

Highland Park Church of God

A New Life Fellowship

“Connected in Christ, Serving in Spirit, Growing in New Life Together”

Church Phone No.: (856)456-3364

Church Fax No.: (856)456-3812

Pastor Bill e-mail: revwddilksjr@juno.com

Pastor Deb e-mail: debconner824@gmail.com

Office e-mail: highlandparkcog@yahoo.com

Web Site: www.highlandparkcog.org

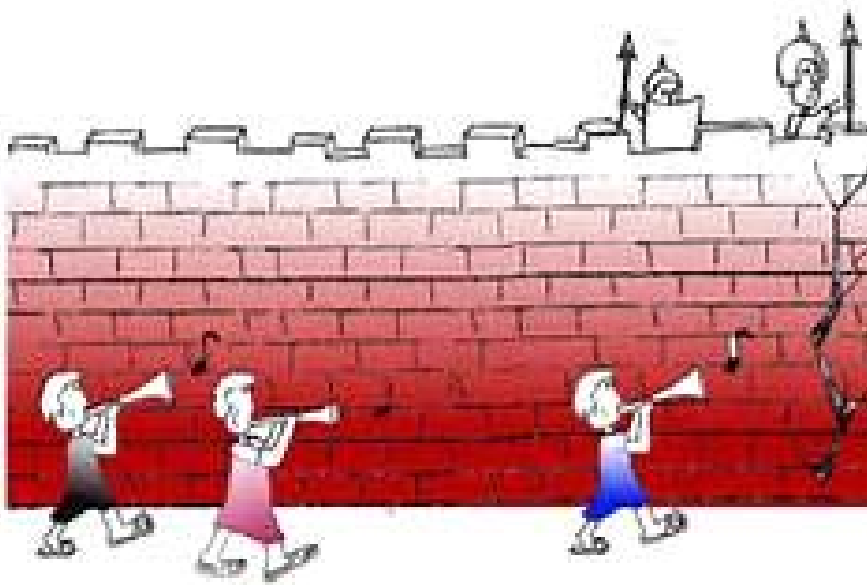
District Website: www.chogeast.org
National Website: www.chog.org



September 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>*Regular Sunday Schedule: 9:30 AM Sunday School for All Ages 11:00 AM Morning Worship 3:30-5:00 PM Youth 5:00 PM Choir Practice (Beginning 9/24)</p>					<p>1 (John 21) 8:00 AM Ladies' Prayer Noon Retirees' Lunch 1:30 PM Sr. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>2 (Deut. 1)</p>
<p>3 (Deut. 2) 9:30 AM Sunday Sch. Promotions 11:00 AM Communion and Back to School Blessings</p>	<p>4 (Deut. 3) Labor Day</p>	<p>5 (Deut. 4) 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study (George) Making Sandwiches for SHAN</p>	<p>6 (Deut. 5)</p>	<p>7 (Deut. 6)</p>	<p>8 (Deut. 7) 8:00 AM Ladies' Prayer</p>	<p>9 (Deut. 8) 9:00 AM Men's Breakfast at Westville 10:00 AM DVPF 5:00 PM Choir Picnic at Church</p>
<p>10 (Deut. 9) 7:00 PM Senior Musical</p>	<p>11 (Deut. 10) 7:00 PM Ladies' Crafts at Laura's Patriot Day</p>	<p>12 (Deut. 11) 10:00 AM Staff Mtg. 7:00 PM Board of CE</p>	<p>13 (Deut. 12)</p>	<p>14 (Deut. 13) 7:00 PM Grief Share</p>	<p>15 (Deut. 14) 8:00 AM Ladies' Prayer</p>	<p>16 (Deut. 15)</p>
<p>17 (Deut. 16) 5:00 PM Case for Christ Movie & Pizza Back to Church Sunday</p>	<p>18 (Deut. 17)</p>	<p>19 (Deut. 18) 9:00 AM Men's Bible Study (Roland)</p>	<p>20 (Deut. 19) 7:00 PM Case for Christ Study at Pastor Bill and Kim's Home</p>	<p>21 (Deut. 20) 7:00 PM Grief Share</p>	<p>22 (Deut. 21) 8:00 AM Ladies' Prayer Autumn Begins</p>	<p>23 (Deut. 22)</p>
<p>24 (Deut. 23) 5:00 PM First Choir Practice of the Season 7:00 PM Council Mtg. Children of Promise / Children's Sunday</p>	<p>25 (Deut. 24)</p>	<p>26 (Deut. 25) 10:00 AM Staff Mtg.</p>	<p>27 (Deut. 26) 7:00 PM Case for Christ Study at Don and Pastor Deb's Home</p>	<p>28 (Deut. 27) 7:00 PM Grief Share</p>	<p>29 (Deut. 28) 8:00 AM Ladies' Prayer</p>	<p>30 (Deut. 29) 11:00-5:30 PM Riverfront Art and Music Festival at Proprietors' Park</p>

