

The Clen-Moore Messenger

Christ
The Way, the Truth,
and the Life.
May 2023

Dear Church family,

Many years ago, I (Aaron) led a youth retreat to the New River Gorge in West Virginia. Part of our trip included a day of spelunking (cave exploration) in The Lost World Caverns. The trip started in a beautiful large room full of stalagmites and stalactites. There was a paved walkway that led to this room and many people paid to come and see it without getting an ounce of dirt on them. However, we did not pay the extra money and put on old raggedy clothes just to see this room. We paid to get dirty and explore.

Our guide walked us to the back of this room where there was an opening that we entered. Very quickly, everything changed. The temperature cooled, it got completely dark, and there was a constant moisture about the rock. Soon, we were squeezing through narrow spaces, eventually crawling on our knees and elbows in order to get from one section to the next, heavily relying on the lights on our helmets.

It was not easy. We got dirty, we got wet, and we became physically exhausted. (We even had to throw away all of our clothes when we were done). Yet, we had more fun and saw some of the most breath-taking rock formations that we would of never been able to see unless we went through the difficult work of exploring. Ask anyone on that trip if it was worth it and you would get a resounding, "YES!"

Our Christian faith bears many parallels to this story. We can get the ticket that takes us to the big room of stalagmites and stalactites and not get an ounce of dirt on us. It is nice and all, but we know in our hearts there is more, much more. It is like when we first get to know Jesus as Lord and Savior, but we refuse the deeper connection in Him that He offers to us.

So, if our hearts truly desire more, and we want to grow in our faith, knowledge, and wisdom of Jesus Christ and experience even greater things throughout our life journey, than we must put on our old ragtag clothes and prepare to get muddy. One way we do this is to seriously study God's word, the Bible. We get the ticket that helps us to grow deeper and to do this we must put the work in to get there. The good thing is that the Holy Spirit journeys with us as our helper and our guide.

Jesus told parables, or He told simple, vivid and engaging stories about everyday life that communicated powerful spiritual truths. Jesus used various types of metaphors about God's kingdom connecting and weaving them into the common life of the people. He made the kingdom accessible and understandable to His followers.

Beginning on Sunday, May 14th, Pastors Michael and Aaron will begin a six week study on some of the parables of Jesus from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. There will be 6 solid Bible scholars who will help us on this journey. We will teach the selected parable in our adult Sunday School class, and then preach on the same parable during worship. We invite everyone to explore the back part of the cave with us, so that we can experience a fuller and deeper connection to Christ and the truth of God's Word.

Aaron & Michael

Mission Spotlight!

May—Pine Valley Camp

"Fun builds a bridge to the heart of a kid." -Mr. Matt. This is the motto of Pine Valley Camp in Ellwood City, which has been providing residential camping to at-risk urban youth since 1995 and has been in existence since 1961.

Camp provides a great opportunity for the staff and counselors to model Jesus Christ and God's love to the campers. As the campers have a ton of fun, their hearts open up to know and receive Christ's saving love.

Pine Valley provides some year round opportunities for the campers to stay connected to God and the friends that they make through camp. Pine Valley is committed to helping these students develop their Christian faith and become aware of their God-given gifts so that they have every opportunity to continue to grow in Christ and become assets to their communities.

Clen-Moore Church has been partnering with Pine Valley for many years. We pray, we give financially, and we show up to work and learn more about camp. Pine Valley has come to us many times as well. Camp directors and staff have been here to visit us and The Light of the City Kid's Choir sang in worship with us and blessed us a couple of times in the past.

Pine Valley continues with their aggressive building campaign, renewing and beautifying the camp to make it a usable and reliable space for Christ. They have been completing more foundation work on the new Legacy Dining Hall, constructing pier boxes and caps, installing rebar cages, and pouring cement into the holes where the steel columns will sit. Pray for the completion of this project.

Also, pray that Pine Valley will fill the few openings for summer staff. (Contact the camp if interested). We are so thankful to be a part of what God is doing at Pine Valley Camp.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

9:30 - 10:30 in the Parlor

We will continue our study on comparing world religions with Biblical Christianity. Then, we move into comparing the major Christian denominations. These comparative studies will be followed by looking at the life and teachings of the Apostle Paul. This will take us to the end of June and to our summer break.

