



The Center Chronicles

September 2017



We are living in a world where a lot of people are suffering from an identity crisis. They may blame it on a lot of things, but the main thing is because they fail to understand what their purpose is in life. The very first question of the Westminster shorter Catechism reads, “What is the chief end of man? What is our purpose in life? The answer is.... Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to ENJOY him forever.” But when one does not know God, he/she becomes confused and disoriented on why they are alive.

At the end of WWII, there were more than 50 men who came out of prison camps in Indochina suffering from amnesia. They couldn’t remember who they were, and there were no records to help identify them. Then someone came up with an idea to run their photographs in a Parisian newspaper and announce that these men would make an appearance in the stage of the city’s Opera’s House. The plea went out that if anyone thought they might know any of these soldiers, they should come to the Opera House and make the Identification.

According to the story, on the appointed evening, the first of the soldiers marched onto the stage and looked out over the audience, he asked, “Does anybody out there know who I am?”

What a question! How often do people ask it quietly , within themselves. Others look in a mirror with a blank stare wondering.. The only way to answer that question is to come to your Maker. For only your Maker knows who you are and what your life is supposed to be about. God knows because, as your Maker, God knows who you were designed to be.

Peace,

Jon



Lawn Care and Mowing Needs

Fall is just around the corner and you are wondering what to do with those leaves. Contact Ronnie “Weasel” Pilkey and he can help you out. His number is 337-1648.

Presbytery Disaster Assistance is asking for offerings to help with those needing help as the result of hurricanes Harvey and Irma.



For those who wish to support PDA's emergency response and recovery efforts, **gifts can be designated to DR000169-Harvey**. We need your help. Please give generously. You can put check in offering designating it to PDA or if you prefer to mail a check, you may send it to:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

PO Box 643700

Pittsburgh, PA, 15264-3700



Sunday, September 17th, we welcome Reverend Dr. Ann Laird Jones and the St. John's Bible to our church. She is the Minister of Arts at Montreat Conference Center and will lead worship at 11am. We will have lunch afterwards and Ann will lead us in a presentation about the Bible with an art project to inspire!

There will also be a presentation **on September 21 at 7pm** at Maryville College in Lawson Auditorium..

You can watch a video to learn more about this Bible at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NFa2G31TqZc>

John Knox Center invites you to join them for a Family Picnic which is scheduled for September 17 from 1-5pm. The cost is \$10 per person.



Join us for a Cookout

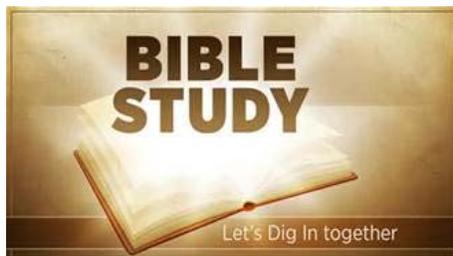


Deacons invites everyone to a **Meet and Greet Hot dog cookout** across the street in the pavilion after church on September 10.



Also in **October**, the Deacons will be having a “Greatest Generation Gathering” . We will be taking our senior members and friends out to see the colors and to enjoy a dinner at Mercier Orchards.. Please Sign clip board at office if you are interested in joining us.

Many thanks to all who helped to build the Sand volleyball court and make the corn hole boards. This month, along with some games, we will be using our youth group time to get the Haunted House ready for Halloween.



As we enter into the fall season. There are numerous opportunities being offered to study God’s word.

- Men’s Bible study meets on Saturday mornings at 9am. **Fenton McCahill** is leading a study on Romans.
- **Debbie Faraone** will be leading a Bible study using a study by Ann Graham Lotz during the Sunday school hour from 9- 9:45 am.
- **Donald Bivens** will offer a study on Philip Yancey’s book ”What So Amazing About Grace.” This class will start on October 1 in the fellowship hall.
- **Jon Faraone** will start a separate study on Romans on October 1 at 6pm Sunday nights.
- **Peggy Payne** is leading a **Women’s Bible Study** group meets on Thursdays, 10- 1:30pm. And they are also studying the book of Romans. For more information, please **contact Sandra Black at 253-3876.**



The Tellico Trailblazers are just one month away from taking a hike up Le Conte.

For those who signed up and anyone else, **September 16 at 9am**, we will meet at the church to take a hike around Indian Boundary lake.



Shelter My Sheep news

This summer, the SMS ministry provided temporary housing for 4 families in house #1. The current family staying there is a single mother with three kids. We are excited to share that she found employment in Sweetwater and one step closer in getting her own place.

Bethlehem Baptist Church has been completing the plumbing work for house #2 and will be putting up insulation and drywall within the next two weeks. We will need painters and also someone willing to prayerfully consider helping us purchase a wall mount heat pump that serves as both heater and A/C. We will also need help putting flooring down when the time comes.

For those who wonder, the SMS ministry was born out of the Deacons' ministry and what we do is provide temporary housing for families in need. They stay rent free, pay no utilities and are encourage to save their money for more permanent housing. We work with various employment agencies to offer work for those unemployed and with the assistance of HMMC and TVHC they are given assistance to find more permanent housing. If you want to know more about the ministry, please feel free to contact the Pastor (253-2303), Travis Hamilton (519-6400), or Don Abel (836-1513).



The Dorcas Ladies continue their ministry to help the hopeless and the hurting. They inspire us with their love for sewing and the love they have for those they sew for. If you are interested in sharing in this ministry, please contact Sandra Black (253-3876) or join them every first and third Wednesday's in the fellowship hall from 9:30- 2:30.