

**OCTOBER 2022**



# Whisperings

## A Word from Pastor Scott

### God Is Always With Us

My dear friends of Hope Church!

Fall is here, school is in session, and we are preparing for the colder weather. We'll store the lawn mower back in the shed, close the pool, rake some leaves, and start to prepare for the holiday season. Soon it will start getting dark by 4:00pm and we will turn on the heat or sit by the fire with a cup of tea and read an enjoyable book. Truth be told, fall is my favorite time of year. It's not too hot or too cold, it's just the right temperature to walk our pets and do things outside, like picking pumpkins.

As I was driving to church the other day, I noticed the beautiful landscape of fall colors on the trees. It made me think about all that God has created for our enjoyment and how God is always with us through the good times and the challenging times in our life. Speaking of challenging times, I am reminded of all the trials and testings that Joseph endured throughout his life. In Pastor Kevin's Sunday school class, we talked about Joseph, as being a great man of faith. Did he have any doubts? Sure, but there is one truth that helped him through all the trials he experienced in his life: "The Lord



## Contents

- Pastor Scott - 1 & 2
- 'Out & About' - 3
- Office Notes - 4
- Meetings & Dates - 5
- October - 6 & 7
- Vacation & Fair - 8
- Planning Committee - 9
- Family Fall Fest - 10-12
- Sunday Schools - 13
- Odd & Ends - 14
- Birthdays - 15
- November - 16
- KPETS - 17
- Clyde's Nature Note - 18

## Hope United Methodist Church

3474 Rothsville Road, Ephrata, PA 17522 (717) 738-3774

hopeumc@ptd.net ■ [www.hopeumcephrata.org](http://www.hopeumcephrata.org) ■ [www.facebook.com/hopeumcephrata](https://www.facebook.com/hopeumcephrata)

Worship 10 a.m. ■ Sunday School 11:15 a.m.

was with Joseph so that he prospered.” (Gen. 39:2) After Joseph’s brothers pulled him out of the cistern and sold him as a slave to the Ishmaelites, he was brought to Egypt to Potiphar, Pharaoh’s captain of the guard. His suffering was only beginning, and God would assess his character through many trials. Potiphar soon realized that the Lord was with Joseph and made him very successful, so he made him in charge of his entire household and everything he owned.

Everything seemed to be working out great, until Potiphar’s wife was captivated by his good looks, grabbed him by his cloak and requested him to sleep with her. Immediately, Joseph bolted out the door and left his cloak in her hand. She lied that Joseph tried to sleep with her and Potiphar was so furious that he tossed him in prison. Notice that while Joseph was in prison, “The Lord was with him” and he found favor in the eyes of the prison warden and the Lord granted Joseph success in whatever he did. (Gen. 39:23) Sadly, the chief cupbearer forgot about Joseph and failed to mention his name to Pharaoh, but God didn’t forget about him even after being in prison for two full years! After Pharaoh called for Joseph to interpret his dream, he put him in charge of the whole land of Egypt. Finally, Joseph revealed himself to his brothers and their relationship was restored. He said something quite profound to them about his faith in God: “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.” (Gen. 50:20)

I share all this because when it seems like life is moving at a snail’s pace, nothing is working and the evil one appears to be winning, God will work things out for our good. Please know that the Lord is always with us and desires to make us successful in everything we do. If God was with Joseph with all his trials and sufferings, then God will surely be with us when we are going through a storm. There is just something about trusting in God and placing our faith in Him that gets God’s attention. He desires to bless us in abundance.

My friends, no matter what happens, no matter what valleys we go through, God’s grace is always there, and He will truly provide for us. If our Lord has called us to be the church of Jesus Christ, if He has called us to witness to the lost, if He has called us to share the light and love of Christ with our neighbor, then “He shall supply all our needs according to his riches and glory by Christ Jesus.” (Phil. 4:19)

God is challenging us to be like Joseph. We need to take a leap of faith into the unknown, not knowing fully what God is going to do in our lives but knowing and believing that God is always with us. That truth should give us a sense of peace through the joys and ‘potholes’ of life.

