

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Summertime Greetings to the Saints in Camillus!

I found this interesting article in my daily reading in a devotional book, entitled GodSpeaks...

"Be Still, and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10)

The only way we can know God is by *experiencing God*. And many of those experiences come as we listen quietly for God's voice.

Soren Kierkegaard noted that most of us are "so busy", we are unwilling to wait patiently for God. We might consider an appointment with a hairdresser to be productive time, but when God attempts to lay claim to our time, we balk. Rather than spend time with God we allow ourselves to bask in God's presence and soak up God's love, we manufacture substitutes – things to do to take the place of simply *being* with God. Even the admirable activities of good works and Bible study can keep us from resting quietly with God.

Like any other relationship, experiencing God takes both quality and quantity time and a willingness to listen to God. There is no substitute for either. Like any relationship, we must be willing to make a conscious investment of time and effort.

Slow down and take the time to listen for God's voice today. God speaks often to each of us deep within the recesses of our hearts and minds. The trouble is that most people are moving too fast to receive the transmission. You may be surprised to hear what you've been missing.

It seems like summertime might be the perfect time for this reminder in my life! In summertime schedules change, some activities take needed breaks, and the pace of activities seems to slow. And this "slow-down" might just afford you the opportunity you need to spend some "quality and quantity" time with God. Could it be that during an evening walk in the park, or rainy day trip to the local library, or even sitting by the pool watching the kids swim might just afford you a few minutes of "God-time"?

I hope you continue to be with us, each week in worship. And I hope that you find time, quality time, to be with God each and every day. By doing this I think you'll be truly amazed at how much God is waiting to say to you... and me!

Enjoy the summer and I'll see you in worship!

Pastor Jack



INSIDE...

Youth/ Family News
Ministries News
Calendar

We are sailing to *ATHENS*, Greece this summer during **Summer Fun In The Son Week!** Join us as we travel with Paul on his dangerous journey to *ATHENS*. We will explore the culture of ancient Greece, play Olympic Games, visit a marketplace, listen to Paul's stories of Jesus, make pottery, learn geometry, write like the scribes did, sing songs and participate in mission projects for our community. Healthy snacks will be provided. Summer Fun Week takes place August 5th through August 8th from **6-8pm**. Please note the change in time. It is open to all children ages 4yrs to 5th grade. The cost is \$15 per child, nor more than \$30 per family. Register now at www.churchofthebells.org by clicking on the window labeled "Summer Fun Week".

Registration closes on July 25th. An *ATHENS* TShirt is included with online registration. If registration is received after July 25th, TShirts will be available on a first come, first served basis. We can't wait for you to meet Paul and to help him spread the good news of Jesus!

Our **Fall Kickoff** is scheduled for Sunday, September 8th. We have a made a small change to our JAM classes. The PREK class will meet downstairs in the nursery with Dorothy Martin. The K-3rd grade class will meet upstairs in the JAM wing in the Music Room and will have a rotating slate of teachers to share their faith with. The 4th – 6th grade class will also meet upstairs in the JAM wing in the Café, also with a rotating slate of teachers. We are still in need of two teachers for our 4th – 6th grade class. We know you are out there! Is God calling you to share your faith with our kids? Please contact me, Carol Doucette, and let's chat about how you can be a part of this fulfilling ministry.

As many of you know, I am stepping down as the Director of Christian Education. I want to thank all of you for your love and support of me and this ministry. Thank you for sharing your children with me. It has been a privilege to share my faith with them. Jesus said "Allow the children to come to me. Do not forbid them, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to people like these children." I couldn't agree more.

Shalom,
~Carol A. Doucette
Christian Education Director



Lawn chair worship will begin June 30.

When the weather permits, we will worship at 8:30 on our patio during July and August and Sept. 1. Throw a lawn chair in your car and plan to worship our God on our beautiful patio.



Fellowship Fun



May 18 was a relaxing and fun day for those attending our fellowship road rally/scavenger hunt. We started with an Immanuel Methodist guessing game and covered dish luncheon. Then we broke into teams for some friendly competition to find a list of items in the community. The teams were to take a team photo on a phone and text it to Nancy Whitney who used all the photos to create a slide show, with music! The teams had to seek photos with things like a farm animal, picket fence, strangers doing the YMCA pose, something Irish, bikers, eating ice cream, and some other things that took some creative thinking. The teams returned to the church for dessert, and enjoy the slide show.

We laughed a lot, and got to know our team mates better, and no one had to act their age. We closed with prayer for one another. A big thank you goes out to Nancy Whitney who created, planned and help implement the event. Fellowship brings us closer....join us next time!

~Barb Merckel, fellowship team chair



Mini Golf Tournament

Mark your calendars for the 11th annual Mini Golf Tournament to be held on August 10th. Details to follow. Any questions ask Shelley Dawson Smith at 315-487-1290

Note: The church office will be closed on Mondays beginning July 1 through Sept. 2.



