

The Messenger

P.O. Box 1088 / 6930 Cold Harbor Road Mechanicsville, VA 23111

The Rev. Dr. Stephen W. Starzer, Pastor The Rev. Darren W. Utley, Associate Pastor Brett Underdown, Pastoral Assistant Web Site: www.fairfieldpcusa.org E-Mail: office@fairfieldpcusa.org Office Phone: (804) 730-7164

September 2017



September is a month of new beginnings. Young people enter a new grade in school. Some move into new schools. Here at church the summer is over and it's time to kick into our fall programming. September 10 during the

Sunday school hour we will have a rally day to celebrate our Sunday school programs, to honor the teachers who have been part of the discipleship of our members young and old in the past year and the year to come, and to have an opportunity to be introduced to the different Sunday school options available at Fairfield. We hope that everyone takes advantage of the opportunity to fellowship together and to learn about our wonderful Sunday school programs.

I'm also very excited that we will begin the fall small group study with the book Simply Christian by NT Wright. Wright offers us a way to understand and to talk about our Christian faith in a way that translates for those who have not grown up in the church or have been given a very thin version of Christianity. He begins by looking at four concepts that all of us, Christian or not, can recognize as important and meaningful to us as humans. Why do we have a deep-seated sense of fairness and justice? Why are we so attracted to beautiful things? Why is it that all of us, even those who claim they don't believe in God, still long for something more. something deeper? Why do we seek after meaningful relationships? And why do we get them wrong so often? Wright looks at the human desire for justice, relationship, spirituality and

beauty and shows how they point to the voice of the divine echoing in each one of us. He then goes on to succinctly and brilliantly lay out how the Christian faith both answers the questions above and inspires us to be living examples of God's answers to these questions.

I hope that as many of you who are able will take part in one of these small groups. Steve and I are sure that any amount of time spent in consideration of what this book has to say will both deepen your faith and encourage a more faithful walk with God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The truth is that we Christians are the people of the great new beginning. We are the people of the new life available in and through Jesus Christ. So maybe this fall will be a chance for you to begin, all over again, a deeper walk with God. For as NT Wright says at the close of his book,

New creation has already begun. The sun has begun to rise. Christians are called to leave behind, in the tomb of Jesus Christ, all that belongs to the brokenness and incompleteness of the present world. It is time, in the power of the spirit, to take up our proper role, are fully human role, as agents, heralds, and stewards of the new day that is dawning. That, quite simply, is what it means to be Christian: to follow Jesus Christ into the new world, God's new world, which he has thrown open before us.

NT Wright, Simply Christian

DUHly

Member News

Our sympathy goes out to **Shirley McGhee** and family on the death of **Harry McGhee**. Harry passed away on August 26th. He will be deeply missed by the members of Fairfield.

Martha Houchins has a new home! Her new address is 8244 Marley Drive, Mechanicsville, VA 23116. Her home telephone number remains the same.

Charley & Laura Gauntt have a new e-mail address. It is: lagauntt64@aol.com. Please be sure to note this change.

Laverne Longest has a new address: 17 Shore Street, Petersburg, VA 23803.

Doris McCalla's correct phone number is 569-8152. We have it listed incorrectly in the church directory.

Alan & Melissa Henderson are moving to South Carolina! We hate to see them go! Here is their new address: 2472 Draymohr Court, Mount Pleasant, SC 29466.

Please keep the following people in your daily prayers: Beverly Burts' nephew, Cindy Cattoi's husband Bill, Becky Clark, John Crowe, Bill Dobson, Sherry Duggan's mother, Jennifer France's father, Paul Stearns, Rebecca Harvey's nephew, Charlie Hunt, Merrillyn Jones, Terri Joyce, Gloria Meador, Ken Moore, Jean Plott's sister Mary, Steve Trexler, Deborah Wood's friend, Anne Balducci, Greg Woodfin, all those who serve as missionaries abroad and those who serve our nation. Also remember those who need jobs and those in our congregation who are unable to attend church regularly due to illness or limited mobility.

