

THE MUSTARD SEED



The Christian Education Committee continues to try to meet the needs of all age groups. In the fall, we will have Sunday School for Adults (every Sunday at 9:15), special activities for the youth, and Sunday School for the Pre-K through elementary children (below noted Sundays during the worship hour). We are going to try to institute a new dimension to the children's Sunday School time. We are going to be asking for help from the youth to assist the teacher during this time. So there will be a sign up sheet in the narthex for both teachers and youth assistants. We will only need one youth for each week. The following are the Sundays that we have chosen for Children's Sunday School:

September 15

October 13

November 10

September 29

October 27

November 24

Pam McNamara is going to be doing various activities with the youth and families, and there will be more information regarding this as it becomes available.



Meet Pastor Matt

Rev. Matthew Hoover is a native of Harrisburg, PA and currently lives outside of Reading. Growing up he attended church nearby at Hummelstown UCC. He recently served as the Interim Senior Pastor at Pleasantville UCC in Chalfont. Previously, he served pastorates in Mercersburg, PA and Boyertown, PA. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Hotel/Restaurant Management from Indiana University of PA and earned his Master of Divinity degree in 2004 from Lancaster Theological Seminary. While at seminary he met his lovely, intelligent wife, Rebecca Hoover. Becky currently serves as part-time Pastor of One UCC in Kenhorst, PA and as a full time first grade teacher at Northwest Area Elementary in Reading. Together they're raising a wonderful, brilliant daughter named Katie. Katie is a rising 12th grader who participates in band, orchestra, track and field, Mock Trial, Science Olympiad, and is a member of the National Honor Society. When not ministering Pastor Matt enjoys culinary adventures (grilling, making homemade ice cream, and smoking meat), reading, and learning German.

Fun Facts about Pastor Matt:

Favorite Bible Passages: Genesis 32:22-32 (Jacob wrestles God) and John 1:1-14 (Prologue)

Favorite Hymns: Jesus, I Live to Thee and Take My Life and Let It Be.

Favorite Theologian: Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Favorite Church Holiday (besides Christmas and Easter): Maundy Thursday

Favorite Book (Besides the Bible): *My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She Was Sorry* by Fredrik Bachman

Favorite Movie: *The Empire Strikes Back*

Favorite Pizza Topping: Mushrooms

Favorite Beverage: Coffee

Favorite Smell: Fresh Brewed Coffee

Favorite Sound: the Coffee Machine (Are you detecting a theme here?)

Pets: A cat named Cole (who thinks he's a dog sometimes)

What he most wants you to know: I'm looking forward to meeting everyone and learning more about Salem.



The Book Club will meet Monday, August 26 at 7 p.m. and the book to be discussed will be “The Perfect Marriage” by Jeneva Rose. The book for September will be “Huckleberry Finn” by Mark Twain followed by “James” by Percival Everett in October. Any questions, please contact Carin Kaag. Her e-mail is cas207@yahoo.com.



The Caring Cupboard would like to thank you for your recent gift of \$180. They would like to thank you for choosing to support individuals and families in need in our community and you are changing lives of those who come to them seeking help.

The Lancaster Seminary thanks your for your donation of \$90 to their annual fund. Your support is guiding their students in their journeys of faith and ministry.



Friends Helping Friends Day Shopping Passes are available for a \$5 donation to the Women’s Guild. The pass is for 25% off regular and sale priced items (with exclusions listed on the pass) on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 from 8 a.m. to 11 pm. at any Boscov’s Department Store. See Shirley Beck before or after worship to get your pass or you may contact her at becksl35@gmail.com. The \$5 donation all goes to the Women’s Guild and their Christmas Stocking program for local nursing homes.



The Women’s Fellowship is planning a trip to Hershey Area Playhouse to see “**Blithe Spirit**: on **November 17th at 2:00 p.m.** We have reserved 12 tickets. The cost will be \$26.00 if we have 12 or more signed up to come and \$28.00 if less than 12 people signup. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Bell Tower. **Payment is due by October 27th.** We will carpool from the church parking lot. Any questions see Shirley Beck or call 717-574-8555.



The Women’s Fellowship will be holding a **Luncheon & Chalk Talk** by Alva Hurst at 12 p.m. on **Saturday, September 14th**. A sign-up sheet is posted on the Bell Tower bulletin board. Bring a friend and a monetary or food donation for the Caring Cupboard.



Dear Salem friends,

I can't thank you all enough for your support during the time of my serving with you these past few months. I have so many GREAT MEMORIES with Salem Church over the years. I'm honored to have an oak tree planted and grateful for the T-Shirt from the Creation Care Team. But more than all that, I'm thankful for your spirit and your lively participation in worship. You will be in my prayers as you continue this transition time.

Blessings to you all,

Dave Bushnell

September

Sunday	Sept. 1	Family Worship 10::30 a.m.
Wednesday	Sept. 4	Choir Rehearsal 7:15 p.m.
Sunday	Sept. 8	Family Worship 10:30 a.m. with our Interim Pastor Rev. Matt Hoover
Monday	Sept.. 9	Council Meeting—7 p.m. Choir Room—Hybrid
Sunday	Sept. 15	Family Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School after Prayer of Confession
Wednesday	Sept. 18	Choir Rehearsal 7:15 p.m..
Sunday	Sept. 22	Family Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday	Sept. 29	Family Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School after Prayer of Confession

All Worship Services will also be livestreamed on YouTube



Missionary and author Elisabeth Elliot considered work a gift and a blessing. Ponder the following quotes of hers as you celebrate Labor Day. How do they mesh with your own views of work?

“This job has been given to me to do. Therefore, it is a gift. Therefore, it is a privilege. Therefore, it is an offering I may make to God. Therefore, it is to be done gladly, if it is done for him. Here, not somewhere else, I may learn God’s way. In this job, not in some other, God looks for faithfulness.”

