

THE CHAPEL MESSENGER

FEBRUARY 2026

A Letter from Pastor Josh

"worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.."

Chapel friends,

We are now approaching the Lenten season. February 18th is Ash Wednesday, and we will gather for worship at 6:30pm in the sanctuary. This will begin our 40-day journey of repentance, fasting, and growing closer to Christ.

From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" - Matthew 4:17. Lent is a time for us to get truly honest with God and ourselves. It's easy to blame others, our past, or our circumstances. Repentance is taking full ownership for our behaviors and actions towards God and others. That's what makes the gospel of Jesus Christ so important. God forgives us in Christ, and we can get a new start.

There are many distractions all around us. Lent gives us the opportunity to refocus on God. I look forward to journeying together towards Calvary.

In the name of the Master.

Pastor Josh

Contact Us

W: chapelchurch.org

P: 717-244-6375

f: @ChapelChurch

Worship

Schedule:

8 AM – Traditional

9:15 – Small Groups &
Sunday School

10: 30 AM – Modern

Join us online on our
Facebook page or
chapelchurch.org

Church Office

Hours:

Monday –Thursday

9: 00 AM – 12: 00 PM

Friday - closed

Prayer Chain:

chapelpt@gmail.com

Worship Updates

Ash Wednesday – February 18 – 6:30 PM – Sanctuary

March 22 – Combined Worship – 9:00 AM – Sanctuary – no children’s Sunday school – contact your Sunday School teacher for Adult class times

Easter Services: Sunrise – 6:30 AM – Pavillion

Combined – 9:00 AM – Sanctuary

Please join us between the services for a time of fellowship with breakfast brunch in the fellowship hall



Feb 1	Sunday Schl 9:15 – 10:15
Feb 5	Youth night 6:30 – 8
Feb 8	Sunday Schl 9:15 – 10:15
Feb 12	Youth night 6:30 – 8
Feb 15	Sunday Schl 9:15 – 10:15
Feb 19	Youth night 6:30 – 8
Feb 22	Sunday Schl 9:15 – 10:15
Feb 26	Youth night 6:30 - 8



Youth Update:

Hello everyone! I wanted to start off with an updated on what the youth have been up to over the last month. With some of the recent growth that we have seen in the ministry and with more new believers coming into the ministry I felt very strongly that we needed to pivot on the lesson plan that I had for this year. We are going to be going back to the basics and working from the ground up. That being said we are doing a series on the gospel of Mark which has been going great. I would love it if we could be in prayer for the youth as we go through this series. Presenting the Gospel to newer believers is not something that we should take lightly and is foundational to each of our faith!

Young Adults!

The Young adult group is for anyone who are ages 18-25. The young adults meet in room B5 in the basement and will be meeting there for both Saturday evenings starting at 6pm and Sunday mornings during the Sunday school hour. For Saturday the small group will include scripture study, discussion and prayer.

My office hours are Monday 10:30AM to 1:30PM and Thursday from 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM



LOOKING AHEAD...

We have our Easter event coming up on March 28th! This will be a family-style event meaning parents, grandparents, and guardians will be participating. Yes, there will still be an egg hunt, after successfully completing the “escape room” (hints are available). If you are unfamiliar with escape rooms, the idea is there is a “locked” room that requires puzzles of all sorts to unlock it. Our “locked room” is the egg hunt. Families will work on solving different puzzles (ex: sudoku, cryptograms, etc.) that reveal Bible verses leading them to the ultimate puzzle. Unlike years past, there is no direct teaching. **Serving for this event includes stuffing eggs with candy and glow sticks on the morning of the event, guiding families to different areas, monitoring rooms and giving hints as needed.**

