

# The Messenger

## From the Pastor's Desk: Whose Opinion Matters Most?



*“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*  
~ Romans 8:38-39

Most of us place a higher premium on what other people think than we realize. Paul understood this struggle intimately.

M. Scott Peck illustrates the point through a story of meeting a high school classmate at the age of fifteen. The following are his reflections after a conversation with his friend:

“I suddenly realized that for the entire ten

-minute period from when I had first seen my friend until that very moment, I had been totally self-preoccupied.

For the two or three minutes before we met all I was thinking about was the clever things I might say that would impress him. During our five minutes together I was listening to what he had to say only so that I might turn it into a clever response. And for two or three minutes my only thought was those things I could have said that might have impressed him even more.

I had not cared a wit for my classmate.”

What is most startling in that detailed

explanation of what goes on beneath the surface at the age of fifteen is that the same dynamics continue into our twenties, thirties, fifties, seventies, and nineties. We remain trapped in living a pretend life.

True freedom comes when we no longer need to be someone special in other people's eyes because we know we are lovable and good enough in Christ.

*Pastor Chris*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Direct Debit Tithing	2
Big Brothers/Big Sisters	2
Youth News	3
Health Ministry	3
Daily Bible Readings	4
January Helpers	6
Calendar	7
Annual Reports Due	8

### JANUARY SERMONS & WORSHIP:

- **January 1**  
*Hebrews 12:1-3*
- **January 8**  
*Matthew 2:1-12*
- **January 14**  
*Worship 24, 6:00 p.m.*
- **January 15**  
*John 1:29-42*
- **January 22**  
*Matthew 4:12-23*
- **January 28**  
*Worship 24, 6:00 p.m.*
- **January 29**  
*Matthew 5:1-12*

## Direct Debit Tithing

Looking to simplify your giving? Look no further! You can set up a direct debit in no time!

Your monthly tithe can be withdrawn from your checking or savings account the second Thursday of every month with nothing more than the completion of a short form and a voided check.

Or, would you like to choose the date your tithe comes out of your account? No problem! Most banks offer an online bill-pay system that can be set up weekly or monthly as you designate. Just add Clen-Moore as a new payee and program your tithe to best suit your finances.

No longer will you have to remember your check book and

envelope every Sunday and the church receives your tithe on a regular basis.

For the direct debit option, forms are available in the Welcome Center or church office. Thank you for your consideration and we hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity!

*Finance Committee*

## Opening Doors

December 31, 2016 marked the end of the official Opening Doors campaign. Over the past three years, the generosity of Clen-Moore has shown

forth in support of the changes made in the church. Thank you to those who have completed your pledges. If you are still working on completing

your pledge you can continue giving to Opening Doors until your pledge is fulfilled.

## Big Brothers/Big Sisters Kickoff

Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Clen-Moore style, is kicking off its 9<sup>th</sup> year in January with new matches and a new church involved.

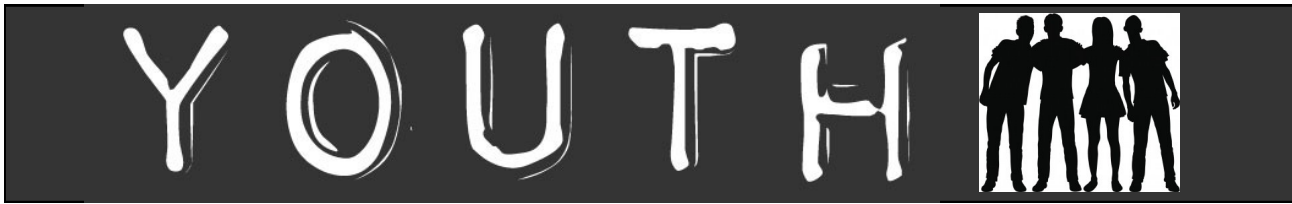
The Director of Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Allisyn Wolfe, has asked us to join with Highland UP and recreate the magic of the past 8 years. A few of our current matches have been followed through to completion and we are again matching up with some of the

younger children in our community.

