



September

The 
Bell Ringer

YOUR SUNDAY INVITATION

9am: Sunday School 10am: Worship 11am: Fellowship

Dear Church,

For seven months now I've been returning here to Galatians 5:22 where the apostle Paul speaks of the "fruit of the Spirit" — the gifts that the Holy Spirit grows in our life together as he shapes us into the image of Christ. Each month we've been looking at a different "fruit," like *love, joy, and patience*. With the start of the fall season upon us — Sunday Christian Education beginning September 10, Confirmation for youth, men's and women's Bible studies — I was excited to write this column and express my gratitude for the fruit of *kindness* I've witnessed in you, showing such warmth as a congregation...But we already covered *kindness* a few months ago. So, then I was eager to charge you to cultivate something like the fruit of *faithfulness*, sticking with Jesus' invitation to pray or the opportunities to witness God's love that have obviously been handed to us...But we've already done *faithfulness*, too. No, according to my run down of things, as we kick-off the fall season and look at all the opportunities the Lord is opening for us, the fruit of the Spirit we've come to is *gentleness*.

"Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, *gentleness*..."

Gentleness just doesn't seem like a very exciting character quality, does it? Certainly not one that we hold dear today in 21st century America. Nor was it held dear in the societies of ancient Greece and Rome in which Paul was writing. Ambition? Sure. Strength? Yes! But, gentleness? I don't know a parent who holds their newborn at night and says to themselves, "I sure hope he grows up to be gentle." Gentleness is just not a character quality we champion. Nor is it a quality we usually see being carried in our current social and political climate. We're told to *be heard*, and we see everyone shouting louder. We're told to *be wary* and we live in a state of suspicion. But we're not usually told to *be gentle*. Which is maybe what makes it such a dynamic, counter-cultural witness to the gospel.

Addressing a crowd in Matthew 11:28-29, Jesus says, "'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.'" *Weary* is what I see a lot of faces when I look around the world — people weary from external pressures and internal distress, 24/7 news, and scrolling screens in

(Continued on page 2)

the palm of their hand. *Carrying heavy burdens* is how I know some folks (maybe some of you?) feel. But it's precisely the weary and burdened whom Jesus invites to himself. "Come to me," he says, "for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." Rest for our weariness. Saving rest out of which we can then live and work. Rest that only comes from letting our hearts rest in in the Triune God. Jesus says, "Come to me...for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest." He who carried our burdens now extends rest to the burdened from his gentle and humble heart and we who live and rest in him can do the same

This is why Paul call *gentleness* a fruit of the Spirit. As we come to rest in Jesus through the Spirit and know the embrace of his gentle heart, we are in turn shaped and sent by the Spirit to offer his gentle embrace to the weary and burdened around us. So, church, how is the Holy Spirit cultivating gentleness among us so that we can offer this counter-cultural witness to the gospel in our community this fall?

Grace and peace,
-Pastor Jonathan

Cut from the Confessions

This column features *clippings* from our historic creeds and confessions. Through 2023 we've looked at "The Theological Declaration of Barmen" — a brief but bold statement originally written by church leaders in Germany to help Christians withstand Nazi ideology.

This month we come to the end of our journey through the "Theological Declaration of Barmen." With the end let's notice two brief points. 1) The declaration invites our theology to shape our ideology and politics. The next to last line specifically states that those agree with the declaration (which for the writers would mean agree with the gospel) to be "mindful" of the "principles in their decisions in church politics." Of course, in Germany at the time church politics and state politics were deeply intertwined so the encouragement is really to let the gospel shape how we engage the political world. Too often, still today, Christians allow their politics to shape how they read the Bible and witness the gospel. Barmen reminds us it's meant to be the other way around. 2) The declaration invites the church back to the basics of "faith, love, and hope." In trying times and in all times these are the hallmarks of a Christian community - ever trusting in the Lord, ever showing the love we've been shown, ever hoping in the future he holds and acting as if that hope were now in hand.

