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PASTOR NOTES FOR OCTOBER 2021: TIME TO FALL...*FORWARD*



Friends, the time has come. It always does. It's autumn. It's time to make our clocks "fall back" an hour. The time to watch the sun setting earlier and earlier. The time to pull out the coats from storage and let them air out a bit to get them ready to wear in the coming cooler weather. For some fall comes as a relief from summer's heat; for others, it's a time to hunker down and hibernate until spring flowers pop again, signs of life after winter's end. It's fall and, like it or not, there's nothing we can do about it.

I prefer, though, to think of fall as an opportunity to grow - in vision. Inspired by the colors of the leaves, all bright orange and red and yellow on the trees, fall is a time for seeing the world differently. Recognizing and appreciating the diversity all around us in God's great creation - the diversity of the flowers and plants, creatures on land and at sea - and of course, the wonderful diversity in humanity. Fall is a wonderful time to celebrate diversity of every kind.

And fall is a wonderful time to pray for peace, understanding, and unity among people and nations. A time to pray - not for conformity - but for an appreciation for the diversity that makes the world the beautiful tapestry that God created the world to be. A time to pray for all children of God to not fall backwards into old patterns of negative thoughts, suspicions and hateful divisions, but to fall forward into the new life that God made possible for us in Christ Jesus. For *"indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."* (- John 3:17)

Fall 2021 still brings with it much concern - for the world, for the nation, for the Church. The list is too long to list in one issue of the Gram. Add to it all our personal lists of concerns and needs, and we'd need more than a volume of Grams, I'm sure. But let's not fall backward into despair. Rather, let's together remain in prayer and hope and the faith that is ours in God to pick us up and move us forward together.

Fall is also the time when our church begins looking toward the new year. We are beginning to discern our 2022 budget. We will soon be asking all members to discern their active membership with us. Our Nominating Committee is discerning new leaders among us to use their God-given skills to help us envision new possibilities for our church and move us into future.

This fall - I ask us all to discern: How might God be calling you to give of your time, your talents and your treasures? What new vision for our church is God placing on your heart? How would you like to see us use our resources for the betterment of the community and the beauty of the world around us? What ways might you like to see us giving God honor in worship, mission and service? How might we as a church community celebrate diversity and work toward unity among God's children?

This autumn 2021 let's fall forward together Buckingham - coloring the world with the love of God moving in us and shining through us. To God be the Glory!

Peace.

Pastor Mark



Our peach pie sale during the Peach Festival in August was a huge success. Again we sold out, and even baked some pies in the church's kitchen to meet the demand. We made \$717.00

We have supported our community (and in one case beyond) with monetary donations to Gilbertsville First Presbyterian church after it was flooded (Pastor Mark's former church), to Buckingham Elementary for Tee-Shirts for the students of the month program, to the Samaritan Shelter to help with their new playground, and Buckingham Elementary's guidance counselor for snacks.

We have continued to deliver Sunday Supper to our senior member and with the return of Congregational Life's drive through dinners we delivered meals to many happy and thankful seniors.

The Samaritan Shelter was shut down this month due to COVID, but we will be back with preparing and delivering dinner once a month on the third Thursday in October and beyond.

The Deacons have started a training program with Pastor Mark. Currently this will be the first Wednesday of the month at 1:30 in Taylor Hall. We will be using a terrific study guide, The Presbyterian Deacon by Earl S. Johnson, Jr. Please consider joining us as we discern the roll of the Deacon in today's church/community. As the Book of Order puts it, "The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed or anyone in distress." COVID has made our work a challenge and many decisions are made via email or by telephone calls. If the time and/or day don't work for you let us know, we are flexible and want to reach the most members. Come join us and get back two-fold what you give. Carol Neal



After taking the month of September off Christian Ed is back in gear for the Holiday season! CHAOS will meet on October 17th from 4:30 – 6 with a devotional night and pumpkin carving. We will be holding our Trunk or Treat night on October 22nd. We are asking for individuals to come out, decorate their car (doesn't have to be fancy!) and hand out candy. Hot dogs, chips and drinks will be served. We will be joining Stevenson United Methodist for their Fall Festival on October 24th offering help and support. November 19th will be a fun family night with a S'more Time style dinner of Turkey subs, corn chips and mini pies! We also will have fun Thanksgiving themed crafts for the kids to do that night.



Looking for volunteers to decorate their car and participate in our Trunk or Treat night on Friday October 22nd from 5:45-7:00.



Bring in NEW socks for the month of October to be donated to homeless shelters, schools, and others in need. All sized welcome!



Did you know socks are among the most needed and least donated items for the homeless and those in need? Let's help those in need stay warm by donating NEW socks throughout the month of October!

Also, to help those in need around the world the mission committee will be donating \$500 to the Presbyterian Disaster Relief fund. The funds currently are helping those in Haiti affected by the earthquake and those in the US affected by the hurricanes recently.

Stay tuned for more information coming to help kick off the holiday season of getting with a way to give!

