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# Messenger

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P. O. Box 444, Yazoo City, Mississippi 39194

## Holy Discomfort

*“On that day a great persecution broke out against the church at Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.” Acts 8:1*

The church was comfortable. Up until the death of Stephen, everyone was quite content to stay in Jerusalem and worship the Lord.

And then tragedy struck. Stephen was killed. The Sanhedrin turned on the church. And Saul began persecuting Christians throughout Jerusalem. The Bible says that he went house to house rounding them up and putting them in prison. It was a bad time to be a Christian.

As a result, people scattered. Some went to the south. Some to the east or to the west. Others went north to Samaria. Philip was one of those that went north. Not Philip the Apostle, but rather Philip the Deacon, one of the seven tasked with feeding widows.

And everywhere they went they shared the gospel. They told the good news of God's saving grace in Jesus Christ. And the Holy Spirit moved. And in every place they went some got saved and gave their life to Jesus. And the church grew.

Growth that wouldn't have happened if they'd stayed in Jerusalem. And they wouldn't have left Jerusalem were it not for the fear of persecution from Saul.

Because Jerusalem was no longer comfortable, the church was forced to move. And as a result, the gospel spread, and the church grew. All because God made them uncomfortable.

I wonder, how often does God make us uncomfortable so that we will move? How often does God allow holy discomfort to encourage change in our lives? Perhaps there are times when discomfort makes us grow in our relationship with God. What do you think?

*Brother Lauren*

# July

## SUNDAY, JULY 21

- 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Service
- 9:50 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Live Stream Worship

## SATURDAY, JULY 27

9-12 noon Methodist Market



- 21. Avery Harris
- 23. Stephen Harris  
Michael Hughes
- 25. Dr. Walter Burnett
- 27. Susan Melton
- 30. Phil Williams,  
Mills Paul  
Jana Bardwell,  
Julie Trammell  
Melissa Wyatt
- 31. Gray Goodman,  
Daniel Newman  
\*\*\*\*\*
- 16. Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Whitaker
- 20. Mr. & Mrs. Billy Wyatt  
Mr. & Mrs. Butch Gary
- 26. Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Harris
- 28. Mr. & Mrs. Kirk Colten



*Sunday, July 14, 2024, **Dean Collier Ledbetter**, son of Heather and Hunter Ledbetter, was baptized in the 11 o'clock service.*



***Curtis William Kyle, Jr.***

Mr. & Mrs. Edwin McDonald

## Foster Care Ministry Update

This ministry will be helping foster children with **back-to-school clothes and supplies**. New clothes and supplies are a great way to help these children begin the school year with confidence.

If you would like to help, please consider making a financial contribution to the ministry. Indicate that your donation is for "Foster Children" and turn it in to the church office.

This summer the ministry sent four children to **The Camp of the Rising Son**. This is a Christian Camp. Not only were the children able to participate in swimming, crafts, horseback riding, and other camp activities, they were taught all about Jesus.

Allison Hughes

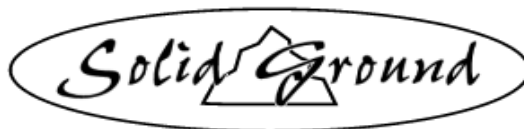


Our July series is called ***My Family***. Throughout this month, we will be learning and talking about stories of Jesus helping and interacting with families. This Sunday our lesson will be about the time Jesus stopped by to see His friends Mary and Martha.

## **HISKIDZ/W.O.W. WEDNESDAY SUMMER ACTIVITIES**

July is disappearing fast. We are working to try and squeeze in a few last minute activities before school starts back.

**\*\*More information regarding the possibility of these activities, along with dates and times, will be sent by text. \*\***



## **Youth Bible Study and Small Group**

Summer is almost over, and school will be resuming soon. Youth Bible study is still on hiatus; however, there will be a Back-to-School worship night on Sunday, August 4 at Parkview Church.

## **Missionary Update: Danny, Marti and Lylia Pasquale**

Please continue to pray for our missionaries, Danny, Marti, and Lylia, who serve at the IBEI Bible College in Italy. Recently, they held their graduation ceremony. You can see Danny with some of their students in the picture to the right.



**SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2024**

Greeters

Angie & Archie Edgar/  
Pam & Hubert Hatfield

Scripture

Acts 8:9-25

Sermon

**“Simon the Sorcerer”**

Flowers

Sara & Rodney Henderson

## **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

### **JULY**

21. 9<sup>th</sup> **Sunday after Pentecost**

Luke 10:38-42

22. Jesus' teachings about prayer

Mark 11:17-25

23. The Value of righteousness

Genesis 18:20-33

24. Rise up, O LORD

Psalms 10:12-18

25. Yet it shall be...

Hosea 1:2-10

26. Revive us again

Psalms 85

27. Rooted and built up

Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)



# Corey Comperatore: Loss of a Faithful GMC Church Member

by Walter Fenton



Regardless of one's political perspective, a national tragedy was averted when former President Donald Trump escaped a would-be assassin's aim to take his life. However, for Corey Comperatore's family and friends, tragedy was not averted. Last Saturday, he was killed while shielding his wife, Helen, and their two daughters, Allyson and Kaylee, from the gunfire directed at Mr. Trump during the campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania.

Comperatore's older sister, Dawn, eloquently spoke to her family's tragedy in a Facebook Post, "The hatred for one man took the life of the one man we loved the most. [Corey's] wife and girls just lived through the unthinkable and unimaginable. Hatred has no limits and love has no bounds. Pray for my sister-in-law, nieces, my mother, sister, me and his nieces and nephews as this feels like a terrible nightmare but we know it is our painful reality."

Family members and friends in Sarver, Pennsylvania, where Comperatore lived, have freely told journalists stories of his love for his family, his sense of humor, his courage, and of his faith in Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior.

A longtime member at Cabot Church, a local Global Methodist congregation in Cabot, Pennsylvania, Comperatore joyfully gave of his time, talent, and resources as he joined with church friends to share the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed.

"Corey's love for Jesus was clear in the way he lived his life. He served his family, his church, his community, and his country [U.S. Army Reserves], and he did all that with a heart of service to the Lord," said Rev. Jonathan Fehl, Pastor-in-Charge, at Cabot Church. "Whether it was taking part in a small group or lending his expertise to a building project, he was always helping the people around him."

In addition to working as an engineer at JSP International (Butler, Pennsylvania), Comperatore was a firefighter at the Buffalo Township Volunteer Fire Company. For three of those years he served as its chief. His friends at the fire station said they were not surprised to learn he died by courageously protecting his family.

"A faithful Bible reader, Corey drew particular strength from Paul's Letter to the Romans, always telling new Christians they should read that book first," said Fehl. "His church family is coming alongside his family as we all grieve his shocking loss. But we are so grateful Corey's faith in God was strong, and there's no doubt he is enjoying God's presence now and forever."

Fehl will preside at private funeral services for Comperatore. People from across the country have been sharing condolences with the family, and friends will have the opportunity to pay their respects and celebrate Comperatore's life on Thursday, July 18.

"Corey Comperatore lost his life on Saturday evening through a senseless act of violence and hatred, while protecting his family," said GM Church Bishop Mark Webb. "Everything I have heard about Corey points to a man who loved his family deeply and lived his faith in very significant ways. I know Global Methodists everywhere join me in praying for his wife, daughters, family and friends. We also pray for Pastor Jonathan Fehl and the Cabot congregation. May we all comfort those who mourn and boldly offer the promise of resurrection and new life through Jesus Christ!"

Cabot Church, located 35 miles northeast of Pittsburgh, is a part of the Allegheny West Provisional Annual Conference, a conference that includes western Pennsylvania and the state of Ohio.

“All the pastors and local churches in the Allegheny West Conference are holding Corey’s family, Rev. Fehl, and the people of Cabot Church in our hearts and our prayers,” said the Rev. Dr. Jeff Greenway, the conference’s president *pro tem*. “We’re committed to provide support for the church and Rev. Fehl as they minister to Corey’s family.”

Fehl responded, “On behalf of Corey’s family and Cabot Church, we are deeply grateful for the prayers and support of our brothers and sisters in Christ from around the world. The outpouring has been incredible to see, both among believers and the rest of the population. Thank you for continuing to lift the family up during this difficult time.”

Memorial donations in Comperatore’s memory can be made online by visiting [Cabot Church Memorial Fund](#); please enter “Corey Comperatore” in the “In memory” box. Donations can also be sent to Cabot Methodist Church, 707 Winfield Road, Cabot, PA 16023. In the memo line of your check, please write “Corey Comperatore”. Cabot Church is deeply grateful for all donations that will help them memorialize their beloved fellow member, Corey Comperatore.