



# “THE STARTER”

## SEPTEMBER 2021

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### Space Music

One of NASA’s observatories has discovered a giant black hole that hums. Located in the Perseus cluster of galaxies about 250 million light years from Earth, the black hole vibrates at the frequency of a B flat. But it is too low a pitch to be picked up by the human ear. Scientific instruments have placed the note at 57 octaves below middle C on a piano.

The idea of music and heavenly bodies is not new. In fact, when God revealed Himself to Job, He asked, “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? When the morning stars sang together, and all of the sons of God shouted for Joy?” (Job 38:4,7) We are told that at creation of our marvelous universe, songs of praise and shouts of joy resounded to God’s glory. A wonderful hymn by St. Francis of Assisi captures the awe and worship we feel when beholding the radiant sun by day or the star-studded sky at night.

*All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice and with us sing  
Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
Thou silver moon with softer gleam;  
O praise Him, O praise Him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the Firmament show his handiwork” (Psalm 19:1)  
Let’s praise the One who made such beauty for us to enjoy!

Dennis Fisher



*Good Morning! This is God.  
I will be handling all your  
problems today. I will not need  
your help. So have a good day!*



### Pastor Heidemann Recovering

Our interim pastor, Rev. David Heidemann, is recovering nicely from his knee replacement on August 18<sup>th</sup>. We are praying for complete recovery and full use with no pain.

We’ve been blessed to see Rev. Karl Johnson again in our pulpit during this time. Thank You, pastor Johnson! It’s always nice to see your smiling face!



### Thank You, Thank You!

We received a note from Abigail Women’s Center. We really know how to fill up a baby bottle. All of the change we so generously gave totaled \$967.86. Betty Pappas, director, said our donation will make a huge difference with the help they provide protecting new life.



### Choir Rehearsals Resume

Our chancel choir will resume singing once again this fall. Hallelujah! Anyone who loves to sing for the Lord is welcome to join. We’ll start rehearsals on September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Let’s sing a joyful noise!



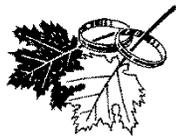


*Ellen's mother has been called home to the Lord on August 17, 2021. We share our deepest prayers and sympathies!*



October is Missions Month

*The Mission Board is excited to announce who we will be having during our Missions Awareness month. You won't want to miss a Sunday in October as we hear updates from the missions this church supports. We've invited Jay LaRette with Transport for Christ, Bible Tracts, Cup of Cold Water and Betty Pappas with Abigail Women's Center. Go ye, into all the world and preach the gospel.*



Katie Redmon Bridal Show

*You're invited to a bridal shower luncheon for Katie Redmon on September 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:00p.m. Since Katie is consolidating two households, there are none of the usual bridal needs. So a gift card from your favorite store or restaurant is the perfect gift. Please sign up on the Welcome Table.*

Redmon-Beuster Wedding

*We pray for God's richest blessings for Katie Redmon and Michael Beuster, married on September 11, 2021*



Food Pantry and PADS

*Don't forget the baskets in the hall are waiting to be filled with items to be donated to the two food pantries and PADS. And please do some shopping at Lily Pads. All sales help support the homeless shelter.*



*Congratulations Konel Poisson on all the work you did to achieve your Eagle Scout badge. Konel chose to build a fire pit on the east lawn for this Eagle Scout project. We will enjoy hotdogs and smores this fall. Cub Scouts will also enjoy using it for Den and Pack meetings.*



*Thank you, Konel, Gary and the boys!*



Fellowship Hour is Returning!

*We have missed gathering for fellowship on Sunday morning. Hooray, it is returning every other week. It will begin September 19<sup>th</sup> as we say goodbye to our dear friend, Sandy Starr who will be moving this month with her daughter, Donna. We wish her well and God's richest blessings in her new home.*

*Sandy Starr  
12367 Hambright Rd. Apt. 111  
Huntersville, NC 28078*

Sign up for Cupcakes

*We are having special cupcakes during fellowship hour on the 19<sup>th</sup> to say goodbye. Please sign up on the Welcome Table if you plan on attending.*



Supply & Multiply

Christina Surber will be in the pulpit on September 12<sup>th</sup> to give us an update on Supply and Multiply in Haiti.



