

New Basel Church  
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**echo**  
New Basel Newsletter

September 2025

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” (Ephesians 6:12)

Once again, our country has been stung by the venom of hatred. On August 27, a young man entered the Annunciation Catholic School in Minneapolis, Minnesota, intent on killing innocent children there. And when he did, he released his venomous hatred into a culture already familiar with its effects. Predictably, just as when venom is injected into a body, the governing and controlling structures of our country went haywire. Democrats and Republicans wasted little time as they decried various social deficiencies. Democrats cried that more gun laws were needed, even as Republicans cried the answer was less. Republicans denounced Democrats for politicizing a tragedy, even as Democrats did the same. Religious leaders, not to be outdone, chimed in, saying that the country needs more Christian morality. At the same time, agnostics and atheists pointed their fingers straight at Christianity, even targeting prayer.

And the whole time, while all these contingents battled it out in the news media, over social media, and in person, people on every side tried to marginalize their perceived opponents. People tried to shout louder than

their foes. People tried to silence dissenting voices. People tried to mischaracterize their adversaries. And in so doing, people propagated and disseminated hatred and intolerance for their fellow Americans and fellow human beings. *And hatred did not die.*

But Paul, in the book of Ephesians, defined our enemy differently. Our true adversaries are not people, no matter where they stand on a particular issue. Our true adversaries are not Republican, Democrat, religious or not. Our true enemies are the powers and spiritual forces that drive the tensions we experience. **Our struggle is against hatred itself.** Our fight is against the hateful attitudes that left 2 people dead that day, yes. But it is also against the persistent animosity left in its wake. Our battle is with the spiritual forces that create and sustain the bitterness and enmity we experience, as well as with the bitterness and enmity itself.

And how do we fight hatred without creating more? With love. Patient, kind, generous, modest, humble, honoring, serving longsuffering, and forgiving love. (1 Cor 13:4-5)

We need less hate. Racial, political, theological. We need more love. Even when we don't want to, we must love one another. For Christ's sake. For our sake.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Jamie

**New Basel Church Council**  
**Monday August 4, 2025**

Called to order at 7:05pm by President Pam O'Neal

**Present**

**Elders:** Pam O'Neal , Chris Bethe and Jen Reiff

**Deacons:** Jennifer Latzke and Francis Anderson

**Trustees:** Gary Foltz

Pastor Jamie opened with a devotion

**Approval of Minutes:**

M/S/C to approve the July minutes

**Communications:**

We received a letter from the Food Bank reminding us that September is our month to collect donations

We received a newsletter from Irish Den

**Reports**

**Financial Secretary:** Jennifer Latzke gave report

**Treasurer's Report:** Pam O'Neal passed out Judy Barten's report

**Pastor's Report:** Work summary for 7/7/25- 8/3/25

**Worship-**Preached and/or led Sunday Worship 3 times, and at Homestead Memory Care, 1 Funeral

**Administration Meetings:** 1 Church Council, Funeral Planning

**Pastoral Care-** 5 Phone visits, 3 Home Visits, 1 Office visit

**Other-** 1 Movie Night, 2 CrossTalk Local meetings, 10-33 Debrief (Solomon Fire)

Vacation Days This Month: 5, YTD:10 Professional Development Days: This month 0, YTD:5 Mileage: 30

**Elders:** Chris Bethe reported 37 took communion 08/03/2025

**Deacons:** Pam O'Neal reported for Judy Barten. Received Propane contract from K&R, new contract is due 9/14/25. We contracted 4,500 gallons. A check was written to Riley Hunnicutt in the amount \$1,000.00 for her scholarship. Received notice of 2024 capital credit allocation from DS&O in the amount of \$277.19. Reported Doda's are planning on being in Kansas in October. Discussed having the Mission Moment be about Irish Den.

**Trustees:** Gary Foltz reported that there is not enough cold air return with the A/C unit. Stated Drew will let Wuthnow's know to check during their fall inspection. Discussed insulating both sides of the balcony. Will try to get spray foam guys out to insulate it. Discussed the need to get on the schedule for dry wall. We plan on holding a special meeting on 9/7 to seek approval of expenditures for popcorn ceiling downstairs.

**Old Business:**

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Brunch will be 8/31 at 9:30. Will ask everyone to bring a dish to share.

September is our month to collect donations for the food pantry

Harvest Home date is still undecided at this time. Will plan on finding out when Doda's will be back and set a date for when they can possibly speak.

Gary reported Church sign is getting close to being completed

**New Business:**

It was M/S/C to approve bills

Sunday school classes will be starting soon

Discussed propane contract

**Announcements**

Upcoming Events

August 10<sup>th</sup>- Movie Night 5pm

August 25<sup>th</sup>- Echo articles due

September 7<sup>th</sup>- Communion & Business Meeting to discuss expenditures for downstairs popcorn ceiling

September 8<sup>th</sup>- Church Council

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm

The Lord's Prayer was said in Unison

Jen Reiff, secretary



Prayer Requests

Naoma Foltz  
Jane Haney  
Clema Anderson  
Judy Lauer

Bobby Greenwood & Judith Stevens  
Kelly Schrader  
Tony Herman  
Family of Maxine Kauffman



September is New Basel Church's traditional month to gather donations and funds for the Abilene Area Food Pantry.

