

THE LAMP

Newsletter of The Juniata Valley
Shared Ministry



October 2026

www.jvsm.org.com and
www.facebook.org/jvsm2016

October is here! It's the time for cool temperatures, colorful leaves, football games, campfires, apple cider, and all things pumpkin spice. We also return to a more normal schedule after a summer of jam-packed activities and the back-to-school frenzy. We can take a deep breath to enjoy the crisp air and hopefully settle into a little slower pace.

October also brings us the celebration of Halloween. I love Halloween, not only because it is my sister's birthday, but because I love all things odd. Yes, I am the weird one in our family. I have a rubber vulture that lives on top of my refrigerator year-round, a prized taxidermy crow that sits in pride of place in my living room, and an entire stairway wall dedicated to unusual artwork that I have curated over the years.

Halloween gives me the opportunity to bring out my collection of vintage and fun decorations. My husband and grown children may raise their eyebrows, but my grandchildren and I love the pumpkins; skeletons; bats; and the animated Frankenstein head, old radio, doorbell, telephone, and so much more.

While I enjoy celebrating the weird side of this holiday, I try not to embrace the horror that seems to be many people's idea of Halloween. As Christians, we are taught to not glorify evil in any way, but instead to promote love, kindness, and peace. So, it is sometimes confusing if we should be celebrating a holiday that seems so ... dark.

I believe that we can still have fun during this special season of the year without allowing the scary images, movies, and costumes to take over our personal space. Instead, decorate with mindful decorations, embrace the enjoyment of children trick or treating, attend a parade, eat lots of candy, and remember that God's love brings light into the darkness of the world!

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. John 1:5

I hope you have a joyous Fall and Halloween Season, and you get No Tricks and All Treats!

Kit Parks
Clerk of Session
Westminster

HIGHLAND UNITED

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17074

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Phone #: (717) 567-9577

Clerk of Session

Patricia Shutt

Church Secretary

Linda Bitting

Church Treasurer

Kathy Smith

Financial Secretary

Geri Hall

ELDERS ON SESSION

Jessica Bryson

Michael Byers

Cecile Willet

Robert Rolston

Pat Shutt

Kathy Smith

Patrick McIntyre

Jeff Mathias

Kim Drum

DEACONS

Lori Little

Melissa Neidigh

Carol Kauffman

Wendy Brunner

Sally Tangeres

Cathy Mathias

Tripp Bryson

Sharon Delancey

Geri Hall

Serving Carlisle Presby-

Bill McHenry

Commission on Ministry

Coordinating Council

Dennis Tressler

Com. On Prep for Ministry

James Turner

Permanent Judicial Com.

Prayer Requests

David & Marjory Miller, Delroy & Avon Wagner, Elizabeth Harren, Charles Ebling, Nancy Altimore, Rob Sweger, Bob Baker, Shawn Steckley, Marti Snyder, Jen Hockenberry, Taylor McIntyre, Max Mohler, Cole Billheimer, Patti Stailey, Barry Cornell, Paul Richard Family, Pastor McKibbin, Susan Stump

Bible Study

Bible Study On-Line - Wednesdays from 6:30pm – 7:45pm

In Person Bible Study – Saturdays from 9:00am – 10:15am

Meeting ID: 810 4019 1828 Passcode: 958689

One tap mobile +13017158592,,81040191828#

+13052241968,,81040191828#

Beginning Oct. 21st we will begin a 4 week study comparing Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Zoom will be Wednesday evenings (10/21, and 10/28, 11/4, and 11/11) at 6:30 pm.

Saturdays will be starting at 9 am in Newport

10/24 at HUPC – Bill will bring breakfast for all.

10/31 at Harling's in Miffln

11/7 at HUPC (BYOBBreakfast)

11/14 at Harling's

Bill McHenry is creating the lessons from scratch.

Material will be emailed or provided the week before at the Study for those without email. If you are interested, please reach out to Bill to get on the email list! psych@pa.net or (717) 275-5765

THE JUNIATA VALLEY SHARED MINISTRY Steering Committee met on Monday, July 13, and discussed the benefits of corporate prayer. We are asking that everyone at Westminster and at Highland join each morning at 8:00 a.m. to pray concerning the path to our new pastor.

As we pray together for our PNC and for the person God has chosen to

lead us, may we enrich our relationships with God and with each other. Thank you! JVSM

Deacons

The Deacons had their first meeting since the summer on September 1. Our new deacons are Cathy Mathias, Sally Tengeres and Tripp Bryson. We went over our Deacons responsibilities and will do our reorganization at our October meeting.

The group decided that we would like to sponsor 25 Senior Citizens for this Christmas. We will need everyone helping to make this Angel Tree project a success. Keep your eyes open for the beginning and ending dates coming soon.

Mission Committee

Monday Meals have Returned

Meals are served the FIRST and SECOND MONDAY of each month ONLY.

