

JUNE 2018 PARK BENCH



Good afternoon friends and family of Franklin Park Church.

Well.... the weather seems to have finally broken into more comfortable temperatures on a permanent basis. The birds are singing for our pleasure and the grass is growing so we can cut it what seems to be just about every other day.

Our family has just returned from vacationing in Hilton Head where we had at least a few days of nice weather before the clouds rolled in for the week. But the boys didn't seem to mind much just as long as they got to spend a bunch of hours on the beach with their toy dump trucks and backhoes....and Mom and Dad.

I was also blessed to spend some time with my eldest son and grandson who drove over from Atlanta to spend a few days with us. Lots of food, lots of love, lots of conversation and lots of waves....at least for my eldest son who is less afraid of the ocean than I am.

I have this *'thing'* about the ocean. To me, it's nothing but a wet jungle. Maybe even worse than the jungle. At least I can 'see' into the jungle. But the ocean is dark and foreboding....AND I am a big sissy my son tells me. My argument (which I believe at least holds ocean water) is that since I would not go into the jungle (which I can see) where dangerous animals lurk, there is NO chance I am going into a wet jungle with dangerous animals that I can't see. And helicopters flying overhead checking the shoreline for my safety only seem to make me feel worse. Besides, if a helicopter had to fly over my bathtub for safety purposes; I would not get in THAT water either.

Of course, later that evening I learned that exactly one resort over, a ten-year-old boy had been bitten by an 11-foot black tip shark. This is what had prompted the National Guard choppers I heard only hours earlier. **Case Closed!** No more going in the ocean! But the news report later that evening only made me feel even more lame when the ten-year-old boy who was bitten earlier in the day proudly raised his bandages to the camera and stated to his interviewer, *"The best way to deal with this is to get back into the water as soon as possible."* I think I speak for all of us when I truly thank God this kid is OK for the sake of him and his entire family....but I could have certainly done without the embarrassing reproof from a ten year old 😊 And besides, he is going to be the envy of all the boys in his class this year when all the girls swoon over his bravery.

Sometimes there are things in life that can seem to come out of the deep, out of nowhere, and interrupt what had been, only moments before, perfect sunshine and bliss on the beach. They come like an F-5 tornado on a clear and sunny day. A bad report from the Doctor; a spouse asking for a separation, a boss telling you it's time to clear your desk. These are times when we are hurt. But sometimes we hurt others; perhaps you are caught in an affair, or your child finds out that you are an alcoholic, or that you have been gambling away the family business at the casino and light has come to shine upon your misdeeds....these are the times that test us and prove us. We are *hurt by* or *hurt someone else* deeply. How should we respond? A biblically informed worldview is the only place to turn for the believer.

The apostle and brother of our Lord writes in James 1: 2-4, *Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.*

Even unbelievers understand this concept and capitalize on it every day. Ask a successful businessman at what stage in his career he learned the most valuable lessons and he will almost invariably admit that it was during times of hardship. These are the times in which he learned valuable lessons. But the unbeliever is busy learning lessons to become better, stronger, richer and faster.

But God is about producing something else in HIS people besides a stiff upper lip and the ability to move in an upwardly mobile fashion in business or political spheres. The apostle Paul writes in **Romans 5:3-4**, *“Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.”*

Did you hear that? God is about the business of changing our character, not merely our circumstances so we can improve our current station in life.

The apostle Peter adds in **1Peter 4:12-14**, *“Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.”*

The Bible clearly teaches that suffering is a natural part of the Christian experience. Jesus even tells us that we should EXPECT suffering, but that we should not be overcome with fear or anxiety since He has overcome the world. (**John 16:33 pp**) And furthermore, we are in covenant relationship with a heavenly Father because of the sufferings of this same Jesus and are called to participate in his suffering for His name sake.

Suffering and anxiety are part of the human experience. They are real hurts and real pains and we are never called to pretend like they are not happening. But only believers have the promises of a heavenly Father who is looking out for them and using suffering to produce in them the very likeness of the His only begotten son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. For we read in 1John 3:2, *“Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.”*

Let these things marinate in your heart as you face trials and tribulations and may the God of mercy, peace and consolation reign in your hearts.

With much love and affection,

Pastor George

During the month of June we will be receiving the

**One Great
HOUR**
OF SHARING Offering.

OGHS supports disaster relief, development projects, and refugee ministries of the American Baptist Churches and its partners.

Offering envelopes will be in the pew racks throughout this coming month.

“Now to God be the glory, who by the powers at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine.”

