A warm, loving Christian community that offers God’s healing, forgiveness and redemption to all.

3 Good Samaritan Offering
   Coffee Time 8:30am
   Sunday School 8:55am
   Worship 10am

4 Labor Day

10 Coffee Time 8:30am
   Sunday School 8:55am
   Worship 10am

12 Men’s Corn Roast 6:30pm
   Council Meeting 7pm

14 Pstr. Bible Study 10am & 7pm

15 Men’s Breakfast at Nancy’s 8am

16 Children’s Fall Fun Day

17 Coffee Time 8:30am
   Sunday School 8:55am
   Worship 10am

19 Trustee’s Meeting 6pm

21 Pstr. Bible Study 10am & 7pm

24 Coffee Time 8:30am
   Sunday School 8:55am
   Worship 10am

28 Pstr. Bible Study 10am & 7pm

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Summer’s End

No flowers to plant,
No garden to tend,
As summertime lagily
Comes to an end.

It’s time to sit back
and deliciously savor
The beauty of the season
and the fruits of our labor.

Farewell to summer;
for autumn make way,
With this last celebration
We call Labor Day.

Author: Nancy Hughes
Labels. We all have them. You have them. Someone else has taken the liberty of giving it to you. Maybe it’s fair, maybe it’s not, but nonetheless, we carry them. Sometimes they are positive, sometimes negative, and sometimes fun. I have dear family friends who used to call me “Uncle Goofball”. It fits, trust me.

Lately, though, we have seen the destructive power of labels. “White Supremacist”, “Neo Nazi”, “Alt-Right”, “Alt-Left”, and “Antifa” are some that come immediately to mind. It seems as though we are moving down a slippery slope of labeling and judging everyone. So many of these new (and not so new) labels are defined by the hatred that is spewed from folks who claim that label.

Let’s be clear about one thing – as the Church of Jesus Christ we are to condemn hatred, bigotry, and racism in all their ugly forms. There is no place for any of this in the church. None.

It’s rather easy in much of western Pennsylvania to say that we don’t have a problem with racism because many of us don’t see it first-hand. But that’s only because much of western Pennsylvania is anything but diverse. In many of our rural areas most of us all look alike, have common backgrounds, and share the same cultural norms.

But the world doesn’t look like this anymore. We are, indeed, a melting pot. God has created us each of us uniquely different, and those differences should not scare us, but bring the joy of knowing that each of us has been created in the image of God.

Most labels we use divide us. They hurt us. They cause people to look at you differently. But there is one label that we should all strive for. It’s really the only label that matters – “Follower of Jesus Christ”.

This is what we need to be striving for. We need to reach people of all different labels and help change their hearts. For once you become a true believer, a true follower of Jesus Christ, the other labels begin to melt away.

Is it hard work? You bet it is. Will we reach everyone? Nope. But our responsibility is to make our best effort. We are called to “make disciples of all nations…”.

In the days ahead we will be discussing and discovering ways that we, the people who call themselves followers of Jesus Christ at Kantner UMC, can make a difference in the midst of a world that is full of hate right now. It starts with you, and me, taking a look at our own hearts and making sure we are ready to love each other no matter what we look like.

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." – (John 13:34 NIV) It shouldn’t be as hard as we’ve made it.

Please commit yourself to prayer in the days ahead for our country and the healing that needs to take place. The power of prayer is mighty, and things will change. But it’s going to take all of us working together to make a true difference.

In His Great Love,

Rich
From Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi

“Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption.” (Ephesians 4:29-30)

The events in Charlottesville this past weekend were horrific. As I heard the stories and saw video of the march, counter-march, fighting and other violence, I was reduced to tears. It reminded me of previous videos I had seen of KKK marches, only those videos were from before I was born. The hatred I viewed this weekend was happening in 2017 and the people spewing the hatred were not afraid to show their faces! How God must be grieving because the rhetoric of discrimination and hatred continues to be boldly shouted and written on placards directed at God’s children.

I condemn these acts of hatred. I ask you to join me in prayer for Heather Heyer, who died from injuries sustained when a car was driven into a crowd of counter-protestors. Please pray for the families of Virginia State Police Lt. Jay Cullen and Trooper Berke M. M. Bates, who died when their helicopter crashed while circling Charlottesville. Pray with me for healing for those who were injured physically and emotionally by the violence.

