

Westgate Baptist Church

June 2021

2235 Harrisburg Pike
Lancaster, PA 17601
717-394-1071



**This June Westgate recognizes
the 45th year of the dedication
of our church building.**

**June 6, 1976 was the first worship service
in our very own church.**

Rev. Joe Faith was the founding Pastor of Westgate Baptist church. He was later replaced by Rev. Robert Boudier who presided over the church building and dedication, along with Rev. Robert Ketcham. Members of the Executive Committee at the time were: Gilbert Benson, James Bucy, Glen Fadner, Jr., Mack Rupert, Thomas Walton.

The land on Harrisburg Pike was purchased in 1965 while the new congregation slowly grew from 13 families in 1964 to 240 members by 1968. After much planning and saving construction began in 1975.

On Sunday, June 6th, 13th and 20th 1976 special services of dedication and celebration marked the official opening of this church with guest Pastors from American Baptist Churches National office, ABCOPAD, the Lancaster County Council of Churches, and former pastor Joe Faith.

Did you know that for 2 years Westgate's Congregation worshipped at the Santee Chapel in the Lancaster Theological Seminary?

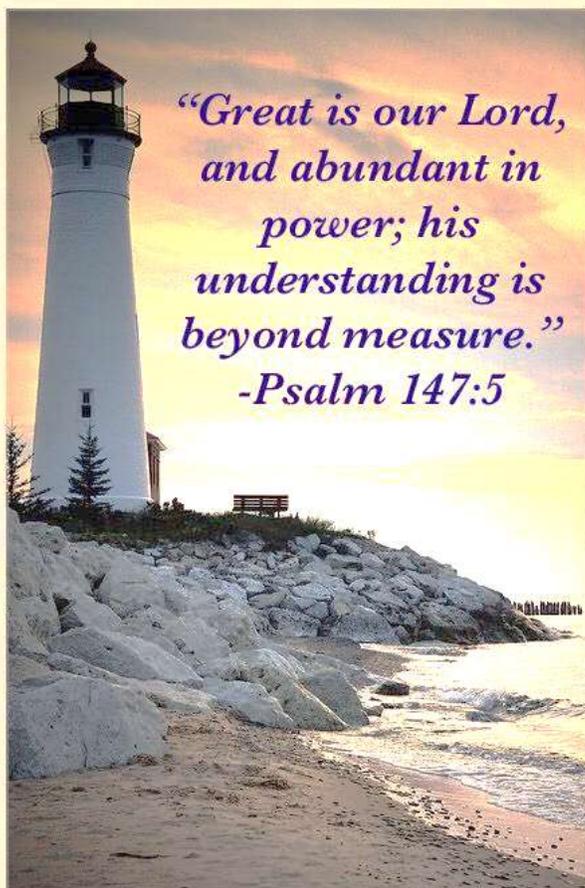


Greetings in the Name of our LORD !

Reverencing the God We Seek

“Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?” Exodus 15:11

Two weeks ago I shared with you the Prayer of Jesus as found in John Chapter 17—in that chapter he prays for himself, his disciples who were gathered with him, and the future disciples who would come to follow. In last week’s message my focus shifted to the subject of Prayer 101 or what was called *“Simple Prayer.”* Prayer has become for me not simply a topic or focus in my preaching. I have genuinely been yearning for a deeper experience of Prayer in my life. I feel that something is missing in my life—and part of it is an intimacy with God in prayer. In my message on the High Priestly Prayer of Jesus I considered with you the priorities of our Savior as revealed in the context of prayer. I believe it laid the groundwork for our consideration on the importance of prayer. Hopefully, over the past two Sunday’s at least a few of us have become more inquisitive and engaged in the subject of prayer—a truly vast and deeply enriching subject. As I have shared a few times now, the Disciples observed the importance of prayer in Jesus so much that they asked him, *“Lord, teach us to pray.”* They knew that prayer was oxygen and life to His very soul.



There is much to be said about prayer, but fundamentally, prayer consists of a conversation between us and the Lord, and in any conversation, we must be cognizant of who the participants are. In other words, in order to get prayer right, we must know who God is and who we are. We start by considering who God is. I am afraid that often our search for who God is, for many reasons, is a far too casual search.

As Americans, I think we are well known for being more informal than in many other cultures around the world (at least this is my observation). We lack an established monarchy. We are casual in our dress and in our speech, in many places, where formality once reigned. On the whole, our relationships with authority and with those whom we supervise can err on the side of looseness and be rather relaxed. Titles before one’s name are less dominant than in past generations.