Ephesians 3 : 20

9:30 a.m. Worship Service Greeters

June 3 - Darlene Dennis
June 10 - Tom and Jane Myers
June 17 - Nancy Hurley
June 24 - The McKenna Family

***Summer hours begin June 3 @
 9:30 a.m. with Communion***

***Franklin Park Borough's
 "Festival in the Park"***

The festival is on Saturday June 30 from 4-9:30PM at Blueberry Hill Park in Franklin Park. The mission team of FPBC is sponsoring a booth that will have games for kids, information about the church and upcoming activities, and handouts. More information will follow but we would like to invite the church family to come out to the festival and stop by to see us. We will also be looking for volunteers to serve for a few hours at the festival. Please contact Christy Nichols if you would like to help !

~ *Dates to keep in mind* ~June 3

Summer Hours begin 9:30 a.m.

June 11

Annual Church Weiner Roast 6 p.m.

June 30

Festival in the Park

July 8 through 12

Vacation Bible School

July 15 - 22

Summer Mission Group Trip

August 5

*Outdoor Worship Service and picnic
 at Blueberry Hill Park*

September 10

Regular Service times return

September 16

*Cranberry Barbershop Benefit
 Concert here at 7 p.m. to benefit
 our summer mission group*

Children's books are being collected until July 13 to be taken to Grafton, WV for children who attend church activities there. Books can be gently used or new and for all ages. They will be used for a summer reading program and then given to the children who attend Vacation Bible School and church events over the summer. A box is provided in the back of the sanctuary.



Vacation Bible School 2018



July 8 through July 12

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

“Shipwrecked – Rescued By Jesus”

Volunteer sign-up forms are on the table in the back of the sanctuary and are due back to Amanda Palombo by June 17th.

Adult and student volunteers are needed to make this outreach ministry possible.

Please indicate **all areas** you are willing to help in (registration, preschool, Bible lesson, music, crafts, games, snack) and

the days you are available.

**** All volunteers age 18+ must have all necessary clearances for the state of**

Pennsylvania.

Amanda can be contacted at

amandashort2@gmail.com

Special dates

- Flag Day, June 14, 2018
- Father’s Day, June 17, 2018
- First day of summer, June 21, 2018



Summer Music

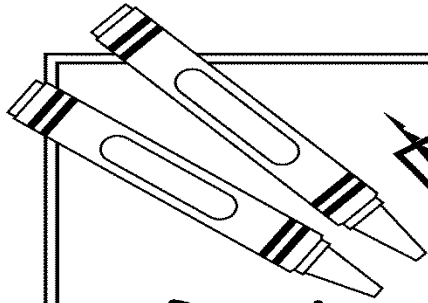
Thank you to Erik and our choir for the great selections they have presented in our worship services. They are off for the summer and we would like to extend an invitation to anyone who would like to provide special music for our service during the summer months. It can be an instrumental or a voice piece.

Please let the church office know if this is something you would like to do.



Shelby and Madison Cress, daughters of John and Lynn Cress, have recently completed their studies. **Shelby** graduated from Edinboro University in December receiving her degree in Special Education and Math. **Madison** majored in Occupational Therapy and graduated from CCAC. Both are granddaughters of Millie Cress. Congratulations and a job well done ladies ! Our best to you for the future !

Check out our denomination news at www.abcopad.org.



PUZZLE

Beloved children

God our heavenly Father loves us so much that he calls us his.

Directions: Follow the instructions below. Then read the remaining words, going across the rows from left to right, to complete 2 Corinthians 6:18, NIV.

- Cross out the opposite of blessings.
- Cross out the disciple who betrayed Jesus.
- Cross out the opposite of love.
- Cross out a word for jail.
- Cross out what happened to Jesus.
- Cross out the opposite of friends.
- Cross out the opposite of found.
- Cross out a word for disobeying God.
- Cross out an animal.
- Cross out a place.
- Cross out a book of the Bible.

