



Volume 25 - Issue 4 - July / August, 2021

## An Encouraging Word

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"Closer" – I usually associate this word with something positive. This is probably true for me because I remember the general response of our seven grandchildren when Elise and I are with them. They want to be closer to us and sometimes even compete to be the closest to us.

This past school year I drove our five-year-old granddaughter to preschool two days a week. Usually, I picked her up in my car with her car seat behind me on the passengers' side. She was okay with this traveling arrangement but she preferred to ride in my standard cab pickup truck where the only option was for her car seat to be positioned in the front immediately next to me. We were side by side, eye to eye and ear to ear. She was closer to me and she enjoyed that more than the separation she experienced by riding in the back seat. I still laugh about it because my truck is 21 years old with large rust holes covering the outside, constant suspension squeaks, a very battered interior, an old truck smell, and no A/C! Other people I pass often stare disgustedly at my truck but not my granddaughter. She asks to ride in it. Not because of the truck but because she wants to be closer to me. I tell you, that makes this Papaw's day! I want to be closer to her and she wants to be closer to me! You can see why the word "closer" is a good word to me.

Is the word "closer" a good word to you? Maybe after you consider this verse it will be. "Come close to God, and God will come close to you" James 4:8a NLT. Of course, God is always near. His desire is to be near to us and the Spirit of Jesus even fills the life of everyone who turns to Him. However, this Scripture indicates that God responds to us in a special way when we want to be closer to Him. I hope that makes the word "closer" a good word to you today and that you make whatever choices you need to make to come closer to the Lord.

*Pastor Mike*



### Happy Days Are Here Again!

On this past Friday evening the Senior Adult Group (Prime Timers) and their guests were excited to have their first gathering since the pandemic began. It was such a blessing to get together again! A Movie Night had been planned by Stephanie Kirschner, complete with popcorn, hotdogs, drinks and other concession goodies on the menu. The movie, "I Can Only Imagine" was our feature show and was enjoyed by all, even though some of us had already seen it, a movie like this is always touching.

We look forward to meeting again soon and to get back on our monthly gatherings. So watch for further announcements as we plan more events. Let us know if you have any ideas to share as we get back to happier times together.

*Bonnie Oney, Reporter*

### Hit The Sack

Sleep is a daily reminder from God that we are not God. Once a day God sends us to bed like patients with a sickness. The sickness is a chronic tendency to think we are in control and that our work is indispensable. To cure us of this disease, God turns us into helpless sacks of sand once a day.



*—John Piper*

## Looking Ahead to Fall 2021

It is not too early to start thinking about being part of a small study group next fall! Some of the Mt. Nebo UMC small groups study together year-round, yet others take a break in the summer. I would encourage each of us to find a current small group to join, look ahead to those that will be offered in the fall or step up to lead a small group study. We were made for a relationship with God and others—what better way than to partner with other Christians seeking to live out their faith along life's journey. If you are interested in learning about small group discipleship opportunities, please talk to me at 513-509-8498.



*Brenda Reed*—Discipleship Coordinator



## BACKPACK EVENT

Here are the options for participating in this ministry to help area children/families with school supplies:

\*Purchase “**School Supplies**” listed below and bring them to the church building by Sunday, July 25th. (Mt. Nebo and our Partner Churches are purchasing regular size backpacks with the school logo on them so it isn't necessary for individuals to purchase them this year. However, you are welcome to purchase additional ones if you'd like.)

\*Donate money to help purchase supplies.

\*Help welcome people, distribute backpacks and supplies Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> starting at 5:00pm at Hamersville School.

(An effort of Mt. Nebo and Hamersville Partner Churches)

### School Supplies List

Crayons – 24 count	One subject spiral notebook
Dry Erase Markers	Folders (2 pocket)
Colored Pencils (non-erasable) – 12 pack	One inch binder with pockets inside
# 2 Yellow pencils (package)	Loose Leaf notebook paper (wide-ruled)
Large Erasers	Ruler (with inches and centimeters)
Glue Sticks	Scissors (safety scissors or regular scissors)
Composition Notebooks (smaller than normal spiral notebooks)	

# W L N N R P

Answer each statement by circling the letter in the correct column. Then write the circled letters on the numbered lines below to complete the biblical word.

