

# Proclaimer



## Fall Kick-off - Sunday, September 17

Make plans now to attend our **Fall Kick-off Sunday, September 17**. This is national "Back-to-Church" Sunday and we would like everyone to invite a friend. Statistics show that 85% of people surveyed who do not go to church said they would go if a friend asked them. We will have a Hog Roast after the service for a great lunch together. We also have many special things planned for that service. Bring a friend and join us!

If you are able to help us with this special Sunday we need volunteers for kitchen help, set-up, serving and clean up. You can also give a monetary donation to help cover the cost of food. Please sign up at the welcome desk or fill out the form that can be found on our mobile app or website: [www.pennway.org](http://www.pennway.org).

## A Place To Belong!

### New Sermon Series beginning Sunday, September 17

We will be studying through Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus for the fall. This is a letter written to the churches in Asia Minor and has some great lessons for us on how to be the church. Our world needs the church. We can change the world! Make sure to be a part of this study as we discover all God wants to teach us. We will have a resource list and reading guide available on the website to help us with this study.



### Sunday Morning from 9-10am beginning September 17

**Open Bible Class** - Taught by Gerry Tibbits in the Fellowship Hall

**The GIG** - "Growing In Grace" taught by Pastor Doug in Room 205

### Mid-week Groups

**Caregivers** - This group meets for eight weeks and focuses on ways to provide a calm and secure environment for the one you're caring for. You will also learn ways to manage daily life with the person, find help with caregiving tasks, and learn how to find time to take care of yourself. Taught by Roy Switzer beginning *Tuesday, September 12 at 2:00pm*.

**GriefShare** - For those grieving the loss of a loved one. This group meets for 13 weeks. Taught by Roy Switzer & Terri Rowe beginning *Tuesday, September 12 at 6:30-8:00pm* in Room 205.

**Read Through the Bible** - Taught by Pastor John beginning *Wednesday, September 20* from 6:30-8:00pm in Room 204.

**Marriage Class** - Taught by Dan & Debbie Quisenberry beginning *Wednesday, September 20* from 6:30-8:00pm in the Fireside Room.

**Financial Peace University** - Learn to control your money and prepare for the future. Beginning *Wednesday, September 20* from 6:30-8:00pm in Room 205.

**Home Groups** - Meets in the homes of Tom Bryde, Pastor John & Timm Rees. See the leader for details.

**Women in Relationships** - Taught by Deb Quisenberry. Meets twice a month.

**PRIME** - For adults 50 and over. Meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

## Pastors Paragraph

It is exciting to feel like you belong. That feeling of arrival – like sitting down to a homemade meal with your closest friends – brings a sense of inclusion like nothing else can. Everyone, no matter where they are in life, needs to know they belong. Something inside of us longs to be pursued, to be valued. This is what we here at Pennway hope all of you feel when we gather. You do belong here.

The word “church” means different things to different people. For some, it awakens warm feelings of childhood potlucks and singing. For others, it might trigger a more sour feeling, a subtle tensing of the shoulders. People’s reactions to the church are as varied as their individual histories. But what is God’s intention for the church? When God initiated the church, He had in mind a heartfelt connection of diverse people. He said that the greatest love we could show was to lay down our lives for our friends. There is no greater belonging than the one God intended in the church. The church is a community of people committed to doing life together and knowing the God of love. Through thick and thin, these are the friends who stay by our side. God wants each of us to find a place of belonging in His family.

This is why we will have some smaller groups for many of you to join. We want you to feel connected to other believers so that you feel that you belong with this church. The church is not a building. It is a community of people brought together to experience God’s love and purpose. That is why we are going to study through the letter that Paul wrote to the church at Ephesus this fall in our sermons. We are the church. We are a place to belong. That is the emphasis for our Kick-off Sunday. We hope that all of us will invite friends to come and find a place to belong here with us at Pennway. To belong means to be connected to God – to belong in His family. To belong means to be connected to others in the church – to belong to each other. To belong means to be connected to those in the world – to belong in God’s mission in the world. You belong! May we help others know they too belong!

