

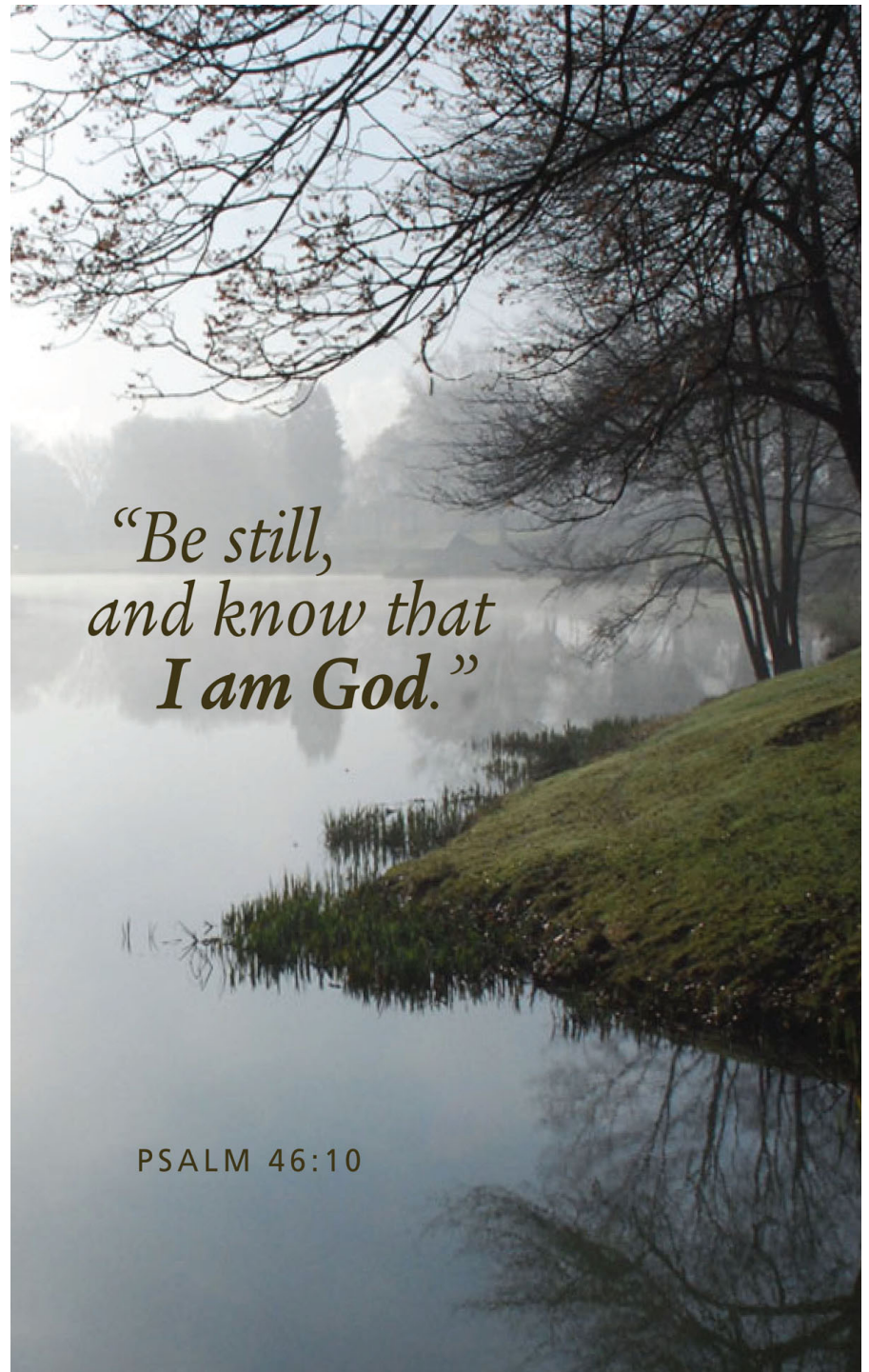
# The Lamplighter

## September 2025

### Bethlehem Church Dallastown

#### Inside this issue

<b><i>ARTICLE</i></b>	<b><i>PAGE #</i></b>
Cover	1
Pastor's Pen/Church mouse	2-3
Life Under the Clock Tower	4-11
Finance Update	12-13
Kids Corner/Calendar	14-15
Back Cover	16



#### **Mission Statement:**

*To give of ourselves so others may know  
Jesus Christ.*

Hello Church!

