



August 2020

Monthly Newsletter



We Are . . .

- Inviting:* All people to a place where they can discover God's unconditional love and saving grace for themselves;
- Embracing:* All God's children so that we may each grow in an understanding of God and God's plan for us; and
- Empowering:* People to serve God with the gifts God has given them, in the place God sends us, and in the time of God's choosing.

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Our Story Continues...

With the redesign of our website (check it out at www.westlawnumc.org), we have a short paragraph entitled "Our Story." You can read it on our website by clicking on About, and then in the drop down menu, click on Our Story. It is intended to give the reader a quick glimpse of where we began, including photographs of the barn on Riegel's Dairy Farm, where our first worship service was held in May 1912, and of our first church building, dedicated in 1913.

Seeing these historical reminders has spurred some to want to see, read, and learn more! If YOU would like to work on developing a fuller picture of our church's history, we invite you to contact Pastor Raffauf. Send him an email at jeff@westlawnumc.org and include "church history" in the subject box.

What a joy it could be to see our story, God's Story, and how the two came together, all to the glory of God!

Appeal for Donated Masks, Hand Sanitizer, etc.

The Eastern PA Conference Disaster Response Ministry is seeking volunteers to sew and donate suitable protective masks for children and adults in vulnerable, urban communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many church members and residents in these communities are in great need of masks, hand sanitizer and other assistance to help them stay safe and survive the pandemic.

The ministry needs and will gladly accept:

- ✝ Donations of disposable and reusable masks,
- ✝ Flip-top bottles (2-ounces) for use in dispensing hand sanitizer,
- ✝ Gallon jugs of hand sanitizer to fill flip-top bottles, and
- ✝ Monetary donations to help purchase and distribute supplies.

Please contact the Rev. Myra Maxwell, East District Disaster Response Coordinator, at myrajmax1@gmail.com/ 215-468-1999, to help or for questions. Donations can be sent or delivered to: Trinity United Methodist Church, 1814 Wharton Street, Philadelphia, PA 19146.

Until My Rights Are More About You Than Me They Are Wrongs



Friends of West Lawn Church,

First, I invite and encourage you to read from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, chapter 8, vss. 1-13. I recently read a piece (a part of my daily devotions) by JD Walt, which I'd like to share with you, below. Please be careful, though. If you have a closed mind, or think you have nothing to learn, or no place you need to grow, you won't want to read any further. All others, please read on:

"(I Cor. 8:1-13 holds a teaching of profound and universal importance for the followers of Jesus. The problem with today's text is we have no clearly comparable situation in the twenty-first century (at least in the United States) in which to make application of the text. We have many challenges as Christians today, but eating meat sacrificed to idols is not one of them. Because the big idea here is the issue of a Christian doing something that causes another to stumble, people immediately want to jump to issues of a Christian's use of alcohol in a world filled with alcoholics. (However), today's text presents us a much bigger principle which cuts to the heart of the Christian faith.

We know that "We all possess knowledge." But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. But whoever loves God is known by God.

The Corinthians were all about "wisdom" and "knowledge." The big problem and the ironic sign that they possessed neither of them is the way they sought to distinguish themselves over and against others who did not possess such wisdom and knowledge. Their knowledge produced a kind of elitism among them. It "puffed" them up. They readily translated their so-called knowledge into their own individual freedoms and rights without regard to the way their exercising those freedoms and rights would impact others.

Despite the way texts like these often get misappropriated into anti-intellectual sentiment in the church, knowledge is not bad. The issue is how we appropriate knowledge. Does our knowledge lead us to a deeper "knowing" of others or does it lead us to pride in ourselves?

Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know.

I'll close with an analogy that may turn out to be a rabbit trail through a minefield but as an attorney I can't resist it. While the Constitution of the United States is a brilliant document, the real genius came in the Bill of Rights. The problem with the Bill of Rights, though, is we forget the overarching purpose. The Bill of Rights was not established to create a national ethos of unfettered individual freedom to justify doing just about everything under the sun under the auspices of one's individual rights regardless of the offense or injury it may cause to others. The Bill of Rights was established to protect the citizenry from the government. Freedom of speech and freedom of religion and the right to bear arms and to be free from unreasonable search and seizure and so forth are not meant to establish a totalizing individual autonomy. They are meant to foster the common good and a government by the people for the people.

Free speech has nothing to do with a sacrilegious art display or an expletive on my t-shirt, and everything to do with the ability to voice a contrary opinion about (any elected leader) without being arrested for it. These rights are for the flourishing and preservation of a certain kind of community. They are for the sake of one another far more than for my individual ability to do whatever the heck I want to do. We have run far amuck of our founders' intention because these rights have become far more about ourselves as individuals than our relationships with one another. We think we know something, but do not yet know as we ought to know.

