

CHRISTIAN HERALD

WASHINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 2017 Number 797

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Rev. Laddie J. Benton, Pastor



Your Brother in Christ,
Rev. Laddie J. Benton, Pastor

STAND UP FOR JESUS!
STAND UP FOR WPCI

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

We live in a day and time in which fear has gripped this nation and the world. People live in neighborhoods in which they can be shot and killed while they are walking down the street. People are fleeing their native lands in fear of persecution because of their religious or political beliefs. Seniors in our nation fear that they will lose their hard earned benefits i.e., health care, social security, and pensions which are sorely needed during this time of their lives. Children who were brought to the USA illegally by their parents, are fearing that they will be deported to a country that they do not know. Hate groups are on the rise and appear to be gaining strength and support to intimate and generate fear upon those whom they dislike.

Now is the time for the church of Christ Jesus to stand up for Jesus, and proclaim God's promises to God's people during these uncertain times of fear. Believers must trust in and share with others, God's promises to be The Helper and The Provider when all else seems to be at a lost. Psalm 146 reminds the reader of whom they are to trust and why: "Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God,.... who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry;" (verses 7, 9).

Let us not forget that we are a chosen people. Since we are God's chosen people; we will conquer our fears with God's help: "Yes, all who are incensed against you shall be ashamed and disgraced; those who strive against you shall be as nothing and shall perish. You shall seek those who contend with you, but you shall not find them; those who war against you shall be as nothing at all. For I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, 'Do not fear, I will help you.'" (Isaiah 41: 11-13).

Dear members and friends of Washington Presbyterian Church (USA),

TRUSTING GOD'S PROMISE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

*God is our refuge and strength, a very present
help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear...*
(Psalm 46: 1-2—New Revised Standard Version)

OUR HELP IS IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, WHO MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH

From the Pastor's Desk
The Rev. Laddie J. Benton, Pastor

SICK, SHUT-INS AND BEREAVED FAMILIES

Joan Marshall, Teondre Morrison-Cooper, Claudette Carter, Justin Johnson, Kevin Herring, Joyce Beckett, Linda Hobbs (Pastor's sister), Daisy Patience, Marie (Flood) Rhodes, Monica Fruit (Joan Reppert's granddaughter), Maurice Alexander, LaKeshia Green & Family, Aimy McKnight, Ethel Kinkaid, Will Kinkaid (Tremont Rehab.), Diana Flood, Maria Mootarim (Barbara's co-worker), Cherie Spillane, Agnes Sneed, Mrs. Theima Winfrey, Deric Burden, John and Damarcus (sons of Penny's co-worker), Patricia & Shirley Wilson (mother & daughter), Shania Hunter (Janice's niece), Vickie Bowers (Pennside), Connie Lantz (Vickie's mother), Kiara Delgado (Penny's granddaughter), Katina Boykin, Eric George, Henry Johnson, Tomishia Johnson, Melba Stamm, Dale Brown, Valerie Phelps, Kenneth Randall, Sabrina (Alex's friend), Sandy (Renwick) Martin, John and Mary Lou Haynes, Oliver & Freida Carter, Nancy Kerper, Jimmy McKee, Rose Fletcher, Sharon Good (April's sister-in-law), Richard Newkirk, Marty & David Banks, Eddie Ramos, Jean Pingatore, Tommy Ridley, Nora Hartford, Mrs. Marjorie McNeill, Paulette Amprey's family, Nicholas (Amber's client), Kim Scott, Evelyn Morrison, Gary Patience (Khadri Saboor), Earl and Marilyn Hoch, Robert Nelson, Keith Stamm, Paul Lucia, William "Tune" Davis, Margret Joyce Randall, Theima Jeanette Randall and Frederick Benton.

PRAY FOR THE BEREAVED

SCRIPTURES

September 3	Exodus 3:1-15	Psalms 105:1-6, 23-26	Romans 9:12-21
September 10	Exodus 12:1-14	Psalms 149	Romans 13:8-14
September 17	Exodus 14:19-31	Psalms 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11	Romans 14:1-12
September 24	Exodus 16:2-15	Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45	Philippians 1:21-30

STANDING COMMITTEES

Christian Concerns – April Coleman
 Christian Education – Alexis Green
 Evangelism – Yvonne Lewis
 Finance – Toni A. Brooks
 Property – Stephen Greer
 Stewardship – Sharon Davis/Yvonne Lewis
 Worship Committee-Pauline Johnson/Alexis Green

SESSION

Pastor – Rev. Laddie J. Benton
 Clerk of Session – Barbara Davis
 Church Treasurer – Toni A. Brooks
 Benevolence Treasurer – Sharon Davis
 Club Fund Treasurer – Winnie J. Burden
 Sunday School – Sharon Davis

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Senior Choir – Thursday, 1:00 PM

WASHINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WILL ACCEPT DONATIONS FROM ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH OUR MISSIONS.