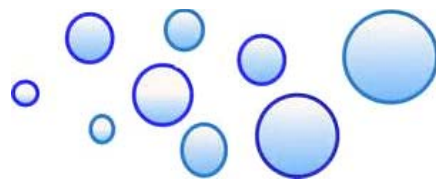


Family Fun Nights this summer were times that families came together, fellowshiped, had fun, and learned some important messages from God's Word!

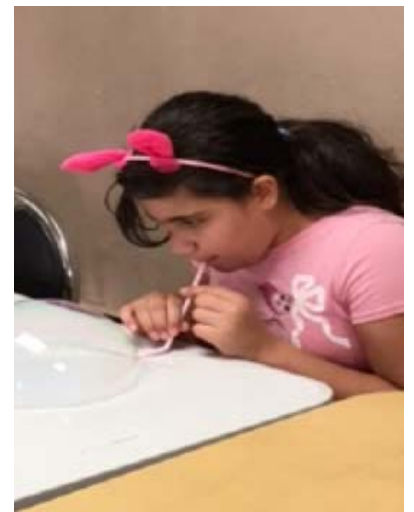
By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched around them for seven days. Hebrews 11:30



Ice Cream
Sundaes



Bubble
Fun



Psalm 35:28 (MSG)
I'll tell the world
how great and good
You are, I'll shout
Hallelujah all day,
every day.



Embrace Grace
PRO-LIFE, PRO-LOVE

*Changing the world one
little diaper at a time.*





Dear Church Family and Friends,

Summer is drawing to a close and vacations are ending. The school year looms large on the horizon. Sunday School in European and America History preceded Public School. The following article was taken from Christianity Today's Website (posted 8/28/2008):

It is important to realize that Sunday schools were originally literally schools: they were places where poor children could learn to read. The Sunday school movement began in Britain in the 1780s. The Industrial Revolution had resulted in many children spending all week long working in factories. Christian philanthropists wanted to free these children from a life of illiteracy. Well into the 19th century, working hours were long. The first modest legislative restrictions came in 1802. This resulted in limiting the number of hours a child could work per day to 12! This limit was not lowered again until 1844. Moreover, Saturday was part of the regular work week. Sunday, therefore, was the only available time for these children to gain some education.

The English Anglican evangelical Robert Raikes (1725-1811) was the key promoter of the movement. It soon spread to America as well. Denominations and non-denominational organizations caught the vision and energetically began to create Sunday schools. Within decades, the movement had become extremely popular. By the mid-19th century, Sunday school attendance was a near universal aspect of childhood. Even parents who did not regularly attend church themselves generally insisted that their children go to Sunday school. Working-class families were grateful for this opportunity to receive an education. They also looked forward to annual highlights such as prize days, parades, and picnics, which came to mark the calendars of their lives as much as more traditional seasonal holidays.

Religious education was, of course, always also a core component. The Bible was the textbook used for learning to read. Likewise, many children learned to write by copying out passages from the Scriptures. A basic catechism was also taught, as were spiritual practices such as prayer and hymn-singing. Inculcating Christian morality and virtues was another goal of the movement. Sunday school pupils often graduated to become Sunday school teachers, thereby gaining an experience of leadership not to be found elsewhere in their lives. Even some Marxist historians have credited 19th-century Sunday schools with empowering the working classes.

In both Britain and America, universal, compulsory state education was established by the 1870s. After that, reading and writing were learned on weekdays at school and the Sunday school curriculum was limited to religious education. Nevertheless, many parents continued to believe that regular Sunday school attendance was an essential component of childhood. The trend for permissive parenting in the 1960s, however, meant that a widespread culture of insisting that children go to Sunday school whether they want to or not (especially when the parents were not themselves going to church) was abandoned.

A Message from Pastor Bill Continued . . .

Perhaps it is time to renew the Sunday School Movement in America where the godly virtues and values outlined in the Scriptures are taught on a larger scale once again. It is the responsibility of parents to educate children for success in life, and the teachings of the Word of God are a part of a well-rounded education for children and adults alike. Our congregation wants to be a resource to aid families in this important undertaking. September 17th is *Back to Church Sunday* worldwide where churches around the globe call persons toward renewed religious instruction in concert with the beginning of the public and private school year. This September there are many opportunities for families at the Highland Park Church of God. We have Sunday School and Worship Services on Sundays. The first Sunday in September is *Back-to-School Blessings* Sunday where we give each child something special to carry with them or affix to their backpacks to remind them that the church family is praying for them and their schools. We pray that they will grow in Wisdom and Knowledge. We pray for their safety and well-being. We pray for the school faculty and staff as well. It is a very special day and we invite all families to participate.

On Back-to-Church Sunday we will have a special emphasis on “Being a Tree in God’s Orchard” in the morning service. We will also be showing the recently released movie, “The Case for Christ” that Sunday Evening at 5:00 PM. Beginning 9/20 and continuing for three more weeks, we will be doing in-home, group studies about this movie and welcome adults to come and to discuss topics related to clips from the actual movie. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex of the church, or contact the church office if you would like to participate in these special discussions.

Finally, our last Sunday of the month will emphasize Children’s Missions and Ministry. The worship service will be designed in a child-friendly way so that children of all ages understand that God loves them and has a wonderful plan for their lives.

I hope that as this new season of academic learning begins, that you will allow God to speak into your life through worship and Bible-based teaching. We all can learn many things from God as we interact with one another and allow God’s Word and the Holy Spirit to speak to our hearts and minds.

Following Jesus,

Pastor Bill



Back
to
School
Blessing



Sunday, September 3
11:00 AM



BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY IS SEPTEMBER 17!

It's the perfect time to invite your friends, family, neighbors,
and co-workers to join us on this special day!

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Case for Christ Movie 5:00 PM
www.highlandparkcog.org

The Case for Christ

What proof is there for believing that Jesus came to earth, died, and rose from the dead? Lee Strobel, an investigative journalist and pronounced atheist, had this same question and decided to get to the bottom of it. This movie tells the true story of Strobel's investigation and the evidence he found that changed his life. The movie will challenge us to examine the evidence and make our own discovery as to what we really believe—and why!

Pizza & A Movie.

Sunday, September 17th - 5:00 p.m. – Join us in the fellowship hall for pizza as we watch this feature film.

Group Study – There will be an opportunity to meet on Wednesday evenings for four weeks following the movie to discuss the evidence laid out for us by Lee Strobel. We will be meeting in homes at 7:00 p.m. Please join us!

September 20 –

“Investigating the Case for Christ” - Pastor Bill & Kim's home.

September 27–

“Exploring the Evidence for Christ” - Don & Pastor Deb Conner's home.

October 4 –

“Embracing the Truth of Christ” - Joyce & Arvin Skramstad's home.

October 11 –

“Explaining the Good News of Christ” – Pastor Bill & Kim's home.

A Nationwide Call for Prayer



On September 11, 2017, we will observe Patriot Day by calling thousands of people across the nation to pray for America and to cry out to God in the Spirit of Joel 1:14 which reads, *“Declare a holy fast; call a sacred assembly. Summon the elders and all who live in the land to the house of the Lord your God and cry out to the Lord.”*



Grief Share

Thursdays 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Beginning September 14th

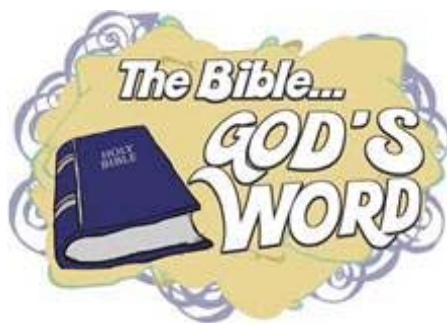
The pain of grief is one of the most intense feelings we can face. The emotional damage cuts to the soul. It can be overwhelming. You don't have to do it alone.

