

THE NEXUS

SEPTEMBER 2021

Presbyterian Church
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Nicki's News

Dear friends and members,

In his book, *The 911 Handbook*, author Kent Crockett shares a very insightful story of two construction workers who had taken a lunch break and opened up their lunch boxes. One of them looked inside his box and said, "Not baloney again! I can't believe it. I hate baloney. This is the third time this week I've had baloney. I can't stand baloney!" The other one said, "Why don't you just ask your wife to make you something different?" He replied, "I don't have a wife. I made these myself." The fact is most of the baloney in our lives, we put there ourselves. If we ever want life to be any different from the same old baloney we keep serving ourselves, then we must break out of doing the routine. The Bible is full of stories of God's people serving up themselves the same old baloney, only to find themselves right where they started. Just like many biblical characters discovered when we are willing to face the baloney, we can then be freed to serve God faithfully instead of becoming stuck in our ways. Where in your life are you continuing to serve yourself baloney? How can you break out of the baloney routine?

In His Peace,

Pastor Nicki

Nexus Sponsor

This month's issue is being sponsored by Dale Pedersen. We are looking for sponsors for our future Nexus issues. If you are interested in sponsoring an issue, the cost is \$35.00. Please notify Jen, in the church office or sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Treasurer and Stewardship

Report through July 31, 2021

HOPE Fund Income	\$4,650.00
HOPE Fund Disbursements	\$2,635.33
Yearly Pledges	\$144,880.00
Pledge Giving to Date	\$ 85,355.00

Inspirarity Dialogue

Inspirarity dialogue- You have a chance to meet your neighbors of differing faiths through conversations with them. This dialogue time is one hour and each month a different topic is chosen for the next month's discussion. Each person is to bring their faith traditions or own personal beliefs take on the chosen topic. Currently we are still doing this remotely on Zoom, but the hope is to do it in person in the future. The group is made up many differing traditions that are fascinating to learn from. September's topic is earth care. Zoom info will be coming soon and you can find links and more info on our church website and Facebook page as it becomes available. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for this group, please send Pastor Nicki an email at pastornickiv@gmail.com and she will add you to the list.

Nexus Deadline

The Nexus deadline for the October issue is Monday, September 27th.

Anniversaries

Celebrating anniversaries in **September** are:

Cort and Amy Huffman
Richard and Sharon Laverdure
Oscar and Soomi Santana
Donald and Sheila Hopkins



Birthdays

Celebrating birthdays in **September** are:

Nancy Creveling, Jackie Flynn, Lisa Elliott,
Jacob Santana, Cindy Schrick, Anna Dressel,
Reese Wasylyk, Rebecca Sanker, Eleanor Buff,
Hayden Huffman, Dale Pedersen, Bob Elliott,
John Charpentier, Sheila Hopkins, Gavin Vogel
and Mary Lou Huber

Humor Corner



Operation Christmas Child

While Covid-19 has made life more difficult for many of us, it is not stopping ESPC from supporting Operation Christmas Child. We want boys and girls around the world to know that God loves them and has not forgotten them during this time of fear and uncertainty. Children need great joy, now more than ever. Most of all, they need the hope found only in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Each shoebox that is packed is filled with school supplies, hygiene items, toys and Bible teachings in the child's target language. Last year our 30 boxes were distributed to children in Tanzania and Honduras! We are starting our OCC campaign a bit earlier this year and have had to tweak the ways in which our church participates in this global mission project. If you would like to support OCC, we encourage you to choose from one of the following options:

1. Pack your own shoebox by following guidelines listed at samaritanspurse.com. Bring your packed shoebox to church, or call the church office for pick-up service, by September 26th.
2. Make a monetary donation. Write a check to ESPC, with Operation Christmas Child written in the memo line, and we will do the shopping for you! \$25 will cover the cost of shipping, plus filling a shoebox.
3. Pray for the children who will be blessed by Operation Christmas Child. If you have questions regarding any aspect of this outreach project, please call Lisa Swanson at 570-688-1093.

New Graduate

Lucas Swanson is off to Lafayette College in Easton to begin his freshman year. From all reports, he is enjoying his first week of classes, loves the food, and is excited to start club baseball. He plans to major in history with a possible minor in religion. One of his classes this fall is entitled "Contemporary Religious Issues." Lucas is a member of the ROTC Steel Battalion and will graduate as a second lieutenant at the end of his college career.

