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Church Staff

The Rev. Gerald Thomas
 Pastor

The Rev. Tim Shoaf
 Minister of Music & Programs

Traci Canter, Office Administrator

*“This is the day that the Lord has made let
 us rejoice and be glad in it” Psalm 118:24*



Volume 4 Number 4

October 2020

THE VISITOR



World Communion Sunday offers congregations a distinctive opportunity to experience Holy Communion in the context of the global community of faith. The first Sunday of October has become a time when Christians in every culture break bread and pour the cup to remember and affirm Christ as the Head of the Church. On that day, they remember that they are part of the whole body of believers. Whether shared in a grand cathedral, a mud hut, outside on a hilltop, in a meetinghouse, or in a storefront, Christians celebrate the communion liturgy in as many ways as there are congregations. World Communion Sunday can be both a profound worship experience and a time for learning more about our wider community of faith. As we share in the Lord's supper on Sunday, October 4, we are affirming our bond of love and hope as Christians all over the world.

**Church Yard
 Sale**

PCC Fall Yard Sale
Friday, Oct. 23 & Saturday, Oct. 24
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Please drop off your donations at the Pavilion or in the hallway in front of Room 108. *If you need your donations picked up, please call Kitty Hunt at 336-775-8966.* Thank you to everyone for your continued participation!



If you have a loved one that has passed away since October 31, 2019 and would like to have their names included in our memorial service, please give your information to Jo Stanley or Lynda Bryant or call/email the church office. ***Please submit your names no later than Sunday, October 25*** to have your loved one(s) remembered in our service. Thank you for being a part of this beautiful service.



**Winston-Salem/Forsyth County
 CROP Hunger Walk**

2020 Virtual CropWalk: As Easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Call Gerald and let him know you will be walking. Deadline is Sunday, October 4. Give Gerald your t-shirt size. He will drop your shirt off after October 4.
2. Go out and take a walk AND a picture of your self. Send the pic to Gerald (gthomas27106@gmail.com) or text (336-504-8206)
3. Turn your money in to Gerald by Sunday, October 25.



As Way Leads On To Way

Over twenty years ago now, Marlene and I were watching a baseball game together and she became interested in my scorebook. (For about two decades, I've been manufacturing a homemade scorebook for each new season. Each year centers around a different theme.)

I shared how each player in the field is assigned a number according to his or her position. The pitcher is #1, catcher #2, etc. Then you have symbols that will tell you what happened when each player is at bat or making a defensive play... On and on it went. She kept leaning on my shoulder after each play, checking out my marks, questioning the meanings. (Can anything be better than enticing Marlene to put her head on my shoulder?)

By next game, I tore a page out of my scorebook so she could practice the art. By the next season, she had her own scorebook. Over the years, friends and her twin, Darlene, also took up the practice because they went to games with us and watched what Marlene was up to. One of the wonderful characteristics of baseball is that the game moves at a pace allowing for conversation with your neighbor while keeping the record. Sometimes I miss a play and turn to some stranger and say, "What happened on that last play." They tell me and then notice the scorebook and lean in to ask, "Whatcha doin' there?"

I've been in church since I was the size of a baseball glove, so I can tell you some folks are under the impression faith is some kind of heart-pounding hard sell. A person to be manipulated. An argument to be won.

I think it is a relationship to be nurtured. I think it is sitting with folks, wrapped up in what you love and being so moved by it they eventually lean over and ask, "Whatcha doin'?" -GT



"You can disagree without being disagreeable"

Many people, including Christians, think they only have to show

respect for people with whom they agree. Nothing could be further from the truth. Paul admonishes us in 2 Timothy 2:23-24 to "avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife...a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all." The Bible spells out clearly how to have a healthy disagreement without being disagreeable.

1- Choose Your Battles- We must discern whether or not we should "answer a fool according to his folly" (Prov. 26:4-5) Unless the matter can cause serious damage if not addressed, the wisest course may be to just keep silent.

2- Be Gracious- As a child of God, we must be kind, courteous, and pleasant in our interactions with others (Eph. 4:1-2,32) even when they vehemently disagree with us and even when we feel hurt. Disagreements can't intensify if the individuals are truly gracious.

3- Listen More, Talk Less- James 1:19 tells us, "Be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath. Listen to understand the other person's view... this says we value their perspectives and reduces tension.

4. Think Before You Speak- Take time to think through exactly what to say and how to say it. Proverbs 29:11 sums it well, "A fool vents all his feelings, but a wise man holds them back."

5- Act In Humility- When we encounter differences of opinion, we must make peace a priority Romans 12:18 says, "As much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men." Romans 14:12-13 reminds us that "each of us will give an account of ourselves to God. Therefore, let us stop passing judgment on one another."