	TRUE	FALSE
1. Naomi is Ruth's mother.	D	<input checked="" type="radio"/> R
2. Ruth is a Moabite.	T	P
3. Naomi wants Ruth to leave her and return to Moab.	N	L
4. Orpah is Naomi's hired hand.	H	S
5. Boaz lives in Bethlehem.	C	B
6. Boaz is a farmer.	U	V
7. Ruth makes a living begging at Bethlehem's gates.	X	E
8. Boaz instructs his field workers to leave extra grain for Ruth to glean.	E	J
9. Boaz invites Ruth to eat with the harvesters.	R	Q
10. Boaz is related to Naomi.	I	W
11. Boaz refuses to marry Ruth.	F	R
12. Ruth is the great-grandmother of King David.	O	G

R

9 7 4 6 1 11 8 5 2 10 12 3

**ANSWER ON PAGE 11**

**Bob Neu**, passed away on May 15, 2021, at the age of 80. Bob was the father of Stephanie Kirschner and husband Dan.

**Pat Kramer**, passed away on May 27, 2021, at the age of 82. Pat was the sister of Sandy Wesley and husband Jim. Pat's memorial will be July 31st at 11:00AM at Mt. Nebo UMC.

**Tim Kidd**, passed away on June 7, 2021, at the age of 63. Tim was the son-in-law of Mitch Irvin and wife Nancy.

**Eddie Hornsby**, passed away on June 8, 2021, at the age of 53. Eddie was the nephew of Gloria and Bud Meder.

**Karen Hock**, passed away on June 17, 2021, at the age of 62. Karen was the sister of Robert Conaty and wife Theresa.

**Sharon Gibson**, passed away on June 21, 2021, at the age of 76. Sharon was the mother of Cecil Gibson and wife Tracy.

**Bernie Kunkel**, passed away on June 30, 2021, at the age of 80. Bernie was the uncle of Kathy Pollard and husband Todd plus many other family who attended Mt. Nebo UMC.

## Deaths

IN THE CHURCH FAMILY

Our prayers and love go out to all their families and friends.



## Births

IN THE CHURCH FAMILY

Josh and Emily Myers welcomed their third daughter, **Hannah Lynn Myers**, on May 17, 2021. She weighed 6lbs. 11oz and 18.75 inches long. Hannah's big sisters, Ali and Olivia, were so excited when she came home.

### Youth Grades 7-12

If you would like to be part of the drama team for the Vacation Bible Story that makes the Bible Stories come alive, we would love to have your help!

Alyssa Eubanks and Linda Stover are planning the Bible Story time for VBS each day. It will be a big help and is lots of fun to work as a team. We realize you may not be able to commit to the whole week, so check your calendars to see when you could help!

- Call Alyssa Eubanks 513-399-6354 or Linda Stover 513-509-1338.
- Share the days you can participate during VBS week; July 27-30.
- Plan to pick up your scripts after 2nd service on Sunday, July 25.
- Plan to meet at Church Monday, July 26, 7:00 - 8:00pm for practice.



Join  
the  
VBS  
drama  
team

**Mt. Nebo Chalk Night — Lots of family fun!**  
**Looking forward to Family Chalk Night in 2022!**



**Sunday School — A Group for Everyone**

There are small group opportunities for age 3 through adult between the 9 AM and 11 AM Worship Services each Sunday. Many of our weekdays are packed with work responsibilities, sports, appointments, etc.- the things that often keep us from being part of a small group study. Whether you attend the 9 AM Worship Service or the 11 AM Worship Service, the Sunday School hour is a great time to learn and grow in your faith with others in a small group setting.

Age 3 through 1st grade class is taught by Kristina Waterfield and meets in Classroom 1.

2nd grade through 5th grade class is presently taught by Carol Ann King and meets in Classroom 2.

The MS/HS class meets in the nursery area (Through August this group is taught by Brenda Reed. Beginning in September the class will be taught by Shelby Eubanks.)

At present there are 2 adult classes:

- One meets in classroom 3 using weekly Sunday School materials. This is led by Bonnie Oney
- One adult class meets in the kitchen area and is presently completing a video-based study of Ruth. This class is led by Sue Craycraft

If you are interested in helping with our Sunday School program as a teacher, substitute, or would like more information about Sunday School, please speak to Brenda Reed, Discipleship Coordinator.



