

The Manbeck Messenger



*"Look! I am sending my messenger,
and he will prepare the way before me" (Malachi 3:1a)*

OCTOBER 2025

***Monthly Newsletter of
Manbeck's***

**Zion Evangelical Congregational
Church**

"Seeking to know Christ and make Him known"

110 Wild Cherry Road
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
570-345-3545

www.manbecks.org

MANBECK'S "ZION" SERVICES

SUNDAY

WORSHIP... 9:00 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL... 10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY

PRAYER ... 6:00 PM

THE CHOSEN: Season 5... 7:00 PM

OCTOBER 5th & 26th

YOUTH GROUP... 6:30 PM

1st WEDNESDAY of the Month

EC Day of Prayer

4th FRIDAY of the Month

PRAISE NIGHT... 7:00 PM

NEWS FROM OUR MISSIONARIES



Joe Toy Jr.

“Jack→

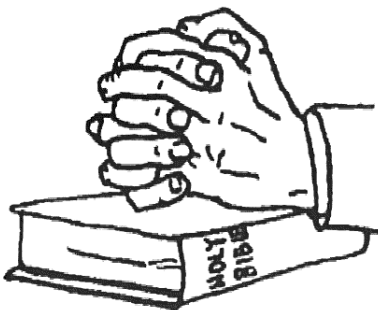
is a University of North Carolina student sharing how he came to faith in Christ recently with one of our team members. He came up and thanked me for being here and also thanked me for sharing the gospel with him. In his own words he said, ***‘My life is so much better now.’*** PTL”

October Birthdays

October 5- Laura Fritz		October 16- Brian Wagner*
October 6-Brenda Fessler		October 26- Josh Schnoke
October 6-Ernie Reiter		October 27- Kay Koch
October 12-Jennifer Flynn		October 28- Brandon Farr*
October 13-Jim Price**		October 30- Judy Lengle
October 30- Jon Reiter		
*Denotes Missionary		
**Denotes Former Pastor		

Prayer for Protection

The **light of God** surrounds me.
The **love of God** enfolds me.
The **power of God** protects me.
The **presence of God** watches over me.
Wherever I am, **God is**.



Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to the man upstairs.



"Experiencing God"

What's the best book you've ever read? Or the best movie you've ever seen? Most likely it had a story that moved you or touched your heart. Maybe the action was riveting, and the plot had some unexpected turns. There's a good chance it had a happy ending. Of course all of those things could be said about the Bible. The happiest ending

imaginable; lots of plot twists, and certainly moving. But God's purpose in giving us His Word is much greater than giving "the greatest story ever told." The Bible is an autobiography, where you not only learn about the Author; you also develop a relationship with the Author. In fact, that is the Author's true intent!



I'm excited to announce that starting later this month, our Sunday School class will be starting a 12-week course, by Henry Blackaby called "Experiencing God." This course has been around for over 25 years and has impacted millions of lives. It's been led in prisons, across our US Armed Services, and around the globe. Of course, it's been updated more recently with more current testimonies and relevant teachings. The main premise is that God didn't just work in the amazing Bible stories we read; He continues to work today, in much the same way

He did then – through His people. When we join Him in His work, we grow in our spiritual understanding, but we also grow in our relationship with Him – it's life-changing and joy-filled! ***So I encourage you to plan to join us after our worship service each week, starting October 26th.***

ALSO, that Sunday (Oct. 26th) we'll be kicking off a **new, VBS-style Sunday School**, also running after church for kids. The curriculum is called "The Worship, The Word, and the Way" and the theme for the first five weeks is "The Miracle of God's Creation." Kids will "experience God" in their own way through various stations including worship, an interactive (and funny) Bible lesson, games, and Scripture memory. Please pray for us as we work to engage our young people. Our goal (similar to the adults) is for children to learn more than just the Bible stories, rather, to learn how to relate to the God who created them and wants an active relationship with them.



AND, please also pray for how *you* can be involved.

