

# FAITH MATTERS

July 2023



## Pastor Scott's Musings



*“Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron?”  
Hebrews 7:11.*

*July starts off with a bang as we celebrate the nation's Independence Day. Since the days of the Founding Fathers, the country has been on an independence spree. People began to proclaim their independence from more than just the king of England. They began to assert independence from laws that were in place for their protection. They proceeded to claim independence from the union that once proclaimed its independence from England.*

As is always the case with individualism and humanism, people began proclaiming their independence from God and their own deism. In today's postmodern world, people have proclaimed their independence from everything and everyone.

If we are honest with ourselves, we would admit that we know that we need something more than we can provide for ourselves. We need a relationship with someone greater than ourselves. Our relationship with Jesus is not something that we just have; it is something that we absolutely NEED. We cannot live life independent of the One who not only created us but came to sacrifice Himself for us in order to redeem us and restore us.

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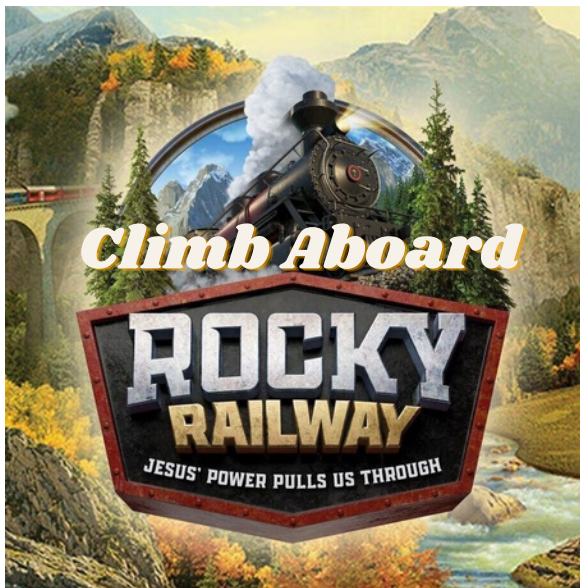
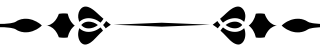
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Throughout the rest of this year, we will explore this relationship that we are so dependent upon and how to develop it. We will do this first through an exploration of how and why we worship. Then we will discover how we develop our relationship through our spiritual disciplines.

As we discover what God has in store for us as we follow in obedience, we want to develop a closer relationship with our Savior. We cannot have a clear understanding of what God wants us to do if we cannot hear Him, and we have not developed a close relationship with our Jesus and with one another.

I look forward to growing with you throughout the year and to asserting our DEPENDENCE upon Jesus as we seek to do His will and reach a community in desperate need of the Savior.

In Christ's service,  
Pastor Scott



# Climb Aboard

Laboratory Presbyterian Church

**VBS**

**23 Manse Street  
Washington, PA 15301  
It's the best week of summer!  
Sunday, July 9 – Thursday, July 13  
6:00-8:30PM**



*Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.*

ISAIAH 40:28-29



## July 2, 2023 (Communion)

Sermon Title: Worship: Why Should We?

Scripture: John 1:1-18

Focal Verses: *"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." v. 14.*

Synopsis: We worship God because He is worthy of all glory. As the angels sing, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord God Almighty." He loved us enough to sacrifice His Son for our redemption and to have the light pierce through the darkness.

Special Notes: Independence Day Weekend

## July 9, 2023

Sermon Title: Worship: Four Part Harmony

Scripture: Luke 24:13-35

Focal Verse: *"And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him." v. 31.*

Synopsis: There is a natural rhythm to the way we worship. It happens in four parts that are in harmony with one another leading us on a journey that deepens our relationship with our God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

## July 16, 2023

Sermon Title: Worship: Call to Worship

Scripture: Psalm 95

Focal Verse: *"Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!" v. 6.*

Synopsis: The people of God are called to worship Him. We are called to proclaim the greatness of who He is and what He has done.