Christians must resist the temptation to respond to racial and religious hatred with an anger that perpetuates violence. (Ephesians 4:26). The challenge is to respond with an anger that fosters grace-filled condemnation and accountability. The challenge is to respond with an anger that fosters empathy and promotes justice for the victims of the vitriol and violence.

As an annual conference, we have covenanted with each other and God to focus on dismantling racism. At our baptism we, or our sponsors on our behalf, answered yes to the question, “Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?” At each baptism we witness, we reaffirm our commitment to this covenant.

The way in which we respond to the events in Charlottesville demonstrates to God and the world whether or not we can be trusted to do what we say we are going to do. Will we be faithful to our covenant? Will we condemn the evil, injustice and oppression of hate groups?

Those are simple questions. There are no commas or semi-colons at the end, because when we add “but”, we dilute our condemnation of evil, injustice and oppression and we give up some of our God-given freedom and power.

I ask you to join me in condemning these acts of hatred. I particularly ask those who are not usually targets of the KKK and neo-Nazi groups to condemn their acts. As an African American, I send a message by condemning these acts, but when the condemnation comes from an Anglo-American, the message is more compelling, particularly for those looking for ways to justify the actions of the KKK or neo-Nazi groups.

The good news is that God has promised to give us the freedom and power to resist and combat these forces. I am confident God will reveal to you how God wants you, in your context, to resist this evil, and God will give you the freedom and power to do it.

I am asking our Anti-Racism Team to suggest some ways local churches might respond. But don't wait for them. Pray and act, knowing that your bishop has been praying for your discernment and will support you. The world and God are waiting to see if we are people who mean what we say.

UMC Resources

The United Methodist Church is advertising nationally to encourage a unified stand against racism, challenging people to learn how we all can be a force for good. A compilation of articles and denominational statements is available at UMC.org/EmbraceLove. Resources from across the connection, including liturgies, discussion guides, videos to use in worship and on social media, and tips for talking to kids, are also available. Explore resources at http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/archives-racism-resources.
SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

1. Dawson Snyder  
   Max Strasiser
2. Nikki Wadding  
   Bill Weaver
3. Riya Ashbrook  
   Michael Shontofski  
   Alcyn Manges
4. Mary Munion  
   Jeremiah Wilt
5. Jackie Stanko  
   Gus Addleman  
   Matthew Addleman
6. Aleta Strasiser  
   Wilma Nicklow
7. Bethany Delano  
   Brittany Johnston
8. Nathani Zimmerman  
   Brooklynn Thomas  
   Ginger Walker
9. Gabriel Manthey  
   Sam Zimmerman
10. Elmer Defibaugh
11. Colby Powell
12. Bethany Abramovich  
   Connie Mostoller
13. Josie Lehman
14. Mike Miller  
   Mike Peifer
15. John Abramovich  
   Tim Weible  
   George Wheeler
16. Bill Feathers  
   Chris Snyder  
   Lauren Zimmerman

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

1. Chris & Chelsea Snyder  
   Ron & Marsha Wadsworth
2. Mark & Marlene M. Putman
3. Christian & Elissa Boyd
4. Mike & Diana Miller
5. Dennis & Lorie Tawney
6. Todd & Sherry Eutin
7. Justin & Brittany Adams
8. Jeremy & Kristen Tarbay
9. Brian & Donna Wilt
10. Jerry & Karen Wilt
11. Brandon & Amy Adams
12. John & Linda Adams
13. Michael & Shannon Adams
14. Russ & Jen Lehman
15. Jerry & Linda Yoder
16. Fred & Amy Brant

**IN MEMORIAM**

26. Lindsay Putman

![BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES](image)

**SERVING IN SEPTEMBER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>GREETERS</th>
<th>ACOLYTES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Ray &amp; Jeannette Dunmyer</td>
<td>Dannyn Ashbrook &amp; Devin Stanczyk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Wilma &amp; Maddie Manges</td>
<td>Braden Adams &amp; Chloe Stanczyk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Jim &amp; Donnaele Weaver</td>
<td>Sydnee Ashbrook &amp; Ayden Boyd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Gary &amp; Niki Ashbrook</td>
<td>Adi Belanger &amp; Amy Lorence</td>
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
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<th>FLOWERS</th>
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<td>03</td>
<td>Marlene K. Putman, Matt Addleman</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Carol Shontofski, Madison Walker</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Becky Addleman, Billie Tresise</td>
<td>Andrew &amp; Carol Shontofski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Jean Gardner, Jacob Nedrow</td>
<td>Open</td>
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**Prayer List**

