



Dear brothers, sisters, new friends, and old friends to UPVPC,

Every summer I say that I can't believe it is already August. You've probably said it too. How is it that the days come and go so quickly and yet each one has a full 24-hour allotment?

Psalm 90:12 finds the psalmist asking God, "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." What this doesn't mean is that we should count how many days we've been alive or try to guess how many days we have left on earth. The psalmist says that if we learn how to number our days, we will *gain a heart of wisdom*. The point in learning how to number our days is to gain wisdom in what to do with each hour of each day.

How do we make the most of every day God has given to us? Are we living according to biblical priorities, or are we spending too much time on meaningless pursuits? Yes, time moves *quickly* - but disciples of Jesus should move *purposefully*.

As we begin to ramp up into the new school year or consider what to do with our days of retirement, let's make sure we are listening well to the voice of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is the Teacher, the Counselor, and the Alongsider who will tell us how to make our days count. All we have to do is listen, trust, and obey.

With love,  
Rev. Meagan

*Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Fruitful Farms VBS this year! What a responsibility and privilege we have to teach our children the Word of God through our own words and actions. How we pray that love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control were beautifully displayed!*

### August Birthdays & Anniversaries

Please pray a blessing over each person as their special day arrives!



- 8/3, Kynsee Coons, Wanda Harry, Shiela Parsons
- 8/8, Norman Coons
- 8/10, \*Joab Akampumuriza (Uganda)
- 8/11, Carter Coons, Cindy Etter, \*Jessiel Sharon Mier Rangel (Colombia)
- 8/12, Dick Eckels
- 8/13, Scott Naugle
- 8/14, Lily Bair, Tammy Hart, \*Maria Theresa Minoza (Philippines)
- 8/15, Dane Woodward, Randy Greenland, Sally Strickler
- 8/16, Dale Hall, Shelly Boggs
- 8/17, Shelby Johnson, Jocelyn Baker
- 8/19, Melvin Heckman, Ashley Baker
- 8/20, Reese Cook
- 8/22, Alyssa Rotz
- 8/24, Barb Baker, Beat Bryan
- 8/24, Brittany Hill, Amy Hill
- 8/25, Preston Carbaugh, Maxine Morris
- 8/27, Jason Robinson, \*Janiele Lopes da Silva Rocha (Brazil)
- 8/28, Broc Hostler
- 8/30, Mark Frazier, \*Eliane Damiba (Burkina Faso)
- 8/31, Brad Gamble

\*UPVPC Sponsored Compassion Child

### Anniversaries

- Tim & Peggy Browning, 8/17
- Gary & Patti Rebok, 8/20
- Steve & Norma Shoop, 8/22
- Larry & Beat Bryan, 8/25
- Doug & Joni Frey, 8/30



**Local Mission Week:  
A GREAT WEEK for ALL!**

For the second year we committed a week of the summer to helping our neighbors. Using a simple application process we selected 5 locations in which to invest time and labor to make life a little better for those around us. Twenty-eight different people from the congregation stepped up to help on our worksites, whether for a couple of hours in an evening, for a day, or for the whole week. Here's what God did through us:

1. We demolished a water-damaged plaster ceiling in a bedroom and put up, finished, and painted a new drywall ceiling in the bedroom and part of a bathroom for a widow in Doylesburg.
2. We did some shrubbery trimming, weed wacking, tore off an old and leaking part of a roof, and put on a new roof for a widow in Spring Run.
3. We took up a water-damaged floor and put down a new floor in a bedroom and hallway for a single mom in Spring Run.
4. We scraped, repaired, and painted a barn for a widower in Spring Run.
5. We cut, split, and stacked wood for a family in Spring Run.

We are grateful for our food team of Joni Frey, Becky Gerlach, & Johanna Grove who fed the team on Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday evenings. We are also grateful to C.M. Fuels for the scissor lift and Hammond's Hauling for the manlift. Everything we needed, God provided. The mission committee will be setting the dates for next summer's mission week soon so we can all get it on our calendars!



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- 8/4:
  - 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship; Small groups for all ages, 9:45-10:45 a.m.
  - Worship Committee after 11 a.m. worship
  - Community Worship at Hammond's Grove, 6 p.m. Bring a chair and a friend! Rain location is UPVPC sanctuary.
- 8/5: Mission Committee, 4 p.m.
- 8/7: Retired UPVPC Friends Lunch at PVR, 11:30 a.m.; Adult Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.
- 8/11:
  - ONE WORSHIP SERVICE at 10 a.m. No Small groups today!
  - Annual Church PICNIC at 4 p.m. at the Spring House Farm. Bring a dish to share. Meat, place settings, & drinks will be provided.
- 8/12: Deacons, 6:30 p.m.
- 8/13: Session, 6:30 p.m.
- 8/16: Family Friday at Bill & Jen Harris' home. All are welcome for fun & fellowship, 6:30 p.m.
- 8/18: Worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Small groups for all ages from 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.; Prayer walk at FM schools, 12 – 8 p.m.
- 8/25: Worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Small groups for all ages from 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. This is promotion Sunday! Thailand missionaries Bryan & Emily Gerlach will be with us today!
- 8/26: Trustees, 6:30 p.m.

**PRAYER FOR THOSE RETURNING TO SCHOOL**

Heavenly Father, we pray for all those going to school for the first time, those returning to school, those going to a new school, a new classroom, or beginning a new role at school. We lift them all up to you, praying for a beautiful wave of encouragement and cooperation for all adults and all students. We pray for love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control to reign in every classroom. We pray for wisdom for teachers and administrators so that they can be the best they can be and bring out the best in those around them. For those going to college, we pray for courage to stand for your truth and not compromise what they believe. We pray you would surround them with others who will encourage them in their faith. We pray you will guide them to the major that will best bring out the gifts you have given. Thank you that you are with us always no matter where we go. In Jesus' name, Amen.