Just as our summer VBS needs a lot of preparation and workers, **WE NEED YOUR HELP** to create a meaningful and engaging Sunday School for our kids. I promise it's very rewarding (and enjoyable)! We plan to promote this new class at the Autumn Stroll Kids Tent and at a Trick-or-Treat Outreach later this month. We'll be having an information and planning meeting on October 5th after church. In the meantime, or if you can't make the meeting, please talk to Lori Roth (717-644-2574, lmroth@hotmail.com) to find out how you can help.

-- Journeying with you, Pastor Kyle

BUILDING FUND

8/19/2025 through 9/15/2025

Date	Description	Category	Amount
BALANCE 8/18/2025			39,665.30
8/31/2025	Fundraising Check	Other Inc	1,100.00
9/4/2025	Change For Pig Roast	Fundraising Expense	-200.00
9/8/2025	Redeposit Change	Other Inc	200.00
9/8/2025	Pig Roast	Fundraising	1,974.00
9/8/2025	Donation For Pig	Fundraising	400.00
9/14/2025		Benevolent Fund	175.00
8/19/2025 - 9/15/2025			3,649.00
BALANCE 9/15/2025			43,314.30

Beginning Balance as of 8-18-2025	\$39,665.30
Ending Balance as of 9-15-2025	\$43,314.30
CD at C.A.C.L. Financial	\$37,824.93
Minus Memorial Funds	\$ 2,185.90
Minus Benevolent Funds	\$ 2,951.00
Total Balance of Building Fund	\$76,002.33



My Father's Voice in Prayer

In the silence that falls on my spirit
When the clamor of life loudest seems,
Comes a voice that floats in tremulous notes
Far over my sea of dreams.
I remember the dim old vestry,
And my father kneeling there;
And the old hymns thrill with the memory still

Of my father's voice in prayer.
I can see the glance of approval
As my part in the hymn I took;
I remember the grace of my mother's face
And the tenderness of her look;
And I knew that a gracious memory
Cast its light on that face so fair,
As her cheek flushed faint—O mother, my
saint!—

At my father's voice in prayer.
'Neath the stress of that marvelous pleading
All childish dissensions died;
Each rebellious will sank conquered and still
In a passion of love and pride.
Ah, the years have held dear voices,
And melodies tender and rare;
But tenderest seems the voice of my dreams—
My father's voice in prayer.

May Hastings Norton

GENERAL FUND

8/19/2025 through 9/15/2025

Date	Num	Description	Category	Amount
BALANCE 8/18/2025				29,094.16
8/24/2025	DEP		Church Offering	1,652.00
8/24/2025	DEP		Church Useage	450.00
8/29/2025	5743	Pastor Kyle Roth	Pastor Salary	-2,097.20
8/31/2025	DEP		Church Offering	1,206.00
8/31/2025	DEP	One Rock One Community	Special Offering	171.00
8/31/2025	DEP	Love Offering	Special Offering	230.00
8/31/2025	DEP	Restitution For Vandalism	Other Inc	50.00
9/2/2025	5744	PPL	Electric	-124.15
9/3/2025	ACH	Comcast	Telephone-Internet	-192.08
9/7/2025	DEP		Church Offering	1,159.00
9/7/2025	DEP		Church Useage	185.00
9/11/2025	5745	E. C. Church Ministry Funds	Apportionment	-586.95
9/11/2025	5746	E. C. Global Ministries	Supported Missionaries	-484.00
9/11/2025	5747	Cathedral Press	Church Bulletins	-85.86
9/11/2025	5748	Cathy Nagle	Copier, Toner & Paper	-129.89
9/11/2025	5749	One Rock One Community	Special Offerings	-171.00
9/11/2025	5750	Pastor Kyle Roth	Pastor Salary	-2,097.20
9/14/2025	DEP		Church Offering	1,514.00
8/19/2025 - 9/15/2025				648.67
BALANCE 9/15/2025				29,742.83

Beginning Balance as of 8-18-2025	\$29,094.16
Ending Balance as of 9-15-2025	\$29,742.83
CD at C.A.C.L. Financial	\$37,824.93
Total Balance of General Fund	\$67,567.76

**"Grand-parenthood
is one of life's rewards
for surviving your own children."
Erma Bombeck**

PINE GROVE AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

The Food Pantry is now accepting food products again. The tub will be placed in the foyer.

We are collecting any brand of ink cartridges and used batteries. You can either give them to Cathy or put them back on the desk in the fellowship hall. We will use them for either buying ink for Church School or purchasing church supplies at Staples.

Please continue to pray for the Church School and Council of Churches and all it does for the community.

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CHURCH CLEANING

A cleaning schedule is posted for 2025 on the inside of the church door in the vestibule. Church cleaning is done by individuals in our church who volunteer for a month. If you would like to volunteer, just sign your name on the sign-up sheet behind the month you would like to clean. Thank you!

* * * * *

GOOD NEWS CLUB

Another Good News Club year is right around the corner. Starting date is Thursday, October 23 from 3:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. This year Cheryl Kirelavich and Claire and Natalee Gaydos will be helping me. Cheryl retired from her job and is ready to get back in the GNC saddle. Praise the Lord! The Gaydos sisters helped me last year and were CEF Summer Missionaries over the summer. So they are no longer rookies. We will be reaching out through Church School for kindergarten through second. I will be mailing forms to last year's second and third graders. If you would like to help financially with snacks, please see Cathy Nagle. Please pray for this very important ministry that will be starting throughout Schuylkill County.

* * * * *

It's a mystery to me how square meals produce such round figures.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Oct. 5 – Lisa Dillon	Nov. 2 – Deb Reiter
Oct. 12 – Ardella Newswanger	Nov. 9 –
Oct. 19 – Ladies Chorus	Nov. 16 – Flutes
Oct. 26 – Lily Flynn	Nov. 23 – Judy & Ardella
	Nov. 30 – Rosa Roth

If you are unable to fulfill your obligation throughout the year, please contact Ardella or Judy. If you would like to be added or taken off for special music, please see Cathy Nagle.

* * * * *

USHERS

Oct. 5 – Laura & Faith	Nov. 2 – Deb & Ernie
Oct. 12 – Roth family	Nov. 9 – Kurtz family
Oct. 19 – Larue & Florence	Nov. 16 – Flynn family
Oct. 26 – Kelly & Jason	Nov. 23 – Chris & Cathy
	Nov. 30 – Sandy & Bill

* * * * *

JUNIOR CHURCH AND NURSERY

The children will be dismissed for Jr. Church which is taught by Lori Roth. The nursery schedule for five and under is listed below. We are looking for more volunteers to serve. Please see Cathy Nagle or Lori Roth.

Oct. 5 – Sandy Hrichak	Nov. 2 – Lisa Dillon
Oct. 12 – Laura Fritz	Nov. 9 – Jen Flynn
Oct. 19 – Chris Nickel	Nov. 16 – Deb Reiter
Oct. 26 – Kelly Brown	Nov. 23 – Ardella
	Nov. 30 – Donna & Wayne

* * * * *

The driver is safer when the roads are dry; the roads are safer when the driver is dry.

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

The Building Fund Offering will be received on October 12. This offering will help with any future building projects.

The Monthly Special Offering will be received on October 26. This offering is for the Kingdom Extension Community. They help plant churches and here are a few:

- The Dominiques and Martial Pierre are well into actively planting a Haitian church in Lancaster, PA
- Tim and Pam Ream –Thorn Hill, Tennessee
- Zach and Kelsey Van Dyke – planting a network of house churches in and around Davenport, Iowa
- Mike Coulson and People's EC Church – Echo, the name of this church that is meeting in the Virtual Space, is reaching people with the Gospel and making disciples. Pray that the team will continue to develop and grow. People's is also beginning a micro church that will meet at Confessions Bar in Nesquehoning (yes, you read it right). Pray for this open door to be a Gospel presence where people who need Jesus hang out!

Please give as the Lord leads you to support these ministries. Envelopes are provided in your weekly bulletin. You may also mail your offerings to:

Deborah Reiter
159 Spittler Road
Pine Grove, PA 17963

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GOOD NEWS DAY CAMP STATS

Tamaqua – 54 enrolled – 3 professions of faith

Valley View – 68 enrolled – 7 professions of faith

Manbeck's – 78 enrolled – 6 professions of faith

Auburn – 70 enrolled – 8 professions of faith

5-day clubs

Bethesda – 13 enrolled – 0 professions of faith

Shenandoah Elementary – 4 enrolled – 0 professions of faith

Schuylkill County Fair – 119 children – 3 professions of faith

Total children reached: 406 27 professions of faith

OFFICIAL BOARD NEWS

The Official Board met on September 16 with nine members in attendance. Items of discussion are as follows:

- Help to start up a kids Sunday school class Jr. Church
- Twin Pines got a new CEO/all bills paid except taxes
- GaGa Pit: outside was leveled/floor is up to us
- VBS materials are available, "Emerald Crossing" (25% off till end of year)
- Chris Lengle and Harold to install changing table and bathroom vents
- Pig Roast netted \$1,974 which was less than last year
- Deb will send donations to May's sister this week
- Next Official Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 21 at 7:00 p.m.

LADIES LUNCHEON

The monthly Ladies Luncheon will be held on Thursday, October 23 at 11:00 a.m. Restaurant will be listed in the bulletin. All women are invited and to bring a friend.

A Sunday School teacher, I don't know his name,
A wonderful preacher who never found fame,
So faithful, so earnest, when I was a boy-
He stuck to his task though I tried to annoy.
He never was missing, in cold or in heat,
A smile his face lighted the moment we'd meet.
He taught by example as well as by word,
That faithful, true teacher who honored his Lord.
He helped my young life more than ever he knew ...
Later years I remembered and tried to be true.
I suppose he's gone now to join Heaven's ranks,
But I hope up in Glory someday to say, "Thanks"!

NEWS FROM OUR MISSIONARIES

Brian & Missy Wagner

Serving @



RIFT VALLEY
A C A D E M Y

Greetings Friends,

A LOT has happened since our last update in June!!

Here's the latest news!!

AP Calculus

It's been 16 years since Brian was first invited by the College Board to score Advanced Placement Calculus exams. He spent nearly two weeks in June first collaborating with other teachers to refine scoring standards for the free response questions and then leading his table group as they evaluated tens of thousands of individual questions over the course of seven days. Brian thoroughly enjoys the annual opportunity to network with so many teachers, always returning with fresh ideas for the Calculus courses and the math curriculum here at RVA.

During the final day of scoring exam questions, just 30 minutes from the conference center, our 2nd grandbaby was born to Rachel & Luke!! **JUDAH BENJAMIN** arrived on June 17th, making Cayden a BIG brother! What an incredible blessing that our grandson came a few days early, giving Brian three days to enjoy newborn baby snuggles before returning to Kenya! Micah & Lynnsi had already planned to be in the area at this same time, so they all enjoyed celebrating this precious new addition to our family together.

Coming HOME

During our last week of school, just two weeks after Brian returned to Kenya, Hannah & Jamie arrived back home for a visit! As our "Tribe of 9" finished the school year, we celebrated with a Mexican Fiesta, complete with a taco extravaganza, the Mexican Hat dance, and a pinata stuffed full of candy!

On the last day of school, the 6th grade class crossed the stage, receiving a Bible and certificate for successfully completing the course of study required to move on to grade 7. Our boys all finished strong, having grown both academically and spiritually throughout the year. We are SO PROUD of their perseverance through hard and challenging things; and there may have been more than a few tears shed as they moved out of our home later that day. We will miss our 6th graders as they move to another dorm and are thankful for the energy, laughter, and fun they brought to our home!

Alumni Weekend brought many former students back to campus to "walk down memory lane" with friends and staff from their years at RVA. We always enjoy watching sports games played between alumni and the current varsity teams. It was so much fun to cheer for Jamie as he scored a try in the rugby game and then watched both Hannah and Jamie as they played in the alumni field hockey game!

It encouraged our hearts tremendously to have long conversations with alumni we had in our dorms and classrooms years ago (some are now in their 30's and 40's), or those who were members of the classes we sponsored. What a joy to hear how God has been faithfully at work in their hearts and lives since they graduated from RVA. How grateful we are to have been part of their stories.

Kazakhstan & USA

After bidding farewell to the graduated Class of 2025 and spending a wonderfully relaxing time at the Kenyan coast as family, Brian was off to Kazakhstan to lead an AP Calc workshop for teachers. During the last year, he has had the privilege of teaching several online and in-person workshops, sharing best teaching practices for AP Calc which he has learned over 35 years of experience! While Brian was deep in conversation about limits, integrals, and derivatives, I was off to meet 6-week-old, Judah, and make new memories with big brother, Cayden. Before heading back to Kenya (which turned into an unexpected nearly 3-day European airport adventure!), I enjoyed a few days in PA with Micah, Lynnsi, and extended family.

MORE New Arrivals

With the start of a new school year, we welcomed many new staff, including a new school superintendent, along with 91 new students! Six of those new students are part of our dorm family this year, along with our one continuing from last year. We are excited to love, care for, and walk alongside this group of 4th through 6th grade boys!

This week we received a prayer letter from AIM's new South America director. In the letter, he asked, "Why does God entrust us with tasks that go beyond our capacity to carry them out?" He went on to share, "The answer we've found is simple and profound: so that God may be exalted. The truth is, it wasn't Moses who delivered the people from Egypt (Exodus 14:13–14), nor David who defeated the giant Goliath (1 Samuel 17:45–47), nor Esther who saved her people from death (Esther 4:14; 7:3–4). So, who accomplished all these wondrous deeds? The answer: it was God! He is the true deliverer, the invincible warrior, and the defender of His people. Moses, David, and Esther were merely fragile instruments, available in His hands, used by Him to reveal His power and fulfill His eternal purposes. And the same is true for us: if God uses us, it is by His grace and for His glory." Your prayers are a blessing as we step into a new school year:

Prayer Requests

New Arrivals!!

New school year – A new school year brings many new staff to our campus. **PRAY** for quick adjustments to life in Kenya and RVA, strength and energy to meet the responsibilities of each day, and time to rest and recharge each week as we head into a 13-week school term.

New students – SIX brand new 4th-6th grade boys in our dorm (out of 7), and 91 new students to RVA (~400 total enrollment). **PRAY** that each new student will feel loved, welcomed, and accepted as they transition to life at RVA.

New Superintendent – Our new superintendent, William Ripley, and his family arrived with many other new staff members in August. Relocating from Texas to the mission field is huge! **PRAY** that William will learn the rhythms and values of RVA as he seeks to provide vision and leadership going forward.

PRAY for our 7 dorm boys to feel secure, loved, and "at home" as we care for them this year.

PRAY for good balance as we serve students and families in a variety of roles both in and out of the dorm.

May God be exalted in all He's asked us to do, by His grace and for His glory.

Amen.

Brian & Missy

“SONSHINE”

by Rosa Roth

Verse 1

Gray skies were all I was seeing.
Rain running down my windowpane.
Nobody knew I was hopeless, when I heard You call my name.

Pre Chorus:

And it's kinda crazy,
Like I'm living a fairytale with You.
If I'm being honest, I never thought I'd see the sky so blue.
But you made me new.

Chorus:

Now I'm dancing in Your sunshine, sunshine, yeah
Dancing in Your sunshine, sunshine, yeah
Cuz' You made me new-
Now I'm dancing in Your Sonshine, sunshine, yeah

Verse 2

Now you are all I'm seeing
Since the day You made my heart Your home
Love called me out by name
Now I'll never, ever be the same!



Pre Chorus:

And it's kinda crazy,
Like I'm living a fairytale with You.
If I'm being honest, I never thought I'd see the sky so blue.
But you made me new.

Bridge:

Life is so much better with Jesus.
Can't believe I missed so much.
The gray shadows still lurk sometimes,
But I got God's Son shining on me!

October Anniversaries

October 6		Ernie & Deb Reiter
October 7		Henry & Joan Berger
October 26		Rory & Nicole Hardenstine