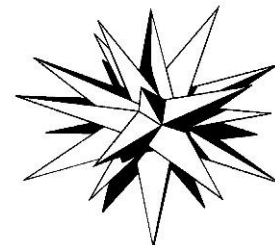


A Publication of East Hills Moravian Church

1830 Butztown Road
Bethlehem, PA 18017
610-868-6481



The Star

Volume 64, No. 8

September 2021



A Word from Pastor Linda Wisser

Knowing Christ and Making Him Known....

This Fall, our Christian Education Committee is offering a creative way for the kids “to know Christ, and to make him known”. As our Sunday School children and youth gather, they will do so in an adapted way, meeting monthly in the Family Center for stories and activities to explore who Jesus is, what Jesus does, and what Jesus promises. Their responses will be pulled together into a video which will then be taken and shared with our homebound members during pastoral visits. We anticipate much joy with the kids as they grow to know Christ, and we anticipate much joy for our homebound members as the kids make Christ known.

I am curious, how would *you* respond to those theological prompts: Jesus Is, Jesus Does, Jesus Promises? Who is Jesus, to you? This month, scripture in worship brings us to the time when Jesus asks of his disciples, ‘who do you say that I am?’. It is a defining moment in time. Jesus redefines for his disciples, who he is. It is also a moment in time when Jesus redefines for his disciples what it means to follow Him.

The new education year is beginning at East Hills. In this newsletter you will find many opportunities to gather as people of God, to wrestle with scripture, to listen to one another and to learn from one another. Be encouraged to participate in weekly worship, learning, serving, fellowship, giving and prayer opportunities. As we learn to define both in our hearts and in community, who we say Jesus is, our lives will more closely mirror that of our Lord, one who is, one who does, one who promises life, full and abundant.

Take a look at the opportunities in this newsletter that will bring us together in the month ahead. Consider each opportunity as God's invitation to connect and be part of a community of faith that is making a difference in our little corner of the world.

We hope to see you all very soon,
Blessings,

Pastor Linda

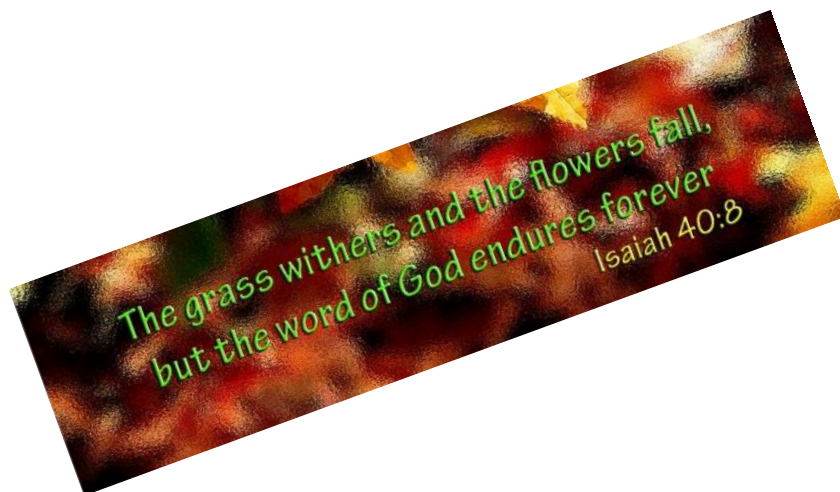


PLEASE NOTE:

Pastor Linda will be on vacation from September 20th through the 26th.



For Pastoral Care: Contact Pastor Linda via email at pastorlinda@easthillsmc.org, via phone or text message at 484-764-8629.





SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**September 5th –
10:30 service
ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.**

**September 12th –
10:30 service in the Sanctuary
ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.**

**September 19th – Lovefeast for new members,
Moravian Day of Service
10:30 service in Sanctuary
ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.**

**September 26th –
10:30 service in Sanctuary
ZOOM and YouTube Service also available.**

Worship Information & Opportunities



Worship with us every Sunday at 10:30!
In person, on ZOOM, or on YouTube.



The church office is open Monday - Thursday from 9:00 – 3:00.

