again? So we searched the neighborhood. And after not finding Lassie, we prayed about our missing puppy and continued on as best we could.

Some time passed, and one day a strange thing occurred near my school. I heard several dogs barking in an alley, and for some reason I had to investigate what was going on in the alley. When I looked down the alley, several dogs were playing and among the dogs was my Lassie. I called her and she came running and jumped in my arms. I was so happy to have her back that I carried her all the way home. Lassie remained with our family until she died at age thirteen. I'm sharing this to emphasize that what God has for you, is "for you." You may lose it for a while, but if it's designated for you—you will have it.

In the text above, Nehemiah was a Jew who lived outside of Jerusalem and was working in Persia as the cupbearer for the king. He was probably satisfied with his position until he heard some devastating news from some Jews he encountered that were returning from his hometown.

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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 2022 is **God in 2022, Our Total Praise is to You.**

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
- 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
Bob & Cindy Hean

2nd Sunday of the Month
Mary Lou Hill

3rd Sunday of the Month
Linda & Lou Henning

4th Sunday of the Month
Tina Butler

5th Sunday of the Month
Cathy Boyd
Bobbie Schwan

We Worship Together

Sunday Worship

In-person worship will be held each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. The service will also be livestreamed on Facebook for those who wish to worship at home.

Additional Online Opportunities During the Week

- Wednesday at 10 a.m. and Friday at 6 a.m. join our conference prayer call at 605-313-5107 (202700#).

October & November Events

10/16 Dolly Kepner Celebration

10/8 Community Closet

10/30 Friends & Family Sunday

10/8 Care & Share Luncheon

11/6 All Saints Sunday

10/9 Women's/Men's Luncheon

11/20 World Thankoffering Sunday

10/15 IMPACT! Missions Workday

11/20 Harvest Home Sunday

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He asked how things were going, and they shared how bad things were in Jerusalem. His homeland had been overrun, looted, and burned. Upon hearing this news Nehemiah was cut to the heart with sadness, and in his anguish began to cry out to God. The scripture above shares a portion of that prayer. In the prayer, he intercedes on behalf of his people by repenting for their actions while acknowledging their unfaithfulness to God. He references what God told Moses. Unfaithfulness to God will lead to their being scattered. However, should they change their attitude towards God and repent, even if they had been scattered over great distances, God would gather them.

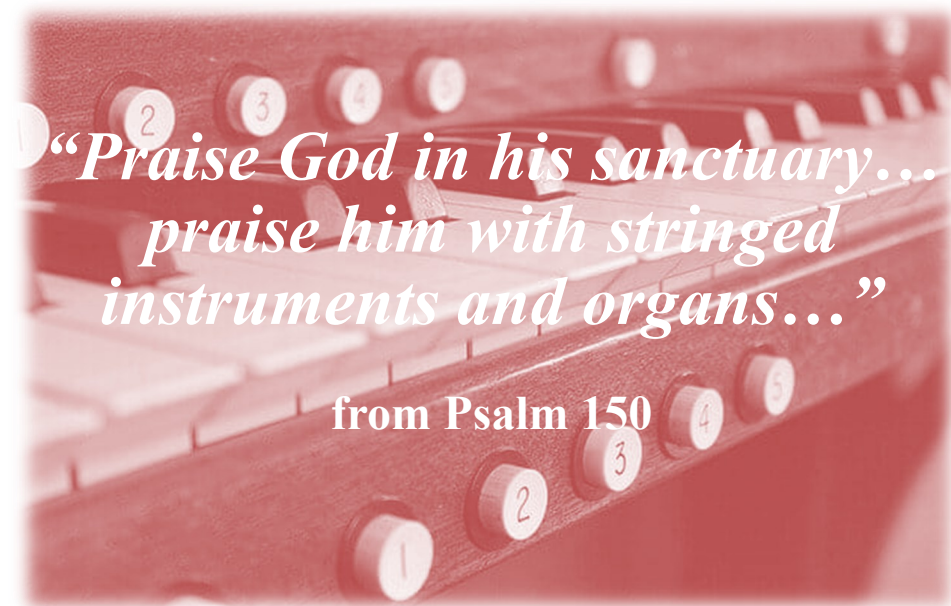
As I mentioned earlier, I found my dog even though it took some time, and even though I believed my puppy was just gone forever. The Nehemiah passage above provides a message about God's ability to restore. God will return to you—what is designated for you. Let me go further. I know now as I reminisce, that we were destined to have Lassie, because I went into that alley at that precise time not knowing my puppy would be there. When I saw my puppy, I called my puppy, and my puppy responded by running to me. I held on to my puppy until I got her safely home.

