

Heritage Happenings



A Publication of Heritage Church

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September 2026

TIME TO COME HOME

A message from the Pastor



I've missed some faces around here lately. Maybe yours is one of them.

Summer does something to us. It loosens our grip on our schedules. One trip turns into two Sundays off, and before long, the rhythm we used to have just drifts. Nobody plans to drift.

It just happens, quietly, one skipped week at a time. And I get it. Life is full. But I also know this: the version of you that shows up matters more than you think, both to this church and to your own soul.

Here's what I keep coming back to — our covenant with each other isn't fine print. It's a promise. We pledged our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness to this family, not because God needs our attendance, but because we need each other. You were never meant to walk this out alone.

So as September rolls around, I'm not asking for perfect. I'm asking for your presence. Come as you are. Grace got you this far. Grace will meet you in the doorway too. I'll be looking for you.

Pastor Ron



SEPTEMBER WEEKEND TEACHING

THE WIDE TABLE

Welcoming People Is How God Grows You

Beginning September 6, 2026

Ligonier is a town of long memory. We know each other's names. We know each other's families. We know who belongs at the table — and, if we're honest, we know who we're still deciding about.

But God's table is wider than ours.

This September, we are going to sit at the table together — and ask what it looks like to become the kind of church where a stranger walks in and feels the welcome of Christ.

This series is not about trying harder. It's about remembering deeper. Every one of us was once the person who didn't belong. Every one of us was let in by grace we didn't earn. And that same grace is now inviting us to make room for the next person God is bringing.

Bring somebody. Save somebody a seat. Because the wide table is not a metaphor. It's the church God is making us into.



Those fish never stood a chance! Several of our Heritage family and friends went on a fishing trip to Gustavus, Alaska the second week of August and obviously had a successful time of it. Pictured from left: Greg Schaetzle, Nathaniel Schaetzle, Alan Schaetzle, Mike Yeskey and Kevin Yeskey.



Fall Rummage Sale Sept. 18-19

The Outreach Committee is holding the annual Fall Rummage Sale & Luncheon on Friday, September 18 from 8 am – 4 pm and Saturday, September 19 from 8 am - noon. All proceeds support local and global mission projects.

Donations of good, clean, usable clothing and household items are needed. NOTE: No TVs, computers or other electronics! Place donations of clothing and smaller items in the Pancake Kitchen any time. NOTE: The Pancake Kitchen has been flooding recently – only items in plastic totes or bags should be placed on the floor; boxes etc. must be placed on the griddles or the table! Do not bring any furniture or large items to the church until closer to the sale. If you need assistance getting your donations to the church, call Chuck Shaffer at 814-341-5550. In addition, donations of sandwiches, desserts, etc. are needed for the luncheon.

We will need help moving the rummage into Fellowship Hall on Tuesday afternoon, arranging the sale items on Wednesday & Thursday beginning at 9 AM, and assisting with the sale and luncheon beginning at 7:45 AM on Friday & Saturday. Additional help is needed at 12:15 PM on Saturday to pack up and cleanup.

Your help is needed! Signup sheets are posted on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs.

UPCOMING



& Small Groups



Discipleship Classes

2 Fall Options

Sundays 9:40 am – 10:30 am

DISCOVERING HERITAGE

A Membership & Partnership Pathway

Is God calling you to become a member/partner of Heritage Church? Following this class, we will be happy to receive you as a member. Sign up on the bulletin board or by contacting the office by 1 pm on Tuesday, September 8th.

Sunday September 13

Sunday September 20

Sunday September 27

(all classes must be attended)

MAKING SENSE OF THE BIBLE

How to Get the Most Out of My Bible Reading

Reading and understanding the Bible can be challenging. While there might be challenges, we can admit that regular reading of the Bible helps us know God better, live a more fulfilling life, know God's will, and obey him. In this class you'll learn an easy plan for reading and understanding your Bible.