Happy Fall!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Scott", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Pastor Scott

## ► Out and About

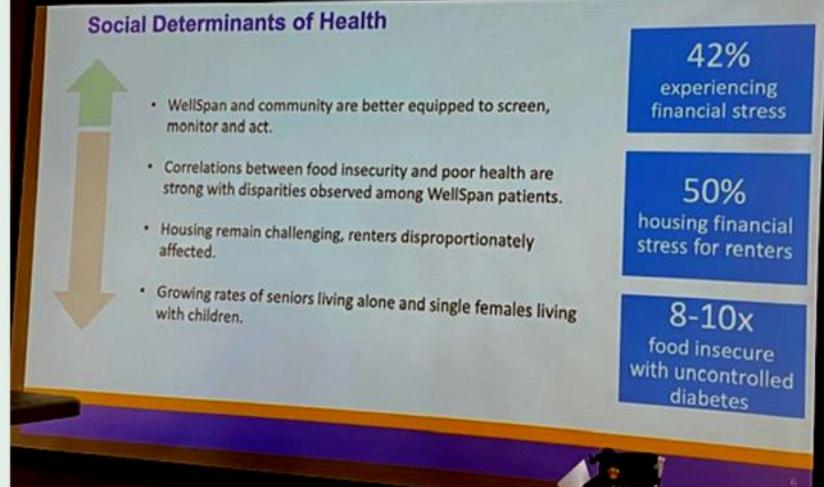
Pastor Scott believes, "Opportunity is everywhere for true mission and evangelism." His faith and spirit guides him to get 'out and about' in the community. Each month we highlight some of his most recent or upcoming ministries.

**September 6**

Pastor Scott attended a meeting of the Northern Lancaster Hub. The Hub is a partnership of nonprofits committed to streamlining social services. They met at the Community Commons by the library for the first time in two years, instead of by Zoom during the pandemic.



Steve Batchelor  
Regional Director of  
Community Health and  
Wellness for WellSpan Health.



If you would like to suggest a future 'Out and About' segment for the Whisperings, contact Pastor Scott at (267) 467-4027 or email [hopeumcpastorscott@gmail.com](mailto:hopeumcpastorscott@gmail.com).

## Office Notes

### **COLUMBUS DAY - OCT. 10**

The office is closed Monday.

### **FOR A USEFUL CALENDAR**

Fill out the yellow forms on the Admin Assistant's desk to schedule any upcoming meetings and events.

### **DEADLINES**

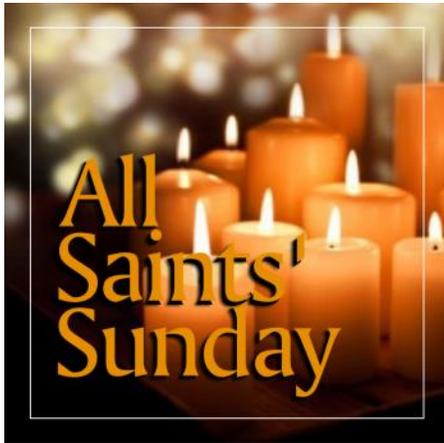
Please submit all items for the bulletin by 12 p.m. Thursdays and for the next edition of the Whisperings by the 15th of every month.

## ► Sermon Series: Discipleship Lessons

- **Oct. 2 Part 5** – "Exercise Your Faith" Luke 17:5-10 (Rev. Kevin Readman)
- **Oct. 9 Part 6** – "Magic Word, Magic Mindset" Luke 17:11-19 (Rev. Russ Eberly)
- **Oct. 16 Part 7** – "Focus and Follow Through" Luke 18:1-8
- **Oct. 23 Part 8** – "Humble Before God" Luke 18:9-14
- **Oct. 30 Part 9** – "Change Is Necessary" Luke 19:1-10
- **Nov. 6 Part 10** – "It Does Not Matter" Luke 20:27-40
- **Nov. 13 Part 11** – "It's the Message - Not the Messenger" Luke 21:5-19
- **Nov. 20 Part 12** – "King Jesus Is All" Luke 23:33-43

Worship services are broadcast live on our Facebook page and on our website, and then archived to view later at your convenience on our YouTube channel: [www.tinyurl.com/Hope-YouTube](http://www.tinyurl.com/Hope-YouTube).

*The video of the 2nd Congregational Meeting can also be found online on Hope's YouTube channel.*



## ► 2023 Offering Envelopes ~ We are in the

process of assigning envelopes for 2023. If you do not have envelopes and would like them for 2023, please contact the church office and leave a message for the Financial Secretary, Amy Trella, by **October 24**. Likewise, if you no longer want envelopes, contact the church office by **October 24**. Please consider using offering envelopes. They are an inexpensive means to streamline our weekly accounting activity.

► **All Saints' Sunday** November 6 ~ If you would like to add a name, please submit it along with your connection (e.g., a family member, friend, etc.), and the date of their passing to the church office by no later than Sunday, **October 30**. Although we include those mentioned in the bulletins since the previous All Saints' Sunday, it would help if names were submitted to ensure that none are unintentionally omitted.

