



Shaeffer's Chapel



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A Global Methodist Congregation
"Growing in love because we care and you count"
September 2025 · VOLUME 9

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Dear Shaeffer's Chapel Saints,

Although it still feels like summer, Labor Day, the traditional marker for the coming of the fall season is upon us.

We don't talk enough in church about the idea of labor (that's on me), but it's a concept that runs throughout Scripture. In Genesis 1 & 2, it's clear that God intended for us to work as a way of caring for the world and providing for ourselves (1:28–30; 2:15–16). It's only in Genesis 3, after the sin of Adam and Eve, that work becomes hard, or "by the sweat of your face" (3:19).

Many of the early patriarchs of Genesis were herdsmen. The Israelites left Egypt because of the hard labor they were put to in slavery. The prophet Amos is a herdsman and dresser of sycamore trees (7:14). There are so many more to name but suffice it to say not everyone in scripture is a king or a preacher.

On this side of the cross, Paul's life provides a window into how work should look for us. Although we know Paul as the most famous missionary, he supported himself wherever he went with his tentmaking business. (Acts 18:3) In what is probably his earliest letter, 1 Thessalonians, he charges those in Thessalonica to "work with your own hands" (4:11), "respect those who labor among you" (5:12), and "admonish the idlers" (5:14). Apparently, there were some in that church who thought Jesus was coming back soon, so they did not feel they needed to clock in. What was the point? Who can blame them?

But Paul acknowledges that, until Christ returns (when-ever that may be— see 1 Thessalonians 5:2), we must labor for the good of the community, behave properly toward outsiders, and be dependent on no one (1 Thessalonians 4:9–11). Indeed, we bless one another in Shaeffer's Chapel with our labor. I am amazed at how many of you willingly give of your time and energy to things like cooking for fellowship or fixing something on the church building. You also are a blessing to others in your day jobs, sharing the gospel through the ways you act and how you serve others in your work. Finally, your labor means we as a church can be self-sustaining. Our church is not dependent upon grants or government assistance. It is the hands of the saints who glorify God so that we can fulfill God's mission here at Shaeffer's Chapel.

Blessings on you and all that you do to labor, both in your daily work and in the gospel.

Grace and peace,

Drew

Why We Labor Day and Night

It's wise to periodically pause and refresh ourselves on why we do what we do.

Here's a triad of encouragements from the apostle Paul to remind Christians why we labor.

1) We labor not to be a burden to others. (2 Thessalonians 3:8)

One of the Christian motivations for laboring at our jobs is being able to provide for ourselves (and our families, [1 Timothy 5:8](#)), and not be a burden to others.

Paul recounts that while among the Thessalonians, he and his team did not “eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you” ([2 Thessalonians 3:8](#)). Night and day they worked, making tents while preaching Christ crucified, so as not burden others.

It's tragic when Christians take advantage of others. It's a crying shame when the world gets this impression of us because some who claim our Jesus go soft on his teaching. Yes, there are times when sickness or disability or extenuating circumstances keep us from working, but in general, able-bodied followers of the Carpenter put themselves to work to cover their own needs and not become a burden to others.

2) We labor to be able to share with others. (Ephesians 4:28)

This second text now goes beyond the first. Not only do we Christians want not to be a burden to others, but we want to exceed what's expected, by not just supplying for our own needs, but acquiring enough to be able to share with others.

Paul writes in [Ephesians 4:28](#), “Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.” Here is the transforming gospel of grace at work, not just covering the bases of what's just, but going the extra mile to be positioned to show others mercy.

The Christian vision of labor is deeply others-oriented. Not only do we not want to burden others, but we want to lift their burdens. The Christian perspective is not to get mine, but to be able to help with yours — especially when we're able to give freely from our hearts to others, not being constrained by some third party that takes from those who labor and gives to those who do not.

3) In Jesus our labor is not in vain. (1 Corinthians 15:58)

This third and final text applies now in particular to Christian “ministry” — to helping others, in word and deed, explicitly in the name of Jesus. Here is the pressed-down, shaken-together, and running-over encouragement we get in [1 Corinthians 15:58](#): “My beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.”

It is a profound thing in our labors to know that they are not in vain, to be assured that our efforts and energy aren't wasted, to be confident that our work matters. How is it so? “In the Lord” — in Jesus, focused on him, powered by him, intent on giving him the glory.

May God give us the resolve to rest well today, and then the grace to get back at it tomorrow — for our joy, for the good of others, and for the glory of the one who labored for our eternal salvation.

