

## STAFF

**Rev. Dick LaFountain**  
*Pastor*

Marci Tenney  
*Secretary*

## SESSION MEMBERS

Paul Bengs  
Jo Coulter  
Connie Jewell, Clerk  
Joyce Steele  
Jean Walter

## DEACONS

Brenda Bengs  
Marcie Treese  
Charlene Root  
Mary Ryan  
Cathy Donaldson

## TRUSTEES

Noel Ryan  
Scott Duncan  
Dave Steele  
Pete Treese  
Brian Jewell

### Ebenezer Presbyterian Church

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Articles and information for the next month due the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month.



## Rest for the Weary

*“Come to Me...and you will find rest unto your souls.”*  
– Matthew 11:28-30

Summer is a great time to find rest. God loves rest. Even He rested the seventh day and set it apart as a personal discipline for every believer to take one day each week just to rest. Too often we make the Sabbath, or Sunday, not a day of rest, but a day of recreation. Recreation can be a form of rest from work, but it is not the REST God was thinking of. His rest is a rest for the soul. Think about it. Your soul needs rest. Your body certainly needs rest, so you go to bed every night, or perhaps you take a needed nap in the afternoon. It is a way of resting the mind and body in the middle of a busy day.

But did you ever think of SOUL REST? That is a rest of your innermost being. It is a rest that lays every care, burden, anxious thought, every to-do list, down at the feet of Jesus. Soul rest is taking time to do nothing but sit on the porch for an hour with nothing to plan, do, or think about. Maybe that is why so many of us love to go to the beach in the summer. I love sitting on the beach or walking in the shallows of the sand and watching the waves roll by, moment by moment, minute by minute, hour after hour. Sometimes I think I could spend a day just watching the waves.

Few people know how to rest these days. Even on vacation, many people rush to cram in as much as they can before returning to their jobs, where they spend twice as much energy catching up on work and mail that piled up in their absence. Many of us need a vacation just to rest from vacations. Perhaps we have been looking for rest in the wrong places.

Jesus said,

*“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”* (Matthew 11:28-39)

Jesus said, *“Come away by yourselves to a solitary place and rest a while.”* (Mark 6:31)

David said, *“Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him:”* (Psalm 37:7)

God says, *“Be still and know that I am God.”* (Psalm 46:10)

## Here are 4 simple ways to find rest for your soul:

### 1. Quietness.

God says, “*Be still and know that I am God.*” Our souls need to experience quiet sometimes. We need to draw apart to a peaceful, quiet setting—whether that be a beach, a mountain, or a creek. Being in a quiet place allows peace to seep into our pores without any effort on our part.

### 2. Nature.

There is something in man that needs the earth. We are bonded to the earth. From dust we came, and to dust we shall return. Therefore, we need to return to nature more often. Even if that nature is a city park, we need to find a place where we can walk on the dirt, hike through the forest, lie down on the grass, or sit by a creek. “*He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul.*”

### 3. Solitude.

When we refuse to embrace solitude even occasionally, we run from God. There is much healing to be found in getting alone with God. Even a quiet morning walk, a midnight prayer time, or an afternoon alone at the park can bring much healing. Before they sinned Adam and Eve spent every evening walking with God in the garden. After they sinned they no longer spent intimate time alone with God.

### 4. Longing for God’s Presence.

Spending time in the Word and prayer is important. Whenever I am concerned or upset about something, if I go to the Lord for an extended time of prayer and Bible reading, inevitably He gives me peace and inner healing. The Psalms are especially good for this rest we need.

Jeremiah 6:16 takes up a lament about our restless souls.

This is what the LORD says: “*Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. **But you said, 'We will not walk in it.'***”

Isaiah 30:15 New King James Version:

*For thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall you be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength.” **but you would not.***

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**OUR DAILY BREAD** devotional booklets are written to help you spend time with God and His Word every day. The *July-August-September* edition is available on the table in the Narthex. They are free. Please pick up your copy today.



