



Views From a Hill

A Reflection on Galatians 6:9

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” — Galatians 6:9

Some of the most beautiful gardens will never bloom—because someone stopped watering before the harvest. We live in a world which applauds results more than resilience. Where it’s easier to celebrate success stories than those of quiet endurance—the daily faithfulness that keeps showing up even when the fruit isn’t visible yet. You can pour your heart into your marriage, your ministry, your job, your parenting—and still wonder, “Is this even working?” Maybe you’ve prayed for years for someone to return to faith, and nothing seems to change. Maybe you’ve been doing the right thing, and no one seems to notice. It’s easy to get tired. It’s easy to want to quit. That’s why Galatians 6:9 is such a lifeline. Paul’s words speak right into that weary space in our souls: “At the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

God is working beneath the surface. When we’re tempted to stop doing good, God is still doing something beneath the surface. Paul’s encouragement isn’t just motivational—it’s a promise. A harvest is coming, but only if we keep sowing. The phrase “at the proper time” reminds us that God’s timing isn’t our timing. I don’t know about you, but I like instant harvests—same-day delivery! It’s helpful to remember God often works on seed time before harvest time. The phrase “do not give up” in the original Greek means “don’t loosen your grip,” so don’t let go of the plow! Paul isn’t calling us to burnout—he’s calling us to endurance. There’s a difference. Also, weary doesn’t mean weak—it means human. And God meets us in that weariness to whisper, “Keep going. I’m not done yet.”

What does it look like to keep going? Maybe this week, it’s simply doing one good thing you feel like quitting on. Pray one more time. If you’re tired of praying for a wandering child, a struggling marriage, or an unchanging heart—pray again tonight before you sleep. Show up one more time. If you’re weary from serving, teaching, or carrying others’ burdens—walk into that room again. God is already there, ready to use you. Obey one more time. If doing good feels unnoticed, forgive again, act with integrity again, love again. Believe one more time. When hope feels far away, remind yourself that God’s timing has never failed and His harvest never comes up empty. You don’t have to do everything. Just don’t stop doing good.

Why this Matters. Every act of goodness is a seed—and seeds don’t show life right away. If we keep sowing kindness, faithfulness, integrity, and love, God promises a harvest. If we stay faithful, God will bring joy, growth, and Kingdom impact. So when you feel tired, remember: Don’t give up. God will bring the harvest. Even when it’s slow, unseen, or lonely—keep planting the good God has placed in your hands. Because when the season shifts and the harvest comes, you’ll see that every quiet act of faithfulness was worth it. Stay in the field - the harvest is on its way!

Brad



Words of Care from Rev. Meagan

Pastoral care is about building and nurturing our relationships with one another. When people are hurting, they need someone who cares about them and the ones they love, and the same is true when they are rejoicing. Let's remember that pastoral care is not a role or a job for one person but is a congregational outpouring of compassion and love. We are all called to this. Maybe you're not going to lead a funeral or officiate a wedding, but you are called to pour out love to your church family in times of weeping and in times of rejoicing.

One of the amazing things we can rejoice about together is the May 2025 graduation of PCFS member Scott Stolte from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree, and his first call as a pastor to the Lamington Presbyterian Church in Bedminster, NJ. At the same time, Laura was hired as the Program Coordinator in the Office of Academic Success in the Rutgers Health School of Nursing. Scott started his new role in early September and will be ordained and installed in the afternoon on Sunday, November 23rd at the Lamington church. It is an understatement to say that Scott's mom, Vicki Kaye, and Laura's parents, John & Linda Fisher are proud of their kids! We are proud of them, too!

In Scott's statement of faith he wrote, "I believe that all of us, as believers, are interdependent on one another. We are to support and be accountable to one another while awaiting the glorious return of our Lord." Amen to that.

Though we at PCFS were not gifted the opportunity to support Scott's studies financially (as you did for me many years ago), we were honored to pray for Scott & Laura during Scott's seminary years. Let us rejoice with the (almost) Rev. Stolte, Laura, Daniel, Kate and their family. Let us pray that pastor and people will love one another well. Let us pour out our love and compassion on them as they learn brand new roles with new names and new faces. Let us pray for the Lamington congregation, for we as believers, are interdependent. As Christ prayed in John 17, we are one in, with, and through Jesus Christ our Lord.

If you want to send a card of congratulations and encouragement, Scott & Laura's address is 355 Lamington Road, Bedminster, NJ 07921.

With love and prayers,
Rev. Meagan

Worship in November

November will be a beautiful month of worship and reflection at Falling Spring! Each week, we'll continue our Firm Foundation sermon series exploring core truths of our faith—what they mean, and how they shape our everyday lives as followers of Christ.

