

First Church Of God  
 1862 Mercer Rd  
 Ellwood City, PA 16117  
 724-758-7970  
 www.ecfcog.org



**October Family Night Meals**  
**\$3.00 for adults - \$1.00 for children**  
**(\$10.00 max. per family)**

Date	Tables Set-up By	Meal Prepared By	Menu	Clean-up	Security
4	Barry Freed Jake Freed	Mary Chandler Diane Shaner	Lasagna Salad Cake <b>Sign-up to bring cakes</b>	Paula VanHorn Joyce Bucci Betty Strohecker	Ed Crawford
11	Cliff Kaufman	Kim Kaufman Doris Conklin	Hamburgers Sloppy Joes Chips Pudding	Michelle & Jake Pentz Carrie Tillia	Bill Challis
18	Boyd West Bill Challis	Brenda West Mary Challis	Ham Scalloped Potatoes Green Beans Ice Cream	Leslie Quinn Boyd West Bill Challis	Dale Brown
25	Ed Crawford Scott Jewell	Stacy Jewell Leslie Quinn	Domino's Pizza Salad Cake	Doris Conklin <b>Helpers still Needed</b>	Lobo Mitro

Dear Church Family,

Greetings and blessings to each and every one of you! Hope my note this month finds you enjoying these BEAUTIFUL days we have been having - sunny with temperatures in the 80's!! Quite unusual for the end of September!! But it sure is nice to have days like this this time of year!! We need to enjoy them while we have them . . . as we know what's right around the corner!!

I have continued to ponder the message the Lord laid on my heart that I preached last Sunday morning. I don't want to sound like I am repeating what has already been shared, but I feel it is quite important to remind us and emphasize once again the AWESOME invitation (s) the Lord extends to us – and the very special experience that comes with each invitation. I think of how Jesus said that He came to give us ABUNDANT LIFE, which tells me that even in the midst of turmoil and difficult times - He sees us through and gives us a peace and a joy!

Folks, much too often we live our lives and try to do the best that WE can along the way. We, on our own, try to somehow deal with guilt feelings about what we have said or done along the way that was not Christian. We, on our own, try to find some sense of peace when there is turmoil and confusion all around us. We, on our own, often try to figure out the best “road to travel” when we have important decisions to make. On our own. On our own!! And all too often we find ourselves churning inside because we can't quite “reach” or “experience” those needs.

Then we find all of the invitations the Lord extends to us in His Word. He calls on us to “come unto Him” and “He will give us rest” (Matt. 11:28). He tells us that “His peace He gives to us . . . not as the world gives . . . but His peace” (John 14:27). He invites us to “confess our sin, and He will be faithful and just to forgive us our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). Invitations. They are scattered ALL throughout the Bible – His Holy Word! He wants to give us ABUNDANT LIFE! PEACE! JOY!

Do you accept His invitation (s)? Or have you been too busy with your own schedule? Too involved with other things? What WONDERFUL blessing the Lord has in store . . . if we will only faithfully accept His invitation (s)!!!

This has been a challenge to me personally! I am looking into His Word, reviewing the many promises and invitations He has for me. Folks, I don't want to miss out on ONE BLESSING He has for me! Let's slow down . . . note His invitations . . . and accept them – one by one!!

