

THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTORS

Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. / John 3:18

What goes into glue? Boiled fish and animal bones, cartilage, rubber and even milk. Remember the Elmer's glue we used for Bible school crafts? If you *could* open the nozzle, the glue would cake or flood the paper. Elmer made an effort with glue sticks, but they didn't stick at all. A single drop of super glue on a finger meant peeling skin. Now there's flex glue which claims its water proof, paintable, and rubberized. Effective but a little bit scary. My fingers might become permanently stuck together.

What goes into spiritual glue? Both church member and agnostics answer: "Love, of course!" However, the longer you belong to any congregation you eventually find love that's been renamed. Such as: Opinionated 'love', wounded 'love', nasty but truthful 'love', cold-shouldered and guarded 'love' and most confusing of all the follow-the rules 'love.' We might think or call renamed love some sort of distant- cousin -type of emotion..but, still love. After all, we're good church people, right? Obviously, renamed love doesn't feel authentic or produce bonds of love.

Surprisingly, the spiritual glue of the church, consisting of the boiled leftovers of very human emotions, frustrated dedication to each other, but mixed with the loving Spirit of God can hold a church together ...though more like Elmer's glue than flex seal. How can God's lovingkindness transform our human weakness into ties that bind?

Instead of confusing empty words, sincere, practical love towards each other with good will can change the most wounded heart. Strangely enough, I found these meaningful suggestions on an overpriced bookmark in the Hershey Farms bookstore.

10 ways to love

1. **Be patient.** Love is patient; love is kind, it does not envy it does not boast, it is not proud. 1 Cor. 13:4
2. **Speak without accusing.** Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry. James 1:14
3. **Give without sparing.** The righteous give without sparing. Proverbs 21:26
4. **Pray without ceasing.** For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. Col. 1:4

5. **Answer without arguing.** Better a dry crust with peace and quiet than a house full of feasting, with strife. Proverbs 17:1
6. **Listen without interrupting.** He who answers before listening-that is his folly and his shame. Prov. 18:13
7. **Enjoy without complaints.** Do everything without complaining or arguing. Phil. 2:14
8. **Trust without wavering.** Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 1 Cor. 13:7
9. **Forgive without punishing.** Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Col. 3:13
10. **Promise without forgetting.** Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life. Prov. 13:12

The Brondykes

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

CHOIR

Do Re Me Fa So La Ti Do!! It's time to think about getting tuned up for choir practice!! Please pray that enough folks step forward to have a choir. It is a struggle when we only have a few people. I am always thankful for the few faithful ones that do come to practice and do show up on Sunday mornings. I will be choosing simple anthems, and various types of music. If anyone wants to talk to me about it, please call me at 610-636-5378. I know we usually start rehearsal after the Solanco Fair. Please watch the bulletin for the day chosen to start. Since a couple of us are on the PNC, we may have to choose a different night to practice. I will be contacting the ones that I think will be coming back to confirm which night works best. Pray, pray, pray!!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Christian Educational Committee announces that the opening session of Sunday School will be on September 16 – 9:00 AM to 9:40 AM followed by closing exercises and treats. Classes include pre-school and grade level classes (Faith Weavers curriculum), Junior/ Senior High, and adult Bible classes. You may pre-register by contacting Barry Girvin or just show up on September 16. jbqseg60@comcast.net 717-471-8668

Also, there are plans to offer seminar/prayer sessions for the community in conjunction with New Hope. Issues such as suicide prevention, grief share, addiction, child abuse prevention, Alzheimers support, and working with special needs children will be featured. Stay tuned.

MEMBER ADDRESS CHANGES (update your lists)

Bradley Phipps 713 Kincaid Mills Lane, Wallingford, PA 19086

MIDDLE OCTORARA PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Women's Bible Study

Starting Monday, Sept. 10th from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. 12 week study of the book of Genesis. Led by Chris Paxson and Rose Spiller. Everyone is welcome, no R.S.V.P. needed. Please bring your bibles, paper and pencil. Contact: Nancy Harnish (717-786-6872)

Clothing Give Away - Our annual clothing give-away was held Saturday, August 18. We were very happy to have thousands of articles of clothing to give away to those who came to 'shop' that day. All left over items are scheduled to be donated to and picked up by the Salvation Army. We are already looking forward to next year's give-away. So, whenever anyone has a chance to collect good, used or new clothing, we would encourage you to do so. **CLOTHING FOR BABIES AND CHILDREN ARE NEEDED THE MOST.** Next year's giveaway will probably be held the 3rd Saturday of August in 2019. Those who came to the give-away were asked, if possible, to donate something for the Quarryville Food Bank. So, during that day, we collected 2 cart loads of non-perishable groceries and \$20 in donations. All this was given directly to the Food Bank.

