

Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church

The View

AUGUST 2026



*What we have received is not
the spirit of the world, but
the Spirit who is from God, so
that we may understand
what God has freely given us.*

1 Corinthians 2:12 (NIV)

Purpose: To inform, encourage, and promote engagement in Mt. Pisgah's mission in the community, and opportunities for spiritual transformation. To invite reflection on the process of personal spiritual growth. To emphasize the bond that holds us together, and avoid magnifying the differences that separate us.

Worship Service 9:45 am (see back cover for location)



**Mt. Pisgah
VIEW
August 2026**

²⁶ My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Psalm 73:26 (NIV)

¹⁶ Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 2 Corinthians 4:16–17 (NIV)

Aging gracefully...one way of describing the goal of the Christian life. I was reminded of how important it is to practice aging gracefully with my mom's recent visit. She, like some of us, is in her twilight years. Life feels precarious. Self-reliance is no longer the word for the day. It is replaced by increased dependency. This late season of life can bring a mixture of emotion, ranging from fear to intense anger and bitterness. At times, a person can take on the hues of being completely unreasonable, insisting on a view of life that is out of touch with the reality of one's limitations.

Psalm 73 is a beautiful song about exercising trust in the Lord. (Exercise is precisely the right word here, because it conveys the truth that we have to work our "trust muscles"

if we expect them to perform well when it matters most!) The psalmist reflects on the precariousness of life and the allure of wealth and power to fend off the feeling of vulnerability. The psalmist sees the emptiness of those false gods. Instead, he chooses to trust the God who is his portion forever.

Paul has his own way of getting at this inevitable dynamic of life this side of the resurrection and new creation. He sees it as two opposing aspects of the child of faith. On one hand, we see with our eyes and experience the failing of our bodies, which are wasting away. On the other hand, we are being renewed inwardly. Spiritually, we are becoming more vital, more alive, closer to the Creator's intention for human beings. We are, even when it doesn't look like it, moving toward eternal glory, which will include the resurrection of our bodies. Until then, we exercise trust.

What will this look like for you today? How will you exercise your "trust muscles" in the face of the outward feeling of wasting away? I wonder too, what this looks like for a congregation that is aging? How do we faithfully wrestle with the life cycle of a congregation that finds itself in its twilight years?

Please keep the Session in prayer as they continue to wrestle with these questions. And may you find yourself affirming this truth, as you face the frailty of life, that the Lord is your portion. He has you, he will keep you, he will never let go!

Peace...Tom

Prayer Corner

**things that
make you
go
"hmmm"**

A day of gratitude for your life and “your day.”

When the day of your birth arrives, have you ever found yourself struggling with how to celebrate it properly?

Maybe a few family or friends will send a card. Maybe there will be a cake, a gift (maybe two), et cetera, but these are all ways that other people celebrate you, and that’s wonderful, but how should we commemorate the day when the first words of our own singular story were written on this earth? How can we express our gratitude for God’s gift of this life; for the gift of this day? What token of appreciation can we possibly give that “Someone” who owns the cattle on thousands of hills?

A suggestion: Decide on the gift of your very own psalm wrapped up in words of prayer and praise. Thank God for everything that has brought you to this day: The blessings, the struggles, the people you love and those you love who've passed from this life to the next. Each has played a part in molding you into the person you are today. Then as you look forward toward the year ahead, ask God to help you continue to grow closer to Him and closer to becoming the person He had in mind the day He knit you together in your mother's womb. (Excerpts from "Someone Cares")

Submitted by Luann Walton for the Prayer Corner

Prayer Corner Team: Cindy Grindel,
Luann Walton & Marta Pletz



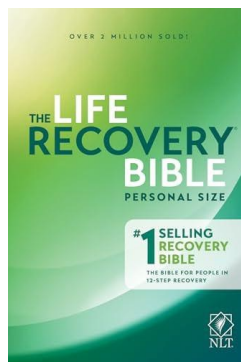
August Breath Prayer

Breathe In: Help me, Lord,

Breathe Out: become the person You want me to be.

Session News . . .