Please consider your involvement as we recreate the magic. There is a great need to either cook or host one of our events. It's a great way to get involved if you are unable to attend on a regular basis. The more we share Christ's love as a group, the more likely the kids will make good decisions as they grow older!



In addition, if you feel the Holy Spirit leading you to become involved in a regular mission, we would love to talk with you about becoming a Big Brother or Big Sister. Please contact Bill Nesbitt at (724) 714-3625. We are making a positive difference in our community!



**C.2G.S.** - We will be wrapping our study on the Book of Revelation.

### **K.F.C.& FlipSide**

**Sunday, January 15** - We will schedule this date to do something depending on the weather. This may be our sled riding time...all depends on the weather. Keep checking your emails.

### **FlipSide Only**

**Sunday, January 29** - LCYM Dodgeball Tournament at the

Sankey Center beginning at 5:00 PM. Food, refreshments, and inspiring word will be shared as well.

If you are interested you must organize a team by Sunday, Jan. 22nd. See Aaron for details.

### **YOUTH CONFIRMATION BEGINS**

Attention students in 8th-12th Grade: Clen-Moore will hold a Confirmation meeting on Sunday, January 22nd following

worship for any student and their parents interested in going through Clen-Moore's Confirmation program to become a member of the church.

In our meeting time together Aaron will explain how our 2-Tier Mentor Confirmation Program works. Any student who is interested should contact Aaron by Sunday, January 15th.

## **Health Ministry**

### **Dates to Remember:**

**January 15, 2017** - blood pressure screening at Church Breakfast - 8:30AM in the Fellowship Hall.

**January 17, 2017** - blood pressure screening at PrimeTimer's meeting at 9:00 AM - in the church Chapel area.

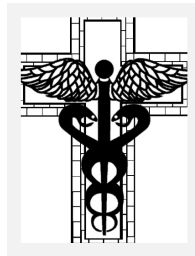
**Please note:** The Health Ministry Team will not meet again until February 2017.

### **Health Tip for the New Year:**

If you have type 2 diabetes, eating fatty fish may reduce the

risk of diabetic retinopathy, a complication of diabetes that often causes blindness, suggests a study by JAMA Ophthalmology.

This study was designed to evaluate the potential benefits of the Mediterranean diet. The new analysis focused on 3400 participants (average age 67), who had type 2 diabetes, correlating their risk of diabetic neuropathy over a 6 year period.




Those consuming 2-3 servings of fatty fish per week were 50% less likely to develop retinopathy than those consuming less. The retina is rich in Omega 3's and lab research has found that higher levels of these have a protective effect against diabetic retinopathy. The study did not look at Omega 3 supplements.

*(Taken from Wellness Letter, December, 2016.)*

*"Bless the Lord, Oh my soul, and forget not all His benefits; Who forgives all your iniquities, and heals all your diseases." ~ Psalm 103:2.*

