

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FROM, AUGUST 2023

OLD BUSINESS: Discussion continued on the terms of council members. Decided to elect 4 people this year and 5 next year and rotating 4 & 5 every consecutive year thereafter. All agreed, passed unanimously. Will write up proposal of changes to send to Synod for approval.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **Worship and Music**- Received organ proposal and asked Jack and Dan Umholtz for input on the proposal. Have questions and concerns about the things that the organ company wants to do to fix the problems with the organ. Pastor Greg working on first communion and Acolyte training. Upcoming events, October 8th-Harvest Sunday, October 22nd- Music Sunday, October 29th- Reformation Sunday with possible first communion. Passing of the peace going great.

2. **Parish Education**- Rally Day September 10th.

3. **Stewardship and Evangelism** – Apologized for having to cancel the community day. Could not get help to do food. Going to try to reschedule, maybe early spring.

4. **Social Ministry** – Served 33 families for the free food outreach program on Aug. 7th.

5. **Youth** – None

6. **Church Property** – Susan asked Matt about the curtains? He said he will have them removed by the end of the year. John changed Light bulbs in basement. Need to change one on chandelier and a spot light outside yet.

7. **Budget and Finance** - None

8. **Fellowship**- Tupperware sold well, made \$1,250.00 and earned \$312.50 -as well as some free stuff. Susan has ordered new knives for the kitchen. September 10th is the Sunday school picnic after church at the Gratz Park Pavilion. Magic show October 21st. Cookie sale in November tabled because we were asked to do food again at the Bourgh bingo on November 19th. Lisa doing Christmas tea on December 3rd. Lynn Schadle Mentioned Dec. 9th- Christmas House Tours & Dec. 10th at 2pm Historical Society Christmas tea & concert with Men in Harmony.

9. **Mutual Ministry** – NONE.

New Business- Concerning Flagstone- Grave digger will remove them the next time he opens a grave. No one was interested after seeing them.

The Pastor's Time – Kenneth Mace has been located at the Upper Dauphin Nursing Home (formerly known as Premier) in Millersburg, PA. Visiting everyone on his list and a couple others. Hoping to get back on to a rotating schedule again.

Open Discussion – Matthew Ferster asked about sending out reader and greeter (serving schedule) quarterly and not as often.

2023 GIVING

\$71,810.75

2023 EXPENSES

\$95,753.99

Difference between YTD Giving & YTD Expenses \$-12,997.34

{For General Operating Fund}

THE FLOWER & BULLETIN

sponsor charts are in the narthex. Please help by sponsoring flowers or bulletins. If no one sponsors them the money comes out of the general fund which is not budgeted.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE FOOD BANK

Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruit, & Cereal

SERVING IN SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023
14TH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST w/
HOLY COMMUNION

GREETER: Anna Coleman
READER: Dennis Barge
USHER: Matt Ferster
GLASSES: Linda Koppenhaver ALTAR: John Novinger

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023
15TH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

GREETER: Dave Strohecker
READER: John Novinger

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023
16TH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

GREETER: Lynn Schadle
READER: Virginia Moore

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023
17TH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

GREETER: Dennis Barge
READER: Tracy Bixler

OCTOBER 1, 2023
18TH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST w/
HOLY COMMUNION

GREETER: Deb Trautman
READER: Ashley Welker
USHER: Dave Strohecker
GLASSES: Becky Hoover ALTAR: Dennis Barge

OCTOBER 8, 2023
19TH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST, Harvest Sunday

GREETER: Becky, Max, & Lincoln Hoover
READER: Jean Perkins

OCTOBER 15, 2023
20TH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

GREETER: Mike Hartman
READER: Cameron Smeltz

OCTOBER 22, 2023
21ST SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST, Music Sunday

GREETER: Doris Flynn
READER: Lynn Schadle

OCTOBER 29, 2023
REFORMATION
SUNDAY w/
HOLY COMMUNION

GREETER: Matt Ferster
READER: Sharon Erdman
USHER: Lynn Schadle
GLASSES: Tracy Bixler ALTAR: Doris Flynn

SERVING THE CHURCH

If you would like to serve as a *Greeter, Reader, Communion Assistant, (Usher, Altar, or Glass Holder)* Please let the office know and you will be added to the list, THANKS!!!

