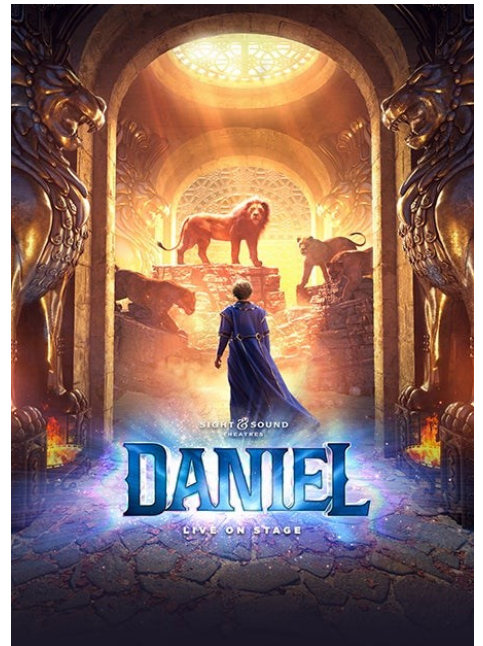
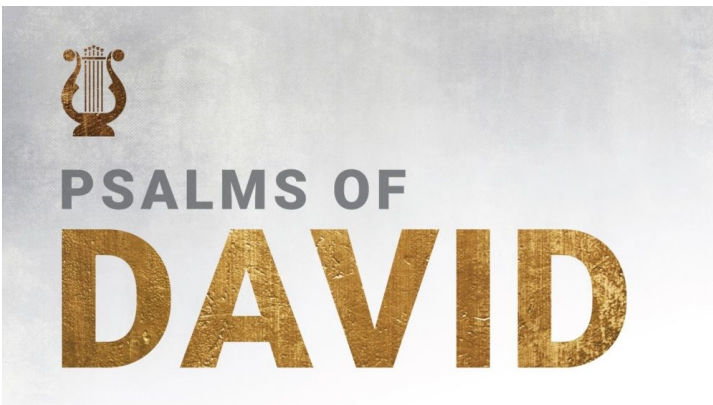




St. John's Church
Know • Grow • Go

Fall 2024
*September, October,
November*





The purpose of St. John's Church is to bring glory to God by making disciples who:

- (1) **Know Jesus** as their personal Lord and Savior,
- (2) **Grow in Faith** to become more like Jesus, and
- (3) **Go Serve** others near and far in Jesus' name.

Current Services and Ministries

For the most up-to-date information, please visit our website at www.ilovestjohns.org and click on the events page.

Sunday:	9:15-10:15 am 10:30-11:30 am	Sunday School Morning Worship (live-streamed) Staffed Nursery (birth to age 3) Children's Church (age 4 to grade 3)
Wednesday:	7:00-7:30 pm	Share & Prayer Phone Call (dial 716-427-1128, access code 395586)
Thursday:	6:00-7:30 pm	Worship Team Practice

Monthly:	1st Saturday at 8:00 am	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Heisey's Diner)
	Times & Dates vary	Youth "Activity & Devotional" Events



Prayer Texts

Please call/text Pastor Jeff Berger
at 717-371-0840.

ST. JOHN'S E.C. CHURCH

683 Steelstown Road, Annville, PA 17003
Church Telephone: 717-838-1171 (leave a message)

Pastor: Rev. Jeffrey S. Berger
Worship Director: Tim Yordy
Secretary: Georgee Miller

717-371-0840 (cell)
570-495-6182 (cell)
717-926-2447 (cell)

jeff@ilovestjohns.org
tim@ilovestjohns.org
georgee@ilovestjohns.org

Pastor's Day Off: Mondays



Join us for a special Thanksgiving Eve service
on Wednesday, November 27 at 7:30 pm.

It's for the whole family!



Meet the world's most practical marriage assessment!

You can build your marriage on more than a hope and a prayer. The SYMBIS Assessment gives you a personalized road map to making your marriage everything it was meant to be.

Engaged couples, newlywed couples, and married couples at various stages find the results to be extremely helpful!



For more information, including a list of frequently asked questions, please visit:

NHCC's website at www.ihavenewhope.org or

St. John's website at www.ilovestjohns.org

How Will You Respond to Trials?