November 2 – Sanctification: Living the Transformed Life

Rev. Meagan Boozer (Chapel & Sanctuary) and Brad Hill (FLC) will preach. On this All Saints Day, we will share in a special **Service of Remembrance** honoring those who have passed from this life to the next. We will also celebrate the **Lord's Supper** at the 8 AM Contemplative Service in the Chapel.

November 9 – The Resurrection of Jesus

On **Women's Thank Offering Sunday**, **Beth Fine** will bring the message at all three services.

November 16 – The Trinity: One God in Three Persons & The Kingdom of God

Brad Hill will preach on **The Trinity** in the Chapel and Sanctuary, while **Paul Quesenberry** will preach on **The Kingdom of God** in the Family Life Center.

November 23 – The Trinity: One God in Three Persons & The Kingdom of God

This week, the topics will switch! **Paul Quesenberry** will preach on **The Kingdom of God** in the Chapel and Sanctuary, and **Brad Hill** will preach on **The Trinity** in the Family Life Center.

November 30 – The Church: God's Forever Family

Ruth Ward (Chapel & Sanctuary) and Brad Hill (FLC) will preach. This is the **first Sunday of Advent**, and we will celebrate **Communion at all services** as we begin this sacred season of preparation.

8 AM Contemplative Service – Remaining in the Chapel

What began as a temporary change last winter—when heating issues in the Sanctuary moved our early service to the Chapel—has blossomed into something special. Those who worshipped at 8 AM quickly discovered how beautifully the Chapel complements the quiet, reflective nature of our Contemplative Service.

After a summer of prayerful evaluation and gathering feedback, the Worship Committee met in October and **voted to make the Chapel the ongoing home of our 8 AM Contemplative Service**. The vast majority of attendees shared their appreciation for the Chapel's intimate setting and sacred atmosphere.

A few practical concerns have also been addressed. **Sound reinforcement** has been improved with the addition of a discreet speaker, which will soon be integrated into a **custom-designed pulpit**. For **winter weather**, particularly the slope of the sidewalk, worshippers are encouraged to **park in the FLC lot and enter through the Food Pantry entrance**. The committee is also exploring the **addition of a handrail** along the sidewalk for added safety.

We're grateful for how God continues to guide our worship life together. With three unique worship experiences each Sunday—Contemplative in the Chapel, Traditional in the Sanctuary, and Contemporary in the Family Life Center—our church family is blessed to encounter God's presence in diverse and meaningful ways across our beautiful campus.

KIDS' MINISTRY

JOIN US

11/5, 11/12, 11/19:

6:30-7:30 J-Walkers & Tweens

7:30-8 Joyful Voices

11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30:

9-9:50 Sunday School

Upcoming Events

11/2: OCC Packing Party after
10am service

11/9: Joyful Voices sing

12/14: Christmas Celebration
Service

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Ray the glowworm will help us learn about Jesus showing that He is God's promised Son.

J-WALKERS: We will use Biblical stories and real life examples to learn about building Christian character.

TWEENS: Become a detective as we investigate the truth about Jesus.

J-WALKERS

Room 101: Age 4 - Grade 2

TWEENS

Room 103: Grade 3 - Grade 5

JOYFUL VOICES

Room 101: Age 4 - Grade 5



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

This is real love - not that we loved God, but that He loved us
and sent His Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

-1 John 4:10

Adult Discipleship and Ministries

Recently, due to feeling a little under the weather, I kept myself home on a Sunday morning, missing worship with our church family and missing the Sunday school class I have been participating in. The following evening I kept myself home again, this time missing my Bible study group. The time of rest was good and much needed. Modern technology allowed me to participate in the Sunday worship by watching online, the next Sunday school lesson was available to watch on YouTube, and I had read the next chapter in the book we're using in the Bible study group. God filled me up despite my physical absence from others. We know He can work and speak to us in our times of solitude with Him.

However, it reminded me of the beautiful ways God can work when we are together too. I am able to listen to someone's story of praise or struggle or to listen to how God is speaking to someone through His Word. I, too, get an opportunity to do the sharing while others listen to me. Hebrews 10:24 - 25 says, *"Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. **And let us not neglect our meeting together**, as some people do, but **encourage one another**, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near."* Let's continue to find ways to connect, to encourage one another to persevere in life and in our faith, and to watch how God works in us and through us as we're authentic and vulnerable in His presence and in the presence of others.

We have many opportunities to meet together in small groups and classes. If you're feeling led to join one but have questions, feel free to ask me. If you're feeling led to lead one, I'd love to hear about it. Let's watch with hope how God will work as we share TOGETHER, pray TOGETHER, study TOGETHER, laugh TOGETHER, and maybe even cry TOGETHER.

Jodi Wright

November Food Pantry Update

The Food Pantry will change its hours slightly beginning Tuesday, November 4th. New hours are 9 - 11:30 AM every Tuesday.

