



Pompton Reformed Church
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September 2018



PASTOR'S PAGE

Labor Day celebrates our productivity. At church we celebrated how God's insights increase our productivity and enrich our creativity.

A Labor Day Sunday sermon illustration was about Herbert J. Taylor. He was a businessman who chose to keep aware on the job of God's views and callings. His life accomplishments were amazing. He rescued and renewed a corporation saving the employment of over 100 people, gave Rotary Clubs their famed "4 way test", and built up some life-transforming Christian organizations, including Intervarsity Press, Young Life, Pioneer Girls, and Christian Service Brigade. And he underwrote the first Chicago Billy Graham crusade.

Taylor attributes his success to his Christian upbringing, and awareness of the power of Scriptural advice. He found these Scriptures helpful for a more fulfilling productive life.

He who sows sparingly shall reap also sparingly; he who sows bountifully, will also reap bountifully. God loves people who are cheerful givers. II Corinthians 9:6,7

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Galatians 5:22,23

God shows you what is good. What does the Lord require of you, but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

Speak the truth in love, so you may grow up into Christ's way in all things. Ephesians 4:15

In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made know unto God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep vital your heart and mind through Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6,7

Don't be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him drink. Romans 12:20, 21

No temptation is irresistible. You can trust God to keep the temptation from becoming so strong that you can't stand up against it, for he has promised this and will do what he says. He will show you how to escape temptation's power, so that you can bear up patiently against it. I Corinthians 10:13

You are gifted for valuable productivity--your Christian experience and vital relationship with Christ are significant assets. Let these verses affirm and enrich you, and prepare you for a more productive and fulfilling autumn.

Pastor Mel



Sounds of September

By Elaine Peacock



Do you remember all those shouts of joy we heard in June? They have been replaced by moans and groans of September. Yes the care free days of summer have been replaced by back to school ads, no more sleeping in and the dreaded “H” word homework. Actually it isn’t that bad, the days are still warm, football is in full swing, and there are craft fairs and street fairs everywhere! Just check your local paper or website. For me, September means vacation. Usually that is the month I meet two of my friends for our annual reunion. This year it is Vermont. I also take a week and getaway to a favorite place or a place that is on my bucket list. This year it is a bucket list item- the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. So get out and enjoy the sounds of September, even if it is only for a day or weekend! You’ll be glad you did.



ROUNDTABLE OF THANKS

A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE SEARCH TEAM FOR THEIR FORTITUDE AND DEDICATION IN SEARCHING FOR OUR NEW PASTOR. PLEASE KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS AS THE SEARCH CONTINUES.... THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

ANOTHER HUGE THANK YOU TO ANNA GORDON WHO HAS LEAD WORSHIP, HELD A BIBLE STUDY GROUP AND HAS HELPED IN EVERY ASPECT OF RUNNING PRC. WE ARE SO GRATEFUL AND WILL MISS HER AS SHE HEADS BACK TO SCHOOL.

THANKING OUR WONDERFUL YOUTH GROUP AND THEIR LEADER, LUCAS SPANN, FOR THEIR FAITHFUL GATHERING AS THEY WORSHIP AND PRAY TOGETHER.

THANKING YOU ALL FOR WHAT YOU DO TO ENHANCE AND ENRICH PRC.

September Sermon Themes

2 - *“Adding the Spice of Faith to Life—Your Other Vocation”* Matthew 5

9 - *“Intergenerational Inspiration”*

15 - *“Scripture and Prayer to Enrich Your Busy, Challenging, Productive Autumn Days”*

23 - *“Wisdom from Above”* James 3

30 - *“Living with the Grace and Truth of Jesus Christ”* Micah 6, Matthew 22, John 1

Beginnings!



- Sunday School begins on September 9.
- Chancel Choir starts up on September 6 and sings in the Sanctuary on Sept. 9
- Bell Choir starts up on September 11

Sunday School and Choirs welcome new members!

