

Our Vision:

To be a living Body of Christ in today's world, doing Christ's work in Christ's way.

Our Mission:

Win to Christ,
Grow in Faith,
Send to Win.

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Chiques Chronicle

Volume 27 Issue 4

October/November/December 2026

**Newsletter of****CHIQUES METHODIST CHURCH**

1215 East Main Street, Mount Joy PA 17552

Celebrating the birth of our Savior.



Choose Joy

“Choose joy” can sound like a nice phrase for a coffee mug or wall sign. But when life is difficult, it may also sound unrealistic. How can we choose joy when we are carrying grief, facing uncertainty, managing conflict, or simply feeling worn down?

The Apostle Paul helps us see that Christian joy is not pretending everything is fine. Paul wrote his letter to the Philippians from prison. His circumstances were restricted, uncertain, and far from comfortable. Yet throughout this short letter, joy keeps appearing—not because Paul ignored his troubles, but because his life was anchored in something his troubles could not take away.

Over the next six weeks, we will walk together through Paul’s letter to the Philippians in a series called Joy That Can’t Be Taken Away. We will discover that joy begins with the gospel: the good news that Jesus Christ has loved us, saved us, and made us His own. It grows as the gospel advances, even through hardship. It is strengthened through humility as we learn to look to the interests of others, following the example of Christ Himself. We will also be reminded that joy does not mean standing still. Paul encourages us to press on, knowing that we have not yet arrived but that Christ has taken hold of us. He calls us to stand firm when pressures and distractions threaten to pull us away from faithful living. Finally, we will hear one of the Bible’s clearest testimonies to contentment:

“I can do all this through him who gives me strength” (Philippians 4:13).

Choosing joy is not a command to manufacture a happy feeling. It is a daily decision to turn our eyes again toward Christ—to remember His faithfulness, receive His grace, serve others in His name, and trust Him with what we cannot control. Whatever this season holds, the invitation is the same: choose joy—not because life is always easy, but because Jesus is present, Jesus is faithful, and Jesus is enough.

Serving in Joy,

Pastor Christopher

Upcoming Sermon Series

This six-week journey through Philippians will explore the surprising secret of Christian joy—not a fleeting happiness rooted in changing circumstances, but a deep confidence anchored in Christ. Whatever lies ahead, the joy Christ gives cannot be taken away.



- October 4 - Joy Through Humility (Philippians 2: 1-18)
- October 11 - Joy That Keeps Pressing Forward (Philippians 3: 1-14)
- October 18 - Joy That Stands Firm (Philippians 3: 15-4:9)
- October 25 - Joy That Can't Be Taken Away (Philippians 4:10-23)

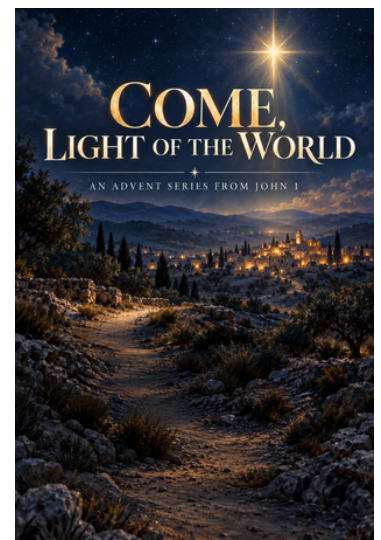


This November, we will consider how gratitude shapes our worship, stewardship, generosity, and hope:

- November 1 - Grateful Hearts (Psalm 103:1-18)
- November 8 - Faithful Stewards (Matthew 25:14-30)
- November 15 - The Joy of Generosity (2 Corinthians 9:6-15)
- November 22 - Hope That Endures (1 Peter 1:3-9)

As Advent begins, we will embark on a four-week study from John 1 which will help us enter the Christmas season by reflecting on the coming of Christ, the true Light. The series will include:

- November 29 - Light Shines in the Darkness (John 1:1-5)
- December 6 - Sent to Bear Witness (John 1:6-8)
- December 13 - When Light Is Rejected - and Received (John 1:9-13)
- December 20 - Light Has Come Near (John 1:14-18)
- Christmas Eve - Come and See (John 1:35-42)



