



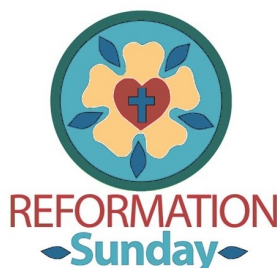
VILLAGE CHAPEL
PRESBYTERIAN

“THE VILLAGER” – OCTOBER 23, 2023

JOINT REFORMATION SERVICE

October 29th at 11 AM at Village Chapel

The Presbyterian Church USA and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America each trace their history back to the 16th century and have been in full communion since 1997. Last year Trinity Lutheran hosted the joint service. This year it's our turn!



So, what can you expect? It'll be a Presbyterian style worship service; I'll preach on Matthew 22:34-46 (Love God; Love your neighbors); both choirs will sing an anthem together; and Trinity is bringing their bell choir! But I expect the highlight will be when we share communion!

A close second will be when we all move to the Fellowship Hall and break bread together! We've come up with some creative ways to ensure that the two congregations mix and get to know each other better!

A word about the offering:

We'll use two colors of envelopes so our offerings can be easily distinguished, and all loose offerings will go to VOAD to help with WV flood relief!

I hope you will be there in person as we worship God together!

ISRAEL/PALESTINE

Perhaps you were caught by surprise when Hamas attacked Israel and grieved the loss of innocent life. Perhaps you have mixed feelings about Israel's response. Perhaps you are praying for peace, but wonder how it might be possible.

We have invited **Marrietta Macy**, Associate Pastor at First, Charleston to join us for a discussion after worship on Nov. 12th. In 2004 she served as a Youth Advisory Delegate on the Peacemaking Committee at GA. In 2009 she was part of a trip from Ohio Valley Presbytery to Israel/Palestine. She went on to serve on the Israel/Palestine Mission Network of the PCUSA.

She has much to share with us!

WORSHIP NOTES

Join us in person or virtually for worship during October and November . . .

- | | | |
|---------|------------------------|--|
| Oct. 29 | Reformation Sunday | Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 and Matthew 22:34-46 |
| Nov. 5 | All Saints Sunday | Matthew 23 :-12 |
| Nov. 12 | Dedication Sunday | Matthew 25:1-13 |
| Nov. 19 | | Matthew 25:14-30 |
| Nov. 26 | Christ the King Sunday | Matthew 25:31-46 |



THANKSGIVING SERVICE

After not doing so for several years due to COVID, we are excited to host a joint Thanksgiving service on Sunday, Nov. 19, at 7 PM, with St. Agnes Catholic and Morris Memorial UMC! The offering will be to support Common Grounds and their ongoing ministry to our hungry neighbors (and especially the Thanksgiving baskets that are being given away on Tuesday, November 21st)!

So bring cash or canned goods (such as peanut butter; cereal, pasta, and sauce) and we'll sing and pray and give thanks!

Season of Discernment

Many thanks to everyone who filled out the survey mentioned in last month's newsletter. Over 500 responses were collected from all over the state.

Next, Emily Swanson of Holy Cow! Consulting will meet with leaders through the end of October. Then, opportunities for open, in-person discussion will be held, in locations across WV. The closest one for us will be at First, South Charleston, on November 2, from 6-8 PM.

Come listen and dream a bit!

All Saints Sunday—November 6th

We will remember those "saints" who have died over the past 12 months.

So who are the saints? In the Christian tradition, "saints" refers to those who have kept the faith. Saints don't have to have lived perfect lives. In fact, when they haven't, their lives are a demonstration of God's grace! That means that everyone qualifies! Saints will have blessed the people they have lived, worked, and played with in countless ways!

So come to worship ready to remember some of the saints who have impacted you. If you'd like to submit their names, we will receive them as part of worship that day, or you can send them in to the church office.



DEDICATION SUNDAY

Dedication Sunday is November 12th

You'll receive a "letter" soon discussing a theme for stewardship season, but on that Sunday you will be able to bring your pledge to support God's work through out congregation in 2024 down front and place it in a basket during worship!

STAFF CHRISTMAS BONUSES

It's the time of year to express our gratitude and appreciation to those who mean the most to us.

