

Sandpiper

September Schedule

Sept. 1 - No Sunday School

Worship 9:30am

Sept. 8 - 9:00am Sunday School

Worship 10:30am

Sept. 8 Rally Day Breakfast 8:45am

Child Care available during the Worship
Service for ages infant through 5 years



Word From the Pastor

God's Blessing! "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." Ephesians 3:20-21 It is has been such a joy for me to serve this church as your Transitional Pastor this past year. Everyone of you welcomed me with open arms and truly gave me the welcome of Christ. I will forever be thankful for each and every one of you. I once came across a letter that a pastor wrote to two congregations. You read me right, one letter, to two congregations. The one congregation was the group of people that he had served and was now leaving.

The other congregation was the group of people that he was called to go and serve. In the letter he reminded the two congregations that they were both a part of ONE congregation called THE CHURCH. He could say that because that is how God has revealed it in the scriptures. "After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb." Revelation 7:9 This great multitude are made of people from different churches throughout the centuries. It is one body of people (Ephesians 4:4) or ONE church. It is important for us to remember that we are all a part of something much bigger than our local church here in Homeworth, Ohio. The pastor went on to also say that Jesus is the Pastor of both churches. Jesus is the Great Shepherd of THE CHURCH (John 10). He is your pastor and mine too. Jesus doesn't leave and won't leave you, ever. Jesus will bring you what you need in regards to your next under-shepherd (that really is what people like me and your elders are), at the right time, and in the right way. We can trust for good reason that Jesus knows what he is doing and it will work out for our good, and to the glory of God. I will be praying much for you all as you continue in transition. I'd encourage you to be patient and support your elders. I'd commend you to continue in prayer for your Pastoral Search Committee. God is going to do above and beyond what we could ever ask or imagine!

Sands Through the Hourglass...

From the sands in the September hourglass, fall the words from one of my Moody devotionals, so appropriate to us at Middle Sandy during this transitional time: "Serving God requires thoughtfulness and humility. When you have to reconsider practices within your church that have become traditions but are not scripturally mandated, try to ask honest questions and be open to change. Be flexible and gracious to those asking for change. Most of all, be open to the Spirit's leading in each situation."

And so the "but we have never done anything like this before", with our being seated in the first seven pews only, has been positively accepted. Yes, many comments about the change floating around the sanctuary have been favorable, showing we can be flexible.

A warm farewell was extended to Pastor Eric Phillips and his family as his year as our transitional pastor has been completed. We will miss him and his inspiring worship services. Perhaps in his honor we will all memorize Ephesians 3:20-21, the Benediction he used each Sunday, and encouraged us to learn. He has been called to be the fulltime minister of a church in Pennsylvania closer to his home. We thank him and ask God's blessing upon him, his family and his new congregation.

Sympathy is extended to Brian and Michelle Rudolph and Shannon and Ashley with the recent death of Michelle's mother.

Grandma Elaine Wagner shares that Chad Gimmi was promoted to S/Sgt. in the Air Force at Scott Air Force Base. He finished his college degree and will complete his term of military service in October, then will move back to Ohio to be with his wife and family. Grandma Carole Mathey said that Jason Snyder, who just enjoyed a two week furlough, is headed to Fort Drum for a year. He has been in the armed service for 15 years. Mom Robbyn Lee is asking MS folks to participate in a birthday card shower for Ryan who is in Iraq. His birthday is September 7th. Address cards to Sgt. Ryan Lee; CoB 638th ASB; APO, AE 09378

The cook out supper for Presbyterian Women was attended by 11 ladies. Following the meal, President Amy Wagner led the devotions, "How To

Use What You Have", using the example of George Washington Carver and his use of the lowly peanut in developing some 300 products. I Corinthians 4:2 was the Bible verse that applied to the devotional. Prayers were lifted for several, many of whom need physical healing. Upcoming events were discussed: soup lunches, Thank Offering service, Christmas Shoe Boxes and sanctuary and church decorating for Christmas. The present officers, Amy Wagner President and Pam Miller Secretary/Treasurer will continue to serve for another year. Again all women of the church are invited to attend the September 30th meeting which will begin at 6 p.m.

Don't forget to get your Sept.-Dec. issue of the devotional guide, "Our Daily Bread".

Prayer for guidance--Lord, we pray that you give us the ability to serve you thoughtfully and humbly, that we will be sensitive to the guidance of the Holy Spirit in every situation, and that we, as a body of Christ will be open to godly change at Middle Sandy.

SEPTEMBER

Birthdays

Name - Date

Samantha Snyder – 3
Dorothy Smythe – 7
Cathy Cibella - 9
Eric Hampe (Jr.) – 14
Diane Sanor – 17
Pauline Martin – 18
Lisa Bush – 23
Logan Miller – 23
Kalob Wilson – 23
Pam Miller – 25
Dennis Rice – 25
Scott Mason – 30

Anniversaries

Couple – Date

A.J. & Jenny Tharp – 15
Ron & Elaine Wagner – 27
Larry & Pam Miller – 27



**ANNOUNCEMENTS
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RAISE THE ROOF

The Homeworth Community Group is sponsoring a chili fest/movie night on Saturday, October 12th beginning at 4:30pm in our new Lions/Middle Sandy pavilion. A movie will be shown at dark. All proceeds will benefit the Historical Society to put on a new roof. The menu includes chili, cornbread and drinks. Plan on coming and bring a lawn chair for the movie to help "Raise the Roof!"

