



**Work as if you were doing it for the Lord,  
not for people.**

**(Colossians 3:23)**

**September 2017**

**Worshiping God With Joy.**

**Serving Others.**

**Embracing All.**

**Pastor's Ponderings ...**

A friend of mine recently mentioned to me that she was inspired by reading Rick Warren's *The Purpose Driven Life* to make a life-altering decision – and I'm glad to say that decision worked out in a very positive way. Her experience prompted me to re-read the book in the hopes that I too would find inspiration within its pages.

Among some of the things that spoke to me in a good way was the part of Pastor Rick Warren's book about what it means to serve, and what our purpose is. It was a timely reminder of who we are called to be as both good Christians and good Church members.

It is very relevant and timely here in the beginning of September – the beginning of Ogden's church year as we prepare to Kick-Off our new year in a celebratory and welcoming manner. It is good to celebrate. But we don't just celebrate in a vacuum. Sometimes the best celebrations are spontaneous – but more often they take planning and effort to pull off.

There are many things to celebrate in a church year: each week we celebrate in worship on Sundays; we celebrate special occasions with dinners and fellowship opportunities; we celebrate milestones like holidays, graduations, birthdays, baptisms, and communion, to name a few.

And we are able to celebrate all these things because many people in Ogden's community step forward to serve. *Many* people step forward – but *all* people are needed to serve in one way or another. It seems to be ever more difficult to find people to serve as elders, deacons, Sunday School teachers, counters, greeters, lay readers, committee members, to name a few. The people who do serve are greatly limited in what they can accomplish by not having enough helpers, enough volunteers. *Everybody* can do something. We had a great example of that this past summer as so many of our Church community worked together to pull off a great Strawberry Festival. Ogden's future and our quality of ministry will be greatly enhanced if more people feel called to step forward and step up to all the many opportunities just waiting for the right person to come along – opportunities which include, but are not limited to, the following:

We're trying to improve our communications and publicity within Ogden and with the community. We're trying to offer special fellowship opportunities like game night and guest speakers. We're trying to improve and clean up the physical plant. We're trying to establish a safe, comfortable, child-friendly nursery space. We're trying to offer youth and children fellowship opportunities. We're trying to make the front of our church more appealing and welcoming. We're trying to freshen up and make more attractive and user-friendly our narthex and parlor spaces. We're trying .... You get the picture – endless opportunities. There's a lot we want to do – but even more we need to do. Your help, using your unique gifts, can make a world of difference in what we can accomplish.

So, back to Rick Warren's *The Purpose Driven Life*. I hope you are inspired and motivated to step forward and step up – like the friend I mentioned at the beginning of this article. Good, positive and rewarding things will happen. I think you will find it will be worth your time and attention. There is so much we can accomplish together.

Every person in the Ogden community is urged to make a real commitment to service in God's Kingdom, specifically here at Ogden. Contact Pastor Kathi or speak with one of the elders or deacons. They're listed on the back of your bulletin.

May Rick Warren's words, quoted below, touch your hearts and move your spirits to action. I look forward to experiencing what 'shapes' up. "You were shaped to serve God. God formed every creature on this planet with a special area of expertise. Some animals run, some hop, some swim, some burrow and some fly. Each has a particular role to play, based on the way they were shaped by God. The same is true with humans. Each of us was uniquely designed, or 'shaped' to do certain things.

Before architects design any new building they first ask, 'What will be its purpose? How will it be used?' The intended function always determines the form of the building. Before God created you, he decided what role he wanted you to play on earth. He planned exactly how he wanted you to serve him, and then he shaped you for those tasks. You are the way you are because you were made for a specific ministry.

You are not an assembly-line product, mass produced without thought. You are a custom-designed, one of a kind, original masterpiece. God deliberately shaped and formed you to serve him in a way that makes your ministry unique."

The book goes on to talk about the talents that God gave you, and that God would not give you those talents unless God intended for you to use them for His Glory.

So, ask yourself... how are you using the talents that God gave you, and are you glorifying God through them.

Makes you think... doesn't it? See you at Church on Sunday...

Pastor Kathi

**Take your everyday, ordinary life...  
and place it before God as an offering.**

**(Romans 12:1)**



***PLEASE HELP... We are looking for people to serve on all of our committees (Worship & Music, Christian Education, Mission & Outreach, the Communications Team, Buildings & Grounds) as well as people to serve as Deacons, lay readers, greeters, Sunday School teachers, and Nursery volunteers. Please talk with Pastor Kathi about how you might be able to help.***

## **Sundays at Ogden – September**

### **Sunday, September 3**

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| 9:30 a.m.  | Worship in Narthex<br>Rev. Charles Thompson preaching |
| 10:30 a.m. | Refreshment and Fellowship                            |

### **Sunday, September 10 – Communion**

- |            |                            |
|------------|----------------------------|
| 9:00 a.m.  | Chancel Choir              |
| 10:00 a.m. | Worship                    |
| 11:00 a.m. | Refreshment and Fellowship |
| 11:15 a.m. | Deacons                    |
| 11:15 a.m. | Worship & Music Committee  |