As summer fades into fall, we're reminded of the beautiful rhythms God has woven into creation—seasons of growth, rest, and renewal. This September, Bethlehem Church is stepping into a new season of community as we launch our fall Life Groups! Beginning at the end of September and running for 8 weeks, these groups are designed to help us grow deeper in our walk with Christ while walking alongside one another.

The Bible paints a clear picture of why living life together is so essential for believers. In Acts 2:42-47, the early church devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, the breaking of bread, and prayer—and as a result, their faith flourished, and their community thrived. Similarly, Hebrews 10:24-25 urges us to “consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another.”

Life was never meant to be lived alone. We all face seasons of joy and sorrow, times of clarity and confusion, moments of strength and weakness. God, in His wisdom, has placed us in the Body of Christ so that we might bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2), rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep (Romans 12:15). Life Groups give us the opportunity to live out these biblical truths in real and meaningful ways.

Each week, groups will gather in homes, open God's Word, pray, and encourage one another. It's in these smaller circles that faith often takes root and grows strongest—where friendships form, accountability deepens, and Christ-centered love becomes tangible.

Whether you've been part of Bethlehem Church for decades or you're new and looking for connection, Life Groups are a place for you. Our hope is that over these 8 weeks, you'll not only grow in knowledge of God's Word but also experience the joy of being knit together in Christian fellowship.

This fall don't walk the journey of faith alone. Step into community. Experience the blessing of living life together. Let's see how God will work in and through us as we gather, grow, and go out to be the hands and feet of Jesus in Dallastown and beyond.

Sign-ups will begin this month—join us in this exciting season of connection and growth!  
God bless, Pastor Dave Stough

Greetings my Bethlehem Church family, Charity reporting,

Just in case you were worried because you haven't heard from me lately, not to worry. I was at my favorite cousin's home, enjoying a long overdue visit. I had such a delightful time, as my husband took care of our micelings in my absence. I didn't ask him any of the details I missed, as this was my first time ever away from the family, and I didn't want to feel any guilt for leaving. So let me get right to reporting to all of you.

I returned home just in time to hear the great news, that the Bethlehem Church softball team, once again, won the league championship. I don't know what the big deal is, since they won the championship last year. So why jump around like juveniles and shout "wait till next year" and "three-peat". I believe they must have made up that word, since I have no clue what it means. Regardless, it would be rude if I didn't add my congratulations to those already being passed around. Way to go BUMS.

However, I would much rather report about the Ice Cream and Peach Sundae stand that the church sets up every year. Terry Knisley and his gang of volunteers certainly know how to scoop ice cream. I just wish I could have found a way to get to the Dallastown Carnival, so I could have tasted a peach sundae. It would have been the highlight of my summer. A big shout-out to the Altar and Flower Guild as well as those additional volunteers that continue to make this such a meaningful outreach.

Speaking of outreach, I heard that the Community Block Party held on August 2<sup>nd</sup> was an amazing success. One never knows how a new endeavor will turn out, but this 3 hours of 'hanging' with the neighbors turned out better than expected. I sure pray they do it again, but next time while I hope they select a day when I am not away on a vacation.

The above are activities that have taken place in August, so let me get to previewing the month of September. All of the following activities have more detailed information found somewhere in this newsletter, so if you need more info, it will be found somewhere in the following pages.

## **September Activities:**

**Common Grounds Café** – reopens 9/3

**Chancel Choir** - rehearsals begin 9/3 at 7:15-8:30

**Children's Choir** - rehearsals begin 9/7 at 9:00-9:20

**Lunch at Country Meadows** – 9/9 meet at noon

**Women's Bible Study** - begins 9/10 at 10:00

**Lunch Bunch** - meets 9/15 at noon

**Building Bridges for Brianna** - 9/20 at noon-6:00

**Children's Department Movie Night** - 9/26 at 6:00

## **Ongoing Activities:**

**Youth Group** – Sundays at 5:30-7:00

**Saturday Men's Group** – Saturdays at 8:00-9:00

**Prayer Breakfast** – Thursdays at 8:00-9:30

## **Serving Opportunities: (volunteers needed)**

**Our Daily Bread Contributors**

**Altar Flower Sponsors**

**Providing Meals for the Youth Group**

**AV & Sound Board** - all three services

**Children's Sunday School & Nursery**

**Setting Up Contemporary Service**

**Coffee Fellowship**

## **Upcoming Activities:**

**Halloween Parade (Meals)** – 10/16

**Chicken Pot Pie Dinner** – 10/25

**All Saints Sunday** – 11/2

**Christmas in Dallastown** – 11/8

As much as we would like to think otherwise, finances play a significant part in the life of Bethlehem Church. Not so much for us mice. For that reason, please be sure to read the article titled 'Finance Updates', as it contains information that everyone in our church family should be aware of.