The issue is not our rights, but our relationships. The issue is not knowledge of the law but knowing one another. We have not been rescued and set free from sin for freedom's sake but for the love of God and the love of neighbor. Until my rights are more about you than they are about me then they are really wrongs." - JD Walt

[pastor's message-continued]

Would you dare pray with me? - Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Yes, Lord, knowledge is good but love is infinitely better. I ask you for the gift of the humility of Jesus, to have the mind of Christ, that I might learn to handle knowledge with love. I confess my pride as sin; even more I confess that most of my pride is yet hidden from me. Come Holy Spirit, and gently reveal my pride and give me the grace to repent. I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Blessings to you, dear sisters and brothers in Christ! May God be with you till we meet again.

Pastor Jeff

Stay Connected to your Church Family from your Home!

FIND ON OUR WEBSITE: www.westlawnumc.org

Replay Live Stream Worship Services by following these instructions:

- On the home page click on the WORSHIP tab and select LIVESTREAMING. When the page opens scroll down and select the service you wish to view.
- It will open in small view. Double click to expand to full screen.

View Bulletins by clicking on the BULLETIN button at the side of the LIVESTREAMING page or by clicking on the WORSHIP tab and selecting BULLETINS and then click on the date you would like to view.

Submit a Prayer Request Online by following these instructions:

- Click on the WORSHIP tab
- Select PRAYER REQUEST
- Select your choice of Public or Private, fill in the form and click on SUBMIT.

(Public Prayer Requests will be added to our Prayer Page and shared with our church family. Private Prayer Requests are sent directly to the Pastoral staff.)

Watch Daily Devotionals from our Pastors by scrolling down on the home page to the Devotional circle and click on the words Browse our Devotions or click on the MEDIA tab and select DAILY DEVOTIONALS.

- Opens to that day's devotional message.
- Click on the YouTube link to see archived devotional messages.

Weekly Sunday School lessons based on the Sunday Livestream children's message. Go to <https://www.westlawnumc.org/sunday-school>.

OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT:

- **Subscribe to our YouTube channel** to see our daily devotionals and worship services. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjk6YiptFESz_e26U1EA4jw
- **Sunday School Zoom Video Conferencing** on Sunday & Wednesday nights. There will be a review of the lesson, a craft, game and to simply chat with the kids! Parents receive an invitation link to these Zoom calls via their email.



*Keep an eye
out for when
the WLUMC
Ice Cream Bus
comes to your
neighborhood!*

Ministry Highlights

by Carolann Schneiderhan

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.—1 Peter 4:10

Over the past several months, our church, as everyone, has experienced a change like no other in the course of its history. We have had to close the physical doors of our building for worship and for events. However, as you know, the church of Jesus Christ cannot be stopped! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God speaks to us, leads His people through the difficult times and gives us direction to walk in his ways. West Lawn UMC continued its ministries through the days of quarantine and into this new phase of restricted reopening. Thanks be to God for all of those who have served throughout the past couple of months, and those who continue to serve. While these weeks have been difficult, it has been wonderful to see how WLUMC served our community, those in need, and each other. There have been small teams of people who have demonstrated their love for Jesus in quiet but thoughtful ways. One of these groups meet in our kitchen once a week to make a few hundred sandwiches for the New Journey Soup Kitchen for their daily lunch distribution. Thank you to Gerrie Mentzer, Al & Eileen Williams, Ed & Joyce Hong, Kelly Rismiller and her children, Jen Little and her children, Jodi Detwiler and her children, Kim Williams and her children, The Schlegel family, and many youths including: Bella Lapi, Katie Wargo, Addy Cohen, Grace Jentes, Gabriel and Jonathan Spohn, Charlotte and Madelyn Rismiller, Jacob and Norah Hof-fer, Michael Awurumibe and Becca Zeiner.



Another silent but mighty team are those who prepare meals for Opportunity House. Thank you to Cheryl Raffauf and the many folks who continue to prepare meals to take into that shelter each month. Thank you to those who most recently served: Sharon High, Malissa Young, Ruth Stevens, Bob Mays, Katie Marweg, Sue Allan, Randy & Margo Hill and Gerrie Mentzer. Anyone interested can volunteer to do this. Please let us know if you would like to join this team!



The pastors and staff have had fun as they tried to connect briefly with the congregation through the Ice Cream Bus deliveries. We all miss our friends and WLUMC families so this gave us a brief chance to stop by and say hello. These ice cream deliveries will continue for several weeks as we have a large congregation with many miles to travel to the many homes. Behind the scenes, we want to thank Kelly Rismiller for organizing the weekly distribution and delivery event with the help of John Coakley who often drives and creates the bus routes. Thank you to our other drivers, Jim Griffith and Jeff Nagle. Thank you also to the pastors and staff who have delivered the ice cream each week. In the kitchen, we had silent servants who had to make the hundreds of cups of ice cream and of course clean the ice cream machine! Thank you to Ed Stauffer, Warren Marweg and Al Williams for their assistance as well as Howie and Josh Weber, David and Judy Wahl for their help in getting that ice cream made! What a delicious treat!!