## Daily Bible Readings

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1: Genesis 1-3  | 13: Gen. 25:12-18; 1 Chron. 1:29-31; <i>Luke 8</i>             |  |
| 2: <i>Luke 1</i>  | 14: Gen. 25:19-27:40   |   |
| 3: Gen. 4, 5; <i>Luke 2:1-40</i>                            | 15: Gen. 27:41-29:30; <i>Luke 9:1-36</i>                       |   |
| 4: Gen 6-9; 11:1-9  | 16: Gen. 29:31-30:43; <i>Luke 9:37-10:24</i>                   |   |
| 5: Gen. 10:1-20; 1 Chronicles 1:1-16; <i>Luke 2:41-3:38</i> | 17: Gen. 31; <i>Luke 10:25-11:13</i>                           |   |
| 6: Gen. 10:21-32; 1 Chron. 1:17-28; <i>Luke 4</i>           | 18: Gen. 32, 33; <i>Luke 11:14-54</i>                          |   |
| 7: Gen. 11:10-14:24   | 19: Gen. 34:1-36:14; 1 Chron. 1:34-37; <i>Luke 12:1-12</i>     |   |
| 8: Gen. 15-17; Psalm 105                                    | 20: Gen. 36:15-43; 1 Chron. 1:38-54; <i>Luke 12:13-59</i>      |   |
| 9: Gen. 18, 19; <i>Luke 5</i>                               | 21: Gen. 37, 38; <i>Luke 13</i>                                |   |
| 10: Gen. 20; <i>Luke 6:1-7:17</i>                           | 22: Gen. 38-41   |   |
| 11: Gen. 21-23; <i>Luke 7:18-35</i>                         | 23: Gen. 42, 43; <i>Luke 14</i>                                |   |
| 12: Gen. 24:1-25:11; 1 Chron. 1:32, 33; <i>Luke 7:36-50</i> | 24: Gen. 44: 1-47:12   |   |
|   | 25: Gen. 47:13-48:22; <i>Luke 15:1-16:18</i>                   |   |
|   | 26: Gen. 49; 1 Chron. 2:1, 2; Gen. 50; <i>Luke 16:19-17:37</i> |   |
|   | 27: Exodus 1, 2; <i>Luke 18</i>                                |   |
|   | 28: Ex. 3, 4; <i>Luke 19</i>                                   |   |
|   | 29: Ex. 5-7:13; <i>Luke 20</i>                                 |   |
|   | 30: Ex. 7:14-9:12; <i>Luke 21</i>                              |   |
|   | 31: Ex. 9:13-11:10; <i>Luke</i>                                |   |

## December Mission Disbursements

- \$1,000** - Joshua & Terrilyn Pacella  
**\$1,000** - Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship Scuito  
**\$1,000** - LATCOM  
**\$1,000** - Habitat for Humanity

## Mission Memo

Steve and Brenda Stelle have announced the end of their teaching in Dembi Dollo after three years of serving as Presbyterian mission co-workers to Ethiopia. They are returning to the States to assume personal responsibilities for Brenda's 86-year-old mother and give her the care and attention she needs at this time in her life.

Pray for the Stelles as they transition back into the U.S., with Brenda assisting her mom and Steve looking for pastoral work.

## Epiphany Sonnet

The Feast of the Epiphany, which celebrates the arrival of the three wise men at the manger in Bethlehem, has a special mystery and joy to it. Until now, the story of the coming Messiah has been confined to Israel, the covenant people; but here suddenly, mysteriously, are three Gentiles who have discovered that his birth is good news for them, too. Here is an Epiphany - a revelation - that the birth of Christ is not one small step for a local religion but a great leap for all mankind.

I love the way that traditionally the three wise men (or kings) are shown as representing the different races and cultures and languages of the world. I love the combination in their character of diligence and joy. They "seek diligently," but they "rejoice with exceeding great

joy!" I love the way they loved and followed a star, but didn't stop at the star, rather letting the star lead them to something beyond itself. Surely that is a pattern for all wise contemplation of nature whether in art or science.

One can return constantly to the mystery of the Epiphany and always find more but here is a sonnet by Malcolm Guite which particularly focuses on the way their arrival on the scene suddenly includes us, as Gentiles, into what has been up to this point an exclusively Jewish story.

### *Epiphany*

It might have been just someone else's story,

Some chosen people get a special king.

We leave them to their own peculiar glory,

We don't belong, it doesn't mean a thing.

But when these three arrive they bring us with them,

Gentiles like us, their wisdom might be ours;

A steady step that finds an inner rhythm,

A pilgrim's eye that sees beyond the stars.

They did not know his name but still they sought him,

They came from elsewhere but still they found;

In temples they found those who sold and bought him,

But in the filthy stable, hallowed ground.

Their courage gives our questing hearts a voice

To seek, to find, to worship, to rejoice.

