

Evergreen News

A Pastor's Perception

Been there, done that. Perhaps you have too.

You're ready for a change. Something in your life isn't quite sitting right. Maybe you want to become more active, eat less sugar, or cut back on caffeine or alcohol. The question is: when will you begin?

It's July, so you're probably not waiting for New Year's resolutions. Monday, then. New habits obviously start on Monday, right?

But what do we do the day or the week before the change? We indulge. We eat more than enough of that food we've decided to cut back on. We sleep in, maybe even do some "bed rotting" because Monday we're getting up early to exercise. (Bed rotting is a trend in which someone stays in bed all day possibly binge watching some movies or television) Why do we do this? If the change is truly important, why wouldn't we start now? And why do we believe we need to make huge, dramatic changes all at once?

When I work with fitness clients, we establish realistic behavior goals. I ask them to rate their confidence in achieving something like a 15-minute walk five days per week. If they say "7 out of 10," we modify the goal, looking for a confidence level of 9/10. Perhaps 10 minutes, four days per week. Small steps lead to lasting change.

As Jesus shares with us, "**Whoever is faithful in very little is also faithful in much**" (Luke 16:10).

God values our small beginnings: "**Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin...**" (Zechariah 4:10, NLT).

What about getting to know Jesus? That's the first part of our mission here at West Green Tree—**to know, love, and follow Jesus by serving all.**

How do you get to know anyone? You spend time together.

Maybe it doesn't feel like the right time. Maybe you feel like you don't have time. But perhaps you've experienced the unexpected encounter with someone who might be more than just a somebody. One day you're living for yourself, doing what you want when you want. Then everything changes. Your priorities shift overnight.

When love transforms us, we don't say, "I'll wait until Monday" or "I'll start this relationship next year." We don't over-indulge in behaviors that won't benefit this new version of ourselves.

The same invitation exists with Jesus. As Paul writes, "**...now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation**" (2 Corinthians 6:2). Not a dramatic overhaul that starts "someday," but a simple beginning today. Maybe it's five minutes of quiet reflection. Maybe it's one question: "Jesus, what would you have me know about you today?"

Small steps. Real relationship. Starting now.

The door is always open—not just on Sundays, but today. Because the God who loves you isn't waiting for Monday either.



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AUGUST EVENTS

Weekly Events

- *Sunday School/Small Groups
8:30 am
- *Sunday Large Group
Gathering at 9:45 am
- *Monday Ladies Bible Study
11 am
- *Wednesday Youth 6:30 pm
- *Thursday Men's Bible Study
7 pm
- *Men's Bible Study Saturday
mornings at 7 am at
Hawthorne's

**Our Vision
Statement:**
***"To Know, Love,
& Follow Jesus
by
serving All"***



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 3M 7 am
3 Sunday School 8:30 am Large Group Gathering 9:45 am	4 WWW 11 am	5	6 Youth 6:30 pm	7 Men's Bible Study 7 pm	8 Camp Swatara	9 3M 7 am Sisters in Christ 9 am Camp Swatara
10 No Sunday School Large Group Gathering 9:45 am Camp Swatara	11 WWW 11 am	12 Commission Mtg. 7 pm Board 8 pm	13 Youth 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl 7 pm	14 Men's Bible Study 7 pm	15	16 3 M 7 am
17 Sunday School 8:30 am WGT at the Fair! 10:30 am (No LGG at the church)	18 WWW 11 am	19 Executive Committee Mtg. 7 pm	20 Youth 6:30 pm	21 Men's Bible Study 7 pm	22	23 3 M 7 am
24 Sunday School 8:30 am Promotion Sunday Large Group Gathering 9:45 am	25 WWW 11 am	26	27 Youth 6:30 pm	28 Men's Bible Study 7 pm	29	30 3 M 7 am
31 Sunday School 8:30 am Large Group Gathering 9:45 am						

Attendance & Givings			
	Total Worship	Sunday School	General Fund
June 22	87	63	\$3,591.31
June 29	121	70	\$3,924.07
July 6	87	44	\$4,599.11
July 13	104	66	\$3,271.07
July 20	106	59	\$7,679.31



What a Whirlwind Week of VBS!

What a week it's been! On Monday afternoon, I told someone that we've *never* canceled Vacation Bible School—not even during COVID. But then came the torrential rain and flooding that evening. For the first time, we had to pause and prioritize safety, sending out communications to let everyone know to stay home and stay safe.