One of our “behind the scenes teams” is our newest Meet the Need Ministry. Through the direction and leadership of Darrell Denny we developed a team of individuals who called our congregation and friends in an effort to reach those who may have needed spiritual, physical or emotional help during the time of separation. There was a tremendous congregational response and we want to thank all of the individuals who made these weekly contacts. Many new friendships have been made through these calls.

Another behind the scenes ministry is our Audio Visual & Live Stream Team. To make our Sunday worship services happen, Dave Haas has put together a small but faithful group of people who help to manage the sound, screens and live streaming. Thank you to Sam Marshall, Clara Weber, Chris Wiederspahn, Jerry Geleff, Brian Gall, Jakob Hoffert, Lynn Williamson and Justin Raffauf. Thank you also to Bobby Rutherford for his expertise in filming and editing many of the 9:30 worship services. One of our youngest members of this tech team is Clara Weber. For the past three years, Clara has very faithfully served as the primary camera person for the 8:00 a.m. worship service. She is a very talented young lady and now a recent graduate of Wilson High School. She plans on studying communications and theater this fall at York College. We are so thankful that she shared her talent with us in this quiet and faithful way. We wish Clara all the best and welcome her to continue to serve on this team whenever she is in town. This Audio-Visual Team is now more important than ever as we have a broad audience tuning in to watch our services, sometimes from locations all over the United States. It is not hard to learn and it is a way that you can silently serve as our church invites ALL to know Jesus. If you or someone you know have interest in camera work or in serving in any way on this team, please contact Dave Haas or the office, and we will teach you everything you need to know!



Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

-1 Timothy 4:12 ESV

Praise be to God for those who ask God how they can help others. Praise be to God for those who listen for direction and for those who answer the call! The church continues to serve. If you want to participate in one of these ministries, please let us know.

David also said to Solomon his son, "Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you until all the work for the service of the temple of the LORD is finished. -1 Chronicles 28:20

WAYS TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT OUR CHURCH & MINISTRIES

EFT - Electronic Funds Transfer

- Go to the West Lawn website www.westlawnumc.org and click on the GIVE tab or click on the EXPLORE / ONLINE GIVING tab. Follow the instructions.

Text Giving

- Send a text message to [610-365-4400](tel:610-365-4400) and follow any prompts.

Smart Phone APP

- Go to your APP store and download the App [GIVEPLUS+](#). Follow the prompts to setup.

Bill Pay

- An easy process offered by most banks to establish recurring or one-time gifts to be sent by check directly from your bank, without sharing any banking information with the church or a 3rd-party provider.

Mail in your contribution to the church office. Be sure to designate your name and what the contribution is for. Send to:

West Lawn United Methodist Church
15 Woodside Ave.
West Lawn, PA 19609-1664

Thank you for your continued financial support

Mark Your Calendars for Sept. 11th

Please join members of the Prayer Team on Friday September 11, 2020 to celebrate and honor our front-line responders and essential personnel. Whether you are a hospital worker, grocery store clerk, police officer, or any other person deemed "essential" in this time of pandemic, we want to celebrate YOU! Everyone is invited to attend and show your support and appreciation.

Look for details in the September Crossroads, as well as bulletins and social media as we get closer to the date.

Phillies Game Cancelled

The Philadelphia Phillies bus trip and game has been canceled. Refunds have been sent out. If you haven't received your refund, please contact Lori Madara at 484-332-1582.

Faith, Fitness & Fun Walk

It was a perfect summer night on July 7 for our Faith, Fitness & Fun Walk around the West Lawn parking lots! Over 75 children came to enjoy our obstacle course, on bike, skates, strollers, scooters, hoverboards, and more! Along the way, kids of all ages enjoyed "traveling" through biblical story scenes including Noah's Ark, the Red Sea, a dusty desert, the Wall of Jericho, a whale's belly, Bethlehem, and more! And, after laps and laps of obstacle fun, all enjoyed complimentary Kona Ice as a special refreshing treat!

A special thanks to our set designers: Sandi Petersheim, Jayme Raffauf, Frank Piscitello, Trisha Rabold, Bethany Young, and Cristyl and Rick Lapi; as well as adult and youth onsite helpers: Elissa and Jazmine Arzuaga, Michael Rivera, Becca Zeiner, Grace Jentes, Charlotte & Madelyn Rismiller, Howie and Josh Weber, Bella Lapi, Addie Cohen, Alexandra Barnes, Erin McCarthy, Jonathan Spohn.

