## THE COMMUNICATOR

Volume XXVIII No. 9/10

September/October, 2019

#### **KEVIN'S KORNER**

As August closes and September begins, one of the transitions we go through in our church's work happens in our Day Care ministry. Children who have participated in our summer program leave and return to their schools. And so do some of the staff who've worked with them. We have several college student/teacher's assistants who leave at some point during August to begin their studies for the fall semester. Everywhere you turn, someone is going back to school.

Our church also incorporates the back-to-school transition into our ministry through our book bag/school supply project. This effort helps sustain our connection to the community, especially to children and families who struggle to gather the resources needed for a fruitful educational experience. Over the last decade, the cost of required classroom supplies and school fees has nearly doubled. Though there was a slight price dip in the cost of supplies for the 2018-2019 school year, the figures are still stunning. According to a measure called the Backpack Index, you can expect to pay \$637 for an elementary school child, \$941 for a middle school child, and \$1,355 for a high school student. For many folks, these numbers are comparable to an average monthly mortgage.

Education requires investing. Our church invests in learning through our Day Care ministry, through our book bag/school supply project, and through other opportunities to connect with our local schools. Our commitment to learning, growth, and development isn't just something that we tack on to our church's list of events and activities. We're already in the business of making disciples. So progress in learning is part of the very nature of our congregation's life and purpose. A "disciple" is essentially a learner, someone who is a follower, an adherent, a student of a great master, religious leader, or teacher. So Jesus wants us to <sup>1</sup>become his students. That's at the heart of His call, "Follow me." He summons us to attach ourselves to Him and to learn from what He says and what He does.

Learning from Jesus is a journey sustained by hope, the hope that who we have been and who we are pale in comparison to who we will be, because of Him. As preacher Ernest Campbell says, "Anyone who says 'Follow me' is obviously more interested in the future than in the past."\* Remember that Jesus is still in the business of taking faltering disciples like us and helping us make it to the next stage in our understanding of who He is and what He wants us to do. When His first followers dropped their nets and went with Jesus, they weren't transformed into the likeness of Christ by the time the sun set on their first day of discipleship. They had only taken the first few risky steps in a journey that would lead them deeper into the life of God's kingdom, and closer to the cross. So we twenty-first century disciples must also take up our crosses daily and go with Jesus into a life of mission in the reign of God.

For followers of Jesus, school is always in session. There's no back-to-school season in the community of disciples. Even when summer begins drawing to a close, learning the way and will of Christ continues. So individually and together, let's keep following Him.

Faithfully,

Pastor Kevin

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ernest T. Campbell, "Follow Me," in *A Chorus of Witnesses: Model Sermons for today's Preacher*, ed. Thomas G. Long and Cornelius Plantinga, Jr. (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994) 167.

### FROM THE COMMUNICATOR STAFF

By Jenny Boswell, editor and Administrative Assistant

The Deacon of the Month for September is Geri Webb.

September 2 is V-J Day, observing the day Japan signed a formal surrender in 1945.

We observe Labor Day on Monday, September 2. The Day Care and Church Office will be closed.

On Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> the school age children will be going back to school and the Day Care will be back to their school year learning and routines.

Sunday, September 8 is National Grandparents' Day. This day is celebrated on the first Sunday after Labor Day. If you are lucky enough to have living grandparents (or great-grandparents) don't forget to honor them for all that they do for their grandchildren.

Patriot Day is observed on September 11. Flags should be flown at half-staff until sunset that day.

Our national anthem was written by Francis Scott Key on September 14, 1814.

Grace Baptist Church is celebrating its' 61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary on Sunday, September 15 with an Anniversary Luncheon.

The U.S. Constitution was approved on September 17, 1787.

September 19 is POW/MIA Recognition Day.

Autumn begins on September 23, 2019.

The Deacon of the Month for October has yet to be determined. The new deacon election will take place at the end of September. 3 deacons will be rotated off and 3 new deacons will be elected in.

