

# Heritage Happenings



A Publication of Heritage Church

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## Everywhere Jesus — What Comes Next



These past Sundays of April have been incredibly meaningful. Together, we followed the risen Jesus out of the empty tomb and into every dimension of life — into the locked rooms of our personal struggles, into the rhythms of our homes and tables, and finally out into every corner of the Ligonier Valley. The resurrection is not just an event we celebrate. It is a reality we live.

What moved me most was watching you receive the truth that you are a sent person. Not the pastor. Not the missionaries we support. You — with your gifts, your relationships, and your home. The priesthood of every believer is not a theological idea. It is the engine of everything we are called to do together.

So what comes next? I am prayerfully committed to seeing Discovery Bible Study groups multiply across the Ligonier Valley — in living rooms, around dinner tables, in every neighborhood where one willing person opens a door. I hope you will become just as committed. Together, we should continue equipping every member to see their daily life as a mission field. In other words, we are all in ministry. And we are trusting that the same risen Christ who walked through locked doors will go with us into every corner we are willing to enter.

**JESUS IN EVERY LIFE.**

**JESUS IN EVERY HOME.**

**JESUS IN EVERY CORNER.**

*Dr. Ron Geisler*

## Diaper Drive through May



Mothers living in poverty cannot afford to purchase an adequate supply of diapers for their infants or toddlers. Some must choose whether to buy diapers, food or medications. This is further complicated by the fact that diapers cannot be purchased with food stamps or WIC. Because of this, Heritage will be once again holding a diaper drive through the month of May for the Westmoreland County Diaper Bank. Diapers can be placed in the bin under the table in the stairway. The most needed sizes are 4, 5 and 6, and pullups and wipes are needed, too. Thank you for your donations.



*Sherry & Don Smith at the Ligonier Valley Hall of Fame*

April 11th's ceremony honoring the inductees to the Ligonier Valley Hall of Fame, including my father, Don Smith, was exceptional. This accolade is a fitting tribute to my father's dedication and hard work in Track & Field, and his impact on the athletes he coached is immeasurable. I'm proud of you, Dad! *Colette Jackman*

## HONORING MOM

**Mother's Day May 10th**

If you would like to make a donation in honor or memory of your mother or grandmother this Mother's Day, please fill out a form (on the table in the stairway or have it emailed) and return it, along with your donation, earmarked Mother's Day, to the Church office by **Sunday, May 3rd**. No amount is too big or too small.



Your loved one's name will appear in our special Mother's Day bulletin and your donation will help to send our youth to summer camp at Camps Allegheny, Jumonville and Wesley Woods. These camps give children the opportunity to make new friends, grow closer to God, experience new things and create memories for life.

## National Day of Prayer Breakfast May 7th



The annual Prayer Breakfast will be held at The Barn on Thursday, May 7th at 7:30 am. **Please reserve your spot by signing up on the bulletin board and picking up your free ticket at the office no later than Wednesday, April 29th.** Sponsored by the Ligonier Valley Association of Churches.

## Ladies' Brunch



### Ladies Brunch May 2nd

Circle of Ruth invites all the ladies of Heritage Church to brunch on Saturday, May 2nd, 11 am in the Lounge. Food and beverages will be provided. Please RSVP by Wednesday, April 29th on the bulletin board or call the church office. We hope you'll join us!

### Circle of Ruth Meets May 14th

Circle of Ruth will meet Thursday, May 14th at 6:30 PM in the church lounge. We will be continuing our Bible Study, *Lyrics of Life* by Lisa Harper with the session titled "A Divine Invitation to Dance." Through this session, we will know that God's faithful love for us allows us to worship him in all areas of our life without embarrassment and to step outside our comfort zone when worshipping God. Brenda Sherbondy will lead the Bible study and Sharon Shaffer will bring a dessert to share. We will be signing Father's Day cards and planning refreshments for Baccalaureate. Consider bringing diapers for the Diaper Drive. Please join us for fellowship, fun, and dessert!



*Compassion and the love of knitting/crocheting have been combined into a prayerful ministry which reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace, as well as in celebration and joy. Many blessings are prayed into every stitch.*

*The shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient. The intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. Upon completion, a final blessing is offered before the shawl is given to the recipient.*

We are looking for crocheters and knitters to create Prayer Shawls. We also have some prayer shawls that need some finishing touches. If you would like more info., please contact Ellen Yeskey at [meezhy@hotmail.com](mailto:meezhy@hotmail.com) or text 724-875-7985.

