

# The Remarker

First United Methodist Church

Princeton, WV

A Place to Trust ♦ A Place to Become ♦ Church in the Heart of Princeton

SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2017

VOLUME 46, ISSUE 5

## **Special Opportunity to Give**

Every once in a while an opportunity for ministry or outreach arises that goes beyond our current operating budget. Recently, we had the opportunity to become sponsors of the local radio broadcasts of Princeton Senior High School sports – football and basketball – through 95.9 FM.

Sponsorship includes regular advertisements as well as mentions during the games. This sponsorship will allow us to reach, through advertising, an audience that listens to and supports one of our local high schools and should be a fruitful area of outreach in our community. However, there is a cost. We need to raise \$1,200 to cover these advertisements that will run through the end of year and during the actual sports broadcasts.

One family could decide to be the sole sponsor, four families could give to cover this expense, twelve families could make an extra gift of \$100 and it would be taken care of immediately. Please pray about your ability to give a gift beyond your usual giving to the Church and contact Pastor Scott about making your gift.

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## **Important Updates**

**New Church Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday 9am – 12 pm & 1pm – 4 pm (Closed on Fridays)

**New Church Email:** [fumcprinceton@gmail.com](mailto:fumcprinceton@gmail.com)

Please use this email for prayer requests, questions, information updates, and any other administrative business.

## **NOT QUITE HOME**

*Thoughts from Pastor Scott*

Early in the morning, well before sunrise, Jesus rose and went to a deserted place where he could be alone in prayer. Mark 1:35 (CEB)

Okay, we live in an age of where connecting with one another is as easy as taking a phone out of your pocket. Because of that, and because of social media, I sometimes think I know more about what is going on in my children's lives now than I did when they were living at home. I also know that the house is a bit more quiet than it used to be, however, I am almost certain that our two cats are attempting to make up for that by fighting more often and more loudly. At the same time, I realize that Pam and I have much more time to just sit, talk and reconnect.

I've been at this "empty nest" thing for over a year now and truthfully, it hasn't been all that bad. I miss my girls...but we are still connected. I loved watching them grow up...but now I am so very proud of all that they are becoming as young adults that I hardly notice.

And then there's that time that Pam and I have to just reconnect as a couple. That's nice, to say the least. It's also crucial to any relationship.

Jesus took time away from the crowds that needed his teaching and healing and tried to find a place where he could connect again with the Father. Jesus walked away from his responsibility of leading the disciples so that he could spend time with the Father in prayer. Jesus was fully human and fully God and yet, and yet, Jesus found it absolutely necessary to take time to be alone with God.

I wonder how many times we have said, "Oh, I'll have time for that later..." or let interruptions (cue the fighting cats) get in the way of our time to spend with God the Father.

So much of what ails our society today could be helped greatly with more Christians taking more time to just pray. It would cut down tremendously on the amount of time they spend finding things that make them angry and give responses before thinking about how those responses look in light of the Kingdom of God. So much of what ails our society today could be helped tremendously if more Christians would take more intentional time to stop "doing things" and just spend time in prayer. Perhaps there, they would reconnect with the very Creator of the Universe

and realize that there is not one single person in the world today that this Creator does not love.

So much of what ails our society today could be helped if Christians spent more time alone – empty nesting it – with God. Their relationship with God would grow stronger. They would know God better and in the process they would know themselves better. When we work on our identity as it stands with God, there is much less chance that we would seem one way one moment and another way the next.

Over the past month, I watched the horror of white supremacy raise its ugly head again in Charlottesville. And then I watched as white privilege tried to explain it all away. And then I watched people engage in battles of words that tore apart even more of the wasting fabric of humanity that we have left in this world.

And there is only one thing I wanted to do. I wanted to take everyone I could and say, “Hey, do you think we could pray for a while? Just take some time and pray for a bit? You know, reconnect with God the Father, Jesus the Savior, and the Holy Spirit a while?”

The Son of God did it...I can't think of any good excuse for us NOT to do so.

### **Library News & Stuff (Submitted By Jerry Flanagan, Librarian)**

“Amish Country Crossroads”.....



.....by Beverly Lewis has been added to the church library Fiction section. Also, 12 more copies have been donated to the library for a giveaway drawing. This is a large paperback containing three novels: “The Postcard”, “The Crossroad” and “Sanctuary”. Beverly Lewis is a New York Times Bestselling Author and one of the better Christian authors writing about the Amish.

