

ROUGH & READY RUMBLINGS
AUGUST 2023

Salem Church of Rough & Ready
11 Church Road
Klingerstown, PA 17941
Church/Children's Church: 9:00 A.M.
Sunday School: 10:15 A.M.

Pastor Mark E. Mantz
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JULY 15, 2023

NO.103

INFORMATION FOR THE RUMBLINGS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE SECRETARY BY THE 15TH.

BIBLE STUDY - Please join us every Sunday after morning church service and every Thursday at 1 PM as we learn about Abraham, a Man of Faith. The same material is covered at both sessions so that you have two opportunities to participate in this Bible Study.

There will be a confirmation class meeting on September 24th, immediately after church. Anyone planning to attend Confirmation class must attend with one or both parents. This class is open to adults and our youth. Please notify Pastor Mark if you plan to attend.

Saturday, July 29th – Salem Church Men's Fellowship Breakfast at 8 AM. Pitman Carnival Parade will be held at 5 PM.

Sunday, July 30th – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost and Pitman Community Service. There will be no service at Salem so that everyone has an opportunity to worship with the community.

Tuesday, August 1st – Salem Church Consistory meeting at 7 PM

Sunday, August 6th – 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 13th – 11th Sunday after Pentecost. We will be celebrating Holy Communion.

Sunday, August 20th – 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday, August 26th – Men's Fellowship Breakfast at 8 AM

Sunday, August 27th – 13th Sunday after Pentecost. We will be having our annual Church Picnic at the Klingerstown Carnival Grounds. We are gathering at the Klingerstown Fire Company Grounds at 9:00 a.m. for coffee and fellowship. The worship will be at 9:30 a.m. We will eat at noon. Please bring a salad, covered dish, or dessert.

Janitor for August is James Dietz

Salem Church of Rough & Ready Consistory Meeting

7/5/23

Present: Pastor Mantz, Mike Masser, Randy Wehry, Louise Rothermel, Dan Scheib, Andy Kuczala, Dorothy Brown, Brock Klinger, Rick Masser

Opening Devotional:

“Do right though the stars fall.” This is a quote Mark took from his time at Bob Jones University. From Phillipians Ch 3, “Forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on.” When people give you fits, look at what Paul says here. All who are mature should take this view. If at some point people see things differently, as they mature they’ll gain an appreciation for the point of view.

Treasurer’s Report:

Current	\$253,822.05
Benevolence	\$10,966.58
Building	\$6,581.35

Clarifying note on the discussion around purchasing CDs:

Those of you that read the monthly consistory minutes regularly know that we’ve discussed investing in CDs multiple times over the last several months. The proposal to purchase CDs was innocuous enough, but it sparked a philosophical debate among the consistory about how the church should handle its excess funds. For context, recognize that, due in part to several anonymous donations, some legacy gifts, and the sale of the parsonage, the church has a historically large surplus of funds. The consistory unanimously agrees the funds should be used in the most responsible, God-honoring way they can be. The consistory also unanimously agrees a church’s excess should be used to spread the word of God. So, while we’re all aligned in terms of the outcome we wish to achieve, it’s the methods we use to get to that outcome that are extending the CD discussion. We’ll continue deliberating the question until God’s will reveals itself and then take action, but not before.

New Business:

- Rick Masser comment on CDs
 - Attended and shared his experiences dealing with excess funding situations in two other churches. Deciding what to do with our excess today is a similar crossroads to what these churches faced. Like them, we have a Bible-focused pastor and a strong core of members committed to following the scriptures. And, like them, we have, as a result, received monetary blessings that are unprecedented for our church. Believes this is a test from God to see whether or not we really believe the mana will be there tomorrow. If we don’t believe that God will give us our daily bread, we won’t fail - the money will prevent that, but we will slide into mediocrity. Ideally, we create a 2-3 year plan to distribute the funds we have. The consistory changes, so the plan needs to be set up to last longer than any one person’s term. Be careful not to overwhelm a recipient who isn’t fit to manage everything.
- Exterior Ramp
 - Project is complete. All are satisfied with the result.
- Mini Splits
 - It was a little warm in church last Sunday. Turning the units from “Quiet” mode to “Fan” will increase the cooling.

- Audio
 - Mike Krebs fixed the sound system in the sanctuary, including the microphones throughout, the speakers next to the organist and choir pews, and the speakers downstairs in the meeting hall.
 - This will also allow viewers at home to hear the same audio we hear through the microphones in the sanctuary.
- Men's Breakfast
 - July 29th
- Confirmation
 - Five kids have said they'll participate.
- Bible Study
 - Study on Abraham will likely go through the next couple months.
 - Consistently have 10-12 Thursday afternoons.
- Love offering
 - Begins this coming Sunday, the 9th. Mark will come up with a recipient before then.
- Sunday School Picnic
 - Pavilion U at Knoebels on the 9th.
- Tractor Sunday
 - July 23rd. The time will be flipped, and a meal will be provided.
- Pitman's Community Church Service
 - July 30th. Our choir is slated to provide the special music.