These developments have not been without positive effects; but there have been negatives as well. At times gross informality has extended even to how we regard our relationship with God. If we view God only as a friend, then we are out of balance. Of course, we can call Jesus our “friend” (John 15:15) in the sense that He is far more loyal to us than any other person. We remember that Abraham was referred to as “a friend of God.” The trouble is if we see our Creator as our “buddy” or “pal” in such a way that we are on the



The all-seeing eye of God on the American dollar bill.

same level that He is. This should not be. God, indeed, is friendly toward us, but He remains our Creator our Sovereign. When we approach Him as our friend we do so knowing that He understands us and has compassion toward us. However, we must also approach Him as one who is “majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders” (Exodus 15:11).

This means we stand in awe of our Creator. When we approach Him in prayer, we must remember who He is—the Lord God Almighty who is deserving of all honor, glory, and praise (1 Tim. 1:17). We must bow to His greatness, worshiping Him and remembering that He upholds us by His grace. Frank Stanton (1857-1927) so wonderfully reflects a deep reverence for the God we worship in his piece, “So Many!”

So Many!

So many stars in the infinite space—
So many worlds in the light of God’s face.
So many storms ere the thunders shall cease—
So many paths to the portals of Peace.
So many years, so many tears—
Sighs and sorrows and pangs and prayers.
So many ships in the desolate night—
So many harbors, and only one true Light.
So many creeds like the weeds in the sod
So many temples, and only One God.

He told me to tell you!

Faithfully,
Pastor Robert Zimmerman



ABW Ministries

Our next ABW meeting is
Thursday, June 3rd, at 1:00 pm
in the Fellowship Hall

After the June meeting, we will break for the Summer and resume on Thursday, September 2nd at 1:00 p.m. If you are interested in the goals, missions and projects of Westgate ABW, and would like to contribute in some way, there are varying levels of participation that might fit your schedule and ability. Please join us. In the June meeting we will discuss our plans for the next year and working on the Luopad Project.

Our Regional Mission, “Brighter Days for Brazilian Youth,” is underway. The collection container is in the church entrance downstairs. International Ministries’ Corenne and Philip Smith minister to children in Brazil who are part of a residential program that rescues homeless street children and youth ranging in age from 8 to 18. Their program provides guidance, education, and training for future employment.

Thrift Shop Donations:

Collect ‘IN GOOD CONDITION ONLY’

costume jewelry, hand-made items (crocheted doilies, embroidered pillowcases, fancy towels, decorative nick knacks, etc.), reading glasses (with cases is extremely helpful), ladies’ handbags, shoes, and NEW children’s clothing items (sizes newborn to adult child). Wrap jewelry and eyeglasses in tissue paper or bubble wrap, and place into a handbag or plastic container for careful shipping – Missionary Corenne Smith asked for good plastic containers as they are very popular in Brazil.

See Pat Rust for more details.

“Thrive Conference 2021”

The annual ABW, ABCOPAD Meeting, will be presented virtually on June 18th and 19th. We will be gathering in the Fellowship Hall to watch and participate through Zoom.

Friday- 7:00pm – 9pm

Saturday-8:45am – 12:30pm

Information is posted in the narthex and on the bulletin board, contact Cora Stump for registration and meeting details. Suggested cost to participate is \$20.00.



Blessings,

Pat Rust and the Ladies of ABW

Birthdays & Anniversaries for June



6/7/1975 Jack & Mary Stockdale
 6/14/1969 Rev. Roy & Judy Johnsen
 6/24/1990 Bud & Pat Rust
 6/29 Dick & Dottie Papez



6/2 Fritzna Lafontant
 6/4 Tha Lai
 6/5 Elisa Huffmaster
 6/10 Helen Guaspari
 6/14 Marcella Dupes
 Bill Hannum
 6/19 Carol Gabriel
 Summer Guntz
 Betty Shermer
 6/21 Joann Molnar
 6/25 Antonella Vital
 6/29 Jess Crookshank



Parish Resource Center classes & workshops

Intuitive Gifts and Skills

Saturday June 12, 2021, 10-11:30am Annie Browning, MDiv, LCSW

Intuitive Gifts and Skills will help you identify and enhance your own intuitive ability, allowing you to move beyond your five physical senses and drop into a deeper space of awareness. Intuition can help access information that is hiding under the surface and yet accessed in a moment. This intuitive knowing provides a fuller, more complete understanding of your life and your world as it connects the information and awareness in your mind and body immediately and effectively. In this workshop, you will learn and practice how to define your intuitive skills in your own language and then pair these gifts with concrete, applied skills in your daily life.

