

Clen-Moore Presbyterian Church

The Messenger—September 2026

220 E. Clen – Moore Blvd.

New Castle, PA 16105

724-654-6657

clenmoorechurch@gmail.com

www.clenmoore.org

Dear Church family,

I don't know about you, but I love the sense of anticipation that comes with September. For many of us, a sense of rhythm and order returns as the school year resumes, and we trade summer's loose pace for regular patterns. That includes resuming Tuesday morning Bible study, where we'll dive into the story of Jonah with help from one of our favorite Bible study teachers, Sandy Ritcher.

On Saturday, September 19, our elders will gather for a retreat at the Conrad home in place of our regular meeting. Please keep us in prayer as we discern together, in a deeper way than usual, where God is leading our church. Our elders labor faithfully on your behalf, and I'd encourage you to hold up their leadership in prayer.

Last but certainly not least, I want us to think about church membership. Scripture doesn't sharply define membership beyond calling us into the fellowship of a worshipping, serving community. In our Presbyterian tradition, however, membership carries a specific shape: a public profession of faith and a commitment to a local congregation to serve, support, and participate. It's also the necessary step toward ordination as an elder or deacon, and toward voting in congregational meetings. Membership isn't required to take part in the life of a church, but it is encouraged.

Rather than hold a formal "membership class," we now invite prospective members to read our membership packet and then reach out. Several of you have inquired in recent months, and we anticipate welcoming new members later this fall. If you find yourself regularly participating in the life of Clen-Moore but haven't yet made that commitment, I'd encourage you to pray about taking that step.

For those who are already members, the challenge looks a little different. When you first joined Clen-Moore, why did you make that commitment—because your parents required a confirmation class, because it seemed expected of you, or, hopefully, out of curiosity and devotion to Jesus? And how have you lived into that commitment since? Let this be an invitation to recommit to our church family in a fresh way.

Wherever you find yourself, I'd ask you to prayerfully reflect on your commitment to God, to his church, and to your place within it. Joshua gathered the people of Israel to renew their covenant with God, and his declaration is a fitting challenge for us this fall: "as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD" (Joshua 24:15, NRSV). Consider what it might look like to make or renew ” that same declaration here at Clen-Moore.

Bless and be blessed,

-Michael

UPCOMING Events			
Tuesday, September 1st	M&M Meeting 6:00pm Admin. Meeting 7:00pm	Saturday, September 19th	Session Retreat at Jen Conrads 10:00am
Wednesday, September 2nd	Bible Study with Steve Plyler 6:00pm-7:30pm	Sunday, September 20th	Prayer Team in Library 9:00am Coffee House 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Worship with Rev. G. Richard Vogeley D. Min
Sunday, September 6th	Prayer Team in Library 9:00am Coffee House 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Worship with Communion 10:30am No Children's Church	10:30am	Children's Church with Briana Hill
Terri will not be here, therefore the office will be closed Monday, Sept. 7th thru Friday, Sept. 11th If there is an emergency call Michael 412-559-3525			
Tuesday, September 8th	Bible Study 9:30am	Tuesday, September 22nd	Bible Study 9:30am Presbytery Meeting at First PC Sharon at 6:30pm
Tuesday, September 9th	Bible Study with Steve Plyler 6:00pm-7:30pm	Wednesday, September 23rd	Bible Study with Steve Plyler 6:00pm-7:30pm
Sunday, September 13th	Rally Day Prayer Team in Library 9:00am Coffee House 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am Children's Church with Christina Plyler Rally Day Picnic in the Fellowship Hall	Thursday, September 24th	Lifeline Screening in the Fellowship Hall 8:00am—5:30pm
Tuesday, September 15th	Bible Study 9:30am Meals for Mom's 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am	Sunday, September 27th	Pray Team in Library 9:00am Coffee House 9:00am Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am Children's Church with Courtney Plyler
Wednesday, September 16th	Bible Study with Steve Plyler 6:00pm-7:30pm	Tuesday, September 29th	Bible Study 9:30am
		Wednesday, September 30th	Bible Study with Steve Plyler 6:00pm-7:30pm
		Looking Ahead:	
		Sunday, October 4th	World Communion
		Sunday, October 11th	Hayride at Rodgers Farm 4:00pm
		Sunday, October 18th	Pine Valley Choir Luncheon after worship
Deadline for October is September 18th			

This 5 week session study will focus on the evidence for Heaven and Hell. Everyone wants to know what awaits on the other side of death. This study will get you beyond misconceptions and delve into what the Bible teaches about the afterlife.

Time: 6:00pm until 7:30pm

Fellowship and Dessert 6:00pm until 6:15pm

Study and Discussion 6:15pm until 7:30pm

Place: The Parlor at Clen-Moore Church

Week One: "Can we really know there is a Heaven"?

Week Two: “What’s the evidence for Heaven”?

Week Three: “What will Heaven be like”?

Week Four: “Is there really a place called Hell”?

Week Five: “How do we live with an eye on eternity”?

