

AUGUST



A publication of the **Hayesville United Methodist Church**

Hayesville, OH 44838
 Pastor -- Rev. Paula Archdeacon
 (hayesvillepastor@gmail.com)



Our mission is to serve Christ, the congregation, and the community in a loving, caring manner.

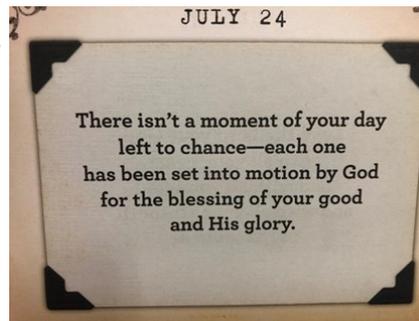
Pastor Paula's Page

When I flipped my page-a-day calendar to today's reflection, I had to stop and really think about this one! I had mixed emotions; first, I was like awwwww, God wants to bless me! (of course I know that but don't we all need a reminder from time to time?) Then I thought, but wait—does this mean God predestines everything that happens in my life?

I do not believe in predestination (I leave that to our Presbyterian brothers and sisters); I believe that God gives us free will, and that we make our own choices, good and not so good. Sometimes those not so good decisions are what help us learn and grow. I remember long ago, when my children were young, allowing them to make certain decisions for themselves even though I knew it would result in frustration or tears, because part of maturing is learning how to make choices and then dealing with the consequences, positive or negative.

I had to go back to the reflection again: God hasn't left a moment of our lives to chance—because each of those moments is for blessing! Well, I'm not sure I agree with that, either. This past week has been full of moments I wouldn't label blessings. The truck needs another repair. Carl had to pay \$1200 upfront for his cataract surgery. I found out, besides the dental implant already begun, I need five fillings replaced! The heavy rains forced water into our basement again. One of the cats barfed on the carpet. I'm SURE your week was similar, right?!

But you know what? That's just life. We live in a world where crazy things happen. Bad things happen to good people, and good things happen to bad people. That's just the way it is, and we need to accept it. The good news is each one of those moments is a chance for us to depend on God's grace. No matter what, God is with us at every moment, and every one of those moments is an opportunity to praise God. Of course it is hard to be thankful for the kinds of things I listed earlier, and I



don't think we are supposed to say, "Oh good, thank you God, for sending one more trial my way!" I do think that we need to examine ourselves and reflect on our response to events, though. Is there something we could do to help ourselves, or others in similar situations? How does our response and attitude reflect God's love? Please understand I am not saying we are helpless to change things or that we should stoically accept things without question. But I do think we need to curb our whining and lean more toward thanking God for God's constant presence with us.

I'm reminded of the words of Psalm 139:

- O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
² You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
 you discern my thoughts from far away.
³ You search out my path and my lying down,
 and are acquainted with all my ways.
⁴ Even before a word is on my tongue,
 O LORD, you know it completely.
⁵ You hem me in, behind and before,
 and lay your hand upon me.
⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
 it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Some might interpret that "hemming in" as restrictive, but I see it as a divine safety net. God loves me so much that no matter what happens to me, my faith and my place in God's kingdom is secure. We wait for the kingdom of God, and its perfect justice and peace and love. We wait, anticipating something better, and we wait, acknowledging our part in bringing that Kingdom into reality, by living and loving as disciples for Jesus Christ right now.

Don't leave a moment of your day to chance! Give your life to God, and accept with joy the blessings that follow!

Blessings and JOY,
 Pastor Paula



Administrative Council Notes:

There was no meeting for the month of July. Stay tuned for a report for next month.



Financial Report:

Money received in June - \$8,183.11

Money received thus far in July - \$6,771.42

Needed per month to meet 2019 Budget - \$9,349.42

Pat Shenberger, Financial Secretary

“A First Grade Lesson for Adults”

First grade is considered the lowest rung in education, but most of the important basis of living a good life, I learned in the first grade. True wisdom does not always come after expensive years of education. It can be found in the simple lessons of grade one. So, what did I learn in my first year at school?

