

**The newsletter of Wallingford
Presbyterian Church**

Wallingford Presbyterian Church
110 E. Brookhaven Road
Wallingford, PA 19086

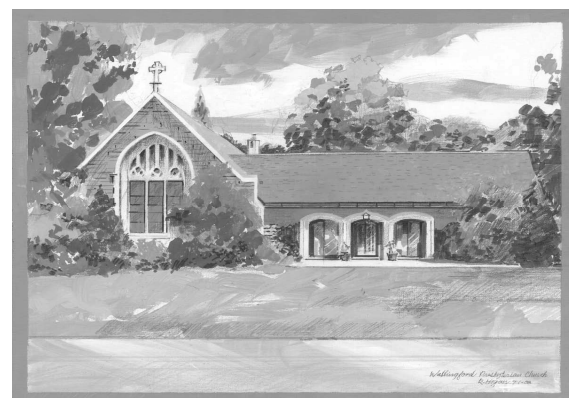
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SEPTEMBER 2011



A Stephen Series Congregation
TIME DATED MATERIAL

Associate Pastor of Christian Nurture
Rev. Rob Ross
Director of Music
Elizabeth Braden
Administrative Secretary
Susan Schwarz

September 2011

The newsletter of Wallingford
Presbyterian Church



Spirit Song—September

From the Pastor's desk

Summer, and especially August, is often a time for travelling and vacation: a chance to reconnect with family or friends who live far away, to see a new part of the world, and to put enough distance between yourself and your regular schedule and space to relax and rejuvenate. During August, I rode waves with my extended family at a beach house in North Carolina, and joined Debbie's extended family for her brother's wedding in Pittsburgh, and I am so grateful for the chance to do those things.

The only downside to August travelling is that we disconnect for a time from our primary communities back home. Enter September – a time when (post-Labor Day) all of the regular, school-year and work commitments tie us down to one location, and enable the resumption of our regular community. Sometimes we think that we would be happiest if we could always be on vacation or travelling, but the truth is that we need and want to be rooted in a community. And so, I am grateful, not only for August, but also for September.

Wallingford Presbyterian Church is one of the places where you can find that on-going community, and if you have been travelling this August, like I have, or maybe away for longer than that, I want to welcome you back and invite you to reconnect this September. Our fall Sunday morning schedule resumes Sun, Sept 11th, with two worship services (9:30 and 11 am) and Sunday school for all ages at 9:30.

Sept 11th, also marks the 10 year anniversary of the terrorist attacks in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania. We will be gathering again that evening, for a Taize worship service that will provide us with an opportunity to reflect and pray through singing, scripture and silence.

There are a number of ways for adults to reconnect and be inspired this fall – you will find many of them listed in this newsletter. There are places for our children and teenagers to find community as well – through Sunday School, youth group, LIVE Time, and Sprouts (also described in this newsletter).

But WPC is more than a place where you can find community and inspiration. It is also a place where you are needed. We are now in the midst of transitioning pastors, (you will find an update on where we are in the process inside this newsletter,) and during this time of transition, we need your help if we are going to continue to be a community committed to following God and loving others. I cannot do the work of two pastors, and truthfully, even when we have two pastors, the pastors won't be able to do the work of the people of God. We are all called to this ministry, and you have gifts that can serve God and others.

Do you have the gift of caring for the sad and lonely? We need people to visit hospitals and nursing homes. Do you have the gift of construction? We need people to keep our building in top shape. Do you have the gift of teaching? We need teachers for adults and children. Do you have the gift of welcoming new people? We need shepherds to welcome new

members and introduce them to life with WPC. I cannot do this work. But I believe that it is work that God is calling our community to do. If you feel that call as well, then I encourage you to get involved. If you don't know how to get involved, just call the church office, and between Susan and me, we'll link you up with the right person.

So, welcome back – to a community where you can find love, companionship, inspiration, and an opportunity to serve. I will be praying for you, as we embark on this year together.

With love and gratitude, Rob

Return of the Fall Schedule 2 Worship Services & Sunday School Rally Day-Sept. 11th

9:30AM-Sunday School/all ages
9:30AM-Worship Service
10:30AM-Fellowship Hour
All Church Picture/Cake
On the Lawn
11AM-Worship Service
Nursery Childcare (birth - 2 yrs.)
all morning!

