



Jonestown United
Methodist Church

October 2024 Newsletter



**PONDER with
Lewis....**

In Eugene Peterson's version of the Word of God called "The Message", Paul's letter to the Ephesians ends with a subtitle—A fight to the finish—Ephesians 6: 10-18. "And that about wraps it up. God is strong, and He wants you strong. So take everything the Master has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best materials. And put them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the devil throws your way. This is no afternoon athletic contest that we'll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life or death fight to the finish against the devil and all his angels.

"Be prepared. You're up against far more than you can handle on your own. Take all the help you can get, every weapon God has issued, so that when it's all over but the shouting you'll still be on your feet. Truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and salvation are more than words. Learn how to apply them.

(CON'T NEXT PAGE->)

From the Pastor:

I was looking through some of my materials from a leadership teaching I was part of some years ago and came across a piece entitled "The Five G's" from Ministry Advantage. I've seen the church over the years in different places become complacent about its future. Sometimes people simply have become weary... sometimes people have become discouraged by the sense that they are all alone in doing what needs done... Sometimes the weight of the task of ministry seems overwhelming and they feel that there is no relief in sight. It is when we have reached our end that we finally face the reality that there are some things that are way beyond our capacity as a human being. The article used an illustration of a farmer...

A farmer has no power to make his crop grow. He prepares the field, sows the seed, fertilizes soil, and protects the plants from parasites, but he cannot create life. Yet every good farmer cultivates his crop because he knows he must do the RIGHT things even if he can't do the most important thing. Most of all, he pays attention to the health of his field. He analyzes it constantly, observing the important indicators of life: seedlings that break through the soil, green color that denotes life and health, and changes that show growth. If those things are absent, he works to reverse the detrimental effects of whatever threatens his crop. He takes all of this action, yet remains utterly dependent on something other than what he himself can do to make his crop successful. Such is the life of a farmer.

And such is the life of the church! The apostle Paul said, "You are God's field," in 1 Corinthians 3:9. It is the proper place to be - completely dependent on God. We must look for the signs of life and combat the presence of what threatens our spiritual health both individually and collectively. We strive to put in place things that build a healthy church and church environment. We are caretakers, not creators.

What are the signs of spiritual life and health? Specifically, how can we look at our church as a whole and know that, "These signs indicate we are doing well," or, "This situation is a problem and we must work for change?" We need a diagnostic tool.

The Five Gs are our attempt to draw, in broad strokes, the picture of a healthy church. If we have participating members living out these characteristics, we're doing OK. If people aren't progressing along these lines, something has to change.

Let's look at 5 G's that are vital to healthy growth as individuals and also as a church:

1. GRACE God's grace is not only the beginning place of our spiritual journey, in fact it begins before we make any decisions ourselves – it is God's decision for us and the foundation of our relationship with Him. Grace is a word that means, "a favor we didn't earn", a gift of God Himself. It is where we start the Christian life, but God's grace involves more because He did a lot of work behind the scenes long before we responded and continues long after He came to us in the person of Jesus Christ, who by means of His death on the cross, He paid our crippling sin debt. He comes to us, pursuing us even in our waywardness, and points us in a new direction.

[Con't Next Page]

Next News:

***November Newsletter
Deadline : October 20th.***

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Methodist Church

[From the Pastor Con't]

2. GROWTH

The second "G", *Growth*, is about our ongoing response to God's grace over a lifetime. Our walk with God *begins* by grace and it also *continues* by grace. We would easily recognize a problem if a newborn didn't continue to grow or fail to thrive. Since relationship with God is life, we expect it to continually exhibit development. We discover a balance between owning the responsibility to grow – which requires resisting what keeps us from growing – and trusting in the help and power of the Holy Spirit to bring about Christlike character in us. That tension will be with us all of our lives. Are you continuing to grow? ...Our ministry together?

3. GROUPS: Relationships That Optimize Life-Change God gave us each other, the body of Christ, where we serve each other in various ways. This is just how God designed it. When we're with members of a group, whether formally casually grown, others can powerfully remind us of what we can't see – both visionary and corrective - that God is working in us, through us, encouraging or correcting us. Our walk is not a solo adventure. We must decide for ourselves, but we shouldn't only live for ourselves. A Christ-follower honors God's call to participate in community in order to grow in Christlikeness, to express and receive love, and to carry out the ministry of the church.