Here's a list of current needs:

**Baking Supplies** (cake and muffin mix, frosting, oil, flour, sugar)

**Canned Food** (fruit, vegetables, soup, condiments, meat substitutes)

**Cereal** (hot, cold, cereal and breakfast bars)

**Cleaning Supplies** (laundry soap, dish soap, hand soap)

**Paper Goods** (toilet tissue, paper towels, napkins, facial tissue)

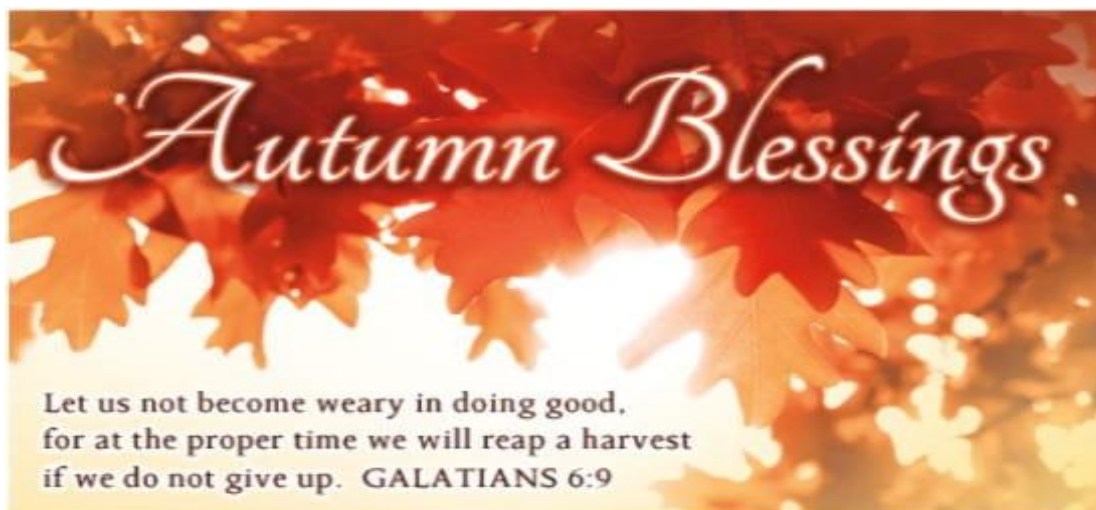
**Pastas** (macaroni, noodles, spaghetti)

**Personal Hygiene** (shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine products, disposable diapers, shaving supplies, lotion, skin cream)

**Meat** (canned meat and fish, especially tuna)

**Misc.** (peanut butter, jelly, coffee, tea, ramen noodles, rice, beans, crackers, juice, syrup, instant potatoes, hamburger helpers, spices, jello mix, pudding mix)

Thanks for all you do!



# September



## Birthdays

1<sup>st</sup> Holly Bethe  
Margaret Shouse  
7<sup>th</sup> James Latzke  
8<sup>th</sup> Jim Stalder  
9<sup>th</sup> Dwight Kamm  
16<sup>th</sup> Lisa Berggren  
19<sup>th</sup> Chad Beetch  
25<sup>th</sup> Axie Shrack  
28<sup>th</sup> Marcile Parks  
30<sup>th</sup> Francis Anderson



## Anniversaries

10<sup>th</sup> Ron & Margaret Shouse  
18<sup>th</sup> Jim & Deanna Stalder  
24<sup>th</sup> Scott & Amber Reiff

## Upcoming October Birthdays & Anniversaries

2<sup>nd</sup> Jessica Murphy  
8<sup>th</sup> Farah Rothchild  
10<sup>th</sup> Sterling Bonnema  
6<sup>th</sup> Francis & Clema Anderson  
7<sup>th</sup> Kenny & Janet Chamberlin  
10<sup>th</sup> Bobby Greenwood & Judith Stevens



There will be a special business meeting  
September 7<sup>th</sup> following service to  
discuss the ceilings downstairs.

## Greeters, Acolytes and Ushers for May

### Greeters

### Acolytes

7 <sup>th</sup>	Holly and Chris Bethe	Janessa Latzke
14 <sup>th</sup>	Loren and Linda Barten	Jace Latzke
21 <sup>st</sup>	Bob and Pam O'Neal	Axie and Stetson Shrack
28 <sup>th</sup>	Greg and Jolene Beemer	Sterling Bonnema

September Usher: Randy Barten

Thank you to Gregg Beemer for being the August Usher

## Sunday School

Fall semester for our Sunday School classes will start with **Sunday School Kickoff** on **Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM** in the Parish Hall. Light brunch will be served. All Sunday School classes are invited to attend.

This semester, we are offering a total of 3 classes which will start at 9:30 AM each Sunday morning.

- **Kids-** taught by Stacy and Sara
- **Teens-** taught by Jessica and **\*volunteers needed\***
- **Adults-** in upstairs adult classroom: taught by Chris, Judy, and Angela

All Sunday school classes will be **every Sunday morning**, unless special events are planned including 5th Sunday brunches. There are no age or grade requirements with classes so participants may move to whichever class is most fitting for them.