## ► New Administrative Assistant in October! Jenny Perez

### Hope UMC Staff and Office Hours

Pastor: Rev. Scott Dorn

Director of Music: Lisa Helock ■ Organist: Dave Luck ■ Sexton: Doreen Deamer

Tuesday - Friday ■ 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

[hopeumc@ptd.net](mailto:hopeumc@ptd.net) ■ [www.hopeumcephrata.org](http://www.hopeumcephrata.org) ■ [www.facebook.com/hopeumcephrata](https://www.facebook.com/hopeumcephrata)

## Notes

### **ONE GREAT YEAR OF SHARING – WATER STREET MISSION**

The donation jar is in the Sanctuary. The latest total is \$2,191.30. Thank you!

### **HOW CAN WE HELP?**

Do you or someone you know have a need for some financial assistance? Contact our office or Jerry Gerhart (717) 733-2331.

### **FLOWERS & BULLETINS**

Sponsor altar flowers or bulletins to commemorate a special occasion or heartfelt remembrance. Please contact Sandy Muckle if you sign up *less than a week in advance*. Flowers are \$35 and bulletins are \$20. The signup posters are on a lobby bulletin board.

Flowers: available Oct. 9, Nov. 6, 13, 27.

Bulletins: available Oct. 9, 16, 30, Nov. 6, 20, 27.

## October Dates

- 2 World Communion Day
- 2 Holy Communion
- 2 First Sunday Giving for Assistance Fund
- 2 Rail Trail Church
- 10 Columbus Day
- 15 Rummage Sale
- 15 Newsletter Deadline
- 16 Fellowship Sunday
- 16 Rail Trail Church
- 21 Hope Family Activity
- 22 Serve Lunch at City Gate
- 30 5th Sunday Giving for City Gate
- 31 Halloween

## Weekly Events

**Bells of Hope**  
Wednesdays at 6 p.m.  
Sanctuary

**Senior Choir**  
Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m.  
Choir Room

**Women's Book  
& Bible Study**  
Thursdays at 10 a.m.  
Wide Awake Room - 221

**Men of Hope**  
Fridays at 7:30 a.m.  
Fellowship Hall  
(First Friday of each month is  
at Gus's restaurant.)

**Rail Trail church**

► **Rail Trail Church** - 1st and 3rd Sundays @ 5 p.m.

## Church Administration Meetings

(All meetings are at 6:30 p.m. unless specified.)

- 3 Trustees Meeting - Monday
- 11 Finance Meeting - Tuesday at 7 p.m.
- 12 Charge Conference via Zoom - Wednesday at 6 p.m.
- 18 SPRC - Tuesday
- 24 Staff Meeting (Zoom) - Monday at 6 p.m.



# October Opportunities ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

## ► **Rummage Sale - October 15** Craft Sale! Lunch Counter! \$7 BBQ Chicken!

Saturday 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Bring your sale items to the pavilion 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. **October 8**. Items may be put on the stage in Fellowship Hall after church on **October 9**. Contact Ron Lindberg to pick up large items.

Chicken tickets are on sale now! Contact Ron Lindberg for your chicken tickets today. 717-330-9962.

Sorters & Organizers needed: Monday through Friday 1 - 4 p.m. and 7 - 9 p.m. during the week before the sale.

Workers needed the day of the sale: 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. You can work shorter times (e.g., 2 or 4 hours).

Baked Goods will be needed.

Tables for Rent: Preschool is offering card tables to rent so you can sell your own products. See Shannon Brown with Preschool.

*All signup sheets are in the lobby.*

*Sponsored by Hope Church, Hope Preschool, and Spanish Church.*

---

## ► **Hope Family Activity - October 21**

Friday 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

All are invited to come out and enjoy each other's company and some fall fun such as seasonal crafts and cookie decorating (and eating!). **BYOP - Bring Your Own Pumpkin** to decorate!

Questions? Contact Melissa Readman. [mrreadman@gmail.com](mailto:mrreadman@gmail.com) or 717-355-2489.

---

## ► **Serving Lunch at City Gate - October 22**

Saturday 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. (arrive by 10:30 a.m.)