610-868-6481

office@easthillsmc.org



ZOOM link -- Dial-in by phone -- YouTube recordings

Weekly Worship will be available live on ZOOM **Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m.**

You may also dial in by phone or check YouTube for pre-recorded services and sermons each week.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83858077423?pwd=UFIBRDI3cG5jTHNNaGNtakhnU05vdz09>

Meeting ID: 838-5807-7423

Password: 175584

YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oF67kjDFPgY>

Dial-in by phone: For anyone without a computer, tablet, or smartphone, wishing to join the Church Service may do the following. This will be the audio only for landlines and cellphones.

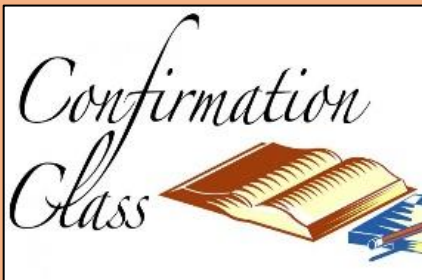
1. Call 1-929-205-6099 (New York - other cities available on request)
2. At the prompt for the Meeting ID enter 838-5807-7423 followed by #
3. At the prompt for your Participant ID enter #
4. At the prompt for the Password enter 175584 followed by #

Old and New Christian Learning Opportunities



EHMC Sunday Morning Coffee Class -

EHMC is inviting you join us via ZOOM. Please use the URL below to join the meeting with your computer, tablet or phone with a microphone and webcam. If you need to download the app, please approve it and join the meeting with computer audio. **Every week on Sun. at 9:00 AM** Eastern Time.



CONFIRMATION CLASS: Our 2021/22 Confirmation Class at East Hills is now forming!

Confirmation Classes are designed as a way to help young people explore their faith and understanding, and to help them make a decision to affirm their faith in Jesus Christ. **The class is open to all 8th and 9th grade youth.**

We are planning classes that will meet from October 2021 to May 2022. We will meet 2 Sunday evenings per month from 6:30-8 p.m. with additional opportunities for a group field trip and a group service opportunity.

A parent/student meeting will be held on Sunday, September 12th immediately following worship. At this meeting we will review meeting dates and times, hopes, expectations and outcomes of our confirmation process.

Please email or call the church office to sign up. Feel free to talk with Pastor Linda if you have questions about Confirmation Class.



SUNDAY SCHOOL


Greetings, Sunday School families!

The Christian Education committee met recently to discuss plans for possible in-person Sunday School gatherings this

fall. Due to the small number of children and the very unpredictable nature of the COVID virus, we



came to the conclusion that we needed to think a bit outside the box.   Our mission became thinking of ways to include as many students as possible, with a goal to reach out to our community and show how our students at East Hills **Know Christ and Make him Known.**

To accomplish this we seek to make a video  where all students who wish to be involved answer the following prompts:

Jesus is...


Jesus does...

Jesus promises...

The children can create posters, cards, some kind of craft, anything that shows what the prompt means to them. We can provide some supplies if needed.

We will work on this project during once-monthly Sunday school meetings:

September 12, October 3, November 7, and December 5. (9:30 am in the Family Center).

The current nature of the video making process allows the students the freedom to be anywhere they wish and still be participating. In-person or by submitting their own video or still pictures  from home.

Once all participants have provided material, editors will create the finished piece to be dispersed to the

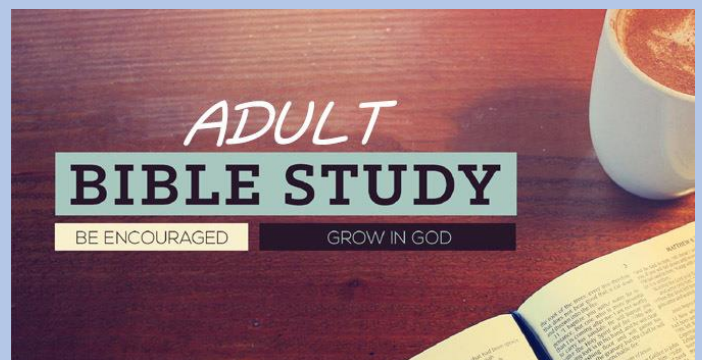
community. We will show the finished video  work December 5th at church as well.

Please consider participating in some way. More information to come as we work out details.



NEW!!! Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study!

Please join us on **Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Church Lounge beginning on Sunday, September 12th.** We will begin with looking into the unique Gospel of John. We hope to see you there!



Additional Christian Fellowship News & Opportunities

Cash Cards - Plan now for Father's Day and graduations gifts. ShopWithScrip.com has cash cards for moms, dads, and grads. And for you too! When you purchase physical cards or e-cards at face value, EHMC receives a percentage of that purchase. Consider retailers such as 1-800-FLOWERS, Shutterfly, eBay, Wayfair, Target, Walmart, L.L.Bean, Dick's Sporting Goods, Xbox, Sony PlayStation, Hulu, Uber, UberEATS, Instacart, or over 750 others for giving or your own shopping. Use enrollment code 8897CBD34973 to create an account at ShopWithScrip.com or on the RaiseRight app.



Need a Prayer?

Prayer Requests: Have a prayer request? Please email the "Detail Form" to the church office at office@easthillsmc.org. Only first names will be mentioned during worship since the YouTube broadcast is literally available to the world.



OR



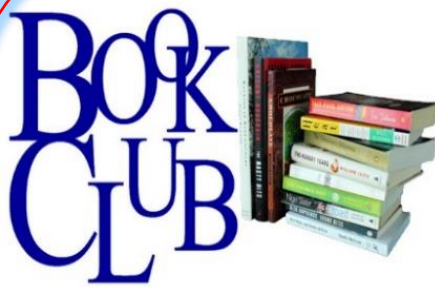
Online Giving: Please visit our website for online giving at <http://www.easthillsmc.org/online-giving/>. You can donate using your checking or savings account, debit card from your financial institution, or Visa, Mastercard, Discover, or American Express credit card. If you're donating for the first time, you'll be asked to set up a profile with your email address and financial information. Then you can schedule a one-time donation or weekly or monthly recurring donation. Your financial information is completely secure.

Mailing donations: You may also send pledges to the office at the church. The mail is being checked daily so that no money or checks are sitting in the mailbox for long. 1830 Butztown Rd., Bethlehem, 18017

Women's Fellowship will resume holding monthly meetings on **Tuesday, September 7th**. This year we will be using The Rev. Sam Gray's study guide "Fruitful Lives; Fruit-filled stories of Moravian Women." The first story explores the word "love" by taking a journey around the worldwide Unity. All women are welcome to join our monthly times of informal study, sharing, and fellowship.



Men's Fellowship: As we continue to open areas of the church and our lives, the Men's Fellowship Group wants to let you know we are still here. Many of our fundraising events were canceled and we had to scale back our donations to causes that we earmarked funds for. Men's Fellowship is available to assist members whenever possible. We have an email chain setup so that if a member needs some sort of assistance, an email can be sent out looking for the proper assistance. For example, if a member becomes ill and needs some temporary jobs/outside chores completed he/she can let one of us know and we can try to find a volunteer to help accommodate that need. As of now, social distance and safety guidelines need to be met to safeguard each of us. We will try to assist you as best as we can. We hope you all stay safe in this uncertain time.



EHMC Book Club: Everyone is invited to join the East Hills Moravian Church Book Club on Monday, October 18th at 7pm (Location TBD) to discuss Brit Bennett's "Vanishing Half."





Calling all East Hills Musicians - The

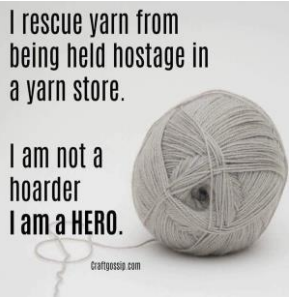
Worship Committee is looking for special music to include in the Sunday morning services. Feel free perform live or to record singing or instrumentals as an individual, a family, etc. Music can be a powerful tool to unite the community in this potentially stressful time. We appreciate our musicians' contributions to our East Hills community, now and always.



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WHY KNOTS – WHY KNOT members meet year-round on the 4th Wednesday of each month. We work on a variety of projects, knitting, crocheting, sewing, quilting, and weaving. Some of our work is personal, some is provided for donation to community organizations, and other work is earmarked for sale. You can view our current sale inventory on our church Facebook page. We are meeting in person at this time, masked, in the parlor, but we will be responsive to changes in CDC recommendations and EHMC policies in order to keep ourselves and our loved ones safe.



East Hills Moravian Church Contextual Outreach UPDATES:



Dear Friends,

This section of our newsletter is set aside to keep you updated with important news about community connections and outreach opportunities we are discovering as we seek to connect to our neighborhood.