10th anniversary of 9/11
Taizé Prayer Service
7:30PM-Candlelit Sanctuary
For song, guided prayer,
& silent meditation

Caregivers Support Group
First Tuesdays, 7:00 PM
Beginning September 6

"May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied in you." Jude 1:2

This small group is a gathering of folks who have found support in sharing the journey of caregiving together. A time to check in, shared readings and wisdom, and an occasional speaker highlight the informal conversation each month. Drop in when you are able and find encouragement, friendship and partners in prayer. Why not give yourself a place and a people to gather and give strength? First Tuesdays, 7PM, Beginning September 6th! Questions? Contact Barb Demos 610-565-2696, barb.demos@gmail.com

Book Look: Book Discussion Group
Meets every other month
Third Tuesdays, 7:30 PM

Come take a look at the Book Look discussion group! The next 2 selections and the dates they will be discussed are:

- * Sept. 20—The Great Emergence: How Christianity is Changing and Why by Phyllis Tickle
- * Nov. 15—Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese

Each session, participants pick up their own copy of the book from bookstore or library, read, and come with questions and comments. A good way to stir your thoughts and get to know folks. If you have any questions about the Book Look group, please contact Chris Darr 610-874-2415, Walt Kaminski 610-565-5644, Russ Kinder 610-521-2784 or Dolores Thomas 610-566-9360. Join us!

NEWSFLASH!!

WOMEN OF WALLINGFORD UNITE!
Second Wednesdays, 7:30 PM
Beginning September 14

For the past more than 40 years our Circles have offered the Women of Wallingford a chance to journey together and follow where Christ has led us in worship, fellowship, and service to our world. We now feel it is time to open this opportunity to **ALL** of the women of our Church family.

Based loosely on the format of our former Circles, our new group will be gathering in the Church on the 2nd Wednesday of each month beginning on September 14, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. This first meeting will give us a chance to share our ideas and make plans for future meetings. Each meeting will include a light dessert, a fellowship time, and a time to share in a Bible study that relates to our busy and varied lives.

You are a diverse group of talented, caring women and we hope you will decide to join us on this journey.
Come, go with us!

We will need a new name for our group. Here's a suggestion from a very clever lady!

We can now be known as the
JULIETS
(Just Us Ladies Into EveryThing)

Weekdays this Fall
WALLINGFORD-SWARTHMORE
COMMUNITY CLASSES
Gentle Hatha Yoga

8 wks.-tuition \$40
Tuesdays beginning 10/4
Beginning class 8:30-9:45am
Intermediate class 9:45-11:10am
In our own Fellowship Hall
Watch for your brochure arriving in your mailbox late in Sept.

**INTERESTED IN
BECOMING A MEMBER
OF WPC?**

**JOIN US FOR LUNCH
AND CLASSES
SUNDAYS,
SEPTEMBER 25,
OCTOBER 2 AND 9 AT
12:00NOON**

Gather with other seekers for lunch and to talk about what God is up to in your life, how the church might fit in, ask questions you've always wanted to ask, and to be challenged to grow in the life of faith. In three sessions, you'll get a broad view of what it means to make the commitment of church membership and take the leap into the adventure of Christian discipleship. Childcare provided by reservation. Please call the church office 610-566-1644, ext. 0 to register!

**DYING AS A
CHRISTIAN
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
12:30-2PM
RECEPTION ROOM**

A lunch and learn about living wills and healthcare agents will be held on Sunday September 18 from 12:30-2pm in the reception room. Ellen Oetinger, R.N. will present this holistically minded workshop as a part of her final B.S. Nursing project. Please call the church office or Ellen at 610-627-9564 if you wish to attend and receive materials you need to make informed decisions. A light lunch will be provided.



