

September 2, 2018
Morning Worship Service

Prelude
Matt & Jess Geissinger

Worship Leader
Mike Hartzler

Worship Team Leader
Abe Hoffman

Sermon – Ivan Yoder
The Pursuit of our Hearts
Luke 22:32



11:15 Children's Breakout Session (Pre-K-Grade 2) in the MYF Room.

Nursery: Infants through 3 year olds

9:00 – Justin & Amanda Byler, Sydney Jerman

10:30 – Clint & Heather Yoder, Chesney Lauer

*Next Week: 9:00- Bobbi Yoder, Chisomo VanSciver
10:30- Cheston & Jen Hartzler

Prayer List:

At Home: Gabe, Ashley, Lillian, Kensley, & Annie Newman
Leroy & Alice Miller

Valley View: Bob Watts, Room 518B, Valley View Haven

Away: Sheldon, Cindy, Jedidiah, Annali, Caleb, & Malachi Sharp
PO Box 265, Teslin, YT YOA 1B0

MISSION SPOT: Wycliffe in Orlando, Florida: Keith, Christina, Luke, and Nicole Bitikofer

Welcome to our Worship Service! We are so glad you are here. Our morning schedule includes many class options for discussion during both of our morning worship services. Lists of classes are available on the information table in the welcome corner of our foyer.

Children's Bulletin Codes- Ages 3-6: **WC4492** Ages 7-12: **EHS479**

August 26, 2018

9:00 Worship Attendance	209
S.S. Attendance.....	395
10:30 Worship Attendance	202
S.S. Offering	\$21.52
Morning Worship Offering.....	\$10,733

Week 35

Budgeted Morning Worship Offerings - \$392,190

Actual Morning Worship Offerings – \$382,470

This Week's Events:

Tuesday, Ladies Sewing, bring your own lunch

Tuesday, 6:30pm- Philippians Bible Study

Wednesday, 12-6pm- Red Cross Blood Drive in multipurpose room

Wednesday, 6:45pm- Hymn Sing at Valley View Terrace Activities Room

Upcoming Events:

Next Sunday evening, Sept. 9 – From Big Valley to Valley Street

– You are invited by the Mission Board to pray for Lewistown!

September 10th- Leadership Team Meeting

September 16th- Rooted (Grades 5th & 6th) meets from 6-8pm

Group Grades 7-9: Meet Sunday, September 9th at the 6:00pm at the church. Welcome 7th graders, guys bring a snack and girls a drink.

MYF Grades 10-12: Meet on Wednesday, September 5th at 7 pm to kick off the year at J. & Karen's. Girls bring a snack and Guys a drink

- 132 Beech Tree Ln, Belleville

Young Adults: Meet Sunday, September 9th at Ivan & Pam's for lunch and discussion after church.

A new Bible study of Philippians will begin this week. Bob Plank will be leading it on Tuesdays at the church at 6:30pm. All are welcome to join!

Big Valley to Valley Street: A Prayer Challenge. A church service is being planned for Sunday evening, Sept. 9, to inform concerning God's call for prayer walking in Lewistown and to challenge us with creative ways to get involved in praying for our valley as well as our county seat. There will be a time of sharing and a time of prayer. Bring your children and again expose them to God's love for all the people of Mifflin County.

CHURCH NEWS

Rachel Paul is looking for a place to rent in the Huntingdon School district for her and her two daughters. Contact Rachel at 814-667-2918 if you can provide any direction.

MCC Work Day: Please save the date on October 18th for a workday at MCC resource center in Ephrata, PA. There will be more details closer to the date. Also, the health kits will be delivered on that date as well. If interested, please donate your items and place them in the box in the foyer. Items needed are: adult toothbrushes, large bars of soap, nail clippers, wide tooth combs, and dark hand towels (please make sure all items are individually packaged). Thank you!

Addition to College Prayer List- Please note that Jon Suydam is attending Penn State University this fall.

The latest **Grief Share** group is now finished. We anticipate forming another support and study group in the future. If you have an interest in joining a future group please contact Ivan or Pam

A **Community Car Cruise** will be leaving from Locust Grove on Sunday, September 9th at 12:30pm. All vehicles (and motorcycles) are invited, and encouraged to participate! The cruise will stop at Hoss's in Huntingdon for lunch around 1:30pm and then make their way back to Belleville.

Red Cross Blood Drive: The Red Cross will be here Wednesday, September 5th from 12pm until 6pm to collect blood. If you would like to donate blood, it would be wise to make an appointment before you come; as those with appointments are taken before walk-ins. Sally Clark would be happy to make an appointment for you anytime in the next week. You can find her standing in the hallway today & next week- or you can call her at: 717-250-9739. Thank you for supporting this important cause.

