

Summit
Presbyterian
Church
181 Caldwell Drive
Butler, PA 16002

The Summit Herald

February 2023

Permit No. 174
Non-Profit
U.S. Postage Paid
Butler, PA 16002

February Dates to Remember!



February 2



February 14



February 20



When someone wants to understand a passage of Scripture a good way to do that is to read a commentary by a Bible scholar. The commentator will often look at the language, context and history as part of explaining the passage. Over the years I have used various commentaries and found them to be quite helpful.

Having said that, I need to point out that there are many other ways to gain a good understanding of a Biblical text. The Bible was written in the context of life. Often I find that members of my church seem to have a better understanding of what a passage means than even the expert Bible scholars. A good example of this is Luke 9: 62. That verse states, "Jesus replied, 'No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the service in the kingdom of God.'"



Presbyterian Church
Changing Lives for Jesus Christ!

The Summit Herald

is a monthly publication of:

Summit Presbyterian Church

181 Caldwell Dr. Butler, PA 16002

724-287-2378

Email address:

summitchurch@zoominternet.net

Website: www.summitchurchpa.org

*Summit Church is a member of the
Evangelical Presbyterian Church.*

Church Staff:

Rev. Dr. Tom Jones, *Pastor*

Carol Novy, *Minister of Education*

Dianna Carr-DiZinno, *Admin. Assistant*

Sunday Schedule:

10:00 a.m. Worship

Other ministries of Summit Church:

•**Summit Church's Christian
Community Outreach Building**

•**Loaves & Fishes Food Bank**

Directors: Kim Steighner, LuAnn Steighner, & a host of volunteers

•**HIS Kids Christian School**

(PreK--6th grade)

650 Saxonburg Rd.

Butler, PA 16002

724-352-8177

office@hiskidscs.org

I have looked at various commentaries on that verse over the years but the best explanation I have heard is one given to me by a farmer in my congregation. He explained to me that when a farmer plows a field, he will pick a spot on the other side of the field and focus on that one spot as he plows in that direction. If he looks back, he will cease to plow a straight line.

For the believer, the spot on the other side of the field is, of course, Jesus Christ. We focus on Him! When we do that, we go straight forward and the end result is a thing of beauty. I love seeing the rows of crops in the field so perfectly standing in rows. Every time I see that I think of Luke 9: 62 and think about how beautiful my life can be when it is focused on Him!

Love and Blessings, Pastor Tom





*...a quick study of God's edifying Word by R.J. Baker.
Discover the truth and promises intended for every believer.*

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS BECOMES OUR OWN

(Enhanced Previous Lesson)

Study Verses: Matt 6:30; Mark 11:22; Luke 7:50; Rom 5:1, 10:17; Heb 10:23, 12:2, 11:6; James 1:3; 1Thes 5:24; Rev 2:10

For purposes of instruction, please accept four questions that will illuminate a core issue essential to our spiritual life and eternal destiny. *What is faith? What is the origin of faith? Why is faith an absolute necessity? Who or what can be the object of faith?*

The best and clearest definition I know is indeed concise and easily understood: *"Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of which is not seen"*. Consider also...*"unquestioned belief that does not seek proof"*. Among single word equivalents are trust, reliance, confidence and expectation. Interestingly, the above descriptions are capable of covering natural phenomenon, secular matters as well as religious ordinance. Our spiritual security depends upon faith in God's Holy Word. Judo-Christian dogma is contained herein! Scripture states *"so faith cometh from hearing and hearing from the Words of Christ"*. This passage has Old Testament application knowing Jehovah spoke through the prophets. Rabbis and Jewish scholars instructed from sacred canons in synagogues. By inspired scripture, we've learned Jesus is the *"Word made Flesh"*.

Certainly, John the Baptist, Jesus, the disciples, Paul and emerging apostles, all spoke the Word before there was a definitive written account of Jesus' earthly ministry or guiding epistles. Jesus often spoke in parables or in simple language as evidenced by the *"Mount Sermon"* to teach the Good News of forgiveness. Earlier, He taught as one with authority in the synagogues. People heard; many believed. In some, faith took root and flourished; others not so. Faith requires nourishment to grow and strengthen. It will then awaken to trust God and resist evil. The more one seeks GOD in Word and prayer, the nearer the believer draws to Jesus, discerning what intimate faith can do in this life. It sometime requires a jarring spiritual experience to grasp the protection and peace it affords. Faith must face trial and testing occasionally to ensure spiritual dependability. Testing although often deplored, is invaluable. Christian faith expects God's best, but is our shield against Satan's worst!

