

# THE HILLTOPPER

## September 2024

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### Off The Collar

#### Fearfully and Wonderfully Made Taken from Teachings of Dr. Charles F. Stanley

*"The Lord sees beyond who you are, to who you can be."*

Psalm 139:1-14

Looking at all He had created, God declared that it was very good (Gen.1:31) We've been "awesomely and wonderfully made," with great potential for service in His kingdom (Ps. 139:14; Eph. 2:10). However, some of us may doubt that this is true, because we notice so many ways in which we fall short. Let's look at some biblical examples of people who might have felt the same way.

Moses appeared to have many advantages while he was growing up in Pharaoh's household. Then he killed an Egyptian and fled the country. No longer did he seem a likely candidate to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. But God looked beyond what Moses had done and saw who he could become.

Paul, prior to salvation, persecuted those who believed in Jesus. Yet through God's mercy, the apostle became a mighty evangelist and author of almost half of the New Testament.

Peter denied - not once but three times - that he knew Jesus. Still, the Lord chose this simple fisherman to preach on the day of Pentecost.

God sees beyond our human frailties to the prospect of what we're able to become in Him. Because His Spirit dwells in us, we have a greater capacity for spiritual transformation than we can imagine. Seek to become the person God has equipped you to be.

### Scheduled Worship Leaders

September 7/8

September 14/15

September 21/22

September 28/29

Pastor David Bowman

Gary Mickle

Pastor Ed DeVore

Missy Brodt

Thank you to Gayle Swartz, Wendy Mayket and  
Krista Miller for serving on Altar this month!



Sept 1	Jan Layton	Sept 15	Cara Lonsinger
Sept 4	Paul Bergman	Sept 16	Lori Zerby
Sept 6	Nancy Strihan	Sept 19	Thomas Rohrbaugh
Sept 9	Kaitlyn Grose	Sept 21	Paul Brodt
Sept 11	Phyllis Nider	Sept 21	Bill Cononie
Sept 12	Ethel Warshel	Sept 21	Janis Daily
Sept 13	Jan Mertz	Sept 21	Paula Nihoff
Sept 14	Nancy Conjelko	Sept 22	Courtney Kylor
Sept 14	Bernice Cononie	Sept 23	Marge Moore
Sept 14	Mari Grace Lingenfelter	Sept 27	Wayne Tressler
		Sept 29	James Miller

## *Happy Anniversary*

Sept 6	Gerald and Ruth Pozun	Sept 20	Cynthia Buday and Albert
Sept 9	Tim and Kerri Moyer	Sept 22	Dick and Lois Sholtis
Sept 9	Frances and Catherine Prisk	Sept 24	Michael and Lori Zerby
Sept 13	Patricia Urban and Lawrence	Sept 27	Ronald Punako and Brenda
Sept 19	Matthew and Melissa Fisher	Sept 30	Gary and Dawn Morningstar

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Sept 3	Evangelism Meeting	5:30 pm
Sept 7	Touch A Truck (for all ages)	10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Sept 8	Kick off for Sunday School	8:30 am
Sept 16	WGMC Meeting	6:00 pm
Sept 17	Council Meeting	6:30 pm
Sept 24	Worship & Music Meeting	4:00 pm
Sept 29	Blanket Sunday	8:45 am

## Church News & Updates

- As Sunday school and a new school year begins, let's bring hope to our church! A church is made up of the PEOPLE, not the building. If people don't attend, then the church falters. You may personally have many reasons for not attending. Here are some answers:

1. No minister this week? At Mt. Calvary, we currently have several worship leaders delivering sermons every single weekend. This is a great opportunity to experience several different styles of preaching that you normally would not get to enjoy with a regular full-time pastor in place.

2. No Sunday school? We have Sunday school programs here every fall. It is available to our youth friends. We also offer an adult program.

3. No one is very friendly or will even talk to me? Simply by saying "hello" to your neighbor sitting next to you will help you get to know more people every week. Trust me, they probably feel the same way. Also, getting more involved in church programs is an excellent way of feeling welcome.