We are a PRC Member, class fees will be free or reduced.

Link for the calendar and website:

<https://parishresourcecenter.org/events-workshops/>

Treasurer's Report-

Month Total	To May 23
Budget Income	\$11,300.00
Non-budget income	\$ 4,303

Monthly Board Meeting
 June 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Then breaking until September.

Linger Longer to Resume

One of the strong communal expressions of our church pre-Covid had been what we called **“Linger Longer.”** Most every Sunday a volunteer would sponsor a refreshment time—which in some cases became more like a luncheon—following worship. Our fellowships often involved the majority of our worshippers and was a vibrant expression of fellowship and a great enjoyment of food. It’s time to resume Linger Longer—it’s another step toward normalcy.

For June, July, and August this is the plan. We will begin Linger Longer again starting **Sunday June 6th after worship.** We will not be using the fellowship room yet—for now we will keep things very simple by having a refreshment table just outside the lower entry door in the shade.



For the Summer months I have asked **Joan Williams, Kathy Liebel, Richard and Nancy Cook** to help coordinate. By coordinating I do not mean they will host each week but that they would help recruit and organize others. Joan Williams and Kathy will coordinate the 1st and 2nd Sundays each month / Richard and Nancy will coordinate the 3rd and 4th Sundays each month. Beginning in September we will go back to having a general sign up organized from the Church office. If you are willing to host an outdoor Linger Longer for a Sunday contact Kathy or Joan for the 1st or 2nd Sunday / or Richard and Nancy Cook for the 3rd or 4th.

The following simple guidelines should be honored.

- ❖ Use the outdoor table that will be set up at the lower entrance.
- ❖ Provide disposable tableware (cups, plates, napkins etc.) and snacks with the following possibilities: donuts, brownies, cookies, cupcakes, cake or pies, or some other desert.
- ❖ As a supplement some veggies or sliced fruits would be welcome, but not essential.
- ❖ Provide at least one cold drink option.

K-I-S-S Keep It Simply Snacks is an appropriate acronym. This is designed for light fellowship and not a luncheon. We allow for submission of up to \$50 in receipts for reimbursement for anyone sponsoring Linger Longer.

- ❖ Additionally on Sunday June 20th (Father’s Day) we will be having a cookout following worship. More information to follow.

Pastor Robert

Adult Sunday School Resumes!

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

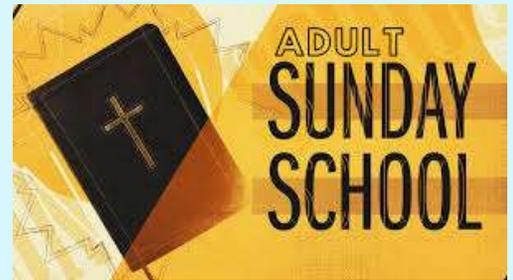
The following schedule reflects our focus for the month of June.

June 6th - **Non-conformity** / 1 Peter 1:13-25 / Holy Living requires a change in focus, from conformity of a secular life to a spiritual one, putting beliefs into action.

June 13th - **Love and Worship of God** / Psalm 103 / when we reflect on who God is, what God has done, and what God promises to do, our hearts and minds are led to an appropriate response.

June 20th - **Submitting to God in Love** / James 4:1-10 / Freedom from the turmoil that grips and controls many lives comes through the inner submission of the soul to the God who loves us.

June 27th - **Accountability** / Amos 5:1-24 / Amos teaches on truth, fairness and justice and speaks of the dangers of neglecting them.



LOVE GIFT

Since close to the beginning in 1932, there have been small collection boxes for Love Gift coins. Various names have been given: Silver Boxes and Mite Boxes (or the variant: Might Boxes). Box designs have changed over the years.

The 1941 women's annual program theme was "Love." The name "Love Gift" has been used since then.

It is a gift offering reflecting the faith and love that we offer to God and Christ's church as it empowers American Baptist missions worldwide.

I received news recently that the PA/DE ABC region returns 10% of the money collected within the region directly to the work and ministry of American Baptist Women of PA & DE.

Sunday, June 20 is the next collection date for this event.