Signup sheets are in the lobby. Please sign up to serve and/or to donate pans of baked ziti, cans of green beans, rolls, and baked goods. — Thank you, Sandy Muckle



*Thank you ...* Pastor Scott & Congregation,

Thank you so much for your very generous donation to City Gate! Thank you for partnering with us to share the good news of God's love to our community! May all of you be richly blessed as you give to those in need. Please keep us in your prayers as we seek ways to share the love of Jesus with our community through food, coffee, prayer & worship. — Blessings, Kim Warner

---

## ► **Spiritual Gifts Survey**

Please take the time to try this insightful personal assessment tool. Get a fresh look at which ministries might be a good match for you. The link is on our website homepage and paper copies are in the lobby.



## ► 2022 Christmas Cards for Inmates in Eastern PA ~ Can you

imagine how it would feel to be separated from your friends and loved ones at Christmas? Incarcerated inmates can find it difficult to maintain connections with important people in their lives. At the holidays, their distance and the pain of absence, can be felt most deeply.

Thanks to your efforts, last year thousands of Christmas cards with brief handwritten notes of caring encouragement were provided to inmates in 10 correctional facilities in eastern PA.

This year, through a simple, signed Christmas card, you can again share the spirit of Christmas with persons who are incarcerated. Your

participation in this project can send a powerful message of God's love — you can remind them of their sacred identity as God's beloved sons and daughters at a time when they may be feeling very much alone. We hope we will be able to reach even more inmates through this year.

Cards are on a table in the lobby, plus thoughts and phrases to help get you started if you are at a loss for words.

*Thank you for your willingness to share the blessing of God's love with others!*

**Cards are due by Sunday, October 23.**

## ► The Organ Fund & Jack-o-Lanterns ~ Less than \$4,700 left to go! The

latest total amount raised is \$47,327.50. To help retire this debt, Tony Hachkowski is making happy jack-o-lanterns to sell for **only \$30**. They sell elsewhere for \$40 to more than \$100. Tony's will be unpainted for people who like that look, or you may paint yours as you wish. There's a hole in the bottom to fit a light or string of lights. Each one is unique. Order today! There is an order form in the lobby or contact the office.





► **Ephrata Fair Sightings**

Amy Raezer supporting the Ephrata Lions Club ... and she won the highest BINGO payout.

◀ Almost as hard to spot as Bigfoot in the wilds of the Pacific northwest, was the elusive Craig Beamesderfer, volunteering at the Akron Lions Club stand.



▲ Hunny dog is hard at work, watching Peanut butter & Jelly, the Dorn family Guinea pigs.

► **Pastor Scott's Vacation — October 2 - 10**

While Pastor Scott has time off, our guest speakers will be Pastors Kevin Readman and Russ Eberly.

Please contact Rev. Paul Miller, Pastor at Hopeland UMC, for any pastoral care emergencies while Pastor Scott is away. Call or text Pastor Paul at 717-681-5298 or email Paul@methodistpastor.com.

## ► Planning Committee Meeting

A brainstorming session was held at the end of September to discuss the following areas: Worship, Mission/Outreach, Facilities, Fellowship/Congregational Care, and Discipleship. The next meeting will be in Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. on **Saturday, November 5.**

The question was, "What opportunities do we have to reach individuals for Jesus Christ in our community?" We were looking for common themes and strengths and what we feel God was asking the Hope Church family to do with those ministries.

*For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,  
which God prepared in advance for us to do. — Ephesians 2:10*

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others  
as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. — 1 Peter 4:10*

Copies of the notes from the meeting are on a table in the lobby, along with a Spiritual Gifts questionnaire. Those interested in Hope Church are asked to complete the questionnaire and share their passion for Christ, Hope Church, and the community.

*Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. — 1 Corinthians 12:27*

The next step is for people to attend the second planning meeting where participants will choose one item from each of the categories and invoke some positive change; plan an event or support efforts of the church.

Below is a sample of the ideas gathered for each area. Maybe some of these ideas will spark new actions exactly as they were described, or maybe they will serve as a springboard to another idea. If you have an idea to contribute, please attend the next session or send your ideas to the church.

*Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good,  
in order to provide for urgent needs and not live unproductive lives. — Titus 3:14*

**Worship:** Online prayer request and follow-up • Make congregation more aware of options for Sunday School • Events for worship, such as Heroes Day (honor first responders, police, etc.) • Bring-a-Friend Sunday • Celebrate different National Days (e.g., Grandparents' Day, Brownie or Cookie Day) • Invite local high school choirs, instrumentalists, Christian singing groups.

**Mission/Outreach:** Bring back High Hopes plus possibly have an all-church dinner and program the same night for the adults • Host a senior citizen dinner & speaker banquet at church • Host a "Parent Night Out" for the pre-school parents • Adopt a Grand Pal (members of the church would "adopt" a preschooler to pray for them, do things with them from within the church on occasion, and acknowledge them on certain occasions that coincide with preschool events.

