

Community Presbyterian Church

1100 College Avenue



October 2020



Pastor's Corner

Hello Fall!

God's world is amazing! The change of seasons reminds us how God is always doing something new.

Isaiah 43:19 says "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

God is up to something, even when we can't perceive it or understand it. There is nothing today that has not gone through God's hands. How do we respond? By asking for eyes to see God at work in our lives. By trusting that God is present and active. By stepping out in faith to continue to do the work to which we were called: sharing how Jesus is the good news in your life, praying for others, giving to God's mission through the congregation and serving in love.

We may feel we are living in a time of wilderness or wasteland, but God says...no! I am making a path and providing you with all you need for life. As we get weary of physically distancing, wearing masks and limited touching, let us hold on to this truth as we look for what God is up to in our lives!

God loves you and so do I!

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The Wild Widows' Grief Group  
will be meeting Oct. 1 and Oct. 15

The group meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 1:00pm.

I visited a monastery and as I was walking past the kitchen, I saw a man frying chips.

I asked him, "Are you the chip friar?"

He replied, "No, I'm the chip monk..."



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|------------------|-------|
| Marie Miller     | 10/03 |
| Leon Armstrong   | 10/08 |
| Barbara Smeltzer | 10/08 |
| Marvin Wheeler   | 10/08 |
| Jaemen Barbour   | 10/27 |
| Doug Smeltzer    | 10/30 |

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Important Dates

October 14 Deacons meet at 8:30 am, in the basement. This is in person only.

October 21 Session meets at 6:30 pm. This is in person only

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### Zoom Coffee Hour

As groups are returning to in-person meetings, the Zoom Coffee Hour on Wednesdays will be discontinued.



## DID YOU KNOW THAT:

- Psalm 118 is the middle chapter of the entire Bible?
- Psalm 117, before Psalm 118 is the shortest chapter of the Bible?
- Psalm 119, after Psalm 118 is the longest chapter of the Bible?
- The Bible has 594 chapters before Psalm 118 and 594 chapters after Psalm 118?
- If you add up all the chapters except Psalm 118, you get a total of 1188 chapters?
- 1188 or Psalm 118 verse 8 is the middle verse of the whole Bible?
- Should the central verse not have an important message? *"It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man."*

— Kelli Mahoney (LearnReligions.com)  
Christianity Expert  
M.P.A., University of Illinois–Springfield  
B.S., Psychology and Criminal Justice, Illinois State University.

Kelli Mahoney is a Christian youth worker and writer. She previously worked as an administrator for NXT, a high school Christian youth group.

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## History of The Jack-O'-Lantern

History.com

(Many people think that the Jack-O'-Lantern is associated with pagans, witches, magic, etc. Not so. Following is how and where the practice began. – Sandy)

Pumpkins with ghoulish faces and illuminated by candles are a sure sign of the Halloween season. The practice of decorating jack-o'-lanterns originated in Ireland, where large turnips and potatoes served as early



canvasses. In fact, the name, jack-o'-lantern, comes from an Irish folktale about a man named Stingy Jack. Irish immigrants brought the tradition to America, home of the pumpkin, and it became an integral part of Halloween festivities.



## The Legend of "Stingy Jack"

People have been making jack-o'-lanterns at Halloween for centuries. The practice originated from an Irish myth about a man nicknamed "Stingy Jack." According to the story, Stingy Jack invited the Devil to have a drink with him. True to his name, Stingy Jack didn't want to pay for his drink, so he convinced the Devil to turn himself into a coin that Jack could use to buy their drinks. Once the Devil did so, Jack decided to keep the money and put it into his pocket next to a silver cross, which prevented the Devil from changing back into his original form.



Jack eventually freed the Devil, under the condition that he would not bother Jack for one year and that, should Jack die, he would not claim his soul. The next year, Jack again tricked the Devil into climbing into a tree to pick a piece of fruit. While he was up in the tree, Jack carved a sign of the cross into the tree's bark so that the Devil could not come down until the Devil promised Jack not to bother him for ten more years.