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### Serrv Shop Opens May 9th

Please sign up on the bulletin board if you can help out in the Serrv Shop. The hours are Saturdays from 11 am—2 pm beginning May 9th. Any help you can give would be appreciated.

**Moments of Invitation:** *A 15 Day Devotional Journey* inspired by the radio ministry of Rich & Gina Ziegenfus. Pick up a devotional on the table in the stairway and draw your heart closer to Jesus through Scripture, reflection, and prayer. Each devotional includes a short Scripture excerpt, a warm devotional reflection, a prayer you can speak out loud and a simple action step.



## May SOAP Readings

**SOAP bookmarks are available on the table in the stairway.**

- Scripture – which passage am I reading?
- Observation – what does this passage say about God?  
What's it say about people?
- Application – what does this passage mean for me?  
What will I do about it?
- Prayer – what is my prayer as it relates to this?

May 1	Isaiah 6:8
May 2	Isaiah 43:10
May 3	Isaiah 52:7
May 4	Isaiah 61:1
May 5	Jeremiah 1:5
May 6	Jeremiah 29:11
May 7	Proverbs 11:30
May 8	Proverbs 31:8-9
May 9	Micah 6:8
May 10	Psalms 96:3
May 11	Psalms 78:4
May 12	Ezekiel 3:17
May 13	Daniel 12:3
May 14	Joel 2:28
May 15	Habakkuk 2:2
May 16	Exodus 4:12
May 17	Matthew 28:19-20
May 18	Mark 16:15
May 19	Luke 4:18
May 20	John 20:21
May 21	Acts 1:8
May 22	Romans 10:14-15
May 23	1Corinthians 12:7
May 24	2Corinthians 5:20
May 25	Galatians 6:9
May 26	Ephesians 4:11-12
May 27	1Peter 2:9
May 28	1Peter 4:10
May 29	2Timothy 4:2
May 30	James 5:20
May 31	Revelation 22:17



### How to Think Biblically About the End Times & Avoid Heart-Breaking Confusion Class

**Saturday, June 6, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm**

With current events stirring intense prophetic speculation, Pastor Ron invites you to a biblically grounded study on eschatology - designed to bring clarity, hope and faithful perspective rather than fear or confusion. **Please RSVP by signing up on the bulletin board or contacting the office by June 1st.**

## A LEAD TEAM UPDATE

### Palm Sunday “Living Last Words” – A Grateful Celebration

Our Lead Team is delighted to share that the Palm Sunday Living Last Words Presentation welcomed approximately 70 guests from across the community. It was a moving, Spirit-filled gathering that brought Scripture, music, and reflection to life in a powerful way.

We extend heartfelt thanks to Jim Hutchinson, the gifted musicians from the Johnstown and Pittsburgh symphonies, and the dedicated members of our local choirs. Their artistry and willingness to serve made the presentation both beautiful and deeply meaningful.

We are grateful for every person who attended, supported, prayed, and participated. This event truly reflected our mission to know, follow, and share Jesus Christ with our neighbors.

### Inside Ligonier Home Tour 2026 – Planning Update

Planning continues for the Inside Ligonier Home Tour 2026, which will take place on June 27th from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Heritage Church is honored to be included among the featured sites, offering visitors a chance to explore our sanctuary and learn about our rich history in the heart of Ligonier.

In the coming weeks, we will begin soliciting volunteers to serve as hosts during tour hours. These hosts will welcome guests, share key points about the church’s history, and help ensure a warm, engaging experience for all who visit.

More details, including training dates, talking points, and volunteer sign-ups, will be shared soon.

### America 250 Celebration – Tentative Date: July 17

Heritage Church is pleased to announce that our America 250 Celebration is tentatively scheduled for July 17. As part of this special community gift, we are bringing back Jim Hutchinson, along with talented musicians from the Pittsburgh and Johnstown symphonies. Together, they will help create a memorable and uplifting birthday celebration for our nation’s 250th year.

This event is Heritage’s way of honoring our country and blessing our community with an evening of music, reflection, and unity. More details will be shared as planning continues.

### Back to School Bash & Youth Engagement Initiative

The team has begun developing plans to host a Back-to-School Bash.

A new youth-focused program designed especially for middle school students in the Ligonier Valley is underway.