Contact Info:

Clerk of Session
Barbara Meahl
610-876-3029
rpmeahl@aol.com

Moderator
Robert D. Ross
610-566-1644 X13
rob@wallingfordpres.org

Currently serving on
Session:

Class of 2012: Chris Darr, Harold Floyd, Chris Macy, Liv Mansfield, Henrik Oetinger, Helene Wastler

Class of 2013: Dan Glenn, Walter Kaminski, Andrew McAdoo, Barbara Meahl, Kenneth Rose

Class of 2014: Judy Kenworthy, Mike Meloy, Rick Miller, Holly Renegar, Julia Winton

From the Clerk of Session

At the July 11 meeting:

- The baptism of Thomas Brandt Waltman, son of Angela and Steve was approved.
- Julie and David Klein were approved to be hired as part time summer interns working in the church office.
- The personnel committee was elected as the search committee for the interim pastor.
- An exit interview with the session was conducted by Reverend James Lappen, COM liaison.

At the August 1 meeting:

- The job description for the interim head of staff was approved and forwarded to the Philadelphia Presbytery for their approval.
- The job description for Pastor Rob as temporary head of staff was approved.
- Approved hiring a part time youth director who will work 15-18 hours per week over the next six months with our high school and middle school youth groups.
- Learned our actual income to date is below what has been budgeted.
- Participated in a discussion with Pastor Rob about baptism; promises made by the congregation and the parents during this sacrament.

Barbara Meahl, Clerk

(This resolution was presented to Suzan as part of the celebration of her ministry at WPC)

Resolution to Suzan K. Hawkinson

Be it known that the Session of Wallingford Presbyterian Church, Wallingford Pennsylvania resolves that the Reverend Suzan K. Hawkinson has faithfully and lovingly carried out her duties as Pastor of the church by;

offering guidance to the staff and lay leaders
giving comfort to the grieving

rejoicing with those she joined in marriage

soothing the crying infants during baptism

always striving to share the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ through her sermons and words of encouragement

We have seen her laugh and we have seen her cry. We give thanks for who she is and all that she has done in her ministry here. We send her to her new call with our blessings and will hold her in our hearts from afar.

Signed: 24 July 2011

The Session of Wallingford Presbyterian Church

Chris Darr	Chris Macy	Henrik Oetinger
Harold Floyd	Liv Mansfield	Holly Renegar
Dan Glenn	Andy McAdoo	Ken Rose
Walt Kaminski	Mike Meloy	Helene Wastler
Judy Kenworthy	Rick Miller	Julie Winton

Clerk of Session, *Barbara Meahl*

Mission & Service

The Pantry Brigade

Souper September



The WPC Pantry Brigade is collecting soup during the month of September. Please deposit your donations in the bin by entrance

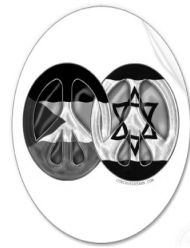
to the Sunday School wing. The food collected will be delivered to the food pantries at City Team and Chester Eastside Ministries, both in Chester.

One Sandwich Makes A Difference

Since June, the Outreach Council has delivered 35 Sandwiches every other Monday to Chester Eastside. Beginning mid-September, we will be opening this project to all church members. We are asking members to donate bread, rolls, sliced turkey, cans of tuna and cheese. Just bring the items with you to church on Sunday and drop them in the cooler in the kitchen.

We will be collecting food on the following Sundays: 9/11, 9/25, 10/9, 10/23, 11/6, 11/20, 12/4, 12/18. Remember by donating just one item on the list you can make a difference in the life of someone at Chester Eastside! If you are interested in participating or would like more information, please contact Teresa Ahern-Sawyer (mtahern@comcast.net; 610-872-9168) or Walt Kaminski (kaminsww@gmail.com; 610-334-2025).

WHY IS PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST ELUSIVE?



CAN MUSLIMS, JEWS AND CHRISTIANS SHARE THE HOLY LAND?

WHAT CAN I DO?

STEADFAST HOPE: A CHRISTIAN-JEWISH EXPLORATION OF THE STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE IN ISRAEL-PALESTINE

Challenges common myths and misperceptions about the origins of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, presents a compelling snapshot of the present situation on the ground, and offers a guide to the challenges that lie ahead in the quest for peace.

Steadfast Hope offers an inspiring view of the activities currently being undertaken by Muslim, Jewish, and Christian peacemakers working for justice and reconciliation. It also gives helpful guidance on how individuals or congregations can contribute to the cause of just peace for the people who share the Holy Land.

