



**OUR MISSION**: Pointing People To Jesus

**OUR VISION**: To build disciples of Christ that will develop disciples of Christ and to be a church that is pursuing God, extending compassion and building community.

Deacons & Elders will meet September 5<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM & 7:00 PM

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM & Friday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM - (540)949-8670

E-Mail: office@westwaynesboro.com Website: www.westwaynesboro.com

YouTube: West Waynesboro Church of Christ **Facebook: West Waynesboro Church of Christ** 



West Waynesboro Witness

2023





# **Church Work Day**

Saturday, September 9th @ 9:30 AM Rain Date: Saturday, September 16th @ 9:00 AM A list of tasks to be completed and suggested tools is at the Information Counter in the lobby. Questions? Contact Tim Simpson.



In honor of Labor Day, the church office will be closed on Monday, September 4th.



Faith Promise Mission Sunday, September 17th Kit Dotson from Milligan University.



Kit will be our guest speaker during the worship service.

There will be a combined Sunday School group meeting in the Sanctuary @ 9:30 AM. This will be an opportunity for you to learn more about this ministry and to ask questions about the Kingdom work that is being done. There will be a carry in meal after the service. Chicken will be provided. Please sign up to bring a side dish.

# **Member's Moments**

office@westwaynesboro.com

The parable of the sower from **Matthew 13:3-9;19-23** begins with the preaching of the Word and the planting of the seed in the hearts of people. The seed is God's Word; the various soils represent different kinds of hearts; and the varied results show the different responses to the Word of God.

**The Seed is the Word of God.** The Word, like seed, must be planted to do any good. It must be cultivated, nurtured, and protected. Jesus explained in this parable that it is not enough for a believer to listen to the Word. He must *hear* it, receive it into his heart, and let it take root and grow.

**The Sower Is One Who Shares the Word.** Anyone who shares God's Word today is a sower. Seed may be a polished sermon, a simple witness to a friend, a sentence in a letter, or even a song—but if it contains the Word, it is seed being sown. **Patience** is needed to sow. He dare not harvest too soon. As Mark 4:28 puts it: "All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head."

The Soil Represents the Human Heart. Since God's Word is seed, and our hearts are soil, our hearts can respond to God's Word. They are made for each other. This does not mean that the heart is *naturally* spiritual, but it does mean that when the seed and the soil get together there can be germination, and there can be fruit. Jesus explains that there are four kinds of hearts in this world, and He identifies them according to the way they respond to the seed of God's Word.

*The hard heart*. Understanding must precede spiritual life. In this illustration, the fault did not lie with the seed; the problem was with the soil. It was too hard. But can a hard heart be changed? Yes, it can be plowed up and prepared for the seed. The prophet Hosea advised, "Break up your unplowed ground; for it is time to seek the Lord" (Hosea 10:12).

*The shallow heart*. The soil in Israel lies on a thick layer of limestone. Where the soil is thin, the roots of a germinating seed cannot go very far. As a result, the shoot springs up quickly but there is no root system to sustain the plant. No roots mean no water. When the sun comes up, the shoot is scorched and dies. This represents an emotional hearer who hears the Word but does not really receive it so that it is rooted in his heart. His response is purely emotional, shallow, and temporary.

*The crowded heart.* The soil described in verse 22 was not clean. It had in it seeds for noxious plants (weeds). The weeds represent those influences from the world that choke the seed and keep it from bearing fruit. Jesus identified these weeds as "the worries of this life and deceitfulness of wealth." The person with this heart never really repented and turned from his sins. It is important to note that none of these first three hearts underwent salvation.

*The fruitful heart.* The fact that Jesus called this heart "good soil" does not mean He was saying people basically have good hearts. The heart of man is basically sinful. This heart is good in contrast to the other three hearts. It receives the Word (unlike the hard heart), understands the Word (unlike the shallow heart), and holds fast what it receives (unlike the crowded heart).

The secret of a fruitful heart is a hearing ear. As Christians, we must take care of our spiritual sense of hearing. We must beware of only wanting to hear new and sensational things which may turn us away from God's truth, or even stop up our ears so that we refuse to listen to God's voice. We need the attitude young Samuel had when he said, "Speak, for your servant is listening" (1 Samuel 3:10).

Roger Slack

# Kate's Korner

Kate Parrish, Youth & Children's Director kate@westwaynesboro.com

"The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever." Isaiah 40:8

As we enter a new season, this verse is a reminder of our dependency on God and His word. Just as the seasons change in nature, we go through seasons in our own lives. There are seasons of growth, self reflection, learning, and even loss. Some seasons are easier to handle than others. This verse from the book of Isaiah is an example how things can change, die, or disappear, but the word of God is permanent. We have to shift our focus and mindset from things that are temporary or worldly and replace them with those that are permanent and eternal. God and His word is the foundation of our beliefs and the truth we can daily stand on.

Also, please do not hesitate to contact me if you need anything or have any questions.

God Bless, Kate



# **Baptism**

Whether you are just deciding to follow Christ or have been following Christ for years, if you have never been baptized, baptism is for you! If you would like to take this next step, come forward during the invitation at the end of the service, email office@westwavnesboro.com, call the church office or indicate your desire on your connection card.

Acts 2:38, "...Repent and be baptized every one of you...



#### Children's Ministry!

All Elementary children are invited to participate in Children's Church. They will be dismissed as a group to go downstairs, before the sermon.

