

JULY/AUGUST 2023

# The CORNERSTONE

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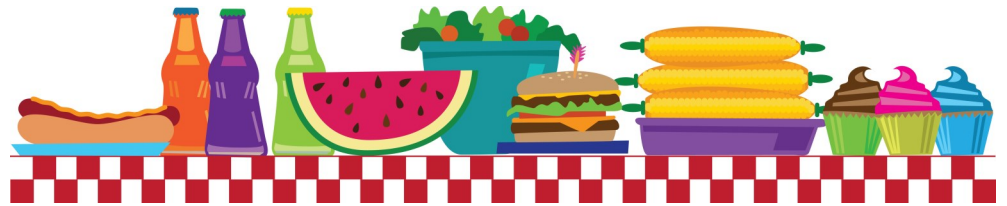
## Old-Fashioned Church Picnic is July 16

Join us on Sunday, July 16, for our annual church picnic. 10 A.M. is the start time for meaningful worship led by Rev. Dr. David Clark followed by great food, great company ... and great memories sure to be made!

The Deacons will provide fried chicken, corn on the cob, and drinks. Please bring your own plates and cutlery, last names beginning A-M bring a dessert to share and N-Z bring a side. You may want to bring a folding chair or blanket.

Have you ever tried a 3-legged race, wheelbarrow race, or gumbot throwing? Old-fashioned (and new) games and family activities will follow, so bring your cornhole set, frisbee, ball glove, or whatever equipment or games you'd like.

At the picnic we will be accepting food donations for the Blessing Box in Bessemer. Here are some suggestions for items to fill the Box: single-serving pudding and fruit cups, easy mac-n-cheese, easy-open cans of SpaghettiOs and soups, granola and other healthier snack options.



## Fall Fun & Fellowship at Moraine

Mark your calendar for a day of fun and fellowship at beautiful Moraine State Park. We have reserved a pavilion at McDanel's Boat Launch North Shore for Sunday, September 10. After church join us for a fun afternoon.

This location is perfect for biking (bring your own or rent), hiking, fishing, kayaking, boating, and yard games or just relax in your lawn chair. Enjoy the fellowship while enjoying the Lake view. Several church members will be bringing their kayaks if you are interested in giving it a try.

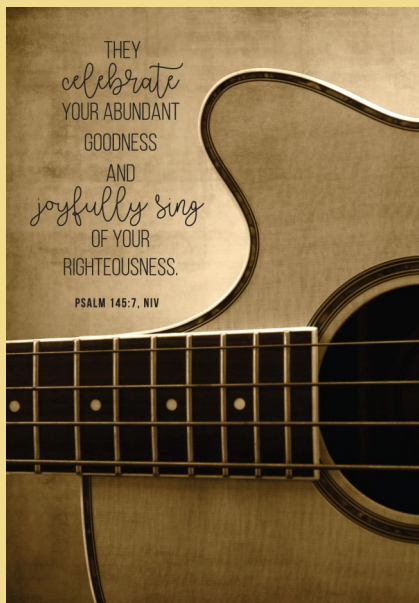
The pavilion is handicap accessible and near restrooms. It is rented for the entire day, so come any time, bring your family and friends. Each family is asked to bring their own picnic dinner, drinks and a dessert or snack to share. Plan on eating your picnic dinner with your church family at five o'clock.

Lake Arthur boat tours are also available at 12:30 and 2:30 just make your own reservation at 724 368-9185 if interested.

Come and enjoy God's creation, the fellowship of your church family, and a fun-filled day at the Lake.

UPCOMING EVENT





## Understanding God in the Psalms

by Pastor Bobby

Music has been a big part of my life since high school. I am sure a lot of us might share that experience. We had the awakening with “that song” that led us to embrace a certain genre. I remember the first rock song that I fell in love with. It was U2’s *Mysterious Ways*. I can tell you where I was when I first heard it.

After college, I started taking guitar lessons. I have had an off and on relationship with guitar playing ever since! While I am not that great at guitar, it does help me connect with emotion and learn songs that I enjoy, which helps me enjoy them more.

Where music has changed for me in the past 10-12 years is that I have been more intentional about attending live shows and listening widely. I own about 800 vinyl records that spans about seventy years and many, many genres. For a while, I had a subscription to a service called Vinyl Me Please, which sends a record once a month. You have no idea what you’re getting. What I discovered is that there is more good music out there than I previously thought or imagined.

Music touches a range of emotions. There are songs for happy and sad times, love

and hate, mystery and discovery – the entirety of the human existence. It’s impressive how we humans turn life into poetry.

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Psalms push us to God’s love and faithfulness no matter what is happening in our lives.