## July 23, 2023

Sermon Title: Worship: Prayer of Confession

Scripture: Daniel 9:3-19

Focal Verse: *"I prayed to the Lord my God and made confession..." v. 4a.*

Synopsis: "Having praised the holiness of God, we must also face the sinful state of the world and of our lives, confessing our unworthiness to enter into God's presence. Nevertheless we approach God with confidence, trusting in the mercy of Jesus Christ. This turn from communal praise to corporate confession, established on the promise of God's grace, is one of the hallmarks of the reformed tradition." (Book of Order: W - 3.0205)

## July 30, 2023

Sermon Title: Worship: Children's Message and Sermon

Scripture: Luke 4:16-21

Focal Verse: *"And He began to say to them, 'Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'" v. 21.*

Synopsis: "The Scriptures bear witness to the Word of God, revealed most fully in Jesus Christ, the Word who 'became flesh and lived among us' (John 1:14). Where the Word is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the living Word is present by the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, reading, hearing, preaching, and affirming the Word are central to Christian worship and essential to the Service for the Lord's Day." (Book of Order: W - 3.0301)

## Pine Springs Camp Counselor Sponsee:



"This year we are sponsoring a counselor, Ellie, from Pine Springs Camp. Ellie is a student at Grove City College and a regular at PSC.

If you would like to include a note/card for Ellie, or some fun snacks (**nothing with peanuts**), please make sure that your donations are turned in by July 9th. We also ask that you keep Ellie, and everyone at PSC, in your prayers this summer.

Contact TJ Spruill if you have any questions."



Oh come, let us  
worship and bow  
down; let us  
kneel before the  
Lord, our  
Maker!

PSALM 95:6



## BIRTHDAYS

7/17 - Pamela Koppes

- Debra Randall

- Kimberly Shetter

7/24 - Brittany Palm

7/31 - Grace Barton



## ANNIVERSARIES

7/8 - Kyle & Rachel Heather

# CORNERSTONE

TOBY MAC & ZACH WILLIAMS

“Ahem  
You ready, man?  
Okay, yeah”  
Lookin' out my window, feelin' the  
crescendo  
Sunset on a quiet sea  
Sitting with the ones that I'll forever  
love  
We're waitin' on a flash of green  
And even when the nights got cold (got  
cold)  
You have always held me close (me  
close)  
You're the only rock that I could ever  
stand on  
You're the only one for me  
The sun goes up, the sun comes down  
This old world keeps spinnin' 'round  
I'm here travelin' down this long and  
winding road  
Seasons come and seasons go  
They take me high, then leave me low  
But I'm still standing on the only rock I  
know  
You're my cornerstone  
Oh, oh, oh, no matter where I go, my  
cornerstone  
Bible by my bedside, sweatin' through a  
long night  
Wrestling the hounds of shame  
Tryna turn the hands back on a  
troublin' past  
Every move I make's in vain  
But even in the shifting winds  
You are who You've always been  
You're the only rock that I could ever  
stand on  
Through it all You remain  
The sun goes up, the sun comes down  
This old world keeps spinnin' 'round  
I'm here travelin' down this long and  
winding road (this winding road)  
Yeah, seasons come and seasons go  
They take me high, then leave me low  
But I'm still standing on the only rock I  
know  
You're my cornerstone  
Oh, oh, oh, no matter where I go, my  
cornerstone

Oh, oh, oh, no matter where I go,  
Mister Zach Williams  
On Christ, the solid rock I'm standin'  
All of the ground is sinking sand  
On Christ, the solid rock I'm standin'  
All of the ground is sinking sand  
On Christ, the solid rock I'm standin',  
yes Lord  
You're the only one that I will build my  
life on  
Through it all You remain  
The sun goes up, the sun comes down  
This old world keeps spinnin' around  
And I'm here travelin' down this long  
and winding road  
Seasons come, seasons go  
I've been high and I've been low  
But I'm standing on the only rock I  
know  
You're my cornerstone  
Oh, oh, oh, no matter where I go, my  
cornerstone (all of the ground is sinking  
sand)  
Oh, oh, oh, no matter where I go (all of  
the ground is sinking sand)  
The sun goes up and the sun comes  
down (all of the ground is sinking sand)  
And I build my life on this solid rock (all  
of the ground is sinking sand)  
Oh, yeah  
You are the only rock I stand on



*You yourselves like  
living stones are being  
built up as a spiritual  
house, to be a holy  
priesthood, to offer  
spiritual sacrifices  
acceptable to God  
through Jesus Christ.*

