



# The HARVESTER Newsletter

A Publication of Southwest Church of Christ

September 2023

Dear Southwest Family,

A few Sundays ago, after church, someone had mentioned something about a game that was on their phone. It got me thinking about my favorite video game of all time, *Tetris*. I know for some of the younger folks I'm showing my age. And I suppose for some of the folks older than me, I'm showing my age as well. It's hard for me to believe that the game Tetris was released 38 years ago – talk about age!

I know not everyone is familiar with Tetris, so let me explain. In the game Tetris, various shapes or *tetrominos* (*tetrominos* are shapes composed of four-square blocks each) fall from the top of the screen. The object of the game is to rotate and move these shapes as they fall, so that you complete a row at the bottom of the screen. Once you have completed a row, the row disappears, and you can begin piecing together the next row or several sets of rows. As you advance, the shapes begin to drop faster and as you can imagine piecing together the rows becomes increasingly harder [*Thank you Google for explaining that in a way that I couldn't*].

Ultimately, what makes the game challenging is that the player does not know the entire order or sequence in which the shapes will fall. As the various shapes descend, it is up to the player to decide, quickly, how to piece it all together.

Life is like that sometimes, isn't it? It seems that as events transpire in our lives, we do our best to try and piece things together as they should be in order for us to build up our lives and the lives around us. And at times, we've all thought it would be much easier to see the order and sequence of what is to come, so that we can be prepared, allowing us to plan and to continue growing.

*“O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it” (Psalm 139:1-5).*

I find the words of David so comforting when I try to piece things together. I know I can't figure things out alone, and God's Word reminds me that I don't have to! God knows me better than I know myself! Who better to turn to than the author of my life, the author of *all* life.

God has a plan for each and every one of us, and His plan is ultimately better than anything we could try to piece together. I encourage each of us to remember this month all that we have to be thankful for. It is my hope and prayer that we would begin each day praising the Lord in prayer, thanking Him for the plans He has for us. And I hope that we would remember to ask Him to help us put the pieces where He wants them to be.

Keep up the good work, Southwest!  
Mike Hawkins

## Events & Information

### Monthly Figures

#### In- Service Attendance:

7/30	8/6	8/13	8/20
85	105	100	105

*“And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers”* (Acts 2:42). Thank you for your faithfulness, church! We continue to have several folks watching online each week. Please continue to pray for our church family – both those in corporate worship and those being reached by our online ministry.

We are continually blessed by the generosity of God’s people. Thank you for your continued financial support so that we may meet the needs of our ministry staff, missionaries, benevolence ministry, and the general ministry of the church. For your convenience, we would like to remind you that online giving is available through our secure internet portal at <https://swccbarberton.com/giving>.

Thank you, church family, for your ongoing support of Southwest Church of Christ!

**Weekly Need:**            **Weekly Need:**  
General: \$3,600        Missions: \$442

**Singspiration!:** Sunday, 9/10 beginning at 6 pm. Come join the fun and listen to a night of “Praising Our Lord” through songs and music.

**Paving Project:** There was a congregational meeting held on Sunday, August 6th following the morning worship service. The meeting discussed a paving project to increase the size of our parking lot. After the discussion, there was a call to vote, and the paving project was approved. Start date to be announced at a later time.

**Soup Kitchen:** Southwest members will be serving on 9/12. Please see Terry Trump for details. Thank you for your continued willingness to serve for Christ’s kingdom!

**Youth Group Sunday Night Kick-Off:** At 6 pm on Sunday, 9/10 bring your friends to our youth event!

**B.A.C.M. Food Pantry item:** Canned vegetables. Place items in the BACM box in the kitchen.

**Scrapbooking & Crafters:** Saturday, 9/9 from 9 am - 10 pm in the fellowship hall. Open to anyone who likes to scrapbook, craft and fellowship with others. Bring a snack and beverage to share. Questions? Call 330-825-7263.

**“Senior Moment” Group Outing:** Tuesday, 9/19 at noon, lunch at FaRay’s. All those 55 or over are invited! RSVP to Karen R by Sunday, 9/17.

**Wednesday Evening Bible Groups- Summer:** Refreshments start at 6pm. Followed by men's and women's classes at 6:30pm. The women's group is doing a study on “The Chosen” television series. The men's group is doing a study titled, "Fighting to be a Man of God".

**Men’s Bible Study:** Monday evenings at 6:30pm. Discussions focus on different books of the bible, by chapter, until completed. All men are welcome to join.