Ultimately, we should just be Christ-like in every moment of every day of our lives.

*excerpts rom May/June issue 2020 of Discern Magazine

3- Bud Barker

10- Don Robertson

11- Scott Robertson

13- Cynthia Robertson

Susan Smith

15- Jack Bryant

Gerald Fletcher

17- Ken Davis

21 - Molly Cooke

5 - Kent & Joy Doub

15 - Tony & Anne Bryant

25 - Frank & Pat Barber

31 - Bill & Toni Kibler

OCTOBER 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Worship 11:00 AM Sanctuary	5	6 Elders Mtg. 7:00 PM Picnic Shelter	7 Mid-week Devotional (phone Tree)	8	9	10
11 Pastor Appreciation Day	12	13 Elders Mtg. 7:00 PM Picnic Shelter	14 Mid-week Devotional (phone Tree)	15	16	17
18 Worship 11:00 AM Sanctuary	19	20 CWF Mtg 6:30 PM	21 Mid-week Devotional (phone Tree)	22	23	24
25 Worship 11:00 AM Sanctuary	26	27	28 Mid-week Devotional (phone Tree)	29	30	31

Pfafftown Christian Church
General Fund Budget vs. Actual
July 2020

	Jul 20	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Income				
Contributions Income	10,396.67	14,849.00	-4,452.33	70.02%
Loose Offering	0.00	120.00	-120.00	0.0%
Sales Tax Refund	0.00	84.00	-84.00	0.0%
Building Rental	0.00	41.00	-41.00	0.0%
Investment Earnings	393.18	601.00	-207.82	65.42%
R G Flynt Endowment	281.69	256.00	25.69	110.04%
Yard Sale	0.00	434.00	-434.00	0.0%
Total Income	11,071.54	16,385.00	-5,313.46	67.57%
Expense				
Administrative Expense	11,432.05	12,277.00	-844.95	93.12%
Christian Education	0.00	116.00	-116.00	0.0%
Building and Capital Improv Fd	0.00	166.00	-166.00	0.0%
Evangelism	0.00	9.00	-9.00	0.0%
Membership	0.00	34.00	-34.00	0.0%
Fellowship	0.00	84.00	-84.00	0.0%
Childcare	0.00	16.00	-16.00	0.0%
Property	2,001.54	3,204.00	-1,202.46	62.47%
Worship	0.00	275.00	-275.00	0.0%
Total Expense	13,433.59	16,181.00	-2,747.41	83.02%
Income over Expenses	-2,362.05	204.00	-2,566.05	-1,157.87%

Please note we are following last year's budget and reducing expenses whenever possible.



Three Lessons from the Farmer About Faith

Sometimes we can feel trapped by the everydayness and how much work there is still yet to do. So, how do you continue in all God has called us to do without growing weary? Scripture (2 Timothy 2:6) encourages us to look to the hard-working farmer as an example. Paul speaks of planting and then patiently waiting for an inevitable harvest (Galatians 6:9)

Farmers have an unwavering, life-time commitment to their daily work as they await harvest. We too are called to a lifelong commitment to the harvest and it is played out in our everyday lives of devotion to Him. Scripture doesn't portray the Christian life as

glamorous. At the very center is a commitment to self-death where instant growth, instant fruit, instant reward can never be the goal but rather a steady pace over time.

Farmers live and work by faith. Farming is backbreaking, dirty, and can be even described as risky work. There aren't any guarantees. The farmer looks at his crop as a tangible reminder that the harvest inevitably belongs to the Lord. He must be faithful to lay the groundwork for the harvest, but it can't be forced, it can only happen through the Lord's providence. We are only asked to walk by faith and not by sight. Our lives, like the farmer's stretches us to learn to truly trust God despite what we can see today.

A farmer enjoys a unique reward. The reward is always in sight. There is joy in the harvest and the greatest satisfaction belongs to the one who carefully cultivated it all along the way. Joy results from his long-term faithfulness. The secret of trusting in God's providence and experiencing His constant goodness. One tiny seed becomes a plant that may produce a thousand seeds. The harvest multiplies itself and goes out into the world in a way that he will never see with his own eyes. But because he can't see it, doesn't mean it isn't happening. In our work and sometimes weariness, let us look to the farmer. Let's keep the deep-root, big picture in mind. *If we don't give up, one day we will enjoy the final harvest and its bountiful rewards ... our harvest which is cultivated by faith but is absolutely guaranteed by His precious blood.*

* excerpts taken from March, 2016 *Desiring God*.

