From Pastor David--

Well, summer is officially over! Labor Day signals it's time to get back into a more focused routine.

The same can be said for our congregational life. We have had a few weeks off this summer, but next week we resume various programs and you will have the opportunity to get plugged into those events. While I can encourage you to get plugged in, it is up to you to take advantage of the opportunities presented to grow spiritually and socially.

Here are a couple of things you may want to get connected with:

Sunday School - It is great to come and participate in our worship time, but Sunday School is where we learn more deeply of God's word and make application to our own situations. Classes are available for all ages.

Cleansing Stream Seminar - Sunday evenings at 6 p.m. A number of SCMC people participated in this Seminar about 13 years ago. It is time to do this Seminar again; it has recently been updated. The Seminar will cover the topics: "Working with God", "Knowing the Father", "Walking in the Spirit", "Committing Everything to God", "Speaking Words of Life", "Entering the Cleansing Stream", and "Pressing Toward the Goal".

Children of the Day (Beth Moore Study) – Every other Monday evening at 6:45 p.m. This is a great study for women, led by Alma Geosits. This begins next Monday evening, September 8; the second meeting is September 15 and then every other week following that meeting.

Good News Club - Every other Wednesday evenings, 6:30-8 p.m. This is special programming for children age 4 through 5th grade. This begins next Wednesday, September 10.

Youth Groups - Every other Wednesday evenings, 6:30-8 p.m. This is special programming for youth 6th grade through 12th grade. This begins next Wednesday, September 10.

Back to Basics - Every other Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. I will take the time during the Good News Club/Youth Group time to share with parents or other adults the basics of Christianity. We will begin by looking at "Who is Jesus Christ?" This begins next Wednesday.

Lastly, but certainly not least, Wednesday evenings (non-Good News/Youth Group nights) at 7:00 p.m. we will have an Evening of Prayer.

One other thing to mention: I'm sure you have seen in the bulletin a growing deficit between Giving/Income and the 2014 Budget. Unfortunately, our expenses didn't take the summer off. I trust we can work together to see this deficit become a surplus!

Junior High Game Night is tonight (Wednesday) from 6:30-8 p.m.

The Evangelism Commission will meet this Sunday at 8:30 a.m. in the Youth Room.

There is a Meeting for all Sunday School Teachers/Helpers this Sunday at 9 a.m. Please meet in the Fellowship Hall.

The **Beth Moore Study Group** will begin meeting next Monday evening, September 8, at <u>6:45 p.m.</u> You will receive your study books that evening. The cost is \$15; please come prepared to pay for your book that evening.

There is an Elder's Meeting next Monday evening at 7:00 p.m.

Meet for **Weekly Koffee and Konversation** at the Hellertown Diner on Tuesday mornings at 8:00 a.m. Come and enjoy a great time of fellowship together!

Church Council will meet next Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m.

Attention Ladies! If you would like to go to Echo Hill Country Store in Fleetwood, PA next Thursday, September 11, and stop for lunch on the way home, please sign up no later than this Sunday. We will meet at the Park and Ride in Hellertown at 9:30 a.m.

The **Senior High Youth** are invited to go to **Lake Nockamixon** on Saturday, September 13, for a **picnic lunch and some hiking** from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. The youth will need to pack their lunch and bring enough water for that time frame. If it rains, the event will take place on Sunday, September 14, after church. If you would like to attend, please sign up on the sheet in the foyer.

On Sunday evening, September 14, at 6:00 p.m., we are having a **Talent Show at SCMC!** If you would like to share your talent (and we hope you are willing!), **sign up** on the sign-up sheet in the foyer. This is always a fun time together.

The **Fall Men's Retreat** is September 26-28. It will be held at Bergey's cabin in Tunkhannock. The speaker will be Dan Krug from Spruce Lake Retreat Center. The topic is "Vital Signs." The cost will be \$50 for the weekend; \$35 for those who want to just come up for Saturday. If you would like to attend, please sign up on the sheet in the foyer.

On September 21, SCMC will participate in the **National Back-to-Church Sunday.** Why the need for such an event? Some people have taken advantage of the summer school schedule and warmer weather: they need to get back into the routine of worshipping together on Sundays. Some people have left the church over different preferences or styles of worship: they need to be welcomed back to a healing community of faith. Some people have discounted a church experience as only a place for weddings and funerals: they need to be invited back for a better look at church life. Still others want nothing to do with church: they simply need to be invited to "Come and See". Pray now for whom you will invite.

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner on Saturday evening, October 4, at 6 p.m.?! Everyone is encouraged to participate in this event and sign up to be either a Guest or Host for the evening. Hosts will provide the main meal for the Guests coming to their house, and Guests will be asked to bring either a salad or dessert to the home where they will be assigned. But shhh... it's a surprise! Don't tell others where you are going! Each Host will be told ahead of time how many Guests to expect but not who will be coming. Sign up on the sheet provided in the foyer to indicate that you are wishing to participate and whether you would like to be a Host or Guest.

Pastor David has again responded to a call to minister in India, February 2015. He would be like to take a small group of individuals to help minister to and be blessed by the widows and orphans. Speak to Pastor David for more information.

Next Week's Four Streams Bible Reading Plan: September 7, 1 Thessalonians 1-3, Isaiah 7-8, Psalm 56, Proverbs 2; September 8, 1 Thessalonians 4-5, Isaiah 9-10, Psalm 57; September 9, 2 Thessalonians 1-3, Isaiah 11-12, Psalm 58; September 10, 1 Timothy 1-3, Isaiah 13-14; September 11, 1 Timothy 4-6, Isaiah 15-16, Psalm 59; September 12, 2 Timothy 1-2, Isaiah 17-18, Psalm 60, Proverbs 3; September 13, 2 Timothy 3-4, Philemon, Isaiah 19-21, Psalm 61.

This Week: Nursery Staff, Val Newcomer & Nick Mace; Greeters, Rose Szabo; Worship Team Leader, Dan Reed; Ushers, Greg Feenstra, Nick Mace, Aaron Kochsmeier, Ed Morber and Bobby Kempf.

Please Pray For . . . Jessica Vaughn, and her work in China; Deane & Krystal Weaver, serving in Chile; Nicolas & Jennifer Haddad, serving in Lebanon; New Bethany Ministries, in Bethlehem; Greg & Rachel Feenstra; Frank & Cathy Fodero; and Lou & Sandra Fontanez.