**Tuesday Morning Ladies Study at 10 am:** We WILL meet on 9/5 for devotion and prayer time. Then starting 9/12, we will begin a study of Philippians 4:4-8 using Max Lucado’s book, *Anxious for Nothing- Finding Calm in a Chaotic World*. Let Karen R. know if you would like a book for \$15.

**Rahab Ministries:** They are a faith-based ministry devoted to rescuing and restoring victims of human trafficking. Please consider supporting this ministry financially. Checks may be sent to their **NEW** address: Rahab Ministries, 3480 W. Market Street, Suite 303, Fairlawn, OH 44333.

#### **Deacon’s List:**

Chair: Open

Audio/Visual: Jared Friedrichsen

Secretary: Mike Bunn

Parsonage: Open

Maintenance: Lynn Hounshel

Special Projects: TBD, Lynn, and  
Phil Friedrichsen

Benevolence: Tony Storad

Church (Building): Lynn Hounshel

**Connect with your church leaders:** Mike Hawkins [seniorministerswcc@gmail.com](mailto:seniorministerswcc@gmail.com);  
Eli Blackford [youthministerswcc@gmail.com](mailto:youthministerswcc@gmail.com); and the Church Office [swccbarberton@gmail.com](mailto:swccbarberton@gmail.com)

# September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. <sup>34</sup> Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."</i> Matthew 6:33-34</p>					1	2
3	4 <b>Labor Day</b>	5 Women's Bible Study	6 Bible Study Groups	7	8	9 Scrapbooking
10 Deacons 12pm Elders 3pm Youth Group Fall Kickoff Singspiration	11 Men's Study	12 Women's Bible Study  Soup Kitchen	13 Bible Study Groups	14	15	16
17 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group	18 Men's Study	19 Women's Bible Study  "Senior Moment"	20 Bible Study Groups	21	22	23
24 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group	25 Men's Study	26 Women's Bible Study	27 Bible Study Groups	28	29	30

BIRTHDAYS:	
9/2	Lynda Hoover
9/5	Kristy Berube
9/6	Sharon Berube
9/6	Erica Brink
9/6	Sherry Carr
9/6	Shanon Webb
9/7	Jeannie Cool
9/7	Grace Kirkhart
9/7	Karen Rummer
9/14	Josey Shobe
9/15	Eric Geimer
9/20	James Friedrichsen
9/22	Chris Hounshel
9/22	Cherie Mitchell
9/22	Angie Sapper
9/27	Kathy Rummer

ANNIVERSARIES:	
9/23	Mike & Sarah Hawkins
9/29	Jared & Caroline Friedrichsen

Did you have a birthday or anniversary this month that we missed? Would you like to have your special day added to our calendar? Write your name, the occasion, and the date on the prayer tab in the bulletin. Place the tab in the offering plate on any Sunday. Or you may send an email to: [kdbusch15@gmail.com](mailto:kdbusch15@gmail.com), and I will gladly include your information.

**Do you know someone who would positively benefit from reading The HARVESTER? Our newsletter is available on the Southwest Church of Christ webpage under the Ministries tab.**

## Growing Your Faith

*“Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.  
<sup>13</sup> You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”  
 Jeremiah 29:12-13*

The bible readings for the new year of 2023 are to focus on studying the bible in chronological order. As you read each day, meditate on God’s words and His promises to us.

- SEPT 1: Ezekiel 18-19
- SEPT 2: Ezekiel 20-21
- SEPT 3: Ezekiel 22-23
- SEPT 4: Ezekiel 24-27
- SEPT 5: Ezekiel 28-31
- SEPT 6: Ezekiel 32-34
- SEPT 7: Ezekiel 35-37
- SEPT 8: Ezekiel 38-39
- SEPT 9: Ezekiel 40-41
- SEPT 10: Ezekiel 42-43
  
- SEPT 11: Ezekiel 44-45
- SEPT 12: Ezekiel 46-48
- SEPT 13: Joel 1-3
- SEPT 14: Daniel 1-3
- SEPT 15: Daniel 4-6
- SEPT 16: Daniel 7-9
- SEPT 17: Daniel 10-12
- SEPT 18: Ezra 1-3
- SEPT 19: Ezra 4-6; Psalm 137
- SEPT 20: Haggai 1-2
  
- SEPT 21: Zechariah 1-7
- SEPT 22: Zechariah 8-14
- SEPT 23: Esther 1-5
- SEPT 24: Esther 6-10
- SEPT 25: Ezra 7-10
- SEPT 26: Nehemiah 1-5
- SEPT 27: Nehemiah 6-7
- SEPT 28: Nehemiah 8-10
- SEPT 29: Nehemiah 11-13; Psalm 126
- SEPT 30: Malachi 1-4

