

THE NEXUS

Presbyterian Church
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September 2018

From Nicole Vogel

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven” Ecclesiastes 3:1

September is a time when many people are transitioning again. It is a time when the new school year begins, Sunday school programs begin and lives are forced to adapt to these new routines. It is a time when one season begins to dwindle down while simultaneously preparing for the next. This time of year reminds me of transitions in the life of the church. Change and transition can be a difficult time for many people, but especially for a church. Having an autistic son, I realize how mentally draining transitions can be for some more than others. Author and documentary writer Esmeralda Santiago once said, “How can you know what you're capable of if you don't embrace the unknown?”

During these times of transition is when the most growth can occur, and great things can happen! In the life of church, transition is most intense when a minister retires or leaves for another call. Yet, it is exactly in this time that everyone can turn to one another and learn more about who we are and who you are! It is the perfect time to re-evaluate where you are and where you want to be. In my observation, this church has some of the best leadership a church can have. It's important to recall that the leadership as well as any installed pastor still need the loving support of the whole church, especially during times of transition. May we all use this time of transition to support, build up and care for each other for it is through these actions that Christ's love is revealed.

~Nicole

Sponsor

This issue of the Nexus is being sponsored by **Sonya and Horace Cole**. We thank you for your support.

Nexus Deadline

The Nexus deadline for the October issue is Monday, **September 24th**.



PASTOR
NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The PNC

The **Pastor Nominating Committee** has completed the **Ministry Information Form**. It has been **approved** by the Committee on Ministry. It is now on-line. Things are progressing in our search for a new pastor!

Yard Sale Report

Our annual yard sale the weekend of May 11th and 12th was another great success with sales totaling \$6,466! Thank you to all who generously donated wonderful items for us to sell, prepared and donated food, and/or worked hard before, during, and after the sale. Once again, all of our left over items were donated to worthy causes. This year we gave truckloads of items to the Elks and Bushkill Outreach for their sales. Contributions also went to Echo (the thrift shop that benefits Women's Resources), the Wesleyan Church (for their free clothing room), Monroe Co. Library, and Awesome.



Yard Sale!

Don't miss the next big yard sale on Saturday, September 1st at the First Presbyterian Church in Stroudsburg. It will be held from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

CCC

As mentioned in my earlier writing, this is a time of year when we transition back to regular activities. The **Caring Cancer Community** support group will also get back to meeting regularly, but the time and dates will be changing. We will be meeting every other week on Mondays from 10:00-11:30 beginning September 10th. This is open to everyone, even friends and family, or strangers. I would encourage you to share this group's information if you know someone who has been diagnosed, or affected by cancer. Whether someone has just begun the journey or are adjusting to what comes next, this support group can be helpful.

~Nicole



Our New Cross in the Front Island

Thank you Lucas Swanson and all your helpers! The Eagle Scout project is finished. Thank you for conceiving the project to enhance the front of our church with a new and larger cross. Thank you for all the hard work involved - raising funds, planning the design, making and installing the heavy cross, creating the paver walkway, adding the landscaping, making sure everything lines us correctly, and doing much of the work in the hot summer sun. Now the Property Committee has added lighting to the island to make the cross visible after dark. It all looks great! Well done.



Rally Day!

The Rally Day Picnic will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, September 9th. The Church will provide drinks, but we are asking everyone to provide a covered dish or dessert. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex if you plan on attending.

Mission Work Trip

Please see the flyer on the bulletin boards regarding a Mission Work Trip to Fayetteville, North Carolina. *Helping Hands* is sponsoring this trip and are looking for volunteers to participate. It will run from October 20th through the 27th.

Christian Education

The Christian Education Committee invites you to help our youth. We need Sunday School volunteers who can help guide the youth of our church through their spiritual journey. This is an important opportunity to help our church family. Romans 15:4 states, "For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope." Teaching our youth the love of Christ and his church not only helps provide hope for the youth in our ever-changing and often difficult world, but provides hope for the adults, hope of continuity and enduring steadfastness of faith through the teachings of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Through these lessons, the children can become true Christian disciples. In Ephesians 6:4 Paul writes, "And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord." Here Paul seemingly ties discipleship with instruction of the Lord. What better way to foster discipleship in the youth than to share in the instruction of the Lord while teaching Sunday School?

