

Harmony Happenings

News of the People Who Are Harmony Evangelical Presbyterian Church

November/December 2019

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*Harmony Evangelical Presbyterian
Church exists to boldly lead others to
become followers of Jesus Christ.*

From Pastor Jeff ...



There is a word that I have come to appreciate. It is "forbearance." This is the quality of tolerance and restraint; it is patience; it is withholding wrath and forcing down anger (even when just); it is the ability and desire to forgive, not to demand one's right. Forbearance is a divine virtue. It is attributed to God in Romans 2:4. The puritans emphasized forbearance and believed it to be a necessary virtue for Christians. In fact, the church cannot survive without mutual forbearance.

We need to tolerate each other if we are ever going to love one another. We need to make generous allowance for individual personality. Everyone has peculiarities. Everyone has blind spots. Everyone fails. And without forbearance the church will fail.

In one sense, every church is a failure. And every Christian is a failure. We do not love as God loves. We try. We fail. We desire to do right and end up saying the wrong thing. We forget things we should remember. We do not govern our anger. We become wrapped up in our own concerns and neglect those around us. The list of common failures is long. And no church has yet justified the name kingdom of God.

This is why I love forbearance. I love the word and I love the practice. It is a call to love and respect fellow travelers for who they are. It is a call to love and forgive brothers and sisters when they fail (for we all fail). "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." Forbearance is like preemptive forgiveness. If you simply assume difficulties will arise, personalities will clash, and people will disappoint, you can be prepared to forgive and to love still. You can even learn to thank God for all the unique, marvelous, fascinating, and deeply flawed human beings who call upon the Lord with you. As I have gotten older and learned more about my flaws, my weaknesses, my peculiarities, and my failures, the more I have felt called to practice forbearance towards others. So, I hope you can tolerate me, forgive me, and be patient with me. I sure need it. Do you?

Soli Deo Gloria,
Reverend Dr. Jeff Jones

Focus on Missions

Supporting the Ministry of...

Feed My Sheep Food Cupboard



September Statistics: Total Family Members~ 317
Families: 139, Adults: 144, Children: 98, Seniors: 75
New Families: 10

Wish List: Looking toward Thanksgiving: pumpkin,
evaporated milk, cranberry sauce, flour, sugar

There are collection totes for your donations in the Fellowship Hall,
and in the handicap/elevator entrance.

Blessing Bags

The tradition of the Blessing Bag is a “fall happening” at Harmony Church. What a blessing it is for us to give out of our abundance to those less fortunate – the reason we continue the ministry of the Blessing Bags.

Here are some suggested food items to collect in your Blessing Bag: flour, sugar, canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned pumpkin mix, cranberry sauce, canned yams, stuffing mix (box), quick bread mixes, muffin mixes, pie crust mix, instant potatoes, evaporated milk, gelatin/pudding, gravy (jar or packets).

If you would like to make a financial contribution for the purchase of turkeys, please make your contribution payable to the “Feed My Sheep” Food Cupboard (designate turkey in the memo), or you may purchase a gift card from Giant Eagle. Gifts cards and financial gifts may be given to Harmony’s Food Cupboard Representative, Linda Stirling.

Please return your Blessing Bag on or before Sunday, November 3rd. Bags may be left on the table closest the library. THANK YOU!

November and December Mission Opportunities

Our Thank Offering Sunday will be November 17, 2019. Our speaker will be Karen Jameson from the Hope Place in New Castle. Karen will be speaking to the combined adult Sunday School Classes and a brief update in the church service on the work at the Hope Place and opportunities available for women through this part of the City Rescue Mission. She hopes to bring those currently staying at the home and have them give a testimony as how they have been blessed by this mission. This is a great opportunity for you to hear firsthand how the supplies you have so generously donated are being used to change lives.

Also, on Friday, December 6th at 7:00 pm in the Memorial Park Church Sanctuary (8800 Peebles Road Allison Park, PA 15101), EduNations will hold a Christmas benefit concert to support the students in Sierra Leone. The concert is free of charge with a good will offering included. This year’s featured artist is author and musician, Michael Card. Watch the church bulletin for more information.

Communion Schedule

Sunday, December 1st

2019 Mission Offering Schedule

Mission Offering will be collected on the second Sunday of each month excluding the months of Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas when Special Holiday Offerings will be collected.



Women's Ministries

Join the Women of the BBT Book Club

Books Breakfast Talk

Third Saturday of the month @
9:00am @ Harmony

Quilting on Mondays

Mondays from 10am-3pm

Baby Quilts for Missions

Bring your lunch and make it a
day!

The deadline for the weekly bulletin is Tuesdays at 8:00 pm. The newsletter deadline for the January/February issue of the *Harmony Happenings* is Wednesday, December 11th. Thank you notes, articles, and information for the “News of the People” column need to be submitted in writing to the office or sent as an attachment to harmonyepc@zoominternet.net.

Greeters Schedule



If you wish to serve as a greeter before and after worship, please call the church office and your name will be added to the schedule. If you are scheduled to greet and you cannot, notify the church office two weeks in advance; please call 724-735-2854 or you may also send an email to harmonyepc@zoominternet.net. Thank you!

Greeter Schedule

Greeters may stand at any of the sanctuary entrances from 10:45am – 11:00am and at the close of worship. Greeters may be singles, couples, or families.

