



The Clen-Moore Messenger

Christ
THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE
JOHN 14:6

MAY 2024

Dear Church Family,

Several months ago, we received and discussed items pertaining to our annual reports at our beginning of the year congregational meeting. It's always hard to believe how quickly time passes, as we find ourselves more than a quarter of the way through 2024. If you recall my report, I took time to reflect on 2023 and cast a broad picture of hopes and dreams for this year. As winter transitions into spring and with a lot of new things happening in the life of our church, I want to revisit some of the thoughts I shared back in February and note ways that we're already seeing some of them come to fruition.

One goal or aspiration that I shared for 2024 was to see Clen-Moore Church shift and become a mission outpost unto itself and to do more outreach to our neighbors. The specific idea I mentioned was being more intentional about inviting (i.e. "recruiting") members of our community to join the softball team.

In a similar way, we decided to provide hospitality to our community on voting day. Rather than ask people to buy from a bake sale, we reversed it and offered treats (and some kind words) to those gracing our doors. These are great tangible steps toward creating a culture that is outwardly focused!

Clen-Moore has also formed a new local mission partnership between "The Neighborhood Pantry" in Mahoningtown, our church garden, and the blessing box installed on Albert Street between our building and New Castle Christian Academy. While we are still exploring the ways in which these groups and activities might work together, we can see that God is at work. A lot of seeds have been planted—I'm eager to see how God makes them grow!

A long-term goal that I believe is important for Clen-Moore's longevity is finding new and innovative ways to use our building. We have a large, beautiful building. That in turn often means higher expenses. Though we have barely begun to scratch the service of utilizing it fully, I wanted to share a few ways in which we are blessing others with using our church building.

- Since the months following the pandemic, we opened our building to a local house church that didn't feel comfortable properly distancing inside the home where they normally met (when they couldn't meet outside due to the weather). So, if you see people eating and worshipping in Fellowship Hall or our youth room on Sunday morning—say hello to our brothers and sisters in Christ from Discipleship Community Church, or DC3 for short. They are led by Pastor Craig Cole, who has preached at Clen-Moore in the past.
- We are also hosting a Quaker group led by our friends and neighbors, David and Melodi Goff. For those who might wonder—YES, they are Christians, but they have different worship traditions. If you'd like to learn more, David will be teaching a three-week Sunday School class on the history, theology, and practice of the Quakers later this summer.
- Last but not least, we now have two PEO groups who use our space. This is a philanthropic scholarship organization specifically for women. While their work is not overtly a Christian ministry or mission, we are glad to offer space for their good work in our community.

As I close, I thought it appropriate to share these words from Mark 9:38-41: "John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone using your name to cast out demons, but we told him to stop because he wasn't in our group." "Don't stop him!" Jesus said. "No one who performs a miracle in my name will soon be able to speak evil of me."

This is a simple reminder that we can and should seek partners in ministry and enable good works in our community. As peacemakers in this world, one of the small things we can do in our corner of New Castle is provide opportunities and spaces where our community feels welcome. Our church property and our relationships with people are the gateway to someone coming to Christ—we should do our best to provide an environment that is inviting.

I hope this "quarterly" update finds you well. Pray that God will continue to reveal the will of Jesus to us through the Holy Spirit as we seek to worship and serve him obediently!

-Pastor Michael

THE DEADLINE FOR JUNE IS MAY 17.



May 2024

Health Tip from the
Health Ministry Deacons:



“Good news for gardeners: getting down and dirty can spruce up your yard — and your health, too! Spring is prime planting season, but don’t stress about planting everything in one day — overdoing can leave you sore or strained (take breaks to stretch and hydrate)! Gardeners over 65 and older had lower risks of heart disease factors compared with non-gardeners. Research has dug up mental health benefits, as well, showing that gardening may help ease stress, depression and anxiety while enhancing happiness and well-being. And remember to apply your 30% SPF (or higher) sunscreen before going outside.”

(Taken from Prevention - May, 2025, p.12.)

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3:2 “A time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck what is planted.”

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.



**Food Pantry/Blessing Box Collection
(Month 1) – MAY**

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|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Shredded Wheat Cereal | Beef Ravioli |
| Wide Egg Noodles – bag | Fruit Cocktail |
| Jello – box | Tuna – canned |
| Sugar | Tuna Helper |
| Green Beans – canned | Peas – canned |
| Coffee/Regular or Decaf – can | Applesauce – jar |



Communion will be served

Sunday, May 5th



CRAY BOWL-A-THON

*Saturday, May 4th
4:00pm to 6:00pm*



GRADUATION SUNDAY



Graduation Sunday is May 19, 2024. 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 14th with your graduate’s 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. Please email the office a picture of your graduate at **clenmoorechurch@gmail.com**.

You may drop the photo off at the office and/or text the photo to Elinore Snyder at 724-510-5975 also. Please do not assume that the office knows about your graduate. Please contact us! Congratulations to all Clen-Moore’s Graduates! God bless you and may you bless the Lord Jesus Christ in your future endeavors.



**NOT SO YOUTH GROUP
ANNUAL CAMPING—
RIVER FLOAT**



Date: Friday, July 26 – Sunday, July 28
Where: Cook’s Forest State Park and Campground
– **Group Camp Sites B and C**

We will check into the campsites any time after 3:00pm on Friday, July 26th. Checkout is by 3:00pm on Sunday, July 28th. We will raft, kayak, or tube the Clarion River on Saturday and host outdoor “Camp” worship on Sunday morning. The whole church is invited to participate in any part of the weekend. Group TENT sites have been reserved and come at a minimal cost. There are other options in the area if tent camping is not a good option for anyone. More details will follow as we get closer to the trip. Feel free to contact Sam Plyler at 724-971-7088 with any questions.

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Clenmoore.org

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