## In Memoriam

- Shirley Fassinger - December 4, 2016
- A gift in memory of Doris Candioto was given by Barb Peterson and Ruth Ketzler.



## CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Chris Weichman, Pastor  
 Aaron Christy, Director of Youth & Family Ministry  
 Church Organist, Dr. Jane Karski  
 Director of Choirs, Kathryn Bressler-Mansell  
 Church Treasurer, Deborah Ringwelski

Substitute Treasurer, Sharon Esposito  
 Church Secretary, Kathy Barkley  
 Church Custodian, Charles Antonelli  
 Sunday Custodian, Clarence Jenkins  
 Nursery Attendant, Sally Mescall

## THE SESSION

Rev. Chris Weichman, *Moderator*  
 Gail Keffer, *Clerk of Session*

### 2019

Stephen Cowher  
 David Esposito  
 Janice McConnell  
 Wilbur McCurley  
 Nancy Natale

### 2018

Barbara Harper  
 Sue McKissick  
 Tom Rapp  
 Gale Measel  
 Margy Turner

### 2017

Debbie Book  
 Jen Conrad  
 Tom Mansell  
 Don Nicolls  
 Seth Plyler

## THE BOARD OF DEACONS

### 2019

Amy Ball  
 Shirley Book  
 Evelyn Genkinger  
 Sarah Plyler  
 Nancy Wozniak

### 2018

John Purdy  
 Dave Kerr  
 Sarah Esposito  
 John Caparoula  
 Becky Reese

### 2017

Bob Davies  
 Sandy Kelty  
 Barb Richards  
 Bob Turner

## Messenger Memo



The deadline to submit articles for the February *Messenger* is Monday,

January 9.

Sign up to receive *The Messenger* via email; go to [ClenMoore.org/newsletter](http://ClenMoore.org/newsletter).

## January Helpers

### Hospital Visitation Elders

**1** Barbara Harper, Sue McKissick  
**8** Tom Rapp, Gale Measel  
**15** Margy Turner, Debbie Book  
**22** Jen Conrad, Tom Mansell  
**29** Seth Plyler, Barbara Harper

### Deacons of the Month

Bob Turner, Bob Davies

### Van Driver

Bill Nesbitt  
 (724) 654-0553

# January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>New Year's Day</b> 10:30AM Worship		9:30AM Prime Timers, Parlor 7PM Buildings & Grounds, Parlor		6PM Christian Ed., Library 7PM Choir Rehearsal	Annual Reports Due	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10:30AM Worship 11:45AM Deacons, Parlor	<i>Messenger</i> Deadline	9:30AM Prime Timers, Parlor 6PM Mission & Evangelism, Conf. Room 7PM Stewardship & Finance, Library	5PM Worship & Music, Library	7PM Choir Rehearsal		6:00PM Worship 24
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8:30AM Fellowship Breakfast & BP Screening 10:30AM Worship	5:45PM BBBS Kickoff	9AM BP Screening, Parlor 9:30AM Prime Timers, Parlor 7PM Session, Parlor		7PM Choir Rehearsal		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10:30AM Worship 11:45AM Youth Confirmation Meeting, Parlor		9:30AM Prime Timers, Parlor		7PM Choir Rehearsal		6:00PM Worship 24
29	30	31				
10:30AM Worship 11:45AM Annual Congregational Meeting 5:00PM LCYM Dodgeball Tournament		9:30AM Prime Timers, Parlor				

Clen-Moore Presbyterian  
Church

220 E. Clen-Moore Blvd.  
New Castle PA 16105

Phone: 724-654-6657

Email:

clenmoorechurch@gmail.com



facebook.com/  
clenmoorechurch

[www.clenmoore.org](http://www.clenmoore.org)

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
New Castle, PA  
Permit # 45

*Address Service Requested*

## Annual Reports Due

REMINDER!

Annual reports from Sunday School Classes, Committees and Ministries of the Church are due in the church office by Friday, January 6, 2017.