6. ...The Confessional Synod of the German Evangelical Church declares that it sees in the acknowledgment of these truths and in the rejection of these errors the indispensable theological basis of the German Evangelical Church as a federation of Confessional churches. It invites all who are able to accept its declaration to be mindful of these theological principles in their decisions in church politics. It entreats all whom it concerns to return to the unity of faith, love, and hope.

- From, "The Theological Declaration of Barmen", in *The Book of Confessions*, 8.28.

Pancakes with the Pastor

Come out for Pancakes with the Pastor — September 10. On Sunday, September 10 Pastor Jonathan and a few others will be flipping pancakes for breakfast! Come out and grab a stack before heading to Christian Education for all ages at 9am.



Session Highlights

(from August 8, 2023 Meeting)

- Approved study leave for Pastor Jonathan from Sept. 17 (after worship) to Sept. 21, and Oct. 1 (after worship) to Oct. 4.
- A celebration of our church's 140th anniversary will take place in October!
- An updated version of our church's Child and Youth Protection Policy was approved.
- Approved request from Bev McBride to organize the 2024 Timnath Community Calendar, with our thanks!
- Bill Fisher will be the second Session member to serve on the Nominating Committee.
- Phylis Sitzman will be our commissioner to the Presbytery meeting on August 26th.
- Approved building use requests for:
 - Questers Tea – Dec. 2 (Carol Salisbury, contact)
 - Homestead Estates HOA meeting date changed from Sept. 19 to Sept. 26
 - Caring Creations (non-profit group that sews walker bags & pillowcases for PVH) – Tuesdays from 8:30am – 1pm

Prayer Shawl

"Shawls ... made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles..."

Written in 1998 by: Janet Severi Bristow Copyright ©2023

Please join the Prayer Shawl Ministry on September 11th and 25th from 9-11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall! We'd love to have you with us for knitting or crocheting prayer shawls, or you may bring along your own craft that you enjoy. We share a devotion, spend time working on our crafts, and pray over the completed shawls. All are welcome to attend!

Prayer shawls are given to our church family and friends, and to the St. Luke's Medical Clinic for their patients. If you know of someone who might need or want a prayer shawl, please let us know. And, if you'd like to know more about the Prayer Shawl Ministry, please contact Joan at 970-482-8042 or 970-218-2614.

Pasta in the Rockies

The 25th annual Pasta in the Rockies will be Saturday, September 9 from 5:30 to 7:30 at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1709 West Elizabeth Street, Fort Collins.

This is a benefit for the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate. Great home made pasta, sauces, and desserts. A free will offering will be accepted. Music will be provided by the "Sage Singers".



Summer Speaker Event – A Success!

This summer we have had the opportunity to learn more about "Colography: The Full Picture of a State", "Sharing my Memory Writings...Alaska", and "Exploring Colorado Ghost Towns". Great presentations and information by Kevin Cook, Mary Ellen Moyer and Kenneth Jessen.

The Congregational Life Committee would like to thank the volunteers who helped with the set-up, clean-up and the electronic set-up. Your help contributed to the success of the event.

A special thank you to the members of the congregation and community for your support!

Summer Speaker Event – Thank you

The Congregational Life Committee extends a special thank you to Mary Ellen Moyer for her excellent presentation on "Sharing My Memory: Alaska!" It was a fun and informative evening with humor and recognizing Mary Ellen's strong faith, especially while living in Alaska.

Mary Ellen provided information on why and how she began to record her memories. She shared her memories with detailed descriptions of living in Hydaburg, Palmer and Point Barrow when her husband, Paul served as pastor to a church in the cities. Some of her experiences included: living in the beautiful valley in Palmer and enjoying the fresh vegetables and fruits; while living in Point Barrow, ordering groceries for a year from a catalog; watching a whale being butchered and sampling the meat for the first time; and experiencing the 1964 Good Friday Alaska earthquake.

Thank you to Greg Starlin for sharing photos from his visit to the churches in Hydaburg and Palmer.