God's people will hear when God calls to them, will run to him and respond by being faithful, and God will hold on to his people until he gets them to their eternal home.

God said in the passage HE will call them back. Jesus said it best in Matthew 11:5, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." Those who can accept God's love and instruction will do so. How does this apply to us? Some of us may feel we've lost things and are saddened by that. However, what God has for you is for you. In the story above, it did not matter that the people of Jerusalem had been scattered, or how long they had been gone, or how far they had traveled. God's people will respond to God's voice.

In Nehemiah, the prophet's prayer covered it all—he prayed concerning the loss and devastation of his homeland Jerusalem — he repented for the sinfulness of the people that had led to their scattering—and he prayed for a way to do something about it. God answered his prayer.

As we head into the fall months of October and November, please pray and trust that God is able to do great and seemingly impossible things, and be reminded that what God has for you—is for you.



*“Praise God in his sanctuary...
praise him with stringed
instruments and organs...”*

from Psalm 150

***ORGANIST DOLLY KEPNER’S
RETIREMENT CELEBRATION RESCHEDULED***

NEW DATE: Sunday, October 16, 2022

Tribute service at 10:30 A.M.

***Retirement luncheon and celebration
to follow in Bethany Hall***



Plan now to attend and thank Dolly for her 50 years of serving the Lord at the church pipe organ, and for her total of 70 years of musical service to Covenant UMC—directing children’s choirs, playing the organ for junior church, accompanying the senior choir and guest musicians, and providing music for worship, weddings, and memorial services.

If you plan to attend and have not already signed the reservation sheet In the Gathering Area, please do so or call the church office by October 10.

Remember to bring your cards of appreciation for Dolly to the celebration. Contributions are still being received in the church office for a monetary retirement gift for her.

Dolly has faithfully made a joyful noise to the Lord, and we thank God for hers!

Sidelights

90+ BIRTHDAYS October & November

Gloria Horner—10/1
James Patton—10/1
Raymond Goshkey—10/19
Elma “Dolly” Kepner—10/21

FLOWERS

If you want to place a centerpiece or vase in memory or in honor of a loved one, the cost is \$49. Please contact the church office Monday-Friday, 8:30-2 at 717-393-1561.

COMMUNITY CLOSET

Our next Community Closet will be held on Saturday, October 8. Thank you for your donations of clothing and coats as we head into fall and winter. And thank you for your continued support of this special outreach to our surrounding neighborhood and community.

BIBLE STUDY

A Bible Study group will be starting on Thursday, October 6, 2022 at 1:00 pm. This Bible Study will be held in the library. Please sign up if you are interested in participating in the Bible Study. The sign-up sheet is in the Gathering Area. The first week’s topic will be Being on God’s Team, 1 Cor. 12:1-14. We look forward to studying with you!

Sidelights

NOTES OF THANKS RECEIVED

Blake Miller would like to thank the members of Covenant for the generous college graduation gift he received. "It was very much appreciated."

Sarah Rappoldt would like to thank the members of Covenant for the *100 Days of Hope* book and Amazon gift card she received. She says, "It was such a sweet surprise. Much love to you all."

Benjamin McElroy send his thanks to Covenant members for the book and gift card he received. He states, "It was very much appreciated and thoughtful. Thank you again!"

OUR ACs NEED YOUR \$\$\$\$! THINK PINK!

Even though the heat and humidity are gone (we hope), we still need to replace our 40-year-old air conditioners, which means a big \$100K bill. We want to be ready when the warmer weather returns.

So we're asking you to please THINK PINK and use your pink envelopes to make a cool commitment to give a little extra to the Building Fund each Sunday. This will help us to pay off these unbudgeted, but very necessary expenses more quickly and without accruing high interest.

While we always budget for repairs and building maintenance, we could not foresee this large of an expense. Your ongoing contributions to the Building Fund help us deal with these circumstances without going over the yearly budget and dipping into our limited reserves. Please give as you are able.

UWF Reading Program



United
Women
in Faith

Below is an excerpt from the United Methodist *Insight* magazine. I know Covenant has at least two readers who have completed Plan 1 of the reading program. If you have been reading from our list of books in the library, please notify Chris Kimmich so she can add your name to be submitted to the district. If you are not reading, you are missing a great opportunity to explore our world through the

eyes of Christian women. Contact Chris to learn more about how you can participate.

The United Women in Faith Reading Program is a cherished tradition that unites book lovers and women of faith with content that encourages spiritual growth and advocacy. The program inspires women of faith to become more engaged in society's most pressing challenges.

Reading Program books are divided into five categories and are available for people of all ages and reading levels. Featured books include captivating novels and heartfelt biographies as well as texts that share urgent messages about issues such as climate change and mass incarceration.