Sunday October 18

Sunday October 25

Sunday November 1

**All University of the Holy Spirit classes are open to those 13 and older.*

Circle of Ruth Meets Sept. 10th

Circle of Ruth will meet Thursday, September 10th at 6:30 PM in the church lounge. We will be beginning a new study, *"When Changing Nothing Changes Everything"* by Laurie Polich Short. Laurie reveals how even if we can't change our circumstances, we can still make changes in our life by the way we see it. With the help of 4 "lenses," she shows how to access God's perspective on our circumstances, which can impact the way we live. Ellen Yeskey will lead the Bible study and Wendy Treasure will bring a dessert to share. All women are invited! Please join us for fellowship, fun, and dessert! Please enter through the alley door.



Monday Night Bible Study Begins Sept. 14th



All are welcome to join us in the lounge Mondays at 6:30 pm for the Monday Night Bible Study. We will be starting a new study called "In the Footsteps of the Savior" by Max Lucado.

Please enter through the alley door.

Garrison Men's Group Resumes Sept. 14th

The Garrison Men's Group will begin on Monday, September 14. We will be meeting from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at my home, located at 210 D W Lane, Laughlintown, PA 15655. Our group will run every Monday, with our last day being November 2. My phone number is 814-525-8488 if anyone is interested in joining, text or call. Thanks, Wes Evans.

Cadre Men's Group Resumes Sept. 29th

The Cadre Men's Group will resume meeting on Tuesday, September 29th at 6 pm and will continue through November 17th.



PASTOR'S CHURCH & COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY

THE WRONG KIND OF PEOPLE

Learning to Welcome Like Jesus Welcomed You

Join us for an important six-week Bible study starting **Thursday, September 24, 2026 at 9 am** **at the Ligonier Valley Senior Center.**

Reflect on the pivotal moment when someone welcomed you unconditionally. Unconditional welcome is central to our faith. In **Luke 5-8**, Jesus decisively chooses those deemed unworthy, and every person leaves transformed, ready to extend that same grace to others. This study demands your participation to reclaim that vital experience and empower you to become a person who freely welcomes others.



Linus Blanketeers Meet Sept. 24th

Linus Blanketeers will meet a week later in September due to the Rummage Sale (not a week earlier due to a mistake on the calendar...). All are welcome to take part in making Linus Blankets on Thursday, September 24th, 1 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there!



September 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?

September 1	Genesis 18:1-8
September 2	Genesis 19:1-3
September 3	Exodus 22:21-24
September 4	Leviticus 19:33-34
September 5	Deuteronomy 10:18-19
September 6	Deuteronomy 26:12-13
September 7	Judges 19:16-21
September 8	Ruth 2:8-13
September 9	Job 31:31-32
September 10	Psalms 146:7-9
September 11	Isaiah 58:6-7
September 12	Jeremiah 7:5-7
September 13	Ezekiel 47:21-23
September 14	Zechariah 7:9-10
September 15	Malachi 3:1-5
September 16	Matthew 25:35-40
September 17	Matthew 10:40-42
September 18	Mark 9:36-37
September 19	Luke 10:38-42
September 20	Luke 14:12-14
September 21	Luke 14:16-24
September 22	Luke 15:1-7
September 23	Luke 19:1-10
September 24	John 13:34-35
September 25	Acts 10:34-35
September 26	Acts 27:42-28:2
September 27	Romans 12:9-13
September 28	Romans 15:5-7
September 29	Ephesians 2:11-22
September 30	1 Peter 4:9-10



Back to School Bash August 15th

On Saturday, August 15th, we held our first Back to School Bash at The Barn in Ligonier. Our Kids Ministry director, Evelyn Lemmon, and her team engaged with children and families from our community during a morning filled with fun, games, food, and the distribution of FREE backpacks for kids preparing for school. We were able to connect with twenty-three families, many of whom do not attend Heritage, and build new relationships with them. Thanks to everyone who served and brought the good news of Jesus into people's lives.



Baptism at Keystone Lake

On Sunday, August 16th at Keystone Lake, we celebrated the baptism of four individuals as they took their next right step with Jesus. Baptism is a significant milestone; it publicly identifies us with Jesus and connects us to our church family. We plan to make baptism at the lake an annual event. We aim to be a church that witnesses Jesus transforming every life, every home, and every corner of the Ligonier Valley. Let's stay focused on our purpose as we live and serve Jesus together. Pictured from left: Dave Sherbondy, Pastor Ron, Ann Beck, Rich Ziegenfus, Frank & Sue Carns.