We will observe Columbus Day on October 14 (a Monday Holiday) the Day Care and the church office will be closed.

October 27 is Navy Day.

Halloween is celebrated on Thursday, October 31.

The Newsletter articles for the November/December issue will be due on Sunday, October 6, 2019.

## SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER NEWS FROM THE DAY CARE CENTER

By Amy Shumpert, assistant director of the Day Care Center

Backpacks, books, pencils, etc. It's that time of the year once again! The first day of school this year is Tuesday, September 3, 2019. "It's the most wonderful time of the year," as many parents are singing. An exciting new school year ahead; a time to grow and mature, make lasting friendships and learn new things every day!

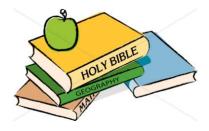
We celebrated summer coming to an end, utilizing our scientific *SPACE* theme, by participating in a fun, handson *STEM* day! The children were scientists And mathematicians and conducted experiments all their own. As our "Moon Walkers," " Mighty Martians," "Shooting Stars," "Galaxies," and "Meteors" explored space and *GOD'S GALAXY* through many biblical lessons and exciting experiences all summer, they made lasting summer memories here at Grace Baptist Day Care Center.

Pastor Kevin adopted our summer theme, "God's Galaxy" this summer as he welcomed all of our students and teachers into the sanctuary each Wednesday for Bible story time. Each day, developmentally appropriate Bible stories, songs, poems and prayers are read/recited, sung and taught daily in every classroom. Our oldest group of school-aged students took pride in helping their teacher lead a couple of our Wednesday worship sessions for our younger students while Pastor was away. Stars shine bright and we encourage all of our children to go out into the world and "Be the Light!" We pray daily for Pastor Kevin, our staff, students, families, and our center, and we enjoy learning from one another each day while singing praises to the Lord!

Here at Grace Baptist Day Care Center we are looking forward to welcoming new faces into every classroom. The teachers and staff have worked very hard preparing classrooms and material to create an inviting learning environment. Every child is a unique individual and we strive to provide activities to enhance and showcase individuality.

For our annual Open House in September, the children will bake goodies for the parents to enjoy and work very hard on special "All About Me" and "Autumn" projects for display. We will kick off the month of October with Fire Prevention Week and a special visit from the Bryans Road Fire Department. The Day Care Center will be closed on Monday, September 2 for Labor Day and Monday, October for Columbus Day. The preschool children and teachers are anxiously awaiting our annual fieldtrip to the pumpkin farm. We are excited about the hayride, corn maze, farm animals, sand/hay piles, corn boxes, and pumpkin picking!

We pray that the Lord will guide us and bless us through many exciting new adventures this school year!





#### OUR CHURCH GOAL IS: \$1,500



## DIRECTORY UPDATE

Address change for:

Rev. Stephen A. and Brenda Trice 8 Quincy Ct. Berlin, MD 21811

Phone number change for:

Mr. Chip Cary New phone number – 202-344-7178 e-mail --- <u>caryfranciso39@gmail.com</u>

#### **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

By baptism:

Kathryn "Abby" Rogerson was baptized on July 21, 2019

By Letter of Transfer to another church:

Darrell and Nan Linville transferred their membership to the First Baptist Church of La Plata in July of 2019.

## THE SCRIPTURES SAY...

"Teach me what I cannot see; if I have done wrong, I will not do it again." Job 34:32 (NIV)

"Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding. I give you sound learning, so do not forsake my teaching." Proverbs 4:1-2 (NIV)

"Test me, O Lord, and try me, examine my heart and my mind; for your love is ever before me, and I walk continually in your truth." Psalm 26:2-3 (NIV)

"Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak." Isaiah 40:28-29 (NIV)

#### \*

#### WORD OF THE MONTH:

LEARN – (v.) to gain knowledge of or skill in a subject etc. by study or experience or by being taught.

#### **MINDY'S PEACE**

By Mindy Adams

September is here. September means kids back to school and most vacations are over. September also means the celebrations of Labor Day, Grandparents Day, Church Anniversary, County Fair Day, and the remembrance of 911 (Patriot's Day). Also fall starts on the 23 of September this year. The weather is getting cooler and the leaves on the trees are starting to change colors. This is one of my favorite seasons.

In a blink of an eye, it will be October. It will be a time to enjoy cool breezes, changing of the leaves, hay rides, pumpkins and Halloween. Also October is Pastor Appreciation month. So let's give Pastor Kevin a big thanks for all he does.

#### <u>Our Pastor</u>

He listens to our cares and woes. He is always there to lend a hand. He comforts us in times of sorrow and celebrates our joys and happiness. He enlightens us with words of wisdom and teaches us the word of God. For all he has done (going beyond his job description,) for being our friend...we say THANK YOU Kevin Holder and God bless you.

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I want to take this opportunity to thank all the members of Grace Baptist Church, my church, Indian Head United Methodist Church, family, and friends. This year, I and my family have gone through a lot. I had heart valve surgery at the end of February. In May, my son's wife, Kristin, died suddenly and the out pouring of support, food, money and prayers have been very appreciated. Jason and his three kids have moved in with us and it is a big adjustment for all of us.

A special thanks to Grace Baptist Church for allowing me time off for recuperation after my surgery and for the backpack ministry for the children.

We still have a lot of work to do on his house in St. Mary's county. He wants to rent it out for a few years and plans on going back there someday.

Again, Thank You, Jenny Boswell (Administrator Assistant)

## **GRACE'S RECIPE BOX**

#### Chicken Breasts Diane

#### For 4 servings you will need:

4 large boneless chicken breast halves or 8 small ½ tsp. Salt
¼ to ½ tsp. Black pepper
2 Tbsp. Olive or salad oil
2 Tbsp. Butter or margarine
3 Tbsp. Chopped fresh chives or green onions
Juice of ½ lime or lemon
2 Tbsp. Brandy or cognac, optional
3 Tbsp. Chopped parsley
2 tsp. Dijon-style mustard
¼ cup chicken broth

#### Preparation:

Place chicken breast halves between sheets of waxed paper or plastic wrap. Pound slightly with mallet. Sprinkle with salt and black pepper.

Heat 1 tablespoon each of oil and butter in large skillet.

Cook chicken over high heat for 2 minutes on each side. Do not cook longer or they will be overcooked and dry. Transfer to warm serving platter.

Add chives or green onion, lime juice and brandy, if used, parsley and mustard to pan. Cook 15 seconds, whisking constantly.

Whisk in broth. Stir until sauce is smooth. Whisk in remaining butter and oil.

Pour sauce over chicken. Serve immediately.

#### Good served with:

Noodles with tomato sauce, steamed broccoli and a fresh salad.





#### Youth Night Out September 27 and October 25 7:00 PM

### 57 CENTS THAT MADE HISTORY

A sobbing little girl stood near a small church from which she had been turned away because it 'was too crowded'. "I can't go to Sunday School," she sobbed to the pastor as he walked by. Seeing her shabby, unkempt appearance, the pastor guessed the reason and, taking her by the hand, took her inside and found a place for her in the Sunday School class. The child was so touched that she went to bed that night thinking of the children who have no place to worship Jesus.

Some two years later, this child lay dead in one of the poor tenement buildings and her parents called for the kind-hearted pastor, who had befriended their daughter, to handle the final arrangements. As her poor little body was being moved, a worn and crumpled purse was found which seemed to have been rummaged from some trash dump. Inside was found 57 cents and a note scribbled in childish handwriting which read, "This is to help build the little church bigger so more children can go to Sunday School."