In His Service,  
Pastor John



Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 for all kids, infant - 4th grade

**Welcome back to Kidzone Koneksi!** We will begin **Wednesday, September 20 @ 6:30-8pm.** We are excited for what this year has in store for your kids. Our first series is

“LUNCH ROOM: Make Space at the Table.” Jesus demonstrated friendship by showing us the greatest love when He laid down His life for His friends. He went to the cross, not on principle or for a cause, but because of love and wanting to be with us forever. Our key verse will be *“A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes.”* Proverbs 17:17 NIV, and our Life App will be Friendship: Using your words and actions to show you care. We look forward to a year full of making new friends!



**Wednesday Night Free Family Meal** - Our Free Family Meals kick-off the same night as Kidzone Koneksi, September 20, at 6pm. A free dinner for the whole family will be served each Wednesday. Parents/guardians must stay with their kids during the meal until they are checked in and dropped off to their class (no earlier than 6:20pm).

**Sunday Morning Children’s Ministry** - Starting Kick-Off Sunday, September 17. We will have a new morning schedule for our kids. As Reggie Joiner, Founder and CEO of Orange, states, *“No matter what age you work with, you are not babysitting, entertaining, or distracting kids. You are equipping the next generation to be the Church. When you say YES to children’s ministry, you are partnering with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”* We want every Sunday morning group for kids to be a place equipping happens. This new format will help that happen.

- ◀ **LIL’ KIDZ** - 0-4 year olds: Rooms 102/103 – meets during the entire worship service.
- ◀ **KIDZONE KIDZYME JR.** - 5 year olds (by the end of 2017 calendar year) – 1st grade: Room 105  
- meets during the entire worship service.
- ◀ **KIDZONE KIDZYME** - 2nd-4th grade: Kidzone – will be dismissed during worship service.

"oh, to tell you my story  
is to tell of Him."

Everyone has a story to tell. Each month we will feature a member of our congregation sharing how God is working in their lives. If you have a story to tell, email [laura@pennway.org](mailto:laura@pennway.org).

I got engaged last year to a foreign national who is a beautiful and God fearing woman. The journey to bring her here in order to marry has been a challenge, but God has been with us every step of the way. We met on a dating website and God brought us together. We had been talking for almost a year so in May 2016, I flew to Hong Kong to meet her in person. I knew she was the one I wanted to marry so I surprised her with my proposal.

After returning to the states, the first thing we had to do was to send in a petition for a visa. Once the petition sent, I was told it could take seven months or more for the entire process. For the next several weeks I had to reassure my fiance that God brought us together and he would not abandon us now. I truly believe he had his hand in this.

Finally, the petition was approved and received by the U.S. Embassy in Hong Kong. We found out through the visa support group that my fiance needed to provide evidence of our relationship and paperwork for a personal interview. Some items that were the strongest proof of our relationship were missing. I still had no doubt that God would see us through this.

All this time, I knew that God would get us through and bring us together, but at the last I doubted. The day of her interview, my nerves were on edge. There were things about my life that I questioned whether it would be good enough for them to issue the visa. My fear was they would be discussed in great detail at the interview and they would reject the visa. When the call finally came from her, the news brought tears to my eyes. They approved the visa. The interviewers did not request any additional paper work from her that she did not already give them, and she only had two separate interviews that day. All of her support group had three or four interviews. God was with us through the whole experience. Even when I gave into doubt he did not abandon us. I thank him that even though I falter, he does not. Our God is an Awesome God indeed. *By Jon Decker*

## Volunteer Training Kick-Off Event

Have you said YES to children and/or youth ministry this year? Please join us **Saturday, September 9** from 9am-3pm for a Volunteer Training Kick-Off Event. We will be covering many topics to make this a successful year. Childcare and lunch will be provided, as well as lots of resources, goodies, and giveaways. Please make every effort to attend. Please RSVP by September 6 to Pastor Becky or Pastor Shelby. Questions? See Becky or Shelby. This is going to be an exciting year!