### **Sunday, September 17 – Kick-off Sunday**

- |            |                      |
|------------|----------------------|
| 9:00 a.m.  | Chancel Choir        |
| 9:30 a.m.  | Chimes Ensemble      |
| 10:00 a.m. | Outdoor Worship      |
| 11:00 a.m. | Kick-off Celebration |

### **Sunday, September 24 – Sunday School Begins**

- |             |                            |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| 9:00 a.m.   | Chancel Choir              |
| 10:00 a.m.  | Worship                    |
| 10:15 a.m.  | First Day of Sunday School |
| 11:00 a.m.  | Refreshment and Fellowship |
| 11:15a a.m. | Youth Musicians            |

*SAVE THE DATE...Sunday, September 17, 2017, 10 a.m. ...*

## ***OGDEN KICK-OFF SUNDAY!!***

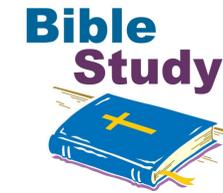
***Outdoor Worship with Special Music! Picnic to follow! Special activities for the kids – including a Bouncy House! Please join us as we kick-off a new Ogden year. We can't wait to see you!***



### **COFFEE HOUR SIGN-UPS ...**

Coffee Hour is an important time of fellowship after church services. You don't need to be a master baker or do anything fancy. Feel free to put your own spin on it with some of your favorite things. If you have any questions about coffee hour, just call the office (973-635-5567) and we'll get someone to answer your question.

**Please** sign-up to sponsor one of the coffee hours. The sign-up sheet is posted on the small bulletin board in the narthex.



BIBLE STUDY will begin again on Tuesday, September 26, at 10:30 a.m. in the Library. Additionally scheduled days are October 24, November 28, and December 19. While not required, advance notice of your attendance would be helpful IN CASE there is a change in date or cancellation of the group for that day.



### **News From Session**

At its August meetings, the Session

- Prayed for those affected by Hurricane Harvey;
- Made plans and approved expenses for the Kickoff on September 17 – stay tuned!
- Learned that asbestos removal in advance of the new furnace has been completed, and that installing the furnace is going well;
- Discussed means of financing the furnace work;
- Discussed how the Session committees are structured;
- Reviewed Ogden's insurance policies;

- Reviewed and approved the Mothers' Morning Out plans for the coming academic year;
- Approved new rules and regulations on the use of our building.



### NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

As we all enjoy the last moments of summer, I wanted to again thank everyone who added to our Summer Hymn Sing Services, especially our final one on Sunday, August 20. It was another fun and rewarding service.

The excitement continues as our ensembles start their school year rotation first with **Chancel Choir** singing on Sunday, September 10, the same day we return to 10:00 a.m. worship. Along with our **Chimes Ensemble**, Chancel Choir will be part of worship on Sunday, September 17, for our **Outdoor Kick-Off Service**.

**Percussionist Clara Warnaar** also adds marimba to the service and the post-church festivities on September 17. She previously shared her talents at Ogden for a Concert on Main. **Youth Musicians** will start rehearsing later in September to add to worship in October. Key details are on the church calendar. In the coming weeks be on the lookout for additional information

about Fall music happenings including the return of Concerts on Main in November.

**And, if you're still looking for a fun way to spend Labor Day:** consider coming up to Rutherford on Monday, September 4, for the **Park Avenue Street Festival** and a range of free activities offered by the **First Presbyterian Church of Rutherford**, including historic church tours on the hour from 11:00 – 3:00, a bounce house and sand art for children plus Cool Music in the air-conditioned chapel featuring local artists from 11:30 – 3:00 (including me at 12 noon). For more information visit [www.fpcorutherford.org](http://www.fpcorutherford.org).

All my best,  
Casey



At the end of July, before our recent high school graduates began their next adventures, our Middle and High School students, plus some college students headed to Pennsylvania for another GLAMPING adventure. It was a great trip with lots of fellowship fun, time for reflections and a variety of games and food. Plans are in the works for fall activities for kids of all ages.

For additional information and to learn more you can visit:

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child>

The website has been newly updated with wonderful stories to view and share, updated idea lists for items you can put in your boxes, ways to volunteer etc. You can also follow Operation Christmas Child on Facebook or look for shoebox ideas on Pinterest.

If you have questions, please see Gail Paradise or Ginnie Trowbridge. Additionally, if you would like to support this mission project but are not able to fill a shoebox, you can provide a cash donation to Gail or Ginnie and they will shop for and fill shoeboxes with your donated funds!

## IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO START SHOPPING NOW

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES WILL BE DUE BY NOVEMBER 12

Operation Christmas Child, a project of the Samaritan's Purse, is the world's largest Christmas outreach of its kind. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has delivered gift-filled shoeboxes to millions of children affected by war, poverty, natural disasters, and other crises in more than 100 countries. Our church once again has an opportunity to touch the lives of boys and girls all over the world. All you need to do is take an empty shoe box and fill it with things like fun toys, school supplies, and hygiene items. The shoe boxes are not only meant to bring joy, but also demonstrate God's love.