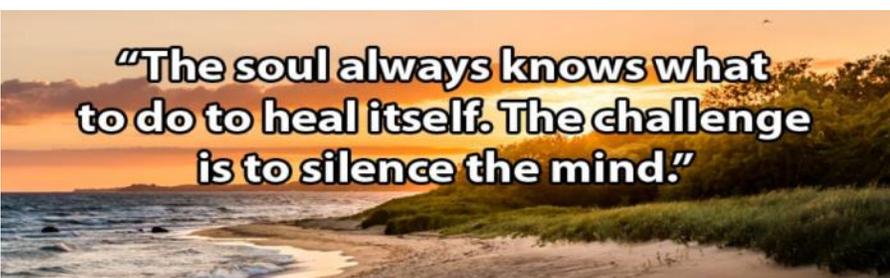


Young Adult Paid Opportunities

The United Way of Berks County and the Young Adult Program at PA CareerLink® Berks County are partnering to provide employment opportunities for young adults starting in late-July through early-November. Since mid-March 2020, the spreading COVID-19 virus has inflicted serious damage to both the public health and the economic prospects of Berks County residents and employers. "This new partnership between the United Way of Berks County and CareerLink will help create a vital opportunity for our young adults to gain invaluable workplace experience and connect with the larger community, especially during these challenging times," Commissioner Michael S. Rivera said. "With so much of the economy in flux right now, finding a job is an even more daunting task than before. I believe the Berks Service Corps is a creative way to help young adults start their careers and aid our local community agencies during this time of need." Based on experience with previous economic downturns, it is certain that this rapid and severe disruption will disproportionately impact Berks County's young adults - particularly those who have yet to gain solid footing on a viable career path which matches their interests, talents and preparation.

The Berks Service Corps paid work experience is available to eligible young adults between the ages of 18-24. While most any paid work opportunity might be a "good opportunity" for young adults this summer (and fall), this program provides participants with enhanced learning and community engagement through service learning, leadership and personal development, financial literacy and positive relationships with adult role models in the community. Funding being made available by the Berks County Workforce Development Board; the program seeks to enroll up to 50 participants with placements at local community agencies. "Bringing together community agencies and this target population help fill gaps where volunteers may not be readily available due to the pandemic while giving these young people experiences learning about their community," says Ashley Chambers, Senior VP of Community Impact at United Way of Berks County. Several agencies have been identified to host most of the participants including Albright College (Census 2020 Complete Count Committee), Centro Hispano, Helping Harvest, and Opportunity House. Placements with community-based non-profit agencies will average between 25-30 hours per week at \$9.50 an hour. "With record unemployment due to COVID-19, our young people may have an even more difficult time finding jobs, and, likewise, our community agencies are struggling to find volunteers," said Senator Judy Schwank. "I am so glad to see the United Way and CareerLink partner to fill this need."

Applications are being accepted now through the Young Adult Program at PA CareerLink® Berks County. To make a referral or learn more, please contact Yerli Torres, ytorres@bccl.org or 484-650-3512. PA CareerLink® Berks County is an equal opportunity employer/program.



Wilson Area Food Pantry

The next Food Pantry distribution will be on August 21st from 2-4PM with pickup in the WLUMC Reiner Education Building parking lot. Food boxes will be prepared ahead of time and patrons will drive up, pop their trunk, and the box will be placed inside.

Pre-registration is preferred and can be scheduled by calling 484-525-0980.

VBS Cancelled

Sadly, this summer's Vacation Bible School at West Lawn UMC will not occur. We will save our amazing "Rocky Railway VBS" theme for 2021. Continue to watch our website and social media platforms for alternative, safe, fun-filled summer events being planned throughout the summer.

Blood Donations

Blood donations are very much in need during this COVID-19 pandemic. You can give blood in West Lawn's name by calling the Miller/Keystone Blood Center (610) 926-6060 or going directly to their website to register at <https://donor.giveapint.org/donor>.

Baptisms/New Members

If you are interested in scheduling a baptism or joining the church, please contact the Church Office at office@westlawnumc.org or one of the pastors to inquire.

The next date to join is August 16, 2020.

Flowers on the Altar

As we reopen, just a reminder that you can place flowers on the altar in honor or memorial of loved ones.

To do so, please call Acacia Flower Shop at 610-376-8767 or email acaciaflowershop@gmail.com to place your order. Orders must be received by Tuesday to be ready for the upcoming Sunday.

Loss of a Spouse Support Group

Grieving the loss of a spouse or know someone who is? Life has changed and the daily emotion can seem hard to bear.