I	enemies	will	be	Judas
hate	a	Father	to	serpent
you	and	you	will	crucified
cursings	be	my	sons	and
sin	Golgotha	daughters	says	the
Lamentations	prison	Lord	Almighty	lost

Answer: "I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." 2 Corinthians 6:18, NIV

Prayer Requests and Concerns

June 3, 2018

- ^ **John Cress** and his family are dealing with very serious health concerns. Please keep the family in prayer.
- ^ **Ron Rieble**, brother of Nancy Hurley, passed away June 1 after being diagnosed with mesothelioma last fall.
- ^ **Millie and John Flinchum** ask for prayer for a minister friend, **Dave Bell** who has been diagnosed with ALS.
- ^ **Kaitlyn Frances**, 16, great-granddaughter of Millie and John Flinchum, is once again dealing with the return of cancer in her young life. She had been on an experimental treatment but doctors are not sure what course they have left to take for her. Please keep this family in your prayers for strength and that a treatment can be found for Kaitlyn.
- ^ **Prayer is asked for a family** – a best friend’s mother, Shelley and her sister, Alli have been in and out of the hospital with periodic numbness, fever, rash and stiffness. Several trips and days in the hospital, tests done and doctors are still not sure what is going on. Their conditions seem to be improving but not 100%.
- ^ **Prayer for all** the policeman and first responders who are in danger as they are out there doing their job. Especially Shawn McNaughton who is a member of this church family and works in Cecil Township.
- ^ **Answered Prayer and Praise For** : **Mary Eberhardt** became a great-grandmother on May 8th. Miss Elliottie “Eile” joined her family in Nebraska. **Rick and Sandy Hughey** welcomed a new granddaughter, Abigail Styvie-Rose on Wednesday, May 9th born in Delaware. Best wishes to the families of these new little ones.
- ❖ **Those Who Have Lost Loved Ones**: **Robert Stinebiser**, brother in law of Marion Wolbert, passed away May 31. Services will be in Johnstown, PA. ; **Pastor George, Amanda** and their family are dealing with the sudden loss of Pastor George’s first cousin due to a heart attack. He was 62.
- ❖ **Continued Concern For**: Austin Gildernew, Matthew Valente, The Scott family, Davey Frankenstein, George Kriever, Doug Wolford, Jean Willoughby, Luke Sciulli, Lois Titus, Lauren Slick, Jen Ott, Mary Glassburn, Katie Jones, Tim McCrory, Edith Yockel, Christians around the world who are being persecuted.
- ❖ **Those With Cancer**: Bill Smith, Rich Necter, Tom Duffola, Matt O’Leary, Mary Ann Yoder.
- ❖ **Missionaries** : **Becky and Larry Stanton** (Hungary); **Peter and Sarah McCurdy** (Dominican Republic / Cuba); **Carol Sydnor** (Nepal); **Nora and Pieter Kalkman** (Prague, Czech Republic); **Brian and Lynette Smith & their boys** (Haiti). **Valerie and Aaron Osterbrock** (East Malaysia), **Ted Parks** (Kazakhstan).
- ❖ **In Service of Our Country** : **Major Doug Bauer**, his wife Hope and children, Walker & Mackenzie in North Dakota; **William G. Palombo** (Marines) and his wife **Sam** (Navy) are serving in D.C.

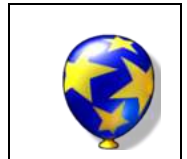
	Dorothy McKinney Creek Meadows Personal Care 1630 Elthwood City Road Zelienople, PA. 16063	Albert (Buck) Bucklew Chicora Medical Center 160 Medical Center Road Chicora, PA. 16025-2612	Peggy Bucklew Chicora Medical Center 160 Medical Center Road Chicora, PA. 16025-2612	
Janet Tehols Broadmore Senior Living 3275 Washington Pike Apt. 221 Bridgeville, PA. 15017 412-559-2813		George Green Cranberry Place 5 St. Francis Way Room 122 Cranberry Township, PA. 16066		Mrs. Shirley Wright Passavant Retirement Community Trillium House Room 215 Zelienople, PA. 16063 Telephone 724-452-5400
Homebound - June Nagel & Dale, Jr. 4015 Wick Place Wexford, PA. 15090		Gloria Meinert 2915 Salisbury Court Wexford, PA. 15090	Jean Dowaing	Mrs. Eleanor Mooney 221 Chickasaw Avenue Pittsburgh, PA. 15237



Olivia O’Leary played on her school, CAPA’s, middle school soccer team and they won the city championship. Olivia is the daughter of Michele and Dave O’Leary, sister to Nathan, and granddaughter of Martha McEvoy and Mike Jones. Way to go Liv and your team of girls !



Cody Maxwell and his Cornell Baseball Team made it to the Single-A WPIAL championship games for the first time ever in school history. With only 12 boys on the team they made their school proud. Cody is a freshman at Cornell High School and is the son of Shelley Lee, brother of Joe and Cheyenne, grandson of Ralph and Jill Whipple and great-grandson of Gloria Meinert who could not be prouder of Cody and this team ! Congrats on a job well done blue and gold !