Sunday Christian Education This Fall @ 9AM

Our Sunday Christian Education kicks off on September 10th. Don't miss out on these great ways to grow in faith together!

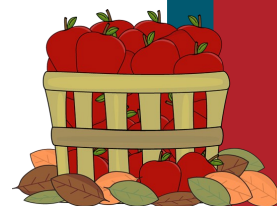
CHILDREN (ages 4-10) are invited to explore and respond to God's Word this fall in *Growing in Grace & Gratitude* – a weekly rhythm of gathering in grace to hear the Bible, responding in gratitude with crafts and games, and learning loving and serve God.

YOUTH (6th-12th) are invited to join in a **youth Bible Study** at 9am, led by Diane Stapleton and other youth volunteers. **ALPHA Confirmation** is also being offered for youth, grades 7+ on Sundays after worship.

ADULTS have two options: The Present Word and/or Practicing the Way: The Prayer Practice.

The Present Word is a thematic Bible study. This quarter's focus is "God's Law is Love." Please contact Pastor Jonathan or Paula Matney for your copy of the participant's booklet.

Practicing the Way: The Prayer Practice is a 4-week course for learning and practicing talking *to* God, talking *with* God, *listening* to God, and *being* with God. It will be offered September 10–October 01 and again later in October. (9-person limit).



Young Children & Worship Restarts 09/10

- *Young Children & Worship* is **not a Sunday-school class**, but a *worship space* for children (4+) to gather, hear and engage God's word in a way appropriate to their age, and respond with their own creative work.
- It will **take place during** the Sermon, Affirmation of Faith, and Prayer of the People. Children will be escorted to their worship space after the children's message and then brought back into the sanctuary during the Doxology for the close of worship.
- Every fourth Sunday will be a **fourth family Sunday** when children still in the sanctuary for the entirety of the service, rather than going to their worship station. This will help them learn to worship by observing what adults do. (*Some extra resources will be made available for their active hands*)
- We have 4 storytellers and 3 Greeters already signed up for rotations. **WE STILL NEED...**
 - *Story Materials* — there is a master list of things still needed. Please talk with pastor Jonathan or Karen Thomas
 - *Greeters/Assistants* — We REALLY need 1 or 2 more assistants in the worship space.

Please pray for this important ministry to the youngest disciples among us, that the Spirit would use it to draw their hearts to know and love God through worship.

Gratitude Luncheon

Please join us on September 24 after services in Fellowship Hall. There will be a potluck lunch—the church will provide the meat so bring side dishes and deserts. Especially deserts! Joseph Moore, with the Presbyterian Foundation, will be joining us to discuss “Generosity and giving in today’s world.” Look forward to being with you on the 24th!

Thank You!

A special thanks to all who made possible and those that attended the Ice Cream Social. We were blessed with a huge number of volunteers that contributed to make it a success. From sign-board preparing and placing, preparing ice cream base, toppings, and cookies, freezing, preparing food for the freezing party, setup, serving and clean up, it was truly a team effort! We served 145 bowls of ice cream (we didn't count seconds)."

Wedding Invitation

The Timnath Presbyterian Church family is invited to the wedding of Bethany Benitz and Michael Cummings on October 13, 2023 at the Hillside Winery (3924 Bingham Hill Rd. Fort Collins). Ceremony begins at 5:00 with reception following.

Invitations are available in the narthex of the church and details of the wedding are found at theknot.com/benitz-cummings. Personal reservations may also be made by calling Catherine Benitz at (435) 770-4946. RSVPs are necessary because of space and catering so please provide your RSVP on the website no later than *September 30*.

Circle

Circle will meet on Tuesday, September 19th at 7:00pm at MacKenzie Place.

We will be discussing Lesson One from *Sacred Encounter: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in the Gospel of Luke*.



Outreach Ministry

McBackpack

Mark your calendar!

McBackpack starts

September 11!!!!

