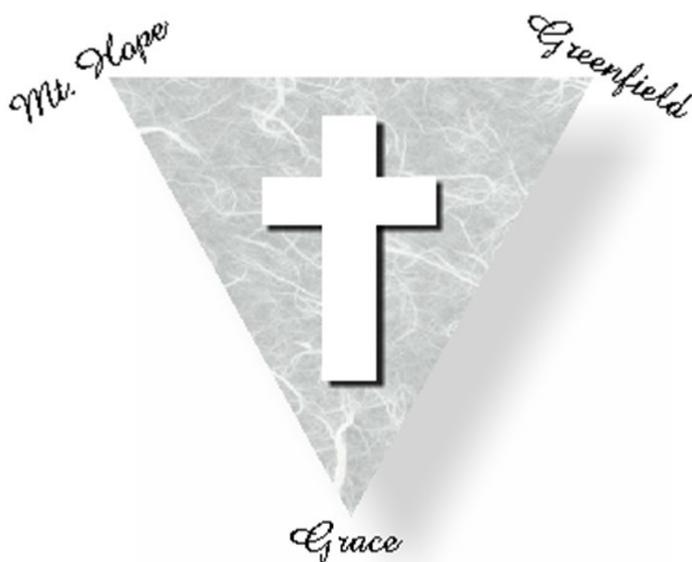


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TRINITY Gazette

Fourth Quarter, 2019

The Greenfield Charge



United Church of Christ



Receiving the Blessing

Excerpt from "Not Your Typical Church Lady"

by Kelly Baker

Morrisons Cove Herald

August 22, 2019

There were once two little buckets. They were left sitting outside on a stone wall. One bucket was turned upside down so that it could dry out. The other bucket was left upright. A bucket's fondest desire is to hold and carry things so when it began to rain later that day, the bucket that was turned upright began to catch the rain drops. The bucket that was upside down only repelled the rain.

At first the upside down bucket didn't mind not catching anything, but it soon noticed that its friend was beginning to fill up. The upright bucket smiled from one side of its handle to the other, brimming with water. The upside down bucket was jealous. "That's not fair," said the upside down bucket. "Why does THAT one get to catch all the rain?" It stewed in silence, with a scowl on its face.

After the rain, the buckets' owner came and got them. The upright bucket was so full of water that the owner used it to water the porch flowers which were under a roof and unable to receive the benefits of the rain. The upside down bucket got carried to the basement where it sat unused and grumpy until the next time it was needed.

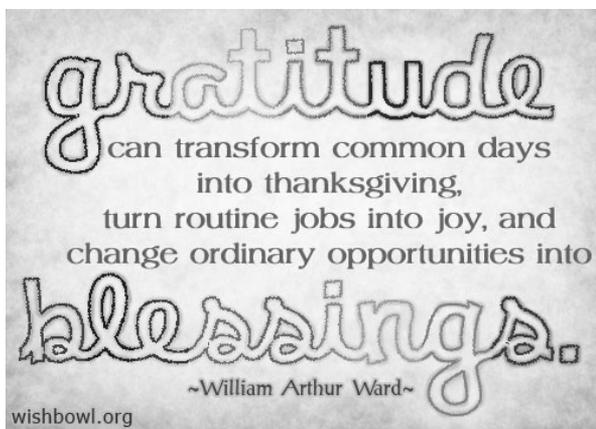
Rain came down on both of these buckets. Why did one catch the drops and not the other? Because one bucket was ready and waiting to receive, the other was not. Blessings are the same way. It's how we prepare to catch them that makes the difference. Do you experience life with your arms wide open and your face pointed toward Heaven or do you walk around stooped over, mopey and downcast? The upside down bucket couldn't help its circumstance, it was a bucket and unable to move itself. You, however, are not a bucket. You get to choose whether or not you want to open your arms and soul to receive the blessings God showers on us daily, or you can choose to repel them. The funny thing is, sometimes we embrace a repellant attitude without realizing it. God is not a dictator. He will not make you properly

hold your bucket to receive your blessings. That decision is entirely up to you, thanks to the gift of freewill.