Wee - Worship for all Pre-school children meets during the entire service.\* Please check your kid(s) in at the station in the lobby.



#### **Grundy Mountain Mission School**

If you would like to help provide Christmas gifts for the students at the Grundy Mountain Mission School, Bea Benson will be collecting funds & gift cards. They will be accepting donations until September 24th. Gift cards must be either Walmart or Visa gift cards, as Grundy has limited shopping options. Thank You for your generosity!



# **Missions Meeting** Tuesday, September 26th@ 7:00 PM



#### **Caring Connections-Grief Support Group**

Will meet on Wednesday. September 13th @ Sanzone's (Stuarts Draft) @ 1:00 PM. Questions? Contact Judy Forehand @ 540-241-0839.

### **Free Daily Devotional Books**

The current quarter of the "Our Daily Bread" devotional books are available at the information Counter in the lobby. For a daily blessing from God's Word, pick one up and enjoy!





## **Helping Hands Food Pantry**

Our food pantry is open every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday from 9:30-11:30 AM. Donations can be placed in the bin, located by the restrooms.



#### **Fall Door Decoration Class** Wednesday, September 13th @ 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Sign up at Mickey Center. Questions and payments to Alyce McAllister.

Fee: \$12.50 \*Limit 14 people



# **Ladies Game Day**

There will be a ladies game day in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, September 20th @ 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Bring a lunch or snack!



# **Church Lawn Mowing Contribution Sign up**

If you would be willing to help with Contributions for our weekly mowing, you can sign-up at the Information Counter/ Mickey Center in the lobby. Questions? Contact Tim Simpson.



# **Spiritual Growth Resources**

Christian Standard: The Christian Standard is a bimonthly magazine and is an excellent resource for any believer desiring spiritual growth, especially leaders.

The current and previous issues of the Christian Standard are available on the resource wall in the church lobby and at ChristianStandard.com. The Lookout: is a wonderful Bible Study tool for any believer who desires to grow in their understanding and practice of God's Word. The Lookout is available online: lookoutmag.com



#### **Invite Cards**

Blue invitation cards are available to you in the lobby and at the Information Counter, as a tool to invite people to church. Please pick up as many as you would like and keep them in a convenient place, as God provides you opportunities.



# **Meal Packing** Saturday, September 23rd



#### **Ladies Bible Study Group** All Ladies Are Invited!

This group meets on Thursdays, from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Questions? Contact Cathy Hawks.



#### 2023 Ladies Fall Retreat Blessings Lodge, Keezletown, Va Oct 20-21

In the fall of 2009, 49 ladies, from 6 different churches joined together to worship God and enjoy a time of fellowship in the mountains near Harrisonburg. Be sure to join us this year as this awesome weekend continues. Registration forms are at the Mickey Center. Questions see Karen Beegles, Diane Spurlock or Cathy Hawks.



#### **Prayer Breakfasts**

Men will meet @ Golden Corral Saturday, September 9th @ 8:00 AM. All men are welcome to attend! Ladies will meet @ Panera Bread Saturday, September 9th @ 9:00 AM All ladies are welcome to attend!



Our prayer room is located downstairs, in Room #101 and is available before and after services, as well as during the week

(office hours Mon - Thurs 9:00 AM -3:00 PM & Fri 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM).



#### **Faith Promise Mission** Commitments

Thank you to everyone who made a Faith Promise Missions Commitment for 2023. Total committed is \$29,780.00!

#### **ONLINE & MOBILE GIVING AVAILABLE**

We offer Gyve as an online or mobile giving option. You can give online through our website or by downloading the free Gyve App.

To download the App:

Download Gyve from Google Play, the iTunes Store or scan the QR







As a church, we would love to join with you in lifting up your request or concern to our Great God! If you have a prayer request, you can call or email the office, or let us know on the back of your Connection Card. Note: If you would like it shared with the church, please check the box.

"I would like this prayer request printed on the weekly prayer list."



#### Stay Connected!

Sermons, updates, newsletters and more can be found on our website: westwaynesboro.com

# September

Sunday School 9:15 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Office Hours
Monday - Thursday 9-3 & Friday 9-12

WEST WAYNESBORO CHURCH OF CHRIST 2212 CORTLAND ST. WAYNESBORO, VA 22980 Phone: (540) 949-8670

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Website:
WWW.WESTWAYNESBORO.COM

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# Serving in September:

#### PREPARING COMMUNION

Bob & Drema Rickard

#### **USHERS**

Ron Ball & Tim Simpson

#### **GREETERS**

Lawrence & Mary Motley

#### NURSERY (Infant - 2)

September 3<sup>rd</sup>: Jan Wilson September 10<sup>th</sup>: Mary Moyer September 17<sup>th</sup>: Lois Johnson September 24<sup>th</sup>: Jessica Cruz

#### **WEE WORSHIP (Preschool)**

1st Sunday - Bev Hite

2nd Sunday - Mary Donna Beardsworth

3rd Sunday - Kelly Price

4th Sunday - Brenda Taillon

# **CHILDREN'S CHURCH (Elementary)**

Kate Parrish

#### **COMMUNION SERVERS**

<u>Team 1</u>: Lyle Fitzgerald, Al Taillon, Billy Davidson, Mike Harlow, Ron Johnson

#### **Newsletter Preferences**

This newsletter can be picked up at the Information Counter/Mickey Center in the church lobby, viewed on the church website or received by email. To receive by email, contact the church office or indicate your desire on your Connection Card.