Noon at First Presbyterian Church,

531 S. College, Ft. Collins

Good fun. Worthy cause. See you there!

Fall Workdays:

- September 11, 18, 25
- October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
- November 6, 13, 27 (no packing during Thanksgiving week, Nov, 20-24)
- December 4, 11



Little Red Truck Food Drive results

453 lbs. 13 oz. delivered to Larimer County Food Bank in Ft. Collins.

\$325 cash donation which will provide 650 meals

Thank you Bunny for your

"Little Red Truck," all of the volunteers and everyone who made TPC's food drive a success.



Volunteer Opportunities

Timnath and Bethke Elementary Schools are looking for volunteers to spend one hour a week with some of their students—mentoring, playing a game, and/or eating lunch.

Both of the schools are very grateful for you folks here at TPC and all you do.

There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex. If you have questions please feel free to get in touch with Roberta Wheeler or Jill Doyle.

Thanks in advance for making a difference!

Crossroads Safehouse

Thanks to all who have **crossroads** tied blankets. There is **safehouse** still time to tie one. There are 9 located on the cart. Instructions are posted. Thanks



Don't forget to check out the new selection of books on the book cart.

Volunteers Needed

At TPC, we are rebuilding our Youth Ministry and **YOU are an important member of the construction team.** There are many, 'light' (all lessons/supplies provided. NO experience necessary) opportunities for you to answer God's call.

What's needed?

- one adult volunteer for Sundays, starting Sept. 10th, 9 – 9:50 am for Youth Bible Study
- one adult volunteer for Sundays, starting Sept. 10th, 11:15 am – 12:20 pm Confirmation (lunch & video lessons provided).

If you could commit to one, several or an entire month of one or both of these gatherings, you would be **AMAZING**. The youth will 100% benefit from making connections with you, while on their faith journeys. You will be delighted how impactful it is in your own journey. We all need meaning, purpose, encouraging messages, friendships, living water and food.

We're also looking for **FUN 'host homes' for Wed., Oct. 25th & Wed., Nov. 29th**. A small group of youth & an adult leader would come to your home for dinner. You can plan games or we will bring our own.

You are definitely being called. We would so love to see you on this loving team. We literally cannot do this without you.

Your Youth Teammates

2023 SEPTEMBER BELL RINGER - TIMNATH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Calendar Time

Please give Bev McBride any additions, corrections, or deletions for the 2024 calendar. Either write it down, send her an email, or give her a phone call. Deadline is Sunday, October 1. Also, if you have pictures for the back page of the calendar, please share those with Bev: bev.mcbride@outlook.com or (970) 231-1203.

Poinsettia Orders

The order forms will be in the bulletin starting in October. We will take orders from Oct. 1-29. Each plant will be \$10 and you can choose red, white, pink or maren (salmon). we will also offer Fantasy poinsettias for \$15.00. Plants can be picked up after the Christmas Eve service. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Alger.



Choir

Choir Practice has started for the 2023-2024 year. If interested, talk to Zechariah Oswald or call the church office.

Second Mile

2nd Mile Mission is ready to start sewing on Monday, September 18th at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. 2nd Mile makes diaper bags, baby blankets and receiving blankets for the Larimer County Maternal Services program.

We sew the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month September through May. We are always looking for people that love to sew to join us. We have six sewing machines, cutting mats, and all the other tools that are needed to do our projects. We also have a wonderful stash of fabric. Everyone is invited to bring their own lunch. Typically we sew from 9:30 to 3:00, but if you have places to be any time that you can give is welcome.

If you like to create, enjoy the fellowship of other women, please join us.

Mountain Movers Youth Group

Welcome to Mountain Movers Youth Group. All 6th-12th graders and friends are welcome. No experience needed. No judgment. No bad questions. Beginning September 27, we will meet once a month on Wednesday evenings at the home of one of our amazing youth teammates for food, games, prayer and more. You can RSVP or ask questions by emailing youth@timnathpres.org.