VBS will look different this year! We will be trialing a once-a-week evening program for kids 4-12 years old. The day of the week for this program has not been solidified yet. We aim for a 5-week program but this will vary on our volunteers. Our hope is the kids will have more time to go home and truly ponder what they are learning rather than jumping right into another day of learning. Meanwhile our leaders will get the chance to truly form a bond with the kids. It has been shown that kids who feel welcome and safe are more likely to come back to church. **Friends, leaders, influencers, and pastors are all ESSENTIAL for solidifying this healthy relationship. If you are interested in being a part of something different, if you desire to see children worshipping our KING, if your heart is broken over the hurt in this world, if YOU have been hurt and you don't want to see another child go through it – I invite you to serve alongside me. Please reach out to me: 484-264-1621 or maria@chapelchurch.org.**

NEEDS:

If you are looking for a wonderful way to serve our King and Savior, consider using your helpful hands and loving heart to teach, assist, or watch our children. We are looking for individuals to hang with the children on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of every month. Additionally, we are

seeking teachers and helpers to assist during Children's Church. Thanks so much for your desire to help this young generation of disciples to feel safe and seen in this chaotic world.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- **February 14th** – **Parents' Night Out** – We are working on the specifics but are hoping to have this available for our moms and dads!
- **March 22nd** – We will have a combined worship service at 9AM. There will be no children's programming or nursery available.
- **March 28th, 3-5pm** – Our Easter event will be here before we know it! We will be hosting our event "escape room" family-style! Families will solve mysteries on their way to unlocking the ultimate question – who are we with Christ? (The completed booklet will be their ticket to the egg hunt.) Even though there will be no direct teaching, we will need volunteers for monitoring the different "rooms", egg hunt areas, directing, and registering. We will also need people on that morning with stuffing the eggs with candy AND a glow stick. The glow hunt last year was well received so we will repeat that!

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

From nursery to 6th grade, the children are following the same programming, simply adapted to their age. We are using The Biggest Story, a beautifully illustrated storybook, Bible, and video series that highlights God's faithfulness and always points to "The Snake Crusher" (Jesus!).

The elementary children are enjoying their separate classes as are our teachers! They have been challenged with learning a new Bible verse every week, and they have been doing fantastic! With the classes being separated into an older elementary and younger elementary, we are now able to include 2-6th graders in our upper elementary class for Children's Church.

Beginning in February, our children will be joining in Communion Sundays! This has been discussed within the ministry for a while and is coming to fruition! The children will be learning about communion and those who have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior will be able to participate. We are excited for this opportunity!

Debt Elimination Team (DET) Updates February 2026

*And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. --
Philippians 4:19*

Reflections from February 2024 – and praise to God for what He continues to do thru His people at Chapel Church to eliminate mortgage indebtedness.

- ❖ The mortgage balance was reported as **\$401,836.46** . . . today we report the balance as **\$117,340.99.**
- ❖ The ***Make A Joyful Noise*** (loose change) campaign was just beginning . . . today we report that **\$2,712** has been donated in loose change (yes, some bills 😊!!!!). We will continue to collect loose change in the “churches “in both the church and parish building .
- ❖ Scrap Metal collecting was in the beginning months and \$3,000+ equaling 10 tons started the collection. . . today we report **\$10,677** equaling 43+ tons. The collection is ongoing.
- ❖ We used the theme: *The Time Is Now* . . . in 2026 we have a new theme in the form of a question: *Will 2026 be the year the mortgage is paid in full?*
- ❖ In 2024 we were anticipating a church-wide rummage sale. On May 16, 2026 we are anticipating the ABC event in May (see separate flyer). See Deb Fickes for more information.

Traditions Bank mortgage: current (1/26/26) balance: \$117,340.99

\$ 5,087 less than 12/26/25 report (\$122,429)

Traditions Bank beginning mortgage balance: \$525,893

New Goal: Paid in Full

→ 20-year mortgage (240 months) @ 6.25% - monthly payment \$3,896

→ *Years/months remaining – 2 yrs. 9 mos. / Balloon repayment plan: 6/26/28*

→ *Interest paid to Traditions Bank since 6/2023: \$57,222*

→ *Total Interest paid since 2012 (several institutions inc. Traditions): \$647,998*

Community Book Sale April 17 and 18: with the dismantled church library books and ones saved from the car show book sale, we are planning a bigger and longer book sale and giving you another opportunity to donate books, CD’s, DVD’s and puzzles. **New Addition:** card and board games. Place on the shelves inside the Education Wing doorway. **Need:** a kitchen champion . . . if you would like to do a simple menu kitchen and/or bake sale, we would love to hear from you.