The bottom line, there will always be countless reasons not to attend. However, the one reason TO ATTEND is to praise GOD and to GIVE THANKS! Yes, you can do that anywhere, but it is also important to have a nice place to worship and to meet new people just like you. There are many things you can get from GOING to church that you just can't get anywhere else. This is where we need your help. Simply by deciding to show up and by showing your support in attendance is a great start.

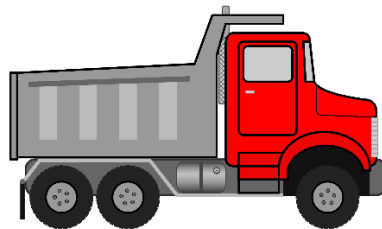
- On September 1, we will close the editing of the new church directory, and it will be ready for printing. We expect it to be ready by the end of September.
- The GIVING TREE will be collecting water and Gatorade for our first responders during the months of August and early September. These will be presented to them during our "**Touch A Truck**" event on **September 7<sup>th</sup>**.
- From the call committee. We deeply appreciate all the members who continue to worship and support our church during this time of transition. Many volunteers are still working together to keep our church flourishing, but they could really use your help. Many of them are overextended. We are still receiving bills and have expenses to pay and appreciate the giving of your time, talents and treasures.
- If you are interested in helping read during worship services but NOT interested in helping with the pouring chalice, please put your name on the readers list and after your name just write "No pour". We will supply a person to pour in your place. Thank you!
- If you are having difficulty hearing in church, we have our hearing "aides" located at the entrance of our church in a basket. Please help yourself!
- If you are admitted to the hospital for any reason, please inform the church office. Many of the hospitals will not let the churches know of your admittance anymore or give needed information.

## Church News & Updates cont.

- We are collecting clothes and toys for our annual clothing/toy sale! The sale will be held on **Saturday, October 5th**. If you are unable to drop off items after worship or during office hours, please leave them in the blue bin outside as it will be checked daily. Please try to fold, sort, and label your clothes by size and gender when donating them. This makes it much easier and less time consuming for the volunteers who work to set up for the sale. Thank you for your continued support and generosity!
- As part of Mt. Calvary's "**God's Work Our Hands**" annual day of service, WGMC is collecting items for Personal Care Kits (*formerly known as Health Kits.*) Over the years, Mt. Calvary has donated hundreds of these kits. After the kits are assembled, they will be trucked to New Windsor, MD for distribution by Lutheran World Relief in the US and far beyond to those whose lives have been uprooted by natural and man-made disasters. We ask that your donations be brought to the church no later than **October 20<sup>th</sup>**. (*A bin is available in the narthex for donations.*) Monetary donations are also gratefully accepted to purchase additional supplies. You can make all checks payable to Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church and write "kits" on the memo line. A list of items can be found in the Mt. Calvary Connected or call the church office.



- Exciting News for Sunday School! Don't forget our "SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY" on **September 8** for all Sunday School classes. We will welcome Pastor Brad along with some UPJ students to help us kick off our Sunday School class. We look forward to seeing Pastor Brad or some of his students around on a Sunday morning every now and then to participate in our Sunday School program. Bring your joy, your love, and your enthusiasm and **YOUR BACKPACKS FOR A SPECIAL BLESSING!!!**



- Our "Touch A Truck" event is on **September 7** from **10:00am - 1:00 pm**. If anyone would be interested in helping or contributing, please see Debbie/Mark Rychak or Cindy Solarczyk. We will be giving each child a bag of goodies so any goodie donations would be greatly appreciated! We have some new vehicles to be "inspected" along with some regulars. It's an event your child will not want to miss!

## Church News & Updates cont.



- If anyone needs to speak to or has a special need for a minister, The Very Reverend Daniel Lees has offered to be our “on call” minister. Please contact the church office and we will notify Reverend Lees to reach out to you.
  - Do not forget about our Prayer Chain. If you have any names, please call Mary Ann Mapes at 814-266-2185 or the church office. It is not necessary to give any details unless requested by the individual.
  - Many discussions and surveys are underway hoping to create a more meaningful worship service, as well as opportunities for you to get more involved with Mt. Calvary and to be more informed. Please watch for upcoming announcements from our various groups and make Mt. Calvary a joyful priority in your life. Upcoming events will be:
1. Sunday **September 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:15am**, there will be a coffee 1/2 hour gathering. Come to church early for some fellowship time and have a few refreshments before worship. After worship, you can even join a Sunday School group or a music program rehearsal.
  2. Mt. Calvary choir. We are looking to get a choir going for the fall/winter 2024 season. Open to all ages. Our short-term goals are to sing the Ukrainian national anthem in September. Also to sing for Reformation Sunday on October 27<sup>th</sup>, Christ the King Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, and on Christmas Eve. We need singers and bell ringers! Contact the church office or Dan Gresh for more details.

