

Soul Food:

A Weekly Update of Christ's Reformed UCC

"Growing people of faith who live in Jesus, love one another and bear abundant fruit"

October 16, 2018

Celebrations

If you have celebrations in your life, we want to celebrate with you! Celebrations take many forms: new babies, marriages, accomplishments at work, a child's successes, transitions in life, just plain old good news. Please contact the church office (crc1854@myactv.net) and share celebrations with us.

- What are your celebrations? May you give God praise and honor and glory for them!

Prayer Requests

- Pray for the pastoral search process and team
- For the ATS fifth floor, that God would find just the right tenant to use the space to his glory and to meet our city's needs

Connections

- **Upcoming Services:**
 - October 21st: Laity Sunday – Larry Hoeck, our Consistory President, will be preaching from Job 38.
 - October 28th: Reformation Sunday – Dr. Hodge will speak from Mark 10:46-52 with the sermon titled "Being Unblinded."
 - November 4th: All Saints' Sunday with Holy Communion – "The Temple of the Holy Spirit" will be the theme from 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 & 6:15-20.
- **An Evening Prayer Study:** Everyone in the church family is invited to a bi-weekly time of prayer and study: the next one will be Tuesday, October 16th at 6 pm in the Strunk Library.
- **The Lectionary Reflection Group** continues to meet on Wednesday mornings at 11:00 am to study and reflect upon the Lectionary for the following Sunday. All are invited.

- **Office Closed** – Karen Stamper will be out of the office on Friday, October 19th. Sorry for any inconvenience.
- **Men's Fellowship Breakfast** – We invite all men of Christ's Reformed to bring a friend and join us for breakfast Saturday, October 20th at 8:30 am in the Social Hall.
- **FOR OUR CITY is hosting "Hope Day,"** at the Municipal Stadium on Saturday, October 20th, beginning at 10 a.m. There will be many organizations from our community there to serve families and those in need, as well as music, food, a kid's zone, and MORE! If you are interested in serving alongside the many other churches in our area, sign up to volunteer at forourcity.com/hopeday or see Branda.
- **October is a BUSY month! Save the ta-tas, hug a pastor, remember the babies, carve a gourd, and grab yourself a latte!!!**
 - **Cedar Ridge Adventures** – Fall Fest with corn hole tournament and moonlight zip ride on October 20th.
 - **Youth Fellowship** will meet Sunday, October 21st & November 4th from 6 – 8 pm. We will see you in the youth room! Come with hungry bellies, bring a friend, and let's have some fun!
- **The Serving Team is sponsoring a HARVEST HOME** project from October 21, 2018 until November 11, 2018. Items collected during this time will be for the REACH Shelter which begins their season on October 28, 2018. Items needed by the shelter are as follows: laundry pods, tooth paste, tooth brushes, dry cereal, and socks. We will update the list when new items become needed. Thank you! ~from the Serving Team
- **Micah's Backpack** – Please continue to bring your donations as we partner with Zion UCC on this service project. Any individually-wrapped single serving items are needed.
- **Mummer's Parade season has arrived!** Our friends at Zion are selling tickets. Front row seats are \$7, wall \$6, and back row \$5. If you have some time, they could use extra hands Saturday morning at 6 a.m., putting chairs out. Volunteers are also welcome to help out in the concession stand from 4 p.m. until the end of the parade.
- **OFFICIAL CALL!** The Annual Congregational Meeting is Sunday, October 28, 2018, at 11:00 am in the Church School Auditorium. The specific business will be to (1) Adopt a 2019 Budget and to (2) Elect Leadership for the 2019-2020 year to replace those whose current terms have ended. Please make plans to attend.
- **Homewood Auxiliary Membership Campaign** – See Frances Paris/Becky Lohr all the Sundays in October for your new memberships/ renewals for the Homewood Auxiliary.

- **The Women’s Fellowship Circle** will meet for a pot-luck breakfast November 3 at 8:30 am in the ATS Social Hall. After a good meal and a discussion about preparing and serving a meal for REACH week, we will discuss the “Prayer Workshop: Wild Turkey Feathers” found on pages 40-41 of the September-October edition of The Upper Room. All women of the church and their friends are welcome. Remember to sign up in the Parish House kitchen or talk to Charlotte so we know what people are bringing and to watch for you. As in the past, we use the back, on-level door to the Social Hall. Hope to see you there.
- **Special All Saints’ Sunday Service!** On Sunday, November 4th in our 9:30 am worship service, we will recognize and remember our members and friends who passed away since November 2017. We again ask the congregation to submit names of deceased friends you wish in the bulletin on that day. Please submit these names to the church office no later than October 29th.
- **Anniversary Sunday** gifts will be going towards new flooring in the Church Social Hall. We're looking to raise \$20,000 to meet this goal. The flooring is the original floor and is coming up in places and can no longer be repaired. Anniversary Sunday this year is Sunday, November 11, 2018. Thank you for your generous gifts.

Food for the Soul

Taken from Our Daily Bread – October 15 written by James Banks

Trust Him First

Read: Isaiah 46:3-13 New International Version (NIV)

3 “Listen to me, you descendants of Jacob,
all the remnant of the people of Israel,
you whom I have upheld since your birth,
and have carried since you were born.

4 Even to your old age and gray hairs
I am he, I am he who will sustain you.
I have made you and I will carry you;
I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

5 “With whom will you compare me or count me equal?
To whom will you liken me that we may be compared?

6 Some pour out gold from their bags
and weigh out silver on the scales;

they hire a goldsmith to make it into a god,
and they bow down and worship it.
7 They lift it to their shoulders and carry it;
they set it up in its place, and there it stands.
From that spot it cannot move.
Even though someone cries out to it, it cannot answer;
it cannot save them from their troubles.

8 “Remember this, keep it in mind,
take it to heart, you rebels.
9 Remember the former things, those of long ago;
I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is none like me.
10 I make known the end from the beginning,
from ancient times, what is still to come.
I say, ‘My purpose will stand,
and I will do all that I please.’
11 From the east I summon a bird of prey;
from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose.
What I have said, that I will bring about;
what I have planned, that I will do.
12 Listen to me, you stubborn-hearted,
you who are now far from my righteousness.
13 I am bringing my righteousness near,
it is not far away;
and my salvation will not be delayed.
I will grant salvation to Zion,
my splendor to Israel.

“Don’t let go, Dad!”

“I won’t. I’ve got you. I promise.”

I was a little boy terrified of the water, but my dad wanted me to learn to swim. He would purposefully take me away from the side of the pool into a depth that was over my head, where he was my only support. Then he would teach me to relax and float.

It wasn’t just a swimming lesson; it was a lesson in trust. I knew my father loved me and would never let me be harmed intentionally, but I was also afraid. I would cling tightly to his neck until he reassured me all would be well. Eventually his patience and kindness won out, and I began to swim. But I had to trust him first.

When I feel “over my head” in a difficulty, I sometimes think back on those moments. They help me call to mind the Lord’s reassurance to His people: “Even to your old age . . . I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you” (Isaiah 46:4).

We may not always be able to feel God’s arms beneath us, but the Lord has promised that He will never leave us (Hebrews 13:5). As we rest in His care and promises, He helps us learn to trust in His faithfulness. He lifts us above our worries to discover new peace in Him.

Abba, Father, I praise You for carrying me through life. Please give me faith to trust that You are always with me.

****Like every good meal, I’m better when shared...please forward me to the people in your life!**

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