# Hymn Stories: The Unseen Hand

There is an interesting story behind this song. Albert Jackson Sims wrote it in the 1930's. He was also known for his unbelievable memory and when asked about this song he replied that he felt God had gifted him with both. He always read his Bible daily and found great comfort in the scripture. Albert went blind long after writing "The Unseen Hand" and the song took on a larger meaning. Because of the great memory he had, he was able to continue to find comfort from the Bible long after losing his natural eyesight. He said he then understood why God had given him those gifts. God always knows how to care for His own.

1. There is an Unseen Hand to me,  
That leads through ways I cannot see  
While going through this world below,  
This Hand still leads me as I go.

## CHORUS:

I'm trusting to, the Unseen Hand,  
That guides me through this weary land  
And some sweet day I'll reach that strand,  
Still guided by the Unseen Hand.

2. This hand has led through shadows drear  
And while it leads I have no fear  
I know t'will lead me to that home  
Where sin nor sorrow ere can come.

3. I long to see, my Savior's face  
And sing the story saved by grace  
And there upon that golden strand  
I'll praise Him for His guiding hand.

4. I'm trusting to, the Unseen Hand,  
That guides me through this weary land  
And some sweet day I'll reach that strand,  
Still guided by the Unseen Hand.

**The Unseen Hand** 21

A. J. S. A. J. Sims

1. There is an un - seen Hand to me — That leads thru ways —  
2. His hand has led — thru shadows drear — And while it leads —  
3. I long to see — my Sav-ior's face — And sing the sto -  
I can-not see — While go - ing thru — this world of woe —  
I have no fear — I know 'twill lead — me to that home -  
ry saved by grace — And there up - on — that gold-en strand —

CHORUS

This hand still leads — me as I go. —  
Where sin nor sor - rows'er can come. — I'm trusting to — the unseen  
I'll praise Him for — His guid-ing hand. —  
hand — That guides me thru — this wear - y land — And some sweet  
day — I'll reach that strand — Still guid-ed by — the unseen hand. —

## **I Met the Master Face to Face**

**I had walked life's way with an easy tread,  
Had followed where comforts and pleasures led,  
Until one day in a quiet place  
I met the Master face to face.**

**With station and rank and wealth for my goal,  
Much thought for my body but none for my soul,  
I had entered to win in life's mad race,  
When I met the Master face to face.**

**I met Him and knew Him and blushed to see  
That His eyes full of sorrow were fixed on me,  
And I faltered and fell at His feet that day  
While my castles melted and vanished away.**