WPC WEB PAGE: WPC1823.COM

“Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” (Philippians 4:6)

ORGANIZATION

Men's Fellowship – Oliver Carter
 Pastor's Aid – Toni A. Brooks/Winnie Burden
 Personnel – Stephen Greer
 Presbyterian Women – Alexis Green/LaKeshia Green

LECTIONARY READINGS

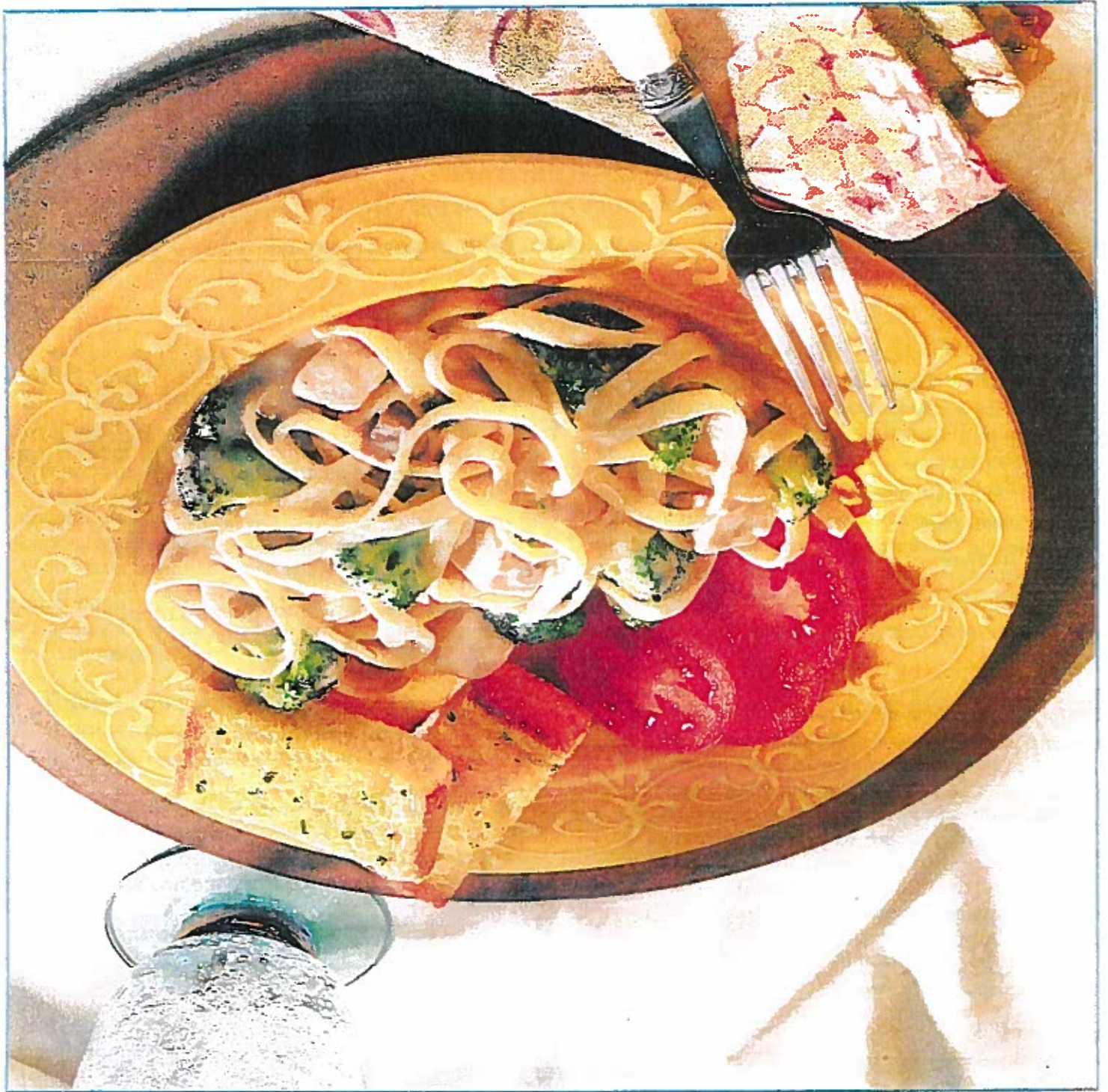
BIBLE STUDY – Wednesday 6:30 P.M.