4. GIFTS: God-given abilities used for the common good.

God gave us different gifts and different abilities so we'd do different things – and need each other. The gifts God gives us are not simply for ourselves, they are the tools for ministry to and with one another. Like a body with differing organs, our different roles and activities bring LIFE to the church; if we become separated from each other, we suffer, like a limb out of joint within a body.

5. GOOD STEWARDSHIP: Finally, a reasonable response to our gracious God.

Christ-followers realize that they have been bought with the price of Christ's blood, and that everything they are and have belongs to Him. In light of this, they desire to be responsible caretakers of the spiritual and material resources that God has entrusted to them. In response to Christ's abundant giving, they increasingly submit their resources of time, talent, treasure to His Lordship and display a spirit of generosity and cheerfulness in being engaged in the ministry of the Gospel in the world.

Focus and intention, commitment and mission, are all essential to a vibrant spiritual life and church. We connect with the living God by grace and grow in Him day by day... we celebrate and engage in a dynamic personal spiritual walk as well as a ministry that bears witness to the world around us. We receive gifts for ministry, hone those gifts to be available to not only the body of Christ but also in outreach to the world around us as we are good stewards of what we have and who we are. The 5-G's are a good barometer of a dynamic living growing disciple of Jesus. How are your G's?

[PONDER Con't] You'll need them throughout your life. God's word is an indispensable weapon. In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters. Keep your eyes open. Keep each other's spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out." Based on these verses, Jean Shaw wrote the short article "Stand Firm to the End." We who love the Lord are to hate sin. Indeed, the Christian life is a battle against it. That's why we are equipped to be soldiers (Ephesians 6). Sometimes the veterans get tired and decide to leave warfare to the young recruits. Fighting for truth and justice is wearying...

Moses was past 80 when he led the Israelites out of Egypt. The next 40 years were full of fighting. Moses got weary...

At 120 Moses was still warning the people about sin... in Hebrews 11, it says, "He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward (11/26). Looking ahead. Anticipating the day when he would be with the Lord. When we feel like quitting-retiring or even going AWOL-let us remember Moses and look ahead. When we have fought the last battle, God stands ready to welcome us to eternal peace.

FORWARD MARCH

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES: (Some upcoming ways of serving in the life of Jonestown Church are...)

Hunted Church

Tree Lighting Serving

Scripture Reading

Streaming/video/PowerPoint

Church Decorating for Christmas

Serving on our leadership teams

Staff Parish Relations

Nominations/Lay Leadership\

Trustees

Outreach

Kids Club Volunteer

NL Clothes Closet

For any further information on any of these opportunities, send a note to info@jonestownumc.org



Join us at the Kid's Club

Who: Kids entering 1st grade thru 6th grade
2nd Sundays

Next Meeting: October 13th at 5:30-7:30PM

Kids Club will be held on October 13th at 5:30-7:30PM. We will continue with our walk through the Fruit of the Spirit. We are in our third month in September. The first month we did an overview of the Fruit of The Spirit in general.

In August we studied the Love of God. In September we studied the Joy of the Lord.

In October we are studying the fruit of the spirit – Peace. Any child who has entered grades 1 through 6 this fall are welcome.

THE PARABLES OF JESUS BIBLE STUDY: John Hall has prepared another Bible Study for us walking us through the Parables of Jesus. You will find weekly readings each week in our bulletin as well as available on the www.jonestownmethodist.org website. You can study on your own or join an e-mail study by sharing some thoughts about the reading with others in an e-mail group throughout the week. You can let us know of your interest in participating by sending a “count me in on the Parable study” message to: info@jonestownmethodist.org. When you receive a reply, simply hit “reply all” and you will see other people’s responses as well as any thoughts of your own about the parable of the week.



HUNTED CHURCH: October 31, 2024

Our 8th annual Hunted Church is coming up! We hold it on the community Halloween night - Thur, Oct. 31st—6-8PM. Our coordinator, Heather Lambrecht, would like you to let her know if you will be able to help this year and in what capacity. Those who would like to help with monetary donations, please label it as "Hunted Church" and drop it in the offering. You may also purchase bags of individually wrapped candy (small enough to fit into a goody bag) and place it in the marked bin in the narthex. We would like to have all donations no later than October 22nd. If you are interested in helping with this event (set-up, reading, acting, etc.), please let Heather (lambrecht235@live.com) or Tish know or sign up on the sheet in the narthex.



