

## Announcements and Upcoming Events

The flowers are given by Tim and Elene West to the glory of God and in grateful appreciation of knowledge of Titusville history.

Adult Bible Study 10:45 a.m. Heritage Room

Sewing Group, 10 a.m. to noon, Wednesdays

Choir: Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m.

**This afternoon at 3 p.m.:** "Days of Yesteryear in Titusville and Washington Crossing" will be presented by local historians and collectors of photo and paper memorabilia of this area, Bob and Carol Meszaros. The program is free, childcare will be provided and light refreshments will be served.

**October 22, 4 p.m.** Food Concession. 6pm Bluegrass Concert

## Communion Liturgy

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.

**Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.**

...who forever sing to the glory of your name.

**CHOIR: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

Great is the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Bread

The Sharing of the Cup

*(You are invited forward to receive the elements.)*

Prayer



"Stand firm, and you will win life" Jesus Christ (Luke 21:19)

## Spiritual Food for Thought

This is what the LORD says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. —Jeremiah 6:16

"It is better to lose a good coat than a good conscience" --Matthew Henry

### Session:

**Class of 2017**  
Barbara Matlack  
Randy Niederer

**Class of 2018**  
Patti Manz  
Tim Shaub

**Class of 2019**  
Mark Niederer  
Kristine Schmidt, Clerk

### Deacons:

**Class of 2017**  
Judy Niederer, Secretary

**Class of 2018**  
Gail Butterfoss  
Lettie Ritner, Vice-Moderator

**Class of 2019**  
Chris Manz, Moderator

**Ministers: All members of Titusville Church**

Pastor: Rev. Kenneth Good

Worship Assistant: Kris Schmidt

Music Directors: Jon and Helen Eastburn

**The Rev. Dr. R. William Shaub, Pastor Emeritus**  
Barbara Matlack, Office Administrator

October 1, 2017

**THE EXTRAORDINARY**

**GOD'S MAJESTIC WORK of REUNIFICATION & ADOPTION**

Holy, Holy, Holy God, we offer our worship to you!

The last day of this month is the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Martin Luther posting his lecture on the danger of selling indulgences. It was used by God to offer correction to the people. The truth stood on its own! Today, at the start of this month, we find truth being lived in the life of

Joseph, and the Apostle Paul. The

truth was able to move (away--Joseph ran from deceit, and forward in Paul's announcement of the Gospel) and stand (before the people in Paul's testimony). We meet the Lord of truth and history at the Table.



## Call to Worship (Romans 1:16-17)

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

**For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."**

## Prayer of Confession

**Lord, have mercy.**

...let us pause for a silent time of personal confession...

**Instead of following where you lead, O God, at times we follow a tempter who shows us a vision of the world that is a mere counterfeit of what you desire for us. At times, O God, we are deceived and enticed by imitations of love, abundance, and joy.**

...Let us pause for a silent time of personal confession...

**Christ, have mercy.**

(from the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways. Found at re-worship.blogspot.com)



## Order of Liturgy

Prelude

\***Call to Worship** (page 1)

\***Opening Hymn / Prayer** (page 1)

**Confession** (page 1)

—call, prayer, assurance

\*Gloria patri

**Scripture** (page 1)

Message

\***Hymn of Response** (page 1)

\*Apostles Creed

\*New City Catechism (page 2)

Announcements

Prayers of the People

Offering: "I Surrender All"

\*Doxology

Communion (page 4)

\***Sending Hymn** (page 1)

Benediction

Choral Benediction: "May God Support You All Your Days"

\*Please stand if able

## Scripture

Genesis 39 (page 30)

Psalms 144 (page 446)

Acts 21:37-22:29 (page 789)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Songs for Today

Opening Hymns

#151 "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

Hymn of Response

#563 "Open My Eyes That I may See"

Sending Hymn

#413 "Break Thou the Bread of Life"

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## Notes on Morning Scripture

### Genesis 39

Vs 1: The distance between Dothan and Egypt is almost 500 miles.

Walter Brueggemann commentary on the passage: ([Genesis](#), page 318): *It is true that life is confidently settled (vs 1-6, 21-23) and that life must be lived at great risk (vs 7-20). Both are true. The passage has in mind a kind of humanity which fully relies on God and which fully engages human experience. Joseph is a man who receives “loyalty” from God (vs 21) and who lives loyally in relation to his Egyptian master (vs 8-9)*

### Acts 22

Vs 2 speaking in Aramaic: closely related language to Hebrew, used as the colloquial language by Jewish people, including Jesus and Paul. Several chapters in the Old Testament, and words in the New Testament are in Aramaic.

Vs 3: Gamaliel was previously mentioned in 5:34-39. He was a well respected Pharisee within Judaism.

Vs 25: Not everyone within the Roman empire was a citizen. There were levels of citizenship which included certain rights, including the rights to vote, run for office, make contracts and purchase property, enter lawful marriage (which allowed citizenship to extend to one’s children: this seems to be what Paul references in vs 28), and right to trial. Freedmen was the classification for former slaves who became citizens.

