Give Thanks!

1 Corinthians 15:57 - “But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

The only survivor of a shipwreck was washed up on a small, uninhabited island. He prayed fervently for God to rescue him. Every day he scanned the horizon for help, but no hope in sight. Exhausted, he eventually managed to build a little hut out of driftwood to protect him from the elements, and to store his few possessions. One day, after scavenging for food, he arrived home to find his little hut in flames, the smoke rolling up to the sky. The worst had happened everything was lost. He was stunned with grief and anger. God, how could you do this to me? He cried. Early the next day, however, he was awakened by the sound of a ship that was approaching the island. It had come to rescue him. “How did you know I was here?” Questioned the weary man of his rescuers. “We saw your smoke signal,” they replied.

It is easy to get discouraged when things are going badly. But we should not lose heart, because God is at work in our lives, even in the midst of pain and suffering. Remember, next time your little hut is burning to the ground; give thanks anyway because it just may be a smoke signal that summons the grace of God. For all the negative things we have to say to ourselves, God has a positive answer for it.

The best way to stay positive is to be thankful. The month of November is a reminder of all the great things God has done and how truly blessed we are. For the four Sunday's leading up to Thanksgiving we will examine God's word on what it truly means to be “give thanks.” Our sermons will give thanks with; Encouragement, Gratitude, Praise, & Thanksgiving. I look forward to what God is going to do and how He will bring about a positive season of Thanksgiving.

Karen and I are very thankful for you and we look forward to meeting everyone personally.

God Bless,
Don
November Birthdays
1 Evangeline Rupert
2 Kylie Gardner
3 Scott D. Corman
3 Nathan Crane
3 Laura Miller
4 Wayne Fishburn
4 Jacob Kerschner
5 Chloe Crager
5 Lexie Whitehill
6 Kimberley Ishler
8 Jimmy Gardner
8 Whitney Giedroc
8 Joe Kerschner
12 Daniel Ardner
12 Jim Masden
16 Beth Dabiero
18 Michelle Dabiero
20 Travis Giedroc
24 Brian Gates
24 Holly Young
25 Matthew Knepp
29 Erin McKean

November Anniversaries
1 Andy & Tricia Wertz
9 Vince & Sherry Falls
17 Joe & Joan Bechdel
24 Scott & Betsy Gettig
28 Wayne & Nancy Fishburn

Please call the church office with any additions or corrections.

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Worship</th>
<th>S.S.</th>
<th>Offering</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 29</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>$2,831.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 6</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>$4,559.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 13</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>$2,663.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 20</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>$2,180.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 Avg.</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>$3,252.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Weekly Need $4,531.87)

Practice!

Practice!

Practice!

Children’s Program Practice

Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

Cantata Practice

Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

Beginning November 3rd

When you are reluctant to change, think of the beauty of autumn.

Work Day at Sylvan Hills
November 16
8:00 a.m.

Daylight Savings Time Ends
November 3rd
Be Thankful!

At Howard Christian Church this year……

We sent out 2200 newsletters

105 children and their families attended Fall Carnival

The church yard was mowed 28 times

300 hotdogs handed out at Fall Carnival

Over 1000 cups of coffee were drank on Sunday mornings

Chuck preached 30 sermons

36 children attended Rocky Point Weekend VBS

Emily, Joey, Sarah Gates Brandon, Jared, Scott Gettig Clayton, Garrett, Haley Giedroc Cole, Melissa Robinson

Went on a Missions Trip to Ona, WV

Baptized
Brooke Charney Trey Fishburn Kael Gardner Garrett Giedroc Matt Knepp

5160 bulletins were copied

50 children qualified for free camp tuition

Kingdom Rock Vacation Bible School

73 children 41 Volunteers

Prayer List
Immediate Requests
Charles Aber, Jr-surgery
Don Aber-severe health issues
Jeff Bell-health concerns
Mike Confer-chemo
Stephanie Cutty-cancerous tumors
Craig Hunter-healing, salvation
Darla Johnson-active transplant list
Tim Krape-neck surgery
Denny Lucas-skull fracture
Relda Lyons-cancer, surgery
Shane Michaels-cancer treatments
Trina Tyson Miller-surgery, recovery
Alex Murnyack-fractured vertebrae
Heather Orndorf-ATV accident
Family of Dorothy Pierce
Joe Pierce-tests in Pittsburg
Carol Rockey-testing
Makata Peters-cancer surgery, recovery
Rebekah Salmon-health issues
Bridgett Smeal-death of husband
Jacob Stiles-health concerns
Lisa Valez-surgery
Jamie Van Orden-cancer
Paul Watkins-cancer
Karen Yeomans-ready for dialysis
Vanda Yorks-health issues

Ongoing Requests
Those with unspoken needs
The Elders and congregation
Emma Andrews-health/pain issues
Lisa Meyers-chemo
Colton Stauffer infant w/health issues
Our College Students
Our Troops
Alissa Womer-health concerns
Alexis Womer-health concerns

Praise God For
Jesus- Our Savior
Our Church Family
Our Teachers & Missionaries

Please direct Prayer Chain calls to Barb Snyder at 468-1112.
To add someone to the Prayer List contact Nancy at the church at 625-2764.