Some of the stories we are looking at doing this year:

1. Joshua and the battle of Jericho
2. Dry bones
3. Daniel in lions den
4. Jesus walks on water
5. Elijah ascends to heaven
6. David and Goliath

Don't miss our great Sunday School Opportunities:

Nancy Rautzhan: Adult

John Hall: Adult

Gary Miele: Youth

Brenda Rudy: Children

OCTOBER MISSION PARTNER - Lebanon Rescue Mission

*MEN'S LIFE CHANGE PROGRAM: Emergency Shelter, Residential Life Change/Recovery, GED Prep, graduate housing

AGAPE FAMILY SHELTER: Residential life change program for women/their children; graduate housing GAP housing

LEBANON FREE CLINIC: Free Medical services, Behavioral health care/case management; dental cleanings, medication management prescription assistance, student vision program

- AGAPE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM FOR SENIORS
- *MOBILE SENIOR PANTRY

WWW.LEBANONRESCUEMISSION.ORG

AUGUST FINANCIAL UPATE

Budgeted for **Aug** = \$11,113.00

Received in total for all categories = \$9,220.00

Expenses \$14,900.00

LCCM NOON MEAL

First Fridays, 10:00am

Jonestown UMC October Free Noon Meal will be on

October 4th and November 9th.

JUMC is responsible for preparing the noon meal the first Friday of each month through volunteers from our congregation, adults in the winter, fall, and spring, and our Youth Ministry in the summer. Currently we make about 100 lunches distributed to those in need noon-1pm. If you are interested in helping, contact Howard Lee (717-228-7249) or Bob Hillegas (717-865-7478)

Free Food Box Distribution

October 12th @ 1PM

Area United Methodist Churches have been distributing food boxes over the last two years to needy families in our area. You can help unload food Tuesday 10/8 in the afternoon, late Friday morning 10/11, and help assemble boxes Friday evening at 6PM, and/or help distribute the boxes to those who come on Saturday 10/12 at 1PM. (Setup at ~12:30PM)



Friends and members of our church may activate the prayer chain by calling the pastor or one of the team leaders indicated by a star (*).

Team 1: *Lewis & Eleanor Artz
(717-865-3447)

John & Nancy Rhen (717-865-4317)

Teri Light (717-813-8347)

Gary Miele (717-383-2941)

Team 2: *Larry Major (717-865-3442)

Jeff & Diana Waltermeyer (717-865-5675)

Rick & Wendy Kline (865-4363)

Team 3: *Doris Crouse (717-865-5554)

Judy Mowry (717-279-0809)

Kay Horner (717-865-5538)

George/Nancy Rautzhan (717-865-3061)

Lewis Artz (717-865-3447)

Larry Major (717-865-3442)

Doris Crouse (717-865-5554)

VERY IMPORTANT!

Start by calling one of the following people: Pastor Alan Smith (717-865-4369; 215-527-7388); Lewis Artz (717-865-3447);

YOGA STRETCHING will be the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:30am. Please see Lori Jackson for additional details if you are interested.

Food Box Distribution – October 12th – 1PM at Jonestown Methodist. We will be having our traditional preparation times for the distribution:

Thursday, October 10th, Pick up at Midwest Food Bank – unloading at the church about 3:45-4PM and preparation of the parking lot entrance for the assembly of the boxes and storage.

Friday, October 11th, Unloading at the church of food items from Dave Gray and Ono Church’s trip to Blessings of Hope about 10:30AM; Food Box Assembly Friday evening at 6PM.

SEPTEMBER CARE TEAM	
<i>Week of Oct. 6th</i>	
Pam Gray	717-865-3997
<i>Week of Oct. 13th</i>	
Jim and Judy Mowry	717-279-0809
<i>Week of Oct. 20th</i>	
Pam Gray	717-865-3997

UPCOMING DATES:

Oct. 20th-Homecoming Sunday: combined service at 10:30am followed by luncheon

Nov. 3rd-All Saints Remembrance

Nov. 10th-Veterans Remembrance

Nov. 17th-Harvest Home

Nov. 24th-Thanksgiving Sunday

Week of Nov. 24th-Church decorating

Nov. 29th-Jonestown Tree Lighting

Dec. 1st-Advent begins-brunch served during Sunday School hour

In the Fellowship Hall, a table is set up with puzzles for anyone to use. You can bring in completed puzzles and take a new one.