Apple Dumpling Sale



Pre-order & Prepay by Sunday, October 11, 2026

Call 717-653-5175

\$5.00 each or 3 for \$12.50

Pick up Tuesday, October 20th between 3:30pm & 5:30pm

Sub Sale Update

Thank you church family for purchasing sub coupons. Through your support, Chiques Women in Mission made a profit of \$236.00 to go towards missions. Don't forget to redeem your coupons at Andy's Market 310 N 11th St Columbia PA off of Prospect Rd & Ironville Pike for your a foot long sub. There's no expiration date. Andy's Market hours are Monday - Friday 8am-7pm, Saturday 8am-4pm & closed on Sunday.



67th Anniversary Celebration



Sunday, November 1, 2026
Worship service at Chiques Methodist Church at 9a.m.
Followed by a Breakfast Buffet at
The Gathering Place, 9 Pine St. Mount Joy



All are welcome!

Chiques will be having an Anniversary Breakfast Buffet immediately following the Anniversary Service on Sunday, November 1st at The Gathering Place in Mount Joy. We have two anonymous members who donated funds to help pay for this Breakfast resulting in a reduced cost for Adults (age 11 to adult) \$16.00 each and Children TEN and UNDER at no cost. On your reservation form please designate how many adults (age 11 to adult) and how many children ten and under will be attending along with your cost. We need to have your reservations by Sunday, October 18th in order to give The Gathering Place a final number.



God Bless
Your Anniversary Committee

Celebrations and Happenings



10/17 Pastor Chris & Megan Ritchie

10/1 Marcia Fuhrman
10/12 Courtney Cunningham
10/20 Leroy Waltz
10/22 Lorraine Funk
10/23 Vonnie Mohler
10/24 Art Geigley
10/24 Kathy Gohn



11/18 Todd & Courtney Cunningham

11/5 Mic McMullen
11/8 Sam Farmer
11/14 Linda Geib
11/23 Olivia Charles



12/18 Bill & Susan Back

12/1 Erma Herr
12/5 Pastor Chris Ritchie
12/11 Jere Flowers
12/15 Bethany Leggore
12/16 Carol Thomas
12/21 Dylan King
12/22 Tom Breneman

Prayer Shawl Ministry



Please let us know if any of you like to knit or crochet and would like to be part of the Prayer Shawl Ministry. We are also looking for donations of yarn.

Total to date: 398



October 20th
Apple Dumpling Day



Opportunities for Fellowship & Service

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Chiques Women in Mission apple dumpling orders being taken	2 3 pm Finance	3
Chiques Women in Mission apple dumpling orders being taken for pickup on Tuesday, October 20 th						
4 9am Worship 9am Children SS 10am Fellowship 10:30 Adult SS	5 8 pm AA	6	7 3 pm Trustees 7 pm NA	8 7:15 pm Hempfield Sportsmen	9	10
11 9am Worship 9am Children SS 10am Fellowship 10:30 Adult SS	12 8 pm AA  Office Closed	13 5:30pm Ad Council	14 7 pm NA	15 3 pm Chiques Women in Mission Mtg	16	17
18  9am Worship 9am Children SS 10am Fellowship 10:30 Adult SS	19 8 pm AA	20 3:30 - 5:30 pm Apple Dumpling pickup	21 7 pm NA	22	23	24
25 9am Worship 9am Children SS 10am Fellowship 10:30 Adult SS	26 8 pm AA	27	28 7 pm NA	29	30	31 

Due to other planned activities, Brunch Bunch is suspended until January.



