

## New Basel Church 1075 1100 Ave Abilene, KS 67410 785-479-5501



www.newbaselchurch.org

#### OCTOBER 2023

Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

Is there a holiday more complicated for Christians than Halloween? Each year, people of faith all across America wrestle with the question of whether or not they should participate: Is it demonic? Is it harmless? Is it somewhere in between? If we hand out candy or dress our kids up, does that mean we endorse all the lunacy and depravity?

So, what should the Christian response be? Do we reject the holiday as Satanic, dive into it with enthusiasm and without question, or something in between?

People generally accept that Halloween came to us from the Celts, whose celebration centered around Samhain (pronounced Sawwin) and an end of summer festival.

However, most people don't realize that the current theme of souls and spirits involved in Halloween has as much to do with its association with the Church and All Saints Day as it has to do with any pagan holiday. The Church actually bears some of the blame, if there is any, for the holiday as we know it!

Over the years, the Church's relationship with Halloween has been very complicated; simultaneously complimentary and antagonistic. The fact that All Saints Day, which originally was a time when the Church celebrated the witness of the early Christian Martyrs, is now the day after Halloween is no coincidence. Further, there is no doubt that All Saints Day was moved to coincide with Samhain, a time in which the souls of ancestors were beckoned and invited to join the family for dinner. It

seems that Christian faith was mixed with basic Medieval superstition in an attempt to ward off evil spirits through bonfires, disguises, and scary carved pumpkins. Presto. Halloween!

In weighing the Christian response, we should acknowledge that witches, vampires, and all the various evil are problematic, not to mention the skimpy and oversexualized mardi-gras costumes. But Halloween is first and foremost about CANDY, and lots of it. It seems that it should be possible to celebrate Halloween in a way that kids can enjoy cute costumes and sweets, all the while glorifying God in a world that does not know God.

This being said, Christians that are not comfortable trick-or-treating should not do so. The Bible is pretty clear that we shouldn't do anything that goes against our conscience. Even so, we can all remember that Jesus conquered death and hell and all the servants of Satan when he rose in victory! And that is cause for celebration!

Grace and Peace, Pastor Jamie

#### **New Basel Church Council**

Monday September 11, 2023

Called to order at 7:08 p.m. by President Kenny Chamberlin

**Present:** 

Elders: Kenny Chamberlin, Jen Reiff, Pam O'Neal

Deacons: Judy Barten, Mitch Cromwell, Francis Anderson

**Trustees:** Gary Foltz

Pastor Jamie opened with a Devotion.

Mitch Cromwell made a motion to approve the minutes. Jen Reiff second. Minutes were approved.

#### **Communications:**

None

#### **Reports:**

#### **Financial Secretary and Treasurer:**

Mitch Cromwell gave the Financial Secretary's report for August.

Judy Barten gave the Treasurer's report for August.

## **Pastor's Reports:**

Work Summary for 8/7/23 - 9/3/23

Worship: Preached &/or led 4 Sunday worships and at Abilene Place.

Administration Meetings: 1 Church Council meeting, 1 Christian Education, 1 Ministerial Alliance.

Pastoral Care: 5 Phone Visits, 7 Home Visits

Other: 1 CrossTalk Class Session, 4 CrossTalk Local meetings, Sunday School Kickoff, Church Movie Night, 1

Volunteer Reading Session at RCGS, transported and delivered piano to Abilene Place.

Vacation Days: 0 This month, 8 Year to date

Professional Development Days: 0 this month, 10 Year to date

Mileage: 173

#### **Memorial Committee:**

Chris Bethe was in attendance to give an update on the memorial committee.

#### **Elders:**

Jen Reiff reported 42 took Communion on September 3rd.

#### **Deacons:**

Judy reported that the funds for the UCF Endowment & UCC Scholarship have all been moved into Edward Jones accounts.

#### Trustee:

It was discussed that there are some trim boards missing in the hall, kitchen sink is not draining, and the barn roof still needs to have the tin put on it.

#### **Old Business:**

- \*Harvest Home October 1st. Potluck meal downstairs after the service, Pam and Jen will decorate.
- \*Food Pantry- September is our month to donate items to the Abilene Food Pantry
- \*Sunday School kick off served 35 people. There will be no confirmation class this year.
- \*Kenny has been in contact with someone coming into work on the ceilings.