Keep the establishment of Life Groups here at Bethlehem in your prayers. In the upcoming weeks each of you will be given the opportunity to sign up for a Life Group that fits into your weekly schedule. Throughout the 8 weeks that begins the last week of September, these groups will experience similar growth, as each group will examine and discuss the materials found in the video series entitled "Life with Max." Max Lucado, a best-selling Christian author, will guide each group through real life situations that most all of us have either experienced or know someone who has. As is his style, Max is certain to focus on God's Love in each of these eight sessions. Please consider strengthening your relationship with the Lord, as well as your relationship with fellow believers that make up this, your church family.

As always, I have provided you with a list of all the activities that I am aware of, so now you are aware of them too. Cooler weather is right around the corner, so, as the leaves begin to change color, enjoy the beauty all around us. 'Keep praying, my church friends'. Keep praying for all the exciting things that that are, and will be happening in the future within this family of believers that call Bethlehem Church home.

Love,

Charity (the Church Mouse)



# Volunteers Needed

## Sunday School and Nursery Volunteers Needed!



Our children's ministry is in need of volunteers for **Sunday School and the Nursery**. If you love working with kids, please consider offering your time. You will make a difference!

**Please Contact Julie Spyker**

## Help Needed for AV and Sound Board

**All Services: 8:00, 9:15, and 10:30**

Can help weekly or monthly!  
Please contact Keith Metzel.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Join Us!

We are in need of volunteers to help with setting up for our Sunday contemporary service. This is a practical way to help prepare the space for worship!

Help set up chairs, the stage, audio/visual desk, and more!

Meet a need by volunteering one hour or less one night a week!

If you are interested, please call or text Dave Lentz at (717) 893-3530

We are looking for persons or couples who would be willing to greet one Sunday before the 10:30AM service. Serving time would begin at 10AM at the front of the church. Contact Palmer Poff at 717-244-4240 if you would be willing to serve in this meaningful ministry of welcoming members and visitors to our wonderful church.

Thank you to Terry & Nancy Knisely, Margaret Ness, Nancy Leber, Linda Reed, Brenda Raffensberger, and Walt & Leslie Reamer for being greeters during the month of July.



# Life Under the Clock Tower



In Need of :

Personal cleansing disposable wipes

Heavy duty black trash bags 33-45 gallon

Work Gloves cotton with leather palm or all leather

Clothesline 50'-100' cotton or plastic

## JOIN US for Youth Group!

**FUN & FELLOWSHIP!**

**SUNDAYS FROM  
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM**

**FOLLOWING JESUS!**

**BETHLEHEM CHURCH  
109 E. MAIN STREET,  
DALLASTOWN, PA 17313**

## A New Choir Season begins . .

### **Chancel Choir -**

First rehearsal is **Wed, Sept. 3 from 7:15 - 8:30 PM** in the choir loft

**Children's Choir** - First rehearsal is **Sunday, Sept 7 from 9:00 - 9:20 AM** in the Sunday school area. The choir is open to students in KG - 6th grade who attend any of our church services.



Sunday Youth Group

**Volunteers needed  
to bring meals**

**Sign up in Wesley Hall**

If you would like provide a meal for our youth group time there is a sign up sheet in Wesley Hall!

You will need to provide a meal for around 20 people.

# Life Under the Clock Tower

## LUNCH AT COUNTRY MEADOWS

**Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>**

Country Meadows has, again this year, extended an invitation for lunch to members of Bethlehem Church. This is an opportunity for us to recognize our folks who have played an important part in the life of our church and now call Country Meadows their home.

We will gather at noon in the *building on the far right facing the complex* as before. If you desire Valet Parking, simply pull up to the door and someone will park your car and return it when you leave. Note: parking is at a premium!