Lewistown Prayer Walks- September 13th & 27th. Belleville carpool meets at the church by 6:30pm, or meet at the Lewistown Bon-Ton parking lot by 7:00pm.

Big & Littles Brunch: Ladies, whether you are a mom, grandmother, aunt, or mentor for girls ages 9-18 years old, you and your little(s) are invited to join us for a brunch on Saturday, September 22nd at 10am in the Locust Grove multipurpose room. Our topic will be focused on our individual uniqueness, identity, and beauty that comes from a transformed heart. Several activities will follow the brunch and a devotional. Sign-up sheet is on the women's ministry board. Please sign your name, followed by the number of girls and their ages attending with you. RSVP by Sept 16th. Any questions can be directed to Pam Yoder or Kara Kauffman.

DC4K (Divorce Care 4 Kids) is a student support program for kids ages 5 – 12 years old whose families are experiencing separation/divorce. At DC4K kids are involved in activities, crafts, DVD dramas, music, and games all designed to help children deal with the emotions related to their family situations. If you know a child or children that is experiencing parents' separation/divorce, please share the following information with the family: DC4K is scheduled to run at **Locust Grove Church** from 6:30 PM – 8 PM each Monday from September 10-December 10 except for the Monday after Thanksgiving. The same program will also run at the **Juniata Valley YMCA** from September 10-December 10, and at the **Lumina Center**, 3rd Street, Lewistown from September 17 – December 17, 2018. Groups are limited to 10 children per group. For more information or to register your child, please call or text Ann at 717-437-4946.

Divorced? Separated? We can help! **DivorceCare** is a 13 week seminar/support group that can help a person heal from the hurt of separation or divorce. It's a warm, caring environment led by people who care and want to help attendee's find healing and wholeness, in the midst of their circumstances. One DC participant reported: "My life was pretty much in shambles when I began DivorceCare. This program has totally changed the direction of my life." We begin Monday, September 10 at 6:30, here at Locust Grove, in conjunction with DC4K. Do you know of someone who could benefit? Please pass this information on to them! Brochures are located under mailboxes. Contact: Glen @ 717-953-1881 or Yvonne @ 717-247-4915.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Children's Ministry Department Mission Project: Parents and friends, the children's ministry department will be participating in quarterly mission projects. This quarter's mission project will be **hats & gloves** for the children of Backyard Ministries. There are 100 children in the Lewistown area that need new hats & gloves for winter. Please check out the children's ministry bulletin board and grab a label or more with the gender and size of the child you would like to help. When returning the hats and gloves, please put them in a re-closable bag with the label on it. There is a collection laundry basket underneath the children's ministry bulletin board. They will need to be returned by Sunday, October 28th. Thank you for participating and please let me know if you have any questions.

Break-Out Session: We are in need of a breakout session leader for a rotation of once every 4 weeks. This would be from 11:15-11:45 in the second service. Break-out session leaders simply do an activity, read a story, and hand out snacks (snacks are provided). Please contact Kara Kauffman if you would be interested in serving in this way.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Valley View 50th Anniversary Celebration will be held Saturday, September 15th from 3-7pm. The program includes music by Sharon Wyland, Duke Larson, & Common Ground. Tickets are available at Locust Grove from Don Hartzler, Bob Templeton, Sherryl Yoder, and Ann Kanagy.

Hymn Sing- Everyone is invited to the Valley View Terrace Activities Room on Wednesday, September 5th at 6:45pm for a hymn sing with the residents.

Grace Support Group Meeting: A support group for individuals and families will be meeting at the Maple Grove Mennonite Church. This group provides peer accountability, as well as various coping strategies and techniques for those affected by mental health concerns in a safe and confidential setting. Support Group will meet the second and fourth Tuesday nights at 7 pm in September and October starting September 11. Additional nights will be planned for November and December. Please either contact Michelle Spicher at michelle@sevenacresministry.org or (717) 513-3342, or register through our website at sevenacresministry.org with any questions or if interested.

MISSION MOMENTS

Wycliffe in Orlando, Florida: Keith, Christina, Luke and Nicole Bitikofer: On Saturday August 18, the Rendille community in East Kenya celebrated their New Testament dedication! Let's praise God for this news and pray His word touches the hearts of the people. Luke and Nicole are starting back to school, Luke is a senior and Nicole in 10th grade. We can't believe how fast they are growing up, but we love to see how God is working in their lives. Please pray for their transition back to school and for Christine, as she teaches Nicole and is involved in the homeschool co-op. Keith is busy with many projects. The finance and payroll projects that we asked prayer for in the spring have transitioned smoothly. He is now involved with projects assisting some of our Bible Translation partners around the world to transition to our new shared Human Resources system. This means he has calls at unusual times of day, due to some being in time zones 14 hours ahead of us. Pray for good communications, time management, and balancing family and work well. We so appreciate your prayer and financial partnership! Thanks!