Chapel ABC Event coming May 16, 2026 to benefit debt reduction!!!!



A = Auction, B = Buffet, C = Concert

We all like to eat.

We all like music.

We all like to fellowship and have fun.

Then mark your calendars for Saturday evening, May 16th, 2026 where you'll have a chance to enjoy all this plus you'll help raise money for the mortgage.

The evening will begin with a **POT LUCK** dinner, followed by a concert from Chapel's own performers. Rounding out our fun-filled evening will be an auction where you can bid on items and services donated by members of the congregation. You won't want to miss this extraordinary evening!

To make it a complete success, we need your help and active participation in the event. Please consider donating your items/talents to be auctioned. Perhaps you'd be willing to donate time to perform yard work or paint a room for someone. Perhaps you're a woodworker and would like to make a piece of furniture. Maybe you could offer a couple music lessons, handyman or plumbing services.....anything that could help or benefit someone else. Put on your thinking caps and get those creative juices flowing. Sign-up sheets for donations coming soon!!!

For any questions, please contact Deb Fickes.



Welcome to Missions! Have a need that you want to share with Missions, know someone who may need assistance, want to get involved but you're not sure what opportunities are available... email: missions@chapelchurch.org.



There are opportunities to help families here at Chapel. The Schell Family and Elliehausen Family both have individuals recovering from surgery. Please consider providing a meal or helping in another way. The sign-up sheets will be updated as needs change. Please check back to see if you can help. As always, prayers are greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Sign up here: <https://ttsu.me/schell> <https://ttsu.me/elliehausen>

Beginning in 2026, Chapel will start supporting Caribbean Christian Centre for the Deaf. During this year, we will be providing more information about the center, stay tuned. The center exists to reach, teach and nurture the deaf of Jamaica. Their mission is to enable full language access and affirmation in an inclusive community whereby knowledge is empowered to know the Lord, appreciate diversity, and understand the functions of the world. Source: [Home - Caribbean Christian Centre for the Deaf](#)



In His Service,
Susan Workinger
Missions Chair

missions@chapelchurch.org



The year 2025 has ended but God working in people's lives has not. This past year 40 follow-up cards were given out after VBS, 64 notecards were put in 18S's lunch bags this past summer, 9 cards were given to those participating in the Shower Ministry, 138 Thanksgiving cards were handed out at the dinner at church and 300 cards were put in the bags for the Live Nativity.

What makes these cards so special? You do!! You helped make them, wrote the messages inside, and helped spread God's love and encouragement to all who received them. These cards had handwritten prayers written in them. (examples: I pray that you walk in confidence today, knowing you are a beloved child of God, I pray that the Holy Spirit will protect your mind and guide your thoughts today, and May you have a blessed day filled with God's peace and presence etc.) Besides the messages the Thanksgiving and Christmas cards had the plan of salvation on the back of them.

What's new for 2026? Card Racks. They are located at the welcome centers of the Sanctuary, Education Wing, and the Parish Building. These cards are for you. Whether it is a Sunday School Class needing to send a card to one of its members, a congregant wanting to encourage a friend, or a child needing a birthday card, please help yourself. Return to the lost art of sending a card by snail mail and bless someone today.

You can be a vital part of this ministry in 2026 by sending out cards and /or by participating in card making workshops. If crafting isn't your thing, we can use donations of these high use materials:

- Fall & Christmas cardstock (no Santa)
- White cardstock
- A2 Envelopes (5 3/4" x 4 3/8")
- Avery Return Address labels #5195

We will be having **workshops** once a month from February through October. The first one is **Thursday, February 26 at 1:00 PM**. We will be making Thanksgiving cards.

