



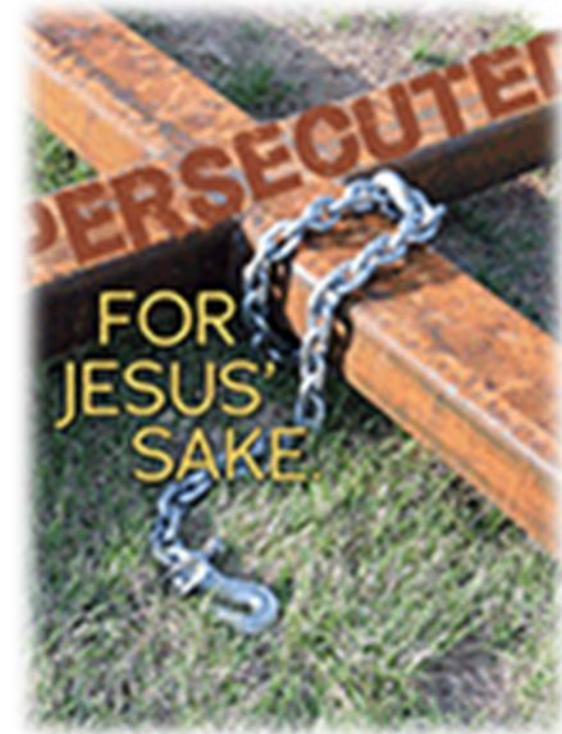
Pastor Ed's cell: (717) 372-9894
Pastor's email: pastor@middlespringpc.org
Confidential email: ehb47@comcast.net
Office hours: T & W, 9 am to 4 pm; Th By Appointment
Work from home, Mon and Sat; off Friday

Secretary: Lisa Laughlin; (717) 532-8198
email: secretary@middlespringpc.org

Office hours: Tuesday through Friday, 9 am to noon - 1 pm to 3 pm,
Lunch - noon to 1 pm

Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI with license #505431767.
All rights reserved.

Called Together by God to worship...



Middle Spring Presbyterian Church

135 Middle Spring Rd. Shippensburg, PA 17257
www.middlespringpc.org

The Rev. Edward H. Blank, Transitional Pastor
Sunday Worship begins at 9:30 am





The Middle Spring Presbyterian Church
August 31, 2025
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Serenity by David Lasky

OPENING PRAYER

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jesus said, "You will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth."

The Word of God cannot be chained.

God gathers us in to be filled with the Spirit.

God scatters us out to share the good news.

Let us worship the God who sends!

***GATHERING PRAISES MSPS#30**

Same God

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

God gathers us and calls us to scatter with love, but too often we have scattered others with fear and judgment. Let us confess our sins and open our hearts to God's healing grace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not always been a safe place. We have caused others to scatter through judgment, silence, and exclusion. We have failed to love as you love. Forgive us for the ways we have wounded your children. Heal our hearts, and scatter us out in the community to be agents of your mercy and peace. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news: In Christ, we are forgiven and made new. The Spirit goes with our scattered selves; healing, restoring, and sending us back into the world. **Thanks be to God!**

***HYMN GTG#581**

Glory Be to the Father

This week's Homebound person to be showered with cards of love and prayers is:



~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **Church Calendar** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Sunday, August 31	9:30 am	Worship in person and online
Sunday, September 7	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship in person and online
		Communion
		Rally Day Picnic - Immediately following service