## Thank you's!

“Rick & I appreciated the prayers and cards we received from Mt Calvary Church family during our recent surgeries and recovery. We hope we do not repeat being in homebound recovery at the same time. Thankful for my sister, Sharon, and the many friends who helped us and that Chris & Jaime could be home with us during & after surgery, God has richly Blessed us!”  
*Rick & Lois Gallus*

“Thank you Dr. Alex Pozun, for putting us in touch with Sister Carol at Conemaugh Hospital. Mary Ann Mapes and Linda Barnhart packaged a good many prayer shawls and they have been donated for her use. Her supply was depleted and she greatly appreciated our contribution! Thank you to all our Prayer Shawl Ladies!”

Note: There are still many prayer shawls available if you know of anyone that is in need. It is a wonderful way to spread God's Love, compassion, and comfort!

## In Sympathy

Mt. Calvary extends our sympathy to the family of Carmen Schellhammer.  
Carmen passed away on August 15, 2024.

# YOUTH ACTIVITIES

We would like to plan activities for our youth! What would you like to do? Would you like a movie night? A mall scavenger hunt? A cookout? A sundae night? Let us know what YOU would like to do! There are blank pieces of paper titled "Youth Activities" located in the narthex. Please pick one up and write down your ideas and you can put them in the offering plate or the container marked "survey". Thank you!

Don't forget First Communion classes will begin, along with Confirmatin classes.

Watch the Hilltopper and website for more information about registering for these special occasions.

## COLORING PAGE



# Healthy snacks you can make!

## Healthy peanut butter cookies

**YIELD** 2 dozen

### Ingredients

- 1 large egg, room temperature, beaten.
- 1 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1/4 cup oat bran
- 1/4 cup maple syrup



### Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°. In a large bowl, mix all ingredients. Roll level tablespoons into balls. Place on ungreased baking sheets; flatten with a fork.
2. Bake for 15 minutes. Remove to a wire rack to cool.

## Breakfast banana splits

### Ingredients

- 1 medium banana
- 1/3 cup each fresh blueberries, halved seedless grapes, sliced peeled kiwi fruit and halved fresh strawberries.
- 1 cup vanilla yogurt
- 1/2 cup granola with fruit and nuts
- 2 maraschino cherries with stems

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Directions: Cut banana crosswise in half. For each serving, split each banana half in half lengthwise and place in a serving dish, top with half of each remaining ingredients.

Don't forget to ask parents to help!



**Calendar**

1000 Scalp Ave., Johnstown, PA 15904-3035 | 814-266-4859

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8:45a SUNDAY WORSHIP	<b>2</b> Labor Day	<b>3</b> 5:00p EVANGELISM	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10:00a TOUCH-A-TRUCK 5:30p SATURDAY WORSHIP
<b>8</b> 8:45a SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:45a BLESSING OF BACKPACKS	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 5:30p SATURDAY WORSHIP
<b>15</b> 8:45a SUNDAY WORSHIP	<b>16</b> 6:00p WGMC	<b>17</b> 6:30p CHURCH COUNCIL	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 5:30p SATURDAY WORSHIP
<b>22</b> 8:45a SUNDAY WORSHIP	<b>23</b> 8:00a GYM CLOSED	<b>24</b> 8:00a GYM CLOSED	<b>25</b> 8:00a GYM CLOSED	<b>26</b> 8:00a GYM CLOSED	<b>27</b> 8:00a GYM CLOSED	<b>28</b> 8:00a GYM CLOSED 5:30p SATURDAY WORSHIP
<b>29</b> 8:00a GYM CLOSED 8:45a SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:45a BLANKET SUNDAY	<b>30</b> 8:00a GYM CLOSED					