Please remember our shut-ins: Evelyn Bailey, Ann Barlow, Voncile Baughman, Ruth Gatewood, Janie Harrington, Inez Hill, Stan Hiner, Laverne Longest, Myrtle Muire, Nancy Norment, Mack Perkins, Emerson & Sheila Shaw, and Bootsie Stevens. (Please update Pastor Steve or Pastor Darren as often as possible if you wish to keep your name or your loved one's name on this list.)



To our Church Family, Thank you for the calls, cards, visits, food, and most of all your prayers at the time of Earl's passing. It all helped to ease our family's time of

heartbreak. Thanks to Jane, Darren, and a special thank you to Steve who was with us every step of the way. It is wonderful to be part of a congregation that loves and cares for us so much.

In Christ's Love, Helen and Larry Rigsby Lynda R. Sikes & Family (Corrected version)

Dear Fairfield Family,

I really appreciate the Bible you gifted to me for graduation. I'll make sure to put it to good use. Thanks again!

Graham Williamson

God's left hand

A 6 year-old and his grandma went for a walk one autumn day. "Look at the gorgeous leaves!" Grandma exclaimed. "Just think, God painted each one of them just for us!"

"Yep," said her grandson, "and he did it left-handed."

Perplexed, Grandma asked, "Why do you think God used his left hand to create all this beauty?"

"Because," said the boy matter-of-factly, "we learned in Sunday school that Jesus sits on God's right one."



Anne Baird	. September 2
Laura Arnette	
Ruth Gatewood	
Karen Hastings	
Courtney Starzer Kulkarni	
Melanie Rubeck	. September 6
Brian Croy	
Kim Boehme	. September 9
Tom Lake	
Charles Warren	. September 9
Austin Wilson	. September 9
Megan Leigh	September 10
Wyatt Schneck	September 10
Tanner Franklin	September 11
Alissa Helfrich	
Chris Palicia	
Emily Helfrich	September 14
McKenzie Marker	September 14
Madison Stevens	September 15
Kylee Smith	
Scott Stevens	
Julie Sutton	
Debbie Atkins	
Bettina Tanner	
Henry Atkinson	
Sandra Brewster	
Matt Joyce	
	September 23
	September 24
	September 24
	September 24
Tony Underdown	
Melissa Henderson	
Emily Westphal	
Angela Blue	
Heather Lowery	
Tracy Pope	September 30





Charles & Pamela Walsh	
John & Suzanne Weeks	. September 2
Jeff & Angela Blue	. September 3
Pat & Linda Daugherty	. September 4
Charles & Bonnie Warren	. September 9
Merrill & Karen Hastings	September 12
Mike & Myra Moore	September 14
Keith & Dana Franklin	September 19
Edward & Maurine Wolfgang	
Buck & Barbara Smith	September 22
Stan & Laura Edwards	
Jerry & Dawn Williamson	September 25
Billy & Sue Putze	September 26
Jack & Jo Mitchell	September 27

Special dates

- · Labor Day, September 4
- National Grandparents Day, September 10
- Patriot Day, September 11
- First day of autumn, September 22

If you have a college student/students in your family for the 2017-2018 academic year, please help us keep in touch with them by sending the requested information below to the church office (secretary@fairfieldpcusa.org).

Student's name & complete address

Name of college/educational facility

Email address

Phone/cell phone

Freshman/sophomore/junior/senior/etc.



This information is also helpful to the Joyful Readers Circle when they send out care packages to our college students!

Thanks!



Join us on **September 10th** during the Sunday School hour in Heritage Hall for food and fellowship at Rally Day! Learn about each Sunday School class to find a class that you'd be interested in joining. We'll also learn about our the newly designed curriculum for children and youth classes. Please see Richard Dunn or Jenny Young if you have any questions.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

How Does the Story End?