If you want to receive the blessings, make a daily conscious effort to look for them and keep your arms wide open to catch them. Much like the little bucket that got full, you will find that you end up with so much that your cup will run over. When you learn to seek and receive the blessings, you will realize that there is enough to go around. Then you can share with others, filling their cup as well.

When you receive your blessings, don't forget the one who gave them to you. Give thanks daily, with a spirit of sincere gratitude for the things you have received.

How are you holding your bucket? Are you ready to receive?



Grace Church's annual **Children's Christmas Program** will be held on **Sunday, December 22** the 11am service. Children from Greenfield and Mt. Hope are encouraged to come participate in the fun!!

Greenfield Charge

Schedule of Church Services Fourth Quarter, 2019

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>SPECIAL SERVICE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY JOINT SERVICE October 6	MT. HOPE	COMMUNION	
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 13	All 3 Churches		Regular Services
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 20	All 3 Churches		Regular Services
Reformation Sunday Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 27	All 3 Churches	Joint Consistory Meeting at 12:15pm at Grace	Regular Services
ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY JOINT SERVICE November 3	MT. HOPE		10:00am
Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost Harvest Home- Sunday November 10	All 3 Churches		Regular Services
Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost November 17	All 3 Churches		Regular Services

Greenfield Charge

Schedule of Church Services Fourth Quarter, 2019

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>SPECIAL SERVICE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Claysburg Ministerium Community Thanksgiving Service November 24	GRACE		6:30pm
Reign of Christ Sunday November 24	All 3 Churches		Regular Services
JOINT SERVICE First Sunday of Advent / Hanging of the Greens December 1	GRACE	Joint Charge Christmas Dinner at 11:30am	10:00am
Second Sunday of Advent / Hanging of the Greens December 8	All 3 Churches		Regular Services
Third Sunday of Advent December 15	All 3 Churches		Regular Services
Fourth Sunday of Advent December 22	All 3 Churches	Children's Christmas Program at Grace 11:00am	Regular Services
Schedule of Church Services cont. on next page.			

**Greenfield Charge
Schedule of Church Services Fourth Quarter, 2019**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>SPECIAL SERVICE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Christmas Eve Service December 24	GREENFIELD	Celebration Service	5:00pm
Christmas Eve Service December 24	MT. HOPE	Family Service	7:00pm
Christmas Eve Service December 24	GRACE	Midnight Service	11:00pm
First Sunday after Christmas December 26	All 3 Churches		Regular Services



**Thank-you
from the Penners**

During this time of sorrow we learn how much our family and friends mean to us. We would like to extend our deepest thank you for your many acts of kindness and sympathy; they were greatly needed and appreciated. Our Greenfield Charge UCC supported us even when you also had a great loss. We will always be grateful for your strength, kindness, and prayers.



Harvest of Thoughts

“Dig a hole in your garden of thoughts. Into it put all your disillusion, disappointments, regrets, worries, troubles, doubts and fears and —forget.

Cover well with the earth of fruitfulness, water it from the well of contentment.

Sow on top again the seeds of hope, courage, strength, patience and love.

Then, when the time of gathering comes, may your harvest be a rich and plentiful one.”

A Brief History of Harvest Home Sunday

Traditionally this bounty went to the minister as a supplement to his usually meager salary. One informant wryly noted that that practice died out when the minister's wife objected to having this mountain of raw vegetables arriving at the parsonage. She would then have had to preserve it.

So the custom arose of donating the food to church orphanages and old age homes such as the Phoebe Home for the Aged in Allentown, the Lutheran home in Topton or the Frederick Mennonite Community. In the early 1970s it became illegal to serve home canned foods in such places and the fresh vegetables became rather more trouble than they were worth. New Hanover Lutheran and Pottstown's Emmanuel Lutheran Church as well as many others still gather in commercial canned goods and non-perishables usually taking them to food banks such as the Pottstown Cluster Outreach.