“Steadfast Hope: A Christian-Jewish Exploration of the Struggle for Justice in Israel-Palestine” will be offered at Wallingford Presbyterian Church for eight weeks beginning Wednesday Sept. 21st from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. until November 9th. Attend one or all sessions. The course is open to the public at a \$10 cost for enrollment and materials.

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110 East Brookhaven Road
Wallingford, PA 19086**

Questions or to register: www.wallingfordpres.org

**Wednesdays, September 21-November 9
7:30-9:00PM**

What happens now?: Update on the pastoral transition process

(continued from pg. 8)

Of first importance, Rob will be our leader in worship. He will be preaching twice out of three weeks and usually will be assisting in worship when others are preaching (such as Michelle Grunseich, Ray Trout, and Ken Wells). Rob will also conduct all baptisms, weddings, funeral, and provide pastoral care and guidance to those families involved. Rob will continue to visit those who are in the hospital but some of the Deacons and Stephen Ministers will also be making those visits. He will plan classes for new members and oversee the working of the various leadership boards and committees of the church.

As the personnel committee met with Rob, it quickly became apparent that Rob would not be able to spend the same amount of time with the High School and Middle School youth that he has in the past. So personnel recommended and session approved hiring a temporary, part-time, youth director to work 15-18 hours each week under Rob's direction. The youth director will plan and execute High School youth group and Middle School LIVE Time, and minister to and with youth at and around WPC. The Personnel committee is currently recruiting the youth director. Other ministry areas are being picked up by congregational members and groups as well.

Meanwhile, the search for an interim pastor (HOS) is also in progress. The session is responsible for calling the interim pastor (whereas the congregation as a whole will be responsible for calling the next installed pastor.) The session appointed an interim search committee: Dan Glenn, Frank Noyes, Russ Kinder, Julie Winton and Barbara Meahl. This committee is currently reviewing resumes (Personal Information Forms or PIFs in church language). This committee will be interviewing candidates and making a recommendation of a candidate for the interim pastor position to session.

The interim pastor is hired by Session with the approval of the Philadelphia Presbytery. This committee will be in frequent conversation with Reverend Jim Lappen, an honorably retired pastor serving as a liaison with the Philadelphia Presbytery. Jim answers lots of questions about reference checks, job descriptions and presbytery policy. The interim pastor will become the Head of Staff serving until a new pastor is found. Under presbytery rules the interim cannot become the new full time pastor.

Once the interim pastor is in place, (and not before,) the search for a new pastor can begin. That search is carried out by a committee of the congregation, the Pastor Nominating Committee (or the PNC). Our Nominating Committee

(which recommends a slate of elders, deacons, trustees every fall for congregational approval) will recommend 8 or 9 members to serve on the PNC. They will make this recommendation to the congregation, who will then vote to approve (or amend) that list of people to be the PNC. All members are eligible to suggest themselves for the PNC (or to be suggested), however, the PNC must demographically represent our congregation according to gender, age, length of membership, race, etc, so not everyone who recommends themselves will be on the PNC. If you think you would like to serve on the PNC, please give your name to Barbara Meahl, the chair of the nominating committee and clerk of session.

Once we have an interim pastor, Reverend Lappen will assist the session in completing a Church Information Form (CIF) and a Mission Study which will be posted on-line. Pastors nationwide who are searching for a new call can access our information and submit their PIF's to the Pastor Search Committee for review. It usually takes 12 to 24 months to find a new pastor.

This is just a brief summary of all that is happening. You will continue to receive updates on the process during worship, in the bulletin, and in the newsletter. If you have questions about the process, please feel free to ask Pastor Rob or Barbara Meahl.

Christian Education

Fall information for Middle School Students

LIVE TIME

LIVE Time, our youth group for 6th-8th graders, meets every Thursday afternoon from 3-6 pm, starting September 15th. (Note that LIVE Time is on a different week day this year.) At LIVE Time, kids will have a snack, do the school homework, play group games, and study scripture and Christian teachings. Once a month, students will engage in a service project with Cradles to Crayons, packing school supplies, toys and clothes for needy children in the greater Philadelphia area.