Have you ever picked up a book and flipped to the end to see what happens? If so, you are in for a treat. Beginning on **Thursday**, **September 7**, at 10:00, the Thursday Morning Bible Study will meet each week in the Choir Room to explore the last 7 chapters of the book of Isaiah to discover the plans that God has in store for His people as He shines His glory upon the earth. As the world today drowns in gloom and doom as they look to the future, we can discover what God has in store and rejoice in His plans for us, His people.

When we finish our study of Isaiah, we will begin a new study of the Book of John.

The only things you need to bring are your favorite Bible and your curiosity. If you have any questions, please call Anne Young at 730-8361. Come and join us!



Library News

"I am the vine and my Father is the Gardener" John 15 v.1

Can you believe it? Summer is almost gone and we will soon be into the season of fall. This is my favorite time of the yea when you think about fall harvests, pumpkins and cooler temperatures. Regardless of the season let us always remember that God is the Master Gardener of our lives.

Our libraries have many resources that you may find helpful to you as you strive to nurture and grow in your spiritual life. In the adult library you will find A Woman's Garden of Love, Apples of Gold and Harvests of Gold. In the children's library look for Counting In The Garden, The Pumpkin Patch Parable and The Sunflower Parable.

In this changing season of fall may we not forget to turn to God for nourishment of our souls and may your spiritual harvests always be plentiful.

Elizabeth Covington



Imagine our surprise when Prayer we met for Prayer Shawl Shawl Ministry in August and there Ministry on the table were five beautiful and lovingly made items. Some were crocheted and others knitted. We are so grateful for them but we don't know who made the

contribution. Whoever you are, we would love for you to join us and share your skills. We would also love to welcome anyone else who would like to learn to knit or crochet or anyone who wants to share their skills. We meet the first Wednesday of every month. Please come join us.

The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry is **Wednesday**, **September 6th** at 10:30 in the Barlow Parlor.

Anna Barrowclough

Presbyterian Men & Women



Our devotion suggest that we can all be super heros through GOD's guidance and support. Our faith is our armor, our unique talents are our powers and GOD is our strength. We had discussion how our men's group can best serve the church and community through God's guidance. That being said, a couple of us arranged a tour and meeting with the Liberation Family Services group. We are looking into how we can serve this group and this cause. As we make decisions on projects to tackle, we will definitely be calling on all of Fairfield for your support and help.

We continue to seek new leadership for this Men's group, with fresh new ideas. Please prayerfully consider this rewarding service.

All men are encouraged to join us and the experience this group's fellowship first hand. You won't regret it.

We look forward to seeing you for our next breakfast on **Tuesday**, **September 12th**. Join us at The Cold Harbor Restaurant, every 2nd Tuesday of the month starting around 6:00 to 6:30 am. Call or email Bill Dobson 804-314-3127 or Bill.dobson@comcast.net with any questions about the men of the church activities. You never have to reserve a seat, we will always have an opening for you.

In Christ Service, Billy Putze, Bill Dobson



Fellowship Circle

The Fellowship Circle will begin meeting again on **Tuesday, September 12th** at 10:30am. Beverly Burts will lead us in studying "The Themes of the Book of Hebrews."

Our group meets once a month on the second Tuesday of each month from September to May. If you have time in the morning to join us, we would love to have you! All ladies are welcome!

Eva Ladd

Joyful Reader's Circle

The Joyful Readers' Circle will start back up on **Tuesday, September 12**th at 7:00pm. We will be discussing the book <u>The Nightingale</u> by Kristen Hannah. Everyone is welcome to attend. This group meets on the first Tuesday night of each month from September to June.

Barbara Wash



With September comes a flurry of activities including our **September 5th** meeting. Even though this meeting is also the first day of school, we are planning to discuss the progress we have made as

far as flower distribution, Take Them a Meal, the Shepherds program and receptions.

Starting this month, there will be a list of those donating the flowers, delivering them and the recipients. It will be located on the bulletin board with the flower calendar. We are asking that members of the congregation as well as the Deacons sign up for one Sunday to provide this service.