**Thank you for your donations for the military support project. We were able to send out 27 boxes.**

## September Calendar

- 03 • Spanish Worship.....10:30am
- 03 • POTLUCK.....11:45am
- 04 • Labor Day, Office Closed
- 05 • Senior Adult Breakfast.....8:30am
- 06 • Prayer Time.....5:15-6pm
- 07 • Zumba W/ Ronda.....6pm
- 09 • Volunteer Training.....9am-3pm
- 10 • PROCLAIMER DEADLINE
- 10 • Spanish Worship.....10:30am
- 12 • CareGivers.....2pm
- 12 • GriefShare.....6:30-8pm
- 13 • Prayer Time.....5:15-6pm
- 13 • Friendship Group.....6:30-7:45pm
- 14 • Zumba W/ Ronda.....6pm
- 17 • Spanish Worship.....10:30am
- 17 • Fall Kick-off & Hog Roast...10:30am
- 17 • 7:12 (Youth Ministry).....5-6:30pm
- 18 • Blaze Pizza Fundraiser.....5-8pm
- 19 • Senior Adult Breakfast.....8:30am
- 19 • CareGivers.....2pm
- 19 • GriefShare.....6:30-8pm
- 20 • Prayer Time.....5:15-6pm
- 20 • Family Meal.....6-6:20pm
- 20 • KidZone Konnection...6:30-8:00pm
- 20 • 56 Club.....6:30-8pm
- 20 • Friendship Group.....6:30-7:45pm
- 20 • Marriage Class.....6:30-8pm
- 20 • Read the Bible Class.....6:30-8pm
- 20 • FPU.....6:30-8pm
- 21 • Zumba W/ Ronda.....6-7pm
- 22 • Pinterest Night.....6:30-8:30pm
- 24 • Spanish Worship.....10:30am
- 24 • Pizza w/ the Pastors.....11:45am
- 26 • CareGivers.....2pm
- 26 • GriefShare.....6:30-8pm
- 27 • Prayer Time.....5:15-6pm
- 27 • Family Meal.....6-6:20pm
- 27 • KidZone Konnection...6:30-8:00pm
- 27 • 56 Club.....6:30-8pm
- 27 • Friendship Group.....6:30-7:45pm
- 27 • Marriage Class.....6:30-8pm
- 27 • Read the Bible Class.....6:30-8pm
- 27 • FPU.....6:30-8pm
- 28 • Zumba W/ Ronda.....6-7pm

## Save the Dates!

### Ladies Pinterest Night

Friday, September 22 @ 6:30-8:30pm

### The Living Nativity

December 22 & 23

Watch your PenNotes for more details!

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## Pennway Youth Ministries

7:12

**Sunday Nights from 6-8pm  
for grades 7-12**

### SCHEDULE

**September 17** - Kick-Off!

**September 24** - Get to know your Small Group Leader!

**October 1** - Hello My Name Is...

5/6  
CLUB

56 Club Meets Wednesdays @ 6:30-8pm for students in 5th and 6th grade. Join us at 6pm for dinner with your family.

**September 20 - Welcome Back!**

(56 Club follows the same series & schedule as Kid-Zone Konnection)



FAST-FIRE'D.

Enjoy some pizza & support our youth by having dinner at Blaze Pizza in Frandor on Sept. 18 from 5-8pm. Flyers will be available at the Welcome Desk.

## PRIME

It's time to kick off the fall season with our PRIME luncheon on Tuesday, September 12 at noon. Join us for a great afternoon! Be sure to sign up and pay for the Michigan Princess Fall Color Tour Cruise.

It's time for our PRIME outings. We have two trips planned. On Thursday, October 5, we will be going on the **Michigan Princess Color Tour**. The cost is \$35 per person. Arrive at the boat docks at 11am. We will enjoy lunch and the beautiful fall colors while onboard and return to the docks at 1:30pm. You must be signed up and paid by September 17.

On Thursday, November 9, we will be going to **Turkeyville** to see "Rocking Around the Christmas Tree". The cost is \$35 per person which includes lunch and the show. The last day to sign up and pay for this trip is October 15. We will car pool for these trips, so if you plan to drive and have room for extra people, or if you need a ride, let Joyce know (676-9360). Checks for these trips can be made out to Pennway Church of God and put the name of the trip in the memo line. You can either drop it in the offering or bring your payment with you to our PRIME luncheons. Hope to see you there!