



THE OPEN DOOR

a publication of Glen Leven Presbyterian Church
*A Loving Community called together by God to be a
people of Faith, Prayer, Nurture and Outreach.*

AUGUST 2011

“The Solid Foundation”

“I am
the way,
and the truth,
and the life.”

John 14: 6

If you have been living for any period of time, you have obviously noticed that there is not much that stays the same. Our bodies, lives, families, communities, and cultures are apparently in a constant state of transition. Nothing seems to be stable. Even within our church as Presbyterians, we are identified as “Ecclesia reformata, semper reformanda,” that is “The church reformed, always reforming.”

Many of us confuse the “reforming” to be parallel to all the other changes that are taking place continually in our lives and world. We reason that since everything else is shifting and in transition, “reform” must mean that nothing of our “faith” is concrete or unchanging. This mentality is reasonable, and yet devastatingly wrong.

Over the past few weeks I have been in an ongoing discussion with many of our members and a number of my colleagues regarding Scripture, Christian faith, and “reform.” The dialogue gets confused because there are some who fail to understand that even in the process of reform there always is a solid foundation upon which the reform is to be established.

An analogy that portrays this point is offered by Jesus. He tells a story of a wise man who builds his house upon the rock.¹ Once the house is built, the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew. This house was battered and beat by the storm, and yet it did not fall. Jesus offers that the only reason the house survived was because it had a solid, stable, unchanging foundation.

To be a people of faith we profess that there is something that requires our faithfulness. Both the texts of the Old and

New Testaments attest to the presence of the “truth.” This truth indicates that there is something solid and consistent upon which we can grow and “reform.” The Psalmist wrote, “Lead me in Your truth, and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation, for You I wait all day long.”² The apostle Paul wrote of his call, “for the sake of the faith of God’s elect and the knowledge of the truth that is in accordance with godliness, in the hope of eternal life that God, who never lies, promised before the ages began.”³

Jesus bound this message of solid truth to Himself and His atonement when He said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.”⁴ We are offered, like the wise man in Jesus’ story, the opportunity to build as a people of faith upon the “Truth” that is God’s word made flesh among us. This “Truth” is strategically portrayed in Scripture and is the foundation upon which we are to build our faith.

In the word of God we are encouraged to have a firm grasp of the word that is itself trustworthy. Taking hold of this “truth” we will each be able to preach with sound doctrine and to refute any message that contradicts it.⁵ Even though everything else around us shifts and changes, we will stand firm upon the solid foundation of God’s word and Truth. We are warned that the time is coming and has come “when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will . . . turn from listening to the truth and wander away to myths.”⁶ Although everything seems to be changing around us, may we stand firm in God’s Truth to His glory.

In the Love of Jesus the Messiah,

¹ See Matthew 7: 24-25,

also verses 26-27.

² Psalm 25: 5.

³ Titus 1: 1-2.

⁴ John 14: 6.

⁵ Titus 1: 9.

⁶ 2 Timothy 4: 2-4.

In this issue:

- “The Solid Foundation”
- News from our Day School
- Letters to GLPC
- Announcements and Reminders
- This months Lectionary
- At Your Service
- In Our Hearts and Prayers

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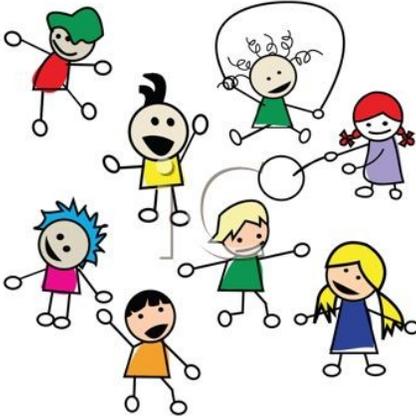




Glen Leven Presbyterian Church Dayschool

A Christian Learning Environment

August



As summer comes to a close we begin to think about this past year and reflect on all the blessings of this ministry. One of our proudest and saddest memories will be all of the families that continue onto kindergarten. I hope they will always feel welcome here and come by to visit us often.

I would also like to thank our awesome summer teacher – Emily Bell....she has done an outstanding job. We will miss her and pray that she have another wonderful year at college.

As of August 7th, Janice Cumming will begin her 30th year of teaching here at Glen Leven. She has dedicated her life to loving our kids and we truly thank God for her everyday. She's always hugging, kissing, teaching or comforting our kids (and sometimes grown ups)! We love her dearly and we hope she will stick around for another 30 years!

August is the busiest month of all here at our school. All the teachers will begin preparing their classes for our new and upcoming kids. The PTO will be welcoming all families with a light breakfast on Monday, August 15th. I would like to thank Kim Strickland and Stephanie Dahmer, last year's PTO presidents, for all their dedication and hard work this past year. Stephanie will continue to serve as PTO Co-President for the 2011-2012 school year and hold a seat on the Day School Committee. We appreciate the guidance of our PTO and we look Forward to a great year!