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In the Psalms, we find songs like that. There is worship and praise, sadness and lament, questioning, confession, and so much more. One of the reasons why I love teaching through the Psalms is that, no matter what, we find touchpoints with our own story as it connects to our feelings, beliefs, and understanding of God. And, at the same time, the Psalms push us to God’s love and faithfulness no matter what is happening in our lives.

I hope this series, which takes us to September, pushes all of us to read the Psalms more. If you want some good resources about the Psalms, I love NT Wright’s *The Case for the Psalms* or Tim and Kathy Keller’s *The Songs of Jesus: Daily Devotions in the Psalms*. If you’d like any resources, just ask me!

## Summer Kids Activities

by Jennifer Griffith, Director of Children & Family Ministries

*Wonderful Wednesdays* are coming soon! Our theme this year is “Exploring God’s Creation: Land, Sky, & Sea,” and is best designed for kids age kindergarten through elementary. We will meet 3 times this summer in the pavilion from 10 A.M. to noon on July 5, 12, and 19. Each week we will have a lesson, do a craft/activity, enjoy a snack, and play games.

I hope you’re having fun with the *Where’s the Word? Summer Bible Reading Challenge* resources. Please see me if your family did not receive them. Remember, prizes will be awarded to those who fill out one or both of the travel boards by the end of the summer!



## Donations Save Lives

Our Red Cross Blood Drive takes place on Wednesday, July 12, from 1:00 to 6:00 P.M. and scheduling is open now. Visit [redcross.org](https://redcross.org) today. Contact Lee Ann Martin at 724-667-8613 with questions or to volunteer for the hospitality team.



## New Cookbooks Will Be Here Soon!

by Phyllis McCullough

Thank you to all of our contributors for the 2023 edition of the Westfield Cookbook! We have close to 400 recipes for you to try out. Some are old-time favorites along with lots of new recipes in a variety of categories.

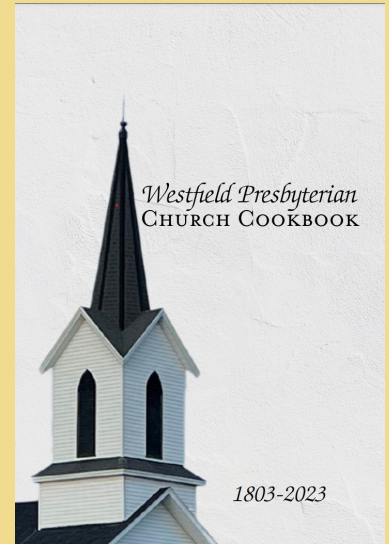
You can pre-order your copies of this beautiful, hardcover cookbook now by filling out the form in the bulletin or online [here](#). The cost is \$15 per book with proceeds to benefit local missions. These cookbooks make great gifts to share with family and friends both far and near so be sure to order enough copies to share! The cookbooks should arrive for distribution by early September—in plenty of time to purchase as Christmas gifts!

In a time when it's easy to go online and search for recipes, keep in mind that the people you know from your church family have great menu ideas that they are

willing to share which gives your recipe collection a more personal touch. These cookbooks will make great keepsakes for future generations.

Many thanks to the cookbook committee who had fun working together to organize this new edition. They include: Terri Carley, Beth Clark, Anne Kephart, Denise Murphy, Brenda Stewart, Becky Summers, Caroline Swanson, Janet Wigg, Jessie Yauch, and Megan Young (special thanks to Megan for our cover design).

*Thank you God for yummy meals,  
For fruit and bread and cheese.  
Thank you God for this great world,  
For trees and fields and bees.  
Thank you Lord for families,  
For laughter and for fun.  
Thank you now for this fine food,  
Please bless it to our turn!*



## Daily Reasons to Celebrate

Poor August, the only month without holidays! Still, there's lots to celebrate these final weeks of summer. Enjoy some summer flavors: August 1 is National Raspberry Cream Pie Day; August 3, National Watermelon Day; August 10, National S'mores Day (have a bonfire!); and August 24 is National Peach Day.

If you share life with young kids, have a water balloon fight on — you guessed it — National Water Balloon Day, August 6! Head out for a final (National) Beach Day on August 30. Or head out for an intergenerational hike on National Trail Mix Day, August 31.

And don't forget to celebrate God's precious gifts of friends — National Friendship Day is the first Sunday in August; creation — Global Sleep Under the Stars Night is August 8 (prime time for meteor showers!); laughter — National Tell a Joke Day is August 16; and the opportunity to put God's love into action by serving others — on August 22, National Be an Angel Day, or August 28, National Thoughtful Day, and, for that matter, every day of the year — holiday or not.