Replacement Window Fund

Westgate Friends, the beautiful vertical windows in the center of the church (as you look from Harrisburg Pike) are in need of total replacement to prevent further structural damage to the Church, while preserving the natural light in our building. Unfortunately, due to their size and customization, it's a very expensive replacement of over \$13,000.

There is an envelope in the bulletin for special contributions. If you are designating a check, please write **“window fund”** or **“property fund”** on your check memo. Cash donations will also be appreciated using the envelopes. Thanks in advance for your generous support.



Westgate June Mission One Great Hour of Sharing Announces 2021 Theme “Let Love Flow”



The season for the promotion of One Great Hour of Sharing has begun! The theme of this year's annual offering is *Let Love Flow*. Despite the many ways in which life has been restricted in the past year, I think you will be encouraged to learn how your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing did indeed *Let Love Flow*.

The year 2020 was unlike any year we have witnessed in our lifetime. Record-breaking fires on the west coast of the U.S. devastated communities and burned millions of acres. An extremely active hurricane season brought destruction to the Gulf Coast. A massive explosion in Beirut displaced thousands of individuals. All these events happened during the prolonged COVID-19 global pandemic. We are living in a time of uncertainty greater than that with which we are familiar. And yet, even with so much that is unclear about the future, one thing is certain: through this ministry of One Great Hour of Sharing, you continue to *Let Love Flow*.

Our reality is that we have carried into 2021 many of the same challenges. Disasters will continue to occur. Displaced populations remain vulnerable. And hundreds of millions of people around the world struggle under the weight of poverty. Thanks to your faithfulness and generosity, One Great Hour of Sharing will continue to respond. Events of the past year have shown us that even in times when we cannot be physically together in one place, our offerings to support One Great Hour of Sharing continue to strengthen our church's presence all over the world: providing water to the thirsty, food for the hungry, and hope for the weary.

Lisa Rothenberger-Winter, World Relief Officer

Baptist Potpourri:

Missionaries

Did you know that May 21 marks International Ministries' 207th year of global mission? When we think of the many uncertainties of this past year, we thank God for using your partnership to keep us steady in our calling to be the hands and feet of Jesus around the world.

International Ministries endorses Christy Lafferty to serve with AMOS Health and Hope in Nicaragua

Christy Lafferty, who is currently employed by IM partner organization AMOS Health and Hope in Nicaragua, has now been endorsed to serve as a global servant jointly with IM. Inspired by her experiences in mission through her church youth group in middle school and high school, Christy felt called to begin a lifelong commitment to international and cross-cultural ministry. After she graduated from the College of Wooster (OH) with a bachelor's degree in sociology, she was selected to serve for three years as a young adult missionary in Nicaragua and in the U.S. During that time, she was involved in training local leaders who were motivated by their Christian faith to serve their neighbors in the areas of community development, community health, and agricultural work. In 2012, in an answer to Christy's prayers, IM Global Servants Drs. David and Laura Parajón at AMOS Health and Hope offered Christy the opportunity to serve with them.

Nzunga and Kihomi in Haiti

Despite state department warnings about Covid in Haiti, Nzunga planned to return on May 20th. The long awaited eye clinic replacement vehicle will arrive sometime around the 25th and he needs to be there to receive it and negotiate duty and fees. If it is left on the dock for any length of time it will be stolen or end up without critical parts. Please pray for his safety and that he can get it out of customs at a reasonable cost. The lack of trade during the Covid-19 crisis has hurt the income of custom officials so we are expecting a hefty fee.

In His Name, Denny Shewell Nzunga and Kihomi Missionary Partnership Team

THE Christian Citizen Pentecost



From cowardly to courageous, from frightened to fearless, from denying to defending Jesus—Embracing the power and purpose of Pentecost.

Dr. Marvin McMickle

May 20, 2021

I remember a voice message left on my home phone when I was still serving as pastor of Antioch Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio. The message said, "The church has no power." That phone message alerted me to the fact the fact that a power failure involving the electric lines leading into the building had occurred. As a result of that power failure, the lights could not

illuminate the building, air conditioning could not cool the rooms, and office equipment could not be used. The phones still worked, but the answering machines could not accept messages. In a very physical and practical sense, the church could not function because “the church had no power.”

