

STAFF

Marci Tenney
Secretary

SESSION MEMBERS

Paul Bengs
Jo Coulter
Connie Jewell, Clerk
Jean Walter

DEACONS

Brenda Bengs
Cathy Donaldson
Karen Ohler
Mary Ryan
Marcie Treese

TRUSTEES

Scott Duncan
Brian Jewell
Noel Ryan
Dave Steele
Pete Treese

Ebenezer Presbyterian Church

2426 Scrubgrass Rd.
Grove City PA 16127

Phone: 814-786-7411

Email:
ebenezerpresbyterianchurchGC@gmail.com

*Articles and information
for the next newsletter
are due the 3rd week of
each month.*



FAITH...TRUST **Are They Different?**

The struggle with placing our trust entirely in God is something we must all face at one time or another. It boils down to this: faith is a belief system; trust is action. Faith is believing that God is who God says He is and that what God can do, only God can do. But trust takes things a step further. It is making the willful choice to trust that God will do what He promises.

In the Gospel, there is a story of a sick child whose father told Jesus, "I believe, help my unbelief." Just like the father in the story, we may have faith, but we need to trust that God is in control of our situation before moving forward. Most of us believe in the power of God thanks to our personal experiences and through reading the Bible. But putting these beliefs into action can be a true challenge for most. Placing our trust in God is our choice and one that we must make wholeheartedly.

One definition of faith is: 'belief that is not based on proof.' Faith makes little sense when we don't see proof of our belief with our eyes. We don't see God, but we see His creation and believe He loves us so much He sent His son to die in our place.

One definition of trust is: 'to place confidence in someone or something.' Trust requires action. For example, I see a chair and have faith it is sturdy, so I sit down. I rely on the chair to support me and trust demonstrates my faith when I actually sit in the chair.

However we need BOTH faith and trust. Trust is a choice to rely on God and puts our faith into practice. Trust in God grows over time. Jesus said, "*If you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you*" (Matthew 17:20). So remember, trusting God only takes a tiny amount of faith when we depend on the power of the Holy Spirit. -Pablo Diaz, Guideposts

Faith vs. Trust

Pastor Tim Ross explains it this way – "When you can't trust God, have faith in Him." Faith is what you have when you DON'T know. Trust is what you have when you DO know. It is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to Him must believe that God exists and that He rewards those who sincerely seek Him.

We have to trust God with our plans and not try to figure it out or work on it ourselves. God wants us to be flexible so that He can use us to the fullest. That means letting go. Letting go is hard because as humans, we want to control everything. So I know trusting God isn't an easy thing to come by. I have to remind myself (and He reminds me too), to just trust Him and His timing, which is always perfect. I realize that trusting God is one of the most important parts of our relationship. -Fon James

Trust is Tough

Trusting in God when everything around us continues to go downhill is hard. Many times we may be tempted to quit trusting and take matters into our own hands. Yet, because we know better, we continue to resist that temptation and instead choose to trust.

It's much easier to trust when we are on the mountaintop of everything going the way that we expected or planned. However, it's another story in the valley of 'I lost my job', or 'I'm sick and can't seem to get better', or some other situation that comes to your own mind. In those valleys, trust is tough because we don't have any idea of how things are supposed to work out.

When we are in the valley of despair, our little light of hope and trust in God can help us make it to the other side. Our faithfulness in prayer, Bible study, fasting, and service to God's people may seem useless in the eyes of the world. However, in the eyes of God – it's priceless!

As we press our way through the valley, our trust is emboldened by the knowledge of who God is and what He can do. There's nothing impossible with Him and He knows the exact moment of our miracle. We can count Him as faithful to follow through with His promises even when trust is tough.

-Crystal McDowell, Daughters of the Creator

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not your own understanding.”
-Proverbs 3:5*

Risk of Faith

How many of us are willing to take the risk of faith? Many times a risk of faith can look terribly ridiculous or foolish. Take those who've sold everything they own and moved to another country in order to share the Gospel with the lost. Take someone who shares the Gospel with a hurting co-worker at the risk of being reprimanded by the boss. What is foolishness to those in the world could be the risk of faith that God is expecting from His children.

A risk of faith in the Lord isn't some presumptuous or foolish act. It's a deliberate prayerful trust in God regardless of the circumstances. This step of faith is just the beginning of a relationship with God. Faith is meant to grow every day; be seen in action and not just words. It's not so difficult to take the risk of faith when we are focused more on who God is and less on our abilities. What is certainly impossible with man is very much possible with God. There is nothing He can't do for those who put their trust in Him.

-Crystal McDowell, Daughters of the Creator

“Now Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” -Hebrews 11:1

Are Faith and Trust Synonymous?

Trust and faith go hand-in-hand in our relationship with God. In Hebrews 11:1, Paul makes the connection between faith and belief. He is stating that our faith is the belief that causes us to trust God to turn invisible existence into physical, tangible reality.

