

The Heavenly Herald

“We will share the love of our Lord, building on our past, reaching in faith toward our future.”

A letter from the Pastor...

SEPTEMBER, 2023

“Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words.”

Romans 8:26

This week marks the beginning of a new school year for many in our communities. For some, this is a time of sadness as the summer months come to a close and trips to the beach or to explore this great country are now just a memory. Peaceful nights without worrying about homework or pop quizzes will soon be replaced with just the opposite.

But, for others this is a time for rejoicing as children will now get to spend each day seeing and catching up with friends who they haven't seen since the end of the last school year. There will be excitement that fills the lives of our young people as fall activities take off in earnest.

Whether you are feeling disappointment over the end of summer vacation or you find yourself dancing down the halls singing, “It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year”, as our young people go back to school, it's important for us to keep all of their teachers and the staff and volunteers who support our schools and educational programs in our prayers.

I want to especially lift up our school bus drivers this fall season. Did you know that according to the American Bus Council there are approximately 480,000 school buses that deliver 25 million children to schools and extracurricular activities each school day?

Here is a short prayer that you can use for School Bus Drivers or any of the other hard-working folks who care for our kids throughout the days and weeks ahead:

Dear God, I give you thanks for the School Bus Drivers. Bless each of them on their journey today. Some of them will serve as social workers, parents, friends, or even coaches to our young people. Give them strength, give them wisdom, keep them alert, and keep them safe. In Jesus' name, AMEN.

God Bless,
Pastor Ben

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Pastor Ben's Letter	1
Birthdays & Anniversaries	2
Prayer Lists	3
Schedule of Servers	4
Annual Worship/Picnic	5
Men's Night Out	6
Houston Pumpkin Festival	7
Pastor Ben's Sept. Readings	8
September Calendar	9

Happy Birthday

Sept. 1st	Bob Washabaugh	Sept. 2nd	Kim Keenan	
Sept. 3rd	Ron Myers	Sept. 6th	Audrey Washabaugh	
Sept. 7th	Anna Browning	Sept. 7th	Kellie Rubbo	
Sept. 10th	Dave Hoover	Sept. 10th	James Baxter	
Sept. 11th	John Jones	Sept. 11th	Conner Craig	
Sept. 12th	Donald Bailey	Sept. 12th	Virginia Johnston	
Sept. 13th	Don Conner	Sept. 13th	Henry Libert	
Sept. 14th	Sherry Jeffers	Sept. 14th	Scott McIlvaine	
Sept. 15th	Margaret Strimel	Sept. 18th	Eloise Libert	
Sept. 22nd	Ryan Steere	Sept. 23rd	Olivia Williams	
Sept. 24th	Angela M. Itzel	Sept. 24th	Alexis Durkacs	
Sept. 24th	Ambre Zendt	Sept. 25th	Tina Colletti	
Sept. 26th	Ruth Baxter	Sept. 26th	Julia Swarow	
Sept. 27th	Mindy Williams	Sept. 28th	Rodney Petras	
Sept. 28th	Libby Young	Sept. 29th	Lisa McFarland	
Sept. 30th	Tina Sapienza			

Happy Anniversary

Jay & Amanda Yetter - - - Sept. 1st
 Loren & Carrie Cochran - Sept. 14th
 Doug & Jill Vintorini - - - Sept. 23rd
 Zach & Jessica Young - - Sept. 28th

Zachary & Kaitlin Smith - - - Sept. 1st
 Kevin & Cathy Cushey - - - Sept. 21st
 Bill & Mindy Williams - - - Sept. 25th

PRAYER LIST

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS:

Mindy Kelley, Brandon Craig, Darren Spiker, Cat Morgan, Rev. Don Austin, Millie Romeo, Tim Lynch, Melanie Donahoo, William Young, Patti Nagy, Ronnie Casper, JoAnn Pitcock, Amanda, Matthew Scears, Brad Pitcock, Brian Baumgardner, Bill Brown, Sophia Desmond, and Bill Ensley.



SEPTEMBER PRAYER REQUEST:

Bell Family, Evelyn, Bob Washabaugh, Robert Kanotz, Baby Emilia Lemon, Marion Marcase, Bo Lesjak, Jeannie Volkar, MaryAnn Clark, Curtis Marcase, Howard Lovell, Rev. Peggy Shannon, Nancy Hofrichter, John Orlando, Daralyn Campbell, Susan Stonebraker, Jill & Rich Harshman, Joey Dudam, Jeff Van Fozmire, Darlene Dunn, Frank Zaccone, Jacob Braun, Cory Clark, and Carole Borda.



PLEASE ALSO PRAY FOR:

Pastor Ben and our Houston Church Leaders,
Our Nation and our Nation's Leaders, and
all unspoken requests of our church family.

