The Simeon Spirit SIMEON UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH 173 North Center Street, Gratz, PA September 2024

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Coming Home Again

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

Psalm 122: 1

This year, September 2 will be Labor Day. Thus, signaling the official end of summer. Vacations will be wrapped up. The kids are back in school. We prepare for the cooler weather of fall. Summer time has traditionally been the time of lower worship attendance. This summer I was very pleased with our attendance. We are blessed for what I sometimes refer to as our faithful 40.

Nevertheless, the coming fall is a good time to reconsider our devotional habits. We miss many of our families, youth, and children. We miss your smiling faces and laughter. We miss the excitement as kids wander through the halls making a joyful noise, and folks chatting happily with each other before and after worship. Perhaps many of you have missed the joy of being reunited each week with friends, the time spend learning about God's love and promises, and the sweet sacred sound of the words and music in worship.

Fall brings us a change of season. It is a great time to give some thought to a change in schedules and habits. Please think about renewing your devotion to God and church fellowship. We are still broadcasting our services each week on YouTube, and we are thankful for Bruce Koppenhaver's diligent work in making this happen. If you can't make a service and have access to the internet, please tune in. Otherwise, We greatly encourage you to reach out and make that personal touch of the experience of fellowship in God's presence. You will find this in the house of the Lord. We will always be here to welcome you.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Pastor Greg

<u>P.S.</u> We are thankful for our radio broadcast team which includes Tim Daniel, John and Darleen Novinger, Bill Reed, and Andrew Romberger. They often go unnoticed hidden away in our radio booth. We broadcast the preceding week's service every Sunday on WQLV 98.9 at 7:30 a.m. Thank you all for your service.

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FROM AUGUST 15, 2024

<u>OLD BUSINESS:</u> Organ Fund-(MI Foundation)- Mike Hartman and Lynn Schadle talked to the MI people & they are putting us on the agenda for September to discuss giving us a donation. Lynn & Mike are putting the grant proposal together for them. Confirmation picture is hung.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- 1. <u>Worship and Music</u>- Nathan Steinbach will become a member on Sunday, August 18, 2024 during worship. Rally Day will be on September 8, 2024.
- 2. Parish Education None
- 3. <u>Stewardship and Evangelism</u> Had a great community day at the park on July 27th. Next year there will be camel rides & the petting zoo, tentative date is Saturday July 26, 2025. Bird in Hand Bank will sponsor it again. Going to start working with pastor Greg to have committee members visit the shut-ins. Lisa Perkins & Ruthie Sitlinger are working on putting a Fall Festival together on November 2, 2024 at the Gratz Park, tentative time is 10-3 or 4.
- 4. <u>Social Ministry</u> Had 13 people for the foodbank in August. Trying to get sponsors to cover the cost of the meats for the bags that will be given away in the fall.
- 5. <u>Youth</u> Had a great trip and the kids did a great presentation on the trip. Jean asked about the \$2,000.00 that was in the budget for the youth. Discussion was held. Motion by Lynn Schadle to match any of their Fundraising efforts up to the budgeted amount per year for the youth group fund. Seconded by Deb Troutman. Approved.
- 6. <u>Church Property</u> Roof shingles are repaired, both on the Church and Sunday School roofs. John says the "Gremlins" had the sensors and camera's working in over drive with the storms and rain the last couple of weeks.
- 7. **Budget and Finance** None
- 8.**Fellowship** The Murder Mystery Dinner is being postponed till Spring, to give everyone more time to prepare and get the stage cleaned off. Next function will be the dinner for the Bishop visit on Sunday November 3, 2024 after Church with Soup and Sandwiches.
- 9. Mutual Ministry None

<u>New Business</u> – The Church will have a float in the parade on Saturday August 24 for the Fire Company's 100th Anniversary Celebration. Lisa's Sunday School class is doing it, and the theme is "Fishers of Men"

The Pastor's Time – None

2024 GIVING

2024 EXPENSES

\$78,606.73

\$91,102.78

Difference between YTD Giving & YTD Expenses \$-12,496.05 {For General Operating Fund}

SERVING IN SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

September 1, 2024 Greeter: John Novinger 15th Sunday after Reader: Lynn Schadle Pentecost w/ Usher: Matt Ferster

Holy Communion Glasses: Lisa Perkins

September 8, 2024 Greeter: Virginia Moore 16th Sunday after Reader: John Novinger

Pentecost

Greeter: Susan Krause **September 15, 2024** 17th Sunday after Reader: Tracy Bixler

Pentecost

September 22, 2024 Greeter: Lisa Perkins 18th Sunday after Reader: Virginia Moore

Pentecost

September 29, 2024 Greeter: Sandra Matter 19th Sunday after Reader: Sharon Erdman