We are studying ways to expand the music experience in worship, which is one of the most fruitful ways a congregation can grow in participation, joy, and spiritual depth.

These efforts support our long-range objective: to reach families and adults in their 30s and 40s within our mission field, the Ligonier Valley. By investing in our youth now, we are building trust, connection, and community with the households we hope to serve more deeply in the years ahead.



Exciting things are in the works for Kid’s Ministry! First a huge thank you to Ellen Yeskey for the wonderful program the children gave on Palm Sunday. Upcoming events in the works are programs for middle school age kids and a back to school bash. Details are being worked on at this time. VBS will be coming up in July in coordination with Camp Allegheny. As always please keep the Kid’s ministry in your prayers. Evelyn Lemmon

### WE HAVE EXTRA CRAFT SUPPLIES

If anyone needs any craft supplies such as glue, flowers, paint & paintbrushes, seashells, etc., please see Evelyn Lemmon.

### Register Now for Summer Camp!

Heritage will cover 75% of the cost for our campers who attend Camps Allegheny, Jumonville or Wesley Woods so be sure to register soon. Please let the office know when you’ve registered.



### CALLING ALL GRADUATES!



If you are affiliated with Heritage and are graduating from high school, college or graduate school this year, please let the office know by May 15th.

We’d love to share with the congregation what your future plans are and celebrate your accomplishments.

### Save the Date for VBS!

Vacation Bible School will be held July 20th -24th at The Barn. Please let Evelyn Lemmon know if you would be able to help out.



Thanks to all the kids who performed in the Easter Program on Palm Sunday and thanks to Beth Caldwell for the picture! From back left: Nathaniel Schaetzle, Colton Cavallo, Blake Swarden, Flora Coulson Emilia Schirf. Front row from left: Brylee Cavallo-LaRue, Maverick Hunter, Luke & Claire Fritz and Grace Hunter.



**Historic Information about our Pipe Organ**  
By Ron Wagner

Our church was dedicated on July 26th, 1903. On that day the congregation collected enough money to become debt free and have \$800.00 to put towards a pipe organ. The church Trustees decided to purchase an M.P. Moller organ. Mrs. Denny and Mr. Deeds signed the purchase order for the \$3,000.00 console and organ pipes from the M.P. Moller Company. The Moller company was located in Hagerstown, Maryland and was the largest reed and pipe organ manufacturer in the world.

The Trustees applied for an Andrew Carnegie grant to help with the cost of the new organ and received \$1,500.00. Andre Carnegie generally paid for half the cost of an organ for over 4,000 organs throughout the United States. Our original organ console was replaced in 1981, but the original pipes are still in place. There are **ONE THOU-**



**SAND AND TEN PIPES** that produce the great organ sound. That number doesn't include the antiphonal pipes in the back of the church. The large pipes you see above the choir loft are for decoration only. This picture shows just a few of the many pipes located behind the cross above the choir loft.

We are grateful to our Trustees for a Town Clock that is listed with the Smithsonian archive and a pipe organ that is listed with the Organ Historical Society.

**Medical Equipment Available**

Heritage Church has been gifted a number of pieces of medical assistance equipment. The items are available to be borrowed short or long term. You may use any item(s) for as long as needed. At the present time we have: wheel chairs, rollators, walkers, canes, crutches, portable toilets, tub transfer seat, shower seat, bed rail, seat assist and raised toilet seat. In order to borrow any item(s), contact Chuck Shaffer (814-341-5550) or the Church Office.

**Red Cross Blood Drive June 19th**



Heritage will host a blood drive on Friday, June 19th from 1 - 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit Red-CrossBlood.org and enter our zip code to schedule an appointment. Volunteers are needed. A sign up sheet will be on the bulletin board soon.

**COFFEE HOUSE May 15th, 7 pm**

The next Ligonier Community Coffee House will be held on Friday, May 15th, 7 pm, in the upper level of The Barn. Come out and enjoy an evening of live music, great desserts, coffee, and fellowship!



Beth Caldwell and Nancy Braun visited Stephen at Bigginz on March 27th. Stephen is doing so well, working hard at Bigginz and helping out his sister at their house. He's sad that he missed the Rummage Sale and he misses everyone. He'll be having some scans soon so please pray that they come back good.