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## Web Link

<http://www.christiananswers.net/q-abr/abr-a016.html> a thoroughly researched page on Egyptian history, kingdoms, and titles, especially as it relates to Joseph’s presence in Egypt.

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/f-l-e-e-a-strategy-for-pursuing-sexual-purity> FLEE becomes an acronym for pursuing purity

<http://www.womeninthebible.net/bible-paintings/potiphars-wife/> history of paintings of the Genesis 39 story

<http://evidenceforchristianity.org/how-can-paul-be-a-hebrew-and-a-roman-citizen-at-the-same-time-does-it-have-to-do-with-him-being-from-tarsus/> simple explanation of the layered process of Roman citizenship

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## New City Catechism

*A 52 question catechism developed by Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York. For an introduction to this catechism, visit: <http://www.newcitycatechism.com/intro.php>*

*Part 3: Spirit, Restoration, Growing in Grace*

**Question 38** With what attitude should we pray?

Answer: **With love, perseverance, and gratefulness; in humble submission to God’s will, knowing that, for the sake of Christ, he always hears our prayers.**

*To learn more about Question 39, including Scripture background, prayer, commentary and video from scholars, visit <http://newcitycatechism.com/new-city-catechism/#39>*

## Editorial: Run for Your Lives

Yes, this phrase is from the Bible (Genesis 19:17, Jeremiah 48:6). In today’s Genesis story, Joseph runs from temptation. And while there are times to fight and confront and announce and bring light to the darkness, the Bible also directs us to not overestimate our own spiritual power. Sometimes, we have to run from the presence of evil. The word “flee” is used 89 times in the Bible (fled another 118). The word run, in various contexts, is used 103 times.

In Joseph’s situation, he was alone with someone who had made multiple attempts at seduction. The best course was to physically get out of the room so that he would not choose sin. We may find ourselves in similar situations; foul-mouthed mockery in the breakroom, looking away and turning off images that can’t be unseen, walking past someone who is inviting you into regrettable behavior.

Some verses that help us think about when to run include:

Flee from sexual immorality (I Corinthians 6:18)

Dear friends, flee from idolatry (I Corinthians 10:14)

Flee an eagerness from money that causes you to wander from faith and pierce yourself with many griefs. Man of God, flee all this (I Timothy 6:10-11)

Flee the evil desires of youth (II Timothy 2:22)

The author of Proverbs, using the image of sin as an adulteress coming for his son, counsels “keep a path from her, do not go near the door of her house, lest you lose your honor to others and your dignity to one who is cruel” (5:8-9)

A verse that identifies a healthy balance of fleeing evil and standing firm is James 4:7: Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Today’s editorial sought to identify the times to ‘run from’. There are times to run for our lives. Just as you would run away from the threat of natural disaster, so the same way we must guard our hearts and spiritual life from all that threatens. Dear Tabby will address our call to run after. Running after what God desires is a holy and whole way to ‘run for our lives’.

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## Prayers to the Lord and Author of Life (offered in 10/1 worship by the congregation)

## Dear Tabby, Raising Life (issues) Acts 9:36

Dear Tabby

I have recently started a routine of running. It has brought a wonderful sense of discipline, exhilaration and health, while challenging me to better myself. It made me think: does the Bible use the image of running for positive purposes?

Bettering Myself in Bordentown

Dear Bettering,

Congratulations! I hope this new habit continues to bring health.

The phrase “run for your lives” is used in times of urgency and threat. We can also run for our lives in a positive sense. God calls us to run after the prize of eternal life. When our spiritual running is toward the life that God has offered, we literally run for our lives.

Jesus taught that the pagans run after the things that bring anxiety, but the best way was to “seek first the kingdom of God, and all these things (such as food and clothing) will be given” (Matthew 6:33). We are to run in pursuit of God’s kingdom. Keeping that priority first, the other things of life will fall into place.

The Apostle Paul writes:

“run in such a way as to get the prize.” (I Corinthians 9:24). He then testifies to the Church in Corinth that he (and we) train for the prize that will last forever, “therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly” (9:25).

Paul encourages the church in Philippi to “hold firmly to the Word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain.” (2:16). In this sense, they ran together!

The author of Hebrews beckons his listeners to “run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus the author and perfecter of faith” (12:1-2). Just as Jesus kept the joy of heaven before him as he endured the cross, so we too, keeping our eyes on Jesus run the spiritual race, and build endurance so that we “will not grow weary and lose heart” (12:3).

Peter and John run to the empty tomb upon news that Jesus was not there. John records his version: “Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first” (John 4). Boy, Peter is never going to live that one down.

So run to the glory of God! It seems that a common theme occurs: if you run after sin, you will find it. If you run from sin, you will see grace. If you run after the Lord, you will find what you’re really meant to run after!