November

- 3 Ron and Mary Lou Phipps
- 10 Jon and Becky Miller
- 17 Ralph and Maggie Oakes
- 24 Dane and Carol Sloan

December

- 1 Pastor Jeff, Pam, & Family
- 8 Jerry and Harriet Grossman
- 15 Veronica Norcross and Diane Hyatt
- 22 John and Marge Elmer
- 29 Ron and Mary Lou Phipps

January

- 5 Jon and Becky Miller
- 12 Dane and Carol Sloan
- 19 Joe and Patty Ridley
- 26 Ralph and Maggie Oakes

February

- 3 Ron and Mary Lou Phipps
- 10 Pastor Jeff, Pam, and Family
- 17 Dane and Carol Sloan
- 24 Jerry and Harriet Grossman

March

- 3 John and Marge Elmer
- 10 Veronica Norcross and Diane Hyatt
- 17 Joe and Patty Ridley
- 24 Pastor Jeff, Pam, and Family
- 31 Ralph and Maggie Oakes

Thank you to all who serve as greeters!

Board Meetings

Deacons meet on the **Second Thursday** @ 7:00pm

Session meets on the **Third Monday** @ 7:00pm.

Trustees meet on the **Fourth Monday** @ 8:00pm.

Birthdays in November and December

Happy Birthday!

November Birthdays: 1st – Karen McKnight & Mollie Riggenbach; 10th – Lillian Hensley; 11th – Lois McFadden; 16th – Morgan Urbania; 18th – Dane Sloan; 24th – Darren Mershimer; 28th – Tara McFadden; 29th – Grace McFadden

December Birthdays: 5th – Pauline Pearson; 6th – Maggie Oakes & Mike Norcross; 10th – Michelle Flynn; 11th – Doug Hogg; 18th – Carolyn McCandless; 21st – Ellen Arnold; 23rd – Veronica Norcross; 27th – Erma Burrows

Please let us know if we missed your birthday. If you want to be added to the list, call the church office at 724-735-2854. Thank you.

Upcoming Events

Congregational Meeting: Part I: Sunday, November 24th immediately following worship

Community Thanksgiving Eve Service will be at Harmony combined with Harrisville UMC
Wednesday, November 27th @ 7:00 pm

The Greeting Center will be open from Sunday, December 1st – Wednesday, December 18th

Jazz Nite: Saturday, December 7th 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Gallery Brass be leading worship Sunday, December 8th

Annual Report Deadline – Sunday, December 15th

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Tuesday, December 24th @ 7:30 pm

Sue Garton and hanbells leading worship Sunday, January 5th

Treasurer Report Deadline – Sunday, January 12th

Expressions of Gratitude

Thank you for your recent donation to the “Feed My Sheep” Food Cupboard. The need for assistance by many families in this area continues. The food and monetary contributions we are receiving from individuals, businesses, schools, and churches make it possible for us to respond to these needs.

Last month 127 families were served including 5 new families coming for their first visit.

Our volunteer workers appreciate the support you are helping to provide. As you are contributing to the welfare of others, may God’s blessing be with you.

Gratefully yours,
Shirley Osburn, Secretary

Enclosed is a check in memory of Darlene Ellen Henderson Texter. Please use for the church at your discretion. We, as members of her family, appreciate all the kindness and caring of Reverend Jones and her friends there.

Sincerely,
Edna Covert, Sister

To our dear friends at Harmony,

Many thanks for all your thoughts, prayers, and kind words during Todd’s recent recovery. Thanks also for those who stopped in to visit.

God is Good!
Todd and Deb Frampton

Greetings Harmony E.P. Church,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1: 2-6

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your gift to “Hope For Renewal”. The partnership that has been formed between us has blessed this ministry more than you know. It continues to give us a foundation of prayer and financial support that enables us to take the next steps in proclaiming the Gospel message to the Idora Neighborhood that God has called us to. It was awesome to be with you for Sunday School and Worship in July. It was great to catch up with all of you. Please know that we will be praying for Harmony as you also pursue how God desires for you to proclaim the Gospel message.

As always, please feel free to contact us if you need anything or have any questions or need information about any part of the ministry. Again, thank you for your support and partnership.

In Christ,
Gary and Cindy Koerth
Hope For Renewal

Jesus Loves Me

Ron and I learned a new version of “Jesus Loves Me” on our recent trip worshiping with the NOMADs. We thought it was worth sharing. Keep in mind all NOMADs are retired persons.

–Mary Lou Phipps

“Jesus Loves Me”

Jesus loves me this I know
Though my hair as white as snow.
Though my sight is growing dim,
Still He bids me trust in Him.

Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
The Bible tells me so.

Though my steps are oh so slow
With my hand in his I’ll go.
On through life let come what may,
He’ll be there to lead the way.

Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
The Bible tells me so.

Though I am no longer young,
I have much which he’s begun.
Let me serve Christ with a smile,
Go with God the “extra mile”.

Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
The Bible tells me so.

When the nights are dark and long,
In my heart He puts a song.
Telling me in words so clear,
Have no fear, for I am near.

Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
The Bible tells me so.

When my work on earth is done,
And life’s vic’tries have been won.
He will take me home above,
Then I’ll understand His love.

Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
The Bible tells me so.

I love Jesus, does He know,
Have I ever told Him so?
Jesus loves to hear me say,
That I love Him every day.

Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
The Bible tells me so.

Harmony Evangelical Presbyterian Church
P O Box 406, 234 North Main St.
Harrisville PA 16038

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Jones, Pastor

Come & Worship With Us!

9:45 am – Sunday School

11:00 am – Worship

Visit us at www.harmonyepc.org



Pictures from the Ladies Night Out event in September. Diane Warner talked to the ladies about organization and decluttering tips.