September

23	Animal Friends Mission Outing, 11am-2pm
27	Dinner at the Ytterrock's home, 6-8pm



Please join us for a bridal shower for
BETHANY BENITZ

Bethany said **YES!!!**

Several ladies from the Timnath Presbyterian Church are hosting a bridal shower on Sunday, October 1 at 2:00 p.m. All women/girls – young and old – are invited to attend.

The party will be at Phylis Sitzman's home, 401 Camino Real, Fort Collins, CO. Light refreshments will be served.



Bethany and Mike currently live in a small, one bedroom condo, and do not have a lot of room for more stuff! They are saving up for a honeymoon to the Florida Keys and they also hope to move into a larger space next spring. Monetary gifts are welcome.

Bethany and Mike's website is: [Michael Cummings and Bethany Benitz's Wedding Website - The Knot](#)

We thought it would be nice to shower Bethany with favorite recipe(s) and/or gardening tips/advice. Recipe cards will be available at church or at the shower.

Please RSVP to Phylis Sitzman
Email - sitzman@aol.com
Call or text Phylis at (970) 412-8532



Bell Ringer Items Due

Please send your written submissions to: staff@timnathpres.org or place them on the admin's desk in the church office by **Sunday, September 17th.**



Volunteer Schedule



Thank you volunteers!

	Head Usher (H)/ Usher	Liturgist	Children's Sermon	Nursery	Refreshments	Counters
9/3	Gil (H) & Pam Fisher; Jim & Deanna Addleman	Mike McBride	Edie Brooks	Doug Porter and Robin Pacheco	Greg & Leann Starlin	Paul Jacobs & Jim Zacheis
9/10	Lyndel (H) & Joan Saxbury; Scott & Chris Cusic	Mary Lou Zacheis	Gail Burger	Linda Porter and Steve Pacheco	Jim & Deanna Addleman	Paul Jacobs & Jean Johnson -McCulla
9/17	Mike (H) & Bev McBride; Bob Letcher & Claudia Masters	Laurene Aldrich	Ida Tieman	Bethany Benitz and Phylis Sitzman	Jayne Sears & Laurene Aldrich	Jean Johnson -McCulla & Bill Fisher
9/24	Mark (H) & Jayne Sears; Paula Matney & Paul McDill	Lyndel Saxbury	Greg Starlin	Laura Mitchell and Clarence Sitzman	Gil & Pam Fisher	Phylis Sitzman & Bill Fisher
10/1	Leann Starlin (H) & Jill Doyle; Donna Button- McEwan & Mary Lou Zacheis	Gil Fisher	Karen Thomas	Greg Starlin & Robin Pacheco	Mike & Bev McBride	TBD
10/8	Gil (H) & Pam Fisher; Laurene Aldrich & Doug Porter	Clarence Sitzman	Phylis Sitzman	Doug Porter & Steve Pacheco	Steve & Robin Pacheco	TBD
10/15	Mike (H) & Bev McBride; Clarence & Phylis Sitzman	Karen Thomas	Clarence Sitzman	Linda Porter & Laura Mitchell	Doug & Linda Porter	TBD
10/22	Mark (H) & Jayne Sears; Bob Letcher & Claudia Masters	Gene Boling	Rev. Jonathan Ytterock	Phylis Sitzman & Bethany Benitz	Marilyn Pitcher & Jayne Sears	TBD
10/29	Lyndel (H) & Joan Saxbury; Kevin & Karen Bothwell	Donna Button- McEwan	Dianne Stapleton	Clarence Sitzman & Robin Pacheco	Scott & Chris Cusic	TBD

September 3rd Communion Servers: Jean Johnson-McCulla, Phylis Sitzman, Paul Jacobs, & Jim Zacheis

If you are unable to serve, please arrange for a substitute, then notify the church office so changes can be noted in the bulletin. Thank you!