FIND HELP at: **Loss of a Spouse Seminar**
September 9, 2020 at 6:30 pm in HeBrews Cafe

Please RSVP to the church office at 610-678-5611.



YOU ARE INVITED!

Join us at **Petra Church in New Holland on Friday, August 21st** for A NIGHT OUT! This fundraising event launches our RESTORE Series, a line-up of events focused on God's heart to restore men, their marriages, families and communities.

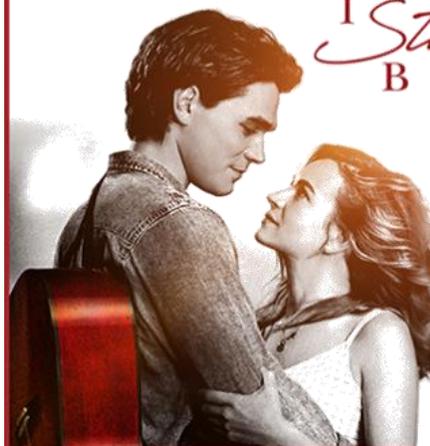
Enjoy a perfect outdoor summer experience:

- ◆ BBQ dinner catered by the Speckled Hen
- ◆ Penny's Ice Cream Truck
- ◆ Drive-In Movie



Make it a date night or bring the whole family, it's guaranteed to be a fun-filled evening. Register today for A NIGHT OUT at <https://menofiron.org/>! (Rain date is Saturday, August 22).

FEATURE MOVIE



based on the real-life story of Jeremy Camp and his journey of love and loss that proves there is always hope ... a powerful reminder that in the midst of life's storms, true hope can be found.

Remember...

Please let the office or pastors know if you or a loved one is hospitalized or placed in rehab. In this time of social distancing and visit restrictions at our care facilities, our pastors would love to connect with you via phone or virtual methods to pray with you and offer support.

Women's Book Club

Women's Book Club will meet Wednesday, August 12, at 7:00PM in Room 109 of the Education Bldg. We will be discussing The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides. **New readers** are always welcome! We meet every 2nd Wednesday in Room 109 of the Education Bldg. Come join the discussion! September's book is Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens.

To be added to the email list or for information please contact Donna Barnhart at dmbhart2@gmail.com or 610-678-7873.

Men of Iron

MEN OF IRON is a men's ministry designed to help a man grow in his faith by reading God's Word and sharing with another man (a mentor) who may be more seasoned in the Christian faith and journey. We were not meant to travel this life alone, and yet many men feel the need to "man up" and never find a person with whom they can share their deepest struggles and questions.

MEN – we invite *and encourage* you to consider signing up as a "protégé" for the coming school year/season, OR, perhaps you would like to help another man grow in his faith by being a "mentor."

If either is the case, contact George Bauer at [484-706-2458](tel:484-706-2458) / g_a_b24@msn.com for more information.



FIREHOUSE YOUTH MINISTRY

SUMMER Youth Group HIGHLIGHTS

Similar to all of society, our youth group had been meeting virtually through June, but as Berks County went to yellow, and church services started, we began to have some safely planned Youth Group gatherings. Many kids came out and enjoyed helping with the Children's Ministry Fitness, Fun & Faith Parking lot event at the beginning of July.

A few days later we held our first in person youth group. Our youth band played together for the second time in 4 months! We are hoping to have more Youth Group gatherings on Sunday evenings in August and create a plan for the coming fall! Stay Tuned!!

**For more info
please contact
Youth Director
Trisha Rabold
610.678.5611 (O)
484.432.7808 (C)
trisha@westlawnmc.org**

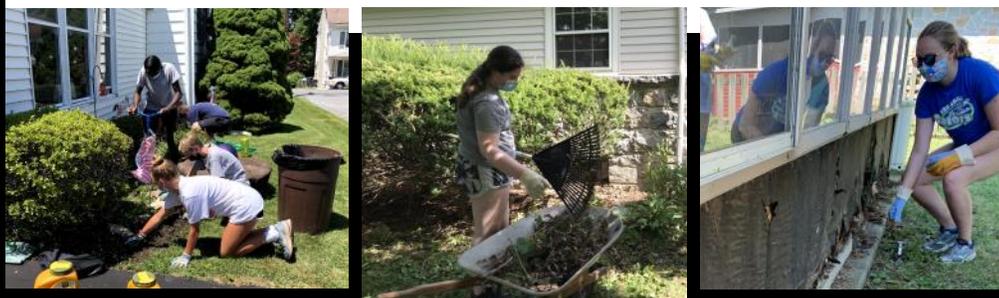
@Home Missions Week

We have had an amazing week of doing missions here in Berks County. We were unable to go serve in New Castle, PA as planned, but that didn't stop us from serving. We've grabbed our masks, our wheelbarrows, paint brushes, and drills and we've served those in our church and others in our community.

