

# THE HERALD



*Our September Song* :

*September 2018*

Are you ready? Beloved, can you feel it? That is the anticipation of an abundant Autumn, a fruitful fall.



“Oh the days dwindle down. To a precious few. November. December. But those, few precious days, I’ll spend with you; the days grow short when we reach September.” 

On June 10<sup>th</sup> I preached my last sermon at The First Congregational Church, Stockton, CA. after (yet one more) fellowship honoring my ministry there. I got in the car (packed to the gills), drove to Sacramento and left my friend Faith Francis to fly back to Pennsylvania. (You will meet her at Christmas; she’ll be here then. And she had to sit with her knees in her chest; the car was so full with her bags and my traveling ‘home’ for the next, six weeks!) I spent that night in Reno, the next in Twin Falls, Idaho. (Such a stunning view below me of a meandering river with quarter mile banks on both sides from my dinner restaurant.) Then nights three and four in Jackson, Wyoming (at a resort full of Wedge tiny homes; I’m still considering buying one for retirement), night five in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Then the next three nights here in Lincoln where I finally met you fine folks face to face. (And you were/are as nice in person as I’d sensed you would be!)

On then to Chicago for a week, one night in Cincinnati and another in Akron with friends. Finally, I made it ‘back to the ‘Burgh’ where I spent the bulk of my time with Faith, reconnecting with friends, colleagues and classmates. Oh and, I went to Boston and Pittsfield, MA for ten days, getting to Tanglewood and some awesome music.

Along the way cross this continent I worshipped in six, different churches. It was a wonderful experience: uplifting and inspiring, bracing and emboldening of faith.

But I am glad, so very glad and heartened to be here with you now at Heritage! And, though our days together as Interim pastor and people (the days will grow short very soon) still, we have all the time in God’s creation to do what the Lord wills of us. Now. Right now!

On September 9th, Rally Day, we gear back up for all the usual busy-ness of activity for a busy congregation: choir will be back! Sunday School returns with a flourish; our children will lead a Processional Hymn that morning, waving streamers every color of the rainbow (God’s promise in the clouds). Mission is full throttle ahead; fellowship is changing venue to be more conducive to a spirit of conversation and conviviality; there will be adult scripture study (as usual but also plans for some new opportunity there). There’s even more to come.

Within days our congregation will commence a Self-Study, required by our denomination as we begin to contemplate what the Lord would have us do to identify a new, permanent pastor. So much activity; so much going on! It’s time to turn our relaxed attitudes inwards and become reapers in the fields of the Lord after Summer’s season of growth.

I have to say that I am glad for August. It was an *august* glimpse into this family of faith, this royal priesthood of believers. And you are faithful. Bold even! I have been heartened, impressed even with the love and loyalty in some of your servant leaders; they have such heart. They are just as I’d discerned in my interviews and early visit: joyful, caring, eager and industrious. Yes, there’s a lot to do but many hands make light work. Make that **Light** work!

Where can you fit in? Heavens: anywhere!

What gift can you share? What needs doing and how can you help move our ball closer to the Goal?

Get involved. Please! We all get out of something in direct proportion of what we put into it. If it's time and talents: we need you. If it's giving that is important. If it's simply prayer that is vital!

You will hear more soon of our hopes and plans for Heritage. YOU play a vital part in what God does with us. Heavens: you are the church! You are God's hands here at Heritage and in all Creation.

Let's put our shoulders to the wheel together and watch that stone roll away.

Oh the days dwindle down to a precious few. And these few precious days, I'll spend with you. These golden days *I'll spend with you!* 

See you Sundays in September; come to worship and serve, live and laugh and move and have your Being.

In God's grip,

*Jeff*



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

01 John Dzerk  
01 Bridget Sexton  
08 Lacey Smith  
14 Linda Stansberry  
16 Deb Kendle  
18 Samantha Griffin  
23 Jackie Smith  
24 Jacob Bahr  
24 Ilah Singsaas  
24 Mason Smith  
25 Pat Zink

*Please notify the church office if your birthday or anniversary was omitted or incorrect so we can make the necessary changes.*

## HERITAGE BIRTHDAY CLUB

Thank you to **Alan Shuman** for renewing your Birthday Club membership! Consider renewing or joining Heritage's Birthday Club. Donations (usually 1 dollar per year of life) are made to our endowment fund.