Dear Heritage, Thank you once again for providing an amazing array of desserts for the March 20, 2026 VYN Coffee House. We had a big crowd and we had enough to sell with a bit left over to take home. You continue to bless VYN and we are so grateful. *Mary Hiles*



Myra Appleby says hello and thanks everyone for their prayers. She is in Room 105 at Bethlen and would love for you to come and visit! Beth Caldwell recently took this great picture of Myra and Diane Dennis.

**Membership News**

*Our condolences to the family and friends of Marlene Smith, who passed away at the age of 71 on April 7th at the Bethlen Home.*

*Our condolences to the family and friends of Carl Jones (Millie's husband), who passed away at the age of 90 on April 15th at Hempfield Manor.*

*Our condolences to the family and friends of Willa Keim, who passed away on April 21st at the age of 99 at the Bethlen Home. Willa would have turned 100 on May 1st.*

# May 2026

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Rich Ziegenfus w/ music by Scott Schmitt  11 am Circle of Ruth Brunch in Lounge
<b>3</b> 10:45 am Children's Church  2-4 pm Meals on Wheels Volunteer Appreciation Tea in Lounge	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6 pm Outreach Mtg. in Lounge  6 pm The Cadre Men's Group at Ziegenfus's	<b>6</b> 9:30 am MOW Mtg. in Lounge  11 am Clergy Mtg. in Lounge	<b>7</b> 7:30 am National Day of Prayer Breakfast at The Barn  	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 11 am Serrv Shop Opens  6 pm Saturday Night Service: Bob Tewart w/ music by Kasey Kisner
<b>10</b> 10:45 am Children's Church  	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6:30 pm Circle of Ruth Mtg. in Lounge	<b>15</b> 7 pm Coffee House at The Barn	<b>16</b> 11 am Serrv Shop Open  6 pm Saturday Night Service: Pastor Ron w/ music by Wayne Shaffer
<b>17</b> 10:45 am Children's Church	<b>18</b> 6:30 pm Last Monday Night Bible Study for the season	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 12 pm Newsletter Deadline  5:30 pm Education Mtg. in Lounge  12 pm Newsletter Deadline	<b>21</b> 1 pm Linus Blanket Workday in Fellowship Hall	<b>22</b> Office Closed	<b>23</b> 11 am Serrv Shop Open  6 pm Saturday Night Service: Chuck Shaffer
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Office Closed  	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 5 pm Trustees Mtg. in Lounge	<b>28</b> 6 pm Lead Team Mtg. in Multi-purpose Rm.	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 11 am Serrv Shop Open  6 pm Saturday Night Service: Pastor Ron w/ music by Scott Schmitt
<b>31</b>					<b>May Birthdays</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Birdie Roehrig 3 <sup>rd</sup> Lynn Keegan 3 <sup>rd</sup> Bradley Neiderhiser 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ginny Markle 4 <sup>th</sup> Ethan Neiderhiser 6 <sup>th</sup> Gary Garrison 7 <sup>th</sup> Donnie Gilbert 7 <sup>th</sup> Dick Markle 9 <sup>th</sup> Saylor Clise 10 <sup>th</sup> Scott Watson 11 <sup>th</sup> Shawn Cavallo Cara Evans 12 <sup>th</sup> Chuck Shaffer 16 <sup>th</sup> Sarah Zimmerman 18 <sup>th</sup> Caden Watson 19 <sup>th</sup> Phoebe Kelley 19 <sup>th</sup> Caleb Geisler 20 <sup>th</sup> Evan Kelly 24 <sup>th</sup> Emily Daugherty 24 <sup>th</sup> Julie Goswick 26 <sup>th</sup> Brooke Thomas 27 <sup>th</sup> Katherine Burson 28 <sup>th</sup> Dennis Rising Sherry Smith 30 <sup>th</sup> Brenda George	

### Regular and Weekly Meetings

Sunday 8:30 & 10:45 am Worship Services  
9:40 am Sunday School  
Monday 6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study  
Tuesday 6:00 pm Cub Scouts in Fellowship Hall  
Weds 8:00 pm AA Mtg. in Fellowship Hall  
Friday 8:00 pm AA Mtg. in Fellowship Hall  
Saturday 11:00 am Serrv Shop  
6:00 pm Saturday Night Service

### Happy Anniversary!

May 25<sup>th</sup> Bethanie Orban & Keith Gough  
May 27<sup>th</sup> Pastor Ron & Pastor Melissa  
May 28<sup>th</sup> Barb & Roger Johnson