**Facilities:** Additional groups meeting onsite (e.g., financial workshops, self-help groups) • Hymn Sing in Hope Meadow • Update the kitchen to allow hosting of more events • Rail Trail Church.

**Fellowship/Congregational Care:** Focus on building relationships within the church to foster growth and enrichment opportunities • Bus trips • Small groups • Support current efforts.

**Discipleship:** Invite groups to form during the evening and weekends and not just during the daytime hours, to encourage those who work during the day to participate in discipleship • Be more intentional in inviting visitors and existing members to Sunday School and Bible studies • Participate in Spanish congregational services and/or hold joint events • Explore Preschool opportunities for members to volunteer and become involved.

# Family



# Fall Fest

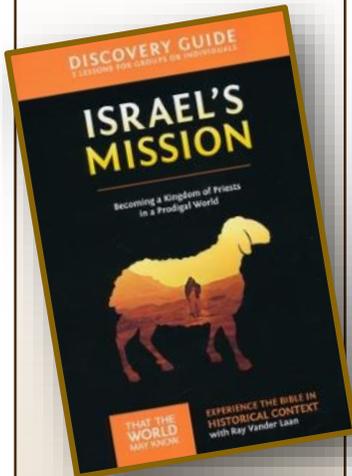




# Adult Sunday Schools & Studies

## Seekers

Fellowship Hall  
Bruce Tucker



**Israel's Mission**  
by Ray Vander Laan

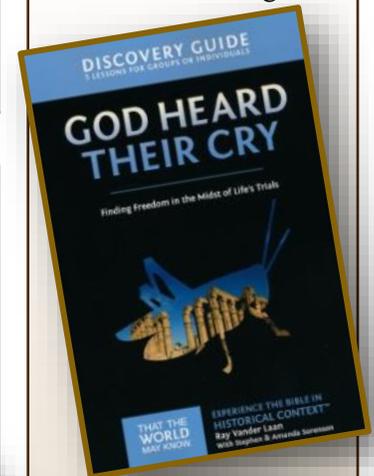
## The Way

Conference Room  
Rev. Kevin Readman

Joseph:  
Dreamer, Visionary and Patriarch

## Wide Awake

Room 221  
Ron Lindberg



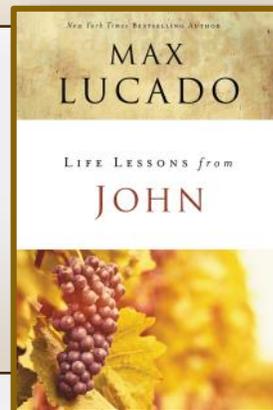
**God Heard Their Cry**  
by Ray Vander Laan

## Deep Dive Bible Study -

Pastor Scott

Sundays 9 -9:30 a.m. in the Parlor

Are you interested in going deeper into God's word? If so, join us before Worship.



**Life Lessons from John**  
by Max Lucado

## Women's Book & Bible Study

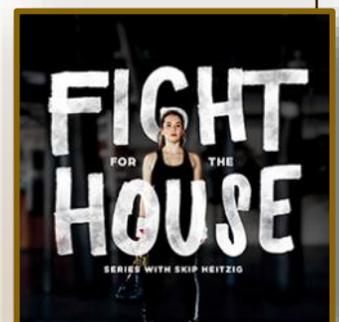
Sandy Schmid  
Thursdays at 10 a.m. in Wide Awake Room 221

## Men of Hope

Fridays at 7:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall (First Friday of each month is at Gus's restaurant.)

**Fight for the House** - a video study by Skip Heitzig

*"Standing for God's truth is a serious thing. Standing against it carries major repercussions. This study, based on the book of Jude, is a call that is as relevant today as it was when Jude penned his letter. Believers must defend the gospel to unbelievers. They also must guard against false teachings that distract from the truth documented in God's Word and threaten to destroy the church."*



## New Member Classes

Sundays at 11:15 a.m.

October 16, 23, 30, and November 6. Our New Member Celebration will be Sunday November 13.



## ► Recycle Printer Cartridges for EASS

The bin to collect used cartridges for EASS is under the coat rack in the hallway.

## ► Preschool Wants You!

They are looking for guest readers and anyone who has a special gift or talent to share with the children.

Contact their Director, Shannon Brown.