You can read the entire article at the website below:

https://www.berksmontnews.com/news/boyertown_times/the-historian-harvest-home-special-service-celebrates-the-gathering-of/article

Trinity Gazette Newsletter Briefs

Special Services & Events

“Pre-Service Bible Study”

There are no Pre-Service Bible Study sessions planned for the remainder of the year.

October 6, 2019 - Joint Service at Mt. Hope-World-Wide Communion Sunday

Pastor Bill Hendricks will join us to celebrate World Communion Sunday at Mt. Hope at 10am.

October 13, 2019—Crop Walk

Registration at 1:30pm at the Claysburg Church of the Brethren. The Crop Walk begins at 2pm. See Robin for registration forms or to make a donation.

October 27, 2019—Reformation Sunday—Joint Consistory Meeting

Services at all three churches. Join together to remember our 502 years of our Reformed Heritage. A Joint Consistory Meeting will be held at Grace at 12:15pm.

November 3, 2019— Joint Service at Mt. Hope—All Saints’ Sunday

We will meet together in a Joint Service at Mt. Hope at 10am to remember those who have gone to their eternal home as we light Remembrance Candles on this All Saints’ Sunday .

November 10, 2019 – Harvest Home Sunday

We will celebrate Harvest Home Sunday at all three churches with a special thanksgiving for the Harvest.

November 24, 2019

Grace UCC will host the Claysburg Ministerium’s Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday evening, November 24 at 6:30pm.

December 1, 2019 – Joint Charge Service and Christmas Dinner

Join us as at Grace at 10am as we begin the Advent Season followed by the dinner. Food will be provided. **There is no charge for the Christmas Dinner this year!** We will need a firm commitment if you plan to attend by **November 17, 2019.**

December 22, 2019—Children’s Christmas Program

Join in the delight of seeing our young members in the annual Children’s Christmas Program during the Grace Church service at 11am. Children from all three churches are invited to participate.

December 24, 2019 - Christmas Eve Services

Celebration Service	Greenfield	5:00 pm
Family Service	Mt. Hope	7:00 pm
Candle Light Service	Grace	11:00 pm



The annual Crop Walk for Hunger will be held on Sunday, October 13. Registration begins at 1:30pm at the Claysburg Church of the Brethren. The 5-mile walk begins at 2pm and will proceed from the church to the Claysburg Community Park. Rain or Shine! Robin is the walk coordinator for our Charge. Please see her to get a registration form or make a donation.

COME JOIN OUR



We are wrapping up the book 'Glory Days' by Max Lucado which follows the Book of Joshua.

Jesus once declared, “The work God wants you to do is this: Believe the One he sent” (John 6:29). “Everything begins with faith.” (pg. 96)

- * The absence of faith results in wilderness years.
- * The presence of faith results in Promised Land living.

Bible Study (7pm) dates for the remainder of the year are:

- Oct 8 @ Grace - Chapter 13
- Oct 22 @ Grace - Chapter 14 & 15
- Nov 12 @ Greenfield - Chapter 16

Operation Christmas Child



The Charge will once again participate in Operation Christmas Child sponsored by Samaritan's Purse International Relief fund. Every gift-filled shoebox is a powerful tool for evangelism and discipleship—transforming the lives of children and their families around the world through the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Last year, the Greenfield Charge presented **55** shoeboxes (27 boys & 28 girls) to Operation Child, which was slightly less than the year before. Let's try to beat last years numbers.

Informational material and shoeboxes will be distributed to each church. Please deliver your boxes to your church by November 17 so that we can make the delivery to the drop-off location during the National Collection week, November 18th-25th.