Care Team: Thanks for contacting those we don't see in church to let them know we miss them. Calls or cards mean a lot, especially to those who are home bound or in nursing homes. Ellie Artz continues in the nursing home, and would love to hear from you or see you if you can visit. Frank and Jan Sebastian and Lewis are in their homes, as are Phil Lingle, Nancy and John Rhen, and Doris Crouse. Bonnie Rickard is now in Pine Grove, and can't always get in. She would love to know you're thinking of her. Check the JOY table in the narthex or your directory for addresses. All would appreciate knowing you are thinking of them! Don't forget the Care Booklets in the circular rack available for you to take. If you know of a care concern, please contact anyone on the Care Team. Also, if you would like to be on the Care Team, please see Pam Gray. We would be happy to welcome new members as we are down to four. We send cards, make phone calls, and take meals to families when needed. We also serve a funeral luncheon when asked. It is a great way to extend God's love to others at a difficult time.



JOY Food Pantry: JOY clients shop once a week either on a Tuesday from 10-12, Thursday from 4-7, or Friday from 10-12. Thank you all for your generosity in donating to JOY. We are seeing more need in our community and in the expanded community. Now that we are under the Caring Cup-

board we also serve families from Lebanon. Thanks to all who contribute. Some needed items are: canned pasta, chunky soup, Ramen soup, cream soups, canned fruit, canned chicken, spam, tuna, juices, paper towels, dish liquid, other cleaning supplies, and shampoo. A complete list of needed items is on the JOY table to take along or check the website at joypantry.org. Please mail monetary donations to: JOY Food Pantry, P.O. Box 121, Jonestown, PA 17038.



"Friends Together" - The next ladies meeting, "Friends Together" will be in October on Tuesday the 15th, meeting at the church at 1:00 pm. All ladies are welcome. We are going to be working on making "Pain Pillows". These will be sewn and stuffed to give to surgical patients. There is a job for everyone, so please come and help!! In the month of November, we meet on

the 12th to assemble some baked items in baskets for our members who can no longer get in to church. We will also be preparing for a bake sale at the Jonestown Tree Lighting on November 29th. The proceeds will go to a charity. So we can use a lot of bakers. More will be coming about that. We continue to work on clothing for the NL Clothes Closet. Donations of clean, gently used clothes for men, women, and children can be put in the labeled tote in the narthex or on the tables in the basement in the middle Sunday School room by the kitchen. The NL Clothes Closet is located in some rooms in the Jonestown Elementary School (recently purchased by IU 13) for storage, sorting, and shopping for eligible Northern residents for free. They are open the 1st and 3rd Tues.(10-12) and Thurs. (4-7) and one Saturday a month (10-12). Refer to the sign by the building. Please see Pam Gray if questions, or to find out how to sign up, if you want to volunteer. They can still use volunteers to sort, as they get many donations. Thank you for your support for this project.

CHURCH EVENTS

- Tuesdays 6:30pm- Conversations with the Father
- Tuesdays 7:00pm-Creative Ministries
- Tuesdays 7:15pm-Praise Team Rehearsal
- Sundays 10:15am-Praise Team Rehearsal
- Oct. 1, 4, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25, 29, Tuesdays/Fridays, 10:00am-12:00pm-JOY Pantry
- Oct. 1, 15, Tues. 10am-Noon—Clothing Closet
- Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Thursdays, 4:00pm-7:00pm-JOY Pantry
- Oct. 3, 17, Thurs. 4-7pm-Clothing Closet
- Oct. 5, 19, 8:30am—Yoga Stretching
- Oct. 4, 10:00am-LCCM Noon Meal
- Oct. 8, Tues. 2:30-3pm—unload trailer (can text time)
- Oct. 11, Fri. 6:00pm—Food Box Assembly
- Oct. 12, Sat. 8:00am—Men's Breakfast
- Oct. 12, Sat. 1pm—Food Box Distribution.
- Oct. 13, Sun. 5:30pm-7:30pm—Kids Club
- Oct. 14, Mon. 6:30pm—Church Council
- Oct. 15, Tues. 1:00pm—"Friends Together"
- Oct. 20, Sun. 10:30am—Homecoming Sunday Combined service
- Oct. 21, Mon. 6:30pm—Trustee Meeting
- Oct., Sat. 10:00am-12:00pm and 1:00pm-3:00pm NL Clothes Closet
- Oct. 31, 6:00pm-8:00pm—"Hunted Church"

CELEBRATE OUR GUESTS:

We have seen a number of guests joining us for worship and at a variety of events sponsored by the ministries of Jonestown Church. There are some small bags to be handed out to our guests that include a brochure about our church, a refrigerator magnet with the contact information for our congregation, a pen, etc.

In addition to personally welcoming and getting to know people you are either meeting for the first time or are getting re-acquainted with, we are invited those normally attending to share one of the guest bags while introducing yourself and personally welcoming guests/visitors.