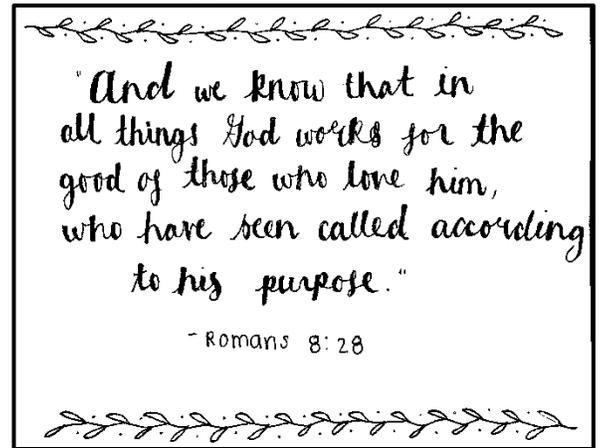
To be entered into the drawing for this paperback book, write your name and the word AMISH on a piece of paper and place your entry in the offering plate or mail to FUMC Library, P.O. Box 304, Princeton, WV 24740. All may participate in this drawing whether or not a member of this church.

**Thread Loving Crafters (Submitted by Kathy Tucker)**

We are hard at work on Hat and Scarf Sets for Feeding Hungry Children. We have about 50-60 sets of 100 completed. We will be participating in the Princeton Autumnfest-Craft and Textile Sale on September 30<sup>th</sup> in downtown Princeton. We will sell various items, and the proceeds will go to Feeding Hungry Children. Finally, we have scheduled our Third Annual Blanket Day! This will be held on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, from 10am – 3pm in Schell Hall.

**College News (Submitted by Patty Flanagan)**

It's fall, and we all know that means "Back to School"! For 29 members of our church family that means back to higher education! We have students at both ends of the experience with 5 new college freshman and 4 folks in graduate school. Fourteen of our students are local, either at Concord, Bluefield State, or New River Community College. We also have students at Washington and Lee, Virginia Tech, Alderson



ATTENDANCE CARD ART: KENDRA HILL

Broadus, Marshall University, and West Virginia University. Please be in much prayer for these students as they study and make important decisions about their futures.

**Feeding Hungry Children Update (Submitted by Patty Flanagan)**

School is back in session which means the Feeding Hungry Children Project is starting up for the new school year. We will be serving Silver Springs, Princeton Primary, Mercer, and Straley schools this year. All four schools allowed us to speak during their teacher in service programs, and the staff expressed genuine gratitude and appreciation to this congregation for our assistance. Your support of this program has impacted the children and the teachers. Many of you support the program with your prayers and generous donations and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We package once a month on Saturday morning and if you would like to join us, contact the church office for information. Please continue praying.

## **Staffing Updates (Submitted by Pastor Scott Sears)**

### **Celebration of Service**

Twenty-eight years ago, the Berlin Wall was taken down, "Driving Miss Daisy" won best picture at the Academy Awards, a major earthquake hit San Francisco, the Exxon Valdez tanker ran aground, and "The Golden Girls" were on their original run on television. Also, in 1989, Victoria Horton began working at First United Methodist Church as Secretary and later became our Church Administrator. A lot of things have happened in those 28 years at First UMC, and Vicki has been a big part of them! As most of you know, Vicki has decided to leave employment at First UMC and take time to care for family members that need her. On Sunday, September 17, immediately after our worship service, we will honor the service Vicki has given to our congregation with a special reception in Schell Hall of the Family Ministries Center. We hope that friends – both new and old – will be in attendance to wish Vicki well during this transition!!

### **Welcome to New Staff Members!**

It is our joy to welcome two new people to our staff at First UMC, Princeton and welcome one person who is already on staff to a new position.

**Brandon Roland** will be our new Director of Youth Ministry starting in September. Brandon has been a member of First UMC, Princeton for some time and has been a volunteer with the youth under the direction of Becky Rowe. Brandon is married to BJ (Price) Roland and has most recently been employed by First Community Bank. Please welcome Brandon to this new full time employment at First UMC!

