



The Harvest Times

A Quarterly Publication of The Susquehanna Valley Baptist Church

ISSUE 26.2 | 06/30/2026

Spring Happenings

- **Resurrection Sunday** - It was a joy to celebrate Jesus Christ's resurrection on April 5. What a joy and a hope we have knowing our Savior is risen indeed!
- **Senior Saints Fellowship** - On April 10, our Senior Saints traveled to Shady Maple Smorgasbord for a time of fellowship and hearing from God's Word. Bro. James Coblenz of Hagerstown, MD, brought the message from God's Word.
- **Ladies Brunch** - Ladies and girls of all ages gathered on May 2 for a time of fun, food, and fellowship around the Word of God.
- **Mountain Top Get-Aquainted Meetings** - Many of the church family traveled 73 miles north to assist Pastor Josh Hamilton in his first series of meetings at Mountain Top Baptist Church. It was a blessing to be an encouragement to the church there while also being refreshed ourselves.
- **Graduate Sunday** - This year, we honored four graduates of all levels (college, high school, and kindergarten) and sought to encourage them in their next endeavors.
- **Men's Trip to Gettysburg** - A large group of the men and lads traveled to Gettysburg for a day trip on June 6. It was a splendid time touring the museum and the battlefield.
- **Summer Camp** - 26 young people from the church went to summer camp this year. Camp was a time of growth and decisions for many.

Adam vs. Christ

by W. Brandon Starnes, Pastor

When you consider Adam, you have a man who through his own sin produced fear in this world. Yet, when you consider Christ, there is not fear, but there is a never-wavering faithfulness to the will of God. Even in Gethsemane as he prayed regarding the Holy God removing this will from him, that is to go to Calvary, he said, "Not my will, but thine be done."

Through Adam, you have someone that focused on self. I find it interesting that there he and Eve were, standing at the tree of knowledge and evil. As they are present, there is an awareness that is there. It seems through the Scriptures that Adam is one that is a witness to this temptation. The Scripture clearly indicates that Eve was deceived, but Adam was not deceived. But at the end, Adam chose what all of those that are going to follow the likeness of Adam choose, self. Adam chose what pleased himself.

Yet, you contrast that with the ministry of Jesus Christ here on earth and you have someone that was focused on service. He had no house to call his own. He lived this sinless life for three and a half years of ministry for the whole purpose of coming to the world to save sinners.

You consider Adam. Adam, being confronted by his sin, used every excuse of the flesh. That is what Adam did well. Adam was the first human to invent an excuse, and it has been a blight on this race since that time. "Adam! What's happened?", God asked. "Well, it was the wife that thou hast given me that has done this." Since that time, everyone who has the blood that flows through their veins and the genetic distributions that came from Adam has been fooled to make excuses to every failure that they've had in this life. But when you consider Christ, you have an example of perfection.

When you consider Adam, here is a man that had life and then died. When you consider Christ, you have a man whose death and subsequent resurrection brought life to all that will come unto him. And again, reckoning back to Adam, Adam's life brought continual death. For every descendant of Adam has learned the truth that will eventually pass in the book of Romans, the wages of sin is death (Romans 6.23). And because of Adam's sin, it permeated all of his descendants. As such, that sin has been passed upon all men, for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Romans 3.23).

That is what Adam brought us. You come to Adam, Adam's desirous of knowledge. Remember the temptation to Eve, ye shall be likened to gods. Consider Christ, He that knew all things. Philippians tells us he made himself of no reputation. You can't find two more polar opposite individuals than Adam and Christ. Adam's expression was rebellion. Christ, the Messiah's expression was obedience. Adam's end was humility and shame. Christ's end was a name exalted above every name (Philippians 2.9-11).

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Romans 6.23

Susquehanna Valley Baptist Church Media



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Get in Shape

By Valerie K. Starnes

There is an old Christian hymn that says, “Have Thine own way, Lord, Have Thine own way; Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.”

“O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the Lord. Behold, as the clay is in the potter’s hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel” Jer. 18:6.
“Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherd of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What maketh thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?” Isa. 45:9.

The potter uses his wheel for shaping and forming. When he is pleased with the vessel’s development, he can also adjust the fire to prepare the vessel for usefulness and durability. For the Christian, suffering and trials try and change us. “That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:” 1 Pet. 1:7.

Another job of the Potter is to purge away impurities so that His purpose may be fulfilled. The furnace of affliction in the believer’s life is always for refinement and never for destruction. “If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master’s use, and prepared unto every good work” 2 Tim. 2:21.

We are all “the work of His hands.” But what kind of shape are we in? God acknowledges all kinds of shapes when it comes to us lumps of clay... marred, broken, unfinished, surrendered, sanctified, imperfect, etc. There’s only one shape God can’t work with – the unwilling shape. No wonder the Lord speaks so strongly against the sins of pride and rebellion.

May the Lord find us each a willing vessel in His hands. “The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands” Psa. 138:8. (V.K.S.)

Mark Your Calendar for 2026 VBS!

Upcoming Events

July 5 - America’s 250th Celebration Service
July 16-18 - Community Evangelism
July 26-30 - VBS
August 4 - National Night Out
August 12 - Community Evangelism
August 19 - Community Evangelism
August 29 - Rally in the Valley
September 6 - Promotion Sunday
September 20 - Friend Day

Monthly Memory Verse

(Each month as a church we put aside a passage from Scripture to memorize; this passage is our memory passage for June)

2 Peter 1:5-7

“And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; (6) And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; (7) And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.”

Susquehanna Valley
Baptist Church

July 5, 2026
11 AM & 6 PM

Join us for special services as we commemorate America’s 250th Birthday and worship the God Who gave us liberty!
Free Gift for all in attendance!

Susquehanna Valley Baptist Church
3840 N. Progress Avenue, HBG 17110



2026 Vacation Bible School
July 26-30, 6:30-8:30 PM

Puppets
Refreshments
Bible Lessons

CASTLE CONQUEST

Chalk Art
Prizes
Special Music

THE WHOLE FAMILY IS WELCOME

Susquehanna Valley Baptist Church
3840 N. Progress Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Service Times:

Sunday School (10 AM), Sunday Morning (11 AM), Sunday Evening (6 PM),
Thursday Night Prayer Service (7 PM)