Serving begins 4:30pm till 6:00pm or while supply lasts. EVERYONE IS WELCOME. Please join us for Good Food and Fellowship. **Hope to see you October 5 and/or October 12, 2026.**

Anyone interested in making a dessert for the Monday Night Meals, the sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Please have the dessert to church by 4:00pm

Anyone interested in helping to serve the meal for the Monday Night Meals, the sign-up sheet is also in the Narthex. We would like no more than 6 people, and you should be at the church by 4. Please plan to stay and help clean and put away table and chairs.

Monthly Mission for October - Pink Hands of Hope

Pink Hands of Hope is a thrift store in Mechanicsburg. The proceeds go to women in Central Pennsylvania, who are battling breast cancer. Provided are wigs, scarves, head wrap, shawls, clothing, port pillows, blankets, and money to help through the financial and emotional journey. Established in 2008, over 1000 warriors have received free hair and make-up makeovers when in remission.



Distance Ministry

The Distance Ministry offers technology to those in hospitals, nursing facilities, rehabs and the like with which to connect to all of our services - Tablet computers with the Zoom Links to HUPC and WUPC's Worship Services, HUPC's Adult Sunday School, and The Shared Ministry's Bible Study are all pre-loaded on the main screen. Simple instructions on turning the tables on and off, charging them, and using headphones or ear buds are all that is required for use. Please reach out to Session or Board of Deacon Members, or the Distance Ministry directly, to obtain one for use while needed. If you know of someone who could benefit from this, reach out!

The Juniata Valley Shared Ministry offers the opportunities for worship and study via zoom each week. If there's a week you are ill, you are not physically able to leave your home this ministry is for you! See all the links below.

BIBLE	STUDY	LINK:	Joint	Zoom	Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81040191828?pwd=PuaJnFxxPpcGBeq6cAXs6rjhWua4b7					
1 Meeting ID: 810 4019 1828 Passcode: 958689					
One tap mobile +13017158592,,81040191828# +13052241968,,81040191828#					
Dial by location 1 (301) 715-8592					

ZOOM LINKS: (HIGHLAND)

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (8:30am) (HIGHLAND)
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/619915621?pwd=NFN3ZzRPSWRGM2ZpVmhhqWFRWWkdKUT09>
 One tap mobile +19292056099,,619915621#,,, *129308# US (New York)
 +13017158592,,619915621#,,, *129308# US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 619 915 621 Passcode: 129308 Dial by Location: 1 (929) 205-6099

WORSHIP LINK 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship - (HIGHLAND)
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/912154723?pwd=cHI2eVJBVWM0azV4U0MzZ1NtdHEzUT09>

IF YOU ARE USING A CELL OR LAND LINE: +1 929 205 6099
 Meeting ID: 912 154 723 Passcode: 664159

WORSHIP LINK (WESTMINSTER)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86533397349?pwd=MUE3M1BHVXQyRVhRUWRGZINRNGtiQT09>

Meeting ID: 865 3339 7349 Passcode: 920593 Dial by location: 1 646 558 8656

HIGHLAND UNITED FINANCES—AUGUST 2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>G. Fund</u>	<u>B. Fund</u>	<u>Mission</u>	<u>K. Ministry</u>	<u>Per Capita</u>	<u>Totals</u>
08/02/26	\$ 3,710.00	\$ 410.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,300.00
08/09/26	\$ 2,240.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,365.00
08/16/26	\$ 575.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 575.00
08/23/26	\$ 1,342.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,342.00
08/30/26	<u>\$ 925.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 925.00</u>
TOTALS	\$ 8,792.00	\$ 485.00	\$ 230.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 9,507.00

Per Capita Assessment for 2026 is for 113 members @ \$34.66/member - \$3,916.58.

Total given to date for 2026 is \$977.30

August Mission Newport Ambulance—\$230.00

July Mission Deacons—\$305.00

HIGHLAND'S SECRETARY'S HOURS:

Tuesday 8:00-12:00 Thursday 8:00-2:00 Friday 8:00-12:00

WESTMINSTER'S SECRETARY'S HOURS:

Wednesday 8:00-5:00 Friday 7:30-12:30

QUOTES

Without fuel a fire grows cold and so does our faith

Life is hard, but God is good and heaven is real

WESTMINSTER

3rd and Lemon Streets.
Mifflintown, PA 17059

E-mail:

Westministerupc@gmail.com

Clerk of Session

Kit Parks

Church Secretary

Judy Armstrong

Church Treasurer

Mary Ann Willis

Sunday School

Superintendent

John Shirk

Sunday School Secretary

Shelly Horning

Sunday School Treasurer

Diane Marshall

Elders on Session

Aaron Geedey

Kit Parks

Jody Satzler

Jackie Wilt

Chrissy Campagne

Michelle Parks

Chris Fisher

Pat Brown

Trustees.

Judd Parks

Roger Parks

Shelly Horning

Peter Crater

Mike Stoner

Rachel Dowling

Brett Satzler

WESTMINSTER UNITED PRESBYTERIAN

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Barbara Koppenhaver,
Curtis Beatty, Derek & Kerri Lentz, Jody Satzler, Jacob Smith,
Lawrence Beale, Donald "Butch" Quigley, Dakota Ritter, Kit
Parks

October Lector: Session Members

October Ushers and Greeters: Session Members

October Counter/Closer: Chris Fisher

October Children's Ministry: 4 Campagna Family 11 Session
Members 18 Geedey Family 25 Parks Family

October Birthdays: 2 Kathy Brown 8 John Shirk 10 Toby
Stoner 12 Jane Shirk 30 Polly Digon 31 Rachel Dowling

October Anniversaries: 23 Jerry and Destiny Trout 29 Jeff
and Rachel Dowling



10/1/26 Trustees meeting in church office at 4:45 p.m.

WESTMINSTER'S OCTOBER MISSION OF THE MONTH IS

"FLEECE BLANKETS AND COZY SOCKS FOR FOOD PANTRY KIDS." These items will be used to provide warmth to the children of the food pantry's struggling families. They will be added to the "Santa Sack" that each child will receive during December. (Other churches and individuals will be donating gifts and clothing.) As winter will be adding home heating expenses to the already stressed budgets of these families, our goal is to provide a bit of comfort to children in need. Blankets and socks may be brought to the sanctuary throughout October, or financial contributions marked for "Mission" will be used to purchase these items. Several scriptures come to mind when thinking of children in need: *For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me.* (Matthew 25: 35-36) *Truly I tell you, whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.* (Matthew 25:40) Thank you for "rendering service to the stranger." (3 John 1:5) Mission Committee

CARAMEL ORDERS: Westminster will again be doing their caramel project this year. Prices are \$14 per 1 lb. box and \$8 per ½ lb. box. Orders can be given to Kit Parks via phone at 717-503-1371 or kitparks@embarqmail.com. Please order early as the cutoff will be when 830 lbs. is reached.

THANK YOU: On behalf of the Paul W. DeLauter Youth Center, Inc. I would like to thank Westminster Presbyterian Church members for your recent donation-it will go a long way to support the youth of our community. We are truly blessed to count you among our friends and supporters. Bret Miller, Treasurer.



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BIBLE



STUDY BEGINNING OCTOBER 21ST, we will begin a 4 week study comparing Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

The schedule below will change Zoom to Wednesday evening:

10/21	6:30 p.m. Zoom
10/24	9:00 a.m. in person at HUPC (Bill will provide breakfast for all)
10/28	6:30 p.m. Zoom
10/31	9:00 a.m. in person at Harling's
11/4	6:30 p.m. Zoom
11/7	9:00 a.m. in person at HUPC (bring you own breakfast)
11/11	6:30 p.m. Zoom
11/14	9:00 a.m. in person at Harling's

Bill is creating the lessons from scratch. Material will be emailed, or provided the week before at the Study for those without email. If you are interested, please reach out to Bill to get on the email list! psych@pa.net or (717) 275-5765. Meeting ID: 810 4019 1828 Passcode: 958689 +13052241968,,81040191828#



FOOD PANTRY OCTOBER UPDATE

Again this year the Food Pantry will join forces with the Boy Scouts, Mifflintown Rotary, and **YOU** to bring Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to as many Juniata County families living in poverty as possible. When the Boy Scouts come to your door in November for their annual food drive – please give generously. Our goal is to provide 800 meals: 400 for Thanksgiving and 400 for Christmas. We are also collecting kids' winter attire for Christmas gifts: hats, coats, mittens, and scarves. **This year we are also providing fleece blankets and fuzzy socks to kids.**

If you can help us to start stockpiling the following foods for the holidays, we would really appreciate it: (These are the foods that are more difficult for us to secure) TURKEY BREASTS, HAMS (3-5 LBS.), CANNED SWEET POTATOES, INSTANT POTATOES, STUFFING, GRAVY, CRANBERRY SAUCE AND BROWNIE OR COOKIE MIX. **Or a \$20 donation will purchase one complete meal!**

October 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 Trustees (W) 4:45	2	3
4 Adult SS 8:30am Worship 9:30am Rev. Ronald Zeigler Westminster 10:30am World Wide Communion	5 Grief Support Group 9:30-11 am Monday Meals 4:30-6pm	6 Session 5pm in Church Library Deacons 6pm	7	8	9	10
11 Adult SS 8:30am Worship 9:30 Rev. Rebecca Myers Westminster 10:30am	12 Grief Support Group 9:30-11am Monday Meals 4:30-6pm	13	14	15	16	17
18 Combined Worship @ Westminster 10:00am Lunch immediately following services	19 Grief Support Group. 9:30-11am	20	21 Bible Study Zoom 6:30- 7:45pm	22	23	24 Bible Study 9:00-10:15am Highland United Bill will provide breakfast
25 Adult SS 8:30am Worship 9:30 Rev. Melissa Foor Westminster 10:30am	26 Grief Support Group. 9:30-11am	27	28 Bible Study Zoom 6:30- 7:45pm	29	30	31 Bible Study 9:00-10:15am Harling's



Highland United Presbyterian Church

11 Church Road

Newport, PA 17074