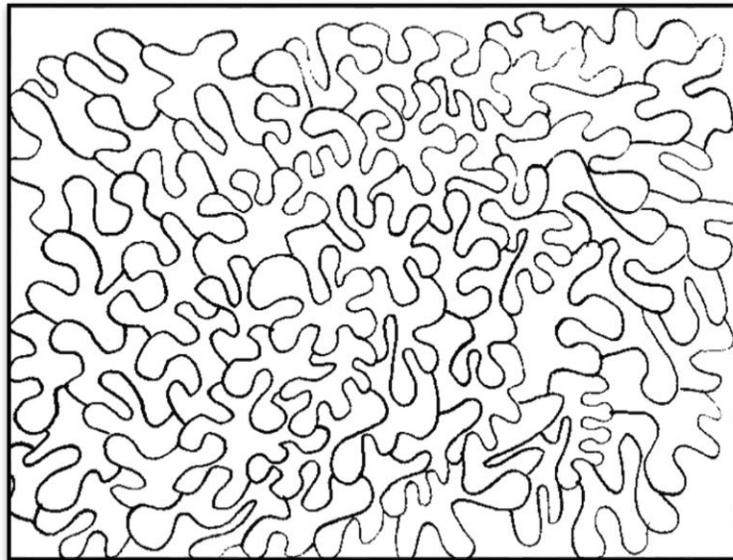
**Amanda Wenisch** is our new part-time Church Administrator. She began serving in this role when Vicki went on leave of absence and was offered the position when it became vacant. It was at that time that the position was changed from full-time to part-time. Amanda is a native of Mercer County and brings many gifts to this position including a gift of writing! She is married to Jeremy Wenisch and they live in Princeton. Take time to welcome Amanda!

**Jordan Stadvec** has been our church organist for the past three years but will be moving into the new role of Director of Music Ministries. This role will include supervising music ministries, leading the chancel choir and providing accompaniment for worship. Jordan is an accomplished vocalist, specializing in opera and has spent many summers performing various operas. She is employed by the Mercer County Board of Education as a music teacher. We look forward to all the energy and new ideas she will bring as we welcome her as Director of Music Ministries.

## Attendance For July-August 2017

<b>ATTENDANCE – July 2017</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>10:50 AM Worship</b>	<b>Online</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
7.02.2017	43	107	16	123
7.09.2017	43	124	16	140
7.16.2017	54	132	13	145
7.23.2017	45	145	21	166
7.30.2017	48	123	18	141

<b>ATTENDANCE – August 2017</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>10:50 AM Worship</b>	<b>Online</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
8.06.2017	43	132	17	149
8.13.2017	56	141	NA	141
8.20.2017	51	137	19	156
8.27.2017	54	142	20	162



**ATTENDANCE CARD ART - JERRY/CATHY LINKOUS**

## MEMORIALS & GIFTS

Gifts gave been given

IN MEMORY OF

**Wanda Bradley**

to Feeding Hungry Children

by

Ruth Boyles  
Bridgette Pendleton  
Ed and Belinda Pendleton

IN MEMORY OF

**Robert East**

to Memorial Fund

by

Covent Bridge, Inc.

to Feeding Hungry Children

By

Skip Owen and Family

IN MEMORY OF

**Kelly and Helen Clay**

to Feeding Hungry Children

by

Mary Katherine Rader

IN MEMORY OF

**Wanda Gay Farmer**

to Feeding Hungry Children

by

Ruth Boyles  
Bridgette Pendleton

IN MEMORY OF

**Mary Davis**

to Feeding Hungry Children

by

The Holliday Sunday School Class



**IN MEMORY OF**

**Edward Vaughn  
Horton**

**to Feeding Hungry Children  
by**

Ruth Boyles  
Terry and Geraldine Childress  
Shirley Evans  
Mary Louise Fensom  
Jerry and Patty Flanagan  
Ott and JoAnna Fredeking  
Josephine Goldston  
The Holliday Sunday School Class  
Anna Johnson  
Dr. Robert M & Cynthia Jones  
Patricia Kiernan  
Susan and John Koster  
Thomas S. Lilly  
Men's Prayer Breakfast Group  
Bridgette Pendleton  
Ed and Belinda Pendleton  
Princeton Middle School  
Everette Rast  
Edwin "Dick" and Martha Royal  
Gayle Rector  
Lucille Reynolds  
Robert and April Schumacher  
Will and Pam Stafford  
Mary Ann Thomas  
Margaret and Rod Thorn