We will begin with a delicious lunch at noon (at no cost to us), followed by some fun, laughter and first-hand insights from Kathy, then concluding with a short tour allowing you to see the 3 room layouts available to residents.

There is a sign-up sheet in Wesley Hall. If you have a relative at Country Meadows, please include their name on the sign-up sheet. The deadline to sign is September 4<sup>th</sup>.

Those who have attended before can attest to this being a very enjoyable time together!



### Altar Flower Sponsors needed

What a great way to honor a loved one and glorify God. Reserve your summer spots now!

Cost is now \$50.

Please contact Wendy Pichler  
for more information.

717-578-6747

### BUILDING BRIDGES For Brianna

BETHLEHEM CHURCH - SUNDAE AND MILKSHAKE  
STAND

*"Turning the grief of a father of a suicide victim into  
turning relief for others"*



**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> 2025**

NOON TO 6 PM - RAIN OR SHINE

LOCATION - DALLASTOWN PARK

SPONSORED BY ALTAR AND FLOWER GUILD

Stop by our Ice Cream Sundae & Milkshake Stand at the Building Bridges for Brianna event! Enjoy a delicious treat while supporting a great cause.



# Life Under the Clock Tower

## Saturday Men's Group Meeting

When: Saturdays

Where: Common Grounds Café

Time: 8:00 – 9:00am

Calling **all** men of Bethlehem to a meeting of fellowship, discussions of subjects to enrich our understanding of the Word of God and any personal subjects, as needed, related to individual subjects.

Questions??

Contact: Troy Harrold at

[trharrold@comcast.net](mailto:trharrold@comcast.net) Or

Keith Metzel at

[sanctuarysound2015@gmail.com](mailto:sanctuarysound2015@gmail.com)

Come and check us out!



**WOMENS BIBLE  
STUDY**

Studying the story  
of Isaiah

Starts Wednesday  
September 10<sup>th</sup> at 10am  
in the church conference  
room

**Common Grounds Café**

Opening  
September 3

Common Grounds

**LIFEPATH  
THRIFT STORES**

If you donate any goods to any  
LIFEPATH Thrift store, give them  
our church name  
**(Bethlehem Church Dallastown)**  
and we will get credit for the items to  
receive gift cards to **help  
someone in need.**

**LUNCH  
BUNCH**

**Lunch Bunch**  
will NOT be meeting  
in September we will just be  
going to Country Meadows on  
September 9.

# Life Under the Church Tower

## Month of October

Stay tuned for  
Apple  
Dumplings!



STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFO!

SAVE THE DATE

## Chicken Pot Pie Dinner

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25TH

HALLOWEEN PARADE  
MEAL DISTRIBUTION  
OCTOBER 16, 2025  
BETHLEHEM CHURCH DALLASTOWN

## Prayer Breakfast

Join us every Thursday morning from  
8AM-9:30AM at Two Brothers Family  
Restaurant in York for a time of fellowship,  
food and scripture. All are welcome!

Newsletter  
Deadline

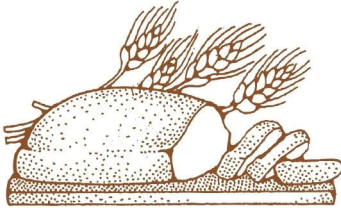
Deadline for submissions  
is October 15th.  
Please email submissions to  
[office@gotobethlehem.org](mailto:office@gotobethlehem.org)



Thank You to All Who Gave



## Our Daily Bread Contributions



Donald & Marsha Strine  
Debra Zarfoss  
David & Donna Graybill  
Robert & Linda Schmuck  
Mitchell & Linda Rodkey  
Connie Adams  
Beverly Lehr-Shedd  
Wanda Weidman

## Movie Night

SEPTEMBER 26

6.00 PM

CHILDREN'S DEPT

MOVIE & ICE CREAM  
SUNDAES

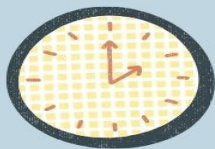
RSVP BY 9/19

JBSPYKER@HOTMAIL.COM

717-600-4075



## PART-TIME CHURCH OFFICE ASSISTANT



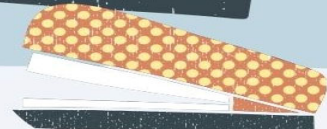
2 Days a  
week

12  
hours/week



We are looking for  
someone to support  
the weekly  
administrative  
functions of the  
church office.  
General office  
tasks, organized,  
friendly, must  
have computer  
skills