Fellowship opportunities

- ***Pompton Day, Sept. 2, 2018- come by the PRC table or volunteer to man it!**
- ***Deacon's Mum Sale-The Deacons will be selling mums through Sunday, September 16. They will be available for pick-up on September 23rd. Thank you for your support.**
- * **Sight -and-Sound Bus Trip to Lancaster, Pennsylvania on October 6, 2018.**
- ***Church-Wide Picnic will take place on September 16. We are asking our Church Family if possible to bring in foods such as potato salad, macaroni salad, , pasta salad, deviled eggs, and baked beans. You are certainly allowed to bring your specialty! There is a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall with these foods on it.**
- ***A Yankee Bus Trip sponsored by the Deacons and Rotary is on September 23. Capital Campaign will receive money from Fundraiser. Please see Vince Iraggi for information.**
- ***Autumnfest will take place on October 20, 2018.**
- ***Chili or Soup Social will take place on November 11.**
- ***Cookie Social will take place on December 16.**

PEOPLE AND EVENTS

Congratulations!

Marriage of Christopher and True Murphy on August 18.
Marriage of Tina (Iraggi) and Donald ("DJ") Thompson on July 26.

Ron and Ronnie Schubert became grandparents to Cooper Robert Cusack,
born on August 16.

Thomas Hanisch reported to VMI and would love mail to lift him up as he goes through the rigorous training involved. His address is:

Cadet Hanisch, Thomas C
Virginia Military Institute
VMI box 80568
Lexington VA 24450-0304



Memorials

*in loving
memory*

<u>From</u>	<u>In Memory Of</u>	<u>Designation</u>
JoAnn Sisco	Barbara Buckman	Capital Campaign
Eleanor Haling	Helen Miller	Boiler Fund

Birthdays

Chrissy Warner
Sue Uhlendorf
Caroline Winer
Michael Warner



THANK YOU TO SUMMER LEADERS and GUEST SPEAKERS

Thank you to liturgists, musicians, the audio-visual team, ushers, greeters and refreshment teams for blessing us with your giftedness and commitment throughout the summer. We had inspiring Sundays.

We were inspired by the liturgy and ceremony as well as the joy of receiving Wesley P. Witherington as an official member. He is a blessing to us.

Thank you to guest speakers who added unexpected dimensions to increase our sense of how to live in the Spirit and live out a Christian life. Some of the many highlights were:

Rev. Darrel Redmond pointing out the high value of the right hand of fellowship, and then during communion placing his hand on the shoulder of a young boy to offer him a blessing.

Anna Gordon adding a discussion time after getting refreshments, for reflecting on the application of the sermon. She also added a sung prayer of illumination in worship, and items to take home.

Rev. Debbie Rundecker giving us all a light to take with us as a reminder of the power we have to be lights in the world.

Special visual dimensions—video clips—were added by Rev. Michael Johnson and Rev. Debbie Rundecker.

Sabine Kroeger explaining how daily work described in Genesis is a creative blessing given by God, not meant to be a condemning drudgery.

Thank you to those suggested favorite hymns and spiritual songs and told us something about how that song was an inspiration to them.

Thank you to Anna Gordon also for intergenerational Bible study events on Monday evenings. It was a fascinating adventure. We were discovering Bible applications while creating sounds to dramatize a Bible Story, gathering rocks, praying while coloring, creating greeting cards with designs to celebrate favored Bible passages, and using cards called chiji cards to identify more fully our experience of a Bible story.

Thank you to those who made possible Summer Sunday School--leaders Lucas Spaan and Linda Hufschmid, plus many congregational members who contributed from their experiences telling a faith and life story or helping develop a craft time, including Carolee Quant, Charlie Quant, Vince Iraggi, Judy Foester, Bobbi Cockefair, and Mark Warner.



Hello! ONLY 50 DAYS UNTIL AUTUMNFEST!



I am sending you an outline on what we need and where we can use your help for Autumnfest 2018!

Autumnfest is on October 20, 2018. If you have helped in a certain area in the past and want to help out there again please let me know. If you have never helped out and want to for the first time please let me know where your interest is and I will put you in that area.

We need you all to be our PRAYER WARRIORS. We pray that we make a difference in someone's life by showing them friendship and happiness on that day. We want to show God's love to them through us. I know you do a wonderful job of this every year by the wonderful compliments people give to me about all of you! The Vendors and Crafters are always telling me how kind you all are to them And it is never too early to begin praying for good weather! Last year was a beautiful, warm and sunny day! Hopefully we can ask for the same weather this year!



In the SCARECROW AND PUMPKIN AREA we can use the following items:

- *Jeans
- * Flannel Shirts
- *Hats and Caps
- * White Pillow cases

We will be making a few Scarecrows to sell the week of Autumnfest. If you would like to help out that would be wonderful! We also need volunteers to help out during the day.

