



VILLAGE CHAPEL
PRESBYTERIAN

"THE VILLAGER" – OCTOBER 20, 2022

THRIVING CONGREGATIONS

Would you like to be a thriving congregation?
(Sounds like a trick question, doesn't it?)

What does it take for a congregation to thrive?
(That's harder to answer isn't it?)

Helen Warren and I traveled to Montreat October 3-5 for a retreat paid for by the Lilly Endowment and taught by the Black Mountain School of Theology! We presented what we learned to most of the rest of the core team — Sandy Bowles, Bob Hiser, Teresa Lawlor, and Betsy White (Roger and Rita Sockman were away) on Monday, the 17th. Our overall goal will be to "thin the line between the congregation and our community". To that end we're learning and practicing two skills — **one on one conversations** to get to know each other better and **qualitative observations** to notice the details of what is going on before/ during/and after worship.

We will be meeting monthly and expanding the group of people so we can draw on a wider set of experiences and insights. We will also have monthly coaching sessions with the faculty.

JOINT REFORMATION SERVICE

October 30th at 10 AM
at Trinity Lutheran

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. So this year we approach Trinity Lutheran about having a joint service. They not only said Yes!, they agreed to host it! We will get a taste of a Lutheran-style service, get to hear the Bishop preach, and share communion! Amy and Todd will help lead the service and our choir will provide a wonderful piece of music! Then Trinity will host a simple luncheon in the same fellowship hall where we have helped serve Trinity's Table meals. It should be glorious!

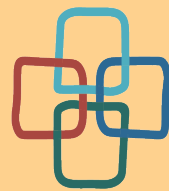
We'll use two colors of envelopes so our offerings can be easily distinguished, and all loose offerings will go to Covenant House!

Since the service is at 10AM, there will be no Sunday school that day. Service will be on FB!

WORSHIP NOTES

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

- Oct. 23 Psalm 65 and Luke 18:9-14
- Oct. 30 Reformation Sunday Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 46, Romans 3:19-28, and John 8:31-36
- Nov. 6 All Saints Sunday Luke 6:20-31
- Nov. 13 Dedication Sunday Isaiah 65:17-25
- Nov. 20 Thanksgiving Sunday Jeremiah 23:1-6
- Nov. 27 1st Sunday of Advent Isaiah 2:1-5



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! Most 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 is November 13th

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 2023 down front and place it in a basket during worship!

INTERFAITH RELATIONSHIPS AND DIALOGUES:

How to Effectively Develop Them and Transform Church, Community, and Self — Oct. 27, hosted by Village Chapel!

Led by **Ibtisam Sue Barazi**, Vice President, Islamic Association of WV; **Victor Urecki**, **Rabbi, B'Nai** Jacob Synagogue; and **Todd Wright**, Pastor, Village Chapel Presbyterian, this day of study will provide guidance, knowledge, and support in discovering how to overcome the barriers of religious difference and build bridges of religious understanding and growth.

Cost is \$50, due with registration. Register [online here](#) or by mail with [this form](#) and a check to Presbytery of West Virginia, PO Box 11720, Charleston, WV 25339. Contact Susan Sharp Campbell, 304-667-9428 or susan_sharp_campbell@hotmail.com, with questions or for more information.



HOLIDAYS AND IMPORTANT DATES

**Saturday, October 29th—
Blood Drive**
Come and donate!



**Sunday, November 6th—
Daylight Savings Time Ends**
Turn you clocks back 1 hour



**Tuesday, November 8th—
Election Day**
Cast your ballots



**Thursday, November 11th—
Veterans Day**
Thank a Veteran for their Service



**Thursday, November 24th—
Thanksgiving Day**
Office is closed Nov. 24th & Nov. 25th



WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

Saturday, October 29th at
Appalachian Power Park at
9:00AM.

To register to join the Village Chapel team or to donate please [click here](#) or [contact Sarah Gottlieb](#) at 304-546-7087 mamasan41@hotmail.com. New this year will be a Halloween Costume contest for kids, plus Halloween goodie bags and planting flowers with the Plant Parent.



DID YOU MISS OUT ON THE FIRST RUN OF VCPC TEE SHIRTS?



Once we have orders for 12 more tee shirts, we can reorder for the same great price (\$15 each).

If you'd like to place an order, complete the form below & return to Amy or Leslie.

VCPC TEE SHIRT ORDER FORM

NAME: _____
CONTACT INFO: _____

Indicate **number** of shirts you want in the box below the **color** and **size** desired. Payment is collect on delivery.

NAVY						
Adult Sizes						
S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Youth Sizes						
YM	YL	YXL				
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GRAY HEATHER						
Adult Sizes						
S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Youth Sizes						
YM	YL	YXL				
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THANK YOU!

Dear friends,

I am so grateful for the love and appreciation you all shared with me as I celebrated a significant birthday and, more importantly, 20 years as part of the staff of Village Chapel.

I hope you all know how much I have loved and appreciated this congregation over these two decades. I have been blessed to serve beside two pastor-colleagues, other church staff who have been great partners in ministry, and all you members and friends of Village Chapel who have been open to trying new and creative approaches to worship and education, (some more successful than others!). You have graciously allowed me sabbatical leave, and played a crucial role in my Doctor of Ministry program, as well.