**IN MEMORY OF**

**Ruth Light Lively**

**to Feeding Hungry Children  
by**

Ruth Boyles  
The Holliday Sunday School Class  
Bridgette Pendleton

**to the Memorial Fund  
by**

Bob and Sue Jackson  
Johnston Chapel Baptist Church

**to the Odell Huffman Scholarship Fund  
by**  
Terry and Geraldine Childress

**IN MEMORY OF**

**Hylah Horton Lohr**

**to Feeding Hungry Children  
by**

Josephine Goldston

**IN MEMORY OF**

**Cleve Street**

**to the Higher Education Grant Fund  
by**

Taylor Camp Horton  
Victoria Horton

## THANK YOU NOTES & LETTERS

Thank you all for my lovely graduation gift! I really appreciate the time and effort that went into getting it together. Thank you for all of your love, support, and prayer over the years!

Much love and God bless,  
Delaney Quesenberry

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Thank you for allowing us to stay in your church overnight and for having us in worship!

Amanda David (ASP 2K17)

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To the Odell H. Huffman Scholarship Committee: Thank you for this scholarship. It will certainly help financially and further advance my education.

To the Higher Education Grant Fund: Thank you for awarding me this money. It has been an honor growing up with this church family.

Tanner Veneri

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Dear Friends at First United Methodist Church:

Rhonda and I were totally surprised by the generous gift you sent us as we ceased itinerant ministry. Thank you very much. The gift was a great help as we dealt with down-payment and closing costs for our new home. We are grateful to God for sensitive hearts who recognized that the need to take medical leave from ministry was sudden and unexpected. Your thoughtfulness will help us as we deal with the repercussions of this transition in our lives.

God certainly blessed us when he sent us to FUMC in 2001. We have precious memories of our time with you spent in ministry in the name of Christ to the greater Princeton area. The friendships and bonds that we developed with you have helped carry us through this very difficult time. That includes friendship with Pastor Scott who enabled you to gather and provide the helpful and kind gift that you have given us.

Know that we continue to pray for you and your ministry there, and trust that you will continue to pray for us. May God's richest blessings be upon you, your families, and your ministry name of Christ as you continue the task of carrying the love of God your friends and acquaintances, and the greater Princeton area.

Your friends in Christ,

Randy and Rhonda Adkins



## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



September 01 – Moe and Kelley Rose  
September 05 – Victor and Jessica Lohr  
September 07 – Seth and Lindsay Price  
September 08 – Randy and Kelly Beachler  
September 22 – Jeremy and Amanda Wenisch  
September 30 – Jack and Carol Stafford (56)

September 01 – Ann Struble  
September 02 – Dorothy Bailey  
September 03 – Margaret Horton (95)  
September 05 – Adeline Bowling  
September 11 – John O'Dell  
September 11 – Sam Thurmer  
September 12 – DeWayne (KD) Hill  
September 12 – Cole Hollifield  
September 14 – David Knight  
September 14 – Seth Vaughn  
September 15 – Lelia Fry  
September 16 – Sabrina Mick  
September 17 – Michael Bowling  
September 17 – Bekah Smith  
September 17 – Terri Vest  
September 17 – Terry Wells  
September 18 – Mia Christ  
September 18 – Chelsea Hollifield  
September 18 – Adam Sarver  
September 21 – Melody Jenkins  
September 21 – Brenda Larue  
September 21 – Mary Ann Thomas  
September 22 – Ken Collis  
September 22 – June Griffith

September 23 – Ryker Flanagan  
September 23 – Kim Pilkins  
September 24 – Josie Echols  
September 26 – Joseph Flanigan  
September 27 – Jett Bowling  
September 28 – Carroll Barth  
September 29 – Jean Cline (91)  
September 29 – Mary Lou Fensom  
September 29 – Chris Kessinger  
September 29 – Pam Sears  
September 30 – Russ Crump



October 01 – Brent and Joni Veneri  
October 02 – Joe and Barb Hampton  
October 04 – Frank and Claudia Repass  
October 05 – Todd and Ginger Craft  
October 06 – Dan and Betty Farley  
October 07 – Jason and Lynsey Artrip  
October 10 – Giff and Pam Coulbourne  
October 16 – John and Gina Moore  
October 17 – Scott and Pam Sears  
October 23 – Roger and Becky Topping  
October 28 – Terry and Jerry Childress