At it's July meeting, the Session voted to donate \$500 from the "Special Projects" fund to Foundation of HOPE. This money will be designated for the purchase of Life Recovery Bibles.



Pittsburgh Presbytery is currently conducting a Life Recovery Bible Campaign. The Allegheny County Jail sits in the middle of our presbytery and the chaplains at the Jail have asked for our help in providing Life Recovery Bibles for those who are incarcerated.

If individuals would like to contribute to this campaign, you can send money to Foundation of Hope, designated for the purchase of Life Recovery Bibles, at Suite 3, 901 Pennsylvania Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15233.

The Session thanks Luella Brazier who raised awareness of this ministry.

*For the Session who are in His Service,
Marta Pletz, Clerk*



Dear family and friends of Mt. Pisgah . . .

In addition to your own prayers of thanksgiving and petitions to our most capable Father in Heaven, creator and master of all things seen and unseen, all praise and glory be to Him who reigns victorious now and throughout eternity – “O, what a Savior!”

Prayer Focus for August:

**Jesus, we pray for the educators in our community;
give them wisdom and gentleness.**

Hope to see you in worship Sunday morning, 9:45 am.
Submitted by the Worship, Learning and Prayer Team.



Memory Verse Challenge

² What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us.

1 Corinthians 2:12



For the Worship, Prayer, and Learning Team,
Marta Pletz

BY THE BOOK

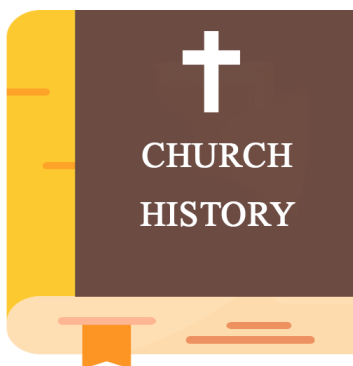


Fourteen books of the Bible are hidden in this paragraph.
Can you find them? Underline your answers.

He who judges, the Bible says, will be himself judged,
so the ruthless man repented of his evil acts.

“Just look at the numbers!” he remarked in loud
lamentations when he realized what a jam, estranged
from God, he was in. “This is a revelation to me, and
now I want to do a better job.” He regrets he was
lacking so much in wisdom, and now the man sings
praises, psalms, and follows wise proverbs. He is not
lukewarm, but firmly believes there is forgiveness in
Jesus.

Answers are on page 11.



Mt. Pisgah History of the Importance of the Bible

Under the leadership of Rev. Dr. P. S. Jennings, (1878—1903), Presbyterians gathered at a small school located on School Street in Green Tree. Without Bibles, the minister would say the words, one sentence at a time, and the congregation would repeat the scripture.

An increase in attendance made it necessary to find a new worship center. An empty house on Poplar Street provided space for the Mt. Pisgah Church.

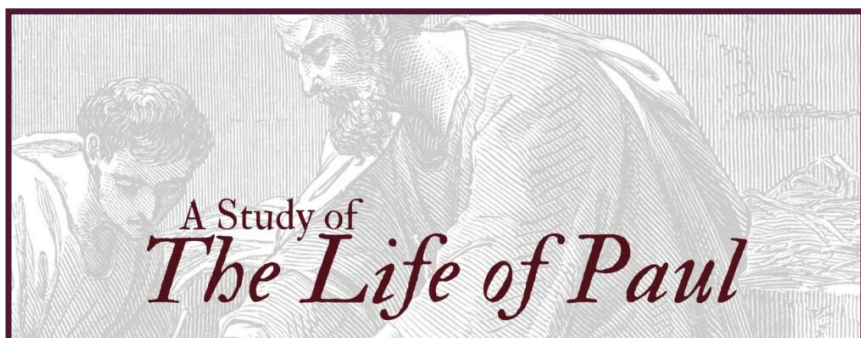
Finally, with \$50, land was purchased on Warriors Road. With a lot of energy and manpower, Mt. Pisgah Church was underway.

Praise and thanks to God for His ever-lasting leadership and love.

May the Church Bells Always Be Ringing.