Soon after, Jack died. As the legend goes, God would not allow such an unsavory figure into heaven. The Devil, upset by the trick Jack had played on him and keeping his word not to claim his soul, would not allow Jack into hell. He sent Jack off into the dark night with only a burning coal to light his way. Jack put the coal into a carved-out turnip and has been roaming the Earth with ever since. The Irish began to refer to this ghostly figure as "Jack of the Lantern," and then, simply "Jack O'Lantern."



In Ireland and Scotland, people began to make their own versions of Jack's lanterns by carving scary faces into turnips or potatoes and placing them into windows or near doors to frighten away Stingy Jack and other wandering evil spirits. In England, large beets are used. Immigrants



from these countries brought the jack-o'-lantern tradition with them when they came to the United States. They soon found that pumpkins, a fruit native to America, make perfect jack-o'-lanterns.

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Technology news:

We continue to worship onsite in the sanctuary and online through Zoom, Facebook and also on Youtube. Different layers of technology are involved to make it happen and sometimes they fail. Appreciate your patience! We are grateful to John & Liz for lending us the Surface Pro. If anyone is interested in learning to run the sound/tech side of worship, please let Janet know.

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A note from Sandy:

I promised last month to have the Jeanne Robinson "Oldie but Goodie" member article this month. After I called Jeanne to clarify one of my notes, she told me to hold off for a few months. I gratefully took her up on her suggestion and will "re-interview" in a few months. So bear with me, please. For some reason, what usually comes easily (the newsletter and writing) has been difficult this month.

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### What Makes Presbyterians Unique

Presbyterians trace their history to the 16th century and the Protestant Reformation. Our heritage, and much of what we believe, began

with the French lawyer John Calvin (1509-1564), whose writings crystallized much of the Reformed thinking that came before him.

Calvin did much of his writing from Geneva, Switzerland. From there, the Reformed movement spread to other parts of Europe and the British Isles.

Many of the early Presbyterians in America came from England, Scotland and Ireland. The first American Presbytery was organized at Philadelphia in 1706. The first General Assembly was held in the same city in 1789. The first Assembly was convened by the Rev. John Witherspoon, the only minister to sign the Declaration of Independence.

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Pray for our Church



Pray for our Country



Pray for our Military



Pray for our Police

Pray for all who are protesting and vandalizing



Pray for the world

Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 254

Matt. 10:34-11:3

Jesus the Teacher

S E N O Y N A F U F P R T E S
L S U P P O S E I R O C Y D W
G A L I L E E H E N E L L I O
I H E A R D L A R P I U L S R
V E C A E P C P X E O S Y O D
E T E A C H S E I H T L H A W
S E N O E M O S S C N A U E W
R T S N I A G A O I S G W O D
E E U H V N S T A R H I R A E
B H S T E L O T W T C T D F N
M P E U S T R S E E H T R A E
E O J R A E O R I Y L V A T M
M R A T C C T W I R O V W H I
N P M O T H E R N I P S E E E
T S I R H C N B E S A R R S

ANYONE AGAINST
CHRIST BECAUSE
CROSS CERTAINLY
EARTH DAUGHTER
EXPECT DISCIPLE
FATHER ENEMIES
FOLLOW FINISHED
GIVES GALILEE
HEARD MEMBERS
JESUS MOTHER
PEACE PREACH
PRISON PROPHET
SWORD RECEIVES
TRUTH REWARD
TEACH SHOULD
TOWNS SOMEONE
TWELVE SUPPOSE
WATER WORTHY

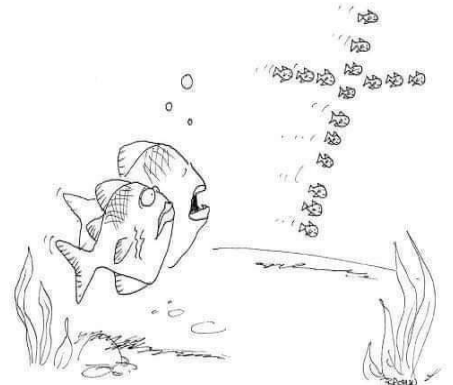
After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right



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I Corinthians 6:13 - 18

13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Love One Another Word Maze

Find your way from the start of the maze and connect the words from the answer phrase in their correct order.

Love one another. John 15:17b HCSB