Pentecost

SIMEON UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

173 NORTH CENTER STREET **PO BOX 478 GRATZ, PA 17030**

Rev. Gregory B. Lindsey, Pastor

Church Phone: (717)365-3139 Pastor Cell: (717)521-9402

Secretary Email: sulc.angel80@gmail.com Church Website: www.simeonchurch.org YouTube channel: Simeon Church, Gratz PA

ELCA Website: www.elca.org

Altar: Lynn Schadle

Altar: Doris Flynn

Lower Susquehanna Synod:www.lss-elca.org

October 6, 2024 Greeter: Anna Coleman 20th Sunday after Reader: Doris Flynn Usher: Dave Strohecker Pentecost w/

Glasses: Becky Hoover Holy Communion Greeter: Darlene Novinger October 13, 2024 Reader: Dennis Barge

21st Sunday after

Pentecost

October 20, 2024 Greeter: Dave Strohecker 22nd Sunday after Reader: Jason Dively

Pentecost

October 27, 2024 Greeter: Dennis Barge

Reader: Barbara & Keith Klinger Reformation

Sunday w/ Usher: Lynn Schadle Altar: Dennis Barge

Glasses: Tracy Bixler Holy Communion

"VOICE OF SIMEON" RADIO MINISTRY SPONSORS **SEPTEMBER 2024**

September 1 – Buffington/Reed Funeral Home

September 8 – Willing Workers

September 15 – In Memory of Barbara Hartwig

September 22 – Mr. & Mrs. Lynn Schadle

September 29 – The Krause Family

We thank our local businesses and individuals that sponsor our "Voice of Simeon" Radio Ministry. It can be heard each Sunday morning at 7:30 a.m. on WQLV-98.9 FM.

UPCOMING EVENTS:



Sunday, September 1 - Worship Service w/Holy Communion /Food Collection-10:15 a.m.

Monday, September 2 – Labor Day

Sunday, September 8 – Rally Day Worship Service-10:15 a.m.

Wednesday, September 11 - Patriot Day

Thursday, September 12 - Council Meeting 7 p.m.

***Little Hands Nursery School first days of class are September 11th &12th ***

Saturday, September 14 - Food Bank Open, 9-11 a.m.

Sunday, September 15 - Worship Service-10:15 a.m.

GRATZ FAIR WEEK SEPT. 15-21

Friday, September 20 - Newsletter Deadline

Sunday, September 22 - Worship Service-10:15 a.m. /1st Day of Autumn

Sunday, September 29 – Worship Service-10:15 a.m.



Sunday, October 6 - Worship Service w/Holy Communion /Food Collection-10:15 a.m.

Saturday, October 12 - Food Bank Open, 9-11 a.m.

Sunday, October 13 – Harvest Sunday Worship Service-10:15 a.m.

Monday, October 14 – Columbus Day

<u> Wednesday, October 19 – National Boss Day</u>

Thursday, October 17 - Council Meeting 7 p.m.

Friday, October 18 - Newsletter Deadline

Sunday, October 20 - Worship Service-10:15 a.m.

Sunday, October 27 – Reformation Sunday Worship Service w/Holy Communion-10:15 a.m.

Thursday October 31 Reformation Day /Happy Halloween

***Little Hands Nursery School Halloween Parties October 30th & 31st ***

TRANSFER

Lora Swab - to Zion Stone Valley, Dalmatia, PA

SERVING THE CHURCH

If you would like to serve as a *Greeter, Reader, Communion Assistant, (Usher, Altar, or Glass Holder)*. Please let the office know and you will be added to the list, THANKS!!!

Chefs Corner

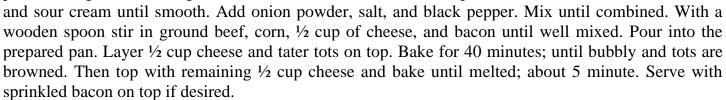
Cowboy Casserole

1 pound ground beef ½ cup milk

1 can cream of mushroom soup
1 tsp. onion powder
1 tsp. onion powder
1½ cups frozen corn or peas
1 cup bacon cooked and chopped
28 oz. tater tots frozen

Probact even to 375 degrees. Spray a 0x13 pen with cooking spray

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Spray a 9x13 pan with cooking spray. In a skillet, cook ground beef breaking into small pieces; until no longer pink. Drain grease. In a large bowl, whisk cream of mushroom soup, milk,



Pea Salad

1 (16-oz.) package of frozen peas, thawed 10 slices of bacon, cooked until crisp and crumbled

½ cup of chopped onion 1 cup of shredded cheddar cheese

Salt and pepper to taste ½ cup of mayonnaise

1 tsp. tabasco sauce ½ cup sugar

½ cup of sour cream

In a large mixing bowl, combine the thawed sweet peas, crumbled bacon, onions, and shredded cheddar cheese. In another bowl, whisk together the mayonnaise, sour cream, sugar, tabasco, pepper, salt until a smooth and seasonings are evenly distributed. Pour this dressing over the pea mixture and gently stir to coat all the ingredients. Cover the salad and refrigerate it for at least 2 hours before serving.