By Michael Kelley



Now to be clear, by “trials” I do not mean the kinds of trials that truly do upend your life. I don’t mean the trials of tragedy; of life and death; of dramatic realignment. At least for the purposes of this article, I mean “trials” in a smaller sense – those unexpected irritations and interruptions that cause us a measure of grief. What will our disposition be when those inevitably come our way?

1. Trials are an opportunity for faith refinement.

Trials give us the chance to display what we truly believe. We might say we believe that God is good; that He is powerful; that He is wise in all things, but trials show the genuineness of those statements. How we react during moments of trouble isn’t just a reflection of whether we are having a good day or not; it’s a reflection of our faith.

2. Trials are an opportunity for joy clarification.

We tend to find joy in all different kinds of things, and many of those things are good. Family, friends, food – these are all good things. And yet they cannot be the ultimate source of our joy. It must go deeper than that, and because of God’s mercy, He has given us the true reservoir of joy. It is in Him. Trials, because of their very nature, threaten our temporal sources of joy, and therefore give us an opportunity to clarify to ourselves where our ultimate joy lies.

3. Trials are an opportunity for hope sharpening.

Similarly, we hope for many things. We hope for a job change or for an end to illness; we hope for relationships to get better or stronger; we hope that we will have enough money saved for retirement. And yet all of those things that we hope for simply might not happen. That’s one of the reasons why trials bring grief – it’s because they threaten our hope, just as they threaten our joy. But what an opportunity for the Christian to remember that we have a better hope – a living hope – that grows in our hearts and minds day by day as all living things do.



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 - Movie Night (more info to come)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 - Hot Dogs and Smores by the fire @ 6:30 pm in the grove!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22 - Don't miss the incredible show, Daniel, at Sight and Sound! The show starts at 3:00 pm. Meet at the church at 1:15 pm if you would like to carpool, or meet at the theater at 2:15 pm. (300 Hartman Bridge Road, Ronks, PA 17572) Cost = Approx. **\$90**. After the show, why not join us for dinner at Dienner's Country Restaurant? (2855 Lincoln Highway East, Ronks, PA 17572)



**Our next communion
service will be on
Sunday, October 6 at
10:30 am.**



Your Eternal Home

On the eve of his crucifixion, Jesus told his followers what was going to happen the following day. He would be abandoned by his friends and killed by his enemies. Yet before they could voice their fears, Jesus calmed them. “Do not let your hearts be troubled,” he said. “You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am” (John 14:1-3 NIV).

Jesus lifted their eyes. In essence he said, “Think less about your fears. Think much about your eternal home.” What would Jesus say to this troubled generation?

Born of the Spirit

On one side Nicodemus, representing all well-meaning, God-fearing, scripture-memorizing folk. On the other, Jesus Christ. And what the latter says to the former is so uncanny that it sends shock waves through church pews and synagogues to this very day. “I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life” (John 3:5-6 NLT).

The phrase “Kingdom of God” refers to a relationship with God in this life and entrance into heaven in the next. How do we receive citizenship? Be born again. In our first birth we become brand-new humans. In our second birth we become brand-new creations. And who oversees our second birth? The Holy Spirit.



With new items added each week, The Pantry is a free resource to bless you, your family, and others!

GROCERIES: canned goods, pasta, potatoes, baking supplies, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, snacks, candy, condiments, coffee, tea, and more!

FROZEN ITEMS: chicken tenders, sausage, bacon, chicken thighs, breakfast sausage, ham, hot dogs, lunch meat, cheese, and more!

DRINKS: bottled water, flavored water, iced tea, lemonade, sport drinks, protein drinks, juice, and more!

PERSONAL ITEMS: soap, body wash, shampoo, razors, toothpaste, mouthwash, floss, deodorant, hand sanitizer, cold medicine, and more!

CLEANING SUPPLIES: glass cleaner, all-purpose cleaner, bleach, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, dish liquid, air freshener, and more!

The Pantry is normally open when the church building is open. Please contact Pastor Jeff if another time is needed.



