

...in my time? Well, at the least I would not have met my wife, which eventually happened at Starbucks. And what about those conversations? What about who God wanted me to become?

In Ecclesiastes 3:11, the teacher reminds us that God, “makes everything beautiful in its time...” This suggests to me that part of what faithfulness in each season means is full engagement with that season, and full engagement with the people sharing it with you. What has God given you to do in this season? Do it with all your might, for God’s glory. Who has God placed you with? Engage with them fully. Do the next right thing you know to do, asking the Lord to lead you as you go, and asking Him to help you see the beauty in it.

-Pastor Jacob



Maybe you guessed it! The person featured in our “Dear Younger Me” game last month was Naomi Martin. Be sure to thank her!

“Roving Reporter”

See how members of the congregation answer these three questions:

1. I first came to Paramount because...
2. If I could visit anywhere in the world, I would go see...
3. One thing I love about Jesus is...



Allison
Banzhoff

1. “My last church didn’t have any programming for my kids, and Paramount had good stuff for them.”
2. “The Egyptian pyramids.”
3. “His amazing grace, how we can go to Him anytime, anywhere, for anything!”

1. “God called me here!”
2. “Either Alaska or Japan.”
3. “Is that He’s simple enough that a child can understand Him, yet He’s the all knowing God.”

Pastor
Caleb



Frank
Kipe

1. “We moved to Hagerstown from Atlanta, and had been friends with Jim and Jane Stauffer in college. Further, when we moved, a band from the church helped clean the old house we bought.”
2. “Zimbabwe (where I was born) and Zambia (where I grew up).”
3. “He loves me when I do stupid things (not an infrequent occurrence).”

How much do you think about seasons? There is a beauty to their changing. They provide a certain rhythm to our lives and mark the progression of time, signaling important transitions and experiences to come. For myself, Summer still evokes a certain excitement and a nostalgia stemming from the end of school and the long summer breaks of my childhood. I imagine that this is true for you as well.

These are not the only types of seasons we encounter. In the book of Ecclesiastes we are reminded that, “There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens...” From there, the Teacher proceeds to enumerate the various seasons of life we encounter. I think it is worth considering what this says to us about the present circumstances in which we find ourselves. Good or bad, pleasant or painful, we find that they are temporary. They pass, and something new comes.

Recognizing that this is true, what does faithfulness in the various seasons through which we move look like?

I think this can be hard to determine, especially when we are struggling to see the goodness of the present season. I can remember the season of my life spent at Starbucks. It seemed to drag on, and I feared that the length of time might even become an obstacle to what I wanted to do vocationally—be a pastor. Yet, I can see now that there was such value in that season. In particular, that season brought me into relationship with a lot of people I do not get to rub shoulders with now. I had a lot of conversations with people about God. I remember one time I prayed for a person across the drink hand-off counter.

I was likewise becoming someone. God was using it, with all of its experiences, to form me. Yet, as valuable as it was, I spent a lot of time thinking about how to get out of that season and move on to bigger and better things. What would I have missed if I had managed to change my circumstances...

Continued on back page



Feb. 2: Soup-er-bowl Family Sunday

Feb. 9: Youth Superbowl Party
6:30 pm

Feb. 11: Deacons Board Meeting
1:30 pm

Feb. 15: Men's Breakfast
9:00 am

Feb. 16: Communion Sunday

Feb. 23: HAPC Baby Bottles Due / Stay and Pray Sunday



Birthdays & Anniversaries:

2 Jacob and Jamie Harrison / Todd and Joy Snouffer

14 Jared Banzhoff

4 Allison Banzhoff / Keith and Barb Keefer / Judy Moore

16 Dave and Donna Sue Dorsey

5 Kerri Mapes

18 Clint Stouffer

8 Donnie and Angie Cross

19 Danae Nowell

28 Stephanie LaFimee

9 Missi Banzhoff

13 Charlie Moore

News from the Church Board

Thank you to everyone who took part in our annual congregational council meeting, on January 22. It's good when the church family meets to reflect on the past year and plan for the year ahead. As a board, we've been discussing our church's mission and purpose, as we believe it is time to revisit our sense of why we're here and what the Lord is calling us to do. Pastor Jacob will be sharing about this with our church very soon. We want to join God in what He is doing here among us and out in our community. Here at the beginning of 2025, we want to remind you that our Church Board is comprised of Rod Miller (current Chairperson), Debbie Pitsnogle (current Secretary), Allison Banzhoff, Susan Milford, Clint Stouffer, Vickie Stouffer, Tina Horst, Ray Oberholzer, Pastor Caleb, and Pastor Jacob.

In the News

Look to this feature for important Paramount BIC news and announcements



The annual HAPC Baby Bottle Campaign has launched! Bottles are available in the foyer, along with some literature about the Hagerstown Area Pregnancy Clinic. Grab a bottle, fill it with any donation, and return it February 23.



Small groups give us an opportunity for growth in discipleship to Jesus among friends. Right now we have two groups meeting: one every other Tuesday, at the church building, and one at the home of Luke and Doris Horst, on Mondays, at 1:00 pm. Want to connect with a group? Talk to Pastor Jacob today!



Children are a precious gift and a profound responsibility, as we seek to raise them to know, love, and serve the Lord. On Feb. 9, the Nowell family will dedicate Moriah Nowell to the Lord.



The Golden Heirs ministry is making some changes! We will be meeting every two months, with the next meeting to be held March 10, serving a great menu of steamers, salads, fruit, and deserts. Anna Cross will be sharing her talents with the group that day! The following meeting will be held on Roxbury Camp's Seniors Day, May 13. Diane Armstrong is taking the lead, and is open to suggestions. Everyone, be sure to thank her for serving! If you're 55+, join in the fun!



Our next Men's Breakfast is Feb. 15! Men, join us at the Hagerstown Diner for a great breakfast, a time with friends, and a devotional message.