

ST. STEPHEN REFORMED CHURCH (PCA)
249 E. Main St., New Holland, PA 17557
September 29, 2019 – 8:15 A.M.

*Indicates those able may stand

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

ORGAN PRELUDE

“Wer nur den lieben Gott laßt walten” (BWV 642) J. S. Bach
(Whoever lets only the dear God reign)
“Fanfare” Wm. Mathias

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Selected Psalm 146*)

ONE: Praise the LORD!
ALL: Praise the LORD, O my soul!
ONE: I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
ALL: I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
ONE: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
ALL: Whose hope is in the LORD his God,
ONE: Who made heaven and earth, the sea,
ALL: And all that is in them, who keeps faith forever.

*OPENING HYMN “Holy! Holy! Holy!” Hymn #100

*INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION (*Adapted from Psalm 130*)

If our Lord should mark iniquities who could stand? But there is forgiveness with the Lord, so that we, with reverence, can serve Him. Since our hope is in the Lord, and since with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem, let us confess our sins before him since it is he who will redeem us from all our iniquities.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people. You have called us to be the church, to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to our lonely and confused world. Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active, isolated than involved, callous than compassionate, legalistic than loving. Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins. Remove the

obstacles preventing us from being your representatives to a broken world. Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit. This we pray in Jesus’ powerful name. 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 “O Rest in the Lord” F. Mendelssohn
St. Stephen Choir

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Westminster Shorter Catechism – Questions 98 & 99

ONE: What is prayer?
ALL: Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgement of his mercies.
ONE: What rule hath God given for our direction in prayer?
ALL: The whole Word of God is of use to direct us in prayer; but the special rule of direction is that form of prayer which Christ taught his disciples, commonly called The Lord’s Prayer.

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 88 Page #494

SERMON “Drowning in a Sea of Darkness” Rev. Nathaniel Stamper

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

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Children of the Heavenly Father" R. Hobby

*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
**We bring you these gifts, O God, from what we have first received from you.
Use them, we pray, to enable the ministries of this church to flourish as we
together serve our neighbors by proclaiming the gospel, showing love, and
doing mercy. Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN "Before the Throne of God Above" Praise Book #5

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATION THREE-FOLD AMEN

*SILENT MEDITATION

*POSTLUDE

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

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Welcome Center: Irene Gundlah

Greeters: Hank, Michelle & Ross Cochran

Ushers: Phil Laukhuff & Jim Leonard

Altar Guild: Ruth Kapp

Counting Team: Bob Spotts & Ron Bensinger

ST. STEPHEN REFORMED CHURCH (PCA)
249 E. Main St., New Holland, PA 17557
September 29, 2019 – 10:30 A.M.

*Indicates those able may stand

PIANO PRELUDE – *Let us quiet our hearts as we silently prepare to worship*

GATHERING (Congregation seated)
“May the Peace of God”

Praise Book #21

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Selected Psalm 146*)

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ONE: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

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ONE: Who made heaven and earth, the sea,

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CHILDREN’S SONG – (Children ages 4-7 may leave for Kingdom Kids)

This little light of mine

Hide it under a bushel, NO!

I’m gonna let it shine

I’m gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine

Hide it under a bushel, NO!

I’m gonna let it shine,

I’m gonna let it shine,

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

MUSICAL OFFERING

“O Rest in the Lord”
St. Stephen Choir

F. Mendelssohn

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 88

Page #494

SERMON

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WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Welcome Center: Irene Gundlah

Greeters: Tom & Kaye Hansen

Altar Guild: Ruth Kapp

Counting Team: Bob Spotts & Ron Bensinger

ANNOUNCEMENTS 09/29/19

**THE PURPOSE OF ST. STEPHEN REFORMED CHURCH,
"THE BEACON ON THE HILL"
IS**

TO KNOW Jesus, the light of the world,

John 8:12 "Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, 'I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the Light of life.'"

TO GROW together as His followers, and

1 John 1:7 "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin."

TO SHOW His light to the world.

Matthew 5:14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden."

Choir Anthem Text:

O rest in the Lord; wait patiently for Him, and He shall give thee thy heart's desire. Commit thy way unto Him and trust in Him; and fret not thyself because of evildoers.

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:

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--|---------------------|
| Kaylee Richard | Shirley Titus | Amy Weigelt - daughter of Bill & Carol Weigelt | |
| Pat Fieger | Laine Eberly | Mike & Joan Jacobs | Alice Spotts |
| Lee Curley | Henry Weaver | Kurt Weaver | Steve Loewen |

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

FLOWERS this Sunday are given in memory of Reverend Robert K. Townsley and his wife Jean M. (Starr) Townsley by their daughter, Robin Jean Townsley Arcus, Durham, N.C. Bob was a son of St Stephen Reformed Church.