Donations of the following items for the Thanksgiving bags are gratefully appreciated. Thanksgiving items will be distributed Tuesday, Nov. 25th.

- ☐ Boxed Mashed Potatoes
- ☐ Boxed Stuffing Mix
- ☐ Gravy Mix Packets
- ☐ Canned Corn
- ☐ Canned Green Beans
- ☐ Canned Pumpkin
- ☐ Canned Cranberry Sauce



Thank You! Marty Walker, Coordinator



News from Presbyterian Women



Women's Thank Offering Service

November 9th is the date for the 2025 annual service. We have acquired our guest speaker, Beth Fine, a CRE candidate from Camp Hill, who will speak at all three services. Judy George is planning the service in conjunction with Brad Hill and she will be looking for a few women to take part in the Minute-for-Mission on November 2, liturgists, and ushers. If you would like to participate, contact Judy George.

Hoss's Community Event is November 18th

This fall the fundraising event will support our own local Power Pack project. This mission under the guidance of Sue Bodner provides food to the students at Stevens Elementary School. We wanted to show our support for this project. We hope you will join us for lunch or dinner on Tuesday, November 18. This is a heads-up and the card to be turned in to your server will be printed in the Sunday bulletin and printed cards will be handed out just prior to that date.

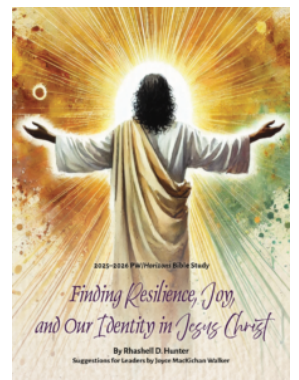


Waiting for our Soup Sale?

We have plans to sell the Happy Valley Soups again this year but will schedule the sale for January after the busy holidays. We had great success last year and have received many positive comments, so look forward to January to place your orders through PW. There are 14 soups to select this year; Butternut Bisque has been added to the original 13 soups.

Come join the Horizons Bible study

A group of women meets **the third Monday of each month** from September through May for Bible study. They use the award-winning Horizons material published annually which also has a video presentation for each lesson. For 2025-26 the **Bible study is "Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ" by Rev. Dr. Rhashell D. Hunter**. New members are always welcome. We will meet on Monday, November 17th at 9:00 AM in Room 205. Contact Sue Mummert for more information.



The members of the Coordinating Team are Linda Fisher, Sue Mummert, Karen Stover, Marilyn Griffin, Pat Phenicie-Grandel, Becky Fritz, Vicki Kaye, Wanda Hutchings, Judy George, Lorraine Schwartz, and Joy Zimmerman.

Save These Dates

The Congregational Life Committee is planning and preparing for the following times of Fun and Fellowship. Stay tuned for more details!

- * **Caroling & Hot Chocolate, Wednesday, December 17th, Time TBA**
- * **Post Holiday Church Gathering, Sunday, January 11th, 11:30am. Meal to be served.**



SUMMER YOUTH INTERNSHIP 2026



Scan for the full
description and
to apply!

Are you looking for a way to use
your gifts this summer while
serving God while gaining
leadership experience
and having tons of fun?



Details:

Dates: June 1st- August 7th 2026

Hours: 30 hours/week (more the week of camp)

Qualifications: Believe & trust in Jesus, at least 1 year out of high school, desire to make a difference in the lives of youth & their families, a self-starter, able to think creatively.

Responsibilities: Regular prayer & planning meetings with the Youth Ministry Director, engage in relational ministry, youth event planning (Sunday school, youth group & other fun events), assist in the planning and running of Camp Falling Spring.

Salary: Stipend of \$3,500 for the summer.

SESSION UPDATE

Session met on Monday, October 6, with Pastor Ed Blank moderating the meeting.

1. Session approved the following:

- Our Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 7 for the purpose of electing Elders, Deacons, and Trustees.
- The 2026 Per Capita will be \$34.66 per member. The breakdown is as follows:
 - General Assembly \$11.26
 - Synod of the Trinity \$2.40
 - Presbytery of Carlisle \$21.00
- . Envelopes and opportunities to make this payment will be available this spring.
- *If your adult children have moved away, or no longer attend PCFS and wish to be removed from the church rolls, please let the office know.
- Session and trustees are working to determine the best course of action for the manse in preparation for a new pastor. Several options are being explored and will be shared with the congregation.