Luella Brazier

From the Worship, Learning and Prayer Team:



Please join us after worship on the first and third Sundays of each month as we continue to study Paul – his life, his teaching, and his example.

It would be our blessing to fellowship around tables with you for this most wonderful study of the Apostle Paul!

July worship services will be based on the following scripture readings:

- 8/2 In Christ: Rubbing Shoulders with the Strong and Powerful, Ephesians 2
- 8/9 The Household Codes: Walking in the Right Way Romans 12
- 8/16 The Household Codes: Husbands and Wives Ephesians 5:15-33; Colossians 3:12-17
- 8/23 The Household Codes: Children and Parents Ephesians 6:1-4; Colossians 3:12-17
- 8/30 The Household Codes: Servants and Masters Ephesians 6:5-9; Colossians 3:12-17

Solution to Puzzle on page 9:

Judges, Ruth, Acts, Numbers, Mark, Lamentations, James, Revelation, Job, Kings, Psalms, Proverbs, Luke, Esther



Lord,
Thank you for the people
you have placed in my life.
Help me to cherish them
and give you praise for
their presence in my life.
Amen

Based on
Romans 1:8

*This prayer will appear at the end of the BUZZ each week.
~Submitted by Marilyn Costentino for the Prayer Team*

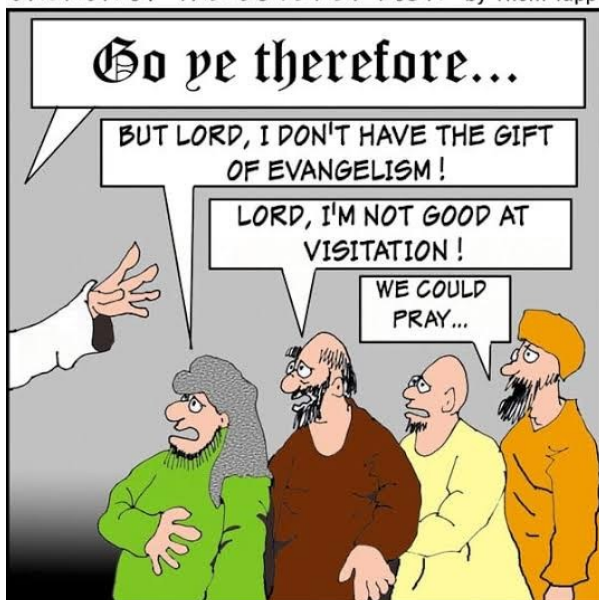
**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

*Please email September
VIEW articles to
37.s.devey@gmail.com
by **August 19.**
Thank you!*

On the Lighter Side . . .

Submitted by
Sharon Devey

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



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Thanks to Darla J. Fisher

02-21-2001

YEAH ... WHAT'D'YA WANT?

OUR CONGREGATION CONNECTS . . .

1 Thessalonians 5:16 “Rejoice Always!”

Who will receive an **August**
birthday wish from **you**?

4th ... Luanne Jones
5th ... Lindsay Bunner
9th ... Pastor Kay Day
14th ... Tim Stroup
15th ... Jill Standley
18th ... Joseph Dewey Fickley
24th ... Kim Cook
25th ... Claire Capes
27th ... Pam Kanai
28th ... Barb McWilliams
29th ... Linda Carlisle
30th ... Bob Weber



Bless this your child, Lord, in the year to come. May they know the comfort of your presence, the certainty of your purpose, and the consolation of your love at work in their life.

**“Let each of us please his neighbor for his good,
to build him or her up.” Romans 15:2**



August

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Mark your calendar . . .

- 2nd Adult Class following worship
- 16th Adult Class following worship
- 17th Session Meeting, 4:00 pm
- 19th September VIEW articles due (*see page 12*)
- 30th Worship, Learning & Prayer Team Meeting following worship
- 30th SCRIP Order Placed

Weekly

Wednesday, Prayer Group online 5:30 pm

Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church

Noble Manor Shopping Plaza

2350 Noblestown Road, Suite 200

Pittsburgh, PA 15205

412-921-8444 / www.mtpisgahgreentree.org