

Lisa Beamer on Good Morning America - If you remember, she's the wife of Todd Beamer who said 'Let's Roll!' and helped take down the plane over Pennsylvania that was heading for Washington, DC back on 9/11.

She said it's the little things that she misses most about Todd, such as hearing the garage door open as he came home, and her children running to meet him.

Lisa recalled this story: *"I had a very special teacher in high school many years ago whose husband died suddenly of a heart attack. About a week after his death, she shared some of her insight with a classroom of students. As the late afternoon sunlight came streaming in through the classroom windows and the class was nearly over, she moved a few things a side on the edge of her desk and sat down.*

With a gentle look of reflection on her face, she paused and said, *'Class is over, I would like to share with all of you, a thought that is unrelated to class, but which I feel is very important. Each of us is put here on earth to learn, share, love, appreciate and give of ourselves. None of us knows when this fantastic experience will end. It can be taken away at any moment.*

Perhaps this is God's way of telling us that we must make the most out of every single day. Her eyes, beginning to water, she went on, *'So I would like you all to make me a promise. From now on, on your way to school, or on your way home, find something beautiful to notice.*

*It doesn't have to be something you see, it could be a scent, perhaps of freshly baked bread wafting out of someone's house, or it could be the sound of the breeze slightly rustling the leaves in the trees, or the way the morning light catches one autumn leaf as it falls gently to the ground. Please look for these things, and cherish them. For, although it may sound trite to some, these things are the "stuff" of life. The little things we are put here on earth to enjoy. The things we often take for granted".*

The class was completely quiet. We all picked up our books and filed out of the room silently. That afternoon, I noticed more things on my way home from school than I had that whole semester. Every once in a while, I think of that teacher and remember what an impression she made on all of us, and I try to appreciate all of those things that sometimes we all overlook.

Take notice of something special you see on your lunch hour today. Go barefoot. Or walk on the beach at sunset. Stop off on the way home tonight to get a double dip ice cream cone. For as we get older, it is not the things we did that we often regret, but the things we didn't do.

*Life Is Not Measured By The Number Of Breaths We Take But By The Moments That Take Our Breath Away*

## Prayer Requests

Laurie Groves and family  
Tom's father, Dick Forbes  
Alison's mother, Isabel Fain  
Ginny Flick  
Lawrence Cook  
Floretta Kelly  
Lauren Cook  
Gloria Harrell-Cook  
George Tasker  
Virginia Metcalf  
Our country and our troops  
People who are caregivers to family members  
Orphans of Belize  
Glynnna & Shawn Harbaugh  
Ernie and Carol Kelly

Francie Becker  
Mary Brandlen  
Theresa Wolford  
Nina McCarty  
Paula Swayne  
LauraNell Hil  
Artie Hartman  
PPC ministry  
Luke Mertz  
John Michael Hartman  
Jack & Tess Tasker  
Missionaries in Belize  
Jim Wilson  
Eileen Sowers

# happy birthday

Sept. 2 Wendell Spitzer  
Sept. 7 Cindy Scheermesser  
Sept. 23 Bryan Hartman  
Sept. 26 Mike Niland  
Sept. 29 Steve Brandlen

### Calendar of up-coming September events:

Sunday, Sept. 6 Food Pantry Collection Sunday  
Session meeting following worship  
Sunday School classes resume  
Monday, Sept. 7 Labor Day

# Quit Worrying

God is in Control

H.S.

SOMETIMES  
I JUST LOOK UP,  
SMILE AND SAY,  
"I KNOW THAT  
WAS YOU, GOD!  
THANKS!"

# thank you

for your service to your church in September

**Ushers & Greeter**  
Sept. 6 Buck Knotts and Lawrence Cook  
Sept. 13 Debbie and Mike Hartman  
Sept. 20 Aggie and Phil Carnell  
Sept. 27 Debbie and Steve Scheermesser

**Money Counters**  
Sept. 6 Sandra Chilcote & Andi Grady  
Sept. 13 Erma Landis & Andi Grady  
Sept. 20 Denise & Darlene Spitzer  
Sept. 27 Debbie & Mike Hartman

**Liturgist**  
Sept. 6 Jeanne Thrasher  
Sept. 13 Kermit Becker  
Sept. 20 Frances Becker  
Sept. 27 Laura Groves

### Youth Sunday School

Our youth will use "Growing in Grace and Gratitude" from the Presbyterian Church. Each session is rooted in Bible stories that reveal God's grace. Teachers are Jeanne Thrasher, Cindy Scheermesser and Francy Becker.

### Adult Sunday School

The Adult Class uses the *We Believe* series. Sandra Chilcote is the Adult Teacher.

Classes will resume on September 6<sup>th</sup>.