Matthew 16:21-28
 Matthew 18:15-20
 Matthew 18:21-35
 Matthew 20:1-16

September 2017

* Denotes Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					September 1	2 Alana Bangura * Ceani Beaden * Monique Haupt * Brooklyn Whitlock *
3 Season of Peace Begins/Higher Education Communion 10:00 AM Sunday Service	4 Labor Day	5	6 Bible Study – 10:00 AM Bible Study – 6:30 PM	7 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM	8	9 Shaka Benton *
10 Ava Marie Johnson * United Missionaries at WPC Grandparents' Day Communion 10:00 AM Sunday Service	11 Alexander Jefferson * Yvonne Lewis *	12 Worship Committee Meets 10:00 AM	13 Bible Study – 10:00 AM Bible Study – 6:30 PM	14 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM	15 Sylvia Finn *	16 Freida Carter *
17 Synod of the Trinity 300 th Anniversary Theological Education/Seminaries 10:00 AM Sunday Joash Chest	18 Patriot Day	19	20 Bible Study – 10:00 AM Bible Study – 6:30 PM	21 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM	22 Gail Scott *	23 Stephanie Mitchell *
24 Evangelism Sunday Gifts of New Immigrants 10:00 AM Sunday Service	25 Amanda Davis * Onya (Jones) Tanis *	26	27 Rosh Hashana Begins Bible Study – 10:00 AM Bible Study – 6:30 PM	28 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM	29	30 Native American Day First Day of Autumn
					Yom Kippur Begins	Yom Kippur Ends



If you see something suspicious – say something. Dial 911.

That's all folks!

We all love ya!

I Tractor Trailer Tomi (Brooks) The eighteen-wheeler gal!! Yes, you guessed it! Our Ms. Brooks always had a fantasy/wish to ride in a large semi-trailer pulling tons of goods for delivery throughout the county. She, still being excellent at eighty, birthday arrangements were made for her glorious ride in a tractor to the celebrated rendezvous of her surprise birthday bash at a local church hall. As she alighted from the tractor, smiling from ear-to-ear, all the celebrants started singing happy birthday to her. Started, for the moment, as all participants celebrated with joy her surprise birthday present. Fun was had by all, topped off with good food prepared by family members and friends. Congrats Tomi!

Tired of racking your brain? How does this match up with your thinking?

T _____ T _____ T _____ T _____ T _____ ??

TRIVIA TIME!!! FILL IN THE BLANKS?

JORDAN JOHNSON. After attending a high school in central Georgia for a period of time, Jordan decided to return to his favorite haunt, RHS. He is the grandson of our beloved Pauline Johnson. Jordan is a potential grad upon completion of two courses needed to meet Pennsylvania standards. He is now attending night school and when completed, will enter the skilled tradesman field of bricklaying or carpentry. Upon completion of his program he too will start an apprenticeship to become a Journeyman/Master Tradesman. So, as mentioned previously, he too will need network help to enter the apprenticeship program.

KARL NELSON. Graduated from Muhlenberg High School through the Reading-Muhlenberg Vocational Technical Program. He is the grandson of Robert (Bobby) and Donna Nelson. Karl completed his course of study in plumbing and now, hopefully, can enter an apprenticeship which will lead to a Master Plumber License. Since all skilled trades people serve an apprenticeship, Karl and others may need help in networking with others in the field to enter a program which usually lasts 3-4 years. So all are asked to help Karl and others to move forward toward their respective goals.

TEONDRE MORRISON-COOPER. Graduated from Reading High School (RHS) and looking to the future in the Culinary Arts field. He is the grandson of Session Member, Sharon Davis. While in attendance at RHS, Teondre was a member of the RHS Bowling Team. He has been accepted and plans to attend the Culinary Arts School in Philadelphia, starting in mid-October, for a 2-year term. I am sure he will become an outstanding chef or business owner when he enters his field of endeavor.

First off let's start with Washington Presbyterian Church (WPC) high school graduates. For sometime WPC has honored these Sunday School and church members from local high schools. They present each grad with a Bible to keep him/her connected with God and the church. Also a small monetary stipend is granted to be used as they see fit. Yet, hopefully, it will be used to purchase books or applied to tuition cost. The recipients this year are as follows:

A quote from famous poet, Nobel Prize Winner and masterful folk singer, Bob Dylan. This expresses a change in format by this writer who is a political junkie and can go on and on jawing about the political scenes. Instead of walling away about politics, political knowhow, one cannot be too content with the political situation in the United States, North Korea or even Russia, to name a few other in 'Bragmanship' and putting this world of ours on the edge of a nuclear holocaust. To me they are not worthy of a good discussion and I hope someone or somebody sees fit to crack their skulls together and get back to sensible governing. Let's live in peace in our lifetime and not in chaos.