2. Opportunities through the Carlisle Presbytery:

- Ruling and Resting Elders are invited to participate in Communion Training to be held April 11 at Highland United in Newport.
Two levels of trainings will be offered:
Elder Communion Training 101 – is for elders who would like to be trained, or trained elders who would like a refresher training.
Elder Communion Training 201 – is for elders who are at the end of their 3rd year of certification and need recertified.
Classes are limited to 20 persons each.
- Two Ruling or Resting Elders are needed to be commissioned for the 2026 General Assembly. The GA is in Milwaukee and will run from June 28 to July 3.
If selected, you will need to attend a few committee meetings prior to the GA. The presbytery will pay for all expenses. The deadline to submit names to the presbytery is November 14. They will select elders at their November 19 meeting and submit names to the Synod.
- Boundary Training for staff, elders, and deacons will take place in 2026.
Although this training is mandatory for the groups mentioned, it is also available to anyone in the congregation. The training will be offered both in-person and via video.

* Please contact Cheri Kearney if you are interested in either of these opportunities.

3. We are still looking for someone to oversee the Safety and Shepherds committee.

* If you feel called to lead this committee, please contact Chris Stover or Cheri Kearney.

Enjoy the Blessings designed just for you this day,
Cheri

Clerk of Session

ckearney4@comcast.net

Treasurer's Report Submitted by Paul Luka

Third Quarter Treasurer's Report

September 2025

As we enter the last quarter of the year and the upcoming Advent and Christmas Season we find our church in a sound financial position.

While we are in the midst of pastoral transition, the activities and mission of the church continue forward thanks to the generosity of you, the congregation. 2025 has seen continued growth in the church body and in participation in our activities.

The congregation's support in this transition year has been a true blessing. Tithing has tracked slightly ahead of both last year's giving and our planned budget. In addition, mission giving, especially to the food pantry, where need has increased so much, has been higher than ever.

Given the uncertainty of timing of the PNC activities and related expenses, our expense budget this year been difficult to project. However we are experiencing slightly less than budgeted costs so we enter the last quarter of the year financially very sound and better than our budgeted deficit.

Our original budget anticipated a \$17,900 deficit. Based on year to date giving and investment income and the fact that expenses are better than budgeted, we will most likely end the year without incurring a deficit

through Sept 30, 2025

	Total tithes and other income	\$	476,500
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	Expenses	\$	462,900
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	9 Month Surplus	\$	13,600
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Tithes are 17,000 over current budget

Investment income is \$6,000 over budget

Mission and Outreach continues to be very active with its primary focus this year being the needs of the Food Pantry, Power Pack and community dinners. Over \$33,000 has been funded towards these activities this year.

Our Building Fund expenditures are \$27,000. We had some unexpected expenditures relating to a lightning strike that damaged our sanctuary cameras, wiring and one of our fire alarm panels.

Thank you all again for your incredible support of our church and its Mission!

Update From Your Pastoral Nominating Committee

Things are moving along deliberately for your PNC. In October, our church profile was accepted by the Presbytery in Carlisle after review by our Session. Upon entering this document into the national Presbyterian matching app called the Church Leadership Connection (CLC) we were given the names of several pastors seeking a call. As of late October, your PNC members have examined the data from a number of pastors and are discerning if any would serve our congregation and community best. Know that we are working well together and enjoy each other greatly. Our meetings entail education on Reformed Theology, honest talks on the evident gifts of pastors, and how to proceed with interviews to bring out the Spirit-led answers we need. We look forward to the day in the future when we know whom to nominate for the position of Pastor/Head of Staff for our church family with God's timing. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask (see below). Representatives of the Pastoral Nominating Committee will give a brief update in each of the worship gatherings during the month of November.

Doug Martzluf, Chair 717-816-1881

Chris Lombardozi, Vice Chair 717-491-5314

Submitted by Doug Martzluf, Chair



Don't Forget: Shoebox Packing Party

When: Sunday, November 2, 2025

Time: 11 AM following the 10 AM Worship Services

Where: Family Life Center room 107/108

Lunch: Following the packing party in the gym. Menu - Pizza, Salad, and Dessert. Lunch will be at no cost, but we will be accepting donations for the shipping costs of the shoeboxes.

Packing Party Goal: 255 boxes. If you would like to make a monetary donation toward shipping the packed shoeboxes at the packing party, please note OCC Shoeboxes on the memo line of your check or contact Pam Bucher at 717-860-6776. (Samaritan's Purse suggested donation for shoebox shipping is \$10 per box.)

Filled shoeboxes should be dropped off at the church through 11/16/2025!

Last year we packed a total of 325 shoeboxes. Can we pack this many again this year? Thank you in advance to everyone who packed shoeboxes, donated items, gave money, and prayed. This event would not be possible without you and without the support of the Mission and Outreach Committee.

If you have questions regarding this year's OCC Shoebox drive, please contact Pam Bucher at psbucher3@gmail.com or call 717-860-6776. Thank you for your continued support of OCC!

Pam Bucher,
Mission and Outreach Committee

TRUNK OR TREAT

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO
DONATED/PARTICIPATED! WE HAD A
GREAT NIGHT!

