

Westgate Witness



September 2024

2235 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601 -- 717-394-1071

Facebook: Westgate American Baptist Church



Greetings in the Name of our Lord!

From Wilderness to Mountain

1 Kings 19:8 ***“So Elijah got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.”***

For the past month we have seen taking a deep dive into the life and prophetic ministry of Elijah. In Chapter 19 we have literally and symbolically both wilderness and mountain in Elijah's life. Life is composed of those experiences and encounters which provide both challenges to one's character and the testing on one's spirit. To be sure, life is not only composed of experiences and encounters; it is also composed of serious questions. In every life there are always questions which ought to be asked and which ought to require an answer. The first core question of life is: *“Who am I?”* and the second question is like it, *“What am I living for?”*

When life has been lived to a level of maturity, when a person's experiences and encounters have led to some ups and downs, some joys and sadnesses—there is yet another question that a person will often ask themselves: *“How did I get where I am which is so far from where I am supposed to be?”* One has wisely said that there are three kinds of people in the world: those who are in the wilderness, those who have just come out of the wilderness, and those who are headed into the wilderness. In the midst of such a wilderness experience, God sends an angel to feed Elijah. *“Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you...”*

Elijah may well have thought “*What journey? I am through. I am all washed up—I am burned out*” –But God’s message was “*You’re not through, Elijah—I am going to send you from where you are to where I want you to be. I am going to send you from molehill to the mountain—from the wilderness to the mountain.*”

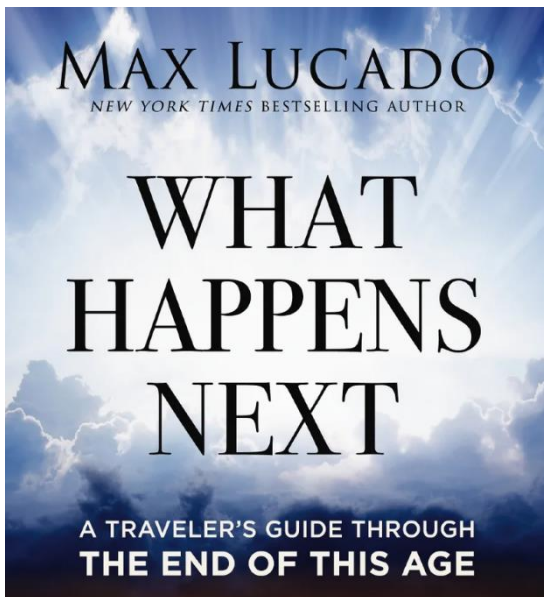
If you follow the journey of Elijah, we know in the wilderness there was drain and weakness, but on the mountain where God would lead there came strength, perspective and resolve. In the wilderness there was complete loneliness, but on the mountain, there is felt companionship with God. In the wilderness there is despair, but on the mountain is hope. Whether we find ourselves in the wilderness or on the mountain God reveals himself and offers sustenance.

Written by: Pastor Robert Zimmerman

Adult Sunday School Resumes Sunday September 15th

Study Topic: What Happens Next?

A Traveler’s Guide Through the End of This Age



Are we living in the end times? If so, what does that mean for us? These questions can cause confusion and anxiety in the hearts of Christians, but God wants us to be prepared, not scared; informed, not intimidated. Join Author and Pastor Max Lucado on an optimistic and accessible journey into what the Bible says about the end times. This six-session series will provide a solid foundation for understanding God’s eternal plan and events like the rapture, the tribulation, and our eternal glory in heaven. As Max teaches us, the end of our story is all about hope and all about Jesus.

The study will begin with four big ideas that will provide a solid foundation for understanding God’s eternal plan. *We are made to reign with Christ. *God has made and will keep his promises. *Heaven has a timeline. *A Golden era—the millennium—awaits God’s children.

In What Happens Next, we will explore the timeline of human history examining milestones such as the rapture, the seven years of tribulation, and the glories of heaven. In contrast to the anxiety that sometimes accompanies these topics this study offers a wise, reassuring, and well-researched overview of God’s word.

Each Sunday we gather at 9:30 for coffee and conversation. At 9:45 the class topic What Happens Next will begin as Stephen Appleby facilitates the presentation and the conversations that will follow. The topic will likely be a 6–7-week study.





Womens Bible Study will resume
Tuesday, September 10th.
Please consider joining us as we continue
to study the gospel of Matthew

Womens breakfast
Tuesday, September 17th @ 9:30 am.
We are inviting all the women.
Please join us at Park City Diner.



ABW Meeting **DATE HAS CHANGED**

Thursday September 12, 2024 @ 1:00 PM
We are inviting ALL the ladies to come to our
meetings. Let's spend some time getting to
know each other as we plan for
our bake sale in November. We will
also need crafts and donations for the
Christmas tree. We need you!



We will be taking orders for flowers for any special occasion.
Please call Pat Rust at 717-209-6822



world
mission
offering
RESOURCES

We will be collecting for the next
Missionary offering. Please consider
making a donation. Envelopes will be
provided in the church bulletins.



"If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to prayer made in this place." *2 Chron 7:14-15*



Tuesday, October 29, 2024, @ 10:00 am
****Non-denominational Prayer Vigil****

Are you concerned with the state of our world, our children, our schools and our society in general today? **We are.**

If there was ever a time to come together and seek the Lord for His help in these desperate times, **it is today.**

The pastor and members of the Westgate Baptist Church will hold a **"Non-denominational Prayer Vigil"** to seek the Lord's leading for the cares of our world today. The vigil is not motivated by any political or cultural views, we just want to seek God for His will to be done. **We welcome all faiths.**

We will pray for:

****Our country and our world**

****Our families and children**

****The family of God**



Pray for America

We will open with a worship song, then go right into prayer. One person will lead each prayer section, but we encourage everyone to pray quietly along with the leader. You may stand, sit or kneel as you feel led.