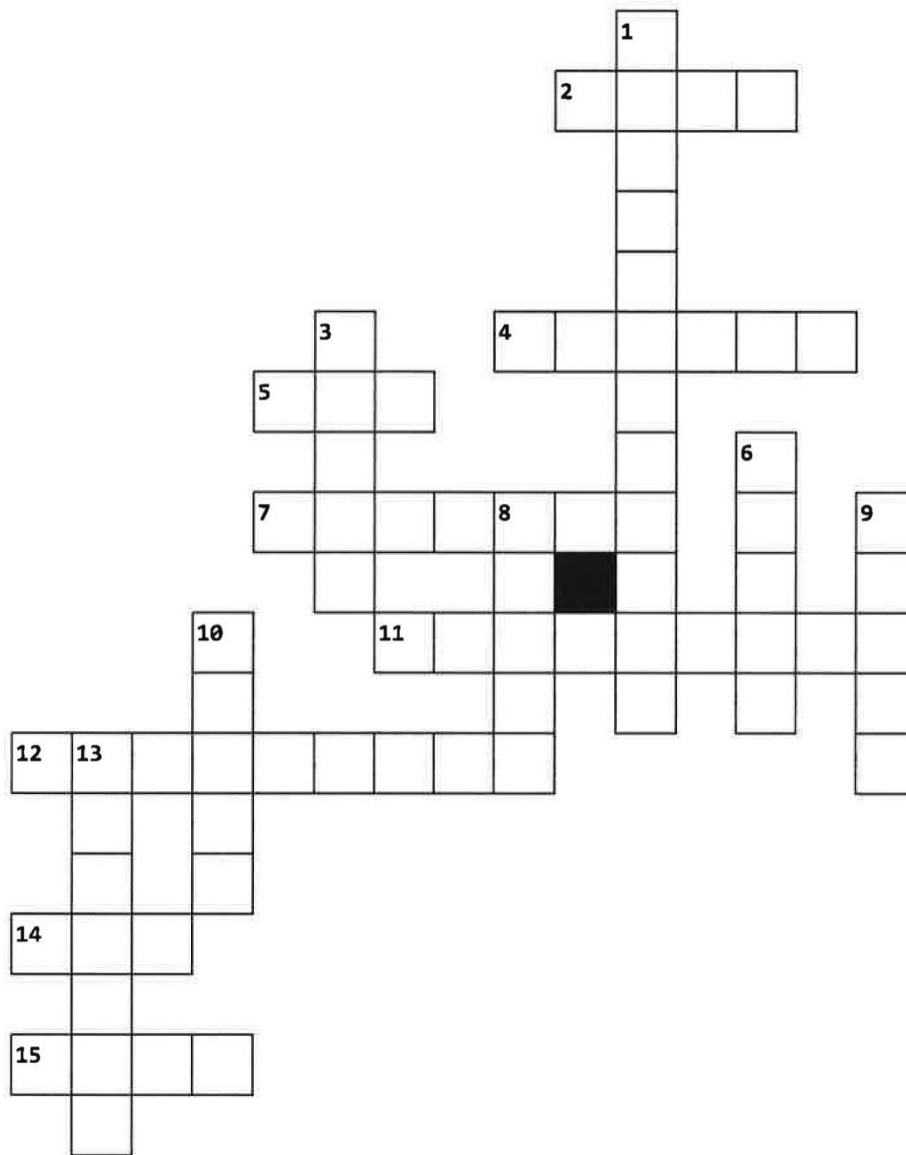
**Melted and vanished, and in their place,  
Naught else did I see but the Master's face;  
And I cried aloud, "Oh, make me meet  
To follow the steps of Thy wounded feet."**

**My thought is now for the souls of men;  
I have lost my life to find it again,  
E'er since one day in a quiet place  
I met the Master face to face.**

**-author unknown**



# BIBLE



## Across

2. Wrote the book of Revelation
4. Saved from the lion's den
5. Man who suffered much
7. Disciples James & John were his sons
11. Third book of the Bible
12. How Jesus died
14. The Bible ends with the \_\_\_\_\_ Testament
15. Killed his brother, Abel

## Down

1. 10 very important laws
3. Brought the Israelites out of Egypt
6. Dove with olive branch signifies
8. A man after God's own heart
9. God's one & only Son
10. Had 12 sons
13. Isaac's wife

**Happy moments  
Praise God  
Difficult moments  
Seek God  
Quiet moments  
Worship God  
Painful moments  
Trust God  
Every moment  
Thank God.**



Use your voice for kindness,  
your ears for compassion,  
your hands for charity,  
your mind for truth,  
and your heart for love.



Pediatric  
Brain Tumor  
Foundation

## **RIDE FOR KIDS**

**Sunday, September 17, 2023**

**Goal \$70,000**

Ride for Kids is the longest running, most successful motorcycle charity event in the nation. Motorcyclists have raised funds to help children with brain tumors, which are the top cause of cancer death in children.

Every day, 13 children and teens are diagnosed with a brain tumor, the deadliest childhood cancer. Every day after, they are in a fight for their life. It's a fight the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation is here to help families with.

The ride location has changed this year and the starting point will be the Pittsburgh Technical Institute in Robinson Township. Upon return from the ride, we will be provided lunch from the Culinary Institute located there.

The western PA fundraising goal for 2023 is \$70,000. Last year, Brian and I collected \$2,000 from our very generous family and friends! In our 19 years of participating in Ride For Kids, we have collected \$26,920 total and will add to that with the donations this year, which will be our 20<sup>th</sup> year. Thank you for your support in the past. We appreciate your donations that help to treat and cure pediatric brain tumors.



## What's Your Favorite Recipe?

Ebenezer Church is preparing recipes and information for a church cookbook.

All people of the church are invited to submit recipes for various categories.