"It is a joy to support a beloved program of United Women in Faith," Jones said. "We know the Reading Program is among the most celebrated programs of United Women in Faith, and the designated page for the reading program is one of the most-visited sections of United Women in Faith's website."

*The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the word of God endures forever.*
Isaiah 40:8

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

Dale Building Designs

Donald A. Dale, 872.4263
2086 New Danville Pike, Lancaster, PA
www.DonDaleDesigns.com

Groff Family Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc.

Thomas S. Buter, 394.5300
528 W. Orange St.

Miller Optical

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

Willard Hypnosis Center

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

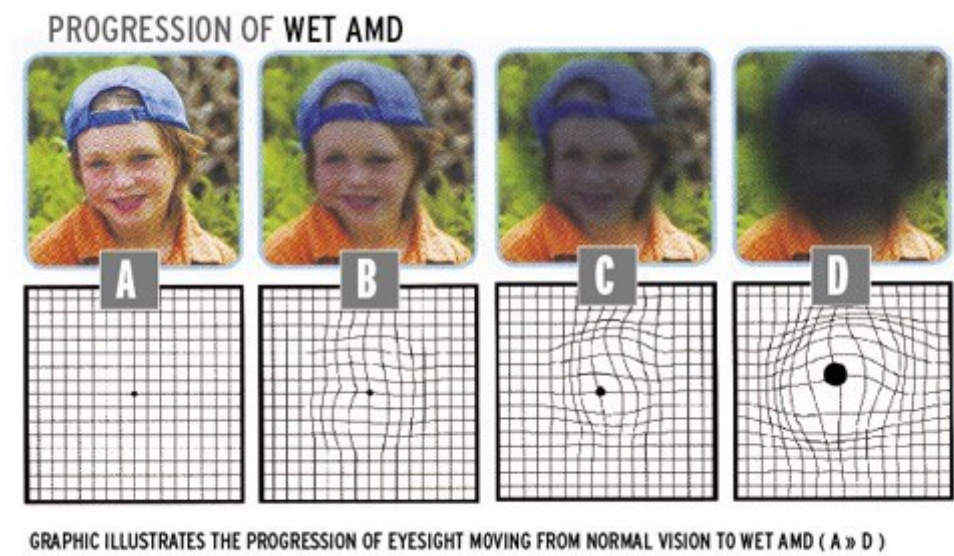
Here's to Good Health!

Did you know that Macular Degeneration is a leading cause of vision loss in older adults ,or that one in three Americans over the age of 75 may have Macular Degeneration?

There are two types of Macular Degeneration—Wet and Dry. About 80% of people with MD have the dry type, which typically doesn't have any symptoms. In fact, most people with dry MD don't know they have it.

steps to keep on top of the condition.

- See an eye doctor regularly.
- Monitor vision at home. Using graph paper, stare at the grid to make sure your vision is stable. If lines become distorted or blurred, or if a spot develops, contact your eye doctor immediately.
- Stop smoking.
- Take eye vitamins



It is important to get regular eye exams as you get older. Persons over 65 should see an ophthalmologist every one to two years even if there have been no changes in vision.

About 10-20% of people with dry MD progress to wet MD. In the wet type, abnormal blood vessels form on a part of the retina called the macula, which is located in the back of the eye and which affects your central vision.

Problems with central vision can make everyday activities such as reading, watching TV, and driving more difficult.

Even though dry MD doesn't cause symptoms, it needs to be managed. Here are

WET MD

If dry MD progresses to wet MD, you need to work on preserving vision and treating the condition.

- Get regular treatments. These would be injections into the eye given by an ophthalmologist or retina specialist.
- Keep taking eye vitamins.
- Make the most of low vision aids.

Cindy Smith
Wellness Coach

P.S. Remember, it's time to get your flu vaccine. And as always, wash your hands often and stay home if you are not feeling well.

Sidelights

GROCERY CARDS

Please check the News to Go for Sundays when grocery cards will be available in the lobby.

You can also 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.

A/V HELP NEEDED

There is room for you on the sanctuary sound board. Interested? Training will be provided. Please see Darwin Tyson for more information.





Larry Rappoldt Named Organist

Covenant's Director of Music Larry Rappoldt has officially taken on the additional role of church organist as of September 25, 2022. Along with his skill of choir directing, Larry also has a wealth of experience in playing organ, doing so for church services, recitals, and weddings since 1974. At the beginning of August Larry graciously agreed to play the organ on an interim basis as Dolly was unable to do so and while a search for an organist accompanist was underway. Now he adds the title of organist to his other music roles.