Students who attend Strath Haven are encouraged to walk from the Middle School to the church (a LIVE Time volunteer will meet them at the school at 2:30 to walk with them). Car transportation is available to LIVE time for students attending other schools in the area – please contact Rob if your student requires transportation. Parents can pick their students up at 6 pm from the church. If you have any questions about LIVE Time, please contact Rob (610-566-1644 ext 13 or rob@wallingfordpres.org).

Sunday School

6th grade students are a part of the 4th-6th grade Sunday School class, which meets at 9:30 am. Students begin in worship with their parents in their Sanctuary, before heading down to Sunday School after the time with young disciples. We do not have Sunday morning Sunday School for 7th or

8th grade students. Instead, our students are encouraged to attend worship at either the 9:30 or 11 am worship services with their families.

Fall Information for High School Students

Youth Group

High School youth group meets every Sunday night from 6-8 pm, starting September 18th. We will definitely play crazy games. But that is not all we will do. We will also talk about our lives and our faith – not just what we are supposed to believe, but what we really do believe, what we want to believe, and why we believe what we do. And, perhaps most importantly, we will try to live lives that matter – whether it is by feeding the hungry, throwing a Halloween party for a struggling elementary student in Chester, or welcoming the new kid to our lunch table at school. Fun games, deep thought, meaningful action, real community – that's what youth group is about. If you have any questions about Youth Group, please contact Rob (610-566-1644 ext 13 or rob@wallingfordpres.org).

Sunday School

We do not have Sunday morning Sunday School for High School students. Instead, our students are encouraged to attend worship at either the 9:30 or 11 am worship services. Confirmation Class for 9th and 10th graders will begin in January of 2011.

WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

(continued on pg. 9)

Now that we have said goodbye to our beloved Pastor Suzan, it is time to begin the pastoral transition process in earnest. This process is likely unfamiliar to many of you (we have not undertaken it at WPC for almost a decade), and is a bit confusing even for those who know it well. So, as we begin, it's worth outlining the first few steps together.

The first thing that happened was that Rob Ross became the temporary Head of Staff (HOS). He will remain in this position and will be the only pastor on staff until an interim pastor is in place (which can take a few months). A few weeks ago the personnel committee met with Rob to review his position description and Suzan's position description. When the two job descriptions were combined, it was clear that Rob could not do all of the work that he had been doing and all of the work that Suzan had been doing. As such, some form of prioritization needed to be done, and the personnel committee and Rob set about deciding what tasks Rob must do and what tasks someone else can do.



MUSIC MINISTRY

Taizé Prayer Service Sunday September 11, 7:30 PM

On the evening of the 10th Anniversary of September 11, we will hold a Taizé Prayer Service in our sanctuary. We will sing; we will remember; we will pray. Come join us in our candlelit sanctuary for a time of song, guided prayer, and silent meditation. All are welcome

Those wishing to be part of the choir or instrumental ensemble are invited to meet in the choir room at 6:30 for rehearsal. For questions or for more information, please call Liz Braden.

Bell Choir & Chancel Choir Kick-Off Thursday September 8

Bell Choir will hold its first rehearsal of the year on Thursday 9/8 at 6:30 PM in the choir room. Would you like to learn to play the bells? We will train you! No experience is necessary, though some music knowledge is helpful. Bell Choir is open to adults, youth, and children. If you'd like to try us out for a few weeks, now is the time! Interested folks should contact Liz Braden.

Chancel Choir will also hold its first rehearsal of the year on Thursday 9/8 at 7:30 PM in the choir room. Do you like to sing? Can you carry a tune? Have you had some choral experience at some point in your life? Then come and join us! This is going to be an exciting year for the choir, and we hope you will be part of it.

Thank you!

Thank you so much to everyone who participated and contributed to the music ministry over the summer months. We are a blessed church to have so much talent, and so many people willing to share the voices and their instruments in worship. Thank you for adding to our worship experience this summer!

Save the date...

Here are some upcoming Music Ministry events. We hope you will save the date and come and sing and worship with us.

Sunday November 20, 3:00 PM: Thanksgiving Service at Swarthmore Presbyterian Church presented by Swarthmore Wallingford Interfaith Ministerium, featuring a festival choir conducted by Liz Braden.