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Church Secretary/Bookkeeper

Are you looking for an opportunity to work in a welcoming, relaxed, supportive and spiritually vibrant environment? Come join the staff at Buckingham Presbyterian Church in Berlin MD! Duties include office management, staff and event schedule coordination, worship materials and church newsletter production, church communications and light bookkeeping (including payroll). Must be proficient in Word, Power Point, MS Publisher and Quick Books. Experience with Excel, website design and social media platforms a plus. PT, 12-15 hours/week, flex schedule.

If interested, send resume with three references (two professional/one personal) to: **Buckingham Presbyterian Church, 20 South Main Street, PO Box 248, Berlin MD, 21811** or email to: info@buckinghampcusa.org (subject: secretary). Resumes will be received until October 15. Interviews will be scheduled in late October/early November. EEO

OCEAN CITY
ELEMENTARY
BACKPACK MISSION
SEPTEMBER 3, 2021



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!

As kids went back to school this month, our Backpack Buddies Mission started back up again! Buckingham Presbyterian Church wanted to thank you for your support and share how your donation helped feed kids last year here in our own community!!! We ended the year helping 33 kids each weekend. Each week a group of church members and friends stuff bags full of food,

the food is then delivered to the school and distributed to the kids for the weekend.



2,013
BREAKFASTS

2,013
LUNCHES

2,640
DINNERS

3,465
SNACKS

BUT THAT'S NOT ALL...

We were not only able to provide food on the weekends but also holiday meals to help with the extended time off school. Families received a Christmas, Thanksgiving and Easter Dinner along with a loaf of bread, eggs, milk and cheese delivered to their door. A \$25 gift card to Food Lion was given to each family along with other donations that poured in, including socks, hats, gloves, art sets, playdoh, toothbrush, and toothpaste. There was so much appreciation and joy from the families and children,



we wanted to share joy with you! We ended the year with extra stuffed bags of food as well as contact information for the summer if they need food delivered.

We also collected school supplies during our summer VBS series some of the supplies were used to provided a "shopping" area at the Ocean City Elementary Open House for the kids to select their own bookbags and supplies!



HOW CAN YOU HELP??

Every amount big or small helps! For only \$10 we can feed a child 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners, snacks, and drinks for the weekend. \$300 will feed a child every weekend for an entire year! From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for your donation! If you would like to help in any way from donating to packing bags, please contact Buckingham Presbyterian Church. Thank you and God Bless!

GOD BLESS YOU!!
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October Mission—Socks for the shelters "SOCKTOBER"



10/1—Trent Macrides
Thea Macrides
10/3—Jason Pylypczuk
10/5—JOSHUA Pruitt
JOHN Rencher
10/15— TAYLOR Black
10/17— BETTY Davis
10/21— AMELIA Nickell
10/22— CINDI Pruitt
10/24— Mark Piedmonte
10/25— SUE Mallory
10/31— Tucker Ashton



10/14— BRAD & LAURA Black
10/25— ROBERT & HOLLY Bunting
10/30— James & KANDIS Kulyk



World Communion Sunday, October 3rd
Sunday, November 7th
Sunday, December 5th

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GROUPS TO GROW YOUR FAITH—

We have so many ways to join in and grow your faith!!

- ⇒ Join in for an **Adult Bible Study** on Thursday evenings from 6-7:30.
- ⇒ Our **High School group** meets on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 -6:30 with dinner, lesson, and games. They always welcome help with food or leading this group in their devotional for the evening!

Coming soon Pastor will be scheduling special **"Coffee* and Conversation"** times to give us all a chance to share our vision for Buckingham in 2022. See weekly bulletins and emails for details. More to come! (*And don't worry - we can also have tea, hot chocolate, or just good ol' fashioned water too!) 😊

AUTUMN PRAYERS

God of Seed and Harvest

We bless you,
God of Seed and Harvest
And we bless each other
That the beauty of this world
And the love that created it
Might be expressed though our lives
And be a blessing to others
Now and always ~ Author Unknown

For Those Whose Harvest is Poor

Creator God, for daily bread
and all who work
to bring your harvest home
we bring our thanks today.

Forgive our ingratitude
we who have so much
yet waste what you have given.

For those whose harvest is poor,
whose crops have withered,
water tainted, children starve,
help those who bring relief
and bestow on us
an unaccustomed generosity,
that all might share from your garden
and all might sing your praise.

Creator God, provider of all
we bring our thanks today. ~ Author Unknown



A Note from Historian Lynne Murray

Dear Buckingham Friends,

hosting three weddings, deemed important enough by the *Baltimore Sun* to appear in their

In December 1897 Buckingham was notable for hosting three weddings, deemed important enough by the *Baltimore Sun* to appear in their Berlin News. On page 8 of the December 22, 1897 issue of the *Sun*, the wedding of Miss Louisa Richardson Franklin to State's Attorney Robley D. Jones (at 6:30 in the morning!) was reported in considerable detail. Miss Franklin is described as the youngest daughter of the late State Senator Littleton P. Franklin. The Senator was the nephew of Louisa Franklin Richardson and cousin of her daughter, Lady Kortright, the benefactress of our Chapel. The Franklins chose to name their daughter in honor of Littleton's Aunt Louisa, who remembered her namesake quite generously in her will.