We Are Not Alone

Jesus doesn't want us to think of the Holy Spirit as an it or a thing. The Spirit is a person. According to one study only four people in ten believe that the Spirit is a divine person. The rest of those surveyed either don't have an opinion or choose to believe the Spirit is more like a power surge than a divine being who empowers and teaches us.

Can you join me in a pledge? "I hereby resolve never to call the Holy Spirit an it." The Spirit is a person. And Jesus calls him the Paraclete. Now translators land on different, yet similar, translations for this Greek word: "Comforter," "Counselor," "Advocate," "Intercessor." But the central message is the same: we are not alone.

Go to Your Father

Everyone stumbles. The difference is in the response. Some stumble into the pit of guilt. Others tumble into the arms of God. They make a deliberate decision to stand up and lean into the grace of God.

Just like you, the prodigal son was given an inheritance; he was a member of the family. Perhaps just like you, he squandered it on wild living and bad choices. His trail dead-ended in a pigpen. He fed hogs for a living. Then he made a decision that changed his life forever. "I will arise and go to my father" (Luke 15:18 NKJV)

You can arise and go to your Father! Maybe you can't solve all your problems or disentangle all your knots. You can't undo all the damage you've done, but you can arise and go to your Father. Landing in a pigpen stinks. But friend, staying there is just plain stupid.



Happy 6th Anniversary to New Hope Christian Counseling!

When New Hope Christian Counseling started in August, 2018, we had no idea how the Lord was going to use it and bless it!

Did you know that...

In 2019, NHCC had 226 appointments.

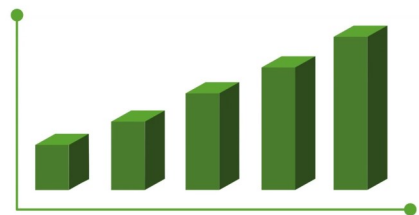
In 2020, NHCC had 234 appointments.

In 2021, NHCC had 276 appointments.

In 2022, NHCC had 401 appointments.

In 2023, NHCC had 546 appointments.

In the first 8 months of this year, NHCC had 347 appointments.



If the trend continues, NHCC will have over 520 appointments this year!



Be sure to visit the Christian Counseling Booklets area downstairs in the NHCC Waiting Room! They are to bless you, your family, and others.

There are 48 titles for you to choose from, and they are free!



Trust in Your Shepherd

Perhaps you don't need your hope restored right now. Your jungle has become a meadow, your journey a delight. If such is the case, congratulations. But remember, we do not know what tomorrow holds. You may be one turn from a cemetery, from a virus, from an empty house. You may be a bend in the road from a jungle. And though you don't need your hope restored today, you may tomorrow. And you need to know to whom to turn.

Or perhaps you do need hope today. You know you were not made for this place, you know you are not equipped, you want someone to lead you out. If so, put your trust in the Shepherd. He knows the path that leads to your new beginning, and he's just waiting for you to join him.

The Handiwork of Heaven

The Scripture says, "And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit" (2 Corinthians 3:18 ESV).

When God found me, I was a fruitless stump with deep roots. Even so, he found a place for me. It required a good yank and no small amount of cleaning up, but he took me from badlands to his home, and he displayed me as a work of his own. Such is the work of the Holy Spirit.

My friend, the Spirit of God will transform you into a handiwork of heaven and display you in full view. Now, expect to be scrubbed, sanded, and varnished a time or two or ten. But in the end, the result will be worth the discomfort.

SEPTEMBER MILESTONES

September Birthdays

1	Dave Bomgardner
3	Heidi Crisp
5	Justin Hirons
8	Nikki Custer Angela Geib
11	Micah Steele
13	Charlie McCrone
15	Wayne Schmoyer JT Markley Dot Reichardt
17	Randy Krall
18	Savannah Kleinfelter
19	Brandon Hostetter
21	Sandy Unger
23	Cheryl Gecelosky Nancy Bordlemay
25	Libby Custer
28	Marlene Blauch
29	Norene Shuey
30	Earl Blauch Eileen Yorty

