

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"

July 18, 2017

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

- And pray for the pastoral search process, which will begin in earnest when Pastor Gregg leaves this fall. It will include a congregational survey to help CRC have a good sense of its current priorities. In the meantime, the Consistory has appointed a team to determine what we need in an interim minister.
- 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...
- Other current events: what items in this week's newspapers and newscasts need our prayers? What aspects of life in our Congregation need prayer?

Connections

- **Upcoming Services:**
 - July 23rd: Rev. Fred Harris will preach.
 - July 30th: Parts of Psalm 119 will be the focus of the service... and our missions team will share about their trip.
 - August 6th: This service will include communion at the chancel railing. The service will be a "Taize" style service, which is a more meditative worship experience than usual. Pastor Gregg will preach on "My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord!" from Psalm 145:8-9; 14-21.
 - August 13th: Pastor Gregg will preach on "Righteousness and peace kiss each other!" from Psalm 85.
 - August 20th: This will be our "Jazz" service for the summer, with some of our instrumentalists playing throughout the service. Pastor Gregg will preach on "The Lord will make his face to shine upon us," from Psalm 67.
- **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, July 11th at 6 pm in the Strunk Library.

- **CRC/Zion youth & family programing:**
 - Youth Missions Trip: July 21st – 24th, Scranton, PA
- **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.
- **Pastoral Transition News:** Pastor Gregg's and Katherine's house has received an offer sooner than expected, with a tentative closing date of August 4th. If the settlement goes as scheduled, Pastor Gregg's previous end date of November 30th will move a little bit earlier into the fall, and Confirmation would happen on Sunday, October 1st. These possibilities were discussed in the April Consistory meeting at which Pastor Gregg announced his retirement. All new dates/arrangements will be settled at the August Consistory meeting on the 14th.
- **Pastor Gregg's upcoming vacation schedule:** Katherine and Pastor Gregg's summer trip to New England will be through July 23rd.

Community News

Join us in 100 Days of Kindness



HARC and Character Counts of Washington County are partnering to promote 100 Days of Kindness in Washington County from **June 22 - September 30**.

It's easy to participate! Just do one act of kindness each day - it can be as simple as smiling at someone and saying "hello." See the "[Top 40 Random Acts of Kindness](#)" flyer for ideas. We'd love for you to share your acts of kindness with us. Visit the [HARC Facebook page](#) or [Character Counts Facebook page](#) to post your acts, or email kathy.harc@gmail.com.

Food for Thought:

From *Our Daily Bread* – Just Like Dad by Leslie Koh

Today's Reading – John 5:17-20 (NIV)

17 In his defense Jesus said to them, "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working." 18 For this reason they tried all the more to kill him; not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.

19 Jesus gave them this answer: "Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. 20 For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, and he will show him even greater works than these, so that you will be amazed.

Isn't it endearing to see a child mimicking his parents? How often we've seen the young boy in a car seat, gripping his imaginary steering wheel intently while keeping a close eye on the driver to see what Daddy does next.

I remember doing the same thing when I was young. Nothing gave me greater pleasure than doing exactly what my dad did—and I'm sure he got an even bigger kick watching me copy his actions.

I would like to think God felt the same way when He saw His dearest Son doing exactly what the Father did—reaching out to the lost, helping the needy, and healing the sick. Jesus said, "the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does" (John 5:19).

We too are called to do the same—to "follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love" (Eph. 5:1-2). As we continue growing to be more like Jesus, may we seek to love like the Father loves, forgive like He forgives, care like He cares, and live in ways that please Him. It is a delight to copy His actions, in the power of the Spirit, knowing that our reward is the affectionate, tender smile of a loving Father.

*Jesus, thank You for showing us the way to the Father. Help us to
be more and more like You and the Father each day.*

The Father gave us the Spirit to make us like the Son.

Food for thought!!

****Like every good meal, I'm better when shared...please forward me to the people in your life!
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"UNSUBSCRIBE," but we hope you won't!**