Fall Quarter 2015  
"The Christian Community Comes Alive"

Unit 1: Seeds of New Growth

- Praying for One Another (Acts 4:23-31)
- Sharing All Things (Acts 4:34-5:10)
- Witnessing to the Truth (Acts 5:27-29, 33-42)
- Remembering God's Faithfulness (Acts 7:2-4, 8-10, 17, 33-34, 45-47, 53)



- Please note that the vacant lot adjacent to the church is not for parking. We do not own the lot, and only have permission to clean it up and make a community garden. Details for the community garden planting season 2016 are in the planning stages. Further details to follow.
- \$1,700.00 was allotted to clean up the G.C. Murphy lot and \$2,000.00 was allotted to build and establish a community garden.
- Bibles were given on June 7<sup>th</sup> during worship to our youth entering 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Bibles were presented to Evie Groves, Cameron Lynch and Kaylee Bowman. A gift was also given to our high school graduate, Brandon Lynch. *Amazing* how fast time flies!
- A huge thank you goes out to Jeanne Thrasher, Cindy Scheermesser and Francy Becker for keeping the youth education program going during the summer. The youth explored "Growing Up with Jesus" and found out what it was like growing up in Nazareth. They learned how life was in Nazareth at that time and now understand a little more about what Jesus may have been like as a child. Francy lead the children at the beginning of each Sunday with "the bells".
- *Thank you* to all who loaned "props" to the youth class for the summer.
- The up-coming Sunday School season our youth will use "Growing in Grace and Gratitude" from the Presbyterian Church. Each session is rooted in Bible stories that reveal God's grace. Children and their leaders will celebrate the meaning of this grace in their lives as they encounter a living God. Through fun activities, prayer, and singing, the youth will gather in God's grace and learn to respond joyfully in gratitude. It is rooted in the foundation of Presbyterian identity where God's grace and our gratitude are the heartbeat of our faith, life and worship. It extends an invitation to discipleship that inspires children to learn and practice hospitality, generosity, and love.
- The next Session meeting will be Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup> immediately following worship in the Fellowship Hall.
- \$200.00 was donated to the Summer lunch box program.

- The sanctuary and stairways were patched and painted by Steve Willison in June. What a difference! Beautiful!!
- Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup> all Sunday School classes will resume. Remember, we have classes for EVERYONE—even *adults*—you'll be surprised what you can still learn! Classes begin at 9:45 a.m. every Sunday mornings.
- Choir practice will resume practicing in October. See Laurie Groves for details. The choir will begin singing during the worship services on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>.
- *Thank you* to all who gave of their talent this summer during the choir's hiatus by providing special music during our worship services each Sunday morning.
- *Thank you* to Lori Evans, Kermit Becker, Jeanne Thrasher, and Three Humble Worshippers (Laurie Groves) for filling the pulpit Sundays in August when Pastor Tom was away at Seminary.
- A monthly time of Prayer, Study, and Fellowship will be held the second Thursday evening each month, September through December, from 5:30 until 8:00 p.m. (September 10, October 8, November 12 and December 10). There will be a simple meal served, bible study, prayer and lots of discussion about real-world issues facing each of us today and how the Bible helps us deal with these issues. Hope to see you there!
- The annual Tri-Town's CROP Walk will be held on Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at Creekside Park in Westernport. See Francy Becker for information about walking, running, rocking or sponsoring.

She hurried to the pharmacy to get medication, got back to her car and found that she had locked her keys inside. The woman found an old rusty coat hanger left on the ground. She looked at it and said, "I don't know how to use this." She bowed her head and asked God to send her some HELP. Within 5 minutes a beat-up old motorcycle pulled up, driven by a bearded man who was wearing an old biker skull rag. He got off of his cycle and asked if he could help. She said: "Yes, my daughter is sick. I've locked my keys in my car. I must get home. Please, can you use this hanger to unlock my car?" He said, "Sure." He walked over to the car, and in less than a minute the car was open. She hugged the man and through tears said, "Thank You, God, for sending me such a very nice man." The man heard her little prayer and replied, "Lady, I am NOT a nice man. I just got out of prison yesterday; I was in prison for car theft." The woman hugged the man again, sobbing, "Oh, thank you, God! You even sent me a Professional!"





Tom Forbes

The Lord be with you.

Alison and I and our family greatly appreciate and covet the prayers and warm expressions of sympathy from you all following the death of my mother. Hugs, whether personally delivered or in the many cards and notes we have received, are especially important as we mourn our loss. Please continue to keep us in your prayers, particularly Beth, my sister, who has taken on the burden of care, and Nell, my aunt, who is recovering from a stroke.

However, I wouldn't be me and things just wouldn't be the same if I didn't come back from school with some wacky new idea to spring on you. You will be gratified to know that, this time, the new idea comes from among you all and not from some wild-eyed academic.

The weekly Bible study we tried last year will be continued this year as a monthly time of Prayer, Study, and Fellowship. We hope that many more people will join us for a monthly study rather than committing to a weekly one. It that's not reason enough, we will also be sharing a simple fellowship meal together. A strong community of faith, like a strong body, is fueled by the sacramental sharing of food with one another. Also, of significant importance is the time of prayer together, lifting up our concerns to God and celebrating our joys with God.

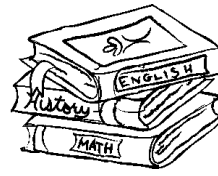
So what's new? It is that you will discern from month-to-month what we will study. What is happening in your life? What situations have you experienced? How does God's word speak to us in these times even when events didn't go as we would have liked? The idea is to hear heaven's advice as we experience the realities of down-to-earth life.