UPDATE:

As you may recall from the last newsletter, the Joint Board is currently exploring a potential relationship with Lehigh Valley Childcare Centers (LVCC) which would allow for LVCC programs to be held in our building and allow for East Hills Moravian Church to partner with LVCC in serving area families and supporting a healthy learning environment for local children.

At our last meeting of Joint Board members and East Hills members at large, we addressed the following questions:

1. How would this relationship and use of the building help East Hills MC fulfill our mission?
2. Would this relationship serve our neighborhood and provide opportunity to build relationships in accordance with EHMC ministry goals?
3. What are the risks and are we willing to take them?
4. What are the potential blessings and is East Hills willing to give and receive them?

After thoughtfully and carefully discussing these questions, the group offered their full support in taking the next steps with LVCC. These steps include providing LVCC measurements of classrooms, obtaining a certificate of occupancy, and working on projected costs to LVCC for use of our building. Please note: we are still in the EXPLORATION stage as is LVCC and no decision has been made. As things progress, assuming LVCC continues to have interest in a partnership with us, we will be offering information sessions later this Fall with the congregation and providing opportunities for your questions and concerns before asking church council for a vote.

In the meantime, please contact Pastor Linda or any Board member if you have any questions or concerns about our Contextual Outreach work, our potential relationship with LVCC, or if you want to join in on outreach work with us.



In Celebration...

Save
THE
Date

Capital Campaign Celebration!

Sunday, November 21st, 2021

11:45 a.m. in the Family Center

Join us for a time to celebrate the successful completion of our Capital Campaign! More details to follow, but for now, save the date!

A special note of thanks from Nancy for all the cards and well-wishes during her recent hospitalization.



Christian Sympathy and Resurrection Hope

“Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.”



Our sympathy and hope is extended to the families whose loved ones have recently entered the more near presence of our Lord.



	9/5	9/12	9/19	9/26
Sacristans /Color				
Elders				
Liturgist in person				
Liturgist online				
Ushers				
Counters				

EHMC 2021 WATCHWORD

God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ dies for us. (Romans 5:8)

He left his Father's throne above –
 so free, so infinite his grace –
 emptied himself of all but love,
 and bled for Adam's helpless race!
 What mercy this, immense and free,
 for, O my God, it found out me!
 What mercy this, immense and free,
 for, O my God, it found out me! (773)



September

What's Happening This Month at EHMC:

SEPTEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class 10:30 Worship	30	31 5-6:30 PM Jesus - Parlor	1	2	3	4
5 9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class 10:30 Worship	6 Labor Day – Office closed	7 7 PM Women's Fellowship 5-6:30 PM Jesus - Parlor	8	9	10	11 Say a prayer of remembrance
12 9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class 10:30 Worship *Confirmation Class meeting following worship	13 7:00 Book Review – Hope in Times of Fear (Tim Keller)	14 5-6:30 PM Jesus – Parlor 7:00 Worship & Music Committee	15	16	17	18
19 9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class 10:30 Worship – Moravian Day of Service, New Member Lovefeast	20 Pastor Linda on vacation, returning 9/27	21 5-6:30 PM Jesus – Parlor 7:00 Elders	22 7:00 – Why Knots (Parlor)	23 1 st day of Fall	24	25
26 9:00 Sunday Morning Coffee Class 10:30 Worship	27	28 5-6:30 PM Jesus – Parlor 7:00 Trustees	29	30	1	2



An Update from Camp Hope:

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As you are aware, the past 16 months have not been normal times. Our churches have closed, our choirs have been silent. We've learned how to worship online and how to hold virtual board meetings. Camp Hope has not been immune to these issues either. When the Board had to make the decision to not hold summer camp for 2020 or 2021, we struggled greatly with making that decision. When I had to call for the vote to approve the cancelling of summer camp, there were tears shed and very quiet "I's" spoken by all the members. The last thing we wanted to do was to disappoint hundreds of children and staff by not having our Camps and Conferences, but we knew that we had to cancel in order to prevent any potential spreading of Covid-19.

For the last two summers we have had Family Cabin rentals and everyone who rented a cabin had a great time. This summer, with a larger Summer Long Staff on site, we were able to offer games, crafts, canoeing and swimming. Our pool had some much-needed work done with a replacement liner, new steps that were broken and leaking as well as a brand-new cover for the off-season which was desperately needed.