Communion/Visitation Ministry

Heritage Church has several people who are homebound and would love visits and to be served communion. Do you have a heart to care for people and serve them? We would like to invite you to join our Home communion/Visitation team. Reach out to the office for more information on how to join this ministry. Training is provided.



[Awaken + Equip - Lakeside Church | Dubois, PA](https://alleghenywestgmc.org/events/-awaken-equip-dubois/) - November 20, 2026 - November 21, 2026 - 6:00 pm - 4:00 pm (Save the Date – more details to come!)

<https://alleghenywestgmc.org/events/-awaken-equip-dubois/>

Celebrating 15 Years of the Saturday Night Service!



During our September 26 Saturday Night Service, we will be celebrating 15 years of the Saturday Night Service. Our first service was held on September 22, 2012. Pastor John Flower gave the first message. Since that service,

we have had 66 different Saturday Night speakers. We thank all of those speakers who have supported the service. We thank all of you who have attended and supported our church. Please come and hear Pastor Ron give His message that night. Jesus said, "Come and you will see."



A big thank you to Bob Winters for the beautiful music he provides on Sunday mornings and for special services throughout the year. Bob has been playing the piano since the age of 5 and has composed many pieces of music along with mastering the "greats." In case you weren't aware, he has two CDs available for sale (\$5 each) and the proceeds go to missions. There aren't many CDs left, so if you would like to purchase one, please contact the office.



Church Family, Thank you for helping me go to Wrangler Camp. I loved it and I made 12 new friends. I learned a lot and had a lot of fun, too! I can't wait to go next year. Thank you again, Emilia Schirf



Beth Caldwell visited Stephen Cieslo at Bigginz on August 5th. Stephen misses all of us and needs lots of prayers as he's headed back to Indianapolis for surgery to remove his spleen and two spots on his abdomen on August 24th. They are doing the surgery laparoscopically so he should only be there for a few days if all goes well. Prayers also for his sister, Stephanie, as she helps get him through this.



On behalf of the Outreach Committee, I would like to thank the members and friends of Heritage for your support on August 7th as we initiated our newest fundraising venture – setting up a "hot dog stand" during the Stroll. We are grateful for the 23 volunteers who donated food supplies and/or helped prepare, cook, serve and clean up. Even though the crowds were very sparse because of the storm, we made a profit of \$361 for the mission budget. Thank you again, *Chuck Shaffer*, Chairperson Pictured top from left: Ellen Yeskey, Winnie Lynn and Shirley Nipps. Bottom from left: Loni Lenhart, Gus Niapas, Ken Orme, Mike Yeskey & Chuck Shaffer.



Praise God, Roar like a Lion, and make some noise for Jesus Christ! Thank you so much for letting us play and praise & Fellowship at your church picnic. The food was great, the trivia was fun, and the Holy Spirit was present!!! Thanks for the love offering. Dan Graboski & The “Glory Guys.” United Thru Christ.

Thank you to all who helped to plan this year’s picnic in the Fellowship Hall! And thank you to Beth Caldwell for the photo!

Joyce Hines would like to thank everyone for their cards, calls and prayers following her hip surgery on August 7th. She’s doing really well and I’m pretty sure she’ll be back to running circles around the rest of us in no time. ☺



Thank you to Gary Black and Rick McLaughlin for all of their hard work replacing the track lighting in the sanctuary. Got an actual picture of them in action this time, but I kind of liked the other picture better.... ☺



Proud grandma here! Since a lot of you have gotten to know my family over the past 20 years, I thought I’d share that my son, Michael, and his wife, Elizabeth, welcomed baby Emma Rae Lenhart on August 17th. This is our first

grandbaby so we’re pretty excited! ☺
Beth Lenhart, Church Secretary



Oil Painting/\$25 – Dottie Johnson News

This beautiful oil painting by de Gelder, had been hanging in Dottie Johnson’s living room, but she has donated it to Outreach to raise money for missions. This lovely piece of art can be yours for just \$25! Contact Chuck or the office if interested. You can view the painting in the hallway by the downstairs elevator.