- To read the Bible in the morning and sing a few hymns;
- To do my work well;
- To play fair, let others have a turn;
- To not use other people’s things without asking;
- To say ‘Thank you’ and ‘Please’;
- To look out for each other and help the slow ones;
- To walk on the right side of the road;
- To tell the teacher if I did something wrong.

Wouldn’t this world be a nicer place if all of us lived up to what we were taught in the first grade? Are we on the right side of the road in our homeward travels? And, if we do wrong it is still best to tell the Teacher. (*Author Unknown*)

Taken from *Amish Country News*, June 2018.

August Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|---------------|----|------------------|
| 3 | Carolyn Brown | 13 | Kristy Nebergall |
| | Chuck Leedy | 16 | Linda Knee |
| 11 | Roman Bellmer | 19 | Dani Nebergall |
| | Amy Claprod | 29 | Krya Rush |
| | Missy Diener | | |





Next Bloodmobile

August 13 from 2 to 7 pm. (Date Correction)

There is always a need for life saving blood.

Save this date and Mark your calendars.

GIVE BLOOD!

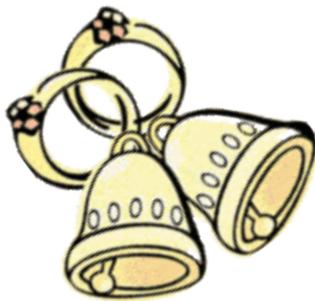
If you are not able to give blood, your donations for the canteen are always appreciated.

SELAH ***Live in Concert***

When: September 13th at 7:00 p.m.
(Doors open at 6:00 p.m.)
Where: Calvary Baptist Church
210 Davis Road, Ashland
Tickets: Available at WWW.Itickets.com/Events/431291
General admission \$17.00



CONGRATULATIONS!



We want to congratulate the two couples who were recently married. Best wishes to you both.

Josh and Kelsey Barr – July 8, 2019

Isaiah and Cayla (McQuillen) Bohl – July 13, 2019



ACCESS
 Ashland Church Community Emergency Shelter Services
 1605 CR 1095 Ashland Ohio 44805 419-685-1232



June 27, 2019

Hayesville United Methodist Church
 44 S Mechanic Street
 Hayesville, OH 44838

To the Leadership and Congregation,

Thank you so much for your donation of \$202 to the ACCESS program, Ashland Church Community Emergency Shelter Services, Our ACCESS guests have many needs and your gift is a true help to them. – We receive no government funds and rely solely on donations and fundraisers to serve homeless families and ACCESS is the only temporary shelter service available in Ashland County.

While we do provide temporary shelter, ACCESS guests work to find long term sustainable employment and long term sustainable housing within the framework of the ACCESS program. In 2018 we served a total of 36 guests. This year as of June 24th, 19 adults and 20 children have entered the ACCESS program. The need is great!

This year we have established Transitional Housing by partnering with Aspen Management and a local donor to acquire the use of a two bedroom apartment and a one bedroom apartment. Transitional Housing is for ACCESS guests that have successfully completed the program and need a place they can afford until they can find their own permanent housing.

The ACCESS program is a hand up -- not a hand out. For many of our guests, this is the first time they have experienced Christ's love and they are grateful for Christians who care. You are such a blessing and I truly appreciate your commitment to ACCESS. Please don't hesitate to call me at 419-685-1232 if you have any questions.

Again, thank you for your generous donation.

Cathy Themens
 Executive Director



MIDWEST MISSION
 DISTRIBUTION CENTER

June 18, 2019

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ at Hayesville UMC:

Thank you for your generous donation of the school kits to Midwest Mission. Each donation is a blessing God uses to bless you and others. Your donation will leave Midwest Mission and be a practical example of God's love in the world to the "least of these". "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" Matthew 25:40 (NW)

It is due to your generosity and partnership with Midwest Mission that we can touch so many lives for Christ around the world and around the corner. Thank you so much for blessing others through the ministry of Midwest Mission !

Yours in Christ,

Chantel Corrie
 Executive Director