

The Messenger

Volume 23, Issue 6

Maplewood
Presbyterian
Church



2017

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All of them were
filled with
the Holy Spirit!
Acts 2.4

Get Busy Living or Get Busy Dying

The title of this month's newsletter comes from that incredible movie, *The Shawshank Redemption*. In it, Red (played by Morgan Freeman) has finally gotten out of prison but does not know how to get on in life. He tries to be a grocery store clerk, but sees life going nowhere. He's unsure how to be in the world, having lived most of his life behind prison bars. As you watch him in his depressed state you begin to see that Red in contemplating suicide, just as a former inmate had done when he was freed from prison years before, and in the same room Red now found himself.

But Red remembered something his friend and fellow inmate Andy had said to him in a conversation just before Andy escaped from prison, "Get busy living or get busy dying." Those very words changed Red's dark thinking and opened the door to beginning a new life on a fresh start. He wasn't going to let his aging body, or his hopeless feelings from prison life determine his future.

Oddly enough, those words are applicable to the church today. It's time for every church to stop seeing the future as bleak and unchangeable!

There, I said it. It's something I've wanted to say to my fellow baby boomers for quite some time. We're already known as a generation of navel gazers — folks who talk about their feelings and all the ways things should be and could be and used to be without doing much to make them better. The Psalmist says it well:

O God, you have taught me from my earliest childhood, and I constantly tell others about the wonderful things you do.

*Now that I am old and gray,
do not abandon me, O God.*

Let me proclaim your power to this new generation, your mighty miracles to all who come after me. (Psalm 71:17-18)

Read the words again, this time aloud, and then consider: Why ask God not to abandon us? Notice that it is NOT so that we can have a better retirement income and economic security. It is NOT so that we can have good health and a comfortable lifestyle. It IS so that we can proclaim God's power and his mighty acts to the generations who follow us!

Continued

From
Our
PASTOR

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Maplewood Presbyterian Church

Making Christ Known for 50 Years

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From the Pastor continued . . .

For me, one of the saddest verses in all the Bible says:

After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors, another generation grew up who knew neither the LORD nor what he had done... (Judges 2:10)

Why had younger generations grown up and not known the great things the Lord had done? Why had they grown up and not known the LORD? They didn't know God; they hadn't experienced the Lord's power because their parents and grandparents were busy building their homes, charting their careers, and gaining wealth in their new land. In the middle of building their futures, the generations before the unbelieving generation had forgotten to risk for the LORD and experience the mighty hand of God in their lives. Their children were deprived of the thing they most needed: God experiences in their day!

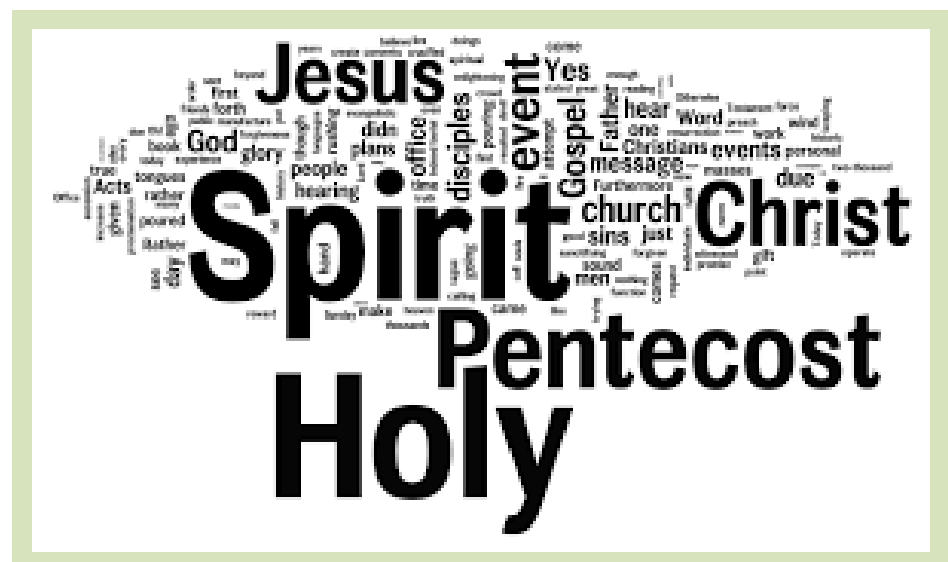
I want to make my last third of life matter for the Kingdom of God. I don't want to just mindlessly pray, "Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." I want that prayer to be my very life's cry as I seek to bring God's Kingdom life and character to life in today's world. In all the places I live and move, I want to leave a Jesus imprint. More importantly, I want to invite the coming generations to join in and experience God's "mighty acts" in our day. More importantly, I want everyone else to want this too. I don't want to talk about the "power" and "mighty acts" of God only in the past tense. I don't want my grandchildren and their generation hearing just about what God did a long time ago. I want them to experience God's power and deliverance in action, to experience the Holy Spirit making them better than they are while they are serving others in the name of Jesus.