## TIR CHURCH LANCASTER PA

Templo Internacional de Restauración

*Servicios*

**ESTUDIO BÍBLICO Y ORACIÓN - JUEVES 7PM**  
**ADORACIÓN - DOMINGO 2PM**



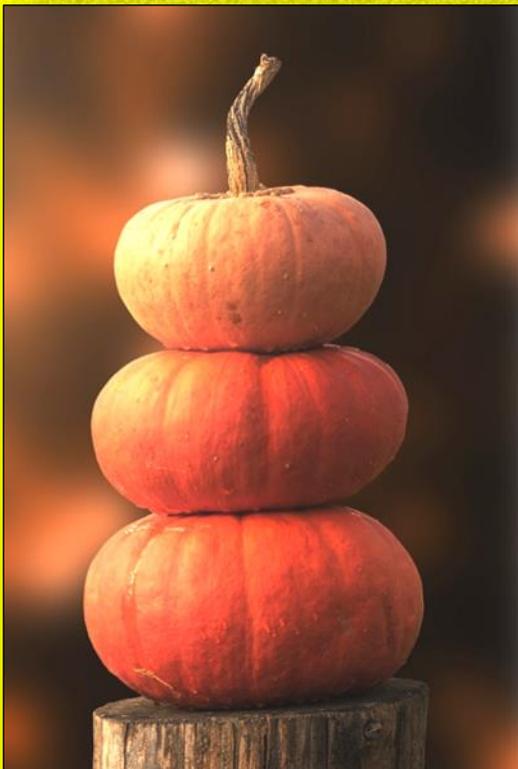
**TIR Church**

**Lancaster**

transform • integrate • restore

717-341-1575

3474 Rothsville Rd. Ephrata, PA, 17522



## October Birthdays

- 1 Christopher Helock
- 2 Dick Rodman
- 3 Lila Hackman
- 7 Cammy Freed
- 9 Alyssa Deamer
- 10 Doreen Deamer
- 13 Barbara Tucker
- 16 Cindy Kamide  
Anna Oyer
- 20 John Seifert
- 25 Doreen Raezer
- 26 Ivy Texter
- 31 Abby Welty



## Early November Birthdays

- 3 Brady Hackman
- 5 Craig Beamesderfer
- 7 Dana Deamer  
Brad Kreider
- 10 Ainsley Voshell
- 14 Holly Fake  
Leonard Fake

## October Anniversary

- 4 Tom & Karen McNamara celebrate 47 years together.

## Early November Anniversary

- 14 Leonard & Holly Fake celebrate 25 years!

*Card Shower!*

## Remembered with Love

### September 4

Leroy Fake - brother of Len & Lamar Fake.

### September 13

Robert Parke - father of Carol Cammauf

### before September 25

Linda - cousin of Judy Hachkowski

June - sister of Marie Lindberg

Ralph - uncle of Tim Sumner

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

We are missing a lot of special dates! Please let the church office know your birthday and/or anniversary day. If you do not want your milestone year recognized with a card shower, simply say so.

### Card Showers

Birthday milestones are: 16, 21, 80, 90, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, +.

Anniversary milestones are: 25, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, +.

A card shower may also be by special request.

# Thank you notes ...

*On behalf of Pastors Scott and Angel, a special thank you to all the church and preschool volunteers and attendees who made the September Family Fall Fest a success. A fun time was had by all! Enjoy Fall 2022! — Jill Curley*

*Thank you from the Len and Lamar Fake families for you thoughts, prayers, and cards following the passing of our brother Leroy.*

***We apologize for ANY errors with your important dates! Please let us know so we can correct them.***

# Planning Ahead - November

## ► **Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes** - Tuesday, November 1

We will be participating in this annual mission project of Samaritan's Purse. Now might be a good time to start shopping for items to fill a box or two. Shoeboxes will be in the lobby by **November 1** and due back by **November 17**. To learn more about this project, see Sandy Schmid or visit [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org)



## ► **Planning Committee Meeting** - Saturday, November 5 @ 9:30 a.m.

## ► **Daylight Savings Time Ends - Fall Back** - Sunday, November 6

## ► **All Saints' Sunday** - Sunday, November 6

## ► **Harvest Home** - Sunday, November 6



We will be collecting for our annual Harvest Home. Please bring canned and boxed food items along with paper products to donate. This year our contributions will go to Ephrata Area Social Services.