October 01 – Michael Lee Clark  
October 01 – Keagan Conley  
October 04 – Karen Henkes  
October 05 – Mary Ball (97)  
October 06 – Cindy Lewis  
October 08 – Leah Comer  
October 08 – Andrew Fama  
October 08 – Rosanna Reaser  
October 08 – Cale Veneri  
October 08 – Cory Williams  
October 09 – Britt McNew  
October 10 – Joshua Beachler  
October 10 – Morgan Forbes  
October 10 – Payton Forbes  
October 10 – Emma Graham  
October 11 – Logan Elmore  
October 12 – Joe Hampton  
October 12 – Delaney Quesenberry  
October 13 – Dreama Swecker  
October 15 – Clinton Jones  
October 16 – Carol Stafford  
October 16 – Robert Vest



October 17 – Kristi Lewis  
October 17 – Greg Price  
October 18 – Heather Bostic  
October 18 – Whitney Graham  
October 18 – Patti Smith  
October 18 – Pat Veneri  
October 19 – Cade Fix  
October 20 – William Fredeking  
October 20 – Stephanie Knight  
October 20 – Maleko Townsend  
October 21 – Ginger Craft  
October 21 – Janet Vaughn  
October 22 – Sherrie Price  
October 22 – Kent Thompson  
October 24 – Sarah Jessee  
October 24 – Marshall Lytton  
October 26 – Robbie Fix  
October 28 – Ben Gay  
October 30 – Nate Rowe  
October 31 – Jessica Pritchett



*Barbara Ballard, Director of Children's Ministries*

*Office Hours: Mon. 9-10 AM, 11:30 -12:30 PM, Tues. 1-2 & Wed 12-2*

*Cell (320-920-8186); office (304-425-0064)*

*Email: fumcdce@suddenlinkmail.com*

## **ROME VBS – PAUL AND THE UNDERGROUND CHURCH**

### **A Very Meaningful Holy Land Adventure**

In July, we were privileged to witness our VBS participants grow in their faith due to the realistic portrayal of Paul by Pastor Scott, his Roman guard by Stan Tucker, and Underground Church members Becky Rowe, Wes McKinney, Becky Veneri, and Michael Bowling. Our children experienced the concerns for safety the early Christian endured under the Roman rule. Roman guards Anthony and Bryce Veneri were believable, as well as funny, in their pursuit and attempt to capture the Underground Church members the children grew to identify with each evening of VBS.

Our gym was the setting for the Roman Marketplace, which was the location of Marcia Anderson's Craft Shop, Amanda Wenisch's Food Shop, Bob Davis' Architecture Shop, and Kathy Tucker's Clean Water Mission. Unique to this VBS program, and personally my favorite activity, were the Daily Dramas which took place each evening, most of which were a surprise interruption while the kids were visiting the Marketplace Shops. The most heartwarming experiences for the staff occurred during two of the dramas – one at the Food Shop when the children all spontaneously professed their faith to a

Roman guard along with Becky Kidwell, the proprietor, when she was asked if she was a Christian. The following evening the children responded the same way when Metal Worker Shop proprietor, Kim Bay, bravely proclaimed that she was a Christian, when questioned by another Roman guard. I am so grateful to Tom and Alex Bay, Terry Wells, Jason Pritchett, Roger Topping, Bob Davis, Jeremy Wenisch and Randy Lester who all gave of their time and gifts to make these dramas so meaningful.

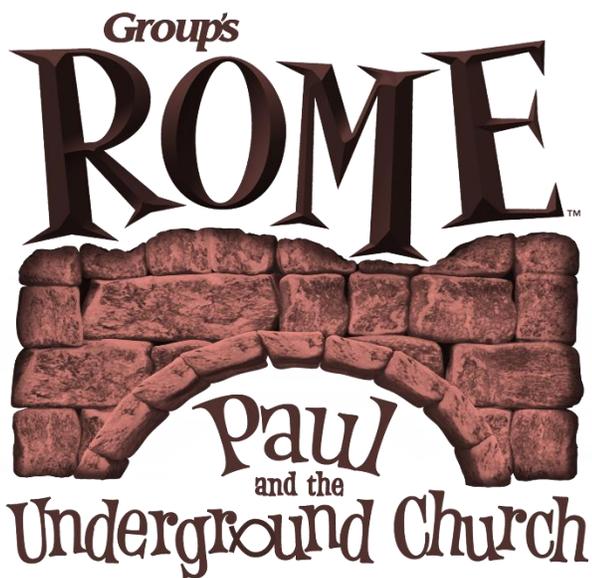
Once, again Martha Cook provided a wonderful service to our volunteers by having a snack supper ready for them each evening before VBS and Sabrina Mick offered nursery care for the children of our volunteers. Games leader Brandon Roland and his youth and young adult team led the outdoor fun activities while reinforcing the Bible truth of the day. The family leaders and their youth assistants had an extra role this year in meeting with their groups twice each evening to discuss what the children were learning. This time was well-spent by nurturing relationships and giving the participants an opportunity to share their thoughts and feelings. Praise leader Sherrie Price, supported by her talented daughters,

