

ECHOES

September, 2019

**We Invite
We Welcome
We Nurture
We Serve**



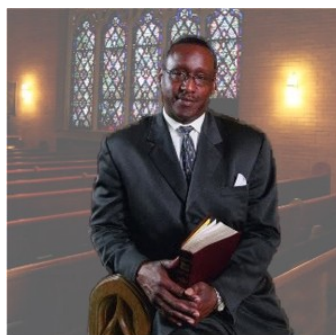
**COVENANT
United Methodist Church**

From the Pastor's Desk...

By Pastor Quentin Wallace

Negotiating the Winds of Change

The Lord gives perfect peace to those whose faith is firm. So always trust the Lord because he is forever our mighty rock. (Isaiah 26:3)



I recall a story of some people who went white water rafting, and they experienced a rough ride on the waves, but those who held on securely survived. At this time in Covenant, we are undergoing some staff changes with Ginny Landis, our long time Office Manager, retiring after 25 years and Sue Kresge's retirement from leading the Praise Band after nearly 20 years. So this may feel like a rough ride.

However, we know that, as we trust in God through any difficult change, our God is able to keep us in perfect peace. As we pray for Ginny and Sue who are retiring, let us also pray for Joyce Mayne, our new Administrative Assistant, and Yvette Diaz and Dennis Pou, our new Worship Leaders for the contemporary service. Let us trust that God is working it out, and any changes we experience will somehow enhance the ministry that God has called us to do.

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28)

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 2019 is **Preparing for Increase.**

Please be in prayer for Covenant Church.

CHURCH PICNIC MOVES TO NEW LOCATION

Changes are coming to the annual church picnic. On Sunday, September 29, following the second service benediction, folks will head to Freedom Memorial Park in Millersville. The park is located beside John Herr's Supermarket on the right, off Route 999. When entering the park, continue straight ahead. Pavilion A is the last pavilion in the park. There is parking at the pavilion on a totally level area. Restrooms are attached to the pavilion building.

Provided foods will include barbecue chicken, hot dogs, and hamburger barbecue. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. The following items will be provided: table coverings, plates, napkins, utensils, and bottled water. Bring your own drinks if you prefer.

This will also be Family and Friends Sunday! So begin the day by bringing your extended family and friends to worship. Then enjoy the afternoon by bringing everyone out to the park for delicious food and relaxing fellowship!

Come Celebrate Ginny Landis As She Retires

For twenty-six years, Virginia Landis has dedicatedly worked in the office of Covenant Church. Now, as of September 6, Ginny is retiring from being office manager. During her tenure she capably served six senior pastors (Rev. Eugene Hostetter, Rev. Dr. David Loughery, Rev. Frank Nickel, Rev. Jeffrey Snyder, and Rev. Dr. Quentin Wallace). Ginny has been the face of Covenant to so many and has done so graciously and efficiently. Behind the scenes Ginny was responsible for more than most realized as any of the pastors could explain. She kept the office functioning with mailings, bulletins, phone and email communications, finance and membership records, and much more. Her flexibility and ability to multitask enabled her to accomplish seemingly more than one person could. Anyone who interacted with Ginny whether at the conference level, here at the church, or with businesses outside the church was impressed with her professionalism and her graciousness. She truly has been a Christian witness to all she has served.

As we say good-bye to Ginny, we do so with deep appreciation and affection. Please come and join us on Sunday, September 15, for a drop-in celebration from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. in Bethany Hall when you can share your gratitude and good wishes with Ginny.

Sidelights

OUTREACH FUNDRAISER AT ISAAC'S

On Thursday, September 12, the Centerville Isaac's, 245 Centerville Road, is hosting a fundraiser benefiting the Outreach Team of Covenant Church. The monies raised will support the various ministries of the Outreach Team. Twenty five percent of the food and beverage purchase will come back to Covenant Church. Thank you in advance for supporting this event. Please pick up your flyer at the welcome desk and enjoy the delicious food at Isaac's, Centerville Road.

CALLING ALL RINGERS AND SINGERS!

It's time to share OR grow your musical talents in the church! The Bell Choir and Chancel Choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, September 4. The Bell Choir meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 5:30-6:45 p.m., and the Chancel Choir meets from 7:00-8:30 pm in the basement of the church on a weekly basis. In addition to preparing for weekly services, the groups will immediately start working on a special Christmas Cantata that will be presented on Sunday, December 22, during the 10:30am service. Those who share a love of music are invited. Please refer questions regarding Chancel Choir to Kyle Zeuch at kyle@covenant-umc.com and regarding Bell Choir to Robin Ingram at handringram@comcast.net.