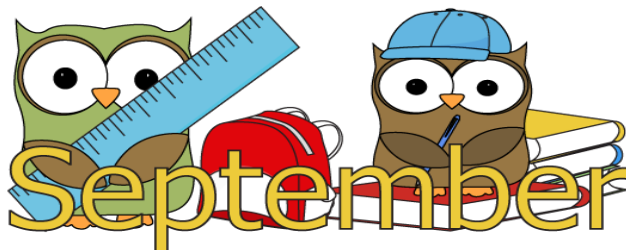
September Wedding Anniversaries

10	Josh & Laura Zimmerman
16	Charlie & Ruth McCrone Jim & Cheryl Gecelosky
17	Jerry & Dee Stover
18	Matt & Stephanie Yorty
23	John & Norene Shuey
25	Ralph & Rachel Blauch
26	Dave & Vikki DeLong



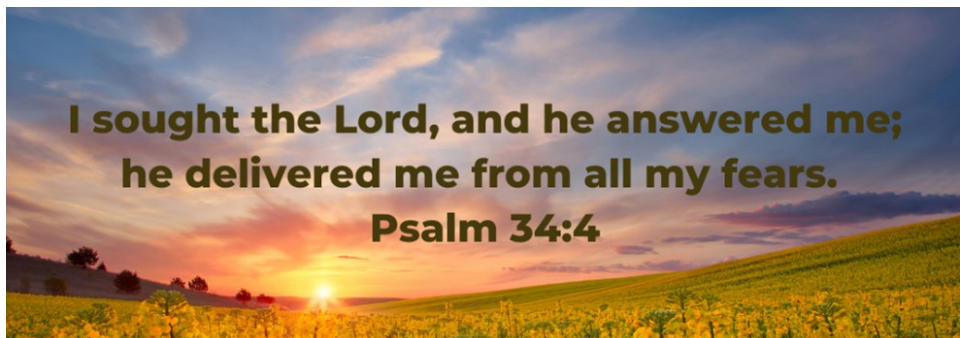
September Greeters

1	Kathy Heckman
8	Connie Mickey
15	Joel & Kim Wolfe
22	Kris Turner
29	Loretta Herr



September Schedule

	1	8	15	22	29
Worship Nursery Attendants	Lori Caruso & Pat Bender	Barb Blauch & Cheryl Gecelosky	Eileen & John Yorty	Judy Markley & Vikki DeLong	Donna & Dave Bingaman
Children's Church	Donna & Dave Bingaman	MMK	Paula T & Evie Y	Brenda C & Kathy H	Korin & Emerson G
Audio Tech	Travis McFeaters	Jim Jefferies	Travis McFeaters	Jim Jefferies	TBD
Video Tech	Kory Blauch	Melanie Hutson	Justin Hirons	Jacob Gingrich	Jacob Gingrich
Stewardship Team	John Horvath & Travis	Joel & Kim Wolfe	Carol Ruth & Esther	Jim & Brenda	Joel & Kim Wolfe
October Trustee: Jerry Stover					



OCTOBER MILESTONES

October Birthdays

3	Elizabeth Elhardt
4	Barb Hostetter Esther Hamilton Kris Turner
5	Kieara Stitt
6	Dave DeLong
7	Anne Ail
10	Barry Hostetter
15	Bob Howard Emerson Gingrich
17	Rob Peters
18	Les Mickey Trisha Tshudy
22	Ava Brubaker
23	Greta Bomgardner



October Wedding Anniversaries

1	Dave & Donna Bingaman
2	Seth & Erica Custer
9	Aaron & Luann Martin
10	Dave & Sharon Bomgardner
28	JT & Judy Markley



October Greeters

6	Wayne Schmoyer
13	Jim & Brenda Jefferies
20	Dale & Brenda Custer
27	Dave & Vikki DeLong

October Schedule

	6	13	20	27
Worship Nursery Attendants	Alexandra Yordy & Sheridan Gingrich	Mindy Allmond & Heather Wolfe	Eileen & John Yorty	Kim Wolfe & Brenda Jefferies
Children's Church	Donna & Dave Bingaman	MMK	Paula T & Evie Y	Brenda C & Kathy H
Sound Tech	Travis McFeaters	Jim Jefferies	Travis McFeaters	Jim Jefferies
Video Tech	Kory Blauch	Melanie Hutson	Justin Hirons	Jacob Gingrich
Stewardship Team	John Horvath & Travis McFeaters	Joel & Kim Wolfe	Carol Ruth & Esther Hamilton	Jim & Brenda Jefferies