The second series of our grief support group will begin on September 14th. Grief Share provides help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. The group will meet weekly and includes:

- an encouraging, informative video featuring leading grief recovery experts
- small group discussion
- Workbook for journaling and personal study

Grief Share participants from last session have built lasting friendships and discovered that "we are not alone" on this journey. There is help. There are resources. We have a BIG GOD who is the source of all true healing, and we can have the support of friends who walk with us.

If you are experiencing a loss, please join us. You can register on-line through our website: www.highlandparkcog.org, or contact Don or Deb Conner at 456-3364.



*Chapter-a-Day Bible
4-Year Bible Reading
Program ~ Sept. 2017*

John 21
Deuteronomy 1-29



Friday, October 6—
First Friday Family
Fun!

Wed., October 18—
Annual Business
Meeting

Thank you for your prayers, visits, and many, many cards. I love all of you. It is so good to be home.

Love, Miriam

Dear Church Family,
Thank you for the Bible. I will take it with me everywhere I go.
Thank you, Jessica Fountain



Dear Highland Park Church of God,

This morning during prayer time, we prayed for specific children who do not have a sponsor. That is something we continually pray for. We see faces, read a bit of the child's story, and thank God for people who make a difference. At its core, that is what Children of Promise is about. Yes, we need our office, employees, and over 1,000 volunteers around the world. But, we do not do our work to sustain an office or organization. We do what we do to change children's lives. Every single day children's lives are better, and they now have hope for a far better future. You are a part of that by your donations to "Making It All Happen." I believe that's why almost everyone gives. You are part of a throng who want to make a difference and change lives. We are always thankful to you and for your support. Thank you for making a difference!

Kirk Bookout, Development Director

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your gift of \$100 to support our work at Covenant House New Jersey. Everyday, homeless kids walk through our doors, scared, tired and alone. We are honored to meet each one of them at our door, welcoming them into an extraordinary place, where we provide the needed services for them to become stable and begin to build a fulfilling life. Our staff and volunteers are committed to provide those services with absolute respect and unconditional love. Your donation is essential to our work, and all of us at Covenant House New Jersey appreciate your faithfulness to our kids and our mission. Please keep us in your prayers. You are in ours.

Peace, James White, Executive Director

Dear Highland Park Church of God,

Thank you for your generosity again this month. Whether your money is helping children in South Camden, a teen in North Camden, or a middle schooler in East Camden, we continue to give children, teens and emerging leaders a "renewed sense of purpose."

With gratitude, Bruce, Urban Promise

Dear Friends,

Deadliest Catch is a television show which documents the dangers of crab fishing on the Bering Sea, west of Alaska. I don't watch it all the time, but I recently viewed an episode during which the captain and crew found themselves at odds. Circumstances had forced the captain to end his crab fishing season early, but in order to maintain his business, had agreed to shift the boat's focus to cod fishing for a period of time. This angered some of the crew who believed they had signed on to catch crab, and nothing else. I was moved by the parallel to our ministry teams and the missionary-athletes that God draws to them. In strikingly similar circumstances, our men and women have never taken the type of stand these fishermen took. A recent example occurred when our soccer team made a 3-hour trip to Eastern NY CF despite being shorthanded. Upon arrival, they were told the field was unplayable, but rather than turn around and go home, they acquiesced to the prison's request to play basketball instead — against the prison's varsity basketball team! An even more pronounced example might be the Gamecock Crusade team that found themselves entering SC last fall at the same time as Hurricane Matthew! When it was relayed to them that every prison in the state was on lockdown and not one game was going to be possible all week, they didn't demand the bus be turned around. Instead, they scoured the state looking for away to serve in disaster preparation efforts until the weather made that no longer possible. I believe God has called a unique caliber of people to serve on our front lines. The dangers of fishing the Bering Sea have nothing on our missionary-athletes as they battle the forces of Satan for souls of men and women in prison! Thank you for being part of the team in supporting our "Fishers of Men"!

Serving Him gladly, Frank Ziedler, Jr., Director, Saints Prison Ministry



A New Way to Give

TITHE.LY

**Download the app from your app store or click the “Give” button on the church website!
(www.highlandparkcog.org)**

It is really simple. Just use your smart phone to download the app and set up your giving through that. If you wish to give using your computer, just go to our church website and click the “Give” button on the top right. This will take you to Tithe.ly where you can set up your account.

When making your gift, please indicate any additional information or the breakdown of your gift **in the memo line**. You will receive an e-mail confirmation for your gift.

As with any credit card or e-transaction, there are transaction fees involved. There is a 30 cent per transaction charge plus a percentage fee that the church will pay. Bank account transactions are assessed a 1% fee, and credit/debit cards are assessed a 2.9% fee. (American Express, 3.5% fee.) These fees are paid by the church unless you click to indicate you would like to cover them. Whatever you decide, you will be credited for the full amount of your gift.

If you need assistance, please contact the church office!

Sermon Topics for September 2017

September 3: *“A Place to Belong: Becoming a Part of Something Bigger than You or I!”*
Sermon Text: Ephesians 2:19-22

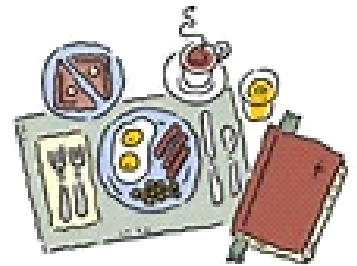
September 10: *“A Place to Belong: promoting God’s Values in this World”*
Sermon Text: Psalm 72

September 17: *“A Place to Belong: Become a Tree in God’s Orchard”*
Sermon Text: Psalm 1

September 24: Children of Promise / Children’s Sunday!



ATTENTION **CHRISTIAN MEN !!**



MEN'S BREAKFAST

**Pastor Steven Phillipp and the Westville United
Methodist Church Men invite you to our:
**ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET BREAKFAST **
At the Westville United Methodist Church,
Broadway & Center Street, Westville, NJ 08093
Saturday, September 9th, 2017 – 9 to 10:30 AM**

“Singing, Dining, Sharing & Praying together for a better world”

**GUEST SPEAKER: PASTOR MAURICE MIMMS From:
KINGS COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH, Cherry Hill NJ**

**Also Featured:
Mr. Roy Cox and his magic Ukulele, who will lead our Hymn Sing!**

**Donations only,
Please respond to: Jack Hughes E-Mail: jackhughes1116@gmail.com
Or phone 856. 304. 7001**

Diamond In Rough Not Easy To Find



The search for a diamond in the rough has always had great allure, but the elusive gem is oh so hard to spot. That's because the rough diamond, often irregular in shape and covered with a dark, greasy coating, is as unlike the beautiful polished gem as you could possibly image. It's the diamond cutter who brings out the gem's unsurpassed fiery brilliance, says the Jewelry Industry Council. With hand and eye he/she precisely places and proportions each of a full-cut diamond's 58 facets. Every sparkling diamond is truly a small wonder!

We are God's diamonds in the rough!!

Submitted by Peggy Phillips



Sunday, September 3



9:30 AM

**Please meet in the sanctuary
for our Sunday School
promotions!**



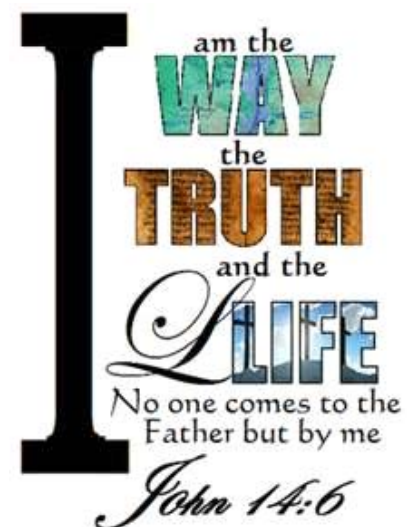
**Stay for Morning Worship, which
begins at 11:00.**

Back to School Blessings.