TRANSFERS

Kimberly (Welker) Duetsch- to Hopewell United Methodist Church, Downingtown, PA
Timothy Fetterolf- to Trinity Lutheran Church, Valley View, PA
Cathie Wilkinson- to First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Watsontown, PA

DAILY DEVOTIONALS

The Daily Devotionals for July-September, 2023 are available in the narthex. Pick yours up or have someone get them for you.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 3 - Worship Service / Holy Communion 10:15 a.m.

Monday, September 4 – **Labor Day**

Saturday, September 9 - Food Bank Open, 9-11 a.m.

Sunday, September 10– **Rally Day** Worship Service 10:15 a.m./ Church Picnic at Gratz Park

Monday, September 11 – **Patriot Day**

Tuesday, September 12 – Little Hands open house 7p.m.

Little Hands Nursery School First Days of Class on 13th & 14th

Thursday, September 14 - *Council Meeting 7 p.m.*

Sunday, September 17 - Worship Service 10:15 a.m.

GRATZ FAIR WEEK SEPT. 17-23

Friday, September 22 - *Newsletter Deadline*

Saturday, September 23 – **First Day of Autumn**

Sunday, September 24 - Worship Service 10:15 a.m.

OCTOBER

Sunday, October 1 - Worship Service / Holy Communion 10:15 a.m.

Sunday, October 8 – *Harvest Sunday Worship Service 10:15 a.m.*

Monday, October 9 – Columbus Day

Saturday, October 14 - Food Bank Open, 9-11 a.m.

Sunday, October 15 – Worship Service 10:15 a.m.

Monday, October 16 – National Boss Day

Thursday, October 19 - *Council Meeting 7 p.m.*

Friday, October 20 - *Newsletter Deadline*

Saturday, October 21 - *MAGIC SHOW 6:30p.m.*

Sunday, October 22 – Music Sunday Worship Service 10:15 a.m.

Sunday, October 29 – **Reformation Sunday Worship Service / Holy Communion 10:15 a.m.**

***Little Hands Nursery School Halloween Parties October 30th & 31st ***

PRAYER LIST

Members- Cindy Wolfgang, Janet Rumpfelt, Robert Snyder, Barbara Klinger, Clair & Vivian Engle, Jean Hess, David Hartman, Jim Neiswender

Premier at Susquehanna Village - Kenneth Mace

Polk Apartments- Helen Michael, John Kissinger, Martha Koppenhaver, *Charles Schoffstall*

Friends & Family- *Bruce Nace, Kathie Dresel, Dorothy Lettich Martin, Steve Dagen, Rahn Erdman, Marie Lahr, Christy Warfel, Jeff Latsha, Dianna Leshner, Jim Troutman*

“VOICE OF SIMEON” RADIO MINISTRY SPONSORS

SEPTEMBER 2023

September 3 – Buffington/Reed Funeral Home

September 10 – Willing Workers

September 17 –

September 24 – Sunset View Contractors LLC

We want to thank our faithful sponsors in continuing to help with this important ministry of our church. It can be heard each Sunday morning at 7:30 a.m. on WQLV-98.9 FM.



**VBS June 12-
16, 2023**



Monday
Jesus Builds
The Team

Tuesday
God's Wonder
Women

Wednesday
Jethro Mentors
Moses

Thursday
The Magnificent
Magi

Friday
Paul Gets A
Basket Ride

HEROS ARE CALLED TO.....

Follow Jesus!

Help Others!

Work Together!

Listen To God!

Show Grace!