God asks us, as believers in Him to join together in prayer for the cares of this land. Come and join with us! We welcome you!

Call the office at
(717) 394-1071 for any questions.

SAVE THE DATES



Let's Worship God & Celebrate His Impact on Lancaster!

Lancaster is uniting once again for a night of unity, praise and encouragement for believers in Christ from across Lancaster County.

Featuring live music, speakers, and food trucks

will open beginning at 4 p.m., with worship planned from 6 to 8 p.m.

The event is presented by Water Street Mission, WJTL and Willow Valley Communities.

Attendees should bring a lawn chair or blanket.

Long's Park is at 1441 Harrisburg Pike in Lancaster.

There is no cost to attend, but those interested can reserve a free ticket at reverberatelancaster.com.



November 1, 2024 Marriott Downtown Lancaster

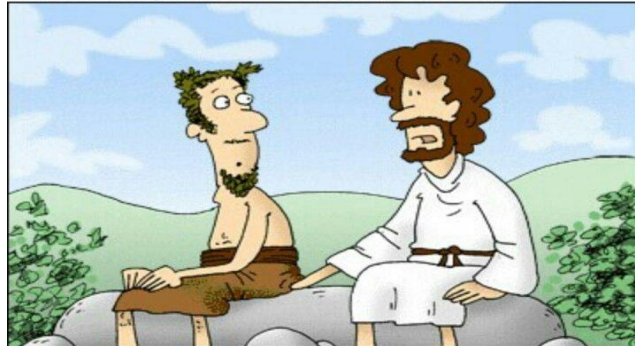
A celebratory dinner of all God is doing at Water Street through partners like you! To reserve and purchase tickets go to: wsm.org/celebration

AB Men's Breakfast - Our next Men's Fellowship breakfast will be on September 17th @ 9:00 am. We will meet at the Family Fare Restaurant, 5921 Main St., East Petersburg PA 17520 for a casual Christian Men's fellowship time.



Next Board Meeting is September 9th @ 6:30 PM

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I APPRECIATE THE EFFORT, BUT THE WHOLE 'SITTING ON MY RIGHT HAND' THING IS NOT AS LITERAL AS YOU SEEM TO THINK

12-05-2011



Facts About America That Most Americans Don't Know

The current flag was designed by a 17-year-old

Our current 50-star flag was designed as part of a [high school project](#) by 17-year-old Robert Heft. It was 1958, and there were only 48 states at the time, but Heft had a hunch Hawaii and Alaska would soon be granted statehood. His teacher gave him a B- but went on to update the grade to an A after Heft submitted his design to the White House, eventually leading to a call from President Eisenhower that it had been selected as the official U.S. flag.



They call it Lake Superior for a reason

Everyone knows Lake Superior is big (they don't call it one of the Great Lakes for nothing), but few people know exactly how large it really is. Not only is Lake Superior the largest freshwater [lake](#) in the world, but it holds three *quadrillion* gallons of water. That's enough liquid to completely cover both North and South America under a foot of water.

Irene Triplett was the last recipient of an American Civil War pension

The Civil War ended in 1865, but Irene Triplett was still collecting a pension until her passing in 2020. Her father served in the war, which entitled Triplett to a survivor's benefit of \$73.13 a month.

You might be surprised by the oldest city

Many people assume Jamestown, Virginia, is the [oldest city](#) in the United States, but the reality is Jamestown is merely the oldest *English* settlement. The oldest city in the United States is actually St. Augustine, Florida. The area was originally claimed for Spain by famed explorer Ponce De Leon in 1513; the United States took control in 1821.

That's an old book

The book believed to be the first-ever to be printed in America was called *Bay Psalm Book*, published way back in 1640. In 2013, one of the 11 copies known to be still in existence sold at auction for \$14.2 million. Needless to say, *Bay Psalm Book* is one of the [most expensive books](#) in the world.

Thanksgiving was when?

You may think it's a fact that [Thanksgiving](#) was always held on the fourth Thursday of November, but that's not the case. The holiday was held on several different dates until Abraham Lincoln declared in 1863 that it would henceforth be held every year on the fourth Thursday in November. This day was honored by every subsequent president until FDR moved it to the third Thursday of November in 1939, to extend the Christmas season. After many complaints, he realized his mistake and two years later moved it back to the fourth Thursday; that's when we celebrate it today.

The words on the Liberty Bell

Did you know the word Pennsylvania is spelled wrong on the Liberty Bell? Actually, "spelled wrong" is probably a bit harsh: In 1752, when the bell was made, "Pensylvania" was one of several acceptable spellings of the state name. Our forefathers also made some glaring grammar [mistakes in the Constitution](#).



Please remember to give us a like on FACEBOOK and share the page with family and friends!
Westgate American Baptist Church



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday

9/1 Samantha Thamovong
 9/9 Kay Cameron
 9/10 Rachel Stump
 9/11 Woody White
 9/20 Claire Martin
 9/22 Annie Saylor
 Bonnie Campbell



Happy Anniversary

9/2/08 John & Ruth Hessen
 9/16/67 Jim & Kay Cameron
 9/22/18 Will & Samantha Thamavong
 9/29/19 Luis & Rosy Guillen



Treasurer's Report

June/July/August	\$23,146.30	
Budget Income	\$20,736.00	
Non-budget income	\$2,410.30	

Checkout our new website:
WestgateABC.com

Stay up to date on all upcoming events and news! Make sure you click the tab that say "Just for Thought" for some interesting and useless info!