## ► **Election Day** - Tuesday, November 8



## ► **Hanging of the Greens** - Saturday, November 19 @ 2 - 4 p.m.

## ► **Servant Stage - A Christmas Carol** - Monday, November 21 @ 7 p.m.

Servant Stage's original adaptation of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* is a faithful rendition of the timeless holiday tale of redemption, charity, and the spirit of Christmas. *A Christmas Carol* follows the classic tale of Ebenezer Scrooge and his fantastical journey through Christmas Past, Present, and Future! **No tickets required.** All shows are Pay-What-You-Will in keeping with Servant Stage's mission to make exceptional performances accessible to everyone. [www.servantstage.org](http://www.servantstage.org)



## ► **Children's Coats** ~ Thanks to your generous

donations to the Wide Awake Sunday School class, they spent \$1,030 on 48 winter coats. They were able to buy three coats of each size, for sizes 4-16, at an average price of \$25 each.

The coats will go to local children in need via Ephrata Area Social Services (EASS).

## ► **KPETS (Keystone Pet Enhanced Therapy Services)**

Touching Lives, Warming Hearts - Through Human & Animal Interactions  
*from Ann Beamesderfer —*

I have always wanted to train a dog for therapy work. Three years ago we got a German Shorthaired Pointer named Temperance (Tempe). When the opportunity arose with KPETS at Hope Church, I signed up.

Darlene Graham, the volunteer evaluator at KPETS, was very nice and the first meetings were to educate the handlers. We had to learn what to do on visits and how to advocate for our dogs. Then Tempe and I had to pass two evaluations. One was at Retreat (rehab treatment center on the hill behind Goodwill), where interaction was observed with Tempe and the patients. Home Depot was our second evaluation with noise and people walking by. Some even stopped to ask if they could pet Tempe. We passed and could now start our visits.

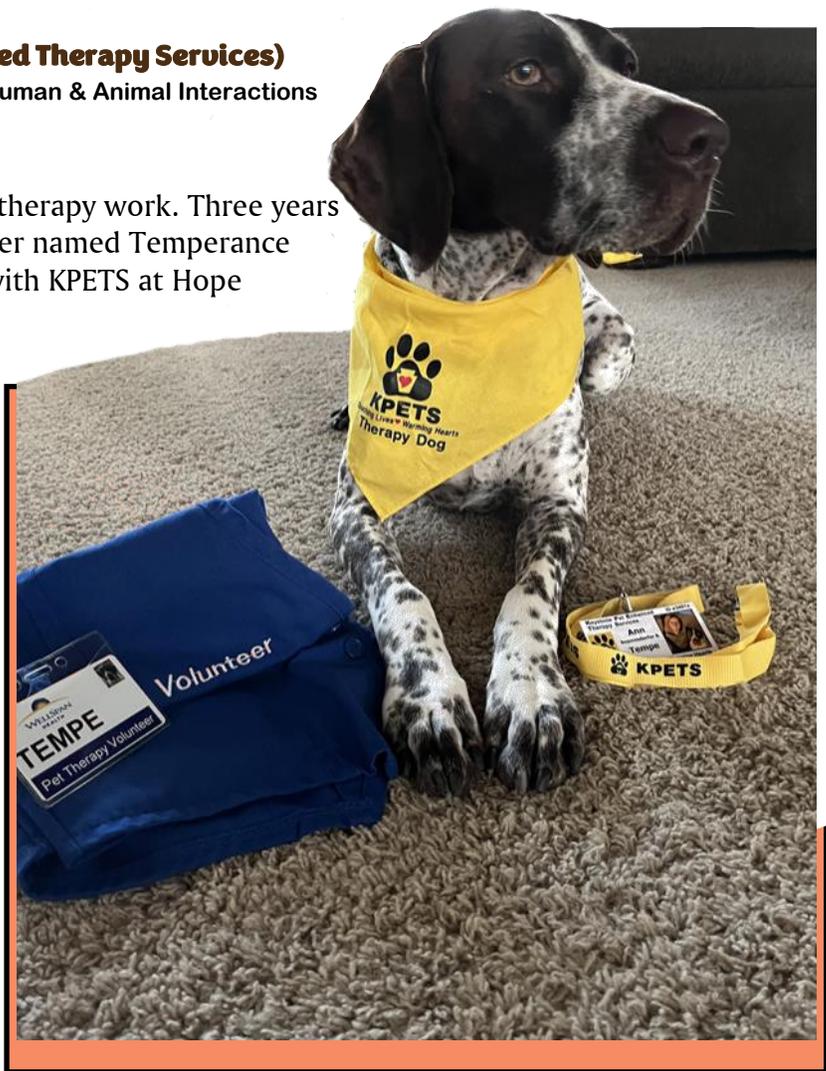
Tempe and I are a team, and we visit the patients at Ephrata Hospital and Ephrata Cancer Center. We are always welcome, and everyone is so excited to see us; not only the patients but the staff too. We really feel like we are brightening their day. *It is so rewarding to have a therapy dog.*

I spoke with Darlene, a volunteer/evaluator with KPETS. Her third dog became a therapy dog, and she has been training for KPETS since 2012. Training starts with the handlers first. Positive attitudes are a major part of discipline for handlers and their dogs, which become teams. You may think you have a therapy dog, but high energy or too laid back may not make a good therapy dog. That's why the evaluations are very important. There is interaction with other dogs and eventually teams train how to interact.