In a unique letter to the Hebrew churches, Paul, (the assumed author), writes clearly concerning apostasy impacting their worship. Without faith it is impossible to please God. The answers to two of the opening questions can be found in a spiritual paradox, similar in manner to an earlier lesson conversely identifying Jesus as *"the"* good Shepherd, while He earnestly accepted His Lamb of God commission. The body of Christ, His Church, must be faithful to God to be the blessed recipient of His Faith. That is to say...believe **HE IS!** **"I AM"**, is the Father's personal name choice. Our God of Glory reveals faithfulness via His essence, character, power, holiness, pureness and innate goodness. It is manifested by unconditional love, mercy, promises kept and endless flow of grace. Faith is a precious gift intended by our Creator to preserve, sustain and save. Blessing will grow, evil confronted and discipline measured out, all to increase and ease access to the church's dependency upon Jesus Christ...*"the author and perfecter of our faith"*. Come quickly Lord Jesus!

Amen



- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 4 Darlene Grabe | 18 Tom Mainhart |
| Beth Nagel | Calvary Moyer |
| Carl Mowry | 20 Anthony Acquaviva |
| 5 Lloyd McCommon | 21 Anna Crider |
| 7 Isaiah Child | Steve Hassler |
| 8 Trish Harrison | 23 Brooke Wamsley |
| 13 Lori Painter | 25 Grace Grabe |
| 15 Eden Moyer | Olivia Nagg |
| Miranda DeLuca | 27 Geoffrey Hankey |
| 16 Dorothy Steighner | |

If you would like your birthday or anniversary listed in the Herald, please contact Dianna in the office. Thanks!



On January 15th, we had our first Chili Sampling. Those who did not attend missed out on sampling thirteen different varieties of chili and some great fellowship. Tasters got to vote for their favorite and prizes were given.

- 1st place: White Squawking - Trish Harrison*
- 2nd place: Deer Camp Chili - Doug Harrison*
- 3rd place: My Sister's Chili - Renee Slupe*

This event was well attended and we hope to have more types of chili and eaters next year.

The Deacon's will be meeting on February 5th immediately following the morning worship. If you would like to join the committee to discuss upcoming events at the church or matters of the church, please join us. We will then meet on the first Sunday of each month following the morning worship service.



Articles for the March *Herald* are due to the church office by Monday, February 20th. Thanks!

Session,

Reminder that our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 14 in the church sanctuary.



Herald Assembly Team for the March issue:

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Terry Dean | Eleanor Kingan |
| Linda Morse | Janet Sepich |
| Rex & Judy Jewell | |

Summit Church 2023

Elders

Skip Brown	724-991-8100
Diana Campbell	724-352-1113
Luc Carr-DiZinno	724-816-7448
Bruce Dean	724-352-3309
Terry Dean	724-352-3309
Amanda Galvan	724-991-0639
Darlene Grabe	724-352-9274
Jason Grabenstein	724-272-6628
Phil Henkel	724-504-4738
Gail Montgomery	724-996-9123
Andrew Moyer	724-352-0358
Judy Sutton	724-287-1126



Deacons

Anna Crider	724-822-0640
Celeste Faust	724-352-4194
Sally Foust	724-352-9054
Trish Harrison	724-283-6048
Michelle Morgan	724-283-8223
Linda Nowakowski	724-524-2111
Peggy Peters	724-352-5915
Renee Slupe	724-287-6271
Linda Toy	724-352-3268

Saturday - February 25

Volunteers please come at 8:00 am to set up and pack orders. **

Distribution will be between 9:00-10:00am.



**Volunteers—new and “experienced” are always welcome to serve at the Summit Church Food Bank. Packing orders and carrying them out to the cars of those we serve—there are jobs for everyone! This is a great service opportunity for individuals and families!! Won’t you join us??