Mt. Nebo Church will be having a Strawberry Festival and Classic Car Cruise complete with trophies on Saturday, June 23 from 4 -7 p.m. Ham barbeques, hot dogs, side salads, beverages and strawberries, ice cream and cake will be on the menu. A new item will be Chinese Auction baskets that will include a Movie Night, Coffee / Tea Lovers, Pasta Night, Candy Lovers and a Gift Card basket. Prizes will be drawn at 6:30 and winners need to be present to win. A flyer is posted on our bulletin board in the narthex. (the church is located at 1828 Roosevelt Road, just about 2 miles from FPBC). The food bank at this church is where we send our support with our food drives throughout the year.

Rick and Sandy Hughey welcome a new granddaughter on May 9 born in Delaware to their son, Rick and his wife, Natelle. **Abigail SlyvieRose** weighed 6 pounds and was 18 ½ inches in length. Rick and Sandy spent 10 days with their son awaiting the birth and having quality time with Abigail’s big sister, Serena. Dan and Margie Douglass are the great-grandparents to these 2 little ones. God’s blessings and our love and best wishes to everyone in these families.





- 1 Jason Dauer
- 2 Hank Cochran
- 3 Ellen McKenna
- 4 Randy Dauer
- 5 Kaitlyn Francis (her 17th !)
- 6 Colin McGinnis
- 7 Keith English
- 8 Lynn Cress
- 11 Eddie McGinnis
- 12 Alex Lopez (his 12th ! 6)
- 14 SANDY & GORDON BONHAM (their 54th)
- 16 Sandy Hughey
- 19 Taylor Mauro (his 13th !)
- 19 Nancy Hurley
- 20 Abby Hofstetter (her 16th !)
- 23 Shelby Cress
- 26 MATT and CARI STEWART
- 28 Bill Smith
- 28 RALPH and JILL WHIPPLE (their 49th !)
- 29 Rianna Liebenguth
- 29 Austin Gildernew (his 18th !)
- 30 REV. PAUL & DEE AIELLO (their 47th !)



Christy and Clay Nichols excitedly announce they are expecting their first child in November. Christy is the daughter of Paul and Cindy Merriman and this will be their second grandchild.



Mary Eberhardt became a great-grandmother on May 8th with the arrival of **Miss Elliot** “Elle” at 11:23 p.m. in Grand Island, Nebraska. She weighed 5 pounds 13 ounces and was 19 inches in length. Elle’s mom is Krista, Mary’s granddaughter, who is the daughter of Mary’s daughter Sandy Major. Now 3 generations strong ! Mary also recently attended the wedding of her grandson, **Stephen**, who is the son of her daughter, Sue Snyder. Wow ! A busy time for Mary and her family !



. God’s blessings on all !

So proud of **Jared Dauer** has who completed extensive classes at the Allegheny County Fire Academy from February 17 until May 19. 13 Saturdays and 108 hours and he passed his test in May. Jared is now an official Junior Firefighter with the Franklin Park Volunteer Fire Company 158 that recently opened a new facility to service our borough. Congratulations Jared on a job well done and for carrying on a great tradition. Stay safe! Jared joins his dad, Randy who is also a FP firefighter. This church has had many members in this company over the years – currently - Randy and Jared Dauer, Bill Smith, Ron and Scott Merriman, Jack Hurley.Past – Ches Frazier, Charles and John Eberhardt, George Timchak, Al Merriman and others you may remember.



Certificates Jared has earned through the academy and on-line include :

1. Introduction to the Fire Service.
 2. Hazardous Materials Awareness
 3. Taking Action Against Cancer in the Fire Service
 4. Fire Ground Support
 5. National Incident Management System
 6. NIMS ISC-200
 7. NIMSIS – 700
 8. NIMS IS – 800
- 120 hours training
Not including time studying for the test.



Monday, June 11 we will join together for our annual Weiner Roast here at the church. We will eat at 6:00 p.m. Each family is asked to bring a dessert to share. The Committee is asked to be here at 5:00 p.m. The Guiding Lights will provide the rest of the picnic supper. Mark your calendars and make plans to attend.

Don't forget our



Sir Pizza Fund Raiser Day on Wednesday, June 13 from 11 a.m. until 10 p.m. at the Wexford location. Remember to tell them you are with Franklin Park Baptist Church when you order and 20% will be donated back to our Summer Mission Group. Take outs are welcome. ENJOY !



EVERYONE participating in this summer's trip needs to have their paperwork and clearances done as soon as possible. If you need assistance please contact the church office and we will be glad to help. If you have already completed them
THANK YOU !