If you are looking for packing suggestions, please look at the Samaritan's Purse website for ideas. They have the list categorized by sex and age. <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/>

A \$9 donation per shoebox gift is critical to cover shipping and other ministry expenses. We are looking into cost sharing on the postage. Will keep you posted on this.

If you do not have access to a computer but would like to know what's on a particular list, please ask Wendy or Jeanne to print the information for you. We'd be glad to help!!!



DO NOT INCLUDE

Toothpaste; Candy; Gum; Chocolate or Food; Seeds; Fruit Rolls or other Fruit Snacks; Drink Mixes (powdered or liquid); Medications or Vitamins; Liquids or Lotions; Breakable items such as snow globes or Glass Containers; Aerosol Cans; Used or Damaged Items; War-Related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures.

Pastor Appreciation Month

October is Pastor Appreciation month. Let's take this time to honor and thank Wendy Farber for her strength, leadership and service to the Greenfield Charge, particularly during this very sad and difficult time. Wendy, you are a true servant of God devoted to sharing God's word and serving his people. Thank you for being an example of God's love. You are a blessing to us. Because of you we have found the courage to follow.

Our God has sent you to this place,
To lead us in the way,
To teach us from His word,
And we will try to do our best.
Always ready and willing to share
a comforting thought and a smile.
We thank you for your ministry,
Your guidance and your care.
His greatest blessings for your life
Is our most humble prayer.

We would also like to recognize Wendy's family; Jeff, Kaitlyn and Leah. Without your utmost love, encouragement and support, we would not be able to share the gifted and wonderful spiritual leader we have before us. Blessings to you and we are here to love and support you all!!

My foot hath held his steps, his way have I kept. Job 23:11

“The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.” 1 Timothy 5:17, NIV

Remembering Pastor Bob



Thinking of You

**When you read these words,
chances are that I'll be sitting here
thinking of you... as I so often do.**

**I'll probably be smiling
one of the smiles that I always do
when thoughts of you come my way.**

**When you read these few words,
I hope you'll think, just for a moment,
how much you mean to me
and how much you always will.**

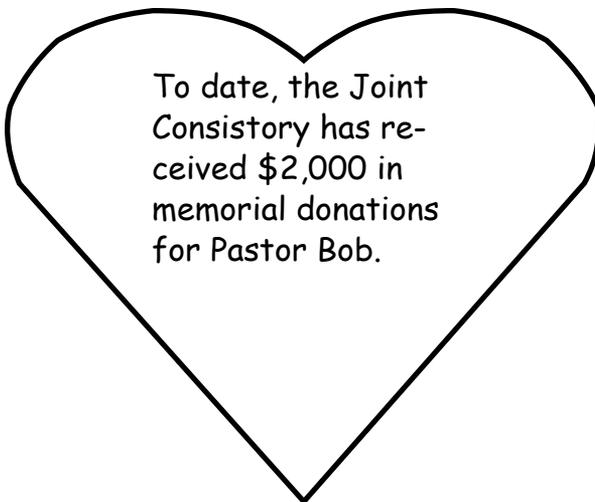
**And when you continue on with the
things
you need to be doing in your day,
smile a smile for me, and remember
that I'll be thinking of you still.**

Rest Safe in the Arms of Jesus

Pastor Bob, you were here with us for such a very short, but memorable time. You were a unique and special person that we will long cherish. While we can endlessly talk about your work as a Pastor, let's remember some of the times that will bring a smile to our faces and probably a chuckle too. Here are some heart-warming memories.....