Serving in the Military
Clay Ammerman Ty Ammerman James Bienvenu Jeff Bird
George Cline Caleb Clouse David Corle-Iraq John Daughenbaugh
Amanda Fishburn Tyler Fishburn Andy Frantz Jake Gates
Adam Homan-Afghan Stacy Jones Nathan Kistner Matthew Leher
Mike McGuiness Joe Miller Duke Muthler James Perry
John Ritter-Kuwait Kyle Robison Chris Showers Kevin Smith-Iraq
Michael Stover-Kuwait Shane Waite

Gary Clark-Afghan
Jason Etters
Angie Gilbert
Brandon Maynard
Andy Phoenix-Korea
Jeremy Stover-Japan
The War with the Flesh

The little book of the prophet Jonah, located near the end of the Old Testament in your Bible, reads like a bedtime story written for children. In fact, I can imagine many Jewish children heard it as their first Bible story.

Jonah is a prophet called by God to preach a message of judgement and destruction to a sinful city. He refuses God’s call and attempts to flee by ship across the Mediterranean. He soon finds himself spending three days in the belly of a great fish. There he repents and is freed to carry out his original preaching mission. Upon hearing the warning of impending doom Jonah preached, the people of that city, Nineveh, repent and turn to God for forgiveness, thus averting the destruction God has threatened.

However, the story doesn’t end there. Jonah becomes angry and resentful because God has forgiven his enemies. God then sets about to teach Jonah a lesson about mercy and forgiveness.

Critics have declared this story and the book containing it a fabrication, a fairy tale. However, our Lord referred to the story as a true historical record. (See Matthew 12:39-41.) If left to choose between the opinion of Biblical critics and that of Jesus, I’ll go with Jesus every time. But, that’s a subject for another column.

For now, I point out this little story as a wonderful parable showing the continual conflict between man and God. Every step of the way, Jonah struggles against God, resisting His will. Every step of the way, God works in Jonah’s life to draw Jonah closer and promote his growth. It is the old story of evil versus good, the flesh against the spirit, man in rebellion against his Creator.

The conflict continues. In the New Testament, the Apostle Paul wrote of his dilemma. "So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death" (Romans 7:21-24 NIV.)

Who hasn’t felt this tension in his own life? I have. I dare say, you have. It’s been with us since the Garden of Eden and will continue to plague us until the end of the final battle predicted in the book of Revelation.

Take heart! God is on our side! He works in your life and mine as He worked in Jonah and Paul, to bring us closer to Him. Eternal life is yours in Jesus. Peace is coming. "Thanks be to God — through Jesus Christ our Lord!" Rom 7:25

Bro Chuck
Welcome Tea & Luncheon
November 9th
12:00—2:00 p.m.

You are invited to a tea to welcome Karen to HCC

Please bring a non perishable food item to help fill the Crane family pantry.

The Sisters in Christ will be having a Poinsettia Sale beginning in November. The flowers will be in honor or in memory of people who have been influential in a church member’s life. Please watch for more details.

Welcome New Member
Jared Strunk

Orphan Sunday
Centre County Churches Radically Loving the Fatherless
Sunday, November 3rd, 2013
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
State College Assembly of God
2201 University Drive, State College

Come for praise & worship. Hear speakers from Big Brother/Big Sisters, Foster Care, International Ministries and local churches. Enjoy some ice cream cake and conversation! Learn how you can support orphans at home and abroad, partnering with Christians right here in Centre County who are radically loving the fatherless!

"Defend the cause of the fatherless." Isaiah 1:17

Veteran's Day
November 11th
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M.
MEETING WILL START AT 7:00 P.M.

PLEASE SIGN UP AT THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE SANCTUARY IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE MEAL.

Leadership to be voted on at the Congregational meeting on November 20th

Elder (3 Year term)

*Jeff Holter

Deacon (3 Year Term)

*Eli Halterman
*Mike Lowery
*Jerry Stover

Trustee (4 Year term)

*Creigh Frazier

Church Camp Representative (1 Year term)

*Wayne Fishburn
*Shawnee Gardner
*Patsy Rougeux
*Betsy Snyder

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

December 10
Ladies' Christmas Party

December 15
Children's Christmas Program

December 22
Cantata

God with Us, an advent devotional is available in the back of the church. This book will help you to prepare your heart to receive and celebrate all that God unveils.
Sunday, November 3rd is an important time for our church family in Howard. This is the day Don and Karen Crane and their family will begin their ministry with us. We hope that you will join us for this exciting new beginning in our church history. Don and Karen come to us with much experience, their most recent ministry being Park Chapel Christian Church in Greenfield, Indiana. Don and Karen have four beautiful children ages 10, 7, 4 and 2.

If you have been with us since Scott’s passing and the absence of a senior minister thank you. We couldn’t have continued doing the things we’ve done without you. If, for some reason, you’ve been away for a while, we welcome you back and encourage you to join us in this joyful time. Our church body is not complete without you and things haven’t been the same without you serving with us. Howard Christian Church has always been and will continue to be a great place to worship and serve. We look forward to seeing you this Sunday as we continue to BLESS everyone we come in contact with.

bring glory to God
lead others to Christ
edify the body through teaching and instruction
show the love of Christ, and do it all with a
Servant’s heart

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29: 11

What-a-Blast
Extreme Laser Tag

5:00 - 9:00 P.M.
$20.00 (includes dinner)
MUST BE SIGNED UP BY NOVEMBER 3RD

Friends welcome!