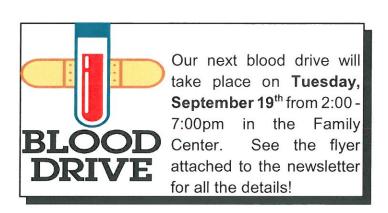
As mentioned in previous newsletters, we will be getting more information to the congregation concerning the Take Them A Meal website.

The Shepherds program is going to be emphasizing the new members, the homebound and members who may not be aware of all the programs that are available at the church. This ministry is a great way to get to know these members.

We continue to improve our procedures regarding receptions and appreciate the time and food that the congregation provides.

Looking forward to continuing the work of the Deacons.

Marge Wantz



Super Singles

The Super Singles will be going to eat at Marty's Grill in the Rutland Commons Shopping Center on **Sunday**, **September 10**th, immediately following the 11:00am worship service. Meet in the parking lot at 12:15pm and carpool to the restaurant.

If you are planning on attending, please call Melanie by Friday, September 8 at 730-5994.

This is a wonderful group to enjoy lunch with. Come on, you know you want to!

Four perspectives

Because different writers penned each Gospel, the four books offer unique angles and insights. Although the overall message is the same, the human authors' backgrounds and perspectives shine through every account.

These verses by an unknown writer remind us of each Gospel's characteristics:

Matthew Messiah, Israel's King,

set forth, by Israel slain;

but God decreed that Israel's loss

should be the Gentiles' gain.

Mark tells us how in patient love

this earth has once been trod by One Who, in a Servant's form,

was yet the Son of God.

Luke the physician, writes

of a more skilled Physician still Who gave himself, as Son of Man.

to save us from all ill.

John the beloved of Jesus,

sees in him the Father's Son, the everlasting Word made flesh,

yet with the Father One.

Ministry Team News

Adult Discipleship News

Our memory verses for the next year will be from Romans, Chapter 12. See how many you can remember! This is the one for September:

"Ro invital in home, nations in affliction, faithful in

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality."

Romans 12:12-13

The Fall study will be using a Bible study based on N.T. Wright's book Simply Christian Why Christianity Makes Sense. This study will help us to more fully understand the basis of our Christian faith in a manner that we will not only grow in our faith but also will learn how to talk about why it is that we believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. If you are interested in hosting this study one night a week in your home, please contact Richard Dunn (779-7230) or Jenny Young (516-6366). The books are available (\$15 suggested donation), please check with Steve or Darren to get your copy. We will announce in the bulletin the times and locations for the study groups. Please plan to be a part of this!



Mission Team News

Mechanicsville Churches Emergency Functions (MCEF) is working hard to get the new space at 7235 Stonewall Parkway ready for business. Just as an update, all the interior walls are painted, flooring down throughout, furniture from the office at the Shalom House moved in, shelving for the food pantry on site with work crews ready to work the 16th, 17th and 18th to get them in place, interior work on the reception area and the clothing closet spaces in the works, and curtains on all windows and doors. Also in the plans is a display where churches can have their church information available. It will be able to hold a tri-fold brochure about your church. With this information, we hope to be able to connect some of our clients with a church home. STAY TUNED FOR FURTHER UPDATES.

NEW BROCHURES are available and will be emailed to churches ASAP. The "soft opening" of the MCEF One Stop Shop is planned for Monday, September 25. Prayers please that this will work out.

FOOD PANTRY – 149 households were served in July. There were 18 new registrants. Needs identified this month are potatoes (canned/boxed), vegetables other than the normal beans, corn, etc., canned fruit.

HANOVER SENIOR RIDES - For the month of July, MCEF gave 64 rides to seniors and ACES gave 29. Drivers are being recruited. Please call 357-9360 if you are interested in joining this ministry. Charles Rasnick will call you back.

CLOTHING CLOSETS – All of the clothing closets are still at their original locations. **Please call ahead to make donations and ask about hours**. Again, please do not leave donations at the church door or the new MCEF location.