Please consider a donation for staff Christmas bonuses, which will be divided among all the members of our amazing Village Chapel staff.

Please designate your donations as Christmas staff bonus on the envelope or your check.

Thanks, in advance, for your generosity and for letting them know how much they are appreciated.

The Personnel Team

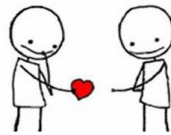
PAY-IT-FORWARD

Saturday, November 11th

We need housewares, blankets, sheets, towels, toys, seasonal decorations, coats, jackets and sweaters.

Items may be brought to the church the week before the 'no sale yard sale'!

Pay It Forward



A THANKSGIVING PRAYER BY RALPH WALDO EMERSON



FOR EACH NEW MORNING WITH ITS LIGHT,
FOR REST AND SHELTER OF THE NIGHT,
FOR HEALTH AND FOOD,
FOR LOVE AND FRIENDS,
FOR EVERYTHING THY GOODNESS SENDS,

FOR FLOWERS THAT BLOOM ABOUT OUR FEET:
FOR TENDER GRASS, SO FRESH, SO SWEET:
FOR SONG OF BIRD, AND HUM OF BEE:
FOR ALL THINGS FAIR WE HEAR OR SEE,
FATHER IN HEAVEN, WE THANK THEE!

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

Saturday, October 28th at
Appalachian Power Park at 9:30AM.

To register to join the Village Chapel team or to donate please [click here](#) or [contact](#)

Sarah Gottlieb by phone (304) 546-7087 or email her at mamasan41@hotmail.com.



There are 81 teams registered so far this year!

IMPORTANT DATES AHEAD

Sunday, November 5th
Daylight Savings Time Ends



Saturday, November 11th
Pay-It-Forward

**Thursday, November 23rd -
Friday, November 24th**
Office Closed for Thanksgiving



Sunday, November 26th
Decorate the Church for Advent



REMOVING THE PEWS

With the new chairs being manufactured and scheduled to be delivered before the end of the year, the next step is to work on removing the existing pews.



They were built to last, so they are heavy! As head of Property, Jim Smith is looking for some helpers with strong backs or clever minds or furniture moving tools! Property is looking at a window between the Reformation Day service (October 29) and the joint Thanksgiving service (November 19). Let Jim know if you'd be willing to help!

COMING SOON: ADVENT!

Our Advent Study this year will return us to *The First Advent in Palestine* (the book Todd used for his Christmas in July sermon series)

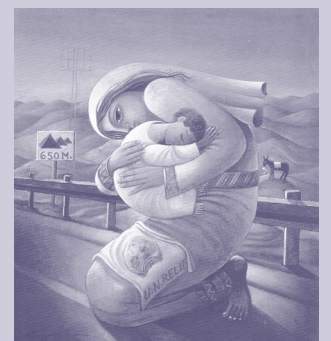
We will be looking at four chapters that he didn't cover in his preaching:

Nov. 27: Silence and Suffering: The Maccabees

Dec. 4: Mothers of Advent: Mary & Elizabeth

Dec. 11: Even after God Arrived: The Holy Family, Mother Rachel, and the Slaughter of the Innocents

Dec 18: Homeland, but Not a Home: Holy Family, Return from Egypt.



Watch for more details to come!

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS ON THESE DATES:

NOVEMBER

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Barbara Smith | 16 Brendan Stump |
| 2 Maddy Smith | 17 Barbara Tabaretti |
| 3 Baily Smith | 18 Joan Thomson |
| 4 Ellen Ann Sockman | 19 Nancy Trotter |
| 5 Jule Sockman | 20 Keri Velasco |
| 6 Roger Sockman | 21 Sharon Waggy |
| 7 Rita Sockman | 22 Daniel Walker |
| 8 Marshall Spradling | 23 John Walker |
| 9 Tonja Parsons | 24 Rose Ann Walker |
| 10 Charlie Stebbins | 25 Matthew Walker |
| 11 Sarah Stebbins | 26 Nancy Wallace |
| 12 Alatheia Stickler | 27 Helen Warren |
| 13 Nathan Stickler | 28 Betsy White |
| 14 Samuel Stickler | 29 Dreama White |
| 15 Joey Stonestreet | 30 Sandra Wilkerson |

PRAYER CHAIN

An important part of our caring for each other is the **Prayer Chain**.