Opportunities for Fellowship & Service

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1  9am Worship 10:30 am Breakfast Buffet	2 8 pm AA	3  3 pm Trustees	4 7 pm NA	5	6	7
8 Veteran's Sunday 9am Worship 9am Children SS 10am Fellowship 10:30 Adult SS	9 8 pm AA	10 5:30pm Ad Council	11  7 pm NA	12	13	14 10:30am Service of Remembrance with luncheon
15 9am Worship 9am Children SS 10am Fellowship 10:30 Adult SS	16 8 pm AA	17	18 7 pm NA	19 2 pm DHS fall play senior performance	20 3 pm Finance	21
22 Thanksgiving Sunday 9am Worship 9am Children SS 10am Fellowship 10:30 Adult SS	23 8 pm AA	24	25 7 pm NA	26  Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28
29 1st Sunday of Advent 9am Worship 9am Children SS 10am Fellowship 10:30 Adult SS	30 8 pm AA					

Grocery cards make a great gift for the food bank.
They allow the food bank staff to restock needed items that are in short supply.



Opportunities for Fellowship & Service

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 3 pm Trustees 7 pm NA	3	4	5
6 9am Worship 9am Children SS 10am Fellowship 10:30 Adult SS	7 8 pm AA	8 5:30pm Ad Council	9 7 pm NA	10	11	12
13  9am Worship 9am Children SS 10:30am Brunch	14 8 pm AA	15	16 7 pm NA	17	18	19
20 9am Worship 9am Children SS 10am Fellowship 10:30 Adult SS	21 8 pm AA	22	23 7 pm NA	24  6 pm Christmas Eve	25  Office Closed	26
27 9am Worship 9am Children SS 10am Fellowship 10:30 Adult SS	28 8 pm AA Office Closed	29 Office Closed	30 7 pm NA Office Closed	31 Office Closed		

Many thanks to the many people to help around the church
behind the scenes who don't always receive a thank you.



Activities

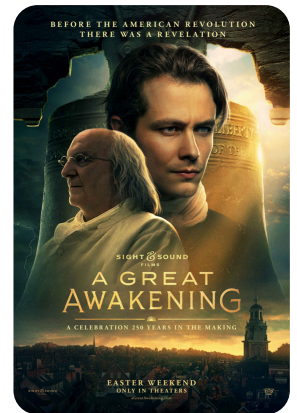


Mark your calendar:
July 10, 2027
Jonah at Sight & Sound Theatre
Seating is limited.
See Michele Melhorn for details.



August 16, Brunch Bunch at Centerville 2

The community was invited to a free showing of A Great Awakening Movie at Chiques! This inspiring film tells the story of spiritual revival and the transforming power of the gospel, reminding us that God is still at work today. We had 48 people join us on Friday, August 21 and 40 join us on Saturday, August 22.





Activities



Our outdoor service and picnic on Sunday, September 13th was moved inside due to the weather. 43 people gathered in Sloan Fellowship Hall. Thank you Pastor Chris for bringing your guitar and leading us in Praise Songs. It was also Grandparents Day and some grandparents and great grandparents won prizes. Thank you to the picnic committee and all who brought food and helped. It was a wonderful time of worship, food and fellowship.





9/2026

Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl & especially the prayers that came with it. It is so good to be a part of the Chiques Family.

Blessings
Joan Burke



Christmas Brunch

Sunday, December 13th is our annual Christmas Brunch.

Look for more details in the Life Together sheet.

There are many opportunities for additional giving above our regular tithes and offerings. Consider filling a Birthday Giving Envelope with money equaling your age. Perhaps you could recognize a special occasion or special birthday through a gift to the church.



The cost of altar flowers is now \$55 for the two bouquets.



Special music for Sunday,
September 27 provided by
Suzanne Tilley and Tom Breneman

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1215 East Main Street
Mount Joy, PA 17552

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NOTE:

We need your written contributions to make this a valuable communications link for all Chiques members and friends.

Mailing Label



Chiques Chronicle is published by Chiques Methodist Church

Hours

The Chronicle Team: Audrey Buckner (editor),
Kathy Gohn

Individuals or organizations wishing to place an item or announcement in **Chiques Chronicle** should deliver it in writing or by e-mail to Audrey Buckner (chiquesoffice@gmail.com) in the church office. Include a phone number where you can be reached for any additional information.

**The Deadline for the January/February 2027
issue is December 20th**

Church Office

Hours

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Monday through Friday

Contact us

Phone: (717) 653-5175

Fax: (717) 653-1087

E-mail: chiquesoffice@gmail.com

Website: www.chiquesumchurch.org

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