His new address is:

Lucas Swanson
Box 8612
Lafayette College
111 Quad Drive
Easton, PA 18042



Kylee's song

Many of you have been asking about the lyrics to the song that Kylee Vogel wrote and performed a few weeks ago. Here it is!

*In the middle of the road
The lights flashed you told
The world hugged me tight
As the light came closer*

*Take me take me now
Where I belong
In your castle tall
Take me, take me now
In your loving hands
I am your lamb
Take me, take me now*

*It all hit so hard
My eyes they had stars
You held me in your arms
God please hold me
Till God can love me*

*Love me, love me now
Save me from the hurt
Show what I am worth
Love me, love me now
Heal my heart
Tell me where to start
Love me, love me now*

*I bow down
Yet, I don't hear a sound
Show me how to love
God please love me
Till God can save me*

*Save me, save me now
The waves are crashing down
People hold me down
Save me, save me now
From this foreign land
Teach me how to stand
Save me, save me now*

*I jumped in the ocean
To see if I can run
I got knocked down
God please save me
God please take me*

*I am here to save you
I always loved you
I will hold you ever near
Dear just love me*

*Take me take me now
Where I belong
In your castle tall
Take me, take me now
In your loving hands
I am your lamb
Take me, take me now
Take me now*

~ Kylee Vogel

Moravian Seminary

*Lead the Change
Master the Art of Caring*

Crossroads is pleased to offer the following courses this fall. All courses are offered in person at Moravian Theological Seminary and online, real time through Zoom. Registration and more information is available at www.moravianseminary.edu/crossroads. Contact Dr. Jill Peters at petersj2@moravian.edu with any questions.

- Traditions, a look at world religions and other Protestant denominations, with the Rev. Dr. Bill Falla on Mondays from 6-9 pm, Sept 13-Nov 1, 2021.
- Creative Worship with Rev. Maggie Wellert explores what is worship and how we can bring new life to our worship experiences. Thursday 6-9 pm, Sept 9 - Oct 28, 2021.
- Unpacking the Scriptures - Discipleship with Pam Weiss who leads the discipleship program at First Pres Allentown gives us practical and creative ways to bring people together to explore their faith. This is our Late Fall Course which meets twice a week (Mon and Thurs) from 11/4 until 12/2/2021. Looking ahead:
- Missional Leadership, Mondays 1/3 - 2/21/2022
Dr. Jill Peters
- Road Hazards (Congregational Ethics), Thurs 1/6 - 2/24/2022 Rev. Derek French & Dr. Jill Peters
- Story of Christianity, Mondays 3/7 - 5/2/2022 (Except Holy Week 4/11) Rev. Dr. Bill Falla
- My Journey (Formative Spirituality) Thursdays 3/10 - 5/5/2022 (Except Holy Week 4/14) Rev. Maggie Wellert Dr. Jill Peters, Missional Leadership Developer ~ Moravian Theological Seminary www.moravianseminary.edu/crossroads

Thank You

Once again, our congregation has opened their hearts and have given generously to a local family who lost everything in a fire. Through your donations the family will receive a \$500.00 check, gift cards and several bags of clothing. Thank you for your support helping the Roche family in their time of need.

The Mission Committee

Sunday School/Adult Ed.

If the way be clear, our hope is to celebrate and begin Children's Sunday school on September 19. Adult Sunday school will also be starting in the fall and the final date and info for that is to be coming out soon. So be on the lookout for that to begin late September or early October.

Men's Luncheons

We are hoping to begin doing men's luncheon again, starting likely in October. We will follow up with more information.

Nexus Staff

Pastor: Nicole Vogel

Editor: Jen Carmella

Contributing Editors: Sandy Rydell, Lisa Swanson, Kylee Vogel

September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Worship, 10:00 Communion	6 Labor Day Church closed	7	8	9	10	11
12 Worship, 10:00 TOALC Kickoff, 2:00 in the Pavilion	13 TOALC Classes start	14 Mission Committee meeting, 1:00	15	16	17	18
19 Sunday School starts Worship, 10:00 Deacon's meeting, 10:45	20	21	22	23	24	25 ESU Recovery Walk
26 Worship, 10:00	27 Nexus Deadline	28	29	30		