- ★ Adult Clothing, Mechanicsville Baptist Church 746-7253
- ★ Children's Clothing, Shady Grove United Methodist Church, 746-9073
- ★ Infant Clothing and Equipment, Mechanicsville Church of Christ, 746-5765

Linens, Mechanicsville Presbyterian Church,746-5496

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND PLANS

- Sunday, September 3 next day to contribute food at Fairfield.
- September 11 6th 9/11 concert at Walnut Grove Baptist. Music provided by the John Marshall Alumni Band. The event will begin at 7 p.m. Suggested admission is \$2 and a can/box of food to benefit MCEF.
- October 1 New Song UMC celebrating 20th anniversary at Lee Davis High School where they first started to worship.
- October 14-15 Mechanicsville Baptist Church celebrating its 40th anniversary.
- October 21, 10-3 Hanover County Sheriff's Fall Fellowship Festival. FREE at the Hanover Courthouse.
- Date TBA Black Creek Baptist will celebrate 240 years.
- Date TBA Gethsemane Church of Christ will celebrate their 150th anniversary



Needle's Eye is offering a highly-structured seven-week course to provide skills training and assistance for adults who are trying to find employment, transition back into the workforce, or become more marketable. With Topics like: Discovering your calling and purpose, enhancing your resume, and interviewing strategies.

When: Wednesdays, starting September 13,

2017, ending October 25, 2017

Time: 4:00pm to 6:00pm

Where: Needle's Eye Ministries | 104

Berrington Court, Richmond VA 23221

Cost: \$40*

Register: Go to website: needleseye.org

*Partial scholarships are available. For more details, contact kdixon@needleseve.org.



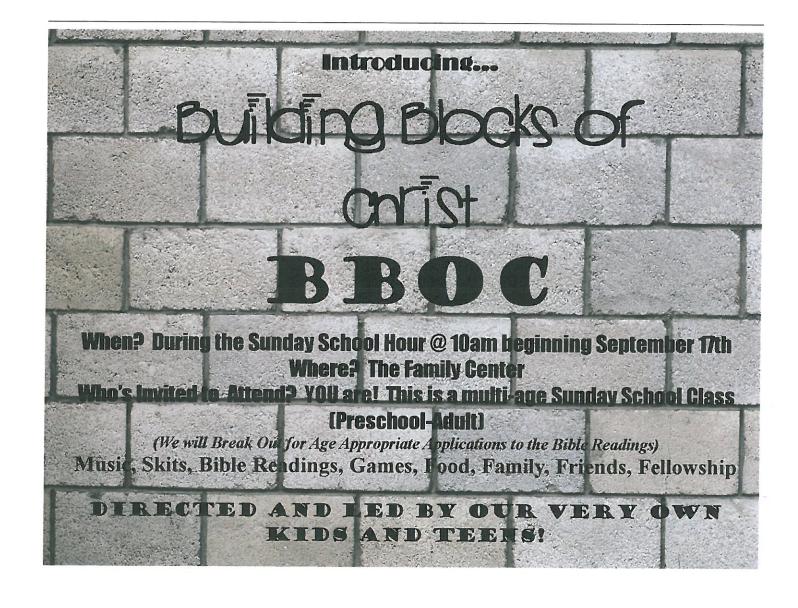
In case you haven't noticed, there is some magnificent artwork taking shape in the children's ministry wing of Fairfield Church. Our own Ken Hayden, who is renowned for his artwork, is gifting us with a wonderful mural in our hallway. The paintings are depicting Biblical imagery of the lion and the lamb, the swords being beaten into plowshares and the little children coming to Jesus. All scenes depicting what the Kingdom of God means. We can't thank Ken enough for the untold number of hours, the amount of supplies and the sheer love that he has put into this outstanding endeavor. It is not only a priceless work of art but it is a powerful testimony to the person and work of Jesus Christ. We are deeply indebted and deeply grateful.