CONVERSATIONS WITH OUR HEAVENLY FATHER

Tuesday evenings starting October 1st, 6:30-7:30pm

Please join me for prayer. We will have a short devotion, and then we will spend time with our Father. Personal prayer, prayer for our country, our community, our church family, and each other. It will be ALL of our time with Him. Teri Light



With Lori Jackson Tuesdays starting October 1st, 7:00pm-8:00pm.

This may or may not involve puppetry. 10 years old through adult are welcome

to join. Speakers, actors, writers, tailors, artists, interest in sound, lighting. No experience necessary. Text Lori 717-926-4572.



LADIES NIGHT OUT The Ladies Night Out for October has been cancelled. The next scheduled event will be on Friday, November 1st at 6:00pm. Any questions, please call Karen Bene at 717-673-2833.

Northern Lebanon Clothes Closet: If you live in the NL School District and are in need of **FREE** clothing, we invite you to come visit the Clothing Closet, located in the former Jonestown Elementary School (now the IU13 "Northern Education Center"). We are located on the Lancaster St. side of the building. Look for the signs and "Door 13."



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Pat Rickard
- 3 Adam Koenig
- 7 Dwayne Baker
- 7 Maria Shuey
- 9 Ken Fortna, Jr.
- 10 Eric Fahler
- 10 Steven Clark
- 12 Tyler Lewis
- 14 Jim Mowry
- 16 Kathryn Shuey
- 18 Layla Baker
- 18 Emme Robinson
- 18 Drew Bene
- 19 Rebekah Kline
- 20 Nathan Rhoads
- 22 Karen Bene
- 23 Dan Eisenhauer
- 24 Tammy Adams
- 25 Tegan Guirate
- 26 Annie Grant
- 27 Candace Smith
- 28 Michael Slade
- 29 Karen Boltz
- 29 Alaina Robinson
- 30 Nathan Hess
- 30 Charles Rickard
- 31 Brenda Rudy
- 31 Oriana Spittle

Psalm 28: 7-9

The Lord is my strength and my shield, in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped. My heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him. The Lord is the strength of His people; He is the saving refuge of His anointed. Oh, save Your people and bless Your heritage! Be their shepherd and carry them forever.



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Jeff & Diana Waltermeyer
- 7 Dwayne & Lori Baker
- 10 Brian & Amy Sell
- 10 Gary & Joy Wolfe
- 12 Gary & Dawn Miele
- 15 Joe & Karen Bene

My Prayer List:

October 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 Clothes Closet 10-Noon Conversations With The Father 6:30 Creative Ministries 7:00 Praise Team 7:15	2	3 JOY Pantry 4:00-7:00 Clothing Closet 4:00-7:00	4 LCCM Noon Meal 10:00 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00	5 Yoga Stretching 8:30
6 Communion Sunday Worship 8:45/11:00 Sunday School 10:00 Praise Team Rehearsal 10:15	7 AA Meeting 6:00 Ripped 7:00	8 JOY Pantry 10-12 Unload Trailer 2:30-3? Conversations With The Father 6:30 Creative Ministries 7:00 Praise Team 7:15	9	10 JOY Pantry 4:00-7:00	11 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 Food box assembly 6:00	12 Men's Brkfst 8:00 Food Box Distribution 1:00
13 Worship 8:45/11:00 Sunday School 10:00 Praise Team Rehearsal 10:15 Kids Club 5:30-7:30	14 AA Meeting 6:00 Church Council 6:30 Ripped 7:00	15 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 Clothes Closet 10-Noon "Friends Together" 1:00 The Father 6:30 Creative Ministries 7:00	16	17 JOY Pantry 4:00-7:00 Clothes Closet 4:00-7:00	18 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00	19 Yoga Stretching 8:30 Clothes Closet 10-12 and 1:00-3:00
20 Laity Sunday-Homecoming Combined Service 10:30 Luncheon to follow Newsletter Articles Due	21 AA Meeting 6:00 Trustees 6:30 Ripped 7:00	22 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 Conversations With The Father 6:30 Creative Ministries 7:00 Praise Team 7:15	23	24 JOY Pantry 4:00-7:00	25 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00	26
27 Worship 8:45/11:00 Sunday School 10:00 Praise Team Rehearsal 10:15	28 AA Meeting 6:00 Trustees 6:30	29 JOY Pantry 10:00-12:00 Conversations With The Father 6:30 Creative Ministries 7:00 Praise Team 7:15	30	31 JOY Pantry 4:00-7:00 "Hunted Church" 6:00-8:00		