Glen Leven will be closed for care on Wednesday (8/10), Thursday (8/11), and Friday (8/12) for in-service.

On Friday, August 12th,

we will host a mandatory New Parent Orientation at 10:00 am.

Beginning at 1:00 p.m. we will hold our Open House and Parent Visitations.



*Our first day of care for the 2011-2012 school year will be
Monday, August 15th.*

I pray that all have had a wonderful year and We look forward to next year!

Dear Glen Leven Presbyterian Church;



Otis and I want to thank our Glen Leven Presbyterian Church family and friends for the lovely flowers placed on the altar on Sunday June 26 in honor of our 70th wedding anniversary. It was so thoughtful and we both had to have tears in our eyes over the love shown to us. We have felt right at home since we joined Glen Leven over 50 years ago. We feel the "Church on the Hill" is where we can gather to worship our Lord and have fellowship with one another. May it be a beacon to others to come participate in worshipping here. Otis and I never dreamed that we would make it to the 70th anniversary. It seems like yesterday. The years fly. The Lord has blessed us and we are grateful for each day as it comes. Again many thanks for thinking of us.

In Christ's love,
Frances and Otis McKeehen



~Playground Update~

Our PLAYGROUND project is coming to a close!! We are putting some finishing touches in place and our hope and prayer is that we will be ready to play in that area on August 1st. This renovation would have not been possible without the support from Glen Leven Presbyterian Church. There were so many that helped and I would especially like to thank Mayme Lee Lawrence, Bill Oakley, Jody Stanton, Johnny Woods and the Day School Committee. They contributed countless hours and their leadership was vital in bring this dream to reality. We are planning a celebration to honor all those that have given their love to this school. Watch for more details soon.....

This community of faith has been wonderfully supportive of this ministry – God is blessing us every moment through this church – Praise the Lord!

Is your copy of *The Open Door* arriving in the correct mailbox?

Are you receiving *The Open Door* in the format that you desire? Do you wish to receive *The Open Door* by email? or by snail mail? Please let Christine know at the church office (298-5549) so everyone can enjoy the **welcoming spirit of an open door!**



Lectionary for August

Aug 7 Gen. 37: 1-4, 12-28; Ps. 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b; Rom. 10: 5-15; Matt. 14: 22-33

Aug 14 Gen. 45: 1-15; Ps. 133; Rom. 11: 1-2a, 29-32; Matt. 15: (10-20) 21-28

Aug 21 Exod. 1: 8—2: 10; Ps. 124; Rom. 12: 1-8; Matt. 16: 13-20

Aug 28 Exod. 3: 1-15; Ps. 105: 1-6, 23-26, 45c; Rom. 12: 9-21; Matt. 16: 21-28



At Your Service this Month

ELDERS SERVING LORD'S SUPPER

Aug 7 Lead Elder: **Emily Townes**

Assisting Elders: Mayme Lee Lawrence,
Joe Redmen, Steve Sanders, Sandy Workman

ACOLYTES

Aug 7 Mattison Moon and Caroline Williams

Aug 14 Sam Sanders and Jackson Williams

Aug 21 Chase Moon and Benjamin Weaver

Aug 28 Eric Sanders and Sam Sanders

LITURGISTS

Aug 7 Trish Marshall

Aug 14 Sherry Hermon

Aug 21 Sherry Hermon

Aug 28 William Cumming

SHEPHERD GREETERS

Aug 7 Margaret Riegel

Aug 14 Maxine Rowe

Aug 21 Steve Sanders

Aug 28 Jody Stanton

USHER TEAMS

Aug 7 Ronnie Townes, Bill Oakley, Otis McKeehen, & Jody Stanton

Aug 14 Bill & Andrew Oakley, Joe and Mayme Lee Lawrence

Aug 21 Robert, Margaret, Charles, and Caroline Williams

Aug 28 Ronnie & Emily Townes, Bill & Andrew Oakley

REMEMBER THE LORD'S TABLE CAN COME TO YOU

Celebrating the Sacraments is an important part of our worship of the Lord. If you are homebound and would like to arrange for Communion to be brought to you on the Sunday the Sacrament is celebrated at Glen Leven, please call the church office by the previous Friday to schedule a visit.



In Our Hearts and Prayers:

Joe Lawrence Jr., Rosemary Stanton, Lee Roy Johnson, Caroline Vermillion, Bill Carson, Jim Marshall, Clayton Lawrence, Barbara Herring, Margaret Riegel, Bit Brown, Marian Ross, John Boyers, Clayton Lawrence Jr., Staff Sgt. Matthew Weatherford and Family, the Family of Carol Cheshire