A little help is needed for our praise band at the 9:00 a.m. worship service. We are developing a team of people who will learn how to make the worship music happen in the management of the sound system. We have two people who are willing to help but we would like to have at least two others to share the responsibility. You will be trained and you will enjoy the best seat in the house to worship! If you are interested at all, please talk to Darren or Matt and they will give you more information to help you discern if this is a ministry you are being called to do!

Nursery Schedules

9:00am Infant/Toddler Nursery Schedule 10:00am Infant/Toddler Sept. 3 Sept. 3 Mitzi Marker & McKenzie Marker Cathy Wenninger & Janet Chelette Linda Gruenhagen & Barbara Wash Sept. 10 Sept. 10 Mitzi Marker & McKenzie Marker Sept. 17 Janet Chelette & Jennifer France Sept. 17 Linda Daugherty & Hannah Reasor Sept. 24 Brenda Blue & Allison Letourneau Sept. 24 Karen Couch & Beverly Burts 11am Infant /Toddler 9:00am Kid's Worship Sept. 3 Angela Schwartz & Pam Gigliotti Sept. 10 TBD Sept. 17 Donna Hohman Sept. 10 Nikki Glass & Anne Young Sept. 24 Donna Hohman Sept. 17 Pam Roberts & Donna Hohman Angela Blue & Molly Zweckbronner Sept. 24



Under-Age Thinking...



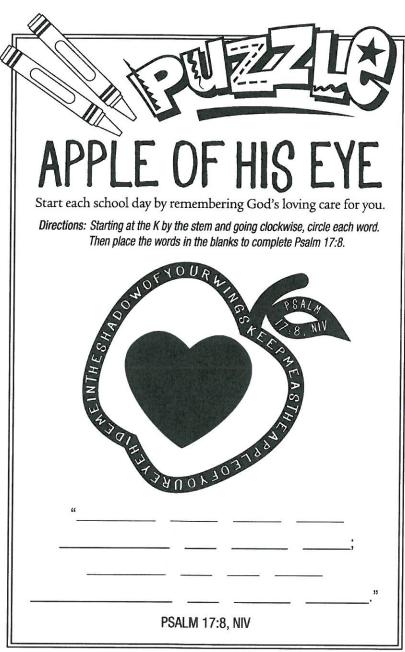
These healthy chips make a yummy back-to-school snack.

What you need:

- 4 apples, cored and cut into 1/8" rings
- Large bowl
- Spoon
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- Baking sheets (sprayed)

What you do:

- 1. Place apple slices in the bowl. Add cinnamon and sugar. Stir so apples are coated evenly with the mixture.
- 2. Place apple slices on the sprayed baking sheets in a single layer.
- 3. Bake at 200 degrees for two to three hours, until chips are dry but still slightly soft.



Answer: "Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings." Psalm 17:8, NIV



The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.™

American Red Cross

Fairfield Presbyterian Church Blood Drive

6930 Cold Harbor Rd, Mechanicsville, VA 23111

Tuesday, September 19th 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm

To schedule an appointment, call the church office at (804) 730-7164, visit redcrossblood.org, or call 1-800 RED CROSS

Remember to drink plenty of water, eat a good meal, and <u>bring a photo ID.</u>
Walk-ins welcome!

September 2017

Dear Church Staff and Members of Fairfield,

Thank you so much for sharing this fabulous church space with our preschool and allowing us to continue to touch the lives of children in the community. We are so blessed that you have welcomed us, with open arms, while Shalom undertakes their new building project.

I wanted to let you know that starting September 1st, my teachers and I will be getting the classrooms ready for the beginning of preschool. Our parent orientation is on Thursday, September 7th at 6:30 p.m; student orientation will be Friday, September 8th at 9:00 a.m; and school begins on Tuesday, September 12th. We have 33 students enrolled for this school year, with one opening still available if you know of someone looking for a preschool home.