#### **New Business:**

- \*M/S/C to pay bills that were presented. Mitch Cromwell moved we pay the bills; Francis Anderson seconded the motion.
- \*Fall Work Date: we will discuss a date at the October council Meeting.
- \*Navarre Booster 4H club will hold their 4H Sunday at New Basel on the 4th Sunday of this month.

Jen Reiff moved we adjourn. Gary Foltz seconded.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

September 22<sup>nd</sup> ECHO Articles Due

October 1st Communion

October 1st Harvest Home-Potluck Dinner

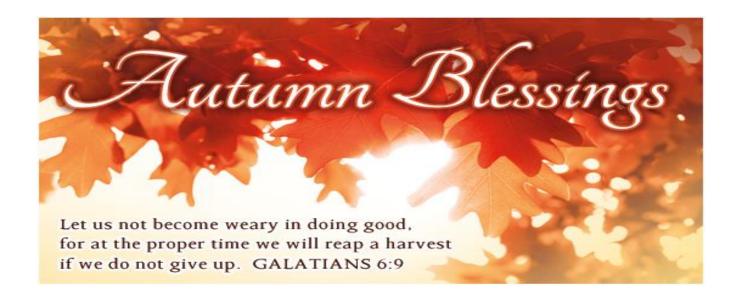
October 2<sup>nd</sup> Council Meeting 7pm

October 8th Movie Night

#### No Other Announcements:

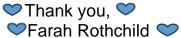
Meeting adjourned at 8:01p.m. by praying the Lord's Prayer in unison.

Pam O'Neal, Secretary



We would like to thank all of you for your thoughts, prayers, cards and well wishes over the past few months. It's been a long road but we are doing good and on the path to better health. Our church family means the world to us. Thank you, Bob and Pam O'Neal

Dear New Basel Church, Thank you for helping me go to camp! I had so much fun meeting new friends and learning about Christ! I would definitely go again!







Prayer Requests

Elaine Bethe Naoma Foltz **Dwight Meuli** Cecil Schrader

Judy Lauer Kelly Schrader Bob O'Neal Tony Herman

## **OCTOBER INFORMATION**

## **Birthdays**

2<sup>nd</sup> Jessica Murphy 8<sup>th</sup> Farah Rothchild 10<sup>th</sup> Sterling Bonnema 13<sup>th</sup> Ed McAdams 15<sup>th</sup> Rita Gantenbein 18<sup>th</sup> Blake Murphy 21<sup>st</sup> Deb Foltz

21<sup>st</sup> Deb Foltz Ryan Foltz 26<sup>th</sup> Jane Haney 27<sup>th</sup> Sydney Taylor 30<sup>th</sup> Scarlett Murphy



## **Anniverseries**

6<sup>th</sup> Francis & Clema Anderson 7<sup>th</sup> Kenny & Janet Chamberlin 14<sup>th</sup> Gary & Deb Foltz 18<sup>th</sup> Gordon & Sara Hunnicutt

#### **Upcoming November birthday**

4<sup>th</sup> Kenny Chamberlin 9<sup>th</sup> Kari Beetch 10<sup>th</sup> Greg Beetch Sunday October 29<sup>th</sup> will be Church Brunch. There will be no Youth /Young Adult Sunday School.



## Greeters, Acolytes, & Usher for October

<u>Greeters:</u> <u>Acolytes:</u>

1 <sup>st</sup>	Drew & Lindsey Snitker	Austin Smiley
8 <sup>th</sup>	Larry & Janis Haugh	Farrah Rothchild
15 <sup>th</sup>	Rita Gantenbein & Marcile Park	Sterling Bonnema
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Clarine Robson & Naoma Foltz	Scarlett Murphy
29 <sup>th</sup>	Church Brunch	
Usher: Bob O'Neal		

Thank you to Dwight Kamm for being the September Usher!



# **MOVIE NIGHT**

## Sunday, October 8th at 5pm



Popcorn and drinks are furnished; bring a snack to share if you wish.

The movie will be: APPLE DUMPLING GANG staring Don Knotts.

After three poor orphans are sent to live with gambler Russell Donovan (Bill Bixby), they discover they have actually inherited a large fortune from their dead father. Soon a series of greedy undesirables shows up. They try to get their hands on the money, so, in order to keep things uncomplicated, the kids decide to give their inheritance to a loveable outlaw duo, Theodore (Don Knotts) and Amos (Tim Conway). But there is only one problem - the gold is locked away in a bank vault.