The changes brought about by the COVID crisis have shaken us all, but throughout the past two years, you have been so gracious and forgiving as I stumbled along with new technology (with a great deal of help from Don and YouTube videos). As I heard horror stories of pastors becoming the target of the fears and anxieties of their church members, I have thanked God for you, and the words of affirmation, appreciation, and grace that have been a constant blessing to me.

Who knows what joys and challenges will face us next? I only know that God will be with us in the future, as in the past, and I look forward to it!

With all my heart, *Amy*



THANKSGIVING SERVICE

We'll be celebrating Thanksgiving as part of the worship service on Nov. 20th. While we won't be gathering with the other churches that support Common Grounds, we will still be collecting canned goods to support their ongoing ministry to our hungry neighbors (and especially the Thanksgiving baskets that are being given away on Tuesday, November 22nd)!

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



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

NOVEMBER

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Sheila Danzer | 16 Carter France |
| 2 David Dawson | 17 Melissa France |
| 3 Joyce Dunlap | 18 Kendall France |
| 4 Dianne Ellis | 19 Dean France |
| 5 Grace Falbo | 20 John France |
| 6 Anthony Falbo | 21 Missy France |
| 7 Max Falbo | 22 Julia France |
| 8 Eva Falbo | 23 Meredith France |
| 9 John Fleck | 24 Vicki Frisk |
| 10 Donzy Fleck | 25 Mike Frisk |
| 11 Kate Forman | 26 Julie Gentry |
| 12 Isaac Forman | 27 Jessica Gentry |
| 13 Nora Forman | 28 Sarah Gottlieb |
| 14 Vera Forman | 29 Richard Gottlieb |
| 15 Martha Foster | 30 Jack Grimm |

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

October 30 – Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost:

Read 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4

In this passage, we are taught it is right and just to praise the Lord, even when people won't listen. We are reminded, again, to stay faithful in our Lord. How do you profess your faith in God? What are some ways you can spread the good news of our Lord?

November 6 – Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost:

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Paul tells the believers in Thessalonica to not be alarmed about rumors of the coming 'Day of the Lord,' but rather to hold fast to the truth they have been taught. What worries and anxieties is the Spirit inviting you to let go of right now? How do we discern what faith 'traditions' are worth holding on to, and which have served their purpose?

November 13 – Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost:

Read Isaiah 65:17-25

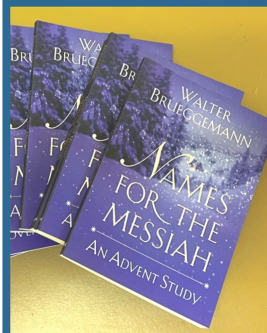
The prophet is painting a beautiful picture of the 'New Heavens and New Earth' in his final chapters. What images in this passage speak to your deep hopes and desires? How do we cultivate this vision of shalom in our world today, knowing that its final culmination can only be the work of Christ?

November 20 – Christ the King Sunday:

Read: Luke 23:33-43

This Christ the King Sunday we are reminded that the crown Jesus wore was one of thorns. How is your life as a citizen of Christ's kingdom marked by sacrifice and service to others?

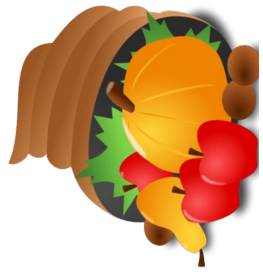
LOOKING AHEAD TO ADVENT!



This year's Monday evening Advent study will be based on the book *Names for the Messiah* by Walter Brueggemann. Copies are available in the office, so contact Leslie or Amy if you want one!




STATISTICAL REPORT	10/16/22	10/9/22	10/2/22	9/25/22
In-Person Attendance	50	47	45	40
Non-Pledged	\$615	\$385	\$305	\$70
Pledged Contribution	\$4,527.46	\$1,768	\$3,760	\$1,725
Miscellaneous Income	\$207	\$225	\$841	\$200
Total Contributions	\$5,349.46	\$2,378	\$4,906	\$1,995





NOVEMBER 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship Service 12:30 PM - Officer Training #4	7 10 AM - Bridge	8 	9 7 PM - Stewardship Team Meeting	10 10 AM - PW Circle 11:30 AM - Service Team Meeting	11  7:30 PM - NA GROUP	12 Presbytery Meeting @ Davis and Elkins College 12 PM - Devon Quilters
13 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship 12:00 PM - Fellowship Time	14 10 AM - Bridge	15	16 7 PM - Session Meeting	17 12 PM - PW Luncheon NEWSLETTER	18 7:30 PM - NA Group	19
20 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship Service 12:30 PM - Officer Training #5	21 10 AM - Bridge	22	23	24  Thanksgiving Day - OFFICE CLOSED	25 7:30 PM - NA Group OFFICE CLOSED	26
27 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship Service w/ Communion	28 10 AM - Bridge	29	30	NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS: 6 - Nancy Trotter; 11 - Butch Sinlgeton, Rona Smith; 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		