We are collecting non perishable food items for the fruit belt farm workers. Examples of items include canned tomatoes, tomato sauce, boxes of pasta, canned tuna or chicken, canned beans of any kind, canned soups, any other canned items, cereal of any kind, oatmeal (packets or box), granola bars or other snack items, etc... Items can be placed in container in hallway that are labeled for migrant camp. Food will be delivered to workers on September 7 so please have items to church by then. If you have any questions, contact Tammy Maclay at 717-372-4433 or email at tammymaclay@gmail.com.

~~~~~ **Joys and Concerns** ~~~~~

**This week's concerns:** Please pray for Marjorie Scott's father who is in the hospital feeling discouraged. Pray for Deb Ocker as she recovers from a recent surgery. Pray for former pastor Derek Wadlington who was hospitalized with a broken leg after a bicycle accident. Pray for Eileen Moore's cousin, Douglas Kriever, who continues to deal with a serious medical condition.

**Please continue to keep the following in your prayers:**

Susan Ahrens, Chuck Bailey, Tom Barksdale, Vi Barr, Joe Biazzo, Sally Boden, Thomas Bruce, Ed Chamberlin, Mark Clever, Peg Corwin, Doe Davis, Glenn Fletcher, Jim and Dawn Freeman, Pat Frey, Ted Glenn, Lizzy Glenn, Deb Taylor Golden, Bob and Betty Harper, Julia Lent, Pat Mogan, Dorothy Nye, Dylan O'Brien, Deb Ocker, Larry & Vickie Ocker, Susan Petrina, Peggy, Troy and Megan Porter, Dottie Reese, Howard Rife, Lestine and Mike Sayles, Emily Smith, Shirley Smith, Suzanne Turner, George & Paula Vasenchak, Dick Weaver, Jean Wenger and Mark Zimmerman.

This week we pray for the **Hope United Presbyterian** in Dauphin in our Presbytery cycle of prayer; **Ridge Church of the Brethren** in local churches; and **Tierra Prometida**, Macome, Valle, Honduras.

The beautiful flowers on our altar today are given by **Gary & Joyce Russell** in memory of **David Russell, Mildred Davison and Dr. Davison**. \*\*The beautiful flowers on the alter last week were given by **Maury & Pat Mahan** for the glory of God in love & appreciation for our **Middle Spring Church family**.



We are looking for a few good people to paint three exterior doors at the manse and the new door in storage area and window of the storage area. Please contact Brad Beidel if you are interested. The paint is purchased and available.



The Family Fun Fest will be held on **Saturday, September 13th** from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Please schedule this on your calendar. Don't forget to bring a friend, relative or neighbor. Be prepared for a lot of fun, great food, and tons of fellowship. Hope to see you there!

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** - Theological Declaration of Barmen, Adapted for Congregational Use {Adopted May 1934 in Germany, added to UPCUSA Constitution in 1967, included in the PC(USA) Book of Confessions since reunification in 1983}

**We believe Jesus Christ, as witnessed in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God whom we must trust and obey.**

**We believe the church belongs to Christ alone, and no power on earth may claim its loyalty.**

**We believe the gospel is good news for all people; breaking down every wall of race, class, or nation.**

**We believe Christ calls the church to stand where he stands; with the outcast, the oppressed, the brokenhearted.**

**We believe God's Word and Spirit equip us to resist injustice, reject hatred, and embody reconciliation.**

**We believe Christ alone is Lord, and to him alone belongs our faith and our life. Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*How Firm a Foundation* -  
Richard & Dorina Saul

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**ILLUMINATION HYMN GTG#741**

*Guide My Feet (verses 3 & 4)*

**GOD'S WORD WRITTEN – Acts 8:1b-8**

**Saul Persecutes the Church**


**1** That day a severe persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout the countryside of Judea and Samaria. **2** Devout men buried Stephen and made loud lamentation over him. **3** But Saul was ravaging the church by entering house after house; dragging off both men and women, he committed them to prison.

**Philip Preaches in Samaria**

**4** Now those who were scattered went from place to place proclaiming the word. **5** Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah to them. **6** The crowds with one accord listened eagerly to what was said by Philip, hearing and seeing the signs that he did, **7** for unclean spirits, crying with loud shrieks, came out of many who were possessed, and many others who were paralyzed or lame were cured. **8** So there was great joy in that city.



GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED - Why We Scatter...  
HYMN GTG#797 *We Cannot Measure How You Heal*  
THE GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS  
INVITATION  
OFFERTORY *May the Grace of Christ Our Savior -*  
*Richard & Dorina Saul*  
  
\*DOXOLOGY GTG #606  
OFFERING PRAYER  
  
SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS  
PASTORAL PRAYER/THE LORD’S PRAYER  
  
\*SENDING HYMN GTG#765 *May the God of Hope Go With Us (sing twice)*  
  
CHARGE AND BENEDICTION  
POSTLUDE *A Mighty Fortress is Our God -*  
*arr. by Diane Bish*




We will resume our 10:30 AM worship time on **Sunday, September 7.**  
Sunday School will also resume on that date at 9:15 AM.

Pastor Ed will be on vacation August 18-31. If you have any pastoral needs, please contact Jan Ile at 717-977-7670 or [janile@pa.net](mailto:janile@pa.net).


Worship Leader is **Kemper Dyson**  
Liturgist is **Quay Stolte**  
Acolyte is **Jaxon Mosher**  
Elder of the Week is **Jan Ile**  
Ushers are **Gary & Joyce Russell**  
Greeters are **Quay Stolte & Mavis Karper**  
Organist is **Ingrid Winckler**  
Choir Director is **Lindsay Evanchak.**  
Handbell Choir Director is **Jan Ile**  
Nursery Coordinator is **Brenda Varner**  
Deacon of the Month is **Janet Sailhamer**

### Trip to See NOAH



Have you wanted to see NOAH at Sight and Sound but felt it was too expensive, or transportation was an issue? Well, wish no more; the Outreach/Fellowship Team has recently learned that NOAH will be shown on **Saturday, September 20**, at the RC Commons Theatre in Carlisle. It was filmed in front of a live audience. The movie will begin at 7:00 PM. We will meet in the church parking lot at 6:00 PM to carpool to the theater in Carlisle to see this special showing of NOAH. The cost will be \$14.50 per person The sign-up sheet is in the lobby. **Please enter only one person per line**, so we can accurately determine how many tickets to purchase.



The Women’s Association is requesting donations of baked goods for the upcoming Fun Fest, Saturday, September 13. Pies, cakes, cookies, snacks, etc. Donations can be dropped of at the church by 8 AM on September 13. If you have any questions, contact Janet Sailhamer at 717-477-8893. All proceeds go to local missions.



The Presbyterian Women’s Bible Study group will begin the new study year at 1:00 on Tuesday September 16 at the church. We will be beginning a video Bible study by Pastor Jonathan Pokluda on Right Now Media. It will be on Ecclesiastes titled “Where to Turn When Life Lets You Down.” We encourage all women of the church to join us in what looks to be a very interesting study. If you have any questions please contact Kathy Palmer.  
**We hope to see you there!**



Choir rehearsals will begin on **Wednesday, September 3rd at 6:30 PM.** We’re looking forward to another great year of raising our voices in praise and fellowship.

Handbell Choir rehearsal will begin on **September 3 at 7:30 PM.**