Since the study will consist largely of discussion there's no telling where we will end up. However, we will start by looking at these real-life situations through the lens of your understanding of the truth of God. To shamelessly mix metaphors, imagine throwing into a large soup pot what you know of God's word in scripture, what you know of the traditions and doctrines of the church, your own life experiences, and your own reasoning inspired by the Holy Spirit. As the resulting soup simmers away, a bubble forms and rises up. This is the lens through which we look at life and try to understand right and wrong and what God would have us be and do.

You may not find clear answers. Instead, you may find only more questions. You may find that the lens you've been using—and the life you've been living—doesn't fit with what you've put into your soup (pesky metaphors!). In any case, what we will find is that, as we share openly with each other, take personal risk, and trust one another, we will grow together as a stronger community of faith.

May God's blessings be with each of you.

Tom



### September Worship Services & Lectionary Readings—2015 Year B

Sunday, Sept. 6

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Proverbs 22: 1—2, 8—9, 22—23 Psalm 125  
James 2: 1—17 Mark 7: 24—37

Sunday, Sept. 13

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Proverbs 1: 20—33 Psalm 19  
James 3: 1—12 Mark 8: 27—38

Sunday, Sept. 20

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Proverbs 31: 10—31 Psalm 1  
James 3: 13—4:3 Mark 9: 30—37

Sunday, Sept. 27

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Esther 7: 1—6, 9—10 Psalm 124  
James 5: 13—20 Mark 9: 38—50

Sunday, October 4

19<sup>h</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Job 1: 1, 2: 1—10 Psalm 8  
Hebrews 1: 1-4, 2: 5—12 Mark 10: 2—16



5/18/15 The Blue Rose by Tom Forbes. Illustration by [unreadable]

Having four visiting family members, my wife was very busy, so I offered to go to the store for her to get some needed items. So off I went. I scurried around the store, gathered up my goodies and headed for the checkout counter, only to be blocked in the narrow aisle by a young man who appeared to be about sixteen-years-old. I wasn't in a hurry, so I patiently waited for the boy to realize that I was there. This was when he waved his hands excitedly in the air and declared in a loud voice, "Mommy, I'm over here."

It was obvious now, he was mentally challenged and also startled as he turned and saw me standing so close to him, waiting to squeeze by. His eyes widened and surprise exploded on his face as I said, "Hey Buddy, what's your name?" "My name is Denny and I'm shopping with my mother," he responded proudly. "Wow," I said, "that's a cool name; I wish my name was Denny, but my name is Steve."

"Steve, like Stevarino?" he asked. "Yes," I answered. "How old are you Denny?" "How old am I now, Mommy?" he asked his mother as she slowly came over from the next aisle. "You're fifteen-years-old Denny; now be a good boy and let the man pass by."

I acknowledged her and continued to talk to Denny for several more minutes about summer, bicycles and school. I watched his brown eyes dance with excitement, because he was the center of someone's attention. He then walked off to the toy aisle.

Denny's mom had a puzzled look on her face and thanked me for taking the time to talk with her son. She told me that most people wouldn't even look at him, much less talk to him.

I told her that it was my pleasure and then I said something I have no idea where it came from, other than by the prompting of the Holy Spirit. I told her that there are plenty of red, yellow, and pink roses in God's Garden; however, "Blue Roses" are very rare and should be appreciated for their beauty and distinctiveness. You see, Denny is a Blue Rose and if someone doesn't stop and smell that rose with their heart and touch that rose with their kindness, then they've missed a blessing from God.

She was silent for a second, then with a tear in her eye she asked, "Who are you?"

Without thinking I said, "Oh, I'm probably just a dandelion, but I sure love living in God's garden."

She reached out, squeezed my hand and said, "God bless you!" and then I had tears in my eyes.

May I suggest, the next time you see a BLUE ROSE, don't turn your head and walk off. Take the time to smile and say Hello. Why? Because, by the grace of GOD, this mother or father could be you. This could be your child, grandchild, niece or nephew. What a difference a moment can mean to that person or their family.

From an old dandelion! Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

Remember: "People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."



**THE GLEANER**

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**September 2015**

- Sunday 9:45 a.m. Sunday School (*beginning September 6<sup>th</sup>*)  
11:00 a.m. Worship service
- Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Choir practice (*beginning in October*)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month (Sept. – Dec.)  
“Bible Study” 5:30—8:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month Presbyterian Women  
10:00 a.m. meet in the fellowship hall
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month Church Women of the  
Tri-Towns  
12:00 noon meet in the fellowship hall
- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month Food Pantry  
collection Sunday



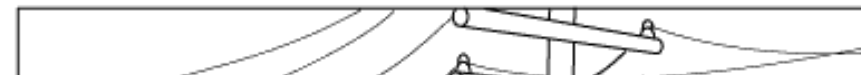
Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m.  
every Sunday morning  
CLASSES FOR ALL AGES  
(*Beginning Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>*)

Sunday School



it's for life!

Life and work of  
your church



# Tic Tac Toe