Please keep the following persons in your prayers in the coming weeks. Remember the way to put people on the published list found in the bulletin and newsletter is to write their name on a form and place it in basket on the prayer rail. They will remain on the list for a month.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ron &amp; JoAnn Eutin</td>
<td>Ina Miller</td>
<td>Zimmerman Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peggy &amp; Art Jerin</td>
<td>Rhonda Emmert</td>
<td>Lois Hinis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabriel Ohler</td>
<td>Isaac Sheets</td>
<td>Izzy Bihun &amp; Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmer Defibaugh</td>
<td>Brad Berkley Family</td>
<td>Pope Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ila McQuade</td>
<td>Jossalyn “Brie” Purdy</td>
<td>Cifreo Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorraine Hollan</td>
<td>Karen Putman</td>
<td>Zachary Hanlon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruening Family</td>
<td>Niki Ashbrook</td>
<td>Barrett Lunstrum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jodell Zimmerman</td>
<td>Doug Ashbrook</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ron Wadding</td>
<td>Velvet Louder</td>
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**“Home Bound” Members of the Kantner Family**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elmer Defibaugh</td>
<td>Kathryn Phillips</td>
<td>Maxine Ott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4570 Ridge Road</td>
<td>460 Schoolhouse Rd.</td>
<td>401 E. Main St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stoystown, PA 15563</td>
<td>Stoystown, PA 15563</td>
<td>Stoystown, PA 15563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ina Miller</td>
<td>Ila McQuade</td>
<td>Lorraine Hollan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siemon Lakeview Manor</td>
<td>Siemon Lakeview Manor</td>
<td>Patriot Manor #341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Heritage, Rm 209</td>
<td>The Heritage, Rm 202</td>
<td>495 W. Patriot St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset, PA 15501</td>
<td>Somerset, PA 15501</td>
<td>Somerset, PA 15501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peggy &amp; Art Jerin</td>
<td>Genevieve Mull</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>116 Abby Lane, Lot 7</td>
<td>P. O. Box 96</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berlin, PA 15530</td>
<td>Stoystown, PA 15563</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Velma Putman</td>
<td>Frank &amp; Aletta Strasiser</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shaffer’s Countryside Living</td>
<td>Maple Valley Per. Care #12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1841 Stoystown Road</td>
<td>2212 Anthony Run Road</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friedens, PA 15541</td>
<td>Indiana, PA 15701</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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We will include this list each month. If you would like to add or make any other changes to the list, please let the office know at 893-6216.
Jubilee 2017
New Centerville, PA
65th Anniversary
September 6-10, 2017

Fall Bible Study
Thursdays 10:00-11:30 AM &
7:00-8:30 PM
Begins September 14, 2017
Lead by Pastor Rich
Invitation to the New Testament -
8 sessions

2017 SCARECROW FESTIVAL
AT GEORGIAN PLACE
SOMERSET PA 15501

SEPTEMBER 16TH
Scarecrow Contest & Festival
10AM to 5PM

• Petting Zoo
• Pony Rides!
• Pumpkin Painting
• Live Music
• Seasonal Foods!
• Little Miss Scarecrow
• Pageant!

Most Activities Free

SEPTEMBER 15TH
5K Scarecrow Run
5:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 15TH
Outdoor Open Mic
6:00-9:00 PM

SPARK 2018

When: Leave Friday January 19th 2017 at 4:30 pm – home
Sunday January 21st at approximately 2:30 pm.
Where: Sheraton Station Square, Pittsburgh
Who: 6th – 12th grade KUMC Youth Group Attendees
Cost: $185 - Cost includes lodging, 2 breakfasts and lunch.

This is our Western PA Conference youth retreat.

Mountain Craft Days
This annual festival showcases traditional arts and crafts.

Somerset Historical Society
Saturday & Sunday September 8, 9 & 10

General admission is $9
children 6-17 are $5
children under 5 are free
Friday school tours are $3 per student
Kantner United Methodist Church
626 Forbes Road
Stoystown, PA 15563

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED