



## Christian Freedom

When you think of the word “freedom”, you probably think of freedom in terms of being free from someone telling you what to do - or what not to do. Freedom generally means being able to do whatever you want to do. This is what you might call a “freedom from” kind of idea.

And yet, service to Jesus presents you with an entirely different idea of freedom. This is the idea of being free from selfishness in order to be able to serve others most fully. It is the idea of being free from the rules and expectations of others - in order to best be able to serve. This could be considered a “freedom for” kind of idea. Freedom for the sake of serving God.

Two scriptures stand out in this regard. In Galatians, St. Paul is writing to tell the Galatians that they should not willingly submit to the rules and regulations of the Jewish Law (the Torah), because Christ has created a whole new way of joyfully serving God. Paul writes, “For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. (Gal. 5:1)

The Way of Christ is that you have been completely forgiven of your sin - completely unbonded from guilt and the fear of God’s wrath. So that, now you are able to joyfully serve God in any way that you see fit. You don’t have to worry about someone telling you what you should be doing (the Law), you can simply act from the goodness of your heart.

This is a whole different way of being than having the rules and regulations dictating when and where and how you should and should not serve God. In essence, your whole life and being are lived in service to God - not just one good act or good word here or there.

The other scripture that speaks of our new freedom in Christ is in St. Paul’s second letter to the Corinthians. The Corinthian church had been having a lot of challenges with squabbling, class divisions, and immoral behavior. So, Paul is writing to remind them that living in Christ means living a whole different way of life. Living a life of freedom as mentioned above.

Paul writes, “Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.” (2 Cor. 3:17) And the Spirit of the Lord is gracious and loving, merciful and kind, generous and filled with hope and joy. (see Gal. 5:22-23)

What many people do not realize is that the freedom of the Christian is absolute. The Christian is free from family bonds in order to be free to serve Jesus in every way possible. The Christian is free from the laws and expectations of society - in order to be free to serve Jesus in any way possible.

For instance, in early Christianity, many Christians belonged to households that worshipped the Roman gods of the day. So, the Christian would be rebelling against their own household rules and may even get kicked out of the household for worshipping Jesus.

Also, the expectations of most of the Roman world was that you would at least give token worship to the gods of your town and the local protector god or fertility god. If you did not do that, society felt that you were literally endangering their safety and future.

In today’s world, the Christian has to be free enough to speak out against the injustices of society even when it goes directly against the political or social views of their family and friends. The Christian may even lose their job if their boss forces them to give up worship in order to work on Sunday. The Christian may be barred from playing sports because their practices or games conflict with attending worship or otherwise serving Christ.

In the popular culture Christianity gets watered down like it is some generalized moralistic society. And yet, the Spirit of the Lord is a powerful force that can completely redirect a person’s life. The Spirit of the Lord can give the Christian the courage and boldness to face beats or imprisonment (see early Christianity or the Civil Rights Movement).

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. A freedom far more powerful than just wanting your own way. It is a freedom that wants God’s way - and has the full power of His backing.

- Pastor Steve

## **OUR CHURCH FAMILY IN OUR PRAYERS**

**Homewood:** Eileen Grothey, Clyde Frock, Miriam Sterner, Julia Mummert and Phyllis Frock

**The Brethren Home:** Shelva Laughman

**Hanover Hall:** Mildred Raubenstine

**At Home:** Karen Brown, Robyn Duppins, Eric Collins, Cindy, Lisa Galloway, Lori & Bruce Shaffer, Jim Krumrine, Daryl Raubenstine, Shelley Saltzgiver, Larry Bixler, Cynthia Waters, Angie Britcher, Anita, Frieda, Mary Marrero, Sheila Staub, Marlene Redding, Harold Krumrine, Joann Shock, Harold Bachman, Gladys Wildasin, Deb Sponseller, Cindy Graybill, Pastor Terry McCarthy, Lindsey Crawford, Joyce Johnson, Gordon Sager, Kyle Wildeson, Leiland Smtih, Jimmy Bryan, Jeff Butler, Amber Shaw, Barb Butler, Rory Hughes, Sheila Raubenstine, Isabella Taylor, Tammy Hall, and Katlyn Stremmel, Mara Small, Doug Deviny, Danielle Stislicki, Kaz Krysiak, Alan Sterner, Rev. Fred Shilling, Amy Dehoff, Marleigh Myers, Jerry, Frank George, Paul Chronister, Hannah Engle, Christina Hawn, Hope & Wesley, Dottie Waybright, Roger Krumrine, Sharon Krumrine, Ruth Gunnell and Joe Moxley.

**In the military service:** Ryan Baummer, Marcus Gobrecht, Shea Mumma, Mark Reeve, Joshua Mummert, Alex Berwager and Doug Shaffer

**PRAYER LIST UPDATE** We need your help in updating our prayer list. Please take a moment to review and let the church office know of any deletions or additions that need to be made.

## **PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP IN OCTOBER**

### **Worship Assistant**

1 – Donald Sterner  
8 – Glenn Gobrecht  
15 – Erin Gobrecht  
22 – Emily Beyer  
29 – Karen Amoss

### **Scripture Reader**

Kim Trone  
Paul Krumrine  
Michelle Baumgardner  
HOPE  
Karen Amoss

### **Acolyte**

Carson Trone  
Mikenna Avery  
Abbey Jemison  
Sam Jemison  
Kylie Iafrate

### **Screen Presenter**

Heather Bair  
Ruth Neiderer  
Liz Mickley  
Kim Trone  
Erin Gobrecht

### **Worship Sound**

1 – Dale Greer  
8 – Barry Berwager  
15 – Shaun Saltzgiver  
22 – Brad Neiderer  
29 – Dale Greer

### **Children's Message**

Pastor Steve  
Larry Brumgard  
Pat Berwager  
Ruth Neiderer  
Kelly Kuhn

### **Children's Time**

Chris Myers/Diane Buvia  
Ruth Neiderer/Heather Bair  
Eileen Becker/Kim Becker  
Wendy Fritz/Amy Wetzell  
Kelly Kuhn/Deb Leppo

## **OPPORTUNITIES TO SPONSOR IN OCTOBER**

**Sunday bulletins @ \$10.00/Sunday**

**Altar Flowers:** If you are interested in sponsoring altar flowers for a worship service, see guideline paper in hallway or contact Ruth Neiderer. The flowers can be sponsored any Sunday.





**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

10/06 – Gordon Sager  
10/11 – Ida May Butler  
10/12 – Dennis Raubenstine

**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

11/03 – Patricia Bechtel  
11/10 – Richard Leinart  
11/13 – Geneva Stremmel  
11/28 – Paul Krumrine III  
11/29 – Rebecca Allesie–Miller

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

12/01 – Mrs. Evelyn Mechtly  
12/03 – Edna Sterner  
12/05 – James Neiderer  
12/06 – Mary Ann Canouse  
12/08 – Mary Helwig  
12/09 – Evelyn Spotts  
12/11 – Phyllis Feltch  
12/13 – Darrell Raunbenstine  
12/14 – Eileen Grothey\*  
12/19 – Arlene Harner  
12/21 – Allen Gobrecht  
12/21 – Patricia Wentz  
12/24 – Glenn Gobrecht  
12/26 – Alan Sterner  
12/30 – Ron Hnat

**CONDOLENCES**

- to the family and friends of Linette Sterner who passed away on August, 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - to Ron Hnat who’s brother-in-law, Roland Ortel, recently passed away.
- Please keep their family and friends in your prayers.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

We welcome the following new members into our congregation:

**Kimberly Becker** 25 Locust St., PO Box 362, Codorus, PA 17311  
(717) 968-4169, email: Kim11\_02@yahoo.com  
Hobbies/Interests include: reading, outdoor activities, cooking and crafts.

**Brian Butters** 20474 Summersong Ln., Germantown, MD 20874  
(301) 580-7360, email: blbutters@gmail.com  
Hobbies/Interests include: photography, software/computers and theatre.

**Liz Keilly** 58 Maple Ave., Littlestown 17340  
(717) 451-8336, email: ekielley@messiah.edu  
Hobbies/Interests include: scrapbooking, gardening and music

**Andrew, Tammy & Stefani Witkowski** 1880 Fish and Game Rd., Littlestown, PA 17340  
Andrew: (443) 974-3072, Tammy: (443) 791-1833  
Stefani: (717) 778-1968; email: oldecrank@yahoo.com  
Hobbies/Interests: Andrew-antique music machines (phonographs);  
Tammy-cooking, baking & reading; Stefani-skating, building & coloring.

\*shut in

**MUSIC AT ST B’s** Consider joining the choir, bells or orchestra as well as the HOPE singers. If you can’t be a regular, express your interest to Marlene, Erin, Amy or Don. You can be a participant occasionally. Music is good for you mentally, spiritually and physically. Choir follows yoga at 6:30 pm, Wednesdays, Bells meet at 7:45 pm also Wednesdays. Church orchestra meets after worship – 10:15 am for a brief rehearsal and playing for a few hymns just before lessons begin.



**THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held on November 19<sup>th</sup> after the worship service (tentative date, to be confirmed in bulletin announcements). The agenda will be: the 2018 budget and election of new council members. If you would like to nominate someone to council please fill out a Nominations Form (forms located on the shelf in back of sanctuary) and put in the offering plate or inform one of the Nominating Committee Members: Cheri Amoss, Ron Hnat and Sonya Kuhn. Copies of the proposed budget will be available on the shelf in the hallway by mid-October. If you have any questions regarding the proposed budget, please see Glenn Gobrecht or a council member.



## ***ABUNDANT BLESSINGS***

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8th

9:00AM WORSHIP

HARVEST BLESSING

Please bring canned goods  
for the HACC PAL lunch program.

*You are invited*

to join us for a Blessings Brunch!

10:30AM following the service in social room.

Recognition of all those who serve God here at St. B's.



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**CROPWALK** The Hanover Area Council of Churches CROP Walk will be held Sunday, October 15, at 12:30 pm at South Western High School.



### **Scrapbook Workshop (Crotoberfest)**

Saturday October 21, 9-5

at

St. Bartholomew's United Church

Do you scrapbook? Did you ever want to try scrapbooking? Have pictures and/or memorabilia and would like to know what to do with it? Enjoy paper crafts? Then join me, Liz Kielley, a Creative Memories consultant, and we'll have a wonderful time sharing stories and preserving our memories. The registration fee for this event is **\$20**. Your fee includes your space at the workshop, special gifts, door prizes, ideas, educational material, lunch, and of course, my personal attention! If you want to do the paper and embellishment buffet, bring an extra \$10. You can email me at [ekielley@messiah.edu](mailto:ekielley@messiah.edu) or call me at 717-451-8336 with any questions or catch me at church.



**WOMEN OF THE CHURCH** will meet at Homewood in the Creekside activities building for bible study on **Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM**. For a ride, call Marlene 637-0185. All women are welcome!

**REFORMATION SERVICE** There will be a Conference Reformation Service on October 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Hanover (across from Hanover Hospital). The St. B's choir will also be part of the whole community choir for this event.



## Seventh Annual Diversity Summit

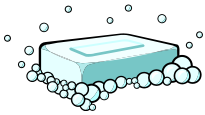
**OCTOBER 10, 2017**  
**8:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**South Western High School**  
**200 Bowman Road**  
**Hanover, PA 17331**

**Strong Community. Better Future.**

*Working together to promote multicultural understanding in the 21st Century*

More information on workshops and keynote speakers and registration form can be found at:  
<http://annualdiversitysummit.com/>



**HEALTH KITS** Women of the Church are now collecting **health kits** to add to the school kits we annually collect for Lutheran World Relief. The following items are needed:

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|--|---|
| 1 bath size towel (52-27") dark color                              | 1 metal nail clipper                        |
| 1 sturdy comb (wide toothed preferred)                             | 1 adult size toothbrush in original package |
| 2 bath size bars (4-5 oz.) of soap (keep in its original wrapping) |   |

(Toothbrush multi-packs are okay; each brush will be placed in an envelope). No plastic bags or wraps. All items may be wrapped in the towel and tied with ribbon or yarn. You may contribute enough items for a kit or just single items. Place them in the baskets in the hallways.

**Thank you** to Thrivent for providing two \$250 grants for health kits and blankets. Thrivent is a membership organization of Christians. They help members be wise with money and live generously. Resulting in stronger members, families and communities.

**THON** **OCTOBER'S SPECIAL ENVELOPE OFFERING** will raise money for Four Diamonds (THON). THON is a student-run philanthropy committed to enhancing the life of children and families impacted by childhood cancer. Their mission is to provide emotional and financial support, spread awareness and ensure funding for critical research – all in pursuit of a cure.

**THANK YOU!** With your generous donations \$648 was collected for the Gideons with August's special envelope offering. An additional \$214.63 was collected with the free will offering that was received after the September 10<sup>th</sup> service.