Thankfully, the skies cleared, and we kicked off VBS on **Tuesday evening at 6:30 PM**. We welcomed an average of **70 adventurers**, ranging from **3 years old to those who just finished 5th or 6th grade**. It was an incredible week filled with energy, laughter, and powerful lessons about trusting God—no matter what this wild world throws our way.

A **huge shout-out** goes to our amazing VBS planning team: **Mike, Naomi, Noelle, Dori, Shawn, Mandi, Sarah, and Haley**—you guys ROCK! Your countless hours of preparation made this week the success it continues to be.

Thank you also to all the **youth and adult volunteers** who gave their time and hearts throughout the week. We shared the love of Jesus with so many, and through it all, **He was glorified**.

Here's to another unforgettable VBS—until next year!



There are less than 160 days until Christmas! Don't panic if you haven't started shopping yet! We would like you to put the following dates on your calendar if you'd like to volunteer!

Preferred Date	Meeting Type
September 14 th	First Volunteer /Informational Meeting
October 12 th	Volunteer Meeting
November 2 nd	Volunteer Meeting
November 30 th	Volunteer Meeting
December 21 st -25 th	Food Prep & Meal
January 4 th	Christmas Dinner Follow up Meeting



COBY'S Bike & Hike

COBY's Bike & Hike will take place Sunday, September 7th. As in year's past, the 3-mile walk, the 25 mile bike course and the 10 mile bike route will take place. In addition to these favorites, the are offering a Tasty Tour! This is an opportunity for foodie

walkers to treat your taste buds at four delicious Lititz destinations. Check out their website for more information or to register.

<https://cobys.org/bike-and-hike/>

Sunday, September 7, 2025




Tasty Tour



10 & 25-mile Bicycle Rides



Lititz Church of the Brethren



Traditional 3-mile Walk



Ice Cream



Go to:

[www.cobys.org/bike-and-hike](https://cobys.org/bike-and-hike)

for more information or to register

Hello from Tiny Timbers!

We hope you are having a wonderful summer, it's a hot one!

We are so excited to start another year at Tiny Timbers Christian Preschool! Our staff has been busy planning and getting things ready for our year. We are so excited to welcome back our friends from last year and are thrilled to meet the new friends that will be joining us.

At this time we still have some openings.

We have openings in the Monday/Wednesday/Friday afternoon class (12:30-3:00), Tuesday/Thursday morning class (9:15-11:45) and the afternoon class (12:30-3:00)

If you know someone that is still looking for a preschool, please invite them to email Amy Winters at director@westgreentree.org for more information. We would love to fill our classes so that we can reach more families and teach more children about the love of Jesus!

We have yard signs available if you would be willing to put one in your yard or business, preferably along a high-traffic road. If you are willing to help us advertise in this way, please see Brenda Drawbaugh, Dewey Martin, or Laura Hollinger on a Sunday morning and they will get one for you!

If you ever feel called to support this wonderful ministry with more than prayer, please consider donating to the Don Hollinger Scholarship Fund. This helps families attend Tiny Timbers when finances are tight. We love being able to bless families in this way! Info on this scholarship is in a brochure at the welcome desk. You can also support us by donating supplies for the classroom. Some supplies we use often are 3oz plastic cups, cocktail size napkins, tissues, hand sanitizer, glue sticks, construction paper and card stock. We are also always looking for people to help fill in when staff is out sick. If you are interested in being a sub please email me at director@westgreentree.org. Subs do need updated clearances and we will help you with those! We also love to have people come in and read to the classes so if that is something you would like to do just let me know!

We will have a year full of exploring, learning, fun, and praising Jesus! Please join us in prayer for the children, staff, and families that will be enjoying the year together at Tiny Timbers.