Recipes must be hand printed or typed. **The deadline for submissions is August 13.**

**Submission instructions, tips, and forms are available on the small table at the back with the red box to drop your recipes into.**

**Orders will be taken until August 13 and prepayment is required.** Cookbooks will be available to give as

Christmas gifts. The committee is comprised of Jo Coulter, Marilyn LaFountain, Connie Jewell, Joyce Steele and Jean Walter.



### Answers to BIBLE Crossword:

#### Across

2. John
4. Daniel
5. Job
7. Zebedee
11. Leviticus
12. Crucified
14. New
15. Cain

#### Down

1. Commandments
3. Moses
6. Peace
8. David
9. Jesus
10. Jacob
13. Rebekah



Mary Lou Riddle is a Great-Grandmother for the fifth time! Phoebe Jude was born on May 10, 2023 to Ben and Jane Riddle Hawkins of Fort Bragg, NC.

Phoebe was welcomed home by her parents and 19 month-old big sister, Ilana Jane. Phoebe's Grandfather is Gale Riddle.

*Hem in the day  
with prayer  
and it will  
be less likely  
to ravel out  
before night.*

### Clerk's Corner:

\*The cookbook committee continues to work on plans for printing cookbooks.

\*There has been a good response on Visitor Cards in the pews.

\*A Weiner Roast is planned for September.

\*There will not be a Session meeting in August. The next Session meeting will be September 11, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

-Connie Jewell, Clerk



### Treasurer's Report - June 2023

Beginning Balance 6/1/2023	\$ 8,759.34
Receipts	\$ 5,352.00
Beginning Balance Plus Receipts	\$ 14,111.34
Less Expenses	\$ 6,292.21
Balance 6/30/2023	\$ 7,819.13

#### Balance Includes:

Ninetieth Birthday Celebration Fund	\$45.04
Trustee Endowment	\$2,059.85
Missions Endowment	\$ 965.14

#### Missions

##### Designated:

Local	\$ 120.00
Saunders	\$ 115.00
Gardners	\$ 140.00

#### Available Undesignated Funds

for General Use 6/30/2023 - \$ 4,374.10

-Joan Coulter, Treasurer

### Mission Moment:

Our monthly missions gift and prayers are directed in August to **Reaching Up & Reaching Out**.

Every year thousands of men and women are released from prison but their struggles don't end there. Without help they often have trouble finding shelter, employment, friends and hope. Many face the challenges of addiction as well. As a result, former inmates often return to the same habits which landed them in prison in the first place. Many end up back in prison.

But you can help! **Reaching Up & Reaching Out** is on a mission to help give former inmates a second chance. By the grace of God, they seek to help these people find stability, community, purpose and faith.

Ministries include jail ministry through Bible studies, the Manna House, providing temporary housing following release, and a quality thrift store in Mercer called Twice Blessed, whose profits support all three ministries and offer employment opportunities to those in need of a job.

Check them out on Facebook at: **Reaching Up & Reaching Out/Grove City, PA.**

Prayerfully consider volunteering to serve at one of the three ministry locations.

-Marilyn LaFountain, Missions Committee





# AUGUST 2023

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
				1		2		3		4		5	
								Ruth McDowell				Evelyn Jones	
6		7		8		9		10		11		12	
										Michelle Long			
13		14		15		16		17		18		19	
Mary Ryan										John Park			
Recipe submission deadline										Penny Coulson			
Cookbook order deadline													
20		21		22		23		24		25		26	
								Nancy Locktosh		Ruth McKinley			
27		28		29		30		31					
								Paul & Gladys Bengs		<b>Birthdays:</b> 3-Ruth McDowell 5-Evelyn Jones 11-Michelle Long 13-Mary Ryan 18-John Park 18-Penny Coulson 24-Nancy Locktosh 25-Ruth McKinley	<b>Anniversaries:</b> 31 - Paul & Gladys Bengs		

*Here is a test to find whether your mission on Earth is finished: If you are alive, it isn't. -Richard Bach*

“Prayer is the rope that pulls God and man  
together.  
But, it doesn’t pull God down to us.  
It pulls us up to Him.”

-Rev. Billy Graham,  
Evangelist and  
Author



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