September Trustee: Joel Wolfe



NOVEMBER MILESTONES



November Birthdays

1	Jayden Hoke Juliet Bomgardner
2	Travis McFeaters
4	John Horvath
6	Vikki DeLong
10	Ernie Hostetter Alexis Zimmerman
11	Dale Custer
14	Olivia Yorty
16	Brenda Wolfe
21	Jodi Blauch Bonnie Landis Dave Rhoads
22	Scott Miller
25	Melinda Allmond
27	Diane Hostetter Sharon Bomgardner
28	Caitlin Steel
29	Sophia Shoemaker
30	Laura Zimmerman

November Wedding Anniversaries

1	Steven & Angie Geib
7	Kris & Crystal Turner
11	Ron & Karen Pfister
18	Christian & Korin Gingrich



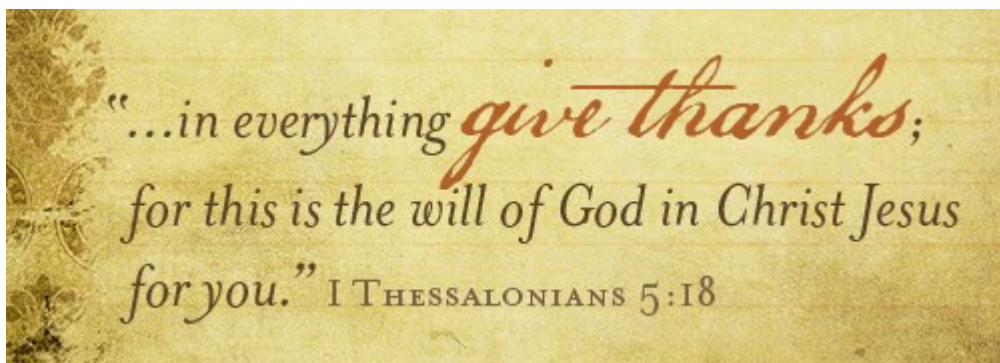
November Greeters

3	Christian & Korin Gingrich
10	TBD
17	Earl & Barb Blauch
24	Georgee Miller



November Schedule

	3	10	17	24
Worship Nursery Attendants	Lori Caruso & Pat Bender	Barb Blauch & Cheryl Gecelosky	Eileen & John Yorty	Judy Markley & Vikki DeLong
Children's Church	Korin & Emerson Gingrich	MMK	Donna & Dave Bingaman	Paula T & Evie Y
Sound Tech	Travis McFeaters	Jim Jefferies	Travis McFeaters	Jim Jefferies
Video Tech	Kory Blauch	Melanie Hutson	Justin Hirons	Jacob Gingrich
Stewardship Team	John Horvath & Travis McFeaters	Joel & Kim Wolfe	Carol Ruth & Esther Hamilton	Jim & Brenda Jefferies
November Trustee: TBD				





***Saturday, October 12 from 4:00-7:00 pm in
the grove building!***

Invite your family and friends to join you as you enjoy spaghetti, salad or applesauce, bread, drinks, and dessert.

All financial donations given at the dinner will be used to purchase grocery gift cards to bless people in our surrounding communities!

*** Please consider taking a food donation card or two!**

*** Be sure to sign up in the coatroom!**

Questions? Please contact Bob Sheetz at 717-926-2159.



The purpose of New Hope Christian Counseling is to provide Christ-centered, Biblically based emotional, relational, and spiritual guidance to children, teens, and adults experiencing challenging life-issues.

Our counselors have experience working with people facing many issues including, but not limited to, the following:

Anger Management
Grief
Depression
Sexual Assault
Family Dynamics

First Responders
Conflict Resolution
Parenting
Marriage Counseling
Stress Management

Anxiety
Faith
Divorce
Trauma
Premarital Counseling



Dave Berger
Director, Counselor



Jan Fryer
Counselor



Jennifer Wolfe, MA
Art Therapist,
Counselor



Georgee Miller
Office Manager,
Life Coach

***To schedule an appointment, please call 717-685-5157.
More info at www.ihavenewhope.org***



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Annville, PA 17003**