One group was able to complete landscaping around a house, and help remove an unsafe deck and turned the deck into a pergola area for the homeowners and their family to enjoy.

In another area, we've refinished a porch and put up a railing. We helped to landscape, refinish a screened in-porch, and had a few painting projects at another site. One group even worked at Rosedale Camp Grove by painting and helping to clear away logs and debris from a June storm.

We were able to serve at 10 total sites during the week, and all four work crews did 30 hours of outside only work during the hottest week of the year. Their parents may not believe me, but I heard no complaining from the youth. That may have something to do with the fact that I deliver not only the supplies, but also the popsicles. Besides being happy to finally be together again, they all have such servant hearts. I am so proud to lead this group of youth at West Lawn and I cannot wait for our Summer Missions Trip next year— even if we are still just “staying home.” -Trisha



Sunday Night Youth Group Dates & Info

7/26 -NO YOUTH GROUP

8/2 Youth Group 6:30-8pm

8/5 Water Wars Game Night

8/9– Youth Group 6:30-8pm

8/16– Youth Group 6:30-8pm

8/23– Last Summer Youth Group 6:30-8pm

Firehouse Youth Ministry will take a break at the end of the summer and start up again after Labor Day.

The 10 Most Important Things to Remember in Life...Just in case you ever forget

[based on a list by Molly Trede (University of Nebraska: Omaha), Oct. 31. 2016]

1. **Nobody is perfect.**—Be patient and remember that others will make mistakes. You just have to love them anyway. (Remember: Love one another. Love your neighbor.)
2. **Not everyone will like you.** I know it's hard to believe, but sometimes, no matter how hard you try, people just won't like you.
3. **#2 is not a bad thing.**—You don't need everyone to like you, so don't try too hard to get those people on your side. The people who really matter won't need a reason to like you, they just will.
4. **Always be genuine.** If you want the people that really matter to stick around, you've got to make sure you're giving them your best, and nothing less. Be good to people, for no reason, always.
5. **Focus on yourself every once in a while.**—It's okay to be selfish every now and then and realize that you need some "me time" in order to get away from the world and keep yourself healthy and happy. (Jesus did this regularly. We call it "quiet time," or daily devotional time.)
6. **Take a deep breath.**—Everything gets better in time. Don't let something small get to you. Take a breath, be strong, and remember that it will get better.
7. **Be supportive.**—If someone is excited about their accomplishments, build them up. Even if you don't understand why it's so important to them, the fact that they find it important is all that matters and they would love to know that you are cheering them on.
8. **Don't take life too seriously.** -One of the most important things in life is to have as much fun as you can. (Enjoy life right now!) Laugh a little more and worry a little less.
9. **Know that you are loved.**—Things get hard sometimes, I get that. But you are loved. Every single day, by so many people, *and by God*, you are absolutely loved. (Read John 3:16-17. Seriously! *Read it right now!*)
10. **Pray.**—Sometimes you're going to feel alone, but I promise you this: you're not. God is always ready to listen. Taking a few minutes out of your busy day to talk to the One who will never leave you is far more important than you think.

Hello from New Journey,

Thank you for your very generous contribution to New Journey Community Outreach. We sincerely appreciate that you have joined with us by supporting our mission of Fighting Poverty and Feeding Hope in our community.

As you may already know, we are the largest Soup Kitchen in Reading serving 32,000 lunches this past year and distributing groceries to 330 unduplicated families each month. All our services are free, and are made possible through the ongoing food, clothing and monetary contributions we receive from foundations, individuals, local businesses, churches, civic and school groups. With only four part-time staff, we rely on over 600 volunteers who provided 6,170 hours of support for our day-to-day operations last year.

During this critical time of COVID-19, New Journey is open and continuing Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry services. To minimize contamination and practice social distancing we have transitioned to outside distribution. The number of individuals and families needing food continues to escalate. Social Service agencies working with clients who need to stay at home have been picking up emergency food and taking it to their clients. We are thankful we can help.

Your contribution is playing an essential role in helping us ensure food access for the people in need in our community. Thank you again for your support.

Kindest regards,
Sue Krall, Executive Director, NJCO

Thank You...

Dear West Lawn congregation, The past few months have been very challenging for all of us, and I want to express my gratitude for the prayers you've lifted up on behalf of the pastors and staff. I feel very honored to be part of such a loving congregation who cares so deeply for each other. I've felt your prayers and am humbled to serve God and walk beside each one of you. Thank you!!! - Pastor Lisa

Dear Rev. Raffauf and friends at West Lawn UMC Thank you so much for your generous support during our summer of no camp! We sure do appreciate your kindness and donation from your scholarship fund. Thanks for helping us to change-lives-for-Jesus. We are praying that our Fall retreat season can open, but first is the safety of folks. Please keep camps in your prayers.