*For it stands in*

*Scripture:*

*“Behold, I am laying in  
Zion a stone,*

*a cornerstone chosen  
and precious,*

*and whoever believes in  
him will not be put to  
shame.”*

*So the honor is for you  
who believe, but for those  
who do not believe,*

*“The stone that the  
builders rejected*

*has become the  
cornerstone.”*

1 PETER 2:5-7

# Music & Worship News



## Special Summer Music

**Those wishing to provide special music for the summer Sundays or request a favorite hymn, please contact Dennis Taylor.**

## Chancel Flowers

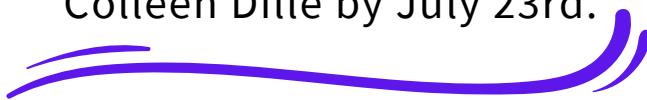
**If you would like to display a special flower arrangement for Sunday morning worship, Please contact Grace Mitchell.**



## Bingo Donations

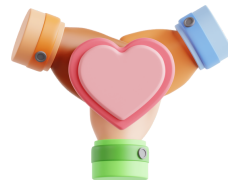


The Music and Worship team is looking for small prize donations to be given at the Church Picnic. Give prizes to Colleen Dille by July 23rd.



## Care Closet

Help us give a helping hand to community members in need. Gently used clothes, shoes, coats, for all ages and genders are needed. Plus, scarves, hats, gloves, blankets, personal hygiene and comfort items are greatly needed too. Drop off at the Manse Wed and Fri evenings from 6-7pm, or leave on the back pew in the sanctuary on Sunday morning. Please contact the Outreach Team at [TheLabOutreach@gmail.com](mailto:TheLabOutreach@gmail.com). Thank you for your support.



*And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done.*

ACTS 2:42-43

**Tuesday July 11**

**Washington Presbytery Picnic -  
Everyone is Welcome!**

Starts 4:00pm at Thompson Hill Park  
Shelter #4 - West Middletown, PA  
(Call the office at 724-222-1500 for  
more information or [RSVP online](#))



*Give, and it will  
be given to you.  
Good measure,  
pressed down,  
shaken together,  
running over, will  
be put into your  
lap. For with the  
measure you use  
it will be  
measured back to  
you.*

LUKE 6:38

**Friday July 14 - 6:00 PM**

**Summer Shenanigans - Food, Fun, &  
Fellowship for All**

This will also be a celebration for the  
2023 VBS.

**Saturday July 29 - 2:00 PM**

**All Church Picnic**

Please see sign-up sheet in narthex.

\*\* Small prize donations needed.

Please give to Colleen Dille by July  
23rd.



July 2 - Jolie Welling  
July 9 - Pam Koppes  
July 16 - Piper Rowley  
July 23 - Karen Hanes  
July 30 - Sarah Drake



July 2 - Pam Koppes  
July 9 - Pam Koppes  
July 16 - Harriet Dilly  
July 23 - Tammy Varner  
July 30 - Colleen Dille



# July 2023



SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

						1
2 10:30 AM WORSHIP	3	4 <i>4th of July</i> OFFICE CLOSED	5 7:00 PM NA	6	7 7:00 PM NA	8 KYLE & RACHEL HEATHER 
9 10:30 AM WORSHIP 6:00 PM VBS	10 6:00 PM VBS	11 10:00 AM GARDEN CLUB BOARD 4:00 PM PRESBYTERY PICNIC 6:00 PM VBS	12 6:00 PM VBS	13 5:45 PM TRUSTEES 6:00 PM VBS	14 6:00 PM SUMMER SHENANIGANS 7:00 PM NA	15
16 10:30 AM WORSHIP	17 7:00 PM COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE VIA ZOOM  PAMELA KOPPES DEBRA RANDALL KIMBERLY SHETTER	18 10:00 AM GARDEN CLUB	19 7:00 PM NA	20	21 7:00 PM NA	22 2:00 - 8:00 PM HALL IN USE
23 10:30 AM WORSHIP	24 BRITTANY PALM	25	26 7:00 PM NA	27 6:00 PM SESSION TASK GROUP	28 7:00 PM NA	29 2:00 PM CHURCH PICNIC
30 10:30 AM WORSHIP	31 6:00 PM MISSION & FELLOWSHIP  GRACE BARTON					