Due to the church’s contribution tracking software and computer failing in September, the statements and envelopes will require additional time to prepare this year. We are confident that a yearly total for 2022 can be provided for the contributors. Thank you for your patience.

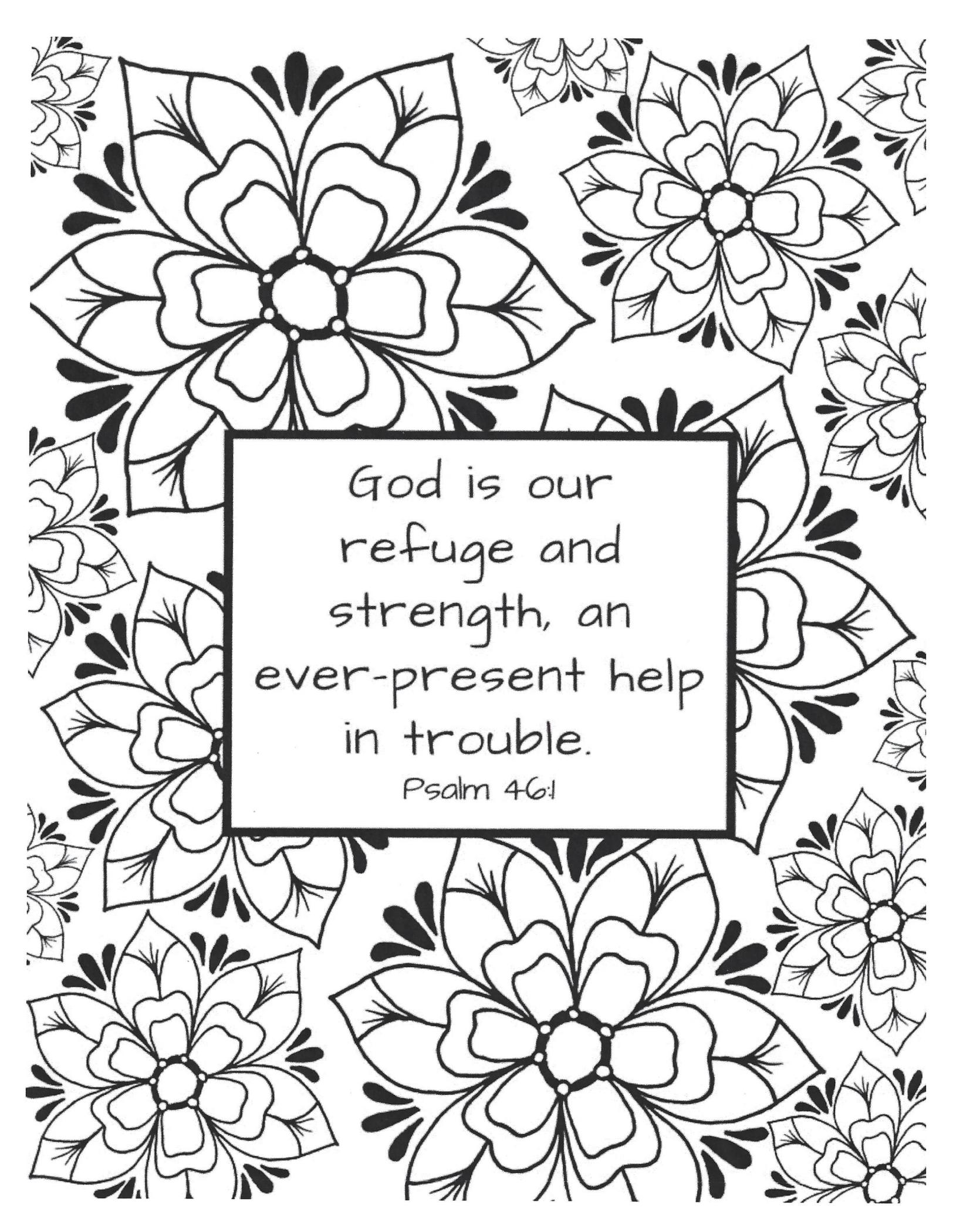
- Stewardship



Memorials were received by Summit Church Food Bank in memory of Samuel Grossman:

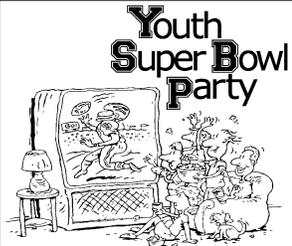
~ Lois McCommon





God is our
refuge and
strength, an
ever-present help
in trouble.

Psalm 46:1



Youth Super Bowl Party

Sunday, Feb. 12

Super Bowl Party!!

6:15 pm—Halftime

Manse Basement

Ok, so who will it be in Super Bowl LVII? Even if you aren't a football fan, Super Bowl parties can be fun, because there are always crazy commercials to watch!! There will be other games to play, food to eat and fun people to be with—so make plans now to join us!

Bring some sort of snack to share—chips, veggies, brownies, cookies, etc—we will supply pizza and pop!! Please text Carol—724-679-0326 if you are coming so we know how much food to get!!

Sun., Feb. 19—Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm

Unless we have enough snow for sled riding!



Youth New Member's Class

Who: All youth, grades 7-12, who have an interest in finding out more about a relationship with Jesus Christ and what it means to be a member of Summit Church.

When: We will figure that out! It might be during the Sunday School hour or maybe a Sunday lunch deal, or perhaps some other time. You can be a part of that decision!

There will be an informational meeting sometime in February, so please let either Pastor Tom or Carol know of your interest no later than February 19th.



TROUTMAN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

High School Seniors – this announcement is for you! We want you to be aware of the availability of scholarship monies through The Troutman Family Scholarship Fund, for undergraduates of an accredited school of higher learning – university, college, trade school, vocational school, nursing school – to help in their first year of post-high school education. The scholarship will be awarded to an individual(s) who has demonstrated commitment to Summit Presbyterian Church by past and present involvement in activities such as Vacation Bible School, being a Sunday School teacher, participating in the music program (choir or instrumental accompaniment), youth group, mission trips, etc... The committee shall also take into consideration the student's financial needs as shown on the application, academic history (GPA), church and extra-curricular activities, general appearance and reputation. If you are interested please pick up an application from the church office. **Do not delay – you have until April 15th to return the application with letters of reference!** More detailed information regarding how to apply for the scholarship is included with the application.

**We love
because He
first LOVED US.**

1 John 4:19



June 25-29, 2023

Get ready to blast off on an out-of-this-world adventure!!

At STELLAR VBS we will be exploring how Jesus shined hope, love, forgiveness, and joy to the world—and how we can do the same with his power!! Kids will experience one-of-a-kind Stellar Bible Adventures, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, have yummy treats, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them to shine Jesus' light to the world, and test out Sciency-Fun Gizmos they'll take home and play with all summer long. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day will conclude with the Cosmic Closing that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned.

Mark down these dates, Sunday, June 25 – Thursday, June 29 (5:50-8:30 pm) and be praying about where God would have you serve!! Make a list of kids you will invite!! Pray!!! It's not too soon to be thinking about how we can transform the CCO Building into a galaxy far, far away!! WE LOVE VBS!!!

Mark your Calendar &

Join Us!!

Sponsored by Kidsylvania

WINTERFEST

Bring the whole family to the yearly celebration of the partnership between HIS Kids Christian School and the Sylvania Foundation-Kidsylvania!

Weather permitting, there will be sled riding (bring one if you have one), a snowman competition and more!

This event will take place with or without snow.

Snacks and hot cocoa generously provided by The Sylvania Foundation.

Sled riding Campfire Games
Family Food Friends Fun

**SAT. FEB. 18TH 2023
10AM-1PM**

**SYLVANIA CONSERVATION PROPERTY
315 MACK RD.
WEST SUNBURY, PA 16061**

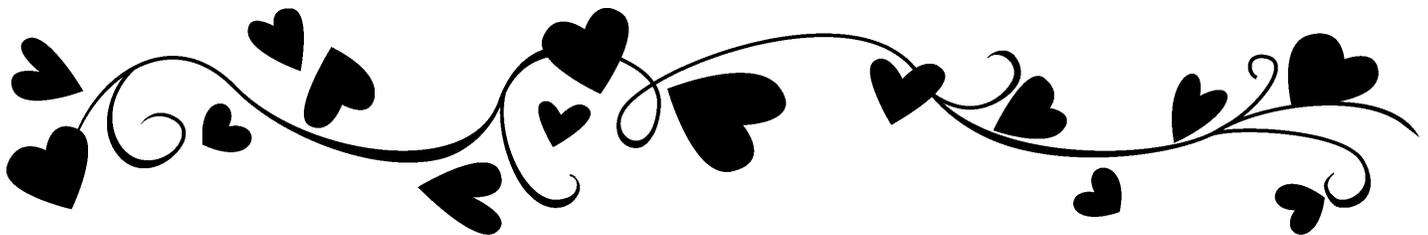
NOTES FROM OUR HIS KIDS TEACHERS !

February already, where has the time gone? We have been moving right along in our new math curriculum this year. The majority of the year has been spent on multiplication. However, we have just finished up two units about fractions. Then it's back into multiplication with some division thrown in. The third graders have been working hard with their multiplication flashcards as well. Each week they take a timed test. As they pass, they earn things for our "Multiplication Movie Celebration". The first thing they earn is their ticket to the movie. After that it's fun treats like popcorn, a drink, and candy. All the necessities for a proper movie showing. The showing is set for sometime in April. Keep up the good work 3rd grade. Reading has also been moving smoothly. We have read stories about Thomas Edison, what illustrators do, and different ways technology is used in sports. For Social Studies, we loved learning about Christmas all around the world. We learned about England, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and Mexico. The thing the kids got a kick out of the most was when they learned that Japan has KFC for their Christmas dinner and ordered it months in advance! Now we have turned our focus to map skills. Keep a look out for their own creative maps!

February has so many things to look forward to. February 1st marks our 100th day of school! That is so hard to believe. We will celebrate with some fun 100 activities. We also have a kindness week to look forward to. We talk about the buckets that we carry with us and how we affect, not only our own bucket but, other people's bucket. Ask around about it. I'm sure a HIS Kids kiddo could tell you exactly what that means. Students get a chance to fill buckets everyday. February 18th will be the annual Winterfest event. It is held at the Sylvania property. Look for more information to come out about that. Mrs. Baker and I look forward to some fun winter activities and awesome sled riding. Let's say a little prayer for some snow, to have a successful Winterfest! Then the end of the month brings us to Read Across America (Seuss week). That is always a fun time to share books we have read and include some fun Dr. Seuss activities.

Until next time, I send many blessings for all!

Mrs. Maxwell – Third Grade Teacher



It's hard to believe that it's already February! In Kindergarten, we have been working hard! Adding and subtracting has been taking lots of practice, but we are finally getting the hang of it! We are so excited to celebrate the 100th day of school on February 1st! We are going to dress up like we are 100 years old! We will have a special snack and bring in 100 items for show and tell too. Kindness week also takes place in February, so we are preparing by reading stories about being kind, sharing, and helping others. We will work to be 'bucket fillers' which involves doing kind things to fill friends' imaginary buckets that make them feel good! Valentine's Day will also be lots of fun, doing crafts and having our Valentine's Day party! Have a lovely week!

Ms. Vissari – Kindergarten Teacher


"LOVE
the Lord your God
with all your
HEART
and with all your
SOUL
and with all your
STRENGTH."
Deut. 6:5



HIS Kids
"Souper" Bowl
Update!!

The clock has run out on this year's HIS Kids "Souper" Bowl! What was the final score??

Our HIS Kids family collected 300 items (soup, crackers, corn bread mix, etc)! Wow! A big cheer of thanks for all those who brought in items—including some Summit Church friends!

The food was given out during our January Food Bank Distribution on January 28. Families will now have lots of soup to keep them warm and fed during the cold days ahead.

A big THANK YOU to Mrs. Yam & Mrs. Hankey for coordinating this HIS Kids service project!

The verse above is actually the second line in one of the most well known prayers in the Hebrew Bible (our Old Testament). The prayer known as The Shema Prayer begins, "Hear, O Israel...". From an article by "The Bible Project" we read:

*"Hear, O Israel,' does not simply mean to let sound waves enter your ears. Here, the word **shema** means to allow the words to sink in, provide understanding, and generate a response—it's about action. In Hebrew, hearing and doing are the same thing."*

These words of the "shema" are repeated by Jesus in the New Testament book of Mark 12:29-31, where we read about Jesus answering the question of which is the greatest commandment. We are to love God with all that we are, and just like *hearing* and *doing* are the same thing—so are *loving* and *doing*. When we truly love, we take action—we serve, lend a helping hand, reach out and encourage one another. This is just one of the things we try to model and teach our students at HIS Kids Christian School.



illustratedministry.com

Upcoming Events at HIS Kids!

- February 2nd (thanks to a recent snow day) is our 100th day of school! We look forward to celebrating all things 100!! Could that mean that there are 100 groundhogs in our future!
- Kindness Week—the week of February 14th! While we strive to be kind to others every day of the year, this is the week where we put special emphasis on being kind by looking for ways to encourage and build up one another. You may even hear about some bucket-filling going on!
- Winterfest—Saturday, February 18th! 10am-1 pm up at the Sylvania property!!



Who we are...

Our Mission Statement...

HIS Kids Christian School is a ministry of Summit Presbyterian Church located in Butler, PA. Our purpose is to educate children and guide them to Jesus Christ through an academically challenging Bible-rich curriculum. We desire to see children develop in a balanced way - spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially, just as Jesus did.

Our Board...

The HIS Kids Board is made up of members of Summit Church, Parents, and the Community. They meet monthly—usually the first Tuesday of the month. Because HIS Kids is a ministry of Summit Church, the board is under the authority of the Summit Church Session. This year's board members are:

Krystal Rivera, President	Michelle Morgan, Vice-President
Amy Warner, Secretary	Lynette Glaze
Ken Galvan	Ryan Pugh

Our Boosters...

HIS Kids Boosters are comprised of anyone who supports the ministry of HIS Kids Christian School—anyone can be a HIS Kids Booster!! The Boosters support the mission of HIS Kids Christian School and provide the “extras” for our students and teachers, such as field trips (admission and transportation); special activities, such as our Thanksgiving Feast and end of the year Fun Day; refreshments for concerts and special events, just to name a few. This year's Boosters Leadership Team is made up of Dianna Carr-DiZinno, Janice Stahl, and Tara Cornetti.

****To read the entire Summit Herald, please visit:**

<https://www.summitchurchpa.org/summit-herald-newsletters>

Stay Tuned

Listed below are some helpful links and addresses to help you stay connected. Don't forget to check out our calendar on the school website to keep up-to-date on upcoming events.

School E-mail	office@hiskidscs.org
School Website	https://www.hiskidscs.com
School Facebook Page	HIS Kids Christian School
Boosters E-mail	boosters@hiskidscs.org
Boosters Facebook Page	Hkcs Boosters



(Pre-K - 6th grade)
650 Saxonburg Road
Butler, PA 16002
724-352-8177
www.hiskidscs.org

Staff

Preschool—LeAnn Yamnitsky
Preschool Aide—Patty Hankey
Kindergarten—Haley Vissari
Kindergarten Aide—Maria Pugh
1st Grade—Haylie Rupnow
2nd Grade—Holly Collins
2nd Grade Aide—Sherry Smith
3rd Grade—Kim Maxwell
4th Grade—Josh McKruit
5th Grade—Jennifer Dimit.
6th Grade—Christan Baker
Music—Marlee Osche
Art—Jill Fouse
Bible (3rd-6th Grade)—Carol Novy
Phys. Educ. (K-6th Grade)—Amanda Galvan
Curriculum Advisor—Marlene Beamer
Cafeteria—Tara Cornetti
Cleaning—Michele Wardle & Jessica Hanna
Principal—Carol Novy
Administrative Assistant—Brittany Morse
Financial Administrator—Katie Anderson
Pastor of Summit Church—Pastor Tom Jones

Midwest Intermediate Unit 4 Support:

Title I Reading & Math—Marie Farkas
Speech & Language—Karen Nicholas
Guidance—LeeAnn Wiseman