## ANNIVERSARIES

01 Larry & Melinda Brage (56 years)  
03 Ken & Diane Olsen (52 years)  
12 Freddie & Jeanne Bonnett  
12 Ron & Jackie Smith (53 years)  
13 Jim & Carolyn Pester  
15 Eugene & Ilah Harmon (70 years)  
20 Bruce Snyder & Jan Crouch  
22 Scott & Candice Minks  
25 George & Loretta Neill (62 years)  
30 John Schmidt & Corinne Crouch

*Thank you!*

## FROM PASTOR RAY

Wow! Heritage Church out did themselves for my retirement celebration! Thank you so much for a wonderful day. Thanks to those who organized the event, worked in the kitchen, and prepared fellowship hall, the musicians, and the choir. What a treat that our former choir director, Kirk Schjodt, composed a choral and bell piece for the occasion! We were truly honored and humbled with your naming the former library in our honor, for the plaque, and the little library. Thanks for the cash gift. It was most generous. Most of all, thank you for the honor of allowing me to be your pastor for twenty-four years. May God continue to bless you in your journey into the future.



## GOOD COFFEE FOR A GOOD CAUSE!

The items available in our coffee corner provides a link between our congregation and people in other countries. Visit our coffee corner for fair traded coffee (whole bean and ground), tea, chocolate, and olive oil.



### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Circle will resume on September 4 in the Gibson Room at 10:00 a.m. All women are invited to join us in this Bible Study (and tasty treats)!

### MISSION BINGO!



Don't forget to bring your BINGO card to church on Sunday, September 9, and then join us at our annual ice cream social following worship. We will have two drawings for movie gift cards – one for a youth and one for an adult. The more BINGO's you have the better your chances! Even if you don't want a prize, we want to find out how much "mission" that our wonderful congregation accomplished during the past summer.

BEST CHOICE



### ONGOING YOUTH FUNDRAISERS PLEASE SAVE BEST CHOICE UPCS AND USED PRINTER CARTRIDGES

Please continue to gather Best Choice UPC labels. Each Best Choice UPC nets 3 cents for our youth! Thanks to all who continue to support this program which provides financial assistance to our youth program. **A HUGE thank you to Pat Zink who has volunteered to count the UPCs.** From the looks of things, we have over 1000 so we will send them in once they are all counted.

### PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING



This year's theme for the Peace & Global Witness Offering is *Peace at all Times in all Ways* (2 Thessalonians 3:16). The Mission Committee invites you to join us to be a part of the work for peace in our world. This offering provides a concrete way to contribute to the work of peacemaking in our communities, region, and world. The committee would like to direct our congregation's 25% of this offering to efforts to reduce human trafficking.



## DUC'S YOUTH GROUP GRADES 6-12

Sunday School resumes Sept. 9 at 9:15am in the DUCs Room. Our

monthly activities for youth in grades 6-12 this fall will be held on SUNDAYS following worship until approximately 2:00pm. Our calendar includes the following upcoming events:

- Ice Cream Social/Rally Sunday Event, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>
- Adventure Golf Center outing, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Game Day following Worship, Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>
- CROP Walk, Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>

Watch the website <http://www.heritagepres.org/youth-group.html> and emails for any changes to this schedule. If you have any questions, please contact Patty Wahlgren.



### PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH TRIENNIUM COMING SOON!

Youth, come alive! The amazing experience called Youth Triennium is coming up fairly soon. If you are interested in attending along with thousands of other awesome kids on fire with a faith that sparkles, please let us know. If we at Heritage have any youth representing us next year we need to begin planning and preparing now. Costs will be \$500 plus but Presbytery assures us that no one should let that hold them back. Plus, hey: we are here for you at Heritage also; we'll do our best to help see we can make it happen. So, please make your intentions known; let your DUCs leaders, pastor, or Session know; we are eager to see you, the future of the church, growing and glowing in Spirit! Presbyterian Youth Triennium, July 2019 at Purdue University is open to kids who have completed eighth grade-12<sup>th</sup> grade.



### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY FAITH BUILD

Habitat Lincoln and Thrivent Financial are currently partnering together in a "Faith Build" project in the Havelock neighborhood. Instead of a financial commitment, the

Mission committee would like to create a welcome basket for the family of 6 that will be moving into their new home in November. We will be accepting tool items that new homeowners might need: duct tape, nails to hang photos, and various other tools. Please bring to the church anytime through early October.

# Rally Sunday!



Join us Sunday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> as we gear back up for fall. We will celebrate God's goodness come to us in myriad colors: an exciting Word, the dance of children, the song of choir and much more!

Get out your **most colorful clothes** and come dressed to be with your brothers and sing with your sisters as the Spirit sings us a September Song into an abundant Autumn! Sunday school for children age 3-12<sup>th</sup> grade, as well as an adult class, will start at 9:15. The choir and children will parade in during our Processional Hymn.

**See you Sunday!**

## SAVE THESE DATES

**October 14:** Annual Crop Walk

**November 4:** All Saints' Day

**November 11:** *Noche del Taco*

# THE HERALD

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**DEADLINE FOR THE  
NEXT HERALD**

**September 24<sup>th</sup>**

Items received after

this date may

not be included!