I encourage you to contact me at any time with questions or concerns that may arise throughout the school year. My goal is to always keep the lines of communication open to ensure that everyone's needs and expectations are being met. Should you ever need to reach me, the preschool office number is 569-6110. Thank you again for giving us the opportunity to share this wonderful facility with you. We appreciate all that you do to make this a safe, child-friendly environment and we are grateful for the many hands that make all of this possible on a weekly basis. My teachers and I anticipate a great year with the Fairfield Presbyterian Church family and we look forward to the months ahead!

Sincerely,

Kim Stanley, Site Director

Gingerbread Cottage Preschool

September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Pavilion) 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	28 7:00 PM Eagle Board of Review (#26, 29, 32)	29	30	31 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (Heritage Hall) 7:30 PM Praise Band Practice (sanctuary)		2
3 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Pavilion) 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	4 Church Office Closed <i>Labor Day</i>	7:00 PM Christian Ministry Teams (HH 7:00 PM Evangelism Team (#19) 7:00 PM Missions Team (#14) 7:00 PM Personnel Meeting (#31) 7:00 PM Worship Team (#26) 7:15 PM Deacon's Meeting (#20)	6 10:30 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry (#12, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Fairfield Ringers' Practice (sanctuary) 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	Room) 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM GCNS Parent Orientation	8	9
10 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Pavilion) 10:00 AM Rally Day 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary) 12:30 PM Super Singles	11 7:00 PM OA Chapter Meeting (Heritage Hall)	12 6:00 AM Men of the Church Breakfast 10:30 AM Fellowship Circle (#20) 7:00 PM Christian Administration Teams (Heritage Hall) 7:00 PM Facilities Management Team (#20) 7:00 PM Joyful Readers Circle 7:00 PM Stewardship Team (#26)	13 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Fairfield Ringers' Practice (sanctuary) 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	14 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study (Choir Room) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (Heritage Hall) 7:30 PM Praise Band Practice (sanctuary)	15	16
17 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Pavilion) 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	18	Center) 7:00 PM Session Meeting (#20)	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Fairfield Ringers' Practice (sanctuary)	Bible Study (Choir Room) 7:00 PM Boy Scout Committee Meeting (#29) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (Heritage Hall)	22	23
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service (Pavilion)		7:00 PM Children's Nurture (#20) 7:00 PM Christian Formation Teams (Heritage Hall)	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Fairfield Ringers' Practice (sanctuary) 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	9:15 AM GCNS Room Parent	29	30

Youth Group News

September 10: All families with raising 6-12th

graders save the date

September 10 @4:30 for our annual youth group kick-off ice

cream social. Come hear

about Fall events, fill out some

forms, eat some ice cream, with play some games and reconnect with friends. Hope

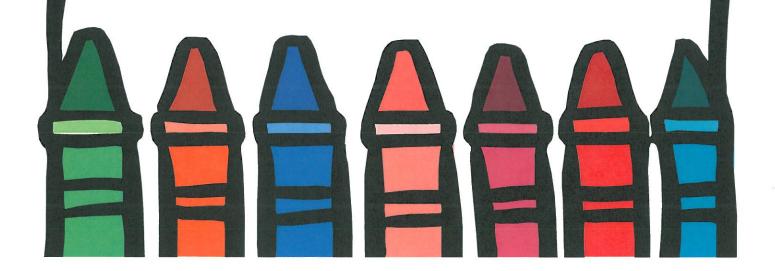
to see you there!

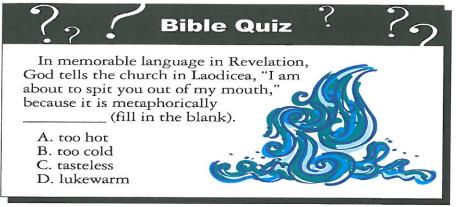
September 17: Youth Group, 4:30pm

September 24: Youth Group, 4:30pm

Coming Up

October 1: Trip to Swaders





Answer: D (See Revelation 3:16.)



Return Service Requested