RMM in Southern Spain: Phil and Maretta Barr: Recently, The Pew Research Center conducted surveys among 24,599 adults across 15 countries in Western Europe to assess the spiritual state of the region. Their report" makes sobering reading. It seems like we live in a continent where God is unnecessary. They found that across the 15 countries only a median of 11% of the population prays once a day (55% in the U.S.) and a median of 40% say they never pray (rising to 62% in Sweden & Denmark)! Only a median of 11% said religion was very important in their lives & only a median of 15% believe in God with absolute certainty. Belief in God is met with skepticism and

MISSION MOMENTS (continued)

incredulity by a majority of the population. We observed this happening when a prominent British scientist expressed some credence in the possibility of God's existence. He had been in outer space and seen the earth from that perspective, and been so impressed by its beauty and design, that he had to admit that there might be a Creator. When the interviewer pressed him on how as a scientist could he hold such a notion and still have credibility as a scientist, he quickly added that he was still agnostic and waiting for science to discover the origin of the universe and possibly prove, or otherwise, the existence of God. Despite this, it is encouraging to see advances being made for the kingdom of God. Antonio, with the backing of the La Victoria church, is pressing ahead with the Farm School Project that is designed to link public school students with Springs of Life Camp. He plans to visit about 70 schools in the area of the camp to encourage them to bring groups of students for a day out at the Farm School at the camp. A lady, Montse, who was active in the church's choir, although not a believer, has recently come to faith. She now regularly attends church and the mid-week prayer meeting and has brought her husband along to church as well. He's also showing openness to the gospel. Montse is being baptized in a beach service on September 2, along with four young people from church families. Last Sunday, a young couple, recently arrived from Paraguay to join their family here in Spain, made a public commitment to Christ.

Ethnos 360 with the Lolo people in Mozambique: Matt, Debi, Melody, William, Nicholas, and Nathanael Zook: We would appreciate prayers. On May 18th we moved to a new location among the Lolo people along with Lolo coworkers. We are mostly teaching literacy classes and doing Bible teaching in churches and with church leaders. Please pray for Kanalima. He is a pastor of 110 churches. Matt met with him and shared the gospel with him. Pray for his salvation and that God will use him to reach the churches that he oversees. The Jesus Film in Lolo is very popular. Pray that it will have good effect on those who watch it. We received a quote for the printing of the Lolo Bibles. Pray that the Bibles will arrive this year. We are producing small booklets to encourage literacy, Bible awareness and greater understanding of the gospel. These include a short teaching on a subject, a common interest story, a chapter of the Bible. Pray that these will fulfill the mission for which we are producing them. Pray for the literacy classes in progress. Pray for students to faithfully attend, that they will learn and begin to be changed by the Bible verses we read with them. Pray for God to watch over our physical stuff. We have had a streak of breakdowns from printers, our laminator, electrical and water problems, motorcycle, generator and car problems, etc. We have hand dug a well that is over 65 feet deep but still has not hit good water. Living out here these days has given us many, opportunities to see God as our constant refuge and help for which we give Him thanks.

Prayer Guide for September 2– September 8

2 Sunday – “*But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers*” Luke 22:32

3 Monday – Today thank God for your job and/or the jobs of your family members and pray for the Holy Spirit to guide each person to bring God’s presence, peace, and truth into those job settings each day. Pray for **Josiah Yoder** today on his birthday, in Idaho, working as a hunting guide.

4 Tuesday – Today pray for the women who prepare blankets and clothing items for distribution to people in crises around the world. Pray for the people who will receive these items to be warmed by the love of Christ.

5 Wednesday – Pray for the volunteers from our church who will assist the Red Cross Blood Drive this afternoon at our church. Pray for everyone that comes to donate to be blessed and for Christ’s presence and love to be evident.

6 Thursday – Pray for **Bob Plank** as he prepares to bring our sermon on Sunday morning and in his many Bible studies. Also pray for Paul Yoder as he prepares to lead worship on Sunday.

7 Friday – Pray for all the volunteers who will be leading DC4K and the adult Divorce Care sessions this coming Monday evening in Lewistown and also here at our church. Pray for God to bring children and adults to those programs that He is inviting to experience healing through Christ’s love.

8 Saturday – Pray for **Carmen Groff** and others who will be speaking in our evening service on Sunday evening about how we can all be involved in praying for people in Lewistown. Thank God for the way he has led **Kendra Fultz** to begin prayer walks. Pray we can all be encouraged in hearing reports about this important work.

We are disciples of Jesus Christ, encouraging all people to become His fully devoted followers

Locust Grove Mennonite Church
Church Office: (717) 935-2164
Website: www.locustgrovemc.org