Pastor Mantz provided a detailed activity report for the month of June.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was closed with all present reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Brock Klinger
Recording Secretary

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT FROM JUNE

Current Fund Income: \$6,813.00
 Current Fund Expenses: \$11,809.54
 End of Month Balance: \$253,822.05

Date Acolyte

August 6th – Gavin Scheib
 August 13th – Ethan Lenker
 August 20th – Marian Heim
 August 27th – Lexi Leshner

Children's Church will be cancelled for August. It will resume in September provided there are enough volunteers to be the Leaders.

ALTAR FLOWERS

August 6 th	In Honor of Rachel Morrison's 10 th Birthday
August 13 th	
August 20 th	In Honor of Shannon & Jean Dietrich's Wedding Anniversary
August 27 th	In Honor of Gene Headdings 90 th Birthday

August Birthday

August Anniversaries

1	Romaine Deitrich	16	Carol Snyder	7	Mark & Nancy Rothermel
2	Beth Novinger		Carol Kerstetter	17	Shannon & Jean Dietrich
5	Sue Rothermel	20	Joshua Brosius	18	Christopher & Becky Roberts
6	Ethan Lenker	21	Courtney Bixler	27	Tim & Janette Leshner
7	Darice Wehry		Faye Klinger	29	Brock & Madeline Klinger
	Colton Wehry	22	Rose Purcell		
9	Rachel Morrison		Bill L. Wehry		
	Janey Wehry	23	Marlene Long		
10	Tim Snyder		Lori Kuczala		
	Riley Reed		Sadie Spickler		
	Matt Lucas	25	Gene Headdings		
11	Matt Hess	27	Jaci Lucas		
14	Kera Spickler		Riley Shaffer		
15	Rich Schaeffer	28	Mark Heim		
			Nancy Carmen		
		29	Darrell Kehler		

Pastor's Page

Hide and Seek

The past few evenings, as I've enjoyed the extended daylight hours, and the twilight time before dark, my memories raced over the past six decades to my boyhood days. Many times, a group of the neighborhood kids got together after supper to play hide and seek. We would select the person to be "It," and as they started counting by fives to one hundred, the rest of us would hide. That game was always a favorite, especially when someone couldn't be found. One time I found a hiding place that no one could find where I was.

Because it was getting dark, the kids went and told my Dad that nobody knew where I was. Dad went out to our yard and called me. I knew the penalty for not coming when Dad called, and I crawled out from under our side porch, through the bushes, and went to him. If he wouldn't have called me, the other kids would never have found me. There are a lot of good memories like that from years gone by, and I often wonder if kids today



play some of the games that we played so long ago. The game of hide and seek was one of my favorites, and maybe it was yours as well.

As childhood faded away to adult life, the games we played changed. Sometimes they are what we enjoyed as kids, like baseball, other times they are more mentally challenging, like chess. It does seem that we never really stop playing games, regardless of our age. Some people play games with God, or with family and friends. Those games aren't meant for pleasure, but to hide something, or to hide from someone. I suppose Adam and Eve invented the first game of hide and seek. Genesis 3 tells us the account of their disobedience to God in the Garden of Eden, and that when God came to fellowship with them in the cool of the day, they hid from Him. With them, though, it wasn't a fun game. They didn't want to face God because they knew they had disobeyed Him and were afraid. Unfortunately, the human race has been avoiding God ever since the incident in Genesis 3. The early chapters of Genesis tell the story of sins against God and man, and how defiantly our ancestors tried to either ignore God, or else deny their sins. Not much has changed over the centuries. Yet, God still calls out, "Where are You?" as He moves in our spirits and invites us to live in fellowship with Him. One thing is sure, we cannot hide our sins from two individuals: one is ourself, the other is God. In Numbers 32:23, we are told that "you may be sure that your sin will find you out." We can run, we can try to hide, but sooner or later our sins will find us. God is patient with us and gives us time to turn to Him and seek forgiveness and His fellowship. When we do that, then the sins are forgiven. I like the verse where God says that the forgiven offences will be cast behind His back, never to be remembered. That illustrates the beauty of 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." May our hearts desire be like that of the Psalmist in Psalm 139: 22 & 23. He asked God to search his heart, and reveal any hidden sin or offence against God, so that his fellowship with God would be open and unblemished. May that be our desire as well.

One further thought about the summer days and evenings. Like every day, the summer days fly by all too rapidly. Let's enjoy each day to the fullest, rejoicing in the fact that this is the day that the Lord has made. We are to rejoice and be glad in it.

Until next time, God's best to you, dear reader.

Pastor Mark



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