The PRESbyterian

"Learning, Loving, Giving--Christ Alive in the Believer"

September 2025 Volume LIV, Issue 8

Prayer Concerns

Mary Ellen Beans, Park Village Southside, 1019 Oldtown Valley Rd SE, Rm 26F, New Phila Jane McEwan, 2594 E High Ave, Rm #110, New Phila Janis Stover, New Dawn, Rm 101, 865 E Iron Ave, Dover Marlene Singhaus, Park Village Care Center, Rm 409, 1525 N. Crater Ave, Dover Ginny Stephenson, Schoenbrunn Health Center, Rm 112, 2594 E. High Ave, New Phila

Tables of Eight

Tables of Eight meal will be
Saturday, September 20th at 6pm.
The meal will consist of roasted pork
loin, mashed potatoes with gravy,
dressing, scalloped corn, and
desserts. Cost is \$10 per person.
All are welcome! Bring a friend! We
do ask that you RSVP to Carolyn
Berry or the church office.



Construction Parking

As the construction of Jack's House of Hope takes place, we thank you for your patience in terms of parking at the church. Parking is available on the gravel lot along the fence and side alley, and on the street along East High Ave. The inner section closest to the door is reserved for handicap/limited mobility parking and drop off. Thank you for keeping the entrance to this clear (marked by cones)!





Pastor's Corner

In the face of everything that is evil and destructive in the world, the idea of being a disciple of Christ can be very daunting. We imagine ourselves going out amid evil and destruction, standing firm in our faith and the promises of the LORD, but also facing the backlash for presenting a message at-odds with what everyone else wants. And when we hear in the news about churches being attacked, vandalized, and places of worship no longer respected it is easy to feel scared and uncertain about the future. It is something no one wants to deal with; who in their right mind wants to face down the devil and all his incarnations? However, the message, the gospel, we present is not our own and not backed up by our own power. And we have assurance through one of the most agonizing points of our faith how we can move forward.

When Jesus was crucified, he was mocked and insulted all the while enduring pain and suffering. But the last words he uttered before dying were, "It is finished" (John 19:30). Reading it as part of a story we think Jesus is referring to his suffering, or the work his teachings brought him too. But it means so much more than that. The specific word that is used in the Greek is *Tetelestai*; the completion of an activity or process, the carrying out of an obligation or demand, or paying what is due. In some ancient documents this word is used to mark the completion of a sale or trade, the finalizing of some kind of transaction. On the cross Jesus was completing an ancient rite, a sacrifice, a transaction to eliminate sin and its hold on the world. It is the process, the wrap-up, of what has been going on since Jesus first announced the kingdom of God in the midst of Israel. But that word comes from the root word, *Teleoo*; a point in time marking the end of a duration, a last part in a process, final goal or outcome, last in a series, or revenue obligation. It was at that moment on the cross the whole created order shifted and responded to the righteous sacrifice, and evil was disarmed of its ability to act in such a decisive way. No longer would Satan have the ability to speak the final word or determine the final outcome, with Jesus opening the door and giving us the ability to embody the divine spirit. We were prepared for life itself to return and know what was healthy and beneficial again. All that struggle and uncertainty ended.

That is the spirit of confidence which imbued the Church with ability to go out and proclaim, exemplify, and live Christ's name. Even amid shunning, persecution, attacks, and death there was no fear because of what Christ gained for them. Even in our time with attacks on churches and the ideas of the gospel we do not have to fear what anyone can do. What others do, what evil does, cannot determine who we are or what we can be. It may be an unpleasant distraction but cannot change who truly rules or determines the outcome of our lives. That is the hope we should have whenever such things happen, and might happen again, that our true calling and identity is in heaven where no one can steal it. And we can KNOW our purpose for living despite what others might say or do. **-Rev. Joe**

Jack's House of Hope Capital Campaign Project

Our church will be accepting donations toward the "Jack's House of Hope Capital Campaign"- the county homeless shelter renovation. We have already raised \$2585.00 toward their effort! Any who wish to contribute may mail their donations to the church office, give them during the Sunday offering, or visit the Friends of the Homeless website to donate online (https://fothtusc.org/hoh/).



Sunday Study Group

Join us Sunday Mornings at 9:15am for our study group! We will be reading through "Practicing the Presence of God" by Brother Lawrence. Anyone, and everyone, is welcome to join!





Friends of the Homeless Meal

Our monthly Friends of the Homeless dinner will be held on September 14 at 6pm. While we are fully funded for the monthly meals, please consider donating toward the FOTH General Operations or the Jack's House of Hope Project.

ONLINE MINISTRY

All online worship content (including pastor's messages, bulletins, and newsletters) are available on the church website (www.newphilapc.org). Mailings of weekly services are available upon request to the church office.

"First Celebration" Sunday

Join us on **September 7** as we celebrate Holy Communion during service and Church Brunch following service. Come and enjoy the fellowship of the saints!

Cookies for Sundays!

What's your favorite cookie? Do you have a recipe you just love to make? Every Sunday (except for the first Sunday of the month) we have cookies and coffee in the fellowship hall following the service. Would you like to bring cookies to share? They can be home baked, purchased from a bakery, store bought—it doesn't matter! Sign up in the church

office!



Greeters and Ushers

We need volunteers for liturgists, worship stewards, greeters/ushers, and cookies each Sunday. A signup sheet is available in the office to volunteer, or you may call the church office to sign up.

Session Members:

Class of 2025: Renee Miskimmin (clerk), Craig Stewart Class of 2026: Ethelyn Ann Eichel, Gail Hedges Class of 2027: Doug McIntire, Sally Walker

Deacon Members:

Class of 2025: Carolyn Berry Class of 2026: Jackie Stutz Class of 2027: Bonnie Majewski

Office Hours:

8:00am-3:00pm Monday - Thursday

Closed: Friday

Church Email and Phone:

office@newphilapc.org 330-343-7114

Our Church:

Sunday School: 9:15am Worship Service: 10:30am

Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10:00am in the pastor's office

Do you have something to add to the newsletter? Please call or email the church office by the 20th of the month for placement in the following newsletter.

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
EVERY SUNDAY 9:15am- Sunday Study Group 10:30am- Worship Service followed by coffee and cookies in the fellowship hall	1 Labor Day Offices Closed	2	3 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Meeting	4	5 Office Closed	6
7 Communion All Church Brunch	8	9 6pm- Jack's House of Hope Committee Meeting	10 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Meeting	11	Office Closed	13
14 6pm- FoH Meal	15	7pm- Session Meeting	17 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Meeting	18	Office Closed	6pm Tables of Eight Dinner (RSVP, \$10pp, all are welcome!)
21	6pm FoH Board Meeting	7pm Finance Meeting	24 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Meeting	25	Office Closed	27
28	29	7pm- McDowell Music Club				

September Birthdays: 2nd- Sherry Bichsel, Amy Swartz; 6th- Bonnie Majewski; 13th- Pat Laporte; 14th- Scott Davis; 17th- Marlene Singhaus; 19th- Bill Singhaus; 20th- John Pittman; 25th- Buzz Bonisolli; 26th- Brenda Jenkins

September Anniversaries: 25th- Richard & Tina Grasselli

If you'd like your birthday or wedding anniversary listed in the monthly newsletter, please let us know! Give us a call or email with the information you'd like included!