Soup/Sub Sale

Our annual Fall Soup/Sub sale will be held September 13-14. Anyone who is available to help make subs on Thursday, Sept 13 should contact Shirley Miller to find out when it will begin. Order forms are available at the church in the Narthex and Welcome Center. Deadline for placing orders is September 9. This sale is held to raise funds for all the projects MOPW supports throughout the year.

Turkey Supper will be held Saturday, October 13. We will be circulating volunteer sign-up sheets for this event very soon. Help will be needed to peel potatoes and cut up the cooked turkey, work as servers and clean-up crew. Please consider how you can help. We will also be asking folks to donate pies for this event closer to the date.

Holiday Bazaar

Make your plans now to be a part of the annual Holiday Bazaar, which will be held Saturday, November 3. You may participate as a helper or buyer. If time permits, you are encouraged to hand make your own craft for sale. If you know of anyone who may be interested in being a vendor at the sale, give his/her name to Shirley Miller.

Soup for Shut Ins

For those who plan to visit sick folks or shut ins, there are a number of quarts and pints of soup (chicken corn and vegetable) available in our church freezers. You are encouraged to take some homemade soup along on your visit to help brighten someone's day.

A big thank you for the nine pairs of sneakers and monetary donation to New Hope for the children. Also thank you for the thirty five back packs for the food bank.
Nancy Harnish

MISSION MUSINGS

From the bounty of the earth.

Boni and I had decided we would not plant a garden this year. Boni of course was diagnosed with breast cancer and we did not know how she would be feeling this summer. We thank God that she had found the lump early, the surgeon removed it and the radiation went very well. Mostly though to be honest I no longer look forward to working in the garden in the heat and humidity of the summer.

When Boni mentioned to my co workers wife that we were not going to plant a garden she asked if they could use that space for a garden. We said sure and she said of course you would be welcome to harvest as much as you would like for yourselves.

So since I had plowed last fall all I had to do was harrow and roto till and the soil was ready for planting. So they planted corn, cucumbers, onions, sweet potatoes, cantaloupe and watermelon. I bought a load of mushroom mulch which we spread and they have weeded and tended to the garden. The bounty has been plentiful and all but the corn is still producing.

This made me think of 1st Corinthians 3:6. Paul planted, Apollos watered but it was God not we who made it grow. Of course Paul was talking to the Corinthians about the seed of the gospel of Jesus Christ. I believe Paul's message is just as relevant today as it was so many years ago. God has given each one of us gifts and He wants us to use those gifts to help spread His message of love and salvation to others. Where does God want you to plant or water His seed?

We need not feel like we need to do everything ourselves but we do need to do our part as God leads us. There may even be times when we get discouraged and think our efforts are futile but as Paul taught, life is a marathon not a sprint and we must seek God's guidance and persevere. As we read the Bible, pray and seek God's will, may we each commit to doing our part. God has a plan for each of us. We must be willing to plant or weed or water. God will be faithful and provide the harvest.

Enjoy the bounty God provides and be ever thankful.

Romans 12: 6-8

Dan Henry

REFLECTIONS

By Barry Girvin

THIS AND THAT

It is kind of a well-kept secret that the Fidelis Sunday School class sponsors students in the third world through Child Fund International. Faye Mimm is in charge of the program. Two students in India are now being sponsored. These students receive material and educational support with Christian nurturing in a country where Christians are a small minority. A recent letter expressed gratitude for the help received.

Dear Friend,
Greetings!!

I and my family members are living happily here by the grace of God. We hope that you are living happily there by the grace of God.

I have received the activity book that you sent for me. I and my family members felt very happy to receive this gift and we heartily thank you.

I am doing my studies with dedication and hard work. I regularly go to school with my friends. I play and study with my friends. My favorite subject is Hindi. I like to play football very much. Every day in the evening, I play football with my friends. Along with this, I also help my parents with house hold work.

Recently, ChildFund India had conducted Life skill training program in our village and I took part in it. Presently, summer season is going on here. The weather is extremely hot here. Everyone wears cotton clothes.

Your sponsor child
Manoj Tudu

This program is another reminder of the extent of our mission work at Middle Octorara – local, national, international.

If you attend the service at the Shrine Church today, please make sure you receive a print out of my talk on the Covenanters. If you do not attend, please ask me for a copy of the print out. That way, you will never again have to ask me who the Covenanters were. If you attend, please check out the displays being developed in the schoolroom for the Scottish Festival. Files on Bart schools will be available for research.