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Charge Conference is scheduled for Monday, October 28, at Otterbein UMC. Pastor Wallace will be holding a pre-charge conference church meeting on Sunday, October 27, at 11:30 am, to inform the congregation of what will be presented:

- Pastor's State of the Church
- Presentation of the slate of new leaders for 2020
- Acknowledging persons entering the Christ Servant Ministry and those who are continuing

We Worship Together

Sunday Services **9:00 am - Contemporary Worship**
10:30 am - Traditional Worship

September 1, 2019—12th Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion

Pastor Quentin will bring the message at the 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. Holy Communion will be observed. Special music provided by Kyle and Bethany Zeuch.

September 8, 2019—13th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor Quentin will bring the message at the 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. We welcome the return of the Chancel Choir at 10:30.

September 15, 2019—14th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor Wallace will preach the message at both the 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. services. The Chancel Choir will sing at 10:30.

September 22, 2019—15th Sunday After Pentecost

Pastor Wallace will preach the message at both the 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. services. Music during the traditional service will be provided by the Chancel Choir.

September 29, 2019—16th Sunday After Pentecost Family & Friends Sunday—Church Picnic

On this the fifth Sunday of the month, Pastor Wallace preaches at both the 9:00 a.m. contemporary service & 10:30 a.m. traditional service. The Chancel Choir will sing at 10:30. Following the benediction, folks will head to Freedom Memorial Park in Millersville, Pavilion 'A'. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Provided food will include barbeque chicken, hot dogs, and hamburger barbeque. Bottled water will be provided but bring your own drink if preferred. Sign up in the Gathering Area.

October 6, 2019—17th Sunday After Pentecost

Holy Communion

Pastor Wallace will preach the message at both the 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. services. The Chancel Choir will sing at 10:30, and Holy Communion will be observed during both services.

September Volunteers

September 1

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

September 8

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

September 15

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

September 22

Lobby Greeters: 8:40 - Mee Schuler;
10:00 - Janice & Harold Ulmer
Anchorite: Carol Brower

September 29

Lobby Greeters: 8:40 - TBD;
10:00 - Cathy Boyd & Bobbie Schwan
Anchorite: Cindy Hean

September Ushers

Dave Beznoska, Head Usher
Bill Grau, Jr.; Marilyn Keener; John Longenecker

October Ushers

Glenn Miller, Head Usher
Abe Keener, Marilyn Keener, Joan Miller,
Ron Kimmich

New Staff Members Welcomed

Covenant Church is welcoming three new staff members to the church in September. Please introduce yourselves to our new staff and make them feel welcome.

Joyce Mayne will serve as our new part-time Administrative Assistant in the church office, taking on responsibilities for communications, bulletins, membership records, church calendar, and other church business. Joyce comes with experience as an administrative secretary for the Office of the State Attorney in Worcester County, Maryland. Having moved to Lancaster County with her husband a couple years ago, she is now an active member of West Willow United Methodist Church in Willow Street.

Joyce will be working Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. Volunteer secretaries will continue to answer the phone and assist with clerical jobs in the mornings from Monday through Friday.

Starting in September, most of the financial business of the church will be outsourced rather than done entirely by the church office. The local Parish Resource Center will handle the bookkeeping, and Inovo of Lancaster will take care of payroll. Carolyn Moody, the chair of our Finance Team, is assisting with this transition. Outsourcing these jobs allows for a part-time Administrative Assistant at the church and provides an economical way for delivery of these financial services.

New faces to the 9:00 a.m. contemporary service will be Yvette Diaz and Dennis Pou. The two will share the position of Music/Worship Leader, rehearsing with the Praise Team and helping to conduct contemporary worship on Sunday mornings. Yvette interned at Covenant several years ago and so is familiar with our church and community. A deacon in the United Methodist Church, she is an accomplished soloist, who has worked with several praise bands in other churches. Dennis has also worked with other praise teams and brings both keyboarding and guitar skills along with his vocal abilities. He has multi-media and sound board experience as well and will assist with preparation for the contemporary worship service. Most Sundays both will combine their talents along with the other members of the Praise Team to lead the congregation in worship.

An additional responsibility of these two musicians will be to reach out to children and youth to invite them to share their musical talents, both vocal and instrumental, in worship at Covenant. The goal will be in time to have young people involved once a month in contemporary and/or traditional worship using their musical talents for the Lord.

Covenant Returns to Church Council Model

In July the Leadership Team met along with the Team Leaders of the various committees of Covenant and decided to return to the Church Council model as the administrative body of the church. The Leadership Team will continue on as a Visioning Team. Seeking effective communication among all leaders within the church to make decisions for moving the church forward was an impetus for this change. At the same time a separate team can remain in place to focus on visioning and strategic planning.