I also need someone to do FACE PAINTING. If you are willing to help us out please let me know and also what hours you could be there.

In the BAKERY we need the following items:

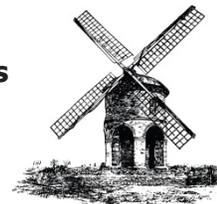
- Breads such as Banana, Pumpkin, and Zucchini bread
- All types of pies and cakes
- Lemon Bars
- Brownies, Cookies, and Cupcakes
- Gluten Free and Sugar Free items

If you can't bake monetary donations will be appreciated.



We need volunteers on Friday, October 19 to price and cut the items.

We need volunteers to help out that day. Please let me know what hours you can help us out.



In the "THIS AND THAT SHOP" we need the following items:

We need plastic or brown paper bags to put the items in.

We need items that are clean and in good working order. We will NOT accept CLOTHING or BOOKS. We are thinking in terms of Holiday items, Accessories which includes Scarves and Jewelry, Household items, and

Stationary. You may begin bringing these items to Church in September. You may put them in Room 103 on the left side. If you are able to price the items before bringing them this would be a big help!

We will need people to come in during the week and price the items and set up Room 108.

We will need volunteers to help out during the day. Please let me know what hours you can help us out.

At the LUNCHEON we need the following items:

Cans of Coke and Sprite

Cans of Diet Coke and Diet Sprite

Bottles of water

You may bring these items in at any time beginning in September and leave them on the left side of Room 103.

We need volunteers to take the Vendors and Crafters their lunch. This takes place between 11:30-1:30. If this fits in your schedule this would be great!

We need volunteers who are willing to relieve others for lunch or breaks.

We will be selling PRETZELS, POPCORN, and COTTON CANDY once again. If anyone would like to help us with this please let me know.

This is all I can think of for now. I will be sending other emails out regarding Autumnfest when the need arises. Hopefully you all can help us in one or two areas so that it is a Church-Wide Fundraiser. The

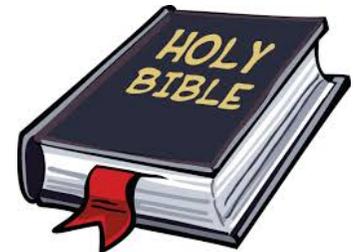
Fellowship Committee thanks you all in advance for your prayers, donations, and help. GOD BLESS YOU ALL! Jo-Ann

The Daily Study Bible Series

Submitted by Jack Tice

The Gospel of Mark – Revised Edition

Mark 2: 23 - 28 pages 64-66



- (i) Religion does not consist in rules and regulation. To take the matter in question – Sunday observance is important but there is a great deal more to religion than Sunday observance. If a man might become a Christian simply by abstaining from work and pleasure on the Sunday, and by attending church on that day, and saying his prayers and reading his Bible, being a Christian would be a very easy thing. Whenever men forget the love and the forgiveness and the service and the mercy that are at the heart of religion and replace them by the performance of rules and regulations religion is in a decline. Christianity has at all times consisted far more in doing things than in refraining from doing things.
- (ii) The first claim on any man is the claim of human need. Even the catechisms and the confessions admit that works of necessity and mercy are quite legal on the Sabbath. If ever the performance of a man's religion stops him helping someone who is in

need, his religion is not religion at all. People matter far more than systems. Persons are far more important than rituals. The best way to worship is to help men.

- (iii) The best way to use sacred things is to use them to help men. That, in fact, is the only way to give them to God. One of the loveliest of all stories is that of The Fourth Wise Man. His name was Artaban. He set out to follow the star and he took with him a sapphire, a ruby and a pearl beyond price as gifts for the King. He was riding hard to meet his three friends, Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar, at the agreed place. The time was short; they would leave if he was late. Suddenly he saw a dim figure on the ground before him. It was a traveler stricken with fever. If he stayed to help he would miss his friends. He did stay; he helped and healed the man. But now he was alone. He needed camels and bearers to help him across the desert because he had missed his friends and their caravan. He had to sell his sapphire to get them; and he was sad because the King would never have his gem.