**Every child who attends school
will be prayed over and given a
special token for their backpack to
remind them to "Stand firm and**



**Bring a friend to
Sunday School or to
church during the
month of September,
and received a special
gift. It is sure to be
a sweet surprise!**



Highland Park Church of God YOUTH

Look What's Happening in SEPTEMBER!

September 3rd, Youth Fellowship!

3:30-5:00 / Youth House

VIP meeting! Kick-starting a new school year. Planning for IYC, prepping for Art Festival, and brainstorming ideas for fundraisers, Bible studies, events for the coming year. Please don't miss this one!

September 10th, Youth Fellowship

3:30-5:00 / SLIP 'N SLIDE KICKBALL!!

Kicking off the new school year with a new twist on Kickball! Come prepared to slip, slide and get WET! Invite a friend!!



September 17th: Movie & Pizza- The Case for Christ

5:00-7:30 p.m. Church Fellowship Hall

What proof is there for believing that Jesus came to earth, died, and rose from the dead? Lee Strobel, an investigative journalist and pronounced atheist, had this same question and decided to get to the bottom of it. This movie tells Strobel's true story of his investigation and evidence he found that changed his life. The movie will challenge us to examine the evidence and make our own discovery as to what we really believe—and why!

September 24 – Youth Fellowship

3:30-5:00 p.m. at the Youth House

Meet at the Youth house at 3:30 for time to hang out, play games, prepare for the music festival and share some thoughts on “The Case for Christ.”

September 30th 11 am – 5:30 pm

Riverfront Art & Music Festival / Proprietor's Park

The church has been given a table at the arts festival. We will have information about our church's ministries, but also have an opportunity to sell something to help with IYC fundraising. We will need youth to sign up for shifts to help man the table so nobody has to stay the entire day.

You can't stand in your
corner of the forest,
waiting for others to come
to you. You have to go to
them sometimes.



- Winnie The Pooh

Reaching Out

We have been very blessed this summer to have the opportunity and the resources to reach out and assist several ministries.

- o We collected school supplies for the students of Gloucester City
- o Donated essentials to Seeds of Hope for "Undie Sunday"
- o Made lunches for S.H.A.N
- o Purchased supplies and made repairs at Urban Promise.
- o Mailed Bible School materials to Children of Promise, Philippines.
- o Donated funds for Navajo Bible School
- o Prepared meals for Ronald McDonald House

Our church is also helping others through Embrace Grace, local food pantry and preparing meals to name a few.

Upcoming Events

September 5th

Making Sandwiches, S.H.A.N.

September-November 14th

Clothing Drive Collection

Join us to celebrate 20 years of God's faithfulness to the ministry of
Seeds of Hope

1997 - 2017

Date: Thursday, October 5th, 2017

Location: Sovereign Grace Church, 111 W. Greentree Rd, Marlton, NJ
Hear inspirational stories of God working in the lives of individuals, families and
communities. Arrive early for a Meet & Greet with appetizers 6:15-7pm.
Dinner and Celebration Presentation 7-9pm. Purchase tickets before
September 20th \$20, after the 20th \$25

Urban Promise Banquet

WHERE

Scottish Rite Auditorium
315 White Horse Pike
Collingswood, NJ 08108

WHEN

Thursday, October 19, 2017
5:30 p.m. Appetizers
6:30-9:00 p.m. Dinner & Program

Urban Promise's annual banquet is an evening, where our staff, kids, volunteers, supporters, and families gather for a time of celebration and inspiration. The night includes a delicious dinner and a stirring program featuring Bruce Main, testimonies from Urban Promise youth, dance, music, and so much more. We promise that you'll leave inspired by our kids and with a greater understanding of Urban Promise's scope and impact within the city of Camden. All proceeds from the Banquet will be used to support Urban Promise's After School Programs throughout the City of Camden. **Tickets \$45**

October 21st

Saints Prison Ministry Banquet