The obituary of the groom, Robley Jones, reports he was serving as an Associate Judge of the First Maryland Judicial Circuit at the time of his death in July 1917. Louisa outlived Robley by many years and died in Philadelphia in 1940. Louisa's great-grandfather Isaac Franklin can be found on page 64 of *Old Buckingham by the Sea*. He was elected a BPC Elder in December 1801.



Two Weddings At Berlin.

[Special Dispatch to the Baltimore Sun.]

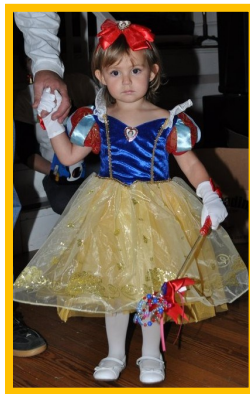
BERLIN, MD., Dec. 23.—Mr. Alexander R. Baird, of Columbia, Pa., and Miss Clara Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Davis, of Trappe, were married at half-past 7 this evening in the *Buckingham Presbyterian Church*. Rev. Arthur Dougal, pastor of the church, performed the ceremony. The church was beautifully trimmed with potted plants and a central arch. The flower girls were Misses Helen Dirickson, Blanche Walston, May Purnell and Stella Hearn. The ushers were the Messrs. J. Edward Evans, Theodore Hanley, John D. Rayne and Ernest Burbage. The bride wore light blue satin and carried a bouquet of carnations and hyacinths. A large reception was held at the home of the bride's parents after the wedding. After their wedding tour they will reside at Columbia, Pa.

At the Presbyterian Church last evening, by the Rev. Arthur Dougal, Mr. Albert W. Warren and Miss Dellie K. Rayne, both of Ironshire, Md., were married.

The two Berlin weddings reported in the *Baltimore Sun* on December 23, 1897 didn't receive the coverage of the Franklin-Jones nuptials the day before, but the wedding of Clara Davis and Alexander Baird sounds quite lovely. The church was decorated with potted plants and a central arch; I wonder if the arch was placed before the altar table? The bride wore light blue satin and carried a bouquet of carnations and hyacinths.

The wedding of Miss Dellie Rayne to Mr. Albert Warren barely receives any mention at all. Rev. Arthur Dougal of Buckingham performed all three ceremonies.

Memories from Trunk or Treat Nights & All Saints




BPC
Trunk or
Treat
& All Saints





OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>"Ah, Lovely October, as you usher in the season that awakens my soul, your awesome beauty compels my spirit to soar like an leaf caught in an autumn breeze and my heart to sing like a heavenly choir." — Peggy Toney Horton</p>					1 Pastor Hrs. 10am—Noon	2
3 World Communion Sunday—Peace Offering Collected	4 Share & Care 6:30pm	5 Session 6pm	6 Pastor Hrs. 10am-3pm Deacons 1:30pm HS 5:30-6:30pm	7 Bible Study 6pm Choir 7:30pm	8 Pastor Hrs. 10am—Noon	9
10	11 Share & Care 6:30pm	12 Men's Breakfast @ Rayne's Reef 8:30am	13 Pastor Hrs. 10am-3pm HS 5:30-6:30pm	14 Bible Study 6pm Choir 7:30pm	15 Pastor Hrs. 10am—Noon	16
17 Guest Minister Rev. Kerry Shull CHAOS 4:30-5:30 Devotions & Pumpkin carving	18 Share & Care 6:30pm	19	20 Pastor Hrs. 10am-3pm HS 5:30-6:30pm	21 Bible Study 6pm Choir 7:30pm	22 Pastor Hrs. 10am—Noon Trunk or Treat 	23
24 BPC w/ SUMC for Fall Festival	25 Share & Care 6:30pm	26	27 Pastor Hrs. 10am-3pm HS 5:30-6:30pm	28 Bible Study 6pm Choir 7:30pm	29 Pastor Hrs. 10am—Noon	30
31 Guest Organist Anne Hastings	<p>"October, baptize me with leaves! Swaddle me in corduroy and nurse me with split pea soup. October, tuck tiny candy bars in my pockets and carve my smile into a thousand pumpkins. O autumn! O teakettle! O grace!" — Rainbow Rowell , Attachments</p> <p>"The crickets still sing in October. And lilly, she's trying to bloom. Tho she's resting her head on the shoulder of death, she still shines by the light of the moon." — Kevin Dalton - Faubush Hill</p>					

BUCKINGHAM GRAM

VISION STATEMENT

*We are a community of disciples,
Who honor all people,
Care for those in need,
Share the hope we receive from Jesus Christ.*