It's time for those of us who are older to quit demanding that church be about us, for us, and to please us. We're here today to **share our faith forward!**

It's time to get busy living, or get busy dying. The Spirit gives life. Pray for that Spirit, and step out in faith!

A Blessed Pentecost to all of you!

Steve



News from Session



Session Meeting in May, 2017:

ACTION: session approved the following confirmation class into membership on May 15, 2017 after their public profession of faith before the congregation. Mackenzie Williams, Rebecca Bouknight, Liam Hileman.

REMINDERS & REPORTS:

Pastor Steve will be away June 9-22 moving Matt to TX and also his parents to TX.

Old Business: It was discovered that the NAR ANON national committee has very strict rules about not accepting outside contributions. Upon review, it was decided to close the 2008 contribution to NAR ANON issue.

Worship – The dedication service for the lift project and fellowship hall project will be in the fall at the start of the new Sunday School year.

Church Life – Dinner for Six will be in May, **July 29** will be dinner/theater at Apple Hill Playhouse.

Finance – Financial overview of the income and expenses.

Mission & Outreach – a meal will be served at Union Mission the end of June (**June 29th**). Ron Shafer is having knee problems and is off the AT.

Property – the service agreement for the lift will be two inspections at a cost of \$575. Lennox will install the new wiring for the thermostats in the New Fellowship Hall within the next week, obtaining quotes for resealing and repairing the parking lot.

Christian Ed - May 28 is the last day for Sunday School and Teacher Appreciation. There will be no VBS this summer.

Next Session Meeting will be June 26, 2017.

FROM YOUR EDITOR:

Tradition will be maintained again – the next issue of *The Messenger* will be a combination of July & August for our annual Summer Issue. Any submissions for BOTH months for the good and/or information of us all should be in Katy Doran's hands by FRIDAY, JUNE 23rd.

JUNE WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Communion Preparation: Bonnie Peebly

Communion Servers: Bob Bereit, Bob Cochran, Bob Harlan, Nancy Gosser, Katy Doran, Arlene Troster

Lay Reader: Marie LaSor

Greeters: Lee Immel, Jeh Bell

Ushers: Mike Cerilli (4th, 25th), Allan Neville, Mike & Arlene Troster (11th, 18th)

Acolytes:

June 4th - Tyler Williams

June 11th - Mackenzie Williams

June 18th - Jonathan Bouknight

June 25th - Rebecca Bouknight

July 2nd - Logan Williams



JUNE NURSERY SCHEDULE:

6/04/17 - Susan Witt, Bonnie Peebly

6/11/17 - Carol Limegrover, Bonnie Peebly

6/18/17 - Katy Doran, Melissa Lenhart

6/25/17 - Sharon Elkettani, Val McAteer

MUSICAL NOTES from JIM

As we head into summer, here are a few things to think about regarding Maplewood and the music ministry:

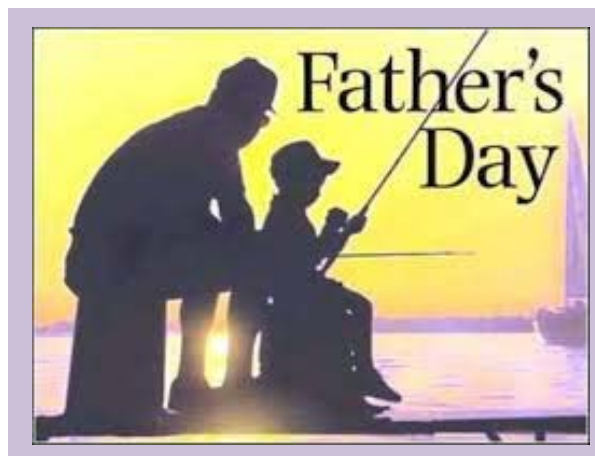
* Can you sing, play the piano, or any other instrument? During the summer, the Chancel Choir (aka The Best Choir in the World!) takes a well-deserved break, and Special Music returns. Several people have already asked me when the sign-up sheet will be in my office, and my answer is . . . it's there!! The first Sunday we'll celebrate Special Music is **June 11th**, so if you have a musical talent to share with our Maplewood family, please sign up! One thing to keep in mind as we bring our musical offerings - sing your praise to the Lord. Special Music during the summer is an opportunity to praise God through music, and lead the congregation in doing the same. I look forward to working with all y'all, and hearing some beautiful music being offered.

