



October 2019
Volume 3, Issue 10



The Vineyard

Here at the Mount Joy Church of God, our logo is the fruit of the vine: grapes. Our colors are purple, green, and gold: the color of grapes, healthy leaves, branches, and vines. Our newsletter is called "The Vineyard." Why? It's what we aspire to as a community of faith: to be a vineyard. What kind of place is a vineyard? It's a place of growth. It's a place of pruning (ouch). It's a place of life and fruit bearing. It can be all those things, but only when the branches remain connected to the Vine.

We want our church to be a place of growth, pruning, life, and fruit. That's the church at its best, but only when the individual branches—you and I—remain connected to the Vine. Jesus said in John 15:5, "I am the Vine, you are the branches; those who remain connected to me, and me to them, bear much fruit." May this publication help you be pruned, grow, bear fruit, and remain connected to the Vine. May it help you be a useful, lively part of this Vineyard.

Enter into his gates
with thanksgiving,
and into his courts
with praise: be
thankful unto him,
and bless his
name.

~ Psalm 100:4

Connect With Us

Mount Joy Church of God
30 East Main Street
Mount Joy, PA 17552
717.653.4695
www.mountjoychurchofgod.org

Happenings

- Congregational Meeting—
October 20th
- 4th Friday
Outreach—
October 25th

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October Celebrations

1 — Jill Mitzel

2 — Chris Knode

3— George & Shirley Halbleib

7 — Leslie Bistline

8 — Pam Kaylor

10 — Judy Maxwell, Zach Trigg, Kevin &
Brenda Barnhart

12 — JJ McNece

14 — Gwen Snyder

16 — Ron Fry

18 — Brenda Glessner

19 — Fritz Neufeld

22 — Cindy Kreider

23 — Ethel Lueders

24 — Phil & Mindy Erb

25 — Steve Wander

26 — Kadey Kreider, Karla Neufeld

27 — Laura Zimmerman

29 — Bob Brinser

**We wish all of you a happy and blessed
birthday and/or anniversary!**

Branching Out

John & Toni Thumma

October Missionaries



Contact:

Email: jbthumma@wildblue.net



John & Toni Thumma began their pastoral leadership at Hooghan Nizhoni Church in September 2006. Their giftedness and exemplary servant leadership uniquely prepared them for this assignment among Native Americans.

John is an avid student and teacher of God's Word. His "people skills" have been recognized by those who know him best. Short-term missions trips to Central America and to Navajoland have deepened his desire to serve others. Toni loves

to work with teenagers and is an accomplished musician and singer. She has completed a Master of Social Work degree at California University of PA.

In January 2010, John also began preaching at Gamarco Church of God (northside of Gallup) and was appointed as their pastor in July '10. Since then, the Thummas have been serving both churches.

The Thummas are members of the Mechanicsburg, PA First Church of God.

Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

- Psalms 27:14



4th Friday Outreach



Volunteer or Donate!

We will be participating in the Main Street Mount Joy's 4th Friday Trick-or-Treat Evening on Friday, October 25, 2019. We will have games, hot chocolate, goodie bags, crafts, and more!

We are in need of:

- Donations of bags of candy for this event. Sign up sheet is in the lobby
- Volunteers for games, handing out goodie bags, set up, tear-down, crafts, greeters, etc,
- People to stuff the goodie bags

Please contact Heather Stark if you want to help with this event.



I was fresh out of college and had just entered the workforce. As I look back now, I remember feeling like I had something unique to offer. I wasn't some run-of-the-mill college grad, I was a Veteran. I was married for 4 years and had paid my way since I left Big Spring High School (go Bulldogs!). I had a new confidence in myself that came from the success of my time in the Army, my time working on the freight docks, and my time in the classroom.

I was going to make a difference.

I didn't know a thing.

One of my most effective managers was Jerry Butler. It was 1998 and I'd recently created a bit of a problem for Jerry because I'd turned down a prospective client for one of our biggest agents. The agent had made a stink of things in front of an executive council and now that stink had rolled downhill and landed on Jerry's desk.