We are thankful for all of you!
Amy Winters



Anniversaries

8/5 - George & Traci Clugston II
8/5 - Lance & Jessica Hitz
8/6 - Duane & Kathy Martin
8/8 - Todd & Lisa Shelly
8/8 - Jerry & Lynne Testerman
8/29 - Jim & Polly Shumate
8/29 - Randy & Anita Youtz

Birthdays

8/1 - Aaliyah Cannon
8/3 - Brenda Axe
8/3 - Noelle O'Brien
8/6 - Jan Chavez
8/7 - Phyllis Becker
8/8 - Paislee Hitz
8/9 - Ralph Daniels
8/9 - Jerry Huber
8/10 - Sarah Kolp
8/10 - Jeff Ziegler
8/10 - June Gerhart
8/10 - Ruth Hawthorne
8/12 - Grace Leonard
8/16 - Grace Fellenbaum
8/19 - Kaitlyn Mattis
8/19 - Cliff Shirk
8/20 - Donna Weaver
8/21 - Robin Cicero
8/23 - Tyra Cannon
8/25 - Walt Schwanger

**PLEASE DO NOT
PUT LIQUIDS IN
TRASH CANS**

**POUR DRINKS AND
OTHER LIQUIDS
IN A SINK BEFORE
DISPOSING CUPS,
BOTTLES, ETC.
IN THE TRASH.**

From the Technology Committee

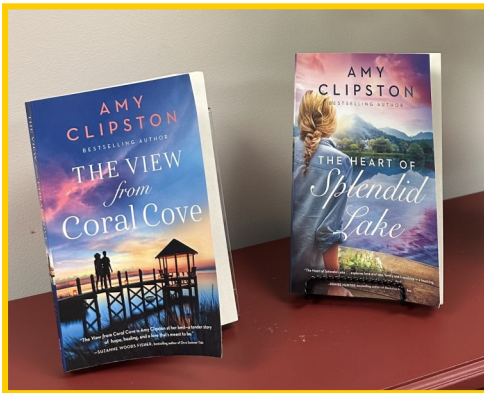
If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding church-related, technology matters, please feel free to notify a member of our Technology Committee. Matters can be emailed to tech@westgreentree.org or by speaking to one of the committee members. Committee members are: Jason Leonard, Dan Dickson, Shawn Cannon and Jerry Huber



Library News

Two new books for light summer reading. Thank you to those who donated them and others who donate books and puzzles to the library. It is much appreciated!

There are many good books to read and grow your faith in Christ. Or take a puzzle for a rainy day. Come check it out!

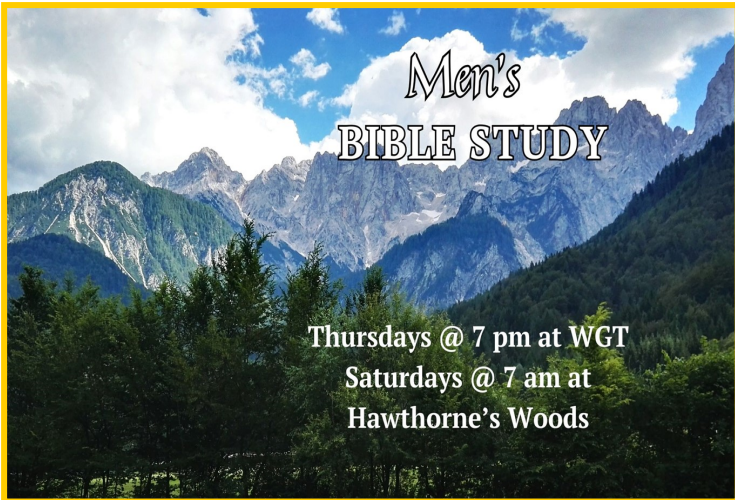


WGT AT THE FAIR!

Sunday, August 17th @ 10:30 am

Elizabethtown Fairgrounds

Join WGT at the Fairgrounds this day
(no Large Group Gathering at the church)
as we share the love of Jesus with the
Elizabethtown Community at the
first worship service at the fair!



Junior Church returns Sunday, September 21st! Looking forward to a great year learning to Know, Love, and Follow JESUS by Serving All!



740 Greentree Road
Elizabethtown, PA 17022

WEST GREEN TREE
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

WEST GREEN TREE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Sunday Gathering Times:

- ♦ 8:30 am Sunday School/Small Groups
- ♦ 9:45 am Large Group Gathering
- ♦ Live Stream via YouTube "West Green Tree Worship"

Weekday Activities:

- ♦ Mondays: Ladies Bible Study @ 11 am
- ♦ Wednesday: Youth @ 6:30 pm
- ♦ Thursday: Men's Bible Study @ 7 pm
- ♦ Saturday: Men's Bible Study/Breakfast @ 7 am at Hawthorne's Woods

Phone: 717-653-5367
www.westgreentree.org