In the fall/winter of 2019-2020, the Lower Lodge was winterized. The building is now insulated and can have heat in the winter and air-conditioning in the summer. The entire exterior has new siding, and we have a new roof. We were very much looking forward to renting out this space to large groups in the off season. A month ago, as our Summer Long Staff was cleaning out some of the "old stuff" from the basement, a mold problem was uncovered. The basement has windows that leak and the cloth covered furniture that was being stored down there starting to grow mold. Upon inspection, mold was also discovered in some of the rooms on the main floor. We are currently unable to use this building to it full capacity. The a/c unit cannot be turned on and the ceiling fans cannot run either. Every window is open to allow for clean air to fill the building. We have received an estimate for cleaning the ENTIRE building and that work will cost us \$68,000. As you can imagine, we don't really have that amount of money lying around anywhere and our insurance company has denied our claim.

We have been very frugal for the past 16 months, we have received two PPP loans to pay our staff, both year-round and summer long. We are doing everything that we can to make Camp Hope better than it has ever been before, but we need your help. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated.

Camp Hope's property was purchased in 1946, but the first summer of campers was 1947 and we are looking forward to having the biggest and best weeks of summer camp that we have ever had in 2022 as we celebrate our 75th Anniversary! We hope that you will be a part of that celebration!

Rev. Jodie Harney,
Chair, Camp Hope Board of Management



Happy 3rd Birthday Alice



Congratulations Alice who turns 3y ears old and graduate from Cradle roll here at East Hills Moravian Church.

Cradle roll is a Christian based age-appropriate program where information is mailed monthly to all parents of children from birth (adoption) through three years. Once a child turns three, they graduate from cradle roll and become eligible to attend Sunday school nursery class. Cradle roll also provides a card that is given to the family at baptism.



CROPWALK 2021

Date: Sunday October 10, 2021
Time: Registration 1:00 PM
Walk 1:30 PM
Distance: 1 mile, 5K & 10K courses



37 years - that's how long the Bethlehem CROP Hunger Walk has been raising money in the fight against hunger. Mark your calendars! Sun. Oct. 10, walking in rain or shine, they need you to join in and make this a successful day.

A table will be in the Narthex on Sundays starting Sep. 12, for you to stop by and sign-up to Walk or Sponsor. Or donate on-line at – <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/east-hills-walkers>

Join your fellow East Hillers and members of over 25 other area churches in this year's CROPWALK, to help fight hunger here in Bethlehem, across the country and around the world.

Since the first Bethlehem event on May 6, 1985, walkers have raised over \$700,000 of which \$170,000 was distributed to local area food banks and soup kitchens.





DONATION OPPORTUNITIES



Northeast Community Center: The Northeast Community Center celebrated 40 years of service to the Marvine/Pembroke area in July, and several of our church family members were present at their special event. These dedicated EMHC volunteers continue to provide regular support to the Foodbank at NECC, participating in the purchase, delivery, organization, and distribution of food. We also recently provided a variety of personal care items, including diapers, as well as snack foods. **At this time, shampoo, toothpaste, wipes and size 2 diapers continue to be the most-needed items, and you may place your donations in the collection baskets in the Narthex. Grocery bags, both paper and plastic, are always appreciated.** Thanks for your ongoing support of A CAN A WEEK and JOYFUL NOISE.

There is always a need for Food Pantry volunteers - email Paula Johnson at johnsonp@neccbethlehem.org!



A Can A Week and Joyful Noise - Thank you for your recent donations to A CAN A WEEK! JOYFUL NOISE and A CAN A WEEK are two important ministries that continue to help stock the shelves at the Northeast Community Center Foodbank. We have resumed A CAN A WEEK and appreciate your donations of personal care items at this time, especially shampoo, toothpaste, diapers and baby wipes. Thanks for your ongoing support. (JOYFUL NOISE donations may be sent to the church office.)



Drive-By Food Pantry at Central Moravian Church with much needed items for our next food distribution. The drive by is located in Central Moravian Christian Ed parking lot, access road between Kemmerer Museum & God's Acre (follow signs) from **9:30 am -1:00 PM September 5th**. Items needed: cereal, canned vegetables, tuna, salmon, baked beans, black beans, chickpeas, 1-2 # rice, peanut butter, jelly, canned chicken, boxed milk, decaf coffee, tea. We are asking that donations come in paper bags (doubled) or cardboard boxes. Those can be recycled or repurposed. We will accept donations in any form, but believe plastic is not the best for our environment.