Now I was sitting in front of Jerry and the stink was on me.

I told Jerry that this was bad business. I'm an underwriter and I won't bore you with the details, but in my explanation to Jerry I said that it was "black and white" and that this account just didn't pass the test. Jerry pondered my answer and then said to me, "success isn't ever defined in how we manage the black and white, it's how we manage the gray. David, can you see the gray?"

One of the most famous passages of scripture is found in 1 Kings 3: 16-28. Two mothers living in the same house both have a child within days of each other. One of the mothers rolled onto her baby in the night and the child died. In her grief, she swaps babies with the other mother. The deceived mother realizes very quickly what had happened and demands her child's return. The case was brought before King Solomon. Recognizing the conundrum, he requests his sword stating "cut the baby in half, that way each can have part of him." The real mother is quickly identified because of her love of the child and order is restored.

King Solomon understood that the only way to get to any answers about justice, he needed to look into the women's heart. Even in the most black and white case of maternity, without managing the gray, without examining grief, envy, and the motives of the heart, he could never arrive at an acceptable conclusion.

One thing King Solomon did not do, however, was respond to this situation with emotion. He used his discernment.

As a Church, we've entered, arguably, the most challenging days any of us have ever faced. Some of us are heartbroken. Others are not. Some of us are thinking of what has been lost. Others are thinking of what could be gained. We all know the basics, but we crave more detail. Some know all sides, others just know one side. Everyone has an opinion.

Here is what I know.

Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."

I shared with some of you how my emotions bounced like a tennis ball, one day I'm mad, others I'm sad. Some days I want to leave, other days I'm supporting this church.

Which honestly, is really sorta dumb.

I come into this Church because I love God and because I really love hanging out with all of you. You are my biggest friend group. I love watching Mary and Melanie dancing, I love Rachael Cramer and her awesome hugs, I love Buck's humor and Jon Givens massive handshakes.

I used the King Solomon story for a reason and I want you to think carefully about how the answer applies to you.

Can you kill the baby?

This Church has life and friendships. Bonds that span decades and bonds that are brand new. We have some vibrant small groups, singing groups and Sunday School classes.

The thing that we need in this most trying of times isn't an emotional or angry response to a situation fully outside of our control. It is to bond together in love and in friendship and weather the storm. We need to talk with each other on Sunday mornings and be a community.

Come and fellowship with me. Be a family with me. Let's support our Church and each other as this all plays out.

God may just show us all that, in the end, His plans were bigger than ours.

Pastor Appreciation Month

BIBLE STUDY CURRICULUM

Have you signed up for your FREE RightNow Media Account?! There are tons of topics and even Christian shows for kids! it's like the Netflix of Christian Bible Study. Contact Heather Stark for more information.

rightnow MEDIA



Please remember to thank our pastors during the month of October for Pastor Appreciation month!

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

~ Matthew 6:33

Fellowship Sunday

Did you know that every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month is Fellowship Sunday? (Except for the month of September)

We are in need of people to sign up to donate light refreshments on these days.

If this is an area where you can serve, please sign up on the bulletin board in the lobby. Contact Buck McNece for more information.

Thank you!

Grafting—Church Financials

August 2019 Financial Information

General Fund

Income	\$13,737.76
Expenses	\$18,363.84
Balance	\$26,039.58

Building Fund

Income	\$ 980.00
Expenses	\$ 900.00
Balance	\$26,327.53



Congregational Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

What: Congregational Meeting

When: Sunday, October 20, 2019

Right after the Sunday Morning Worship Service



BLANKET SUNDAY



Join us as we raise funds to give blankets to those in need.

Church of God Seniors

CHURCH OF GOD SENIORS (COGS) will be meeting on Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 11:30 AM.