As we approach stewardship season, perhaps it would be helpful to reflect on our gifts and intended stewardship of the church, perhaps it is a good idea to reflect on the time, talent and treasure you can share through Sunday School. Your time will be spent building a relationship with the children. Your talents will be highly appreciated as you guide a lesson. The children will treasure the warmth and richness of our church family as they get to know a variety of caring and concerned adults. It will, in fact, be a living embodiment of St. Peter's first epistle, where he wrote, "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received" (1 Peter 4:10).

We are sure that as you volunteer with Children's Sunday School, you will find great joy in watching them learn and grow. And, in the future, when we have succeeded in helping to teach and inform Christ's disciples, we can echo this sentiment from 3 John 1:4, "I have no greater joy than this, to hear that my children are walking in truth."

Sunday School will start on September 9. You can find sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Yours in the service of Christ,

Rick Sanker
Christian Education Committee



Choir 2018-2019

I hope you enjoyed the 3 performances by the Summer Choir. Now it's time for the weekly performances to return. The first rehearsal will be Sunday, September 9th at 8:50 a.m. in the sanctuary. The first performance of the new choir year will be September 16th.

We are always looking for new members to join our happy family. Come to the first rehearsal and give us a try.



A Big thank You.....

...to our summer time performers: Carole Emery, Rick Sanker, Cate Ferguson and Debbie Freeborn. Each performer helped to make the Sunday service special!

Treasurer and Stewardship Report Through July 31, 2018

Income	\$146,348.00
Expenses	\$142,401.00
Net	\$ 3,947.00

Year-to-Date Giving:

Pledge Giving:	\$ 82,559.00
Non-Pledge:	\$ 3,665.00



A Wedding!!

Congratulations to Christa Mehringer and Peter Varrica as they were married on Saturday, August 18th by Rev. Edmund Freeborn!!!



Wedding Anniversaries

Celebrating wedding anniversaries during **September:**

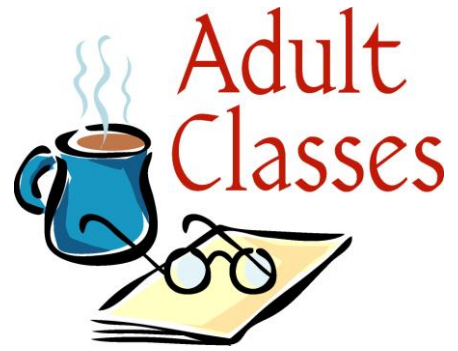
Cort and Amy Huffman
Richard and Sharon Laverdure
Donald and Sheila Hopkins



Birthdays

Celebrating birthdays during **September:**

**Nancy Creveling, Jackie Flynn, Lisa Elliott,
Cindy Schrick, John Dressel Jr., Reese Wasylyk,
Rebecca Sanker, Ellie Buff, Nancy Armitage,
Hayden Huffman, Bob Elliott, Sheila Hopkins
and Mary Lou Huber**



Adult Sunday School

God gave the Hebrew people a mission: to be a kingdom of priests who would extend God's reign by obeying his commands and putting him on display so that all people will be drawn to him. Our mission remains the same to this day. Join the adult class starting September 30th at 9:00 am as we investigate *Israel's Mission*. The course, written by Ray Vander Laan, will examine this topic by presenting the information in historical context. A DVD and study guide will be used. Tim Swanson will lead this class.

Last Summer Concert

Our last concert of this season will be Sunday, Sept 16 at 2 pm. We will feature a trio, John, Sue and Keith. They have performed for our church services in the past, featuring predominantly Christian music.

Nexus Staff

Pastor:

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Contributing Editors:

Ellie Buff, Jenny Collins, Rick Sanker,
Linda Schaller, Tim Swanson, Nicole Vogel

September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Yard Sale @ 1 st Presbyterian in Stroudsburg 10:00-3:00
2	3 Labor Day Church Closed	4	5	6	7	8
9 Deacon Meeting, 11:15 Rally Day Picnic!	10 TOALC classes start CCC 10:00-11:30	11 Women's Circle, noon	12	13	14	15
16 Mission committee mtg. 11:15 Summer Concert Series, 2:00 pm	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Nexus Deadline CCC 10:00-11:30	25	26	27	28	29
30 Adult Ed. Class, 9:00 Deacon's Coffee Hour. 11:15 Session Meeting, 11:15						