Wednesday November 23, 7:30 PM: Thanksgiving Eve Taizé Prayer Service.

Sunday December 11, 7:00 PM: Messiah Sing

For information about any programs, or to volunteer to help with the music ministry please email Liz Braden at music@wallingfordpres.org or call her at 215-738-2227.

Needed: shoe boxes & college Addresses

Everybody needs some love from home during their first month at college. This September, the HS Youth Group will try to provide some of that love by sending a care package to all WPC college freshmen. If you know the college mailing address of any freshmen, please send their addresses to the church office by phone or e-mail by September 15th. We also need donations of shoe boxes to pack the care packages in. If you have shoe boxes to spare, please drop off to the church office by September 15th. Thanks so much!

Christian Education & Thanks

VBC THANK YOU

Thank you to all our **VACATION BIBLE CAMP VOLUNTEERS!** This year, we welcomed 25 children into our building for a week of Vacation Bible Camp. Everyone had a GREAT time learning about the Parable of the Sower and creation care! We are so thankful to everyone at both Wallingford Presbyterian and Swarthmore Presbyterian who donated materials that helped to make our week such a success. We give our sincerest thanks to all the volunteers who helped with this year's camp, including: Rob Ross, Michelle Denney Grunseich and Frank Grunseich, Rosanna and George Denney, Andy McAdoo, Sally Flemer, Susan and Paul Schwarz, Andrea Couzens, Maria Schultz, Rick and Jenny Miller, Kristin Antczak, Diana Trout, Ashley Kuly, Abigail Meloy, Jenn Cammarotta, Deanna Nanni, Elizabeth Semeraro, Henrik Oetinger, Elizabeth Hall, Alex Paul and Laura Albany.

MONTREAT THANK YOU AND REPORT

July 17-23, four high school students and two adults set out from the WPC parking lot. 11 hours and 599 miles later, we were there, at the Montreat Youth Conference: Searching for the Signal. We spent the next five days experiencing powerful worship, talking about our lives in small group discussions, singing to the accompaniment of a ukulele, and relaxing in the beautiful mountains of North Carolina.

This experience would not have been possible without the financial and spiritual support of all of you. Through the church budget and a

special offering, you allowed us to cut the cost of attending by more than half. Thank you for your dedication to the youth of this church. It means so much to them, and to me. Sincerely, Pastor Rob

TEACHER TRAINING AUGUST 30-7:30PM

Fall Sunday School teacher training will take place Tuesday, August, 30th 7:30-9 pm at the church. All teachers teaching the pre-K/K, 1st-3rd grade, and 4th-6th grade classes should plan to attend. We will talk through the curriculum, go over safety procedures, meet the other teachers, schedule the year, and answer any questions you have. See you there!



MEN'S RETREAT NOVEMBER 5-6

Please mark your calendar for the WPC's Men's Retreat. This will be an amazing opportunity to spend some time with other men of faith, exploring both the great outdoors and what it means to be a Christian man in today's world. Specific topics and activities are still being finalized and details will be coming soon. We expect the cost to be around \$75 per person, and if money is a problem, let us know and we can help! We will leave from the church around 8:00 am on Saturday, November 5 and will return around noon on Sunday, November 6. We'll spend the night at Kirkwood Camp and Conference Center in Stroudsburg, PA. Join us for fantastic fellowship as we get to know each other better around a camp fire! If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Bob Foley, Frank Grunseich, Tom Halley, Jerry Rafter or Pastor Rob Ross.

Weekly CE

Learning Through Scripture Tuesdays, 9:30-11AM-Room 1 Beginning September 20

A Study of the Book of Proverbs
"Making Life Work: Putting God's Wisdom into Action"

This course will be self-led by the group, guided by the Book of Proverbs and the book by Bill Hybels titled above. Do you need the help of God's wisdom in your life? Have you been meaning to turn to the Scripture? Come join this group to try one taste at a time in this study of bits of wisdom from the Book of Proverbs. Beginners and seasoned students welcome!