For more information  
contact  
[office@gotobethlehem.org](mailto:office@gotobethlehem.org)  
or stop by the office



# Life Under the Clock Tower

## ***ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2025***

***Each year, on All Saints' Sunday, we take time to remember those in our church family who have "finished their course of faith and now rest from their labors" and pray for those who grieve their loss.***

***As is our tradition, those of our Bethlehem family who have passed will be called by name. Families of those individuals will be invited to take part in this remembrance at all three worship services by placing one memorial rose per family in a special wreath. We hope this can be a meaningful way to remember their lives, and as the morning progresses and more roses are added at each service, we will see the combined witness of those who have gone before us in faith.***

***There are also families and individuals who participate in the life of our church who have also lost loved ones who were not part of our congregation. At all worship services on November 2, 2025, these persons will be invited to stand and share the name(s) of the loved ones that have passed, lifting them as a special prayer focus for the day.***

***As part of this day of remembrance, persons wishing to have their loved ones recognized are encouraged to bring a photograph on November 2, 2025, to be placed on a memorial table at Bethlehem Life Church in Wesley Hall of Friendship, to serve as a fitting tribute to those who have gone to eternal glory.***

***Each family is requested to retrieve their photograph at the end of the service.***

***Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the church office or speak with Pastor David Stough.***

***God bless!***





**WEATHER RELATED  
CLOSING**

With winter now upon us, please remember to check for church closures should there be inclement weather. Bethlehem Church closures will appear on our Facebook page, website, and the following:

FOX43  
ABC27  
CBS21



Closures will also be announced on radio FM 103.3



*Coffee Fellowship*

Don't we all enjoy this time of fellowship once a month? Can you take one Sunday out of the year to volunteer? Please check out the sign-up sheet on the network table. You do not have to do it alone! Get together with another friend or family and sign up for a month. Thank you for your willingness to serve our church.

**Volunteers  
Needed**



# Finance Updates

From the Finance Committee Chairman;

As we inch closer towards the end of the year, it reminds me that budget time will soon be upon us once again.

My goal is for our budget format to be as effective a working tool as possible. Having stated that, I will entertain recommendations of adding lines to the budget layout that serves to add important clarity. In addition, if a particular line no longer adequately describes something, let me know and we can look amend it.

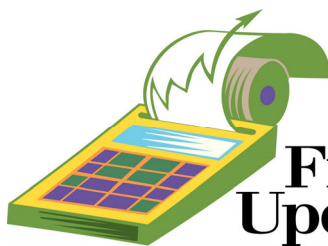
You may submit those suggestions and supporting rationale to me via my email address:  
[bjk2721@gmail.com](mailto:bjk2721@gmail.com)

I cannot guarantee that all suggestion will be included since our other challenge is to keep the overall size of the budget layout in consideration too.

Thank-you  
Bradley Kline, Finance Chair



**A LOOK**  
*at the*  
**BUDGET**



## Finance Update

**Year to Date budget for  
Bethlehem Church as of August 17, 2025.**

**Current fund \$ -165,178  
Property improvement \$ 1,638.00  
New Vision \$ -23,677.00**

**Budget is \$ -187,217.00**

To Bethlehem Church congregation,

I wanted to share an important development in our Church's financial operation.

One of the last vestiges related to our former association with the United Methodist Church has been our use of the services provided by the UMC Foundation of Pennsylvania. For those individuals unfamiliar with this entity, they are an investment group that was used by the denomination to primarily handle the monies representing Bethlehem's Endowment funds as well as similar funds for other UMC congregations. Responding to concerns shared by a few Church members regarding our continued association with this entity post disaffiliation, I formed an ad hoc group of the Finance Committee at the end of last year to develop a plan to address this. Three individuals with market investment experience were identified and asked to serve. They, as presented here in no particular order are, Keith McGuigan, local CPA; David Lentz who has been active in the personal management of his own portfolio; and Ron Smith, former York County Commissioner who had previous involvement with funds investment activities for the County of York. These three individuals who are all members of Bethlehem, worked tirelessly over the intervening months to craft an investment protocol for Bethlehem. This would later provide details to a subsequently selected investment broker and company summarizing among other things, the nature of investments deemed appropriate for a non-profit organization such as a church.