TREX Plastic Challenge Update – BAM Churches – 2021

TREX update 8/2021

Have you seen it??

Our Trex bench has arrived! It is currently located in the Narthex. This reward is a handsome and comfortable addition to our facilities made possible by the cooperative collections of our members and the other participating BAM congregations. Stop by and give it a try!



Please read! Important Trex information! Even if you have read this before, please review the acceptable materials and recycle ONLY those that meet the criteria. Our partner is “baking a cake” with the ingredients we are recycling. Just as you wouldn't put junk in your cake, we must provide only the acceptable ingredients. Our mantra for recycled materials is: “If in DOUBT, THROW it OUT!” Your considerate recycling is most appreciated.

The volunteers who weighed our collections this month found the following no-no items that needed to be removed and thrown in the trash:

- bird seed bags with recycle symbol 7, plastic food wrap (Saran-type), cheese package wrapping, potting soil bag, candy wrappers, dirty zipper-type bags, assorted unidentifiable plastics not included on the list nor marked with the recycle symbol 2 or 4.

Please include only acceptable materials!

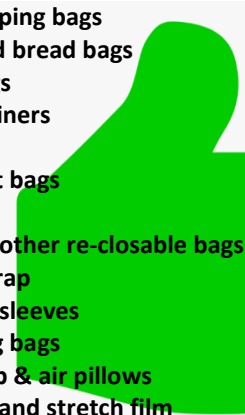
Look for the recycling symbols 2 or 4 where printed on the packaging. Please limit other recycling to items on the list of acceptable materials. The plastics MUST NOT be contaminated with any foreign material or chemicals. The only exception is small paper labels.

Your recyclables can be dropped off during normal Church Office hours and Sundays, before and after worship.

As of 8/15, East Hills is again the reporting congregation in the BAM Trex recycling program. Our BAM partners have given us a 175+ pound head start on our goal of 500 pounds to qualify for our next bench. And we move onward to complete our next goal!

Keep Recycling!

ACCEPTABLE PLASTICS



- Plastic shopping bags
- Produce and bread bags
- Grocery bags
- Cereal box liners
- Ice bags
- Wood pellet bags
- Salt bags
- Ziplock and other re-closable bags
- Case overwrap
- Newspaper sleeves
- Dry cleaning bags
- Bubble wrap & air pillows
- Pallet wrap and stretch film

NOT ACCEPTABLE PLASTICS



- Plastic bottles or other rigid plastic containers
- Degradable/compostable bags
- Pre-washed salad mix bags
- Frozen food bags
- Candy wrappers
- Any Chip bags
- Dried fruit and nut bags
- Six-pack plastic rings
- Pouch packaging
- Cheese wrappers
- Zip lock bags
- Saran Wrap
- Bread wrappers with little air holes
- Cellophane wrappers
- Bird seed or other bulk bags that are not #4
- If material does not stretch easily or is shiny & crinkles or crunches

**** All plastic must be clean, dry and free of food residue. ****

Serious and Silly Celebrations This Month

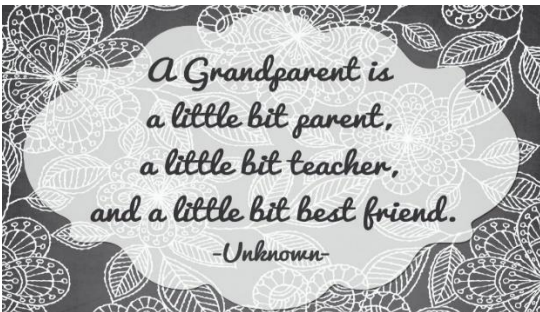
Sept. 6th – Labor Day



Sept. 11th - Patriot Day



Sept. 12th – National Grandparents Day



Sept. 18th – Cheeseburger Day



Sept. 23rd – First Day of Autumn



Sept. 29th – National Coffee Day



Every Day...





Happy
Birthday!



Happy Birthday

TO ALL OUR
SEPTEMBER
BIRTHDAY
PEOPLE!

