

# The Vision

MT CALVARY UMC  
Harrisburg, PA

September 2025

REV. JAMES COPULOS, PASTOR  
TBD, OFFICE MANAGER  
BARB BUCKINGHAM, ORGANIST  
DANIELLE EAGLESON, CHOIR DIRECTOR  
ASHLEY HOWSON, JUBILEE WORSHIP  
LEADER  
RUSS THOMAS, TREASURER  
OWEN HOWSON, YOUTH LEADER  
ERICA SEHAR, CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR



Nancy Schug modeling our new bench provided by your plastic bag donations.

## Youth Mission Trip – Williamsport, PA August 3-6

The youth mission trip was a resounding success this year! The annual Transform mission trip is held every August in Williamsport, PA. This year 16 youth and 4 adults were given the opportunity to spread God's love through service to those in need. Students served local residents in repair and landscaping projects while making deeper connections with each other, with Christ, and with three other youth groups from Pennsylvania.

So what does a typical day on a youth mission trip look like? Our youth were up at 6am, sharing in morning devotions and breakfast with the other groups, and out the door and off to various job sites.

At the job sites this year, our youth painted, weeded, trimmed shrubbery, dug and removed shrubs from, mulched and mulched, did minor repairs, and so much more! After 8 hours of work outside, the youth were given ice cream and dinner and then did group devotions and activities with the other groups until lights out at 11pm.

All in all, we had great connections built with individuals in the community, great life lessons and perspectives seen and experienced for the youth, opportunities to share the love of Christ with others, and the blessing of this mission week granted by a great God!



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# Season of Prayer

Psalm 145:18 The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.



A number of months ago, the Vision Team at Mt. Calvary put out a survey asking for congregational feedback on nearly every aspect church life. As the person who received and curated the data, one of the things I was struck by was a frequent desire for a greater focus on prayer. In many ways, this excited me as it showed the desire for greater depth in our relationships with God.

In the coming month, the Vision Team will begin presenting its recommendations to the church for a 5-year plan for ministry. With these presentations will come a number of opportunities for discussion as well as an eventual vote on the components which require one. One of the key components of the Vision is going to be a renewed focus on prayer throughout the church. Without going into too much detail, I can share two ideas already discussed: creating designated spaces for focused prayer in the church, and forming a prayer team that will meet regularly. While there will be leaders, anyone who would like to participate in the prayer team will be welcome to do so.

Along with these ministries, I have felt God calling me to do something that I've never done before with my preaching: focusing on the same theme throughout the year. As you would imagine, the theme will be prayer. From September through May we'll be entering into a "Season Of Prayer," focusing on the following themes:

- Fall: Becoming A Praying Church
- Advent: Praying Through Mary's Magnificat
- Winter (Part 1): Prayer In Action
- Winter (Part 2): Praying The Psalms
- Lent: The Prayers of Jesus
- Post-Easter: Prayer As...
- May: Prayer and the Holy Spirit

My hope is that together we will grow in understanding the who, what, where, why, when, and how of prayer. The Scriptures teach us that everything is an opportunity for prayer. As Philippians 4:6 reminds us "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."

I'm excited about this "Season Of Prayer" and I am very hopeful that we will all find ourselves closer in our relationships with God and with each other by the end of it. May this season be one of intersectionality, faithfulness, and surrender as we go to God to grow in prayer.

Love and Prayers,

*Pastor Jim*

## Important Vision Team Dates:

In September the Vision Team of Mt. Calvary will begin to present their work to the congregation. Here are some important dates for you to remember:

September 21	Vision Presentations During Worship Services
September 28	First Congregational Q&A Between Services
October 1	6PM Second Congregational Q&A
October 2	7PM Third Congregational Q&A



# WONDERS FOUND MONTHLY REPORT

Happy Anniversary to Wonders Found!

A seed planted 14 years ago at a church growth seminar has been watered by volunteers and believers. But ONLY GOD could make it grow (1 Corinthians 3:6-7). And that is what has happened.