For two years she had saved for this offering of love. When the pastor tearfully read that note, he knew instantly what he would do. Carrying this note and the cracked red pocketbook to the pulpit, he told the story of her unselfish love and devotion. He challenged his deacons to get busy and raise enough money for the larger building.

But the story does not end there!

A newspaper learned of the story and published it. It was read by a realtor who offered them a parcel of land worth many thousands. When told that the church could not pay so much, he offered it for a 57 cent payment.

Church members made large subscriptions. Checks came from far and wide. Within five years the little girl's gift had increased to \$250,000.00 a huge sum for that time (near the turn of the century). Her unselfish love had paid large dividends.

When you are in the city of Philadelphia, look up Temple Baptist Church, with a seating capacity of 3,300, and Temple University, where hundreds of students are trained. Have a look, too, at Good Samaritan Hospital and at a Sunday School building Which houses hundreds of scholars, so that no child in the area will ever need to be left outside at Sunday school time.

In one of the rooms of this building may be seen the picture of the sweet face of the little girl whose 57 cents, so sacrificially saved, made such remarkable history. A long side of it is a portrait of her kind pastor, Dr. Russel H. Conwell.

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#### **POETRY CORNER**

This poem has been copied from the book *Glimpses of My Life* by Rachel A. Gold. (Copyrighted and used by permission)

#### **First Trial**

Once I wrote some poems Once I hoped for fame I did not think I would get rich But hoped to make a name

I borrowed a typewriter and I copied all my verses I sent them off to magazines But later muttered "Curses!"

For oh – alas – the answer came And I felt very small They all replied "Thank you, but we Cannot use them at all!"

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

#### **Birthdays**:

Bob Curtin	09/08
Chip Cary	09/13
Richard Gold	09/13
Ava Maya Warburton	09/13
Jerry Cushman	09/14
Keith Linville	09/15
Mamusu Sesay	09/16
Steven Jones	09/25
Ronnie Strickland	09/30

#### Anniversaries:

Jenny and Sam Boswell

09/06

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

#### **Birthdays**:

Victor Smith	10/03
Abe Jenkins	10/03
Dennis Janke	10/10
Clenad Tita	10/16
Pam Weimer	10/17
Don Posey	10/22
Emmajean Jenkins	10/29

#### Anniversaries:

Steve and Linda Norbrey	10/16
Darren and Leah Smith	10/17



## **UPCOMING EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER**

Sept. 1 Lord's Supper Sept. 2 Labor Day - closed Sept. 3 First Day of School Sept. 3 Westside Stitchers Sept. 4 Bible Study Sept. 6 Stampin' Up Sept. 7 Deacons Meeting Sept. 8 Grandparents Day Sept. 10 Girl Scouts Sept. 11 Day Care Committee Meeting Sept. 11 Bible Study Sept. 13 Kids Night Out and Sleep-over Sept. 14 Movie Night Sept. 15 Anniversary Luncheon Sept. 17 Westside Stitchers Sept. 18 Bible Study Sept. 24 Girl Scouts Sept. 25 Bible Study Sept. 26 Day Care Open House Sept. 27 Youth Night Out Sept. 29 Church Council Meeting



### UPCOMING EVENTS IN OCTOBER

Oct. 1 Westside Stitchers Oct. 1 Girl Scouts Oct. 2 Bible Study Oct. 4 Stampin' Up Oct. 5 Deacons Meeting Oct. 6 Lord's Supper Oct. 8 Girl Scouts Oct. 9 Business Meeting Oct. 12 Movie Night Oct. 15 Westside Stitchers Oct. 15 Girl Scouts Oct. 16 Bible Study Oct. 20 Church Picnic Oct. 22 Girl Scouts Oct. 23 Bible Study Oct. 25 Youth Night Out Oct. 26 Stampin' Up Oct. 27 Church Council Meeting Oct. 29 Girl Scouts Oct. 30 Bible Study Oct. 31 Halloween



### IT ONLY TAKES A MOMENT

By Debby Holder September 11, 2001

It only takes a moment For the blue to turn to gray, For the sunny skies and whisper of clouds To turn to thunder and rain.