KPETS has three part time staff, 340 volunteers and 360 animals. They serve local organizations like Ephrata Hospital and Cancer Center, Ephrata Borough Health Fair, the Ephrata Library, and will soon start school visits. Teams visit many different counties, such as Lancaster, York, Adams counties, etc.

Through Sue Fisher, KPETS has been able to hold their trainings at Hope Church. KPETS wants to thank Hope Church and welcome anyone to come and watch a group evaluations. Darlene offered to bring her therapy dog to Sunday Schools or any groups at Hope that might be interested in KPETS.

KPETS usually meets twice a month in Fellowship Hall. **No meetings in October.** [www.kpets.org](http://www.kpets.org)



## ► Clyde McMillan-Gamber

### Migrating Sharp-Shins and Red-Tails

October is a beautiful, exciting month. Football, crisp night air, striking autumn leaves, orange pumpkins, squirrels and jays storing nuts and migrating geese and hawks are part of that wonderful time of year in Lancaster County. And of all the hawk species that migrate over this county, sharp-shinned hawks and red-tailed hawks are the most exciting of diurnal raptors to experience. Over the years, I have seen many sharpies and red-tails passing over this area, mostly during October.

#### Sharp-shin



Once started, hawks migrate for several fall days straight, if rain isn't falling, and if there is wind. No wind means no migrating hawks.

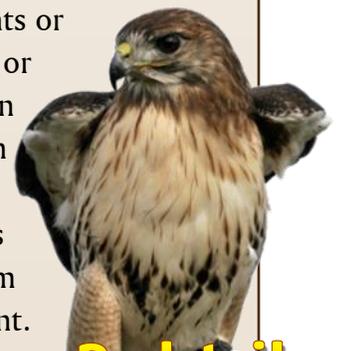
The routes migrating hawks take depends on wind direction. During strong north or north-west winds, most sharp-shins, red-tails and other kinds of hawks swiftly sweep for hours, with little flapping, southwest along the peaks of the wooded Appalachian mountains, especially along the Blue Ridge. They easily cover long distances because north or northwest wind is pushed up those southwest-running hills by wind behind, pushing the raptors aloft with it. Sometimes those raptors sail southwest along those mountain slopes almost one after another, which is thrilling to see.

But during south or southwest winds, those same raptors scatter off the ridges and migrate "cross-country". That's when we are more likely to see sharpies and red-tails passing over Lancaster County, as they watch for thermals of heated air that will take them higher in the sky. Sunlight heats soil, and cement and other human-made materials. Those materials, in turn, heat the air, which supports hawks and lifts them higher and higher. At the zenith of the thermal, migrating hawks peel off and soar to the southwest. Wind keeps them up, but gravity tries to pull them down, with the result being they push straight ahead, with little effort, for quite a distance. Eventually, migrant raptors need to find another thermal, in which to spiral upward again.

Sharp-shinned hawks are dove-sized, with rounded wings and long tails for steering. Their flight pattern is to alternately flap quickly and glide swiftly, whether hunting birds or migrating. And it's their dashing, unpredictable flight that makes sharpies exciting to see at any time. One second they are visible, and the next second they are gone.

Red-tailed hawks are a bit larger than crows. And adult red-tails have rusty-orange tails, which identifies them. These raptors soar elegantly high in the sky, when hunting rodents or in migration. They are inspiring to see, either circling and watching for prey, or peeling off to the southwest in migration. A few times over the years, I've seen them migrating, one after another, high in the sky, during crisp weather late in October. What a thrill that was!

Spotting migrating sharp-shins, red-tails and other kinds of diurnal raptors is exciting. And readers could see some migrant hawks and other bird species from their own lawns, or a nearby park. The trick is to look up in October and be patient.



#### Red-tail

Check out Clyde's nature blog: [NaturesWondersByClyde.blogspot.com](http://NaturesWondersByClyde.blogspot.com).

Each short story is like taking a walk with your very own park naturalist!