He journeyed on and in due time came to Bethlehem, but again he was too late. Joseph and Mary and the baby had gone. There came the soldiers to carry out Herod's command that the children should be slain. Artaban was in a house where there was a little child. The tramp of soldiers came to the door; the weeping of stricken mothers could be heard. Artaban stood in the doorway, tall and dark, with the ruby in his hand and bribed the captain not to enter. The child was saved; the mother was overjoyed; but the ruby was gone; and Artaban was sad because the King would never have his ruby.

For years he wandered looking for the King. More than thirty years afterwards he came to Jerusalem. There was a crucifixion that day. When Artaban heard of the Jesus being crucified, he sounded wondrous like the King and Artaban hurried towards Calvary. Maybe his pearl, the loveliest in all the world, could buy the life of the King. Down the street came a girl fleeing from a band of soldiers. "My father is in debt," she cried, "and they are taking me to sell as a slave to pay the debt. Save me! Artaban hesitated; then sadly he took out his pearl, gave it to the soldiers and bought the girl's freedom.

On a sudden the skies were dark; there was an earthquake and a flying tile hit Artaban on the head. He sank half-conscious to the ground. The girl pillowed his head on her lap. Suddenly his lips began to move. "Not so, my Lord. For when saw I thee anhungered and fed thee? Or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw I thee a stranger, and took thee in? Or naked and clothed thee? When saw I thee sick in prison, and came unto thee? Thirty and three years have I looked for thee; But I have never seen thy face, nor ministered to thee, my King." And then like a whisper from very far away, there came a voice. "Verily I say unto you, In as much as thou hast done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, thou hast done it unto me." And Artaban smiled in death because he knew that the King had received his gifts.

Business Manager – Cemetery Superintendent

Dear Members and Friends of PRC,

The Staff Relations Committee has selected and Consistory has approved Pompton Reformed Church's new business managers/cemetery superintendents to replace Michele MacDonald, who left us a few months ago to pursue another opportunity after several years of excellent service to PRC.

Long time PRC members and dear friends Gail Freeland and Sue Uhlendorf will be assuming these duties effective immediately. Gail will be in this important role as the "face of PRC" four days each work week and Sue will do so one day per week. Sue of course has done an outstanding job filling in for Michele during her recent illness and in the weeks since she left. She will be training Gail over these next few weeks and as needed going forward. Both Gail and Sue have a great love of the Lord and of Pompton Reformed and we are confident they will do a great job in this role.

Please be sure to congratulate and welcome them when you have a chance. We do also respectfully ask that on Sundays, when we are all here for worship and fellowship, that you respect their need for these things and do not bring up "church business" on Sunday mornings if at all possible.

Thank you!

Training disabled children so they discover they can be productive



You, through PRC support, are enabling talented young people with disabilities to discover God has significant purpose in their lives.

You support the Mephibosheth Training Centre in Ghana. You may have heard Andrea Linder, a NJ native, describing to us this transforming ministry. The University of Southern California was so impressed that in the spring, 2018 they sent 23 occupational therapy students to the school to see the immense possibilities. While they were there, besides offering therapy, they helped develop a children's library too.

You are making a difference in hearts, souls, and minds in some impressive life transforming ways...way far away in Ghana. Impressive!

YOU'VE CHOSEN A HEALTHY HABIT

It is healthy to go to church.

"Out of 212 studies, three-fourths showed a positive effect of religious commitment on health," reports Dr. Dale Matthews, MD of Georgetown University. Dr. Harold G. Koenig of Duke University Medical Center reports that "people who attend church are both physically healthier and less depressed."

Men who attend church have much lower blood-pressure levels than those who don't.

Among elderly women recovering from hip fractures, those with strong religious beliefs suffered less from depression and thus were more likely to walk sooner.

When research was reviewed, religious commitment was found to be beneficial to physical health in more than 80% of the cases.

Source: Dr. David Larson, psychiatrist,
National Institute of Mental Health, Washington, DC.

Church lifestyle rates highest in happiness.

93% of those people living an "authentic, noticeably different Christian life--more giving and forgiving, spending significant time helping people burdened with physical and emotional needs"--rated life "very happy", reported George Gallop, Jr.

Over 90% of those pursuing solely their own happiness were rated by others as unhappy. (Bernard Rimland study)

No wonder more people attend church on a given Sunday morning than go to all the major professional sports events in a year...combined!



It may well be that we have done great hurt to the church by letting people think that church membership need not make so very much difference. We ought to tell them that it should make all the difference in the world. We might have fewer people; but those we had would be really pledged to Christ.