October Newsletter Articles
due by Friday, September 22, 2023.

SERVING THE CHURCH IN SEPTEMBER, 2023

Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, September 3, 2023.

GREETERS

Deacon Greeters:

September 3rd -

(MV) Mary Skirpan

(GV) Haley Steere

(GH) Libby Young

September 10th -

(MV) Lala Patsch

(GV) Inez Patsch

(GH) Virginia Rockwell

September 17th -

(MV) Emmy Homitz

(GV) Haley Steere

(GH) Virginia Rockwell

September 24th -

(MV) Dodie Hanna

(GV) To Be Announced

(GH) To Be Announced

Elder Greeters:

September 3rd -

(MV) Pastor Ben

(GV) Jonnie Swarow

(GH) Karen Jones

September 10th -

(MV) Linda Young

(GV) Pastor Ben

(GH) Gloria Schmalz

September 17th -

(MV) Bo Lesjak

(GV) Sandy Wallace

(GH) Pastor Ben

September 24th -

(MV) Pastor Ben

(GV) Jonnie Swarow

(GH) Karen Jones

Music: Karen Jones

Audiovisual: Leon Young

Liturgist: Cat Morgan

Trustees:

Gloria Schmalz &

Sandy Wallace

September Acolytes:

September 3rd - Gary Swarow

September 10th - Julia Swarow

September 17th - Eden Jeffers

September 24th - Mako Morgan

NURSERY SCHEDULE:

September 3rd - Sandy Wallace

September 17th - Vicky Lesjak

September 10th - Kristie Coppola

September 24th - Haley Steere

CHURCH PICNIC AT ARNOLD PARK AUGUST 20TH - WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP





3RD ANNUAL MEN'S NIGHT OUT

SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

6:00PM TO 9:00PM AT THE CHURCH

**GREAT FOOD AND CONVERSATION
BOCCE, CORNHOLE, DARTS , PING PONG
COMPETITIONS & MORE**



COME, HAVE FUN & ENJOY GOOD FELLOWSHIP

YOU CAN BRING A FRIEND!

(MEN ONLY OF COURSE)

RSVP - HARLAN - 724-350-4680



HOUSTON PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

October 13th, 14th & 15th.

Looking ahead the Pumpkin Festival is just around the corner,

Please consider volunteering at the booth, making baked goods, or pies, or taking an item or two from the wish board, located in the Sanctuary to help with the cost of running a booth.

Please contact Jackie Shoher at 724-413-8484 for more information.



PASTOR BEN'S SEPTEMBER READINGS

11AM Fall Worship Begins Sunday, September 3!

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Communion Sunday

Romans 12:9-215

Matthew 16:21-28

"The Kindness Temptation"

Sunday School Begins Today!

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 149:1-9

Romans 13:8-14

"Get Off the Couch!"

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

16th Sunday After Pentecost

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

"A Lesson from Uncle Jesse"

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

17th Sunday After Pentecost

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45

Matthew 20:1-16

"God is Generous"

SEPTEMBER, 2023

11am Fall Worship Begins today, Sunday, September 3!

Regular Events

Worship -11:00am
 Tuesday Bible Study 10:30am

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Aug. 27th 3- 11am Worship Communion Sunday	Aug. 28th Session Mtg. 6:30pm	Aug. 29th 5- Bible Study Begins 10:30am Deacons mtg. 6:00pm	Aug. 30th 6- 13- Choir Begins	Aug. 31st 7- 14- 21- 3rd Annual Men's Night Out 6:00pm	1- 22-	2- 23-
10- Sunday School Begins	11- Mission & Nurturing Mtg. 6:30pm	12- Presbytery Mtg. 4:00pm	13- Choir Begins	14- 21- 3rd Annual Men's Night Out 6:00pm	15-	16-
17-	18- Admin. Mtg. 6:30pm	19-	20-	21- 3rd Annual Men's Night Out 6:00pm	22-	23-
24-	25-Session Mtg. 6:30pm	26-	27-	28-	29-	30-



First United Presbyterian Church
 102 North Main Street
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 secretary@houstonpresbyterian.org

Meals on Wheels Ext: 314
Open Door Nursery Ext: 311

Website
 houstonpresbyterian.org

Sunday School
 Sunday School Begins
 Sept. 18th at 10:00am

Sunday Worship Service
September — May at 11:00 a.m.
 Nursery Available
 June-July-August at 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study
 Tuesdays
 10:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

Gifts and Offerings

First United Presbyterian Church
 102 North Main Street
 Houston, PA 15342



Member Visitor

Name _____ No. _____

Please apply my offering as follows:

Regular Offering	\$ _____
Deacons Fund	\$ _____
Building Fund	\$ _____
Special Project	\$ _____

Memorial Fund \$ _____

In Memory of _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Thank you for your generous gift.