Concerns Committee

The Concerns Committee is a source of care, sympathy, compassion and comfort within the church. If you are going to be in the hospital or rehab, please let us know so that we may come visit with you and pray with you. If you prefer no visitors during your time at the hospital or rehab, it's ok, just let us know, we can still pray for you. Also, if you have a prayer request, please let us know as we currently have over 63 prayer warriors lifting up prayers for each prayer request. Matthew 18:20; For where two or three gathered in my name, there I am with them. How may we be of service to you?

Funeral Receptions		
#1	Marilyn Pitcher	970.460.0682
#2	Linda Porter	970.227.8370
TLC Meals		
#1	Elise Cameron	970.231.6266
Prayer Chain		
#1	Paula Matney	970.689.7250
#2	Church Office	970.493.8996
Cards		
#1	Patsy Hutcheson	970.222.8073
Hospital Flowers		
#1	Bunny Goshorn	970.482.7849
#2	Church Office	970.493.8996
Hospital Visits		
#1	Nancy Greenwood	970.691.7999
#2	Bev McBride	970.231.1203

MINISTERS

All Members Of The Church

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Jonathan Ytterock

Clerk of Session

Phylis Sitzman

Treasurer

Pam Fisher

Director of Youth Ministry

Diane Stapleton

Administrative Assistant

Shelly Lemmo

ADDRESS

4020 Main St.

P.O. Box 99

Timnath, CO 80547

CONTACT US

(970) 493-8996

www.timnathpres.org

staff@timnathpres.org

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Thursday

9 am - 4 pm

ELDERS

2023

Pam Fisher

970.217.1011

Phylis Sitzman

970.484.7612

2024

Jim Zacheis

970.581.4789

Paul Jacobs

724.421.6197

2025

Bill Fisher

970.690.8068

Jean Johnson-McCulla

970.226.1310

COMMITTEES / ORGANIZATIONS

Buildings & Grounds Committee

Bill Fisher

Christian Education Committee

Paul Jacobs

Concerns Committee

Phylis Sitzman

Finance Committee

Pam Fisher

Memorial Garden Committee

Phylis Sitzman

Memorials

Jim Addleman, Chr

Outreach Ministry

Pam Fisher

Nominating Committee

Pam Fisher

Bill Fisher

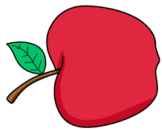
Personnel Committee

Jean Johnson-McCulla

Worship Committee

Jim Zacheis





September 2023



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 10am-Worship 11am-Fellowship	4 LABOR DAY	5 8:30am-Caring Creations 11am-Prayer Time	6 8:30am-Caring Creations 11am-Prayer Time	7 9:30am-Presbytery Council Mtg 6pm-Cub Scouts 6pm-Outreach Ministry 7pm-Choir	8 10am-Sonshine Ladies Bible Study	9 9am-Prayer Shawl
10 8am-Pancakes w/Pastor 9am-Sunday School 10am-Worship 11am-Fellowship 11:15am-Confirmation	11	12 8:30am-Caring Creations 11am-Prayer Time 7pm-Session 7pm-4-H Meeting	13 2:30pm-Circle	14 7pm-Choir	15	16
17 BELL RINGER ITEMS DUE 9am-Sunday School 10am-Worship 11am-Fellowship 11:15am-Confirmation	18 9:30am-2nd Mile	19 7am-SAVA 8:30am-Caring Creations 11am-Prayer Time	20 7pm-Worship Committee	21 12pm-CHILL, LLC 6pm-Cub Scouts 7pm-Choir	22 10am-Sonshine Ladies Bible Study	23 9am-Prayer Shawl 11am-Youth Mission Outing 11am-Timnath Fall Festival
24 9am-Sunday School 10am-Worship 11am-Fellowship 11:15am-Confirmation	25	26 8:30am-Caring Creations 11am-Prayer Time 5:00pm-Homestead Estates HOA	27 12:30pm-Christan Ed 6pm-Youth Dinner @Ytterrock's Home	28 7pm-Choir	29	30