

ST. STEPHEN REFORMED
249 E. Main St., New Holland, PA 17557
October 14, 2018 – 8:15 A.M.

*Indicates those able may stand

When the prelude begins please quiet your hearts in preparation for worship.

ORGAN PRELUDE

“Meine Seele erhebt den Herren” (BWV 648) J.S. Bach
(My soul magnifies the Lord)
“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” arr. R. Hebble

WELCOME

Dr. Timothy Witmer

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Selected from Psalm 145*)

ONE: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
ALL: And your dominion endures throughout all generations.
ONE: The LORD is faithful in all his words
ALL: And kind in all his works.
ONE: The LORD upholds all who are falling
ALL: And raises up all who are bowed down.
ONE: The LORD is righteous in all his ways
ALL: And kind in all his works.

*OPENING HYMN “O Worship the King” Hymn #2

*INVOCATION Rev. Nathaniel Stamper

CALL TO CONFESSION (*Psalm 66:16; 18-20*)

The psalmist testifies: “Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!” In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Your word says “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.” We confess that we have often feared others rather than you. We have conformed to conditions around us rather than to your Word. We ask that you would forgive us and renew our reverence for you, in the Name of Jesus, who is wisdom incarnate. Amen.

PRAYER FOR MERCY (Kyrie) “Lord Have Mercy upon Us”

ONE: Lord, have mercy upon us.
ALL: Lord, have mercy upon us.
ONE: Christ, have mercy upon us.
ALL: Christ, have mercy upon us.
ONE: Lord, have mercy upon us.
ALL: Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE “The Gloria Patri”
**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

MUSICAL OFFERING “He Will Hold Me Fast” Leaman/Graybill Quartet
(Congregation to join on v.3 – Praise Book #13)

SCRIPTURE READING Proverbs 1:1-7 page #527

SERMON “Where Wisdom Begins” Dr. Timothy Witmer

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (debts, debtors)

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY “As Pants the Hart” H. Willan

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE “Doxology”
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O Lord our God, the author and giver of all good things, we thank you for all your mercies, and for your loving care over all your creatures. We bless you for the gift of life, for your protection, for your guiding hand upon us, and for the tokens of your love within us. In all these things, O God, make us wise for a right use of your benefits, that we may render an acceptable thanksgiving unto you all the days of our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

“Be Thou My Vision”

Hymn #642

*BENEDICTION (Pastor)

*CONGREGATION THREE-FOLD AMEN

*POSTLUDE

Postlude on ‘St. Anne’

H.A. Matthews

(Should you be moved to respond to a special musical offering, a hearty "Amen" is recommended)

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Ministers: The Congregation

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Timothy Witmer

Associate Pastor: Rev. Nathaniel Stamper

Elders: John Garner, Josh Irvine, Richard Miller & Mike Ressler

Deacons: Gene Eberly, Tom Frankhouser, Chuck Kidhardt & Ernie Orr

Organist Emeritus: A.J. Young

Organist and Choirmaster: Douglas Wimer

Music Leader: Rev. Dr. Stuart Sacks

Children’s Ministry Director: Faith Titus

Welcome Center: Lewis & Margie Ingles

Greeters: Bruce & Lisa Wanner

Ushers: Phil Laukhuff & Jim Leonard

Altar Guild: Viki Eberly

Counting Team: Don Orner & Sue Beiler

Sexton: Jill Wilson

Bookkeeper: Charlene Good

Administrative Assistant: Anita Witmer

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Hymn #642

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*CONGREGATION THREE-FOLD AMEN

*SILENT MEDITATION

*POSTLUDE

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS...

Fall Friend Day

Today	8:15 am	Early Worship Service
	9:30 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	6:00 pm	Youth Group
Monday	6:30 pm	Women's Bible Study
Tuesday	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study
	7:00 pm	Global Outreach Meeting
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Bell Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Officers Meeting
Thursday	6:45 pm	Choir Practice
Saturday	5:30 pm	Congregation Dinner & Talent Show at the church

FUTURE EVENTS...

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>10/21</i>	<i>6:00 pm</i>	<i>Youth Group</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>10/22</i>		<i>Info due for Gleanings</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>10/25</i>	<i>6:45 pm</i>	<i>Choir Practice</i>

NEXT SUNDAY – October 21, 2018
SERMON: "Meet Mr. Fool"
By: Dr. Timothy Witmer

GENERAL FUND OFFERING FOR OCTOBER 7, 2018

Attendance:	<u>Early Service</u>	67	\$3,052.00
	<u>Late Service</u>	162	\$5,870.25

Amount received for General Fund only \$8,922.25

Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.
 Telephone (717) 354-7871 Fax (717) 355-2565
 Church Office Email: ststephenpca@ststephenpca.comcastbiz.net
 Website address: ststephenpca.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS 10/14/18 – FALL FRIEND DAY

WELCOME VISITORS!! We are happy that you are with us. Our purpose is to share Christ through our ministries. Please sign the visitors' card in the pew and place it in the offering plate. Nursery is offered during our 10:30 worship service for children ages three or younger. KINGDOM KIDS CHILDREN'S MINISTRY is available for children ages 4-7. They will be dismissed during the 10:30 service "Children's Song".