## Youth Summer Fun At Stovers

Families with youth grades 6 and up are invited to a Picnic and Water Fun

Where—Home of Greg and Linda Stover

Date—Sunday, August 1st

Starts at 2 PM with picnic supper and campfire to follow

So we can plan for food, please RSVP to Brenda Reed or Linda Stover

Sign up sheet will also be at the signup table in the Church Narthex

### 456 Summer Update

It may be summer break from school, but the 456 youth are not taking a break from meeting together!

In June they celebrated with a picnic and some team building games hosted by the Eubanks family. 456 also helped Mt. Nebo remember Independence Day by lining the perimeter of the church's paved parking lot with American flags!

Many of the youth in this group will be part of the music team for VBS, so plan to join them during the opening and closing each day!

This coming fall 456 will meet weekly in the late afternoon and are looking forward to having the new 4th graders join the group!



—Continued on next page



**joni&friends**

## Ohio Family Retreat

Family Retreats offer a safe and accepting Christ-centered environment for individuals affected by disability and their families making it a little slice of heaven for everyone! At Family Retreat, families are cared for, encouraged, and rejuvenated in an accessible camp environment. Each Family Retreat provides inclusive worship, Bible-based teaching, age-appropriate fun activities, and cultivates meaningful connections with other families. Each Family Retreat is packed with exciting adventures for the whole family.

Mt. Nebo UMC will serve at this year's Joni and Friends Family Retreat at Shawnee State Lodge near Portsmouth, Ohio, July 13th and July 15th. Our youth will host a carnival on Tuesday evening at this year's retreat, providing carnival games and activities for the nearly 200 participants. On Thursday, a group of women from Mt. Nebo UMC will host a mom's luncheon, so the moms attending the family retreat can enjoy a little pampering with a special lunch! Please pray for our youth, their leaders, and the group of ladies who will prep and serve the lunch. Thanks to all who are helping with this! A special thanks to Julie Stratton for organizing the Mom's Luncheon!

**Hope you can join us for a  
Discovery on Adventure Island...  
On a Quest for God's Great Light!  
Tuesday, July 27 through Friday, July 30  
8:45 AM—Noon**



There will be explorer groups for those age 4 through those who have completed 6th grade.

In addition to the adult crew, who will help with VBS, we would love to have youth crew members! Any youth who would like to help, please contact Brenda Reed.

Registration is now available for this year's Vacation Bible School. Registration forms are available at the sign up table and also online at [www.mtneboumcoh.com](http://www.mtneboumcoh.com). It is important to pre-register, so we can have supplies ready for all the explorers on Adventure Island!

In the quest for God's great Light, we will look at different stories in the Bible so we see His Great Love for each of us. The 4 day adventure will be packed with outdoor games, Bible stories, songs, crafts, science, and snacks! Explore and see what God has for you!

**Arise! Shine! Your Light has come; the Lord's Glory has shone upon you!  
Isaiah 60:1**


—Brenda Reed, Discipleship Coordinator



**Bible Quiz**

An unnamed relative of Paul obstructed a conspiracy to kill the apostle. What was this rescuer's relation to Paul?


A. nephew  
B. niece  
C. brother  
D. sister



**Bible Quiz**

What was the name of the queen who refused to appear before the king of Persia and his guests and, as a result, was deposed?

A. Esther  
B. Jael  
C. Vashti  
D. Milcah



**Answer to Bible Quizzes on Page 11**



**Remember When...**

**Remember Now**

Several of you may have attended a Ichthus Christian Music Festival as a youth or youth leader in Wilmore Kentucky in years past. In fact, Dan and I found ourselves letting our 4 teen-aged children go to Ichthus for several years when they were in church youth groups. In addition to hearing contemporary Christian musicians perform, there were times when people shared their own faith with those who attended. I know these experiences were some that each of our adult children remember as life changing. I wanted to share this opportunity with you, so your family might have this experience. It is a one-day event this year, not an entire weekend, but I am hoping that it is a place where God can meet people in this setting for a time of worship and praise at the Servant's Hear Farm near Wilmore, Kentucky. The following post on Facebook was enough to make me want to share this with you!

"Ichthus Festival is coming back! We'll be celebrating God's love and the 're-launch' of Ichthus on Saturday, September 18, 2021, at Servant's Heart Farm (formerly Ichthus Festival Grounds)."

Dan and I are planning to go — families can purchase their own tickets online. Hope you can join us!

*Brenda Reed, Discipleship Coordinator*



- July 4 – Joy In Spite of Things
- July 11 – Greg Stover  
"Wrestling with God"
- July 18 – Tracy Gibson  
"A Covenant of Mercy"
- July 25 – Daniel & Sierra Miller  
(missionaries to Djibouti, Africa)
- New Sermon Series: Closer**
- Aug. 1 – Closer to What Counts
- Aug. 8 – Closer to Family
- Aug. 15 – Closer to My Congregation
- Aug. 22 – Closer to My Neighbors
- Aug. 29 – Closer to God's Plan



## Time, Talents & Treasure

### Where's Your Investment?

Have you ever thought about your investments in terms other than money? How are the investments you are making for God's Kingdom? I check my balances for checking and savings online almost every day, but am I making investments that count in helping others grow in their faith? Maybe it is time to reflect on things that matter most.

*"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* Luke 12:34 This verse is a reminder that Jesus shared to invest in things that will not wear out-- those things of eternal value.

Consider how you might use your time and talents investing in the lives of the young people in the Mt. Nebo congregation and other children and youth that are part of the small groups for families, children, and youth here. There are small groups for children, middle school youth, and high school youth- plus opportunities in Children's Church and Sunday School to teach and be an adult who shares his or her faith with others. There are 10,080 minutes in a week that God has gifted each of us. If each of us invested just 120 minutes of the 10,080 God has given us, think of the possibilities of what could be done for the things that matter most- a life in Christ.

You can make a big difference with your time and sharing your faith. For more information about ways to invest your time with children and youth ministries, please talk with Brenda Reed, Discipleship Coordinator.



### Are You Looking for Financial Peace?

Do you feel stuck with your money? Maybe you've tried a little of this and some of that, but none of it really worked.



It's time to get *unstuck*—to move *forward*. Join the nearly 6 million people who have learned the right way to manage money. It's not magic. It's not luck. It's *Financial Peace University*: the life-changing money course that teaches you how to crush debt, invest in your future, and win with money like never before.

And guess what? **The nine-week Financial Peace Class is going to be offered beginning in September. Beginning the Sunday after Labor Day, the class will begin here at Mt. Nebo UMC. Our class will be led by Jacob and Sarah Clubb, who recently visited the Dave Ramsey studio to share their debt free scream!**

**ANSWERS TO BIBLE QUIZZES ON PAGE 13**

Left—A (See Acts 23:12-22, esp. v. 16)

Right— C (See Esther 1:12)

**ANSWER FROM PUZZLE ON PAGE 4**

Answer:

1.R,2.T,2.N,4.S,5.C,6.U,7.E,8.E,9.R,10.I,  
11.R,12.O; RESURRECTION



**Mortgage as of  
June 30, 2021:**

**\$475,642**



**W**e need friends. Friends guide us, care for us, confront us in love, console us in times of pain. Although we speak of “making friends,” friends cannot be made. Friends are free gifts from God. But God gives us the friends we need when we need them if we fully trust in God’s love.

Friends cannot replace God. They have limitations and weaknesses like we have. Their love is never faultless, never complete. But in their limitations they can be signposts on our journey towards the unlimited and unconditional love of God. Let’s enjoy the friends whom God has sent on our way.

—Henri Nouwen, *Bread for the Journey*



9:00 AM

7/18 Virgie Luck

7/25 Natalie Cook (preview VBS songs)

8/1 Alyssa Eubanks

8/8 Brenda Blair

8/15

8/22 Pat Cornett

8/29

11:00 AM

Tina Nolen

Shelly Arn (preview VBS songs)

Gail Frazier

Jodi Keller

Phyllis Colliver/Kanita Tackett

Amber Noel

Michelle Clark

**Mt. Nebo United Methodist Church**

11693 St. Rt. 774

Bethel, OH 45106

Pastor Mike Starkey

Phone: 937-379-1225

Fax: 937-379-9038



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**Invite Friends and Family to Worship!**

**Service Times:**

**9:00 AM** Worship with Piano and Hymns

Service inside and parking lot on 91.1 FM

**11:00 AM** Worship with Band

Service inside and parking lot on 91.1 FM

*Videos of all services are  
offered on our website  
[www.mtneboumvo.org](http://www.mtneboumvo.org)  
and on our YouTube channel  
(Mt. Nebo UMC).*

**Our Mission:**  
*To Know Christ and Make Him Known*