March's workshop is Saturday the 21st at 9AM. We will be trying something new at this workshop - creative play. This will be a time for you to help us make cards for the racks and future projects. We will bring the supplies, you bring your creativity and we will have fun together. Sketches will be provided for assembly ideas, along with other helps.

We covet your prayers. Psalm 37:23 the steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in his way. We need guidance on how to grow the ministry, unity in decision making, humbleness, and leaning into the Holy Spirit and listening to him. We want this to be God's ministry and not our own.

Sending love and encouragement one card at a time--Chapel Church Card Ministry
(Barbara Toomey, Wendy Tobias, Marilyn Kotcher)

Women's Together Class – New Study

The Power of Jesus' Names

Tony Evans, Right Now Media

Come join us to enter into a deeper understanding of who Jesus is and what He came to do for – and in – your life today. We will be meeting in the Women Together Classroom in the Education wing.

Jesus is anticipated from the very beginning of the Bible until He finally arrives in Bethlehem. We will be looking deeper into Jesus' many names that reflect all the different aspects of His character.

This study will start on **February 1st**. Cost for both study guide and book will be \$12.46 for as long as they are still on sale. To order books, you may contact Marilyn Kotcher at 717-757-2931 or email me at emkorost@comcast.net. Dorain will be our facilitator for this study.

Chapel Church Council Meeting Minutes - January 19, 2026, 6:30PM until after 9:00pm.

Attendees Council: Bruce Bailey, Debi Deller, Arnie Fritzius, Chloe Getz, Ryan Ogurcak, Larry Orwig, Dawn Oswald, Barry Tobias, and Josh Wargo.

Other Attendees: Heather Dunn, Jim Fry, Wayne Getz, Muriel Slenker, Mary Ann Tierney, and Steve Wilt.

1. Introductory Prayer (Josh)

2. Devotion (Ryan)

3. Streaming Options for Services (Steve Wilt)

a. Resi – Equipment and service to consolidate streaming of multiple sources at the same time. A versatile addition compatible with the current Pro Presenter 7 platform that is already owned by Chapel. Proposal includes two encoders and one year of streaming service. Will also store files on Chapel’s website past the date of the live stream. Currently, Pro Presenter 6 is used by Chapel media team, but this platform is no longer supported/outdated. Cost for Resi is a total of \$2,836 for the first year with initial costs and two encoders. Current estimate of second year’s cost is \$2,136 if paying for entire year. Breakdown is approximately \$179 per month. It is less expensive to pay for full year. May have options for other two- and three-year contracts as well. Will give us the ability to livestream from anywhere. For example, can take to the river for baptism, meeting outside of Chapel, Easter streaming from outside church buildings, etc. Initial cost includes training. Other examples are a weekly pastor moment to send to nursing homes and assisted living facilities in the area to reach shut ins. The plan, if approved, is to have up and running by Easter of 2026. Steve has meeting scheduled for Thursday 1/22/26 with Resi team if approved by council. The initial goal is to have live streaming on Facebook and Chapel’s website. Will have statistical back-end reporting data as well. Council members present at meeting agreed to let Ryan know by Wednesday of this week as to vote for or against moving forward with Resi.

b. Facebook – Reaches approximately 700-1,000 views per week from all over the world.

c. YouTube – Can use as streaming and Chapel has an account, but we cannot limit the pop-up ads unless we pay additional fees to be able to do so. Ads with current subscription are random, not limited, and possibly not what we would want to be popping up as a religious, Christian-based organization.

d. Link on Chapel’s website/QR code is no longer working and will be pulled from the site.

e. Arnie is to send information to council members about Resi from online forum.

4. SPRC

5. Minutes/Approval – Previous meeting minutes approval motioned by Barry and seconded by Arnie. Council approved unanimously.