Choir News:

Summer has passed by quickly and yes, it is time to resume choir rehearsals – beginning Wednesday eve, September 4th at 5:30pm. Newbees are always welcome (especially men). Come and help us enhance our worship as we gather to bring praise to God.

MARINERS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

When Sunday School starts back up on September 8, the Mariners Class, which meets in the parlor, will begin a study called "Joshua, Winning the Worry Battle", by Barb Roose. This Bible study is based on the book of Joshua where we'll learn how Joshua and the Israelites faced hostile enemies in the Promised Land and ultimately claimed God's promised victory. We'll discover as we follow Joshua's path that winning the worry battle requires more than having faith; it requires fighting in faith. Together we'll be equipped with biblical wisdom, encouragement, and practical tools that will enable us to overcome our daily worry struggles as well as the bigger battles of fear that we face. So if you struggle with fear in this

evil world we live in, come join us on Sunday mornings at 9:00am in the parlor as we learn to win the worry battle!

Historical Society

Come and join their next meeting on Sunday, September 29th at 2:00pm. They are changing up their usual meeting day and time to have Kathy Kraus speak to us about quilts used in the underground railroad. A very interesting topic, quilts could be hung in plain view and the designs were used as codes. Kathy will come dressed Civil War era clothing and include ghost stories of Gettysburg, her experiences as a reinactor and some books for reference of slave stories. She will also bring handmade dolls from this time period. This is a very exciting presentation and not to be missed!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Reminder for the OCC boxes we are encouraging you to do your own shoebox(s) this year. I have the tote! We discovered last year that plastic totes other than from Walmart or OCC were SO brittle they shattered easily most before they got packed.

Collected items like solid rubber balls, tooth brushes, coloring books, bulk items - soap bars, cups & bowls, washcloths, please bring in and place in the box in the narthex. In October a table will be set up on the stage downstairs. All the extra items are going to be set out to help supplement your boxes. As usual we are need of boxes or items for older boys and girls since they seldom get one. A handout is once again being made available to help in shopping. If you would prefer to donate money to buy items please put the money in the cans provided. Thank you all so much!

Article Deadline Note:

*Please turn in any articles or announcements for the Sandpiper to Carolyn Slingerland by the **22nd of each month.** You can e-mail them to*

middlesandy@frontier.com.

In Our Prayers

We encourage you to send a card or letter to one or two each month. Addresses are available in the church directory or in the church office.

Continuing health needs:

Dorothy Smythe (Brookdale - Salem)
Tim Hume (blood disease treatments)
Diane Sanor - (foot surgery)

Military Service:

Brian Burbick (Navy - NY)
Chad & Christina Gimmi (4823 Unit D Thomas Paine Circle, Scott AFB, IL. 62225)
Eric W. Hampe (Ohio Army National Guard, Stow, OH)
Jason Snyder (Ft. Drum, NY) (Carole & Don Mathey's grandson)
Jon Pagnucco (Jane Stryffeler's grandson) - Navy (Alexandria, VA)
-John Hampe (Marines)

Our Missionaries - for Holy Spirit protection and great perseverance in their work.

Jeff & Natasha B. (*EPC missionaries in Asia*)
Abe & Diane Bible (*Missionaries to the Ukraine*)
Lisa Smith (Indianapolis)
Paul & Reinhild Sydnor (*ministry to refugees in Lille, France and Malta*)

In Nursing Homes or Home-bound:

Pauline Martin (*Crandall Medical Center*)
Dorothy Smythe (*Brookdale, Salem*)
Dorothy McKinley

VISION FOR MIDDLE SANDY EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Statement: The vision of Middle Sandy Evangelical Presbyterian Church is to build relationships by serving, loving and sharing the Gospel with the residents of Homeworth and the surrounding area.

Where are we going? We wish to partner with the Homeworth Volunteer Fire Department with the hopes of serving the Fire Department and residents of the community.

Why are we going there? We feel the Fire Station is a neutral and central place for community members to go instead of the church. Once we establish relationships with the people of the Homeworth community and members of the fire department, then we can see what needs people of the community have that we as a church can help with.

How will we get there? We plan to accomplish this by adopting the Homeworth Volunteer Fire Department and work alongside them with appreciation dinners, providing lunches during training sessions if needed and sending thank you, appreciation or congratulations cards during the year. We also wish to establish a relationship with the department to be able to use the fire station for community events such as distributing school supplies in August, helping with the Halloween party in conjunction with the Lions Club, Community Christmas celebration, the newly revived Homeworth Homecoming and possibly have the Homework Help group meet there during the school year. We hope to get everyone in the church involved in at least one of these outreach projects. As we serve, love and share the Gospel we want Jesus to change the lives of those in Homeworth and the surrounding community, and we know that in doing so Jesus will change the lives of our church members as well.

Brothers In Christ

(Men's Ministry Group)

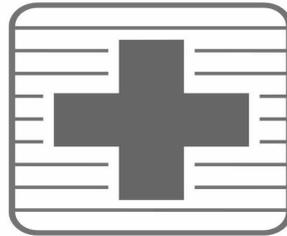
Men of Middle Sandy

Come for a night of fellowship

Friday, July 12th at 7:30pm.

We will be showing a movie and snacks will be provided. After the movie we'll have a time to get to know each other better. Come and experience a new adventure and learn how important men really are.

in our



prayers

Notes