The Church Council will meet quarterly and conduct its first meeting on Tuesday, October 8, at 7:00 p.m. The leaders of all teams are to be part of the Church Council along with the pastors, lay leader, church treasurer, and representation from youth, United Methodist Women, and United Methodist Men. The Nominations Team will continue to be responsible for designating team leaders and church officials for 2020 who will in turn become members of the Church Council.

The current Leadership Team members will have their next meeting as the Visioning Team on Tuesday, September 10, and will plan to meeting quarterly, usually the months before Church Council meetings. As of 2020, new members for that team will be contacted by the Nominations Team rather than elected as with the Leadership Team model. The chair of the Visioning Team will then become a member of Church Council.

If you would like to serve as a leader within the church, please contact the pastor, who heads the Nominations Committee. The meetings of both the Church Council and the Visioning Team will be open to any church members who desire to attend.

Sidelights

GIFTS GIVEN

In memory of **Ruth E. Goshkey**, gifts to the Dolly Kepner Fund from John M. McEwen and Thomas Buter. Gifts to the Discretionary Fund from Dick and Georgi Galen. A gift to the Building Fund from Joan Miller. A gift to the Memorial Fund from Carole Horn.

In memory of **William J. Keeler**, gifts to the Memorial Fund from Rev. Ted and Esther Mefferd, Cindy Smith, James and Doris Work, Joan Nicholson, Carole Horn, and Don and Sandy Knaub. A gift to the Dolly Kepner Fund from Thomas Buter. A gift to the Building Fund from Joan Miller.

YOUTH NEWS

The summer months usually find many of our youth on vacation. We had a few outings this summer, but now that school has started, we are anxious to have all the youth back together. We began with a trip to Knoebels on August 12. We had 10 youth and 3 adults on the trip. We rented a van so that we could travel together.

Fall begins our Gretna Glen Free Youth Sunday Activities. Every third Sunday from September–March (with the exception of December) we will be going to Gretna Glen and enjoying the activities that they prepare for us. We are also planning on visiting Cherry Crest Adventures, Back to School Events, Trunk or Treat events, the Christmas Church Event, and other events planned for youth. This is a wonderful opportunity for our youth to socialize with other youth.

We are looking forward to Family and Friends day along with the church picnic. There are activities planned to keep the children and youth active.

We are still looking for volunteers that are willing to help with the youth activities. If you are interested, please contact Min. Santa at 717-992-7879.

Sidelights

UMW READING PROGRAM

Thank you to all who are participating in this program. Now we need you to continue and return any books that you have finished. Remember to read a Response magazine that is also on that shelf. All reading lists must be returned to Chris Kimmich or Cindy Smith by Sunday September 15th.

JOIN A PRAYER GROUP

The Wednesday prayer group returns September 18 at 10:15 a.m. No one that attends will need to lead a prayer, just your support is appreciated. The conference call prayer group continues to meet every Friday morning at 6:00 a.m. via the phone. Just dial 1-605-313-5107, and enter code 202700#.

GROCERY CARDS

Support our Outreach Team and Outreach Ministries by purchasing a grocery card at the table in the lobby. Cards can be purchased on the first and third Sunday of each month. By using the card, a percentage of your purchase price returns to the church.

NURSERY AVAILABLE

The nursery is fully staffed during our 10:30 service. Please feel free to bring your infants, toddlers, and preschoolers to the nursery on 2nd floor.

NOTE OF THANKS

Jeannine Spece would like to thank everyone for their prayers and all other loving signs of support during her surgery and recovery. She feels truly blessed by her Covenant family.

Adult Sunday School Classes Begin New Series

This month marks the return of all of the adult Sunday School Classes scheduled from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. on Sundays.

The Ages and Stages Sunday School Class will resume its DVD studies and discussions on September 8. The class will change its meeting location to B4 (Jesus Room) on the lower level. The first series of six lessons is entitled *Revival: Faith as Wesley Lived It* by Adam Hamilton. The second six-week study will feature Ray Vander Laan and his teachings and travels through Sinai and Israel with emphasis on life in the desert—literally in Biblical times and figuratively today. Teachers include: Greg Barton, Rev. Guy Carrigan, Carole Horn, Joan Miller, and Lois Neidermyer.

The Son Shine Sunday School Class returns to its meeting room B1 on the lower level on September 8th also. They will be studying the New Testament book of Philippians for twelve weeks with the help of Max Lucado's book *Life Lessons from Philippians*. Patti Willard and Jeannine Spece share the teaching of this class.