Blessings, Rev. Ron Schane, Director

[West Lawn UMC donated 1/4th of our camping scholarship budgeted funds to each of our four conference camps, in recognition and support of our camps losing out on hosting a summer camping season.]

Dear West Lawn UMC Family,

Your gracious gift of \$625 is a blessing to those seeking refuge and life restoration at Hope. Your support enables us to provide food, shelter, clothing and guidance to over 1,200 individuals annually, including homeless veterans and many who are battling addiction. You are a valued partner in this ministry, and we could not manage all we do without your faithful financial and prayer support.

Our Code Blue, Safe Haven, Discipleship, and Transitional Housing programs provide Mission guests the opportunity to be restored to productive physical and spiritual lives. Since the costs needed to minister continue to grow, your ongoing contributions are greatly appreciated to allow this great work to carry on.

As we celebrate 126 years of service to the homeless of Berks County, we praise the Lord for our faithful partners who give sacrificially to feed the hungry, provide safe shelter for the homeless, and restore broken lives! Sincerely, Robert Turchi, Exec. Director

I don't have a smart phone or computer, so this will have to do. I want to thank everyone who kept in touch through the pandemic, the notes, the phone calls, the grocery shopping, meals, books to read and ice cream! What a caring church—thanks again. People I tell can't believe all you have done these last four months! God Bless, Arlene Doerrman

Dear Church Family, After my husband, Glen, passed away, I was awestruck by the number of cards, notes, phone calls and donations to the church in his memory. The outpouring of Christian love was overwhelming and I will be forever grateful. Sincerely, Nina Hostetter

Dear church, Thank you for your prayers, cards, phone calls and meals sent to us during my recent surgeries. After three trips in March and June, I am finally on my way to recovery. We would love to be back in church, however, my immune system is not good enough yet. Keep live streaming the services! Sincerely, Gene & Barb Messner

In Loving Memory



Diana Faye Dundore
September 16, 1939—
June 26, 2020

Our Newest Member

STEPHEN "STEVE" SNYDER—Six years ago, Craig Seda invited Steve to join him in preparing meals for West Lawn Wednesday. Steve has been an enthusiastic helper ever since! When not helping in the West Lawn kitchen, Steve works at Empire Wrecking as a truck driver and equipment operator. Steve also is a volunteer firefighter and fire police for Spring Township. When he finds time to relax he enjoys going to the shore, fishing and generally being on the water. He also loves spending time with his parents, Mom-Cindy, Dad-Dan and sister and brother-in-law-Sam and Kevin. Steve resides in the West Lawn area and usually worships at the 9:30 a.m. service. Welcome Steve!



15 Woodside Avenue
West Lawn, PA 19609
www.westlawnumc.org
Phone: 610-678-5611

OUR PASTORS:

Jeff Raffauf
Chris Hardy
Terry Cooney
Lisa Hoopes

Sunday Worship

8:00 am Traditional Worship
9:30 am Praise Worship
11:00 am Celebration Worship
11:10 am Community Worship

Online Children's Groups

Sundays

9:00 am Kids Group (age 2-12)

Wednesdays

7:00 pm Kids Group (age 3-6)

7:30 pm Kids Group (gr. 2-5)





August Birthdays



AUGUST 1

Vicki Eby
Tracey Miller
Lois Persing
Wendy Rio
Henry Sarros
Christine Snyder

AUGUST 2

Carson Deitz
Conlin Farrell
John Hunter
Terry Stamm
Emma Viera
Matthew Zillhardt

AUGUST 3

Pamela Brightbill
Staci DeJesus
Brian Ebling
Bryna Reis
Emma Robinson
Franklin Rothenberger
Denise Strohmayer

AUGUST 4

Betty Berk
Gloria Brown *
Alice Burkhart
Joan Fick
Michael Poole
Jordan Thenga

AUGUST 5

Travis Cloud
Linda Kline
Alison Lacey
Donna Laumeister
Dale Rothenberger
Kimberly Swartz

AUGUST 6

Bridgitte Alvarado
Ann Conrow
Dominick DeJesus
Lyle Grebe
Bryce Grebe
Jamie O'Leary
Laura Witman

AUGUST 7

David Bosler
Arlan Davis
Brayden Dierolf
Cedric Fabien
Donna Fritz
Jackson Griffith
Henry Ladany
Joyce McGregor
Nathan Strausburger

AUGUST 8

Josh Birchess

Albalyra Bryan
Anthony Ciccone
Brendan Gallagher
Jennifer Jacobson
Lee Marabella
Elaine Marquez
Jean Yoder *