* So, Matt LaSor will be spreading his wings and flying down to Texas in June, which means (to the best of my knowledge) no concert with Matt and Jamie DeRosa this year as part of our Summer Concert Series. Once again, I'm open to suggestions! Would you like to have Brad Yoder and Jason Rafalak return for a third year? Would you like Jamie and me to give a concert, minus Matt? Is there another performer or group you'd like to hear? Should the Summer Concert Series take a rest for a year, and come back next year? I welcome any feedback you have to offer - all I ask is that you be kind to Ye Olde Music Director. ;)

- Have you ever considered joining the Chancel Choir? We welcome all ages (14 and up) and all ability levels. If you've thought about joining the choir, but don't want to make a long-term commitment, think about joining us for a cantata! We will be performing 3 in the next 1 1/2 years, if all goes as planned - Christmas 2017, Easter 2018, and Christmas 2018. We rehearse Saturday mornings from 10AM - noon for about 2 months before we perform. We would love to have you join us Wednesday nights from 7-8PM during the school year, too, if you are so inclined. We love every voice part, but we would especially love a bass or 2 and a couple more sopranos...maybe even a tenor, if we can find one! (Altos are welcome, too! ;)
- I know it seems really early to be talking about choir for next year, but September will be here before we know it. Think about it this summer, and maybe ask God what He thinks . . . you never know.

I pray that your Memorial Day was full of blessings, as we remember those who are no longer with us, and honor those who are. Thank you, Father, for the brave men and women who have kept, and continue to keep, this country free.

In Him, *Jim*



Maplewood Happenings

IN SPECIAL NEED OF PRAYER

Ruth Gordon

Matt LaSor's move & job

Pastor LaSor's parents' home
relocation process

Carol Limegrover's friends, Margie & Ron

Roy Myers evaluation for kidney transplant

Jim Overly

Rita & Hugh Perotti

Ron Shafer

Bob & Jane Stover

Susan Witt's mother, Uncle Don

New Additions in **BOLD**

- Prayers for our Maplewood Church Leaders
- Prayers for our College Students
- Prayers for our local, national and world leaders, our armed forces and their families
- Prayers for our persecuted Christian brothers & sisters world-wide
- Prayers for our missionary families, the Carlsons & the Saldis

FROM the PEWS:

My life as been touched by so many wonderful caring friends here at Maplewood. Your warmth and love has helped me through my recent surgery. Thanks so much for all the food, cards, phone calls and rides to therapy and all of the prayers.

Love in Friendship, *Lorraine Roth*

MARTHA CIRCLE

Martha Circle will be starting its summer social events next month. On **June 21st at 9:30AM** we will meet for breakfast at **King's Restaurant** in front of Home Depot. Sylvia Shearer will present the devotions. Any lady of the church and friends are invited to join in our fellowship.

On **July 5**, we will be attending a play by Philip King, "See How They Run". After meeting for lunch at Sharkey's in Latrobe at **12:00** we will travel to St. Vincent's Robert S Carey Student Center Performing Arts Center for a **2PM** presentation. The tickets are **\$16 per person**. If you would like to join us please let Arlene know ASAP because tickets for the matinees go quickly. To learn more about the play give Arlene a call or email.

At our June breakfast get together we will be discussing a program for the fall meetings. Come join us and help make that decision.

RELAY for LIFE:

Saturday, June 10 - Sunday June 11!

Please join in! No matter how small, **YOU** can help fund the research to eradicate these dreaded diseases & offer support for victims and their families!

There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex that give you opportunities to help. Watch worship bulletin inserts in these next several weeks, as well.



MORE Happenings

FROM CHURCH LIFE:



JULY DINNER & THEATER:

The Orchard Performing Arts Co., Inc. will be presenting the play *Rumors*, by Neil Simon at Apple Hill Playhouse in Delmont. The tentative date selected is Saturday, July 29. There will be dinner prior to the theater, **6:00PM**, at the Lamplighter Restaurant, also located in Delmont. Don't delay! Make your reservations for **July 29th** today!

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE:



June	Martha Circle
July	Choir
August	Church Life/Family Picnic
September	LIFT Ladies
October	Personnel Committee
November	Marthas/Christian Ed - Hanging of Greens
December	Church Life/Family Dinner

FROM MISSIONS:

Union Mission of Latrobe Dinner

June 29th, 5:30PM

PLEASE lend hand & heart to this rewarding experience! Sign-ups are in the Narthex!