The document they created is referred to as an Investment Policy Statement or (ISP). Included in this document in addition to investment appropriateness, would also contain expectations regarding acceptable returns guidelines, safety/security of principal, as well as fees and related costs.

The second charge for this group was the selection of an investment firm and its representative.

Three different local individuals and their respective organizations were interviewed and the one that came the closest to their ideal candidate was the firm Edward Jones and representative.

We are in the closing stages of completing paperwork, to make this process legal and official. Once that occurs, we will be liquidating and transferring our funds from the Fellowship Foundation to Edward Jones. The other action that Edward Jones will handle is the establishment of a brokerage account for Bethlehem. As you may recall, the bequest the Church will be receiving from the Waltemeyer estate will be in the form of Coca-Cola stock. When the bank processes the final estate distribution and issues these shares, we must have an available brokerage account in place to receive them.

Since I've referenced the bequest, I can share that we continue to wait patiently for these stock shares to arrive. The delay is the result of a mandatory IRS audit, necessary for an estate of this size. Truist Bank which is handling the estate, has indicated that they feel it is very unlikely that settlement will occur anytime in 2025 and in fact could very well take until close to the end of 2026 for that to occur.

In closing, I'd like to express my appreciation to our three-member Investment reps for the fine job they performed, pulling this program together. Their work won't end here however. Ongoing, they will continue meeting periodically to review and monitor the performance of our investments and these activities will also include periodic discussions with our reps from Edward Jones.

Blessings,  
Bradley Kline, Finance Chair



## Puzzle!

Use the words provided to complete the puzzle.  
Then write the numbered words in the correct blanks  
below to complete Psalm 67:6, NIV.

### WORDS:

GOD, BLESSES, HARVEST,  
YIELDS, US, LAND

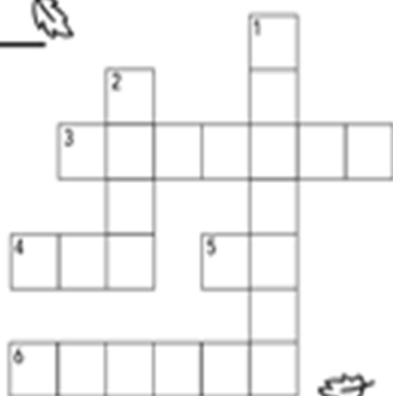


### ACROSS

3. Rhymes with farthest.
4. Rhymes with nod.
5. Rhymes with thus.
6. Rhymes with fields.

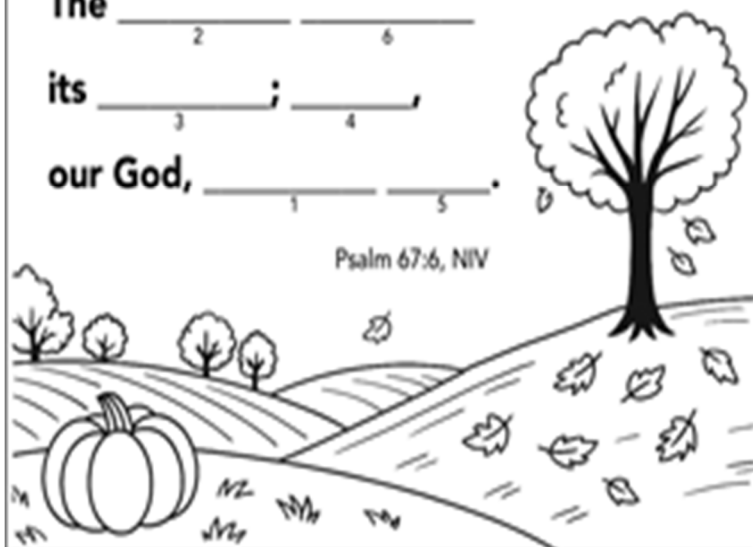
### DOWN

1. Rhymes with messes.
2. Rhymes with hand.



The \_\_\_\_\_  
its \_\_\_\_\_;  
our God, \_\_\_\_\_.