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**COVENANT CHURCH is Bringing Christ's Light into the
Community and Beyond AND Preparing for Increase in 2019.
Please be in prayer for Covenant.**

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

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

Willard Hypnosis Center

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

Financial Update

The Finance Team wishes to keep the Covenant Family up to date on the state of our church finances. 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 July 2019 which represents 58% of the year			
	Budget	July YTD Actuals	Percentage of Budget
INCOME			
Envelope Offering	\$305,000.00	\$163,829.45	54%
Plate Offering	\$3,000.00	\$1,642.35	55%
Special Offerings	\$8,850.00	\$5,456.75	62%
Trusts	\$18,600.00	\$10,890.96	59%
Parking Lot	\$23,000.00	\$18,643.00	81%
Use of Bldg	\$1,500.00	\$1,080.00	72%
Day Care	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00	50%
Miscellaneous	\$5,500.00	\$1,417.11	26%
BB&T	\$120,486.00	\$0.00	0%
	\$495,936.00	\$207,959.62	42%
EXPENSES			
Missions & Benevolence	\$53,268.00	\$22,059.10	41%
Evangelism	\$600.00	\$0.00	0%
Christian Education	\$3,100.00	\$508.82	16%
Outreach	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	0%
Worship	\$2,385.00	\$1,041.19	44%
Program Administration	\$23,150.00	\$14,701.74	64%
Personnel	\$293,451.00	\$164,287.34	56%
Property	\$118,482.00	\$64,305.97	54%
	\$495,936.00	\$266,904.16	54%

Here's To Good Health!

WHAT IS HOARDING?

Webster defines hoarding as the practice of collecting or accumulating something such as money or food. Hoarding is marked by an overwhelming desire to collect items and an inability to discard things that may seem useless, to such a point that the collections cause stress and start impacting person's health, career or relationships.

There really is a disorder called hoarding disorder. Mayo Clinic defines this disorder as a persistent difficulty discarding or parting with possessions because of a perceived need to save them. Hoarding can range from mild to severe.

Hoarding during the depression or war time could be seen as something that needed to be done because money and food was scarce.

Collecting things might not be a bad thing if items are kept neat and clean. We all keep things or buy things we might not really need to have but hoarding is the excessive collecting, and items are no longer usable or safe to have. Space becomes cluttered and not accessible

Hoarding often leads to unsanitary conditions and health issues. Serious and sometimes fatal illnesses are caused by rodent infestation and droppings as well as mold and bacteria. If there would be a fire, the blaze can spread quickly throughout the house and just might leave persons living there trapped inside. Emergency responders may not be able to get inside.

Children or pets could be crushed from piles of hoarded items falling on top of them. Children and animals are susceptible to respiratory illness from dust and unsanitary conditions. Mold is often found when excessive hoarding places are decluttered.

Fall is a good time to do some of that decluttering, making your home safe and healthy.

Cindy Smith

Wellness coach

Sidelights

EXCITING NEWS FROM THE NURTURE TEAM

We are enthusiastically meeting our community families. We are inviting families from Fulton Elementary School and Reynolds Middle School as well as our Covenant church family to our Back to School event on Friday, September 6, at 5:30 pm. We will have fun activities, food, and school supplies for all children in attendance, and we will enjoy fellowship with their families. What can you do to support this event? Our highest priority need is for backpacks. Financial donations to support this event are also welcomed. Lastly, volunteers are always appreciated. We thank you in advance for your prayers and participation. Please see Minister Brenda or any member of the Nurture Team for more information.

HEART WARMED EVANGELISM

I signed up for the course "Sharing Jesus." Did you? The time is growing short. The deadline is Sunday, Sept. 8. And please sign up because 10 persons are required to make the learning dynamics work. Yes, only 10 participants are needed to make it a go. Yes, no course without at least 10 participants. Really.

Can you imagine that not even ten people at Covenant are signed up to take the course? What does that tell you about evangelism at Covenant? It tells me that either people are fearful to learn how to share their faith or that they already know.

Do you remember, some time ago, we suggested that each person invite another person to come to worship? I remember. How did that go? All I know is that attendance at worship has not doubled. Hey, I'm guilty, too. So I am going to sign up today! The class begins Sept. 22 and runs thru Sunday, Nov. 10. Why not sign up today?

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: **M-T-W-F 9-2:30 p.m.**

Church Staff

The Reverend Quentin E. Wallace, Senior Pastor

The Reverend Sally Ott, Visitation & Witness

Minister Santa Jenkins, Youth Director

The Reverend Dr. Guy Carrigan, Dir. of Evangelism

Mr. Jeffrey McGary, Echoes Editor

Mrs. Joyce Mayne, Administrative Assistant

Email

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Continued from Page 4...

Having met throughout the summer, the Faith and Fellowship Class will continue its "post-exile" study the first part of September with lessons on the Old Testament book of Malachi. The next study will switch to the New Testament, focusing on the life and messages of the Apostle Paul with Adam Hamilton's DVD and book *The Call*. This class meets on the main level in the library with teachers Evelyn Ernst, Chris Kim-mich, and Cindy Smith.

All adults are welcome to attend any of the above classes in order to grow in knowledge of the Bible and in their Christian walk.