Scripture list courtesy of  
[www.biblestudytools.com/  
 bible-reading-plan/chronological.html](http://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-reading-plan/chronological.html)

## Kids Korner

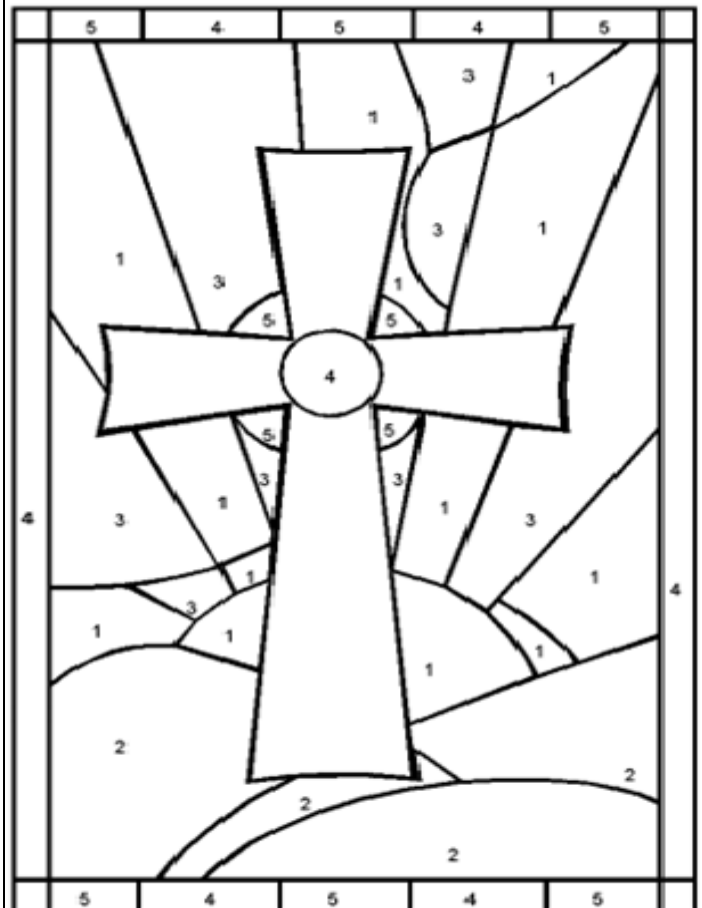


“Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.”  
Proverbs 19:21

Find the underlined words from the verse above in the word-search below.

T	A	C	P	R	O	V	E	R	B	S
H	P	U	R	P	O	S	E	F	H	J
E	L	<u>1</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>O</u>
Q	M	<u>9</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>B</u>
Z	A	<u>2</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>T</u>
L	<u>N</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>R</u>
M	<u>Y</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>J</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>A</u>
K	<u>D</u>	<u>J</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>E</u>
B	<u>M</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>H</u>

For you to color:



1 - yellow 2 - green 3 - blue 4 - purple 5 - red



## Connect with Us



*Love God Love People Lead People to Jesus*

Michael Hawkins, Senior Minister  
Eli Blackford, Youth Minister  
Jared Friedrichsen, Worship Minister  
Cindy Weaver, Secretary  
(330) 825-7263  
[www.swccbarberton.com](http://www.swccbarberton.com)  
[www.facebook.com/swccbarberton](http://www.facebook.com/swccbarberton)

### WEEKLY WORSHIP TIMES:

Sunday Morning:  
Sunday School 9:30am  
Morning Worship 10:30am

## Youth Ministry

Events happening for the Youth Ministry:

# Southwest Teens

2023 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Fall Calendar

### September 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### October 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### November 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

### December 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## UPCOMING 2023 EVENTS

Days in Green - Youth Group 6-8pm

\*There may be other events added to calendar

Sep 3 - No Youth Group  
Sep 10 - Fall Kick Off  
Sep 24 - Bonfire at the Hershberger's  
Oct 7 - Leaf Raking Day 1  
Oct 26-31 - Trunk or Treat (date pending)  
Oct 29 - Bonfire at the Hershberger's  
Nov 4 - Leaf Raking Day 2

Nov 12 - YG time may adjust due to SWCC Mtg  
Nov 19 - Friendsgiving  
Nov 26 - No Youth Group  
Dec 17 - Christmas Party  
Dec 24 - No Youth Group  
Dec 30 - New Year's Bash  
Dec 31 - No Youth Group

Looking forward to seeing you and your friends at these events!

-Eli