“Work is a blessing. God has so arranged the world that work is necessary, and he gives us hands and strength to do it. The enjoyment of leisure would be nothing if we had only leisure. It is the joy of work well done that enables us to enjoy rest, just as it is the experiences of hunger



WORSHIP SCRIPTURES

September 1, 2024

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Psalms 45:1-2, 6-9

James 1:17-27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

October 6, 2024

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Job 1:1, 2:1-10

Psalms 26

Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16

September 8, 2024

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-33

Psalms 125

James 2:1-10 (11-13), 14-17

Mark 7:24-37

October 13, 2024

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Job 23:1-9, 16-17

Psalms 11:1-15

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

September 15, 2023

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 1:20-33

Psalms 19

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

October 20, 2024

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Job 38:1-7, (34-41)

Psalms 104:1-9, 24, 35c

Hebrews 5:1-10

Mark 10:35-45

September 22, 2024

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 31:10-31

Psalms 1

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

October 27, 2024

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Job 41:1-6, 10-17

Psalms 34:1-8 (19-22)

Hebrews 7:23-28

Mark 10:46-52

September 29, 2024

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Esther 7:16, 9-10, 9:20-22

Psalms 124

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50

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- 6 Bill Long
- 9 Madelyn Miller
- 15 Aaron Albright
- 15 Shirley Burkholder
- 16 Jennifer Bear
- 16 Andrea Cooper
- 19 Stephanie Borremans
- 19 Lisa Burnett
- 23 Blaine Kerr
- 24 Corey Bear
- 24 John Burnett
- 27 Gloria Garrett
- 30 Brandon Risser

- 1 Zachary Ott
- 2 Josephine Bucher
- 2 Jan Peiffer
- 3 Samantha Beahm
- 5 Donald M. Umberger
- 6 Emma McNamara
- 9 Audrey Woomer
- 10 Blair Kerr
- 10 Chad Shenk
- 11 Stephen Hitz
- 11 Kristin Vines
- 12 Brendan Monahan
- 14 Mary Risser
- 15 Elizabeth Gingrich
- 17 Zach Kindt
- 19 Aaron Steely
- 20 Tessa Flanagan
- 20 Kevin Monahan
- 21 Myka Lechleitner
- 22 Timothy Kreider
- 23 Thomas Peiffer
- 24 Dave Bushnell
- 26 Audrey Miller
- 27 Tiffany Broaddus
- 27 Patricia Young
- 30 Jeffrey Albright
- 31 Sheila Gingrich

*Praise the
LORD!
Sing to the
LORD
a new song.*



The extraordinary amid the ordinary

A violinist once performed in the New York City subway, entertaining passersby for 45 minutes. A few tossed him cash, totaling about \$30 by the time he concluded. Little did anyone know, Joshua Bell was one of the world’s best violinists. That day, he played one of the most complex musical pieces ever written on an instrument worth \$3.5 million. Indeed, a few days earlier Bell had performed a sold-out concert in Boston, where tickets averaged \$100.

Sometimes God does extraordinary things right in the middle of our ordinary lives, yet we don’t notice. You’re offered an opportunity you almost pass up, thinking it’s not worth your time or effort. But upon taking part, you find it leads to your life’s calling. Or someone crosses your path, but overlooking their worth, you brush them aside, missing out on a blessing God had for you through them.

And what about you? Do you undervalue yourself as “nothing special,” just an “ordinary” person? Look closer; think again. For an ordinary baby born long ago to an ordinary couple in an ordinary stable in an ordinary town was none other than ... God’s Son! And you? Why, you are also an extraordinary child of God!

SALEM COLLECTIONS -

The Caring Cupboard is a community food pantry, that has grown into a community necessity, that currently serves over 350 families living primarily in the Palmyra and Annville-Cleona School Districts. Products to be given to the Caring Cupboard may be placed on the designated shelves found at the end of the northwest hallway of Salem Church.

Pop Tab Collection Program (Matt Waller) Ronald McDonald House. The collection of aluminum beverage tabs began in 1996. The aluminum tabs are sold to a local recycling company and their proceeds help with daily operating expenses at the Ronald McDonald House. The generous amount from the tabs collected has been very beneficial to the House and the families they serve. They are averaging \$1,000 monthly just from these tiny tabs. You can help raise money by pulling tabs from any aluminum container. Pop Tabs may be placed in the designated box on the shelf above the coat rack in the bell tower entrance.

Redner's Cash Register Receipts (Cindy Steger) By using the Save-A-Tape card you picked up at Customer Service Desk each time you purchase merchandise at Redner's Warehouse Markets, your receipt will be designated as a Save-A-Tape customer receipt. When you come to Salem Church, place your **entire register/sales receipt (DO NOT CUT!)** in the designated box on the shelf above the coat rack in the bell tower entrance. Salem Church will receive a check for 1% of the total amount of tapes submitted, excluding items controlled by the government, such as tax, milk and tobacco products.

Clothing Recycling Old clothing and material that are too worn to use can be recycled. If possible, take to an H&M Store (they give you a coupon for each bag!), otherwise put it in the box in the west narthex and we'll take it for you. Thank you!

Writing Tool Recycling You can recycle old writing tools – crayons, markers, pens, and pencils. Staples Store will recycle these items as well as many other items (check their website!). Feel free to take to a Staples or place in the "Crayola marker" collection tube on the windowsill in the west narthex. Thank you!



Back-to-school laughs

These education-themed riddles will make the return to classrooms more fun!

Why was the arithmetic book so sad?
It had too many problems.

What school supply is in charge of the classroom?
The ruler

What does the English teacher make for breakfast?
Synonym rolls