6. Finance Update (Debi)

a. Financial Updates – Bulletin & Newsletter - Council also approved of new visual bar graph information for budget to be added to weekly bulletin.

b. Passing of Offering Plate (Barry) – Tabled until next meeting.

c. Mortgage Budget/Path to Paying-off Mortgage - Tabled until next meeting.

7. Facilities Update (Larry)

- a. Feedback from Spry Church – Tabled until next meeting.
- b. Observe church in Dover option.
- c. Parish Building Rental Rates – Rental rates need to be as per rental agreement. No discounted rates.
- d. Cleaning Floor of Fellowship Hall – Tabled until next meeting.

8. Staff

a. Jim concerns

i. Checking church most evenings for lights left on and doors unlocked. Council discussed talking with Steve as to whether doors can be locked automatically midway through an event so this does not occur if an event does not last as long as originally scheduled. Ryan plans to contact Steve about automatically locking doors prior to the end of an event/rental.

Old Business

9. Signage Update (Heather) – Handouts given to each council member with estimates to review. Four outside signs would be reflective not lighted. Heather recommended that of four businesses who submitted quotes, Signorama covered all areas and specifics with the most reasonable cost. Other quotes from Continental, Imagineered and YGS/Caskey did not give full pricing information for signage as requested.

a. Day care signage approved with motion from Arnie and second from Chloe. Passed with unanimous vote. Day care will pay for own signage with their grant money.

b. Interior signage approved with motion from Larry and second from Bruce. Passed with unanimous vote. Chapel women's group will pay for interior signage.

c. Outside signage includes a request from council members for Heather to get updated information and separate pricing for exhibits marked as C6 and C7 on the parish building. Council requested updated information and questioned if quote is still valid as it was obtained several months ago in 2025. Heather will obtain new quotes from Signorama for outside signage.

10. Text Policy (Mary Ann) – Will be used for weather and churchwide emergency communications. All listed cell phone numbers in the directory will be contacted and will have the opportunity to opt out with initial text. Currently, a written exemption policy is needed prior to starting this communication option. Chapel already owns this texting ability and if there are no more than 1,000 texts per month, there will be no additional cost. Council members agreed that Josh, Mary Ann, Ryan, and Steve will have access to the text notification option for sending messages. Notifications are also posted on Chapel's website in an orange banner and will still be sent by email to those who like to receive updates in this manner.

11. Carpet Pricing / Options – Tabled until next meeting.

New Business

12. Sharing of Meeting Minutes – Newsletter – Council agreed to send meeting minutes to Mary Ann for monthly newsletter.

13. Leadership Council - Staff Quarterly Meetings – Discussion as to whether to invite staff to come to council meetings with the goal of bridging gaps between council and staff members. If staff attend council meeting, this will replace the other required staff meeting. Council members are to pray about this idea.

14. Prayer Team – Tabled until next meeting.

15. Leadership Council Opening – Cassie Durham resigned from council. Names to be given to Ryan and Josh for consideration to fill open position.

The next scheduled council meeting is February 9, 2026, beginning with time change at 6:00 PM.

Adult Small Group Study Classes

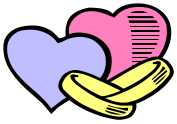
CLASS	CURRENT STUDY	WHEN	WHERE	INSTRUCTOR
God & Bible	Hebrews	Sunday 9:15 AM	Lounge	Muriel Slenker
Crusaders for Christ	The Promise of Heaven	Sunday 9:15 AM	Ed Wing – A4	Various
Families for Christ	Titus	Sunday 9:15 AM	Fellowship Hall	
Women Together	The Power of Jesus' Name	Sunday 9:15 AM	Ed Wing – A6	Marilyn Kotcher
Couples for Christ	The Book of Jonah	Sunday 9:15 AM	Basement- Choir Room	Ogurcak \ McCleary
Men's Class	The Narrow Path	Tuesdays from 1/ 6-2/3 6:30pm	A4	Ryan Ogurcak, Pastor Josh, Chuck Vucetich
Women's Class	New Testament	1 st & 3 rd Thursday 6:30 PM	Lounge	Hope McKinnell
ROMEO	Men's Breakfast	Monday Morning 9:00 AM	Two Brothers Café	Bill Leight
GEMS	Women's Breakfast	Friday Morning 8:15 AM	Red Lion Corner Café	Regena Reinhoel & Mary Ann Tierney
Women's Prayer Group Initiative		2nd & 4th Monday 8:15 AM	Lounge	Gaye Ludwig \ Wendy Tobias
Men's Prayer Group		Monday 6:30 PM	Lounge	
Young Adults	"Gospel of Mark"	Sat 6:00 PM & Sunday 9:15 AM	Basement – B5	Ben Wise and Molly Conrad
Movie Study	House of David	Mondays 1/19-3/16 (skip 1-26) 6:30-8	Youth Room	Ian McKinnell