Notes from Tim

A Hymn Story

Come, Christians, join to sing:

Alleluia! Amen!

loud praise to Christ our King:

Alleluia! Amen!

*Let all, with heart and voice,
before his throne rejoice;*

praise is his gracious choice.

Alleluia! Amen!

Christian Henry Bateman (1813-1899) composer of the text in 1843, was ordained into the Church of England after being a Congregational minister. His ministerial studies were under the auspices of the Moravian Church, where he served for a time before changing to the Congregational Church at age 30. Following his ministry at Richmond Place Congregational Church in Edinburgh, Scotland, he took Holy Orders in the Anglican Church at age 56 and served as a curate and vicar in several Anglican parishes.

The original opening line of the hymn was "Come, *children*, join to sing." But was later changed in many hymnals to include all age groups, Bateman's text contains direct, uncomplicated language suited for children. Since very few of the words have more than two syllables and "*Alleluia! Amen!*" is interjected three times in each stanza, the hymn is easy for children to learn and sing.

Each stanza begins with an exhortation—an imperative command to "*Come*" or "*Praise*."

In stanza one, Bateman provides the children with the reason for singing: We offer "*loud praise to Christ our King . . . before his throne. . .*" Christ desires our praise: "*praise is his gracious choice. . .*"

Stanza two reassures the children (and all of us) that this King is also "*our guide and friend*" and that "*his love shall never end*." This King will "*condescend*" to be a friend to the children. To condescend surely did not mean to patronize as it tends to mean today, but implies that Christ the King humbles himself to be in a personal relationship with us.

Stanza three ends on an eschatological note. The author reassures children that they need not fear death. Beyond life, our songs will continue on "*heaven's blissful shore . . . singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!*" As Christians, singing God's praises

provides many important benefits to believers. There is the awareness that God is pleased when the voice is lifted in praise: "He who offers praise honors me" (Psalm 50:23). Then we learn many important spiritual truths and concepts when we sing. For many of us, our first awareness that God loves us and that He loves all the children of the world was gained through a song sung at our mother's knee or in the Sunday school nursery. Singing will also provide encouragement and comfort in times of need. Often when we are experiencing periods of discouragement and despondency, a simple hymn will come to mind and will be used of God to mend our fragile emotions. Also, singing is one of our best preparations for heaven. The Bible teaches that we will enjoy giving praise and singing throughout eternity.

I like to use this hymn on World Communion Sunday at PCC because I think the opening stanza expresses as Christians all over the world, we come together on this special day to celebrate the wondrous love God has shown the world through our remembrance of Christ at the Lord's Table, and the fellowship of all Christians gathering in thanksgiving for the blessing of Salvation and eternal life through Jesus our Lord. Blessings to you. *Tim*

*some info adapted taken from Hymn Story - C. Michael Hawn



October Memory Verse



October 11, 2020

Pastor Appreciation Day

*And I will give your pastors
according to mine heart,
which shall feed you
with knowledge & understanding.
~ Jeremiah 3:15*

Gerald & Tim,

For the ways you serve

For the sacrifices you make

For the blessings that you are...

Thank you for all you do. We love you both!

~ Your PCC Family



PCC will be collecting applesauce (no glass jars) during the month of October for Crisis Control Ministry. Please continue to place your donations in the donation box or contact the church office should you have a donation that you wish to be picked up.

Also, thank you to everyone who contributed to Crisis Control during last month's of "putting a little extra in the box." We ended up with 364 cans of food. Wonderful response!



During this season, if you should have a need (such as someone to pick up medications or food and drop them at your door) or would simply like to talk during this time, do not hesitate to contact one of the persons listed below.

Gerald Thomas: 336 504-8206

Timothy Shoaf: 336 692-5214

Traci Canter: 336 407-1277

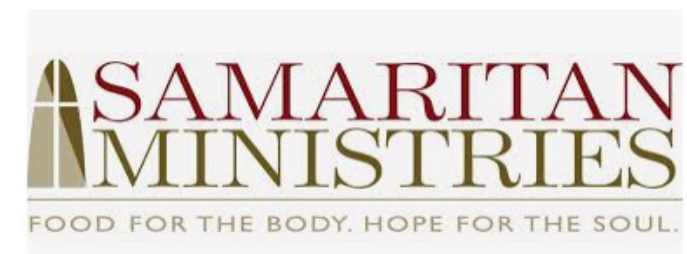
Elders: See your Yearbook



In August, PCC delivered 48 jars of peanut butter to the New Communion Food Pantry. Thank you to Bill and Betty Simpson for sponsoring September's effort.