It only takes a moment For a smile to pass from one's face, For laughter and joy to disappear And life's joy to be erased.

It only takes a moment For one to choose a path That brings destruction and death to others And a nation's wrath.

It only takes a moment To turn to God in prayer To trust Him when life seems filled With so much pain and despair.

It only takes a moment To replace confidence with fear To turn to God who is waiting To receive us as we draw near.

It only takes a moment To change a world forever, To understand we are not forsaken When sheltered in the love no force can sever.



# Church Picnic

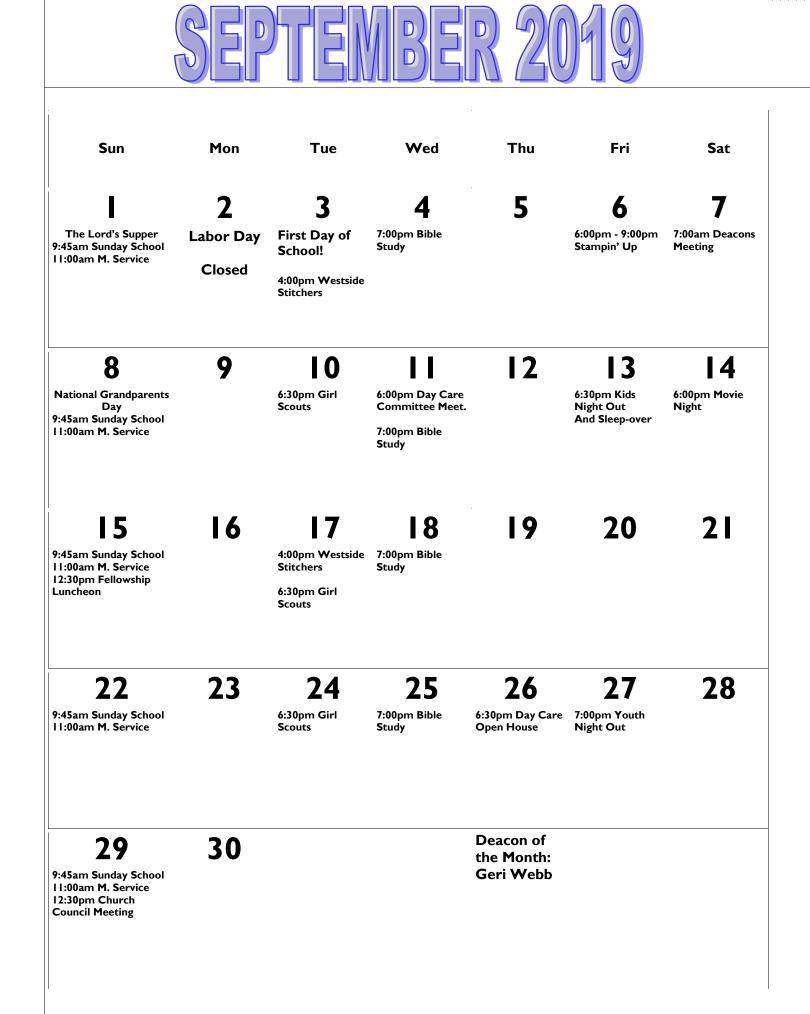
## October 20, 2019

The annual Grace Baptist Church Picnic will be on Sunday, October 20 after the Morning Service. For further information and details keep a watch on the October bulletins and bulletin board.



## **Grandparents Day**

Grandparents Day this year is on Sunday, September 8, 2019. Grandparents Day falls on the first Sunday after Labor Day. I don't think this is a well known holiday, but if you are blessed and still have your grandparent/s, (or even greatgrandparent/s), don't forget to do something special that day for them and let them know how special grandparents are.



## **OCTOBER 2019**