- ◆ Jesus is in our hearts
- ◆ Red Polo shirts
- ◆ Wearing crazy printed ties.
- ◆ When he first became "our Pastor Bob" I asked if he and Nancy collected anything special. His answer was "animals" and he smiled!
- ◆ Telling humorous, but true, stories about Leo!
- ◆ Sporting a sunburn after attending a sunny Pitt home football game.
- ◆ When he left Greenfield to go to Grace, Pastor Bob made this statement almost weekly: 'One more time with Feeling'.
- ◆ A little girl several years ago at Bible School, saw Pastor Bob at Walmart. She looked at her Mom all excited and said, "look Mommy, God shops at Walmart!"
- ◆ He always stated this was a shared ministry.
- ◆ His favorite hymn changed weekly.
- ◆ His laughter when he said "he HAD to go deer hunting so he could make jerky for Leo."
- ◆ Loving music, but singing? We know you are now in a heavenly choir.
- ◆ Listening and sharing the woes of raising a puppy!
- ◆ Children's Sermons—Costumes, props. You had it all! But seriously, kids do say the most amazing and funny things. He LOVED it!!

Well done, thou good and faithful servant. God be with you, 'til we meet again!





WINGS (Women Into Nurturing Gods' Spirit)

A HUGE "thank-you" to all those that helped support the WINGS basket auction at Community Days this past August. WINGS net income was just over \$2,100! This will go a long way in our mission work here in the community. We greatly appreciate those who donated baskets and/or money, bought tickets, worked the booth, helped with set up/ tear down and much more.

We are truly blessed by the generosity and support of our Charge and supporters in the Community.

WINGS meetings are scheduled for Oct. 21st and Nov. 18th at 7pm at Greenfield. We invite you to join in the time of devotion and fellowship.

It's time for the annual Homewood Auxiliary Membership drive! Karen, Donna and Jeanne have the information. Annual fee is now \$3 per person. That shouldn't break the bank!! What other organization can you join and NOT have to do a thing?

This is a fundraiser. Every dollar is used to better the life of the residents at Homewood in Martinsburg.

We always think of the little ones around the holidays. Let's consider the support we can give our older folks to have a comfortable, fulfilling retirement life. See Karen, Donna or Jeanne and sign-up this year!



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Ladies' Advent Tea

The Ladies' Advent Tea will be held on **Sunday, December 1** at Christ Lutheran Church. We will provide more details as they become available.



Salvation Army: Claysburg/East Freedom Service Unit

The local Salvation Army will kick-off its annual kettle campaign starting at Christmas in the Park on Saturday, November 23th. If you or your group is interested in "ringing the bell" this Christmas season, please see Jeanne. We have been assigned specific dates in December to ring at the East Freedom Walmart. The Claysburg Rotary will be ringing at C&S Market during the month. 85% of the money collected stays in the Claysburg service area. We raised \$6,500 last year and hope to have another successful year. Please remember those less fortunate by donating either your time and/or financially this Christmas season!

Thank-you!!

October, November & December Birthdays and Anniversaries

October Birthdays

1st Emily Walter
4th Derek Bivens
6th Pastor Mary Hendricks
10th Phoebe Boyer
12th Lisa Calhoun
15th Amy Finnegan
25th Patricia Wees
29th James Bowmaster, Jr.
31st Elizabeth Osborn

November Birthdays

1st Callum Furry
5th George Burket
9th Cathy Walter
13th Luella Eckard
14th "Beaver" Walter
15th Brylon Corrigan
16th Blake Claar
16th Steve Burket
16th Joan Moore
19th Linda Walter
25th Kaitlyn Farber
29th Nicole Gustkey

December Birthdays

3rd Donna Claar
5th Ann Claar
8th Roy Berkhimer
13th Amy Berkhimer
14th Jessica Claar
17th Brandon Reynolds
19th Chase Mock
21st Paityn Reilly
22nd Mary Walter
23rd Dick Lingenfelter
25th Marie Burket

October Anniversaries

11th Barry & Cathy Barnes
20th Michael & Sheryl Osborn

November Anniversaries

1st Dennis & Nellie Cowher

December Anniversaries

15th George & Marie Burket
18th Roy & Diana Berkhimer
22nd Steve & Bonnie Walter
27th Larry & Jeanne Mowry

If there are any additions or corrections to the birthday/anniversary lists, please contact Emily Corle. THANKS!