Youth Page

C.2G.S—The Jr./Sr. High Sunday School Class will be participating with the adult Sunday School class in the Parlor when Aaron is teaching on May 7th & 14th. We will be focusing on some of the parables from Luke and Matthew's Gospels throughout the month.

Flipside—We will be participating in the "Clen-Moore Mission Day" on Saturday, May 13th. See insert in the Messenger, Tuesday announcements, and Sunday bulletin. Please RSVP.

-Weather permitting, we hope to do a picnic, Bible study, and a hike at a place TBD on Sunday afternoon of May 21st. We'll make it a game night if inclement weather.

MESSENGER DEADLINE FOR MAY IS APRIL 18th.

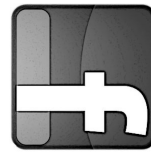
DAILY BIBLE READINGS

MAY, 2023

- 1 | Corinthians 1.1-31
- 2 | Corinthians 2.1-16
- 3 | Corinthians 3.1-23
- National Day of Prayer
- 4 | Corinthians 4.1-21
- 5 | Corinthians 5.1-13
- 6 | Corinthians 6.1-20
- 7 | Corinthians 7.1-16
- 8 | Corinthians 7.17-40
- 9 | Corinthians 8.1-13
- 10 | Corinthians 9.1-27
- 11 | Corinthians 10.1-33
- 12 | Corinthians 11.1-34
- 13 Psalm 117
- 14 Genesis 11.1-32
- 15 Genesis 12.1-20
- 16 Genesis 13.1-18
- 17 Genesis 14.1-24
- 18 Genesis 15.1-20
- 19 Genesis 16.1-15
- 20 Genesis 17.1-27
- Ascension Sunday
- 21 Psalm 113
- 22 Psalm 114
- 23 Psalm 115
- 24 Psalm 116
- 25 Psalm 120
- 26 Psalm 121
- 27 Acts 1.1-26
- Pentecost
- 28 Acts 2.1-13
- 29 Acts 2.14-47
- 30 Acts 3.1-26
- 31 Acts 4.1-37

There's
always
SOMETHING
TO BE
thankful
FOR

**Clen-Moore
Presbyterian Church**
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GRADUATION SUNDAY 2023

Graduation Sunday is **May 28, 2023**. We will be celebrating graduates during our worship service. We want to celebrate the graduation of those in high school, college (all degrees), military, and any other graduating institutions.

Please contact the church office by **Tuesday, May 23rd** with your graduates information. **1.** Full name. **2.** Any immediate family relations to Clen-Moore Church members. **3.** Place graduating from. **4.** Degree. **5.** Brief future plans. **6.** For High School graduates that will not be in attendance, please email Pastor Aaron a picture of your graduate.

Please do not assume that the office knows about your graduate... do call or email. Congratulations to all of Clen-Moore's Graduates! God bless you and may you bless the Lord Jesus Christ in your future endeavors.

Church softball season is just around the corner!

The season begins sometime in mid-May and runs through July, ending with a Saturday tournament (official dates TBD). Games are typically on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Please contact Pastor Michael if you're interested in playing.

Monthly Financial Snapshot

	March	YTD
Envelope, Loose, Rent	\$ 21,179	\$ 77,268
Operating & Mission Expense	\$ 37,452	\$ 106,574
Difference	(16,273)	\$ (29,306)
Mission Support—NCCA		

Health Ministry

Health Tip:
"As you move through your day, close your eyes and imagine that the God who loves you is leading you, holding your hand and guiding your steps. Try to take a walk, when weather permits, to reduce stress and feel the closeness of God as you take in the beauty of spring !

Scripture: "The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in Him; though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand." Psalm 37: 23-24.

Date to Remember:
May 21, 2023 - after worship a CPR/AED review class will be offered from 12:15-2:15pm. If you are interested please call the church office at 724-654-6657 or Nancy Book at 724-584-2547.

The class will be limited to 12 people and this is a class for those who have had previous training in CPR. Please register by **May 14, 2023** if at all possible.

Mark your calendars for VBS...
VBS will kick-off on June 25th and run the evenings of **June 26th—June 28th**.
The theme is BABYLON: Daniel's Courage in Captivity.

Generous Gestures

May Be Generous to Moms' Month

- Elderly moms who may be lonely.
- Single moms who may need encouraged.
- Young moms who may be tired.
- Sick moms who may long for healing.
- Estranged moms who may need reconciliation.
- Pet moms who may need a dog walker.