Adult Bible Class Wednesdays, 7:30 PM- Library Beginning September 14



Leader: Walter Heindl

Join this group on Wednesday evenings this year for a journey through the Gospels that will inform your understanding of the story of Jesus and renew your faith. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, all Christian evangelists who lived with the church in the first hundred years after the resurrection have unique perspectives on this amazing salvation story. Get to know each of them, and gather a fuller picture of all that God revealed in the incarnation!

Adult Forum Sundays, 9:30AM-Room 5 Beginning September 11

Leader: Frank Noyes

Beginning with the stir surrounding the death of Osama Bin Laden, the Forum's first topic for consideration this fall will be the Christian's perspective about the connection between ends and means in public policy and personal ethic. This class will make its way through the year keeping current events in one hand and the Bible in another. Come "do theology" with us as we invest in cultivating faith that thinks *and* believes.

Christian Education

Rally Day: Fall Programming is Almost Here!

The weather doesn't show it yet, but fall is nearly upon us! We will celebrate the return of the fall schedule two worship services, Sunday School and fellowship hour on Rally Day, Sunday, September 11th.

Here's the schedule for Rally Day:

- ◆ 9:30 am – worship/Sunday School: children (pre-k and up) and adults will gather in the sanctuary for worship. After 15 minutes, children in pre-K through 6th grade will be dismissed for Sunday School. Adults and kids in 7th grade and up will continue in worship. Childcare for kids under 2 in the nursery.
- ◆ 10:30 am – coffee hour/all-church picture: we'll gather for a church photo and cake on the lawn.
- ◆ 11 am – worship: Childcare for kids under 2 in the nursery.

Realignment of children's Sunday School classes:

This year, we are expanding and shifting our children's Sunday School classes. This year's classes will be:

- 1) pre-K/Kindergarten,
- 2) 1st-3rd grade,
- 3) 4th-6th grade.

More information on each of the classes is below.

Fall information for Pre-school and Kindergarten Students

Sunday School for children over the age of 2 through Kindergarten begins on September 11th (Rally Day). Other than on Rally Day (when everyone will start in the sanctuary), our pre-K/K class begins at 9:30, downstairs, in our pre-K/K room. Each week, children will practice sharing and taking turns during play time, sing together, learn a bible story, and create art in response to the story. Children can be picked up at the end of the 9:30 worship service. If you have any questions about Sunday school, please contact Michelle Grunseich (610-892-5282 or medgrunseich@yahoo.com).

Fall information for 1st-6th grade Students

Sunday School

Sunday School for children in 1st-6th grade begins on Sunday, September 11th (Rally Day). At 9:30, children join their parents in the sanctuary worship service. After singing the first hymn, participating in a few prayers, hearing a scripture passage, and joining in the time for young disciples, children will be dismissed with their teachers down to Sunday School. Once downstairs, the children spend the first 10 minutes in large group time. There, all the children will sing together, hear the scripture for the day, pray the Lord's Prayer, and dedicate their offering, before being dismissed to their individual classrooms. There are separate classrooms for 1st-3rd and 4th-6th grades. Once in their separate classrooms, children will act in plays, make crafts, participate in group activities, and create crafts which explain, elaborate and apply the scripture lesson they heard in large group in a way that is tailored to their

age group. All children can be picked up in their classrooms at the end of the 9:30 worship service. If you have any questions about Sunday School, please contact Michelle Grunseich (610-892-5282 or medgrunseich@yahoo.com).

Sprouts

Sprouts is a once-a-month fellowship group for children in 1st-5th grade. Sprouts usually meets on the first Friday of the month from 6-8 pm. Each meeting has a different education, fun, or service focus. There is no cost for participating in Sprouts, and dinner is always included. Everyone is welcome and we love meeting new friends.



Our first Sprouts meeting of the year is on Friday, September 16th (later than usual so that it comes after Rally Day) from 6-8 pm. We will be going Bowling. We'll start at the church, where we'll review the Four Pillars of Sprouts (Kindness, Teamwork, Respect and Responsibility). Then, we'll drive to Sproul Lanes, where we'll have pizza, bowl (bumper style, of course), reconnect with old friends, and get to know some new ones. We'll return to the church and end the evening at 8 pm.

If you have any questions about Sprouts, please contact Rob (610-566-1644 ext 13 or rob@wallingfordpres.org).