Because of what HE has done, 14 years of giving financial help to many organizations, providing funding for 28 mission trips to rebuild in disaster areas, and providing help to community members in difficult circumstances has happened. All this while building a faith community of volunteers, donors, DUI offenders, employees on Work Comp and others who volunteer. God has turned a small seed into a large plant with lots of vines that will continue to grow and share His love!!! THANK YOU, GOD!

## FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JULY 2025

Store Sales	\$24,680.84
Rent	-\$7,000.00
Utilities	-\$629.93
Store Supplies	-\$540.75
Missions	\$2,409.06
Sales Tax	-\$828.94
Net Profit/ Loss	\$13272.16

# September Celebrations

Birthdays		
Day	First Name	Last Name
2	Ruth	Long
5	Nancy	Ulrey
6	Madilyn	Snyder
7	Walt	Eckard
7	Brenda	Mumma
9	Glenn	Yoder
10	Theodore	Billington
12	Janice	Miller
13	John (Jack)	Russ
14	Kathy	Duschek
14	Rich	Mentzer
16	Gary	Houck
16	Allison	Waltman
17	Grace	Walborn
17	Claire	Zeiters
21	Samantha	Schug
22	Evelyn	Howson
24	Patti	Houck
27	Gabrielle	Topp
28	Jeffrey	Wass
29	Rodrick	Miller
30	Tom	Holtzman



Wedding Anniversaries		
Day	First Name	Last Name
2	Scott & Amy	Stoner
17	Clyde & Kathy	Liddick
17	John & Mary Beth	Miele
17	Brad & Nicole	Scheidler
18	Michael & Brenda	Mumma
18	Bob & Diana	Reynolds
19	Matt & Sarina	Boyd
23	Dane & Jessica	Nearhoof
25	Kenneth & Janelle	Egan

## A Note from the Office:

This version of the Vision probably looks pretty different, doesn't it? For years, we have used the program Microsoft Publisher to make all of our promotional supplies: posters, bulletins, visions, etc. Unfortunately, this fall, Microsoft will no longer be supporting Publisher. For that reason, we are slowly making the move to a new publishing software for all of our supplies. You may notice that the bulletins look a bit different, or things are revamped. But don't worry, all of the information will still be provided to you, it just may look a bit different from now on!



# MCUMC CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

## SEPTEMBER '25

Moe



Have a child that likes to sing, dance or act? Register them for our 2025 Christmas Musical "Christmas Eve". Preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> graders welcome! Scripts will be distributed the beginning of November and practices start 11/23!



CHECK OUT OUR EVENTS ON OUR  
FACEBOOK PAGE  
@MCUMC CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Join us for Simply Loved Sunday School at 9:30am where kids will learn how loved they are! "The Lord is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love." (Psalm 145:8) We will have lessons from the book of Judges: Israel Needs a Leader (Judges 2:6-23), Deborah Becomes Israel's Judge (Judges 4:1-16), Talks to Gideon (Judges 6), Gideon Leads God's People (Judges 7). And they will learn that God is patient, thanks, God!

## Youth Group Room Renovations and Updates

Hello Everyone!

WE'RE BACK!!! On September 7<sup>th</sup> we are kicking off this year's Youth Season! with a new space! A huge thank you to everyone that made our renovation possible with donations, time, and prayer. So with that excitement, we will be in the youth room exploring the new area and worshiping Christ. The rest of our month will be diving into this year's devotions and Bible studies while we discuss modern day challenges with Biblical solutions and context.

One huge event to look out for:

Uprise fest! September 14<sup>th</sup>. We will be leaving from the church immediately after worship, and will return close to 7PM. Tickets are \$75 and should be purchased prior to the day of the event. \$85 at the door. Sign up is posted on the Narthex board for the Youth Group. See you all there!

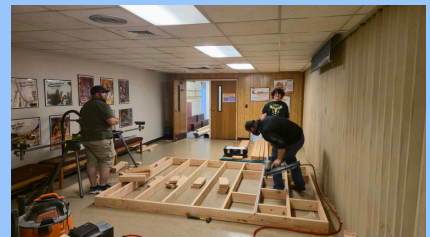
September 7<sup>th</sup>: Youth kick off 5:30-7:30.