THANK YOU to everyone in the congregation who prayed for my husband Jim, during his recent heart attack. Judi Jenkins

THANK YOU for all the prayers and cards I received for my surgery. Thanks to Pastor Nathaniel for visiting. Hazel Weaver

SHIRLEY TITUS UPDATE – Shirley had a rough week, starting with an ER trip for vomiting. She was hospitalized Tuesday night after needing to stop a seizure med cold turkey due to a rare side effect (acute pancreatitis) and having some concerning withdrawal symptoms. She's stable now, we're home and getting back to our routine. Trips to the ER and hospital stays are hard on Shirley's rhythm and can set off clusters due to lack of sleep. Pray, we can quickly get her back to baseline.

HEARING ASSIST DEVICES and LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available from our ushers as you enter the sanctuary.

OVERFLOW PARKING is available behind Beck's Funeral Home.

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.

Church Activities

BELL CHOIR - Want to serve the Lord through music? We are in need of backup ringers for times when our regular members are unable to ring. If interested, please call Charlene Leaman at 484-678-5460.

CLEAN UP – On Sunday, October 6, volunteers are needed after the second service to clean-out the food trailer and to prepare the leftover meat and soup for freezing.

LADIES BREAKFAST will be held on Saturday, October 12 at 8:30 am at Yoder's Family Restaurant. All are welcome!

FIFTH WEDNESDAY - Please join us for St. Stephen's "Fifth Wednesday Fellowship" meal, to be held [Wednesday, October 30, 2019](#) at New Holland Fire Hall, [339 East Main Street, from 6:00-8:00 pm](#). Come enjoy a delicious catered meal while learning to know your church family better! Donations will be accepted at the door that evening but please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the narthex by [Sunday, October 20](#). You may also indicate if you need a gluten free option. We look forward to seeing you there!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: National Collection Week (Nov. 18–25) is fast approaching for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child! We will be passing out shoeboxes starting the first week in October, to be filled with items to send all over the world to children that might not otherwise receive a Christmas gift. Every village that delivers shoeboxes also teaches the children about Jesus and His love for them. If you can't get out to purchase items for a shoebox, you can donate money to ship one. The cost this year is again \$9.00 per box. I have purchased 100 boxes. Please help me to fill them! If you have any questions, please feel free to call (484-459-4884), email me (djwimer@aol.com) or see me at the OCC table in the lobby. In Christ, Joy Wimer

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS...

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Today | 8:15 am | Early Worship Service |
| | 9:30 am | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 am | Worship Service |
| | 6:00 pm | Youth Group |
| Tuesday | 7:00 pm | Property Committee Meeting |
| | 7:00 pm | Global Outreach Meeting |
| Wed – Sat | | Farm Show Stand |
| Thursday | 6:45 pm | Choir Practice |
| Saturday | 7:30 am | Men's Breakfast at Yoder's |

FUTURE EVENTS...

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|----------------|---|
| <i>Sunday</i> | <i>10/06</i> | <i>6:00 pm</i> | <i>Youth Group</i> |
| <i>Monday</i> | <i>10/07</i> | <i>6:30 pm</i> | <i>Women's Bible Study</i> |
| <i>Tuesday</i> | <i>10/08</i> | <i>9:30 am</i> | <i>Women's Bible Study</i> |
| | | <i>7:00 pm</i> | <i>Women's Steering Committee Meeting at Ruth Pankuch's</i> |
| <i>Wednesday</i> | <i>10/09</i> | <i>6:30 pm</i> | <i>Bell Rehearsal</i> |
| | | <i>7:00 pm</i> | <i>Finance Committee Meeting</i> |
| <i>Thursday</i> | <i>10/10</i> | <i>6:45 pm</i> | <i>Choir Practice</i> |
| <i>Saturday</i> | <i>10/12</i> | <i>8:30 am</i> | <i>Ladies Breakfast at Yoder's</i> |
| | | | <i>Officers Planning Day</i> |

NEXT SUNDAY – October 6, 2019

By: Dr. Timothy Witmer

GENERAL FUND OFFERING FOR SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------------|-----|------------|
| Attendance: | <u>Early Service</u> | 91 | \$3,342.00 |
| | <u>Late Service</u> | 160 | \$6,600.00 |

Amount received for General Fund only \$9,942.00

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