In His Love and Service,

*Pastor Phil*



# OCTOBER



<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>8:45 AM</b> Coffee &amp; Donuts</p> <p><b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday School</p> <p><b>10:30 AM</b> Morning Worship</p> <p><b>2:45 PM</b> World Communion Day Service in Ewing Park</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>TIME</b> Volleyball</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>6:30 PM</b> Ladies' Fall Craft Night</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>5:00 PM</b> Security Team Meeting</p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Lasagna Meal</p> <p><b>6:45 PM</b> Children's Classes, Youth Group, and Adult Bible Study</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Discipleship Team Meeting</p> <p><b>6:45 PM</b> EOB Team Meeting</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>9:00 PM</b> Prayer Time</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>8:45 AM</b> Coffee &amp; Donuts</p> <p><b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday School</p> <p><b>10:30 AM</b> Morning Worship</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>TIME</b> Volleyball</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Special-Called Worship Meeting</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Hamburgers/ Sloppy Joes Meal</p> <p><b>6:45 PM</b> Children's Classes, Youth Group, and Adult Bible Study</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Worship Team Meeting</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>9:00 PM</b> Prayer Time</p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p><b>8:45 AM</b> Coffee &amp; Donuts</p> <p><b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday School</p> <p><b>10:30 AM</b> Morning Worship – Bring A Friend Sunday</p> <p><b>NOON</b> Luncheon</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>TIME</b> Volleyball</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>6:30 PM</b> Ladies' Night Out – Dip Fundraiser Orders Due</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Ham Meal</p> <p><b>6:45 PM</b> Children's Classes, Youth Group, and Adult Bible Study</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Property Team Meeting</p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Fellowship Team Meeting</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p><b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Small Group Kick-off Breakfast at Nico's Cafe</p> <p><b>9:00 PM</b> Prayer Time</p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p><b>8:45 AM</b> Coffee &amp; Donuts</p> <p><b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday School</p> <p><b>10:30 AM</b> Morning Worship</p> <p><b>NOON</b> Pastor Appreciation Lunch</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p><b>TIME</b> Volleyball</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p><b>9:45 AM</b> Young at Heart Shopping and Lunch</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Domino's Pizza Meal</p> <p><b>6:45 PM</b> Children's Classes, Youth Group, and Adult Bible Study</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Coordinating Team Meeting</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p><b>2:00 – 4:00 PM</b> Trunk or Treat</p> <p><b>9:00 PM</b> Prayer Time</p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p><b>8:45 AM</b> Coffee &amp; Donuts</p> <p><b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday School</p> <p><b>10:30 AM</b> Morning Worship</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p><b>TIME</b> Volleyball</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>				

## OCTOBER - WORSHIP SCHEDULES

DATE	PREACHER	WORSHIP LEADER	SPECIAL MUSIC	PRAISE TEAM	SOUND & VIDEO
1	Pastor Phil Conklin	Jim Caldwell	Jim Caldwell	Kim Kaufman Doris Conklin Boyd West	Jim Fatula Jackie Syphrit
8	Pastor Phil Conklin	Barry Freed	Barry Freed	Autumn Heinz Donna Jones Boyd West	Fred Ziegler Connie Cunningham
15	Pastor Phil Conklin	Cliff Kaufman	Kala Cunningham	Kala Cunningham Lami Ziegler Barry Freed	Jay Daugherty Beth Freed
22	Pastor Phil Conklin	Barry Freed	Jeff Syphrit	Ashley Rugh Doris Conklin Boyd West	Dave Cunningham Lisa Zeigler
29	Pastor Phil Conklin	Cliff Kaufman	Donna Jones	Connie LeViere Donna Jones Boyd West	Jim Fatula Jackie Syphrit

## OCTOBER - MINISTRY SCHEDULES

DATE	NURSERY	CHILDREN'S CHURCH	GREETERS	USHERS	DONUT SCHEDULE	SECURITY TEAM
1	Lisa Zeigler Keaira Cunningham	Brenda West India Cunningham	Joyce Bucci & Betty Strohecker	Mark Shaner Cody Ziegler Bill Hufnagel Stephen Shafran	Fred & Sharon Tritt	Bill Hufnagel Brad LeViere
8	Jackie Kushner Connie LeViere	April Haswell Keaira Cunningham	Paula VanHorn & Kay Edinger	Mike Wawrzynski Jim Fatula John Hall Skip LeViere	Bill & Mary Challis	Skip LeViere Dr. Roy Kerry
15	Cindy Hunter India Cunningham	Jen Parks Austin Ziegler	Gail McClymonds & Leslie Quinn	Bill Challis Ed Crawford Dale Brown Fred Ziegler	Bill & Rose Hufnagel	Bill Challis Mark Shaner
22	April Haswell Heather Pisano	Brenda West Meagan Myers Markae Pisano	Boyd & Brenda West	Alan Fabritius Cody Ziegler Dale Pritchard Ron VanHorn	Ron & Paula VanHorn	Dale Pritchard Jeff Syphrit
29	Lisa Zeigler Kathy Rugh	April Haswell Ethan Ziegler	Mark & Diane Shaner	Fred Ziegler Doug LeViere Dale Brown Fred Tritt	Fred & Sharon Tritt	Doug LeViere Bill Challis



## THANKS TO THE CHURCH FAMILY!!!

*\*\*\*Dear Church Family, First I want to thank God for bringing me through so much stress the last few months, for answered prayers, and for Pastor Phil praying for me before I went to surgery (for it was on and off then finally done)! Got my report today and it was not cancer, seen my cancer doctor and everything was fine there too yesterday! How great is our God!!! Thanks again for cards sent and most of all prayers!*