Photo Directory Phone App

Photo Directory

A handy guide to information about our members, the Maplewood Photo Directory is available in several formats: 1) Printed Copy in the Narthex; 2) On our web site (in the 'Members Only' section); 3) On your smart phone. We try to keep the information current and accurate, but ask you to periodically check your family listing. Report any textual changes that should be made directly to the Church Office. If you would like to update your photo, please arrange with Bob Bereit to have a new one taken, or supply a favorite family picture for inclusion (we can scan prints).

Communications Resources, Inc., the folks who host our Maplewood photo directory, have an App for your smartphone or tablet computer which makes the directory available right on your mobile device. With this service updates to the directory are available just as soon as they are posted.

The App is available for iOs (Apple), Android and Kindle Fire devices and can be found on iTunes, Google Play or the Kindle web sites. Search the appropriate site for 'Instant Church Directory'. Download and install the App on your device. It's free!

To use the App, your Email address must be stored in our directory. Check the printed copy of the directory in the narthex (or on our web site) to see if your Email is listed. If not, contact the Church Office to have it added. Once your Email is in the directory start the app on your mobile device. You will be asked to supply your Email address. Enter that information and a special authorization code will be sent to you. Copy the authorization code from the Email you receive into the app and you're good to go. The first time you use the app it may take a few minutes for the directory to load up.



Celebrate or Commemorate

Do you have a birthday, anniversary, graduation or other special occasion to rejoice about? Are you remembering a loved one who has died? Are you joyful about God's love? If so, share these events with others by placing flowers in our church for Sunday service. It's very easy. Choose a date you wish to have flowers, fill out the form below and put in the church's office. The rest will be taken care of for you. For \$24.00, you can have fresh flowers for a service, a note in the bulletin to commemorate your special occasion and you can take the flowers home with you. If you do not want the flowers, the Deacons can deliver them to shut-ins. Detach and send to church office:

M.U.P.C., 108 Woodland Road, Greensburg, PA 15601

Name _____ Phone _____

Date for flowers (Sunday) _____

Notice for bulletin to read: In honor of _____

OR: In memory of _____

I wish to (check one) _____ take the flowers after the service _____ let the Deacons deliver them to shut-ins

June Celebrations

- 6....Christen Tyner
- 7...Rob West
- 9....Ron Shafer
- 10...Babe Pacienza
Mike Troster
- 11...Linda Paul
- 13...Bill Young
- 14...Rosemary Fry
- 15...Michelle Gordon



- 17...Maura Hileman
Erin Thompson
- 23...Adam Truxal
- 25...Alexis Hileman
- 26...Audrey Reid
- 27...Diane West
- 28...Eric Pino
- 29...Chris Rossi

13...Mike & Arlene Troster 55 yrs

22...H. King & Caroline Hartman 54 yrs



Celebrating More Than 50 Years of Marriage



HONORING FATHERS

God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need.
Then God combined these qualities,
And when there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete.
And so, He called it "DAD."

JUNE 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28</p>  <p>Coffee Hour 9:30 AM Food Bank Collection 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Teacher Appreciation Sunday 10:45 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>29</p>  <p>Memorial Day</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10:15 AM Women's Book Club 7:00 PM Choir 7:30 PM NAR-ANON</p>	<p>1</p> <p>11:00 AM Presby 7:00 PM C.O.M 7:00 PM Prayer Ministry</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Breakfast 6:00 PM Piano Recital</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 AM Food Bank</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Communion Sunday Pentecost 10:45 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:00 PM Christian Ed 7:00 PM Church Life 7:00 PM Property Committee</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:15 AM Women's Book Club 7:00 PM Choir 7:30 PM NAR-ANON</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:00 PM Prayer Ministry</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Breakfast</p>	<p>10</p>  <p>8:00 AM Relay for Life</p>
<p>11</p> <p>10:45 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Worship Committee</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 PM Finance/Stewardship 7:00 PM Missions/Outreach</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:15 AM Women's Book Club 7:00 PM Choir 7:30 PM NAR-ANON</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7:00 PM Prayer Ministry</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Breakfast</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p>  <p>Coffee Hour Father's Day 10:45 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>  <p>9:30 AM Martha Circle 10:15 AM Women's Book Club 7:00 PM Choir 7:30 PM NAR-ANON</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:00 AM Presby 7:00 PM Prayer Ministry</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Breakfast</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> <p>9:30 AM Food Bank Collection 10:45 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00 PM Deacons 7:00 PM Session</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:15 AM Women's Book Club 7:00 PM Choir 7:30 PM NAR-ANON</p>	<p>29</p> <p>5:00 PM Dinner Service 7:00 PM Prayer Ministry</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Breakfast</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9:00 AM Food Bank</p>