October's Sponsors: Ken and Vicki Davis

Support for New Communion involves sponsors making financial contributions of \$100 per month. Thus far, I've signed up a different household for the months of August - February. If you would like to take on a month as a household (or in cooperation with other households) simply call me and I'll put you down for a future month. You should make your check out to Pfafftown Christian and write "New Communion" on the "for" line. - GT



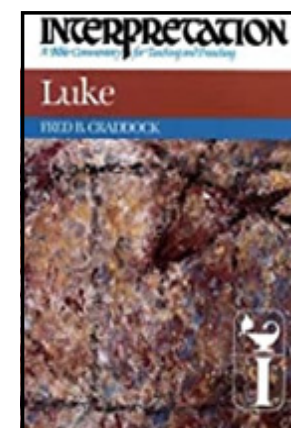
During this unprecedented pandemic, Samaritan Ministries is very much in need of our community's help whether it be through donations, offerings, volunteering (following strict guidelines) or just your prayers. PCC will be participating in the Fall Samaritan Ministries Penny Campaign. Please look under your couch, in your car, in drawers and other places you have some extra change that you would be willing to help others. The glass penny jar will be on display in the Narthex the entire month of October. Thank you, PCC family, for stepping up to this challenge!



CWF News

CWF meet Tuesday, September 15th and voted to proceed with a Pre-order Frozen/Baked Goods Sale on November 14, 2020. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex to record what you are willing to make. Please sign up or call/e-mail the church office by Sunday, October 18. We will then prepare order forms for church members and extended family and friends to place their orders. We are planning on making Beef Vegetable Soup and Chili, but will be postponing the Chicken Pie Workshops until it is safer to work in close groups. Stay tuned--- more details to follow!!

Ladies, please mark your calendar for the next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 20th at 6:30 p.m. at the picnic shelter weather permitting.



OFF THE SHELF

Luke: Interpretation Commentary
Westminster John Knox Press, 1990
By Fred Craddock

Fred was the Bandy Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Preaching and New Testament at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, in Atlanta, Georgia. He was also Minister Emeritus at Cherry Log

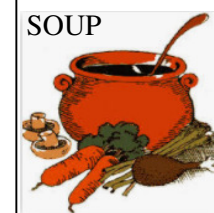
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Cherry Log, Georgia. His creative and insightful commentary on Luke's gospel is a wonderful starting point for understanding the rich and interesting events in Jesus' life. Fred's commentary is now considered a joyful classic.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

NOVEMBER 14, 2020

Please be sure to sign up in the Narthex to help with our upcoming Frozen Food/Baked Goods Sale by October 18th. Thank you for helping us make this yet another year of PCC precious memories combined with PCC success!!!



Prayer Requests

Homebound

Brighton Gardens: Edna Williamson

Rose Tara: Vallie Cline

Willowbrook Rehabilitation: Bud Barker

Recuperating: Pat Millsaps, Sarah Ingram, Skip Stanley, Betty Tilley, Betty Simpson, Jo Poplin, Betty Clodfelter

Church Family: Pat & Frank Barber, John Grice, Jodi Saunders, Garland & Sue Terry, Julie Tilley, Tommy Timmons, Richard Yarbrough

Others:

Jason Alexander: Jack & Mary Groff's friend

Haley Burns: Skip & Jo Stanley's friend

John Davis: Ken and Vicki Davis' friend

Tommy Disher: Traci Canter's Uncle

Jennifer Durham: Irma & Fred Muetzel's granddaughter

Geraldine Edwards: Ann Fletcher's aunt

Jan Everton: Jo Stanley's sister

June Fulton: Jill Robertson's friend

Elaine Grice: John Grice's sister

Betty Haddock: Sharon Binkley's mother

Cayden Kingsbury: Rodney Stilwell's grandson

Chuck Kolstad: Evelyn Nifong's son-in-law

Sharon Linscott: Gerald & Marlene's friend

Ramon Mandry: Pat Millsap's family

Scott McDaniel Family: Alan & Debbie Fletcher's friends

Sue Miles: Jo Stanley's friend

Plemmons' Family: Alan & Debbie Fletcher's friend

Pam Reynolds: Traci Canter's friend

Daniel and Lewis Shields (infants): Jill Robertson's friends

Kent Shropshire: (Paul Shropshire's cousin)

Darlene Stewart: Ann Fletcher's sister

Heather Stokes: Jill Robertson's niece

Joy Stokes: Jill Robertson's sister

Judy West: Ann Fletcher's cousin

Brandon Whitley: friend of the Fletcher family

Loved Ones in the Military:

Joshua Hughes, Norfolk, VA.; Chase Lee, Guam;

USS Key West; Major Hope Poster, NG, Texas;

5 Cpt. John G. Van Hoy IV, Fort Campbell, KY