*In His Love, Kay Edinger*

*\*\*\*Dear Church Family, Thank you for the beautiful flowers and all the thoughts and prayers we received during the recent loss of our mother. We are truly blessed to belong to such a wonderful church family. The family of Karen Ottaviani acknowledges with grateful appreciation your kind expression of sympathy. (Anna Peffer and Family)*

*\*\*\*Dear Church Family, Thank you to all who have prayed for us these last 3 years and following Ron's passing. The flowers were beautiful and thank you for the cards, visits, and delicious luncheon following the funeral. A special thank you to Pastor Phil for being such a great pastor and loving friend to Ron during this journey. Again, thank you all, it is much appreciated. Ron Sheeler Family*

*\*\*\*Thank you to ALL who helped in any way with our ninth annual car show. We appreciated all of the auction, pie, and cookie donations. Thank you to all who helped with greeting, parking, serving food, and collecting money. Thank you for your support in your attendance. It was a beautiful day! There were about 50 cars in the show to enjoy and about \$400 was raised.*



## **Operation Christmas Child 2017**

### **PRAY WITH US! PRAY FOR THE CHILDREN!**

Every shoebox gift that we place into the hands of a child in need, provides an opportunity to demonstrate God's love and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Each shoebox is packed with love and covered in prayer.

Thank you for all the toys, school supplies, and hygiene items you have brought in the last several months. Please continue to bring in your gifts for the children.

After receiving a shoebox gift, children have the opportunity to enroll in a 12-lesson follow-up discipleship program, The Greatest Journey. As a result of what they learn, boys and girls grow in Christ and share Him with others. Families are reached, churches grow, new churches are started, and communities are transformed.

There are three ways to donate, by filling your own box for a boy or girl, bringing in separate items for the "Pack and Pray Party", and/or by giving a financial donation for the shipping costs. If you have any questions about Operation Christmas Child, please see me.

In Jesus' Love, Mary Challis

### **Business Meeting Reports**

Just a reminder to all "Team Chairpersons" that it is time to write your Annual Reports for the Annual Business Meeting. Your Annual Reports are **due by**

**Sunday,  
Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>!!!**

### **Updated Address/Phone Directory**

Please be sure that we have your updated mailing addresses, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers in the church office. I will be printing updated church directories in November for the Annual Business meeting and I would like to have all the corrections and updates **by Sunday, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>.**

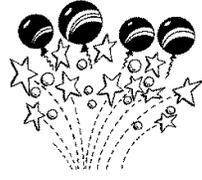


## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Jessica Klinzing
- 2 Pat Shoaf
- 10 Isla Rose Haswell
- 11 Autumn Hall
- 12 Anna Lynn Daugherty
- 13 Elliot Steffens
- 22 Jeff Boots
- 22 Dave Hall
- 23 Cassidy Twentier
- 24 John Bosley
- 25 Toni Haswell
- 25 Jennifer Parks
- 28 Dawna Market
- 30 Mary Challis

## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

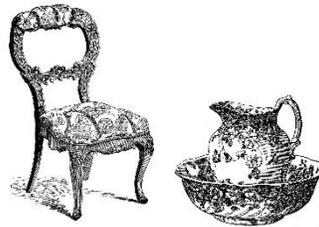
- 3 Doug & Connie LeViere
- 6 Ron & Paula VanHorn
- 11 Dave & Robyn Hall
- 12 Barry & Beth Freed
- 15 Brandon & April Haswell
- 17 Greg & Amy Fittinghoff
- 18 Brent & Becky Wiley
- 20 Fred & Lami Ziegler
- 22 Ray & Courtney Johns
- 27 Brian & Kandi Schlemmer



## Milestone Celebrations

We would like to celebrate the following "Milestones" with a card shower during the month of October. Please bring in your cards and place them in the boxes in the narthex.

Jeff Boots will be celebrating his 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday on Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> and Greg & Amy Fittinghoff will be celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>.



## Young at Heart

The Young at Heart will be traveling to Beaver Falls to visit the "Antique Emporium" and the "This and That Shop" on Tuesday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am with a stop for lunch on the way home. Please sign-up on the bulletin board in the hallway to attend and please bring money for lunch and shopping.



The Ellwood Ministerium is planning a "World Communion Day Service" in Ewing Park on Sunday, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:00pm. Music will begin at 2:45pm. Everyone is invited to attend.

## Security Team

There is a Security Team meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. There are a few new concerns to discuss and there will be further review of the new ear pieces and walkie talkies.



### **Ladies' Night Out**

All the ladies in the church are invited to our "Ladies' Flamingo Night Out" on Tuesday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. We have a color theme planned for our meetings this year so please wear something **PINK** just for fun!