Operation Christmas Child is an easy mission project that every member and family can participate in by bringing a gift-filled shoe box to church **by Sunday, November 12**. Operation Christmas Child brochures and ready-made boxes (both cardboard and new plastic ones) are available now. Don't pass up the opportunity to show a child love and caring this holiday season. Encourage your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors to take part and bring their boxes to Ogden.





**NEED A RIDE?** We know that some of you may have a difficult time getting here on Sundays. If you want to be here, we want you to be here. So please contact the office (973-635-5567) some time Monday thru Thursday, between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. prior to that Sunday, and let us know. We will do our very best to arrange a ride here and back.



## UPCOMING PRESBYTERY EVENTS ...

See the bulletin board in narthex for information about:

- The PW Fall Gathering on Wednesday, September 27, 6-9 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Newton. The topic for the evening deals with the refugee crisis.
- The Book Discussion Group being held on Friday, September 15, 5:30 p.m., at the Panera in Succasunna. The book being discussed is *The Orphan Train*, by Christine Baker Kline.

- The PW 2018 Retreat being held on March 10, 2018, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., at The Shrine of St. Joseph in Stirling, NJ. The theme for the day is “Making a Spirituality Center at Home.”

## A BIG THANK YOU TO GAIL!



We here at Ogden are very grateful to Gail Paradise for her work on our behalf as Financial Secretary. She began this role way back in 2005 and has faithfully and efficiently fulfilled her duties for 12 years and counting!

In case you're wondering what a financial secretary does, here's a list of her main tasks:

- (1) record all church giving including pledges, non-pledges, memorials, mission giving, etc. Over the years this has included regular giving in addition to tracking donations to special campaigns such as the Capital Campaign and Roof Fund. Initially the record keeping was all done manually. Now it is done electronically via the Church Windows program;
- (2) prepare and mail out quarterly statements to all donors;
- (3) order offering envelopes; and
- (4) provide assistance via data reports to the Chair of the Stewardship Campaign to assist with the annual campaign.

Gail has many talents and serves in many ways, but today we acknowledge the work she does on Ogden's behalf as Financial Secretary. It would be a

much longer article if we recognized her for all the things she does! She is both a blessing and an asset to Ogden's ministry efforts.



Please take time out from your busy schedules to remember the September birthdays listed below. Send a card or make a phone call. Your greetings will be appreciated by all! If you have not seen your name on the lists, please call the church office so that we can update our files with your birth date. We promise not to print the year in the "Birthday Corner."

Sandy Roos	9
Cindy Parlavecchio	11
Holly Kent	12
Scott Mansfield	12
Janice Parcels	14
Donn Mansfield	15
Don Kidd	16
Martha Kiff	18
Maggie Davis	22
Erica Parlavecchio	29
Kayla Parlavecchio	29



*In Memoriam:*

*"Well done thou good and faithful servant."*

*Matthew 25:23*

*Rebecca "Becky" Jarvis*

*January 5, 1922 - August 23, 2017*

### **Let Us Pray...**

Let us pray for our members...Marcia Casais, Martha Kiff, Alice Loeser, Mariclaire Miller, Barbara Molitor, Ev Stanert

Let us pray for...

Kevin Boettger	nephew of Pat Hammeke
Tom Boland	friend of Sandy Roos
Betty Anne Champion	Mark Knoll's mother
Carol Dill	friend of Janice Parcels
Kathy Dixon	sister-in-law of Marcia Casais
Ed Dunn	great-uncle of Casey Molino Dunn
Kathy Dunn Flechler	cousin of Casey Molino Dunn
Josh Fernandez	12 year old neighbor of the Roos family
Auriel Gonzales	mother of Sandy Roos
Paul Horgan	friend of the Crescas family
Christian Isola and family	friends of Cindy Parlavecchio
Sharon Kern	friend of Miss Trudy
David Knoll	father of Mark Knoll
Patricia Maher	friend of Marcia Casais
Denny Mayer	friend of Marcia Casais

Ron McBride	uncle of Cheryl Conklin
The Mears family	our missionaries in Haiti
Kian Musgrove	friend of David Molino Dunn
Clark and Jean Paradise	parents of Allan Paradise
Dennis Paradise	brother of Allan Paradise
Gloria Rodgers	cousin of Ginnie Trowbridge
Herman Rosenberg	100 year old friend of Gail Paradise
Charlie Roussel	son-in-law of June Jeannette
Piper Samuels	child of Casais family friend
Frank Squindo	son of Janice Parcels
Mark Squindo	son of Janice Parcels
Ray Suttles	husband of Loretta Suttles
Solomon and Sunita Tivade	Joe Tivade's mother and father

Let us pray for those serving our Country...Scott Armstrong, James Glendening, Morgan Glendening, Robert Traver, Doug Verblaauw

**Please Note:**

**From the Board of Deacons**

For the purpose of improving the maintenance of the Prayer List, we ask that you let us know if/when a name can be removed from the list. Your prayers are important. Thank you.