Programs for the Scottish Festival are available in the Narthex and Welcome Center. This year's new offerings include sheep dog herding and music by Fire in the Glen. Hopefully, we will be blessed with good weather again this year.

THIS- N-THAT

You've often heard it said that "It takes a village". Well I know that it does for Middle Octorara. I really thought about this when I stopped at the church the other day just for about 5 minutes. And I stopped just to wind the clock in the welcome center. And while I was here, two other people stopped by to either bring something or to get something or to do something. Have you ever thought about who turns on the lights, or fans, or air conditioners? Or who unlocks the doors, takes out the trash, starts the coffee, cleans the coffee pot after snack time, turns off the lights, and locks the doors? Who starts the fountain out in the flowerbed, who waters the plants in pots outside, and who waters the palm tree in the sanctuary, who weeds the flowerbeds, who plants and waters the geraniums in the pots in the churchyard? Who straightens up when things get out of place? Who makes sure there are hymnbooks and Bibles in each pew? Or who keeps containers of soup in the freezer to take to shut-ins? I'm sure none of us that do any of these things do it for recognition, but rather to be part of the "Village" that tries to keep Middle Octorara going and looking presentable. Thank you "Village People"!!
Rose Griest

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

September birthday's

4 – Melissa Keene
9 – Justin Pfeiffer, Dee Romito,
Doris Williams
12 – John Girvin, Betty Henry
13 – Donna Garver, Greg Trout
15 – Shirley Graver
16 – Bill Zander
19 – Beaty Armer, Val Wessner
20 – Deb Hoover
25 – Shirley Girvin
26 – Stephanie Pfeiffer
27 – Nancy Minchoff

October birthday's through the 6th

2 – Lucille Wilson
3 – James Phipps
5 – Clyde Dubble
6 – Mike Hoover

September anniversaries

10 – Brian & Susan Kauffman
14 – John & Sue Ressel
19 – Douglas & Kristine Hileman
21 – Dick & Kathy Keene

October anniversaries through the 6th

3 – Paul & Beaty Armer

TREASURER'S REPORT

GENERAL FUND & BENEVOLENCE FINANCES *August 2018*

The following is the individual weekly breakdown of offerings:

Aug. 5 -	General Fund	1,973.00	Benevolence	188.00
Aug. 12 -	General Fund	2,769.00	Benevolence	282.00
Aug. 19 -	General Fund	1,389.00	Benevolence	129.00
Aug. 26 -	General Fund	2,054.00	Benevolence	144.00

An additional \$1691.76 General Fund money, including manse rental and \$30.00 Benevolence money was also received.

 August ended with a very comfortable balance. We have not received the winter snow removal bill yet at the time of this writing. With Simon's passing I'm sure his family has a lot to manage for now. We will continue onward with the many changes that continue to happen while we search and listen for God's leading in what he has planned for our church.