We are also participating in a "Dip" Fundraiser- so if you are interested in selling or purchasing any \$5.00 dips for the holidays - please see Chris LeViere or Lisa Zeigler for an order form. Orders and money are due by Tuesday, Oct 17<sup>th</sup>.

Some of the other events that we have planned for this year are:

A "Nativity" paint nite in November (wear something **YELLOW** or **BLUE** for a starry night)

And a Christmas Party Service Project: we will be collecting underwear, socks, hygiene products, and non-perishable snacks for the homeless shelter (wear something **RED** or **GREEN**).

### **Fall Craft Night**

Ladies are invited to join us Tuesday, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm to paint a pumpkin craft.

The cost is small \$3, medium \$4, large \$5 or all three for \$10. A special **THANK YOU** to Ron VanHorn for cutting ALL our log pieces!!! Please sign-up by the sample craft in the narthex to attend. Please wear old clothing to paint. So sorry but there won't be enough time for refreshments this night.

### **Revival Services**

Please keep Pastor Phil in your prayers as he will be speaking at revival services at the Greenville Church of God. Different pastors will be speaking each night and Pastor Phil will be speaking on Monday, Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00pm. Please pray for all the pastors and for the Greenville Church as God prepares hearts to receive His Word.

### **"Handel's Messiah"**

If anyone is interested in singing "Handel's Messiah" with a New Castle Chorus Group, please see Donna Jones. Practices are Monday nights in October and November and the performance is the Sunday after Thanksgiving, Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>.



### Pastor Appreciation Month

October is set aside as a special time for the church to show our love and appreciation to Pastor Phil and Doris for **ALL** that they do in the life of our church.

An "Appreciation Gift Table" is set up in the narthex where you can place gifts to them throughout the month. Gifts can include cards, baked goods, crafts, gift cards, etc.



We are also having a "Pastor's Appreciation Dinner" on Sunday, Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> after the morning worship. Ham, Chicken, Parsley Potatoes, Green Beans, Coleslaw, Applesauce, and Cake will be provided. Please plan to attend to show your love and appreciation for Pastor Phil and Doris.



Children are invited to “come and go” at our third annual Trunk or Treat here at the church on Saturday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 4:00pm. We encourage those in the church to pick a theme and decorate your car trunks to pass out treats to our children. Cars will need to be decorated by 1:30pm and you will need enough candy to pass out to 50 – 75 children. There is NOT a “best trunk or best costume” contest this year. We ask that you do not decorate your trunk or costumes in a scary nature - no witches, monsters, zombies, etc. PLEASE keep it “kid friendly”. And please no weapons of any kind - like swords, guns, etc. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway to sign if you are decorating a trunk. Please see Jen Parks with any questions.

### **Worship Meeting**

Tuesday, Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm

**ALL** worship leaders, praise team members, special music singers, musicians, sound, and video team members are asked to please attend this special meeting.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> Bring a Friend Sunday
- Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> Pastor Appreciation Lunch
- Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> Trunk or Treat
- Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> Youth Pumpkin Rolls
- Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> Veteran's Dinner
- Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> Strip District Shopping Trip
- Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting
- Nov. 17 – 19<sup>th</sup> Thirst Youth Convention
- Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> Couples' Night Out
- Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> All Church Holiday Dinner
- Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Service

**All Church Trip to  
Pittsburgh's Strip District**

Saturday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> 8:00am

Everyone is invited to go to Pittsburgh's Strip District for shopping, eating, etc. There are ten blocks of walking with various markets, shops and restaurants so wear comfortable walking shoes! Please bring a small cooler if you plan to purchase any meat or cheese. Please sign-up on the bulletin board in the hallway to attend. We will be taking the church van and other vehicles. There is a special insert on the table in the narthex with more details!



**Men's Breakfast**

The Men's Small Group will be having a kick-off breakfast at Nico's Café on Saturday, Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:00am. Please let Ron VanHorn know by Sunday, Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> if you would like to attend so reservations can be made.



**"Bring a Friend Sunday"**

We encourage you to attend and bring someone with you to our special "Bring a Friend Day" on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. The day begins with coffee & donuts at 8:45am, followed by Sunday School classes at 9:30am, and morning worship at 10:30am. A luncheon will be served after the service. **Please be praying about who God would have you invite to church that day and please use the invitation enclosed in the newsletter to invite your friend. If everyone brings at least one guest then we will have well over 200 here that day to hear the message that the Lord has planned for us!**



**Volleyball**

Volleyball is starting on Monday evenings. Anyone wanting to play volleyball this year please contact Doug or Connie LeViere.