TUPPERWARE Fundraiser report:

We sold an amazing \$1,250 and earned \$312.50- as well as some free merchandise! Thanks to all who helped make this a success.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!!!

September 10 - Sunday School Picnic at Gratz Borough Park. Hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks will be provided. Please bring a covered dish to share and a sense of humor as some REALLY fun games are in the works.

October 21 – Lasagna meal at the Community Center(across the street from the church), followed by a magic show by the AMAZING CARSON! More details to follow but reserve the date! We'll be asking for cake donations to use as our desserts. Price: Ages under 4- free/ Ages 4-12 \$10/ Ages 12-up \$15

LEAH'S RETIREMENT



After 36 years, Leah has retired as our church secretary. She was honored with gifts, cake, and ice cream. Thank you for all your years of service. We wish you well.



Music Notes



Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

1. Je - sus, the ver - y thought of Thee With sweet-ness
2. No voice can sing, no heart can frame, Nor can the
3. O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite heart! O Joy of
4. But what to those who find? ah! this, No tongue or

fills my breast; But sweet - er far Thy face to
mem - 'ry find A sweet - er sound than Je - sus'
all the meek! To those who fall, how kind Thou
pen can show The love of Je - sus, what it

see, And in Thy pres - ence rest.
name, O Sav - ior of man - kind!
art! How good to those who seek!
is None but His loved ones know.

faith, but that, like brides, we may be one with you ..., beholding with unveiled faces that glory which is yours in union with the Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.

• You wish me to tell you why and how God should be loved. My answer is that God Himself is the reason He is to be loved.

Several well-known hymns are attributed to St. Bernard: "Jesus the Very Thought of Thee," "O Sacred Head Now Wounded," and a lesser-known hymn entitled "Open Wide are Thine Hands," the second verse of which says:

*Lord, I am sad and poor, but boundless is Thy grace;
Give me the soul transforming joy for which I seek Thy face.*

Taken from the book "Then Sings My Soul" By Robert J. Morgan

Jesus the Very Thought of Thee Twelfth Century

When Bernard (c.1090-1153), a sickly youth in Dijon, France, was unable to fulfill military service, he became a monk. So successful was he that he eventually founded the famous monastery in nearby Clairvaux; in time almost 170 other monasteries sprang from Bernard's leadership. He became the most powerful preacher of his era, and is remembered as a pious man, a deeply contemplative mystic, the "honey-tongued doctor." Martin Luther called Bernard "the best monk that ever lived, whom I admire beyond all the rest put together."

He wasn't a perfect man, as seen in his support for 800 years, his words have been read and sung, and his good work has continued.

If you've never read Bernard, here are some excerpts from his writings and sermons:

- How do we know that Christ has really overcome death? Precisely in that he, who did not deserve it, underwent it But what kind of justice is this, you may say, that the innocent should die for the guilty? It is not justice, but mercy.
- I was made a sinner by deriving my being from Adam; I am made righteous by being washed in the blood of Christ.
- You will never have real mercy for the failings of another until you know and realize that you have the same failings in your soul.
- Thank you, Lord Jesus, for your kindness in uniting us to the church you so dearly love, not merely that we may be endowed with the gift of

Chefs Corner



Grandma's Molasses Cookies

1 pt. Brer Rabbit molasses	1 cup brown sugar
1 cup shortening	1Tbsp. baking soda
1 cup sour milk or buttermilk	2 eggs
4-5 cups sifted flour (enough to make a dough)	

Pre heat oven to 350*. Cream shortening, sugar, & molasses. Beat eggs with a fork, then add to mix. Sift flour & baking soda. Start with only 4 cups of flour and add more if needed to make sure the dough don't get too stiff. Add ½ flour mix & ½ the milk and stir. Then add the last half of both and stir till mixed well. Scoop onto cookie sheet and brush top with an egg wash. Bake at 350* for 12-15 minutes.