Psalm 67:6, NIV



Answer: The land yields its harvest. God, our God, blesses us. Harvest, us, harvest, us, harvest, us. Psalm 67:6, NIV

## Seasons of Change, Signs of Grace

“While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease” (Genesis 8:22, NASB).

As autumn begins, we watch the world transform before our eyes. Leaves change color, the air turns crisp, and a new rhythm settles in. In these seasonal shifts, we are reminded of God’s faithful hand over all of creation.

Genesis 8:22 assures us that the cycles of nature—seedtime and harvest, summer and winter—are part of God’s ongoing promise. Each season speaks of His order, care, and presence. Autumn, in particular, invites reflection. Just as the trees release their leaves, we are called to let go of what no longer serves us and make space for renewal.

This season also marks a return to routines—school schedules, church programs, and community events. As we step into new responsibilities or revisit familiar ones, may we do so with gratitude and trust. God is not only present in the harvest but in the quiet letting go.

Let this autumn be a time to embrace God’s steady rhythm, find beauty in change, and rest in His faithful promises that never cease—even as the world around us shifts.





# September 2025

	<b>1-MONDAY</b> Church Office Closed 	<b>2-TUESDAY</b> 6:30pm Mission team meeting 7pm AA	<b>3-Wednesday</b> 10am Women's Bible study 7:15pm Choir practice	<b>4-THURSDAY</b> 8am Prayer Breakfast	<b>5-FRIDAY</b>	<b>6-SATURDAY</b> 8am Men's Group 6pm AA
<b>7-SUNDAY</b> 8am Chapel 9:15 Contemporary 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Traditional 5:30pm Youth Group	<b>8-MONDAY</b> 6:30 Trustees meeting 7pm Men's basketball	<b>9-TUESDAY</b> Mission Central 9am Staff Meeting 10am Book Discussion 7pm AA	<b>10-Wednesday</b> 10am Women's Bible Study 7:15pm Choir Practice	<b>11-THURSDAY</b> 8am Prayer breakfast 1pm Sisters in Christ	<b>12-FRIDAY</b>	<b>13-SATURDAY</b> 8am Men's Group 6pm AA
<b>14-Sunday</b> 8am Our Daily Bread 8am Chapel 9:15 Contemporary 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Traditional 4pm Girl Scouts 5:30pm Youth group	<b>15-Monday</b> 6:30pm Prayer Shawl 7pm Men's Basketball	<b>16-Tuesday</b> 11am Lunch Bunch 7pm AA	<b>17-Wednesday</b> 10am Women's Bible Study 7:15pm Choir Practice	<b>18-Thursday</b> 8am Prayer breakfast	<b>19-Friday</b>	<b>20-Saturday</b> 8am Men's Group 12pm Building Bridges for Brianna 6pm AA
<b>21-Sunday</b> 8am Chapel 9:15am Contemporary 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Traditional 5:30pm Youth group	<b>22-Monday</b> 7pm Men's Basketball 	<b>23-Tuesday</b> 7pm AA	<b>24-Wednesday</b> 10am Women's Bible Study 7:15pm Choir Practice	<b>25-Thursday</b> 8am Prayer breakfast	<b>26-Friday</b> 6pm Children's Movie night	<b>27-Saturday</b> 8am Men's Group 6pm AA
<b>28-Sunday</b> 8am Chapel 9:15am Contemporary 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Traditional 5:30pm Youth Group	<b>29-Monday</b> 7pm Men's Basketball	<b>30-Tuesday</b> 7pm AA				

# Bethlehem Church Dallastown

109 East Main Street  
Dallastown, Pennsylvania 17313-2207

NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
YORK PA  
Permit NO. 711

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*If you are no longer interested in receiving this publication,  
please call (717) 244-1486 or email: [office@gotobethlehem.org](mailto:office@gotobethlehem.org).*

**Bethlehem Church Dallastown**  
109 E. Main Street, Dallastown, PA 17313  
Office: (717) 244-1486, Fax: (717) 417-2831  
Dave Stough, Lead Pastor  
[office@gotobethlehem.org](mailto:office@gotobethlehem.org)  
[www.gotobethlehem.org](http://www.gotobethlehem.org)  
**Sunday Worship Schedule**  
8:00 AM Chapel Service  
9:15 AM Contemporary Service  
10:30 AM Traditional Service

**WELCOME  
TO  
BETHLEHEM  
CHURCH DALLASTOWN**