Why did Dottie donate this lovely artwork, you ask? I can give you the answer, which is a happy one for her, but sad for us. Dottie will be moving to Connecticut on September 22nd to be closer to her family. We will miss her but she promised to keep in touch. If you would like to send Dottie a card once she gets settled into her new home, the address is: Dottie Johnson, Apt. 107, Suffield by the River, 7 Canal Rd., Suffield CT 06078.

Where has summer gone??? I know for myself it was a busy but fun summer.

Finishing up Children’s Church for the summer at the end of May. VBS in July where 22 kids enjoyed a week of games, crafts and learning more about Jesus. Only one half day of rain made for a wonderful hot week!! Many of the kids and parents are looking forward to coming back next year.



Then 3 weeks later we had our Back to School Bash! There were 45 children signed up for the event and 23 children and their parents showed up that day for games and crafts, grilled hotdogs (by our own grill master, Pastor Ron), chips, cookies and water. It gave us a chance to connect with families in the community both near and far! Sign of success was no one seemed to be anxious to leave! But more importantly the kids were very excited with picking out their backpacks and the goodies inside them! The families that weren’t able to make it were notified to come to the church and pick out a backpack.

There are still a number of backpacks available so spread the word!

None of this would have happened if it were not the many faithful servants that provided cookies, prepared lunches, served lunches, transported stuff to The Barn, returned stuff to the church, supervised games and crafts or cleaned up!! It does take a village to do God’s work! Thanks to all!!!

Now onto Children’s Church as that program continues to grow!

Evelyn Lemmon, Director of Kid’s Ministry

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		01	02	03	04	05
			11 am Clergy Mtg. in Lounge		Office Closed	6 pm Saturday Night Service: Rich Ziegenfus w/music by Scott Schmitt
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
4-6 pm Youth Group	Office Closed for Labor Day			6:30 pm Circle of Ruth Mtg. in Lounge		6 pm Saturday Night Service: Pastor Ron w/music by Kasey Kisner
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:40 am Membership Class in Lounge 10:45 am Children's Church	6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study	1 pm Move Rummage 6 pm Cub Scout Mtg. in Fellowship Hall	9 am Set Up Rummage 5:30 pm Kids Ministry Mtg. in Lounge	9 am Set Up Rummage	8 am – 4 pm Rummage Sale	8 am – Noon Rummage Sale 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Pastor Ardi Hill
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:40 am Membership Class in Lounge 10:45 am Children's Church	6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study	6 pm Cub Scout Mtg. in Fellowship Hall		9 am Pastor's Bible Study at LV Sr Center 1 pm Linus in Fellowship Hall 6 pm Lead Team Mtg. in MPR.		6 pm Saturday Night Service: Pastor Ron 
27	28	29	30			
9:40 am Membership Class in Lounge 10:45 am Children's Church	6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study	6 pm The Cadre Men's Group Mtg. at Ziegenfus's 6 pm Cub Scout Mtg. in Fellowship Hall	5 pm Trustees Mtg. in Lounge			

Regular and Weekly Meetings

Sunday 8:30 & 10:45 am Worship Services
10:45 am Children's Church
Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 1:00 pm Meals on Wheels
6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study
7:30 pm The Garrison Men's Group
Tuesday 6:00 pm Cub Scout Mtg. in Fellowship Hall
Wednesday 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!

4th Dick & Ginny Markle
5th Dennis & Nancy Rising
7th Stan & Diana Neiderhiser
22nd Maureen & Bryan Vincent

Happy Birthday!

1st Diane Dennis
2nd Jackson Daugherty
3rd Frank Hodges
2nd Nevaeh Cavallo
4th Bill Pritts
7th Eric Schell, Jr.
Isabella Petrilla
8th Melissa Geisler
9th Bill Stablein
9th Molly Weaver
10th Wendy Black
17th Linda McDowell
19th Ava Weakland
20th Ann Woodall
22nd Shilo Petrilla
24th Stan Neiderhiser
29th Jessica Prieto