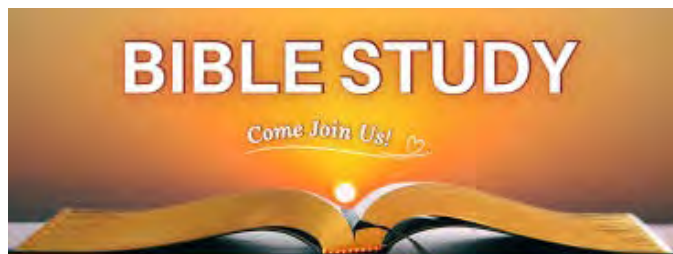


September Birthdays

Kathy McCoy	9/02
Pam Wyckoff	9/05
Jim Craddock	9/06
Milo Gentry	9/7
Brady Kimbrell	9/10
Terry Sharpe	9/13
Casey Freeman	9/16
Darlene McDaniel	8/17
Jim Gray	9/20
Nancy Fruzia	9/21
William Gentry	9/24
Savannah Dinsmore	9/28
Paul Mims	9/28
Jackie Prestridge	9/29
Brody Owens	9/29

September Anniversaries

Robert and Bobbye Hunt	9/04
Jim and Tammy Craddock	9/08
Keith and Meridith Fraser	9/20
Casey and Jamie Freeman	9/21
Jim and Judy Gray	9/23



Leader: Drew Holland

Where: CLC Building

When: Wednesday night 5:30 PM



***Our Greeters for September: Keith Fraser and
grandson Bryson***

Our Call to Worship will be given by the Mims



When: September 3 @ 11 AM
Where: CLC Building



Brickle Bit Cookies

One box Betty Crocker Yellow cake mix One bag of Heath English toffee bits One egg
 2/3 cup vegetable oil
 2 teaspoons vanilla flavoring

Mix all ingredients thoroughly. Roll into walnut size balls. Place on cookie sheet. Bake at 350 for approximately 15 minutes.

Creole Pralines

2 cups granulated sugar 1 cup light brown sugar 1 stick butter-salted
 1 cup Pet evaporated milk
 2 Tbsp Light Karo syrup
 2 ½ cups pecan halves

Put all ingredients, except pecans in a heavy 3 qt. saucepan. Use a good candy thermometer. Start on medium heat Cooking to 240 degrees. Stir continuously after boiling starts until soft ball stage. (Might take a while to get to this point.)

Remove from heat and add pecans, stir mixture (allowing it to cool) until it loses its gloss and begins to thicken. When mixture barely slides off a spoon its ready. Drop by spoonfuls on parchment paper.

Scripture Writing

ByTheWell4God

New Seasons, New Mercies

SEPTEMBER

2025

God is faithful in every season of life. As times change, His mercies remain new each morning. His purposes stand firm, and His promises never fail. Scripture reminds us that the Lord leads His people through seasons of growth, pruning, trial, and renewal. God always works for His people's good and His glory.

GOD'S MERCIES ARE UNFAILING (OUR UNCHANGING ANCHOR)

1. LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23
2. PSALM 103:8-12
3. NUMBERS 23:19
4. MALACHI 3:6
5. HEBREWS 13:8

GOD ORDAINS THE SEASONS OF LIFE

6. ECCLESIASTES 3:1-2
7. GENESIS 8:22
8. DANIEL 2:20-21
9. PSALM 104:19
10. ACTS 1:7

GOD'S PRESENCE IN EVERY SEASON

11. JOSHUA 1:9
12. ISAIAH 43:1-2
13. PSALM 23:1-4
14. DEUTERONOMY 31:8
15. MATTHEW 28:20

NEW SEASONS OF RENEWAL

16. ISAIAH 40:29-31
17. 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17
18. ISAIAH 43:18-19
19. EZEKIEL 36:26
20. PSALM 51:10-12

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS IN THE HARVEST SEASON

21. GALATIANS 6:9
22. JOHN 15:4-5
23. PSALM 1:1-3
24. JAMES 5:7-8
25. HOSEA 10:12

LOOKING AHEAD WITH HOPE

26. PHILIPPIANS 1:6
27. ROMANS 8:28
28. PSALM 90:12
29. 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18
30. REVELATION 21:5

FUN FALL WORD SEARCH

Find each of the fall words hidden below.

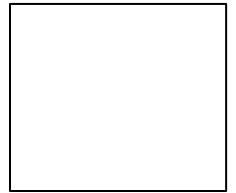
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E	E	P	Y	F	E	A	K	R	E	O	R
O	L	A	P	L	L	S	B	A	C	R	O
R	H	M	E	L	G	O	U	T	R	N	C
A	E	E	D	I	E	T	W	L	O	A	A
N	R	E	V	E	U	S	O	E	W	O	R
G	L	I	E	M	R	M	A	A	R	R	F
E	N	E	N	P	U	M	P	K	I	N	R
G	Y	E	L	L	O	W	I	D	S	A	R

WORDS TO FIND:

pumpkin	harvest
yellow	apples
scarecrow	hayride
autumn	red
leaves	Thanksgiving
sunflower	football
acorns	orange
corn	



Shaeffer's Chapel
1007 Shaeffer's Chapel Road
P.O. Box 863
Columbus, MS 39703



9:00 AM Worship Service
10:00 AM Fellowship Time
10:15 AM Sunday School

September 2025

Newsletter