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

All of our homebound members and also prayers of healing for:

Lee Curley	Laine Eberly	Thelma (Tiny) Buch	Barb Carey
Carolyn Martin		Vicky Stanley	Gary & Deb Gnagey
Ellen Peters Wagner – Jane Peters' daughter		Henry Weaver – brother of George Weaver	
Anne Sensenig - niece of Joanne Mellinger		Kathy Gregg – friend of Ruth Frankhouser	

*Names appear on this list when we are given permission to print them.
 (New names added to the list appear in dark print)

Today is Fall Friend Day, please remain after the service and enjoy some light refreshments in the narthex.

FLOWERS this Sunday are given in memory of loved ones by Betty Humphreys.

TABLETALK – The October issue is available at the Welcome Center.

HEARING ASSIST DEVICES are available from our ushers as you enter the sanctuary.

SCENT-FREE SEATING - For those with sensitivity to scents, seating has been designated in the southwestern section of the balcony. Please be respectful of those who have a medical reaction to scents and fragrances.

FREE BIBLE, Adults and Children - We are offering a free copy of the English Standard Version Bible (the one we use in our pews) to anyone who would like one. Also, there is a Children's Storybook Bible for families with children under 12 (one per family, please). Please stop at the Welcome Center on your way out and they will provide you with a copy.

Church Activities

TALENT NIGHT & CONGREGATIONAL DINNER: It's not too late to add your name/talent to the list for talent night. Simply let us know what you will be performing (instrument, title, etc.) so Barb Witmer at bwit5sings@gmail.com or 610.733.0757 or Fran Rapp at franrapp@frontier.com or 717.355.6511 can plan the program.

Also, you **do not** need to perform a talent to attend the dinner. Please sign-up with Jean Martin in the narthex if you plan to attend the dinner, so we can prepare the food. We will meet at 5:30 pm here at the church and start with dinner.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY volunteers are needed for January through April. If you are interested in serving, please contact Faith at 717-408-5220 or fitus@ststephenpca.org. We will especially have a need for nursery volunteers during the Sunday School and Second Service hours.

CLOTHING BANK - October is the time to donate your clean, gently used coats and jackets, all sizes for the clothing bank here in New Holland. There is a box in the narthex for your convenience. Thank you for caring and sharing in this ministry for our community. The Outreach Committee

25th ANNUAL COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER. St. Stephen will again offer a FREE Community Thanksgiving Day meal for residents in the Eastern Lancaster County area. Monetary contributions are welcome which will be helpful in providing for this meal. Designated envelopes can be found on the table in the narthex and may be placed in the offering plate. If using your weekly church offering envelope, please be sure to specify "Thanksgiving Dinner" on the envelope. Additional information will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cathy Eby at 717-354-7783.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – "It's that time again, to start collecting goodies to fill your shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. You can stop by the church lobby to pick up your shoe boxes! The cost for shipping shoe boxes is \$9, which should either be affixed to the top of your box or placed in the Donation box. **DO NOT** put your shipping money in the shoebox. National Collection Week is November 12. No candy or toothpaste please! We filled over 100 shoe boxes last year, let's see if we can top that this year. Be sure to share with friends so they can pack shoe boxes, too!" For more information, you can email Joy Wimer at djwimer@aol.com or go to <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

THANK YOU - We would like to thank everyone for their help with the St. Stephen Ox Roast and Soup stand at the New Holland Fair this year. This would include the chicken corn noodle and ham and bean soup makers, meat preparation, help at the stand, dishwashers, trailer cleaners and all other work involved with the stand. Thank you to the volunteers that helped after church Sunday to clean out the food trailer and prepare the leftover meat and soup for freezing, washing containers and just odds and ends that needed attention. We couldn't do it without all of your help. Thank you for supporting our stand by purchasing food and drink. Thanks to all of you, our farm show week was a great success. - Paula Houck and Tom Weaver

JUNE 2019 BUS TRIP – for those who have not received the email, there are packets of information in the narthex regarding this trip to determine interest. Please pick-up one and review to determine if you'd like to visit the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter. Questions should be directed to Cheryl Weaver (717.354.8704).

SOUP - There are quarts of chicken corn noodle and bean soup available in the freezer. Please put your money (cash or check) in the cash box.

Community Activities

ST. STEPHEN – thank you so much for all your support in providing meals for the Youth Center (YC). You are meeting a great need and we are very thankful!! God bless you and your ministry! Shanice, Asst. YC Director, CrossNet Ministries

NEW HOLLAND FOOD BANK: Please remember this ongoing ministry we all can take part in. Bins for donations are located in the narthex and breezeway. Monetary donations are also welcome via your offering envelope – remember to indicate *Food Bank* on your gift.