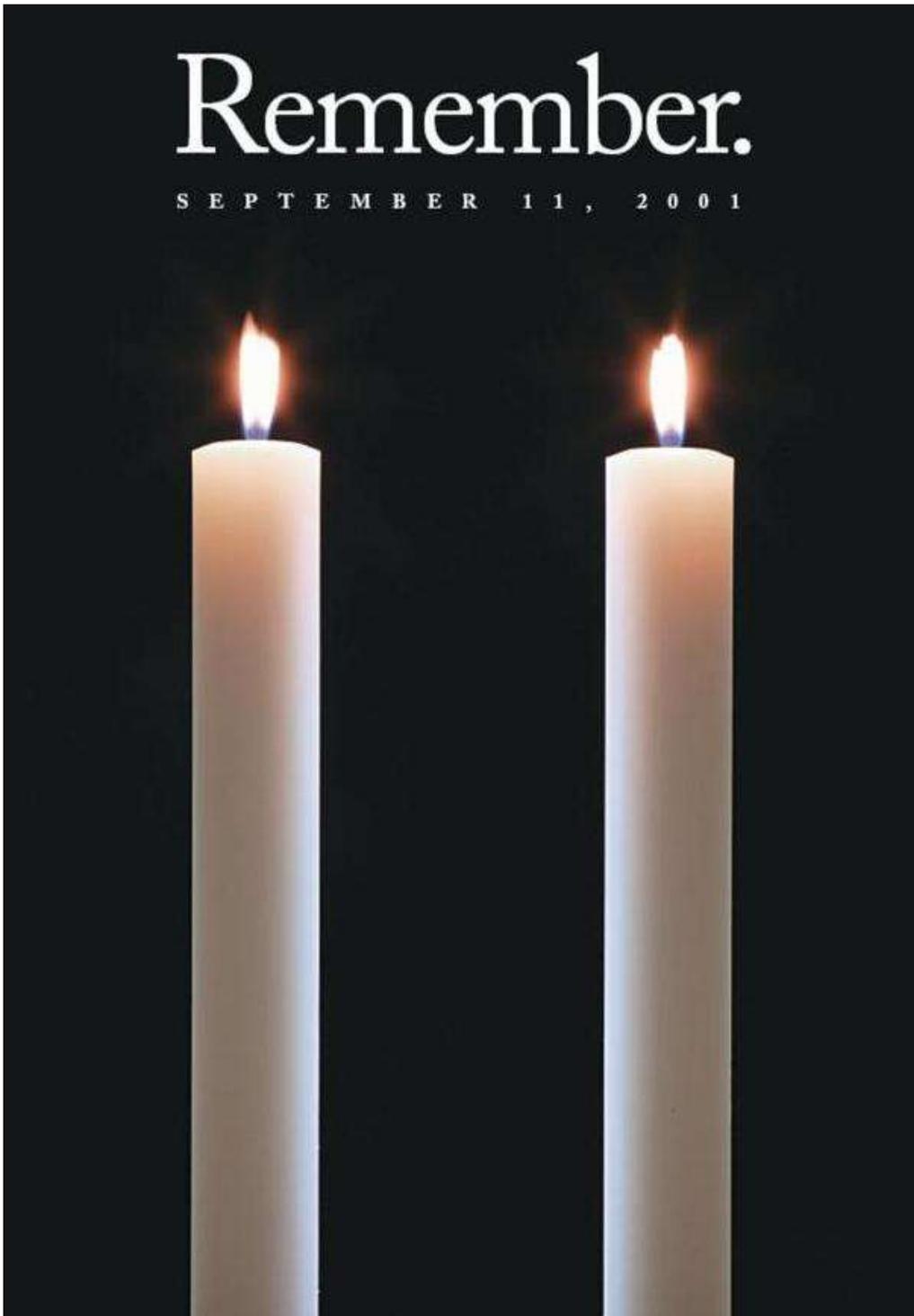
YTD GENERAL FUND & BENEVOLENCE FINANCES

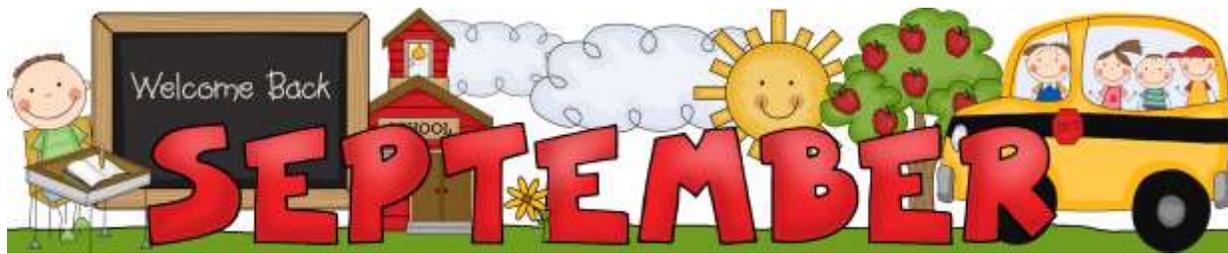
	Monthly Budget	YTD Budget	Monthly Received	YTD Received	YTD Expenses
General Fund	11,050.28	93,927.38	9,876.76	86,615.47	83,698.55
Benevolence	492.32	4,184.72	773.00	4,631.00	

Debbie Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer

Remember.

S E P T E M B E R 1 1 , 2 0 0 1





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Subject to change)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sept. 2	Sept. 3	Sept. 4 ROMEO Club 9:00 a.m.	Sept. 5	Sept. 6	Sept. 7	Sept. 8 Scottish Fest All day
Sept. 9	Sept. 10 Women's Bible Study 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Sept. 11 ROMEO Club 9:00 a.m. Trustee Mtg. 7:00 p.m.	Sept. 12	Sept. 13 Session Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Sub/Soup Sale	Sept. 14	Sept. 15
Sept. 16 Sunday School kickoff 9:00 a.m.	Sept. 17 Bible Study 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Sept. 18 ROMEO Club 9:00 a.m.	Sept. 19	Sept. 20	Sept. 21	Sept. 22
Sept. 23	Sept. 24 Bible Study 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Sept. 25 ROMEO Club 9:00 a.m.	Sept. 26	Sept. 27	Sept. 28	Sept. 29
Sept. 30	Oct. 1 Bible Study 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Oct. 2 ROMEO Club 9:00 a.m.	Oct. 3	Oct. 4	Oct. 5	Oct. 6