Old Fashioned Southern Burned Caramel Cake

1 cup vegetable shortening 2 cups sugar

4 eggs, room temperature 3 cups all-purpose flour

2 tsp. baking powder \frac{1}{4} tsp. salt

1 cup milk, room temperature 2 tsp. vanilla extract

Frosting

½ cup sugar (for burning)4 cup sugar2 cup boiling water2 sticks margarine

1 cup milk 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350*. Cream shortening and sugar. Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each. Sift flour, baking powder, and salt together three times. Add alternately with milk to creamed mixture. Bake in greased and floured pans at 350* about 30-35 minutes. Cool before frosting.

<u>Frosting:</u> Burn ½ cup sugar in an iron skillet. Add ½ cup boiling water to make syrup. Add 4 cups sugar, 2 sticks margarine, and 1 cup milk. Cook until soft ball stage. Remove from heat. Add 1 tsp. vanilla. Set pan in cold water and beat until thick enough to spread.



Music Notes & FIFTHER



Standing on the Promises 1886

Russell Kelso Carter, author of this hymn, was an athlete, educator, rancher, preacher, and physician. Here is his condensed testimony:

From my birth in 1849, I was surrounded by Christian influences. My father stood nearly half a century in the rank of Christian workers in Baltimore; by his side I had the example of a patient, loving mother. I cannot remember when I was not subject to deep convictions of sin; yet as a school-boy, I wandered from the truth until the age of fifteen, when, under the influence of the cadet prayer-meeting in the Pennsylvania Military Academy I made a profession of faith in Jesus.

But I made a common mistake; I didn't forsake my old companions and habits for fourteen years I lived the up-and-down experience so familiar to the average church member. I never enjoyed myself so much as when working in Mr. Moody's meetings in Baltimore; yet even up to that time I was continually slipping and falling. My soul cried for deliverance, and God's *unlimited promises* stood out like stars above me. But I wasn't willing to pay the price.

In the summer of 1879, my heart, which had been chronically diseased for seven years, resisting the remedies of the physicians, and refusing to grow better even after three years of sheep-ranching in California, suddenly broke down so seriously as to bring me to the verge of the grave. I had heard of the "prayer of faith" for healing, but I felt persuaded it would border on blasphemy to ask God for a strength which I didn't propose to use wholly for Him.

Kneeling in my mother's room in Baltimore, I made a consecration that covered everything. All doubtful things were swept aside. I meant every word, and I have never had any doubts about it since. A quietness came over me and I found the Bible wonderfully open and marvelously satisfying, as it had never been before.

Feeling all the more impressed with God's healing promises, I concluded to go to Boston and ask prayer and anointing at the hands of Dr. Cullis. I was terribly weak, but I went. I will only add that I returned in three days, walking by faith, and not by feeling, resumed my collage work in September, and at once engaged in all kinds of religious work. I was healed by the power of God alone. Praise the Lord!

ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE FOOD BANK

Cereal, ketchup, cake or brownie mix

DAILY DEVOTIONALS

The Daily Devotionals for (July-September, 2024) are available in the narthex. Pick yours up or have someone get them for you.

THE 2022 FLOWER & BULLETIN SPONSOR CHARTS

still have some openings. Please help by sponsoring them. *If no one sponsors them the money comes out of the general fund which is not budgeted.*

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

We thank <u>all</u> of our church members who have been sending their offering envelopes through the postal system as well as coming to church in person to worship and donate that way.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY





Please join me in welcoming....

Nathan Steinbach

Nathan has been worshiping with us for some time now, and we are so pleased that he has decided to formally join our church family.

Welcome to the Simeon Church Family Nathan!!!!

Nathan's address is-

Nathan Steinbach P.O. Box 214 Gratz, PA 17030



<u>Members</u> – Mike Hartman, Celin Sitlinger, Jack Reed, Julie Ferster, Janet Rumfelt, Barbara Klinger, Marie Lahr, Clair & Vivian Engle, David Hartman, Jim Neiswender

Northern Dauphin Nursing & Rehab. - Kenneth Mace

Polk Apartments - Martha Koppenhaver, *Charles Schoffstall*

<u>Friends & Family</u> – Tricia Hils Rebuck, Ken Keiter, Miriam Logan, Jon Bower, Jeff Latsha, Shirley Reed, Amanda Marie Beiler, Sheri Johns, Darlene Hain, Linda Sitlinger, Randy Rebuck, Blair Deitrich, Kathie Dresel, Dorothy Lettich Martin, Steve Dagen, Rahn Erdman, Jim Troutman