Macaroni Pie

6 eggs	2 cups ricotta cheese
1 lb. spaghetti	

Cook the spaghetti as directed, remove from heat and drain well. **DO NOT RINSE!!!** In a large mixing bowl beat eggs, then fold in the ricotta until well blended. Pour over spaghetti and gently. Pour mixture into a large, greased skillet. Cook until first half is golden brown on low to medium heat. Flip using a plate and cook second half till golden brown. Slid onto a serving plate and cut into wedges and serve.

Smoked Sausage and Navy Bean Soup

8 cups chicken broth	1 lb. dried navy beans rinsed
2 ham hocks	2Tbsp. minced garlic
1½ cups chopped onion	1 cup diced carrots
1 cup diced celery	1 can (14½ oz.) can diced tomatoes
2 Tbsp. tomato paste	1 bay leaf
1 tsp. dried thyme	1 lb. sausage cut into ½ inch pieces

Place broth in a lg. sauce pan & heat till it begins to boil. Cover & reduce heat to low. Place beans in a 6 quart Crock Pot add remaining ingredients, except broth & sausage. Carefully pour in the hot broth. Cover, cook on high for 8-9 hours or till beans are tender. Remove bay leaf and ham hocks. When ham is cooled enough to handle cut up & add back in. Add sausage & cook on high covered for 30 minutes or till sausage is heated through.

Welcome

New Members

WE ARE GLAD TO WELCOME....

Carl and Lori Slough, Jr.
& Eileen Harner

Carl, Lori, and Eileen have been worshipping with us for some time now, and we are so pleased that they formally join our church family on August 20th. We are so glad to have them and pray God's Blessing on them.

A Letter of Thanks to My Simeon Church Family

I want to thank you all for the pleasure of serving as the parish secretary these (36) years. We went through many good times and also some rough times, but God was always there giving us the strength and faith we needed to overcome them.

Thank you for the special Sunday Church Service on June 25th, with cake and ice cream afterwards in the Social Hall. Words could not describe the love I felt from Pastor Greg and John's words and the various gifts the Church Council gave me, and all of you for the beautiful retirement cards, flowers, monetary donations, and gifts cards. May God continue to bless our Simeon church family and uphold us in his loving arms throughout the rest of our lives.

Pastor Ridge and I both started serving Simeon about the same time and I want to thank him for helping me through all the years we worked together. Pastor Logan, thanks for the nice email you sent me on my retirement.

Pastor Greg, keep up the good work, I will miss our talks and friendship in the office. Stay healthy and God Bless! As you know Tim Ferster has taken over the job, and is doing great, he helped me out for some time. Thanks Tim, God Bless!

Your Sister in Christ,
Leah Schade



Happy
LABOR DAY

Do You Know Your Hymns?

Dentist's Hymn	. . .	Crown Him with Many Crowns.
Weatherman's Hymn	. . .	There Shall Be Showers of Blessings.
Contractor's Hymn	. . .	The Church's One Foundation.
Tailor's Hymn	. . .	Holy, Holy, Holy.
Golfer's Hymn	. . .	There's a Green Hill Far Away.
Politician's Hymn	. . .	Standing on the Promises!
Optometrist's Hymn.	. . .	Open My Eyes That I Might See.
IRS Agent's Hymn	. . .	I Surrender All.
Gossip's Hymn	. . .	Pass It On.
Electrician's Hymn	. . .	Send The Light..
Shopper's Hymn	. . .	Sweet Bye and Bye.
Realtor's Hymn	. . .	I've Got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop.
Massage Therapist's Hymn.		He Touched Me.

AND for those who speed on the highway - a few hymns:

55 mph	. . .	God Will Take Care of You
75 mph	. . .	Nearer My God To Thee
85 mph	. . .	This World Is Not My Home
95 mph	. . .	Lord, I'm Coming Home
100 mph	. . .	Precious Memories

Give me a sense of humor, Lord, Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humor out of life, And pass it on to other folks.