The study will feature 20-25 minute videos



“Healthy aging isn’t about finding a miracle cure—it is about building simple daily habits that support your body over time. Here is a list of some practical habits that may improve long term health, energy, and healthy aging:

1. Eating a balanced whole- food diet,
2. Moving your body with aerobic and strength training exercises,
3. Keeping your mind and social life active,
4. Getting 7-9 hours of sleep, and
5. Keeping up with regular medical checkups.

Adopting these positive choices protects your physical and mental well being."

(Taken from med.stanford.edu, by Sarah Williams, January, 2026)

September is Healthy Aging Month, so it is a great time to begin or continue these lifetime habits to help you stay strong and healthy!



WHEN: Sunday, September 13, 2026
After church in the Fellowship Hall

MENU: Chicken Tenders, Corn on the Cob, Salads, Desserts and Drinks

If you would like to contribute to the picnic, please fill out the form in the Sunday bulletin and put it in the collection box or call the church office at **724-654-6657**.

Help will be needed on that Sunday with Clean-Up



September 2026

Brown Sugar

Beef Ravioli

Cup of Soup

Scalloped Potatoes-box

Paper Towels

Instant Pudding-box

Apple Pie Filling-can

Tea Bags

Tuna

Tuna Helper

Cereal

Facial Tissues



Congratulations to Joshua Toma,
who was awarded The Marg
Pommersheim Memorial Nursing
Scholarship, through UPMC
Jameson School of Nursing.

A Note from the Elders

More Mission Bonanza news and it’s all good! Before I get to the good parts, I want to refresh your memory about the Bonanza project. To recap, session decided last December to expand our mission giving by \$40,000. Part of the project was to allocate \$1,000 to each elder who could then donate part or all to a need of his/her choosing. The stories that follow will assure you that your generous donations are being put to good use.

The next few paragraphs are directly from Bill Nesbitt. He put a lot of thought into this project and decided that he had two goals: 1. Involve Clen-Moore members and 2. Find needs that were beyond his purview. This is his story:

My original idea was to split my \$1,000 into 5 \$200 payments. I would go to 5 different church members and ask them to identify someone they knew of who was in need. My thought was to honor those Church members through the donation, and to make sure they knew they were a part of what Session was doing with this money.

- *It worked exactly as I thought with Shirley Book. The rest so far has not been exactly what I planned, but it has been amazing!*
- *I went to Margie Kerr. I wanted to honor her and Dave for all of their contributions throughout the years to BBBS/1-2-1, including the Christmas Bingo and Dave playing Santa for the kids for many years. Margie did not come back to me with a person in need. Instead, she wanted to use it as seed money for the newly formed Meals for Moms mission - what an amazing idea - how many moms can we help as this mission gets off the ground and grows stronger and stronger!*

In the meantime, Ed Conti approached me about teaming up with \$200 of his money and \$200 of mine to donate to young Kenny's family. Shame on me because I paused at first, thinking this didn't fit with what I wanted to do and I had already bent a little with Margie and Dave's money. Fortunately, God spoke to me pretty quickly and reminded me that this was not about what I wanted or thought was best but it was about what He wanted. And He led Ed to me to do something amazing with the \$200!
I still have \$400 left. I plan to approach two more members and honor them through a donation to someone or something that they care deeply about.

Thank you, Bill, for being so creative in the name of Christ.

Next, Jennifer Conrad had \$800 remaining and was just waiting for God to nudge her in the right direction. Well, I guess God goes to yard sales because that’s where Jen got her lead.

Jennifer says:

My recipient was a woman that I found out about from a former friend/co-worker who I happened to run into at a yard sale. The woman had been evicted from her home after her husband passed away. She and her 5 children managed to find a home on Moody Ave and purchased it with a lot of help from friends in their church. Her first mortgage payment was due July 1st and our Bonanza funds covered that payment and gave her such peace. It was truly amazing to watch God at work in the coincidences that unfolded; from the casual catch-up at the yard sale to the timing of the delivery of the check. I found out what she would be using the money for after I delivered the check. The woman was in tears over our generosity and thanked Clen-Moore through my friend over and over. It felt pretty darn good to be so helpful, I must say!!!

Boy, Jen, I can’t read that without getting emotional. Yard sales will never be the same for me.

So, Clen-Moore, what do you think? Is this how you want us to use your donations? Do you know of a need that could use some help? We are not asking for more money. We are asking you to join with us elders and Pastor Michael to find the path that God wants us to walk. We still have a big chunk of unspent cash that we have designated for a community project. And we are looking for just the right nudge.

Elinore Snyder



MISSION SPOTLIGHT SEPTEMBER 2026—Caleb

The mission of Caleb International Ministries is to the serve the Body of Christ through crossing religious and cultural borders. Caleb International Ministries was founded in 1989 with the primary objective to support and educate pastoral and lay Church leaders internationally through Caleb’s Leadership Institute, pastoral counseling and administrative consultation. Caleb International Ministries serves God by assisting those who are involved in Church leadership through education in Biblical Theology, Psychology and Management/Leadership. This focus remains to this day as Caleb International Ministries maintains leadership institutes in Ghana, India and Europe. Moreover, Caleb has always retained a focus on pastoral care extended to individuals and families experiencing hardships. This aspect of the Ministry was expanded in 2024 with the creation of the Division of Good Works which focuses on providing financial assistance to individuals and families in need within our local community.