September 14<sup>th</sup>: (Sunday) Uprise fest! Leave church immediately after the second service

September 21<sup>st</sup>: Youth Room 6-7:30

September 28<sup>th</sup>: Youth Room 6-7:30

*Owen Howson*





# Events and Happenings

## Meetings

Finance	9/4 at 6:30PM
Ad Council	9/8 at 7PM
Nominations	9/9 at 6:30PM
Trustees	9/10 at 7PM
Vision Team	9/11 at 6:30PM

## Upcoming Events

- Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University begins September 18<sup>th</sup> at 6PM. If you'd like to participate but cost is an issue, please see Pastor Jim.
- The Vision Team will be presenting a plan for ministry on September 21<sup>st</sup> during worship. There will be Q&A opportunities on September 28<sup>th</sup>, October 1<sup>st</sup>, and October 2nd.
- Trunk or Treat is returning to Mt. Calvary! This year's event will be in the evening of October 26th at 6PM. Please let Jeff Klos know if you'd like to participate.
- The Mt. Calvary Fantasy Football Draft is August 31<sup>st</sup> at 8:30PM. This year we have 12 people participating, our most ever!
- The Lifepoint Food Pantry Collection for September is Boxed Pie Crust.
- Don't forget about our ongoing Toys for Tots collection!



## Children

- Children's Sunday School begins September 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am
- The annual children's Christmas play will be entitled "Christmas Eve." Register your child today in the narthex!

## Teens

- Support our youth room renovation! See our list of items in the narthex or scan the QR code to see our wishlist!
- Register today for the Uprise Concert on September 14th. This year's headliner is Phil Wickham. Tickets are 75.00 online or 85.00 at the door.
- Youth Ministries kickoff is September 7<sup>th</sup>! Youth Sunday School is at 10:15am and Youth Group Sunday evenings from 5:30-7:30pm.

## Adult Small Groups

- Two adult Sunday School options are available at 10:15AM every week!
- MCUMC Women are holding a planning meeting September 23 @ 7pm. Come and help us plan out the next year of events.
- MCUMC Women will continue their weekly Bible study with "Untangle Your Emotions" by Jennie Allen. Newcomers are always welcome. See Debbie Schug with questions.
- MCUMC Men's Ministry meets Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm. Come and watch "The Chosen and enjoy lively conversation.
- Rahab's Book club meets monthly on the third Tuesday at 7pm. This month we will discuss Marie Benedict's Queens of Crime.

## Volunteers Needed!

As the body of Christ at Mt. Calvary grows there continues to be a need for volunteers, especially on Sunday mornings. In particular, we're looking for Stewards to count the offering in both services and Ushers to collect the offering at the 9AM service. We are also in need of people to run the sound/video boards on Sunday mornings. Please let Pastor Jim know if you'd be willing to fill one of these important roles.