With the announcement of Dolly Kepner's retirement as church organist and Ruby Rublesky's resignation as piano accompanist, the Staff Parish Relations Committee began a search this summer for an organist accompanist to take on both roles of playing organ for church services and playing piano for choir rehearsals and accompaniment on Sundays. During a prayerful and diligent search by SPRC, it became apparent that Larry who applied solely for the organist position was the one for the modified job. SPRC will now advertise for a piano accompanist to rehearse with and play for the choir and other special music as needed.

Covenant Church is blessed to have in Larry a musician with such versatile talents and experience to oversee our music program, to direct our Chancel Choir, to work with our Praise Team, and now to serve as organist. Please pray for him in his expanded role and for SPRC's search for an accompanist to work with the choir and to provide piano music for worship services.

Organ Recital to Feature the Works of César Franck



The Lancaster Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will host nationally-renowned, award-winning organist Mark Laubach for a recital presenting the music of César Franck. Next to J.S. Bach, Franck, a French organist, composer, and pedagogue, may be considered the most influential organ composer of all time, paving the way for other French composers and leaving us with utterly sublime organ works. This December, we mark the 200th anniversary of Franck's birth.

Laubach serves as organist/choirmaster at St. Stephen's Episcopal Cathedral in Wilkes-Barre as well as Professor of Organ at Marywood College in suburban Scranton. Please join us for this FREE recital on Friday, October 28, at 7:00 PM at St. Anthony of Padua

Roman Catholic Church (501 East Orange Street, Lancaster). Laubach will perform some of Franck's most difficult organ works on the St. Anthony's organ, which boasts a beautiful, full-bodied sound that mimics that experienced by Franck.

Piano Accompanist Sought

As Larry Rappoldt now fills the organist role, SPRC begins the search for a piano accompanist whose responsibilities will include rehearsing with the choir, accompanying them and other special music, and providing piano music for worship. Please encourage an accomplished pianist you know who would want to use such skills in Christian service to apply for the position through the church office.

UWF Thankoffering Service

United Women in Faith (formerly known as UMW) will hold our annual World Thankoffering Service at our 10:30 worship service on Sunday, November the 20th. We are honored to have Ruth Daugherty as our guest speaker for the morning, and her message will be “Faithful Thanksgiving.”

Has God blessed you? Are you thankful for what God has done for you? Did you have enough food to eat last week? Do you have a roof over your head and a bed in which to sleep? As God provides for us over and above our needs we ask if you will share with those in need.

Some of you have your margarine tub of coins that you filled throughout the year in thanksgiving to God, please bring them that Sunday. We will collect a special offering of coins, bills and checks written to Covenant UWF. All money collected in this special offering will go to local and global mission. Your gifts will feed, clothe, and provide shelter to those in need while we spread the Good News of Jesus.

Sunday School Classes Combine

The Faith and Fellowship Class and the Ages and Stages Class have combined for Sunday School. The class meets in the Chapel/Library from 9:00 to 10:00 A.M. The current study focuses on “The Miracles of Jesus” with a DVD presentation followed by Scripture references and class discussion. Chris Kimmich, Carole Horn, Lois Neidermyer, and Cindy Smith rotate as teachers for the class. Anyone who wishes to grow in Christian faith is encouraged to attend.

Search Continues for Director of Children and Youth Ministry

Covenant UM Church in downtown Lancaster is seeking a committed Christian with the calling, passion, and experience to work with children and youth.

Responsibilities for this part-time position focus on managing, leading, and expanding church programs for children and youth. Such programs include Sunday School classes, children and youth group activities, and community events that create connections between the neighborhood and the church.

A complete job description with qualifications and responsibilities can be found on the church’s website-www.covenant-umc.com.

Interested individuals may apply by sending a letter of intent and resume to office@covenant-umc.com.

Parish Resource Center Offers Free Event on Zoom

Affordable Home Ownership Panel

Monday, October 10

7:00-8:30 pm

Zoom Only

Home ownership has been a cornerstone of the American dream for decades. Owning your own home provides freedom to customize the space, is a stable financial investment, and builds generational wealth. But as housing prices and interest rates increase, it becomes increasingly difficult for low to middle income folks and first time buyers to purchase homes. Join us to hear from three organizations working to address this problem locally.

Habitat for Humanity: Habitat’s homeownership program works with homebuyers who contribute hundreds of hours of sweat equity towards the construction or renovation of their home.

Tenfold: Tenfold works with national lenders to make loans to first time home buyers that may not be as attractive to general market lenders.

Spanish American Civic Association: SACA works in southeast Lancaster City to develop and make affordable home ownership accessible to build wealth equity.

Register through the PRC website.

COVENANT

United Methodist Church

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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

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Covenant United Methodist Church