*(VBS Continued)*

B.J. and Kristine, both opened and closed each evening by worshipping in song. Many children, from the youngest to the oldest, responded to the altar call given during the closing session in true reverence.

I'd also like to express my appreciation to those who prepared in advance behind the scenes: Jeff McNew for using his artistic talents to transform the stage into a beautiful Roman scenes, featuring both city and countryside views, Stephanie Bowling provided wonderful guidance to the area leaders by hosting meetings and providing daily guidance, and Ruthie and Bridgette for making the Registration station run extremely smoothly.

Of all the Bible Schools of which I have been a part, Group's "Rome" was the most meaningful for participants and staff alike! I can't thank the congregation enough for their support of this outreach.



## Another Successful Backpack Event!



This August we were, once again, able to bless our community children with new backpacks

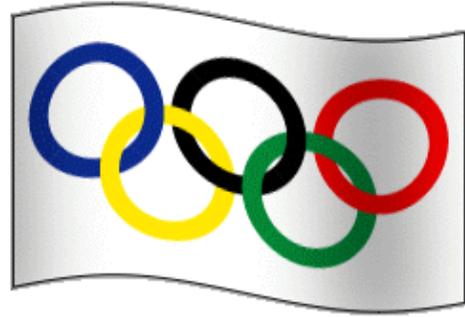
and school supplies for the coming school year. Due to the wonderful response of the congregation and support of our Mission Team, the kids were able to choose from a wide variety of backpacks this year. We gave out a total of 98 backpacks and also were able to serve hot dogs and chili provided by the United Methodist Women and slushies and lemonade provided by our youth. The UMW also gave out toothbrushes and toothpaste. This activity has grown to be a very popular local event, and runs very smoothly due to a dedicated team of volunteers.

Since we have given away 100% of our supplies and backpacks, we will receive donations throughout the school year, to prepare for next year's event. There is a tub outside of the Christian Ed. Office where you may drop off supplies anytime.

Please know that your generous gifts were greatly appreciated by both the parents and children who expressed their sincere thanks for all parts of the event.

**Children’s Fellowship Time Olympics - Fall 2017**

Our fall session of CFT is off to a good start, exploring our Olympics theme, featuring Bible Champions, Olympic Games, and art activities in our “Bronze Craft Village.” Miss Martha returns with the role of listening to the weekly Bible verses and keeping track of participation points the children receive, which will be converted to tickets to purchase prizes on “Show – Off” night. Miss Marcia has been busy creating craft ideas to go with each Bible champion and gathering gifts to be included in the treat bags the children will be given at the end of the session. We all look forward to our guest actors portraying the Bible characters. So far, Bob Davis has visited us as Samson and Jason Pritchett will be sharing the story of Joseph.



This session concludes on October 18<sup>th</sup> with a celebration supper. Children will continue to meet with Miss Sherrie for choir practice. In addition to preparing to sing during worship, the children will also be working on their annual Christmas program during this time, which is performed following the church-wide Carry-In dinner in early December.

The CFT leaders and Miss Sherrie are all appreciative of our parents' efforts to have the children involved in these midweek activities.

**Trunk or Treat and All Saint’s Day**

**Wednesday - October 25, 2017: 5 – 7 PM**

Children may “trick-or-treat” in our parking lot.  
Hot dog sale, Fun and Games, in the Family Ministries Center.



**EVERYONE IS INVITED FOR AN EVENING OF FUN AND FELLOWSHIP!**



**WILLING WORKERS NEEDED – Let Barb Know Your Area of Interest**

**For Trunk or Treat**

- Decorate your car & hand out candy
- Help another person at their car
- Help by donating candy
- Be part of the set-up team and/or parking patrol and/or parking patrol

**For All Saint’s Day Party**

- Help run a game booth
- Help by being a runner
- Donate candy
- Donate treats (small toys, pencils, etc.)

Click the image below to access our online calendar.