The best way to think about Pentecost is to consider that without that event the church would have no power. Pentecost is the day when churches all over the world pause to remember the moment in Jerusalem when the Holy Spirit swept into the upper room where the disciples of Jesus were still in hiding, 50 days after the resurrection of Jesus. Up to that point, those men barely ventured outdoors for fear that what had happened to Jesus might also happen to them. Up to that point, there was no preaching going on and no healings occurring in the name of Jesus. There was just a group of frightened people not knowing what to do next. Christ may well have been risen, but before the Day of Pentecost “the church had no power!”

The word Pentecost literally means 50th or 50th day. The term originated with ancient Judaism, and with their celebration of the first harvest of the agricultural year. Pentecost was the time when the Jewish people gave thanks to God for what the land had produced and for what their labor in the fields had yielded. The observance of Pentecost for Judaism occurred seven weeks after the observance of Passover, and involved Jewish men gathering in the Temple in Jerusalem to mark that agricultural cycle. Pentecost was a refashioning of the notion of an agricultural festival, since on that day more than 3,000 souls were added to the number of followers of Jesus (Acts 2:41). The Day of Pentecost resulted in a great harvest for the early church. That great harvest of converts occurred after the power of the Holy Spirit was on full display in the life and words of the apostles. You can view this as a fulfillment of Jesus saying to Peter and John that “I will make you fishers of men” (Matthew 4:18-19).

If the church today wants to experience growth in its membership, it should not start with a mission statement or a vision statement or a new constitution and bylaws. Hear me when I tell you that ***the key to church growth as an institution and to spiritual growth as individuals is to receive and act on the power of the Holy Spirit.***

Some may believe Pentecost is something reserved for those persons who call themselves Pentecostals. Pentecost belongs only to Pentecostals in the same way that baptism belongs only to Baptists. All Christians believe in baptism because it is something that Jesus commanded all Christians to observe. In the same way, all Christians should observe Pentecost and welcome the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, because it is something all Christians will need if they want to serve God in this wicked world.

Look at what happened to the first disciples of Jesus as a result of Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit. After the arrest and crucifixion of Jesus, most of them went into hiding in the upper room where they had shared in the Lord’s Supper with the Lord. They were afraid of every knock on the door. They were afraid of the sound of every voice that passed them in the street below. The best way to think about Pentecost is to consider that without that event the church would have no power.

To read more of this article and others go to Christian Citizen web site:
<https://christiancitizen.us>

AMERICAN BAPTIST MEN: FORGING DISCIPLES & SERVANTS FOR JESUS CHRIST!!



Work Day at Medard's House

1120 Drexel Hills Blvd; New Cumberland, PA 17070

Basic Carpentry Tools Required
Drills, Circular Saws, etc. & Landscaping Tools

SATURDAY, JULY 24, 2021, 9 AM – 5 PM

Medard's House is a faith-based youth program that inspires boys and girls to be the best they can be and reach for their dreams. They work predominantly with youth 6th through 12th grades; offer community pre-apprenticeship programs, career exploration and academic advancement programs, and an after-school program that includes sports, tutoring, meals and mentoring. Medard's House has a large church building donated to them to be used as a youth center. It has large property with a real potential for ministry. Proposed projects include:

1. **Install Permanent Basketball Hoop on Edge of Parking Lot**
 - a. Skills required – knowledge of mixing and pouring concrete and installing/leveling pole helpful but not necessary
 - b. Number required - 2-4 men with some acting as laborers for digging hole, moving concrete bags, etc.
2. **Repair Exterior Doors**
 - a. Skills required – basic carpentry
 - b. Number required – 2 teams of 2-4 (there are two sets of doors that need repair)
3. **Shed Trim and Gutter Repair**
 - a. Skills required – basic carpentry
 - b. Number required – 2-4 men
4. **Framing for Interior Doors Installation for Entrance to Gym**
 - a. Skills required – basic carpentry
 - b. Number required – 2 teams of 2-4 men
5. **Floor Stripping and Waxing**
 - a. Skills required – experience running a floor stripper helpful but not necessary
 - b. Number required – 2-4 men
6. **Various Jobs that Many of our Men and Young Men Can Do:** Landscaping; Painting; Cleaning, Etc.

"Do Something!"
James 1:22

No Cost, Registration Required. Medard's House will provide lunch. AB Men will provide the water and snacks during the day. It will be a great time of fellowship (safely). **Please register no later than June 30, 2021** with your name, phone, and email, plus your special work skills based on the project info. Register with one of the following:

Dave Leh–leh845@comcast.net Rob McQue–rmcque@gmail.com Bob Coats–pastorbobcoats@gmail.com