Congratulations
Confirmands!!
May 19, 2019

Ministries

April 3M Donations

Total Collected	\$2,719.00
Mortgage Payment	\$2,556.86
Mission Team Distribution	\$81.07
Trustees Distribution	\$81.07

May 3M Donations

Total Collected	\$4,194.80
Mortgage Payment	\$2,556.86
Mission Team Distribution	\$818.97
Trustees Distribution	\$818.97

Any questions please contact Shelley Dawson Smith.



"Sharing our Abundant Blessings"

3M 2019-2022 Campaign Update

To date pledges are lagging behind the previous 3M campaign by approximately \$30,000.00. It's not too late to turn in a pledge card. Remember that 3M pays our mortgage and funds church maintenance work and supports many mission projects.

To all who have pledged,
particularly the new pledgers thanks!

If you are one of the folks who pledge to the General Fund but not to 3M, can you take a moment and drop an unsigned note off to Pam, or put it in the Finance Chair mailbox, giving us some brief feedback as to why you have made that choice.

If you would like more information about 3M or would like a pledge card see Shelley Dawson Smith or call her at 315-727-0671. Thank you.

Highway Clean Up

Immanuel has committed to cleaning up trash along part of Route 695. If you would like to be part of this important ministry, please meet at the Home Depot on Saturday, August 17 at 10am. See Ed Owens for more information.



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

Mission Trip to West Virginia

We are planning on supporting a team of Skilled, Semi-Skilled and those wishing to become Skilled to work on Home Rebuild session will run 1 week of work with daily travel or overnight available all days. We welcome other Church Congregations as well as Individuals interested in joining our team.



We will not know the type of project until closer to our departure. Most likely our assignment will be in a re-construction project or following another team in a quest of putting a home(s) back together.

The team is made up of General Contractors, Very Skilled Home owners and those who have never raised a hammer before. Every person will be paired up with someone who knows about the assigned task. No one will be asked to do anything they do not want to do nor is unsafe.

The work week is August 11th to the 17th, 2019

Trip Details and Questions – Jerry Sabattis (315) 243-4336 C, jsabatti@twcnny.rr.com email



Be the Church Day

As announced on Sunday June 16 the Trustees would like to plan a "Be the Church Day" this coming September. This event could involve doing work and chores for our members or other needy people in the community, helping organizations serving the community and/or doing maintenance tasks around the church. To accomplish these worthy goals, we hope to make this outreach initiative a collaboration supported by other church groups and individual members who can help with the planning and organizing the various tasks and activities. We welcome people with creative ideas and commitment to support Be the Church Day to make this a fun and rewarding experience for all. If you are interested or want to learn more, please see Jerry Sabattis, Sandy Van Epps, Tom Hart, Mike DeOrdio, or Dick Ramsden.

~Jerry Sabattis, Trustee Chairman

Thank you!

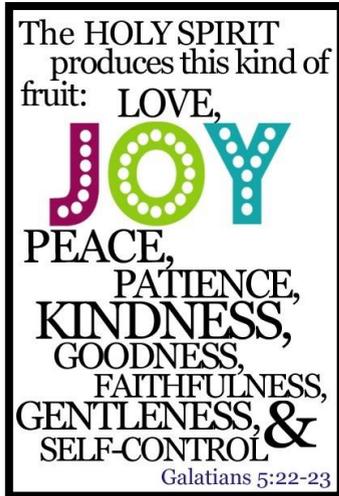
Many thanks for all of the cards, prayers and support for my family when Mike's mother passed away. We are so grateful for this church family!

~Pastor Pam

Electronic Service Requested

Our Mission

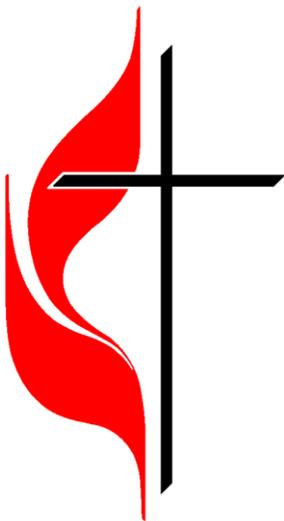
*"To make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world."*



**July
August
2019**

We wish to be good stewards of both financial and environmental resources. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please email us at churchofthebells@gmail.com and request removal.

Newsletter mailing updates will be made in 2019.



Pastor	Pastor Jack Keating
Phone	(315) 487-1171
Email	churchofthebells@gmail.com
Website	www.churchofthebells.org
Worship	8:30 am and 10 am
JAM	During 10 am worship, Sept. - June
Office Hours	Tues. – Fri. 9am-12:30 or by appointment

Handicapped accessible

Please join us!