This year will be a "Travel Year" taking us all over the world to such places as Bermuda, Mediterranean River Cruise, Italy, Kenya, Caribbean Islands, European Town to Town Walking Tour and hopefully South Africa.

Come join us the 2nd Thursday of each month (except January) for a delicious meal and then find out where we will be traveling! Experienced "tour guides" (right from our churches) will be there to lead us on our adventures!



Miracles of Jesus: Sunday School Class

Join a variety of teachers as we unpack the Miracles of Jesus in this 7 part RightNow Media Study. Meeting in the Upper Fellowship Hall on Sunday Mornings at 10:30 am.



2020 - Proposed Budget

MOUNT JOY CHURCH OF GOD 2020 Proposed Budget

Category	<u>2019 Budget</u>	<u>2020 Budget</u>
1. Buildings and Grounds		
Utilities	\$14,850	\$14,350
Repairs & Maintenance	\$11,000	\$11,000
Insurance Property/Liability	\$7,250	\$7,000
Building Fund(Capital Improvement)	\$26,000	\$26,000
Custodial Services	\$6,500	\$6,500
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$65,600</u>	<u>\$64,850</u>

2. General Operations

Office Expenses	\$16,000	\$18,000
Church Ministries	\$17,450	\$17,650
Christian Education	\$2,500	\$3,000
Youth Ministry	\$3,000	\$3,000
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$38,950</u>	<u>\$41,650</u>

3. Outreach Ministry/Benevolent Activities

ERC Tithe (10% of GF Income)	\$27,000	\$27,500
Missionary Rallies	\$4,000	\$4,000
Doubling Gap	\$3,500	\$3,500
Winebrenner Seminary	\$3,000	\$3,000
Radio Bible Class(Daily Bread)	\$500	\$500
Missionary of the Month *	\$3,000	\$3,000
Miscellaneous Outreach	\$4,000	\$4,000
Benevolent Fund*	\$12,000	\$9,000
SUBTOTAL	<u>\$57,000</u>	<u>\$54,500</u>

* Includes annual donations to Rainbow's End, Mount Joy Food Bank ,Retired Pastors Hospitalization, ECHC and Missionary of the Month

4. Personnel Wages/Expenses

Pastoral and Support Staff	\$155,100	\$154,338
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$316,650</u>	<u>\$315,338</u>

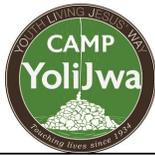
Receipts (June 18-May 19)

General Fund:	\$297,847
Building Fund	\$10,098
Sunday School Missions	\$347
Total Receipts	<u>\$308,292</u>

Deacons

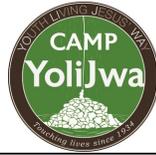
Mark Poole
Brian Mutterspaugh
Sue Sterling
Beverly White
Amy Miller

A DETAILED COPY OF THE BUDGET IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST TO THE DEACONS.



CAMP YOLIJWA UPDATE

October 2019



WINTER RETREATS!

Learn more about Jesus, see summer friends & enjoy winter activities!
Brochures coming SOON!



Junior Blast	3rd-5th	Dec. 6-8
Jr. High Breakaway	6th-8th	Dec. 13-15
Sr. High Bash	9th-12th	Dec. 20-21

CHECK US OUT ONLINE!

www.campyolijwa.org

- Check out DGC's schedule of events!
- Contact YoliJwa's staff
 - Find current forms and brochures
- Church promotions & videos!



WINTER PICNIC!

January 26, 2020

Games ★ Open Gym ★ Winter Sports

Bring a side dish or dessert to share at the supper. Meat & drink provided by the Camp. Join in the spirit by dressing for the theme. Stay tuned for more details or contact the camp!

www.campyolijwa.org



CAMP COUNSELORS

It only takes a spark...

To get a fire going! It is never too early to consider serving as one of over 350 volunteer counselors. Guide a group of 6-7 campers through activities, lead devotions and make an eternal difference! Applications available in February.



Phone: (717)776-5281 www.campyolijwa.org



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