2026 LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

NAME	TITLE	EMAIL	PHONE
Arnie Fritzius		afritzius@comcast.net	(717) 578-9664
Larry Orwig		LO61250@comcast.net	(717) 847-8967
Chloe Getz		csmith730003@gmail.com	
Bruce Bailey		bebbailey@comcast.net	717-244-1987
Dawn Oswald		Dawnoswald43@gmail.com	717-714-8425
Pam Vucetich		chuckandpamv@aol.com	(717) 515-0078
Barry Tobias		bwtobias4@gmail.com	(717) 342-1562
Ryan Ogurcak	Chair	ryan.ogurcak@listrak.com	(717) 449-1971
Debi Deller	Treasurer	debideller@comcast.net	
Josh Wargo	Pastor	josh@chapelchurch.org	(570) 606-5989

STAFF

NAME	TITLE	EMAIL	PHONE
Josh Wargo	Pastor	josh@chapelchurch.org	(570) 606-5989
George Bradshaw	Worship Leader-10:30	george@chapelchurch.org	
Maria Gagliardi	Children's Dr	maria@chapelchurch.org	
Ian McKinnell	Dr of Youth & Discipleship	ian@chapelchurch.org	
George Bradshaw	Campus Coordinator	george@chapelchurch.org	
Deb Fickes	Worship Leader-8:00	deb@chapelchurch.org	
Steve Wilt	Media Arts	steve@chapelchurch.org	
Mary Ann Tierney	Admin Asst	maryann@chapelchurch.org	717-244-6375 – ofc
Linda Conner	Nursery Dr	Lindac4@comcast.net	
Cheyenne Fix	Custodian	cheypunmj@hotmail.com	
Dave Keller	Organist		
Jim Fry	Maintenance	Frydaddy36@yahoo.com	
Debi Deller	Treasurer	debideller@comcast.net	



Happy Birthday & Anniversary:

Bradd & Christine Sprenkel	Feb 5		
Jeff & Chris Schaeberle	Feb 22		
John & Brenda Wagner	Feb 26		



Jacob Lauer	Feb 3	David Schott	Feb 17
Missy Eberly	Feb 4	Sam Koons	Feb 18
Perry Bailey	Feb 6	Jason LeGore	Feb 18
Sabrina Schell	Feb 6	Barbara Toomey	Feb 18
Clara Bradshaw	Feb 8	Tyler Witmer	Feb 18
Brian Conner	Feb 8	Holden Smith	Feb 19
Faith Brewton	Feb 11	Taryn Stem	Feb 19
Madison Uffelman	Feb 11	Penny McClane	Feb 21
Flynn McKinnell	Feb 14	Ben Wise	Feb 23
Heather Dunn	Feb 15	Bill Leight	Feb 25
Pam Vucetich	Feb 16	Teresa Rentzel	Feb 25
Tom Gardner	Feb 17	Anne LeGore	Feb 26
Gloria Irving	Feb 17	Doretta Matson	Feb 28

Chapel Church
3050 Cape Horn Rd
Red Lion, PA 17356

Return Service Requested



“ worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly..”

Go to our website

And catch up with what’s happening at Chapel!

Chapelchurch.org