

GRACE NOTES

November Birthdays:

1st: Kerry Howe
20th – Gloria Shannon
22nd – Jan Mauck
24th – Harold Barnum

November Anniversaries:

25th – Mike and Mona McMahon



Birthday Luncheon: The ladies will gather together on Tuesday, November 14th to celebrate the November birthdays. *Location: Ellie's Time: 11:30*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Adult Bible Study: The study of the minor prophets, *Twelve Voices for Truth*, came to an end after about 12 weeks, but leaving us with the desire to learn more about these not-so-minor prophets. Our next study may be a short one on advent, during the day in Nov./Dec. Listen for an announcement!

Teach Us to Want; Longing, Ambition and the Life of Faith by Jen Pollock Michel is a new ladies' Bible Study that began last week. It's about "asking the Lord to align our desires with His, through prayer, reading His Word, and community." We meet at church Wednesday mornings at 10:00. Those attending are Christine, Deb, Eileen, Joyce, Nancy W. and Betty. We are excited about this new group, and delighted to have Rachael Welch as our facilitator, sharing her spiritual gift with us.

Continued on page 2 ...

	LAY READER	GREETERS & USHERS
5	John Christ	Mike Krause
12	Nancy Wallace	June & Gerry Watson
19	Jan Mauck	Nancy & Bill Hoy
26	Mike Krause	Jan Mauck & Marilyn Harrington

COMMUNION – NOVEMBER: JUNE WATSON DECEMBER: MARGE

Nursery, ages Crib-to-K: Sharon Ray offered to teach, play with, and attend to the nursery children. Huge thanks, Sharon, for sharing your spiritual gift with the little ones!

Grades 1 thru 6: This fall children are learning about harvest, a word used over and over in the Bible. In our *Stories of Harvest from Jesus*, we've learned about *I Am the Vine* and the *Parable of the Sower*. We also are learning the first six questions and answers of *First Catechism for Children*. (Grades 5 and 6 are very welcome to this class for now, until we grow in size and start a third class!)

We're looking for an additional teacher in each of our children's classes. Prayerfully consider volunteering for 45-60 minutes, one Sunday a month. Give me a call; I'd be happy to talk with you.

Elder Betty Clough, Chairperson (938-2019)

Brothers and sisters,

Over the last 4 months on the Lord's Day we have been following Israel through the Torah along its journey from slavery to the Promised Land. And we will wrap up our series this month as we look at Deuteronomy. The name Deuteronomy comes from the Greek word for a repeating of the Law. And that is exactly what Deuteronomy is about, it is a restatement of much of what we have already seen in the rest of the Torah. The primary genre of Deuteronomy is oration where Moses delivers a series of formal speeches as he nears the end of his leadership of the nation of Israel. The content of his speeches is lawgiving (as hinted by the book's title). The motif of covenant renewal dominates the book. Additionally, Deuteronomy repeats key themes throughout the Torah including the overarching truth that obedience brings blessing while disobedience brings a curse. The last four chapters are a transfer-of-leadership story, as Joshua succeeds Moses when the latter dies. So you can see that this is a deep book with much for us to contemplate in relation to our walk with Christ. And this is the goal of this study; to know Christ more deeply. Ultimately, when we look at the Church in the Old Testament we see people who are much more like us than we might think. We see God's people struggling and failing but forgiven and restored. As we think of this in terms of our upcoming celebration of Thanksgiving and eventually Advent I pray that each one of us recognizes the deep sense of awe and amazement that ought to be ours when we think on God's abiding love for us in Christ Jesus. A love that walks with us, leads us, rebukes us when necessary, and continuously works to bring about our sanctification and growth just like He did for His people in the wilderness. So I urge you to commit to reading through Deuteronomy this month, there are 34 chapters so just over a chapter a day will have it read by the end of the month. And as you read through it ask yourself these three questions.

1. How does the text describe the awfulness of sin?
2. In what ways does God provide an answer to sin and brokenness?
3. How did the people of God respond to God's grace in light of sin and how ought we to respond?

These three questions will not only help guide you in thinking about Deuteronomy rightly (as well as the rest of Scripture) but they will also serve to prepare your hearts to celebrate God's ultimate answer to these questions... Jesus Christ. It is His birth that we will celebrate in just a few short weeks and Deuteronomy will provide the perfect introduction to this season of celebration. I will leave you with some of Moses' final words from Deuteronomy 32:4 and I pray that you are reassured of God's exaltation, righteousness, and faithfulness to His people, "The Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is he."

Peace and Rest, Pastor Nick.