## Our Local HOPE Food Pantry Needs You!

When you plan your grocery shopping trips this summer, be sure to add these items to your list. In July, Westfield is asked to contribute cleaning products (disinfectants, toilet bowl cleaner, cleansers, dish soap). In August please bring in hygiene products (toothpaste, soap, deodorant, shampoo). Items that are always needed include laundry soap, dish soap, coffee and juice. Place all items in the labeled bins in the east wing coat rack area. Monetary donations may be placed in the offering plate or sent to the church office. Make checks payable to Westfield and indicate "Food Bank" on the memo line.



**Margie Benson**  
at Carriage Manor

**Janet Davis**  
at her residence

**Bonnie Ernst**  
at Masternick Memorial

**Ann Fox**  
at her residence

**Pearl Jolley**  
at her residence

**Bob Kenny**  
at his residence

**Hazel Pence**  
at Quality of Life—New Castle

**Mary Lou Trotter**  
at her residence

## Thy Will Be Done

Placing ourselves completely into God’s hands can be challenging. If you need help in that area, pray these words from Thomas à Kempis:

*“Lord, you know what is best. May your will decide what shall be done. Give what you will, how much you will and when you will. Do what you know is best for me. Do what pleases you and brings your name most honor.*

*“Put me where you will, and deal with me in all things as you please. I am in your hand — turn me backwards and forwards, turn me upside down. Here I am, your*

*servant, ready for anything, for I have no desire to live for myself but only to live perfectly and worthily for you.”*



## Missions Garage Sale is Successful by Melvin & Deborah Replogle

Another year, and another Missions Garage Sale under our belt. For those of you who are new to this, several years ago we were blessed with a surprise inheritance and wanted to “pay it forward.” So the Missions Garage Sale was started. Every year all the proceeds are donated to charities. Every year we are so blessed with donations and this year was really epic.

Donations come in as small bundles left on my doorstep to full pickup and trailer loads. I do not know when to say when, and it looked like a Flea Market on the eve of the sale! The garage and yard were full! God provided the customers and the beautiful weather. We raised \$4,475. This is more than double what we usually raise!

It was a huge amount of work, but I had generous volunteers on a holiday weekend to help run the sales table. It is fun, but the really fun part is sending out the

blessings. The recipients range from [Samaritans Purse shoe boxes](#), [Love Packages](#) (where your donated bibles go), [LATCOM](#), our Missionaries, [Young Life](#), a local family displaced by a house fire, [Promise of Life](#), [Scleroderma](#), [East Palestine help fund](#), [Sock/Mitten tree](#), [City Rescue Mission socks](#), [Seneca Hills](#), [St. Jude](#), and there is still some to disburse.

Without your donations there would be no sale, so we want to thank all who donated. Everything was appreciated.

If anyone is interested in helping work the sale/packing table on the Friday or Saturday of next Memorial Day weekend, let me know. We will begin taking donation again in February. Thanks so much!



# The Gift of Empathy

## Save the Dates for a Fall Book Study

by Lorraine Book

Westfield Stephen ministers invite everyone to join in as we study and discuss a new book by Stephen ministry: *The Gift of Empathy*. It's a simple format. Linda McBride or I will share key scenarios and ideas from the book and the group will join in with their reactions, experiences and ideas.

Too busy to read a book? You don't have to buy the book. You don't have to read the book. Just show up, listen, learn, and leave to put it into practice. We will, however, have books available for anyone who wants one.

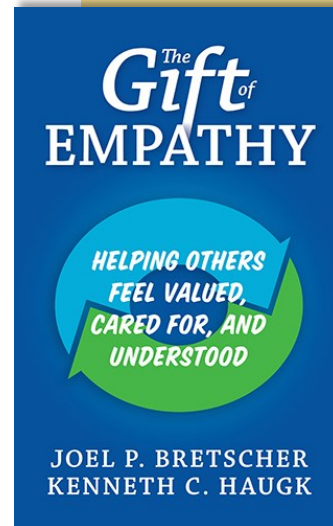


Mark your calendar for these second and fourth Thursday evenings of the month this fall:

September 14, September 28,  
October 12, October 26,  
November 9

7 P.M.—8 P.M. including snacks and refreshments!

Here's what Stephen ministry says about the book: "The Gift of Empathy is a powerful exploration of how to relate in empathetic ways that make a difference in people's lives. It offers a fresh approach to the familiar topic of empathy, providing practical insights and real-life examples that equip readers to better understand, connect with, and care for others."



# Be True

## by Jessie Yauch, Director of Senior Adult Ministries

Do you take the time to rest in the Spirit when praying the Lord's Prayer? Or are you just saying the words and not listening to what you are requesting of God? Any hesitation of truth is no truth. God only knows truth because he is truth. When you are saying these words and you meditate on these words, ask the Holy Spirit to show you your truth. If you are holding feelings of anger towards another person or being judgmental, let those feelings go and forgive. You can not negotiate with God later. If you think that is a possibility then you are lying to yourself and to your Heavenly Father. As Christians we know this to be true, because God has told us so.