The very bedrock of this faith, this belief, is trust. Faith in God without trust is empty. In fact, how can we say we have total faith in something if we do not trust the very thing we claim to have faith in? To have faith in God is to trust that God will always lead and guide us to all truth. That he is himself, all truth. As we encounter the love, grace, kindness, and goodness of God, we can confidently trust that his nature is true and unchanging. Therefore, when we live life and go through its trials (because trials will come), we have faith to know that God will move on our behalf. Whether you believe trust is the same as faith or that trust is a building block to faith, this truth remains: you need both in your relationship with Jesus.

-T. Bell



**Today in church
Pastor said this:**
if you can trust a puzzle company to make sure every piece is in the box to complete the puzzle, than why can't you trust GOD that every piece of your life is there for a reason.

Faith doesn't always take you out of the problem, Faith takes you through the problem. Faith doesn't always take away the pain, Faith gives you the ability to handle the pain. Faith doesn't always take you out of the storm, Faith calms you in the midst the storm. Amen

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. — Proverbs 3:5-6

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Q	Z	X	C	V	B	N	M	A	S	D	F	G	O	L	M
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F	E	M	N	J	I	S	T	R	A	I	G	H	T	O	P
R	A	R	M	F	E	P	P	V	D	V	V	K	O	N	W
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Ebenezer Church Members – There will be a PC(USA) Meeting for discussion of our future, held Sunday, September 29th after worship service & lunch. **Please plan to attend.**

Check out Dan Schall's website: www.DanSchall.org to see concert schedule, ministry news, information on his free Bible study, listen to music clips, order his recordings, request prayer, see Dan Schall Ministries Scholarship recipients, and much more.

Find the following words from Proverbs 3:5-6

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|----------|---------------|--------|------|
| STRAIGHT | UNDERSTANDING | LEAN | ALL |
| LORD | PATHS | TRUST | WAYS |
| HEART | PROVERBS | SUBMIT | YOUR |

OUR DAILY BREAD devotional booklets are available and free on the round table. Please take one to help you spend time with God and His Word every day.

Clerk's Corner:

- Received word from Gardner's that they have completed their work in Guatemala and are no longer accepting donations. They are grateful for our generous donations.
- The Church Wiener Roast will be September 14th.
- There will be a Congregational Meeting following worship on September 29th for discussion of our future.
- A Congregational Meeting will be held following worship on November 10th for the purpose of election of officers for 2025.
- Thanksgiving Dinner following worship on November 24th.
- Pulpit Supply is filled through the end of October.

Pulpit Supply Schedule for September:

Sept. 1 Jeff Black
Sept. 8 Jeff Black
Sept. 15 Karl Hubenthal
Sept. 22 Karl Hubenthal
Sept. 29 Karl Hubenthal

-Connie Jewell, Clerk

Treasurer's Report:

July 2024

Beginning Balance 7/1/2024	\$ 10,835.45
Receipts: \$3,547.00	
Beginning Balance Plus Receipts	\$ 14,382.45
Less Expenses	\$ 3,666.86
Balance 7/31/2024	\$ 10,715.59

Balance Includes:

Trustees Endowment	\$ 1,764.60
Missions Endowment	\$ 965.14
90 th Birthday Fund	\$ 847.74
Deacons Account	\$ 1,407.43

Missions:

Local	\$ 80.00
Saunders	\$ 60.00
Gardners	\$ 60.00
Grove City Food Pantry	\$ 20.00
Helping Hands of Stoneboro	\$ 20.00

Available Undesignated Funds

For General Use 7/31/2024 \$ 5,490.68

-Joan Coulter, Treasurer

COMING UP IN SEPTEMBER:

September 9 - Session Meeting at 12:30 p.m.

September 14 - Wiener Roast & Potluck Dinner at 5:00 p.m.

September 16 - Ladies Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at Charlene Root's home

September 29 - PC(USA) Meeting & Lunch after worship

Mission Focus:

The Mission Focus for September is Tunnel to Towers Foundation.



PLEASE SIGN UP:



Drinks, hot dogs, buns and paper products will be provided.

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day	3 Pete Treese	4	5 Charlene Root Linda Gibbs	6 Nancy Weber	7
8	9 Session Meeting 12:30 p.m.	10	11	12	13 Jo Coulter	14 Wiener Roast & Potluck Dinner 5:00 p.m.
15	16 Ladies Luncheon 11:30 a.m. at Charlene Root's home	17	18 Patti Parker	19	20	21
22 <i>Bev Sloan – Anniv.</i>	23 Artie Minor Denny Root	24	25 Marcie Treese	26	27	28
29 PC/USA Meeting & Lunch after worship	30			Birthdays: 3 – Pete Treese 5 – Charlene Root 5 – Linda Gibbs 6 – Nancy Weber 13 – Jo Coulter 18 – Patti Parker 23 – Artie Minor 23 – Denny Root 25 – Marcie Treese		<u>Anniversaries:</u> 22 – Bev Sloan

**If you wake up feeling fragile, remember that God is not,
and then trust Him to be everything you need today.**

-C.S. Lewis

You are invited



Fairfield Presbyterian Church

Please join us September 8, 2024
to celebrate our
225th Anniversary!

Where: 41 Deer Creek Road
Sandy Lake, PA 16145
Afternoon Anniversary Celebration: 2 PM

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