# September Helpers



9am Service	9/7	9/14	9/21	9/28	10/5
Acolyte	Ava Collelo	Wyatt Scheidler	Everett Sehar	Ava Wagner	Whitney Sehar
Greeters	Jim Reynolds Erin Collelo	Brad Sheidler Nicole Sheidler	Frank Duschek Janet Copulos	Judy Imes Patrick Gerety	Lenny Baumbaugh Carol Cochenaur
Media	Jaan Sidorov	Blake Bechtel	Bob Ulrey	Micah Copulos	Blake Bechtel
Scripture Reader	Yvonne Fry	Nicole Sheidler	Diana Reynolds	Maddie Kreamer	Brad Sheidler
Stewards	Bob Ulrey Sharon Sidorov	Diana Reynolds Kay Holtzman	Kathy Duschek John Kreamer	Blaine Fry Sharon Sidorov	Diana Reynolds Kay Holtzman
Ushers (Head Usher in bold)	Blaine Fry Lenny Baumbaugh	Bill Griffiths Anna Strouse	Brad Sheidler Nicole Sheidler	Ty Kreamer Brenda Mumma	Blaine Fry Bob Ulrey
11am Service	9/7	9/14	9/21	9/28	10/5
Nursery	Amanda Copulos Owen Howson	Pam Ruddle Amy Thomas	Rachel Woodworth Kaitlyn Loffreda	Mark Schug Sarah Klos	Kim Kalinowski Maddie Snyder
Greeters	Amanda Moore Janet Copulos	Jamie Gaiski Janet Copulos	Cheryl Blaha Janet Deardorff	Dave Heckman Sheila Heckman	Mark Schug Debbie Schug
Media	Mitchell White	Amanda Copulos	Blake Bechtel	Amanda Copulos	Mitchell White
Scripture Reader	Janet Copulos	Matt Luttrell	Norm White	Pam Ruddle	Debbie Schug
Stewards	RussThomas Mark Schug	Matt Luttrell Todd Ruddle	Todd Ruddle Mark Schug	Matt Luttrell RussThomas	Mark Schug Russ Thomas

# September Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Labor Day Church Office Closed	2 6:30PM Men's Bible Study	3 6:30AM Men's Sharing Group 4:30-5:30PM Private Piano Lessons In Social Hall 6PM Bell Choir Practice 7:15PM Sanctuary Choir	4 6:30PM Finance Committee Meeting	5	6 10AM-2PM Private Event In Social Hall
7 9AM Traditional 9:30AM Children's S.S. 10AM Fellowship 10:15AM Adult & Youth Sunday School 11AM Jubilee 5:30PM Youth Kickoff!	8 4-7PM Private Piano Lessons in Sanctuary 6:30PM Women's Bible Study 7PM Ad Council	9 6:30PM Men's Bible Study 6:30PM Nomination's Committee Meeting	10 6:30AM Men's Sharing Group 4:30-5:30PM Private Piano Lessons In Social Hall 6PM Bell Choir Practice 7PM Trustees 7:15PM Sanctuary Choir	11 6:30PM Vision Team	12	13
14 9AM Traditional 9:30AM Children's S.S. 10AM Fellowship 10:15AM Adult & Youth Sunday School 11AM Jubilee Youth Uprise Festival	15 4-7PM Private Piano Lessons in Sanctuary 6:30PM Women's Bible Study	16 6:30PM Men's Bible Study 7PM Rahab's Book Club	17 6:30AM Men's Sharing Group 4:30-5:30PM Private Piano Lessons In Social Hall 6PM Bell Choir Practice 7:15PM Sanctuary Choir	18 6PM Financial Peace University	19	20
21 9AM Traditional 9:30AM Children's S.S. 10AM Fellowship 10:15AM Adult, Youth SS 11AM Jubilee 12PM-6PM Private Event 6PM Youth Group	22 4-7PM Private Piano Lessons in Sanctuary 6:30PM Women's Bible Study	23 6:30PM Men's Bible Study 7:00PM Women's Planning Meeting	24 6:30AM Men's Sharing Group 4:30-5:30PM Private Piano Lessons In Social Hall 6PM Bell Choir Practice 7:15PM Sanctuary Choir	25 6PM Financial Peace University	26	27
28 9AM Traditional 9:30AM Children's S.S. 10AM Fellowship 10AM Vision Plan Q&A 10:15AM Adult, Youth SS 11AM Jubilee 6PM Youth Group	29 4-7PM Private Piano Lessons in Sanctuary 6:30PM Women's Bible Study	30 6:30PM Men's Bible Study				



I have so much to do  
that I spend several  
hours in prayer  
before I am able to  
do it.

~John Wesley



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Connect with Us!  
Scan below



# The Vision- September 2025

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Worship With Us:

Traditional Worship: 9:00AM

Coffee Fellowship and Sunday School: 10:00AM

Jubilee Contemporary Worship: 11:00AM

NOTE: If you are receiving this newsletter and no longer wish to receive it, or have joined another church, please contact us to have your name removed from the mailing list.