Please let **Betsy White** (betsywhite06@yahoo.com) know of any prayer concerns you may have.

You may also contact Leslie Bremar in the church office (**304-925-7265** or leslie@vcpresby.org). Leslie will direct your prayer request to Betsy.

If you would like to be added to the Prayer Chain, please contact the office.

TOILET PAPER DONATIONS NEEDED!

As part of Village Chapel's Ministry to Common Grounds, we donate toilet paper for those less fortunate. The Presbyterian Women have set the second Sunday of every month the official donation Sunday for toilet paper. You can just bring your donation with you to Church and place it in the specified area at the back of the Sanctuary. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

NURTURING FAITH IDEAS



I have a plant on my desk that came with clear instructions on how to nurture it – optimum sunlight, water, and temperature.

'Wouldn't it be nice to have similar information to help us nurture our own faith ... or that of our children or grandchildren? Well, the Presbytery of WV is providing weekly ideas for nurturing faith.

November 5: In Matthew 23:1-12, Jesus criticizes the Pharisees for laying heavy burdens on others and then not lifting a finger to help. He says they do this by accusing others of doing things that they are guilty of themselves. Can you think of a time when you might have inadvertently laid a heavy burden on another? Have you lifted a finger to help?

November 12: In Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25, the people recommit themselves to God by reminding themselves of all the ways God has taken care of them. In times of doubt and distress, we can learn from their example. We can remember that God will be with us now and in future for the simple reason that God has always been with us in the past.

November 19: In the challenging parable of the talents, (Matthew 25:14-30) Jesus teaches us how important it is that we use what we've been given for the glory of God. Take an opportunity this week to use one of the talents you've been given to show love and honor to God.

November 26: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24, describes God's ultimate promise of seeking out the lost and scattered sheep, so that all can be brought together under the care of the one Good Shepherd. How can we help God in this project? As disciples, we should take it upon ourselves to seek out the lost and scattered of the flock, to welcome them, and to show them that they have a home with us.

December 3: Advent begins today. This season of the church year is when we prepare ourselves to welcome Jesus as a baby. This is a busy season with church services, decorating, concerts, parties, shopping and getting ready to visit with family members we might not see often. In the busyness of the season, don't forget why we are celebrating. How will you prepare your heart to welcome Jesus into your life once again?





STATISTICAL REPORT	10/22/23	10/15/23	10/8/23	10/1/23
In-Person Attendance	43	55	44	49
Non-Pledged	\$0	\$285	\$40	\$161.42
Pledged Contribution	\$3,120	\$2,905	\$3,300	\$3,452
Miscellaneous Income	\$65	\$722	\$563	\$254.05
Total Contributions	\$3,185	\$3,912	\$3,903	\$3,867.47





NOVEMBER 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS: 6 - Nancy Trotter; 7 - Rona Smith; 11 - Butch Singleton; 13 - Gaby Velasco, Susan Caldwell-Bays; 19 - Sherry Russell; 21 - Bob Campbell; 23 - Jack Grimm; 24 - Greg Rader; 25 - Jared Hawley; 27 - Julie Gentry; 28 - Charlie Stebbins						
5  9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship Service 12:15 PM - Choir Practice	6 10 AM - Bridge 6 PM - Thriving Congregations	7  7 PM - Choir Practice	8 7:30 AM - Rotary Club 7 PM - Stewardship Team Meeting	9 10 AM - PW Circle	10 7:00 PM - NA Group	11  Pay-It-Forward Event
12 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship 12:00 PM - Fellowship Time 12:30 - Officer Training #4	13 10 AM - Bridge	14 7 PM - Choir Practice	15 7 PM - Session Meeting	16 12 PM - PW Luncheon NEWSLETTER	17 7:00 PM - NA Group	18 Presbytery Meeting
19 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship Service 7 PM - Joint Thanksgiving Service	20 10 AM - Bridge	21	22 7:30 AM - Rotary Club	23  Thanksgiving Day - OFFICE CLOSED	24 7:00 PM - NA Group OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship Service 12:15 PM - Fellowship Time & Decorate Church for Advent	27 10 AM - Bridge	28	29	30		