**HELPING HANDS MINISTRY** This ministry provides care, support and many services to our church family who are in need. If you are in need of assistance, please read the list of services posted on our bulletin boards. Examples of services provided are small home repairs, limited yard work, picking up prescriptions, transportation to appointments and much more. All you need to do is contact the church secretary if you or another member needs assistance. If you are interested in being a volunteer for this ministry, see Judy Mummert.

## **HANOVER AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES NEEDS IN OCTOBER**

**PAL** – Ketchup, Gravy (Chicken, Turkey, Beef), Dish Detergent

**Clothing Bank** – Men’s Socks, ADULT Warm Gloves, CHILD Pull-Ups (4/5)

**Changing Lives Shelter** – Sandwich Bags, Men/Women Deodorant, Shampoo (full size), Razors-disposable  
Shaving Cream

**Ruth’s Harvest** - Teddy grahams, goldfish, animal crackers, fruit cups/canned fruit, Fruit roll-ups, ravioli,  
Non-refrigerated Milk - *all single servings please.*

### **Weekly Prayer Requests:**

Week of Oct. 1: Hispanic American Center

Week of Oct. 22: Ministries Board

Week of Oct. 8: HACC Ministerium

Week of Oct. 29: Natural Disaster Victims

Week of Oct. 15: Membership Committee

### **REPORT FROM CHURCH COUNCIL**

*(August 10 – September 3)*

Property committee reported on W. Manheim’s Rec request that electricity be run to the ball field’s concession stand. Council affirmed that Larry has the final say in decision on how to run the electric. Thank you notes received from Claire Gobrecht for sending her to Camp Nawakwa. Pastor Steve presented the idea of purchasing 24 paperback bibles for use in the rooms of Camp Nawakwa’s Grove Lodge and Zinn-Yozer Lodge. ELCA Missions investment funds will be renewed, one at 1.85% for 4 years and the other for 2.25% for 6 years. Aero Energy contract up for renewal, it was decided to go with the budgeted monthly charge. The Belong Tour was postponed. Special offering money collected for this purpose will be used for Hurricane Harvey aide.

**Treasurer’s Report** – August’s Beginning Balance: \$14,473.90 (revised) Ending Balance: \$8,670.88  
(\$10,000 transferred from Capital Campaign fund to cover school tax and regular business.)

*(Copies of complete set of minutes are located in the hallway.)*



**AERO OIL CREDIT** Aero Oil has agreed to credit St. Bartholomew’s three cents on the gallon for every gallon of oil that our members use from their company. If you use Aero Oil, please let them know that you are a member of St. Bartholomew’s United Church (ELCA).

**GO GREEN** Our newsletter is available online. If you would like to “go green” and receive the newsletter and calendar via email, please contact the church office at 717 632-1952 or by email at [stbartchurch@comcast.net](mailto:stbartchurch@comcast.net). Thanks!



**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S UNITED CHURCH (ELCA)**

**1204 Grand Valley Road**                      **Hanover, PA 17331**  
**Telephone: (717)632-1952**                      **Fax: (717)633-9267**  
E-mail address: [stbartchurch@comcast.net](mailto:stbartchurch@comcast.net)  
Website: [www.stbart-hanoverpa.org](http://www.stbart-hanoverpa.org)

**Rev. Steven E. Thomas, Pastor**

Cell phone: 476-9171  
E-mail address: [3pastorsteve7@gmail.com](mailto:3pastorsteve7@gmail.com)  
Office hours: Wednesdays – 9:30-11:30 a.m.

**Mrs. Beth Cronney, Office Administrator**

Office hours: Tues, Weds and Fri 8:30 am – 2:30 pm

**Mrs. Marlene Shilling, Music Coordinator**

**Ms. Erin Gobrecht, Bell Choir Director**

**Ms. Erin Gobrecht, H.O.P.E. Coordinator**

**WORSHIP SERVICES**

**Worship on Sunday – 9:00 a.m.**

**Sunday School classes for all ages – 10:30 a.m.**

**H.O.P.E. Worship *He Offers Peace Everyday***

Contemporary Style Worship 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month – 9:00 a.m.

***Opportunities to serve the Lord!***

Adult Choir and Bells meet every Wednesday  
Council meets the second Thursday of each month  
Women of the Church meet the last Tuesday of the month  
Join the Church/Sunday School orchestra  
Membership with the congregation is not required  
for participation in any programs of the church.

**2017 Council Members**

Cheri Amoss King	Wendy Fritz	Allen Gobrecht
Amy Gobrecht	Dale Greer	Ron Hnat
Roger Krumrine	Sonya Kuhn	David Schnell