'THINGS THEY ARE A' CHANGIN'

THE FORUM

THE CONVICTING SPIRIT

THOU BLESSED SPIRIT, AUTHOR OF ALL GRACE AND COMFORT,

Come, work repentance in my soul;
Represent sin to me in its odious colours that I may hate it;
Melt my heart by the majesty and mercy of God;
Show me my ruined self and the help there is in him;
Teach me to behold my creator,

his ability to save,
his arms outstretched,
his heart big for me.

May I confide in his power and love,
commit my soul to him without reserve,
bear his image, observe his laws, pursue his service,
and be through time and eternity
a monument to the efficacy of his grace,
a trophy of his victory.

Make me willing to be saved in his way,
perceiving nothing in myself, but all in Jesus:

Help me not only to receive him but
to walk in him,
depend upon him,
commune with him,
be conformed to him,
follow him,
imperfect, but still pressing forward,
not complaining of labour, but valuing rest,
not murmuring under trials, but thankful for my state.

Give me that faith which is the means of salvation,
and the principle and medium of all godliness;

May I be saved by grace through faith,
live by faith,
feel the joy of faith,
do the work of faith.

Perceiving nothing in myself, may I find in Christ
wisdom, righteous, sanctification, redemption. Amen.

THOUGHT TO PONDER

Verse of the Month

Whatsoever you would that men should do to you, do you even so to them. Matthew 7:12

Scriptures are in red letters, footnotes are in black letters

JESUS TEACHES ABOUT SALT AND LIGHT Matthew 5:13-16

5:13 “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

5:13 If a seasoning has no flavor, it has no value. If Christians make no effort to affect the world around them, they are of little value to God. If we are too much like the world, we are worthless. Christians should not blend in with everyone else. Instead, we should affect others positively, just as seasoning brings out the best flavor in food. NIVLASB

5:14-16 You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

5:14-16 Can you hide a city that is sitting on top of a hill? Its light at night can be seen for miles. If we live for Christ, we will glow like light, showing others what Christ is like. We hide our light by (1) being quiet when we should speak, (2) going along with the crowd, (3) denying the light, (4) letting sin dim our light, (5) not explaining our light to others, or (6) ignoring the needs of others. Be a beacon of truth—don’t shut your light off from the rest of the world. NIVLASB

JESUS TEACHES ABOUT ANGER Matthew 5:21-26

5:21-22 You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ 22 But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to his brother, ‘Raca,’ is answerable to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell.

5:21-22 Killing is a terrible sin, but *anger* is a great sin too because it also violates “God’s command to love. Anger in this case refers to a seething, brooding bitterness against someone. It is a dangerous emotion that always threatens to leap out of control, leading to violence, emotional hurt, increased mental stress, and spiritual damage. Anger keeps us from developing a spirit pleasing to God. Have you ever been proud that you didn’t strike out and say what was really on your mind? Self-control is good, but Christ wants us to practice thought-control as well. Jesus said that we will be held accountable even for our attitudes. NIVLASB

5:23-24 Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.

5:23-24 Broken relationships can hinder our relationship with God. If we have a problem or grievance with a friend, we should resolve the problem as soon as possible. We are hypocrites if we claim to love God while we hate others. Our attitudes toward others reflect our relationship with God (1 John 4:20). NIVLASB

5:25-26 “Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still with him on the way, or he may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. 26 I tell you the truth, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.

5:25-26 In Jesus’ day, someone who couldn’t pay a debt was thrown into prison until the debt was paid. Unless someone came to pay the debt for the prisoner, he or she would probably die there. It is practical advice to resolve our differences with our enemies before their anger causes more trouble (Proverbs 25:8-10). You may not get into a disagreement that takes you to court, but even small conflicts mend more easily if you try to make peace right away. In a broader sense, these verses advise us to get things right with our brothers and sisters before we have to stand before God. NIVLASB

JESUS TEACHES ABOUT VOWS Matthew 5:33-37

5:33 Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago ‘Do not break your oath, but keep the oaths you have made to the Lord.’

5:33 Here, Jesus was emphasizing the importance of telling the truth. People were breaking promises and using sacred language casually and carelessly. Keeping oaths and promises is important; it builds trust and makes committed human relationships possible. The Bible condemns making vows or taking oaths casually, giving your word while knowing that you won’t keep it, or swearing falsely in God’s name (Exodus 20:7; Numbers 30:1-2). Oaths are needed in certain situations only because we live in a sinful society that breeds distrust. NIVLASB

5:34 But I tell you, Do not swear at all: either by heaven, for it is God’s throne; 35 or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. 36 And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. 37 Simply let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No’ be ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

5:33-37 Oaths, or vows, were common, but Jesus told his followers not to use them—their word alone should be enough (see James 5:12). Are you known as a person of your word? Truthfulness seems so rare that we feel we must end our statements with “I promise.” If we tell the truth all the time, we will have less pressure to back up our words with an oath or promise.