AUGUST 9

Ashley Hostetter
Matthew Miller
Christopher Noble
Brian Stiefel
Wayne Weikel
Joseph Yetter

AUGUST 10

Randolph Blatt
Stephanie Hostetter
Lindsay Kio
Jane Lubahn
Janice Ott
Jayme Raffauf

AUGUST 11

Andrew Adams
Penny Brubaker
Emma Wargo
Addison Wicks

AUGUST 12

Judy Brisman
Crystal Butts
Susan Christman
Roberta Conroy
Jada Correll
Bonnie Folk
Harlee Neuin
Lori Palka
Tim Stover

AUGUST 13

Fae Boyer
Sharon Gass
Jennifer Heist
Tracey Johnson
Donetta Kuhle
Karen Mays
Marnie Ramsey

AUGUST 14

Sallijean Ebert
Ashlee Harris
Emily Jentes
Erin Long
David Marous
Bondu Yamba

AUGUST 15

Britney Dierolf
Lila Galan
Dylan Hayick
Amy Ketner

Makailah Siekierka
Mike Sochko
Allison Welch
Winn White
Chris Williams

AUGUST 16

Elise Coakley
Colin Grace
Carol Leashefski
Scott Long
Isla Reichl
Steven Schneck
Nikki Waltz

AUGUST 17

Nathan Baker
Nolan Baldwin
Brenda Bayliss
Jane Blatt
Alexander Derr
Connor Gould
Rachel Keel
David Page
Logan Skokowski
Nolan David Turnick
Jack Williams
Scott Wyrick

AUGUST 18

Kristina Bryan
Joan Cook
Jeffrey Dry
Morgan Gensemer
Kenneth Hatt
Keri Irwin
Marci Prutzer
Michael Siminski

AUGUST 19

Jeanne Boyer
Alexandra Bryan
David Cappuccio
Henry Clark
Jake Paolini
Ruth Putt
Denton Quick
Kim Russell
Jacob Slemmer
Georgene Zeiner

AUGUST 20

James Baker
Nicole Daniels
Diane Guldin-Zaffiro
Janice Jones
Alexandra Kononov
Arion Marrero
Dori Noecker
Julia Prutzer
Bill Stambaugh
Kathryn Trout

AUGUST 21

Peg Carpenter
Bonnie Gosch
Maria Moorhatch
Richard Reaser
Marie Shuman
Lily Snyder

AUGUST 22

Myriam Ayala
Madisyn Bleiler
Pamela Crissman
Debbie Emerson
Curtis Frey
Logan McNeal
Allison Piscitelli
Kathleen Slemmer
Heidi Steinmetz
Robert Sweigart
Gabryella Whitehead
Christopher Zeiner
Mackenzie Zuidema

AUGUST 23

Brian Achey
Kevin Achey
Elizabeth Angstadt
Grayson Bubb
Gregory Hart
Scott Hayick
Theresa Himmelberger

AUGUST 24

Kathleen Berkheimer
Linda Fischer
Kelly Grabey
James Lengel
Rick Mays
Alex McGarrigle
William Surgeoner

AUGUST 25

Kacie Fuhrer
Kathy Huyett
Joyce Kershner
Kelly Knappenberger
Christopher Ortenzi
Cheryl Rubendall

AUGUST 26

Alice Cutts
Joan Dutt
Patricia Lee
Jessica Reinert
Kelly Rismiller
Harold Rodgers
Beth Woolwine

AUGUST 27

Pailsee Balthaser
Christie Carscadden
Jeff Daubert
Richard Greer

Carol Pettinato
Gary Rada
Maxwell Richards
Madelyn Rismiller
Ross Van Winkle

AUGUST 28

Kristie Beidelman
James Berger
Jane Draper
Janet Engle
Christian Hunter
Charlotte Hurdle
Mary Kilkka
Faye Leed
Jan Stoltz

AUGUST 29

Jazmine Arzuaga
Vincenzo Bruno
Olivia Detwiler
Siah Douglas
Wendy Drayer
Roger Herring
Willow Miner
Steven Rath
Benjamin Tier

AUGUST 30

Mike Althouse
Kristin Durbec
Sandra Goldman
Grace Jentes
Samuel Marshall
Ava O'Donnell
William Thomas
Barbara Wenger
Jean Zell

AUGUST 31

Thomas Fraser
Rachel Larkin
Cassie Minich



**Remember
Our Homebound Members**

***Jean Yoder**
Southgate Apts.
Apt. 211
815 W. Leesport Rd.
Leesport, PA 19533

***Gloria Brown**
Berkshire Commons
5485 Perkiomen Ave.,
Rm 247
Reading, PA 19606