At JOY, I have noticed a closer and more friendly environment with our discussions

and digging deeper while we talk in our WOW Time. We all have opened up more to what is happening in our lives and are more aware of the blessings and messages God is sending us.

During July and August I would like to talk through some of the negative thoughts and feelings and find the good in all the negativity. Let us start by being more friendly, helpful, loving and true to everyone. God made us all capable of being just that.

We meet for JOY every Thursday, and all age 50 and older are welcome. Exercise at 11 am and lunch at noon, followed by fellowship and activities.



*Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.*  
Matthew 6:9-13, ESV



# Symbols

## Dolphin

Because dolphins often swim alongside ships, they've been used to symbolize Christ's presence, guiding people through earthly life and into eternal life. Although they're mammals, dolphins have been depicted as the fish that swallowed Jonah. Jesus compared his three days inside the tomb to Jonah's three days inside the fish, so dolphins also came to symbolize resurrection.

# Our VBS Adventure

by Jennifer Griffith, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Wow, the Westfield Stellar VBS was an out-of-this-world adventure! There were nearly 120 students, with over 70 staff members!

things in their life; how they learned to shine Jesus' love and hope in everyday life.

We had a blast during All-Star games, made discoveries at Imagination Station, and at Stellar Sing, we sang our hearts out.



*"Shout with joy to the Lord,  
all the earth!"*  
(Psalm 100:1)

The Bible teachers brought stories of Jesus to reality for all of us. We got to see and experience the daily Bible story in a hands-on way. In KidVid, we heard real life stories from kids who have dealt with some big

We finished the week with a wonderful family picnic to celebrate. Thank you to all who participated in big and small ways. Can't wait until next year!



# 2023 Mission Trip to Hannibal, Missouri June 10-17

Join us during worship on July 2 to hear the full report from the Mission Team!

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength... Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these. —Mark 12:30-31*



# BIRTHDAYS

2 Trevor White  
Amanda McDowell  
Millie Bixler  
Caroline Swanson  
3 Jill Byers  
4 Molly Van Tassel  
5 Braxton Byers  
6 Morgan Allwine  
7 Stephen Byers  
Bob McEwen  
Katie McConnell  
Laura McKinney  
8 Mandy Mays  
9 Bryce Palmer  
Kenneth Shiderly, Sr.

10 Terri Carley  
12 Evan Ernst  
Darin Ernst  
Dave Sperdute  
13 Carol Byers  
Jennifer Ernst  
14 Bill Jones  
15 Mark McKinney  
16 Debbie Liggett  
Kassie McConnell  
Tom Dickson  
19 Bonnie Ernst  
20 Devin Hill  
Kent McDowell

22 David Day  
24 Heather Brenner  
Dylan Kerr  
Jack Mays  
25 Chase Murphy  
Gary Murphy  
26 Natalee Prestopine  
Joel Hopper  
Bonnie Stewart  
Brian Yorns  
27 Debbie Hammond  
28 Dylan Clark  
31 Angelique Lindsay  
Judi Spears

# ANNIVERSARIES

5 Marcy & Dave McClymonds  
11 Jill & David Trotter  
16 Lynn & Ken Lytle  
18 Lorraine & Jim Book  
19 Robin & Dennis Singer  
21 Renee & Clayton Kenny







## Birthdays & Anniversaries in August!

1 Sophia Stewart  
Sam Vastano  
3 Joy Cunningham  
4 Dave Spears  
5 Craig McKim  
Elayna Harman  
6 Dave Carley  
Kevan Yorns  
7 Katie McConnell

8 Malayna McBride  
9 Reed Byers  
Michelle Kerr  
10 Bob Wigg  
11 David Trotter  
12 Charlie Shillingburg  
Marian Spieker  
13 Katie Stivers  
14 Jim Scott  
15 Dan McClain

16 Adonia Bingham  
William Scott  
17 Marcy McClymonds  
20 Debbie McBride  
Melvin Replogle  
21 Gary Lehman  
23 Hunter Hill  
28 Ethel Kuhn  
30 Wendell Harman



3 Rhonda & Keith Breuer  
11 Jean & Harold Workman  
14 Jeanette & Brian Yorns  
16 Paula & David Schmolly  
17 Elaine & Andy Thompson  
Andrea & Dan Hopper  
21 Sandy & Terry McCurley  
Debbie & Bob Hammond  
22 Barbara & Joseph Downs  
31 Terri & David Carley