Beth Flaherty

For those who missed our Facebook notice, Beth Flaherty was called to the Lord's side on June 25<sup>th</sup>. A graveside service was held in Spring Valley on July 5<sup>th</sup>.



Just for Fun

The graveside service had just barely finished when there was a massive clap of thunder, followed by a tremendous bolt of lightning, accompanied by even more thunder rumbling in the distance.

The old man looked at the pastor and calmly said, "Well, she's there."



Bibles and Cell Phones

What would happen if we treated our Bibles like we treat our cell phones?

What if we carried it around in our purses?

What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?

What if we flipped thru it several times a day?

What if we used it to receive text messages?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to kids as a gift?

What if we used it as we traveled?

What if we used it in case of an emergency?

Unlike our cell phones being disconnected, it can't happen with your Bible because Jesus paid the bill.

Never any dropped calls!!



Address Correction

Lillian Mini

205 Kenyon Dr.

Springfield, IL 62704



\*Pray for the health of Jane McClintock, Char & Pete Belski, Sonny Whittington, Marilyn Cobb, Rita Tieman, Dawn's parents, Pastor Heidemann

\*\*Please pray for daily grace for our shut-ins:

Myrle Sapienza Carol Edgcomb

Don Walker Jane McClintock

Lillian Mini Daryl & Lin Stuhr

\*\* Pray for Pastor Roy Jacob & Peace Mission in India caring for children and widows

\*\* Pray for Ed & Jane Skowron

\*\* Pray for Jews for Jesus

\*\* Pray for the Surbers and Supply & Multiply

\*\* Pray for Abigail Women's Clinic

\*\* Pray for Cup of Cold Water Ministries

\*\* Pray for Transport for Christ

\*\* Pray for PADS providing shelter to the Homeless

\*\*Pray that God will bring the next pastor for us that can inspire us to share his love with those needing to hear his word.



Ellen Will Be Out of the Office

Ellen will be gone the week of Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> for her mother's funeral. Ellen will also be gone the week of Sept 19<sup>th</sup> on a much needed vacation



It may feel like fall, but we still have plenty of weeds growing. Please maintain the landscape area you signed up to keep clean.



If a tiny virus can do this much damage.....  
Imagine what a mustard seed of faith can do.....

*Our Pastor Search Committee found the following article worth serious consideration.*

## **Five Common Themes in Churches with High Pastor Turnover**

*This reality is becoming increasingly common. More churches are losing pastors after only a brief tenure. Even more troubling, many of these same churches are seeing these patterns repeat themselves with each consecutive pastor.*

*I recently worked with one church that had six pastors in nine years. Not one of the pastors made it to the third year. They wanted my help to determine what was wrong with all these pastors. My suggestion that they might be the problem was not received well.*

*Though no two churches are alike, we are seeing common patterns and themes in these high pastor turnover churches. Here are five of the most common themes:*

**1. They think it's the pastors' fault.** *It is difficult to help these churches. There is none so blind as he or she who will not see. The church I noted had not even considered that losing six pastors in nine years might point to the problems with the church. They were offended that I even suggested that possibility.*

**2. They see the pastor as a hired hand for the church members.** *Many of these church members tell the pastor what to do. They expect the pastor to respond quickly and obediently. I get nauseated when I hear a church member say, "We pay the salaries and the bills around here." That attitude of selfishness and entitlement is deadly to a church.*

**3. They have a power group that desires to retain power.** *Woe to the pastor who challenges the power group, even if that challenge is based upon sound biblical principles. It won't be long before that pastor leaves. Some will leave quietly. Some will challenge the group. Most will lose and still leave.*

**4. They see those in the community as outsiders.** *This mindset is congruent with the view that the church is like a country club, where the members get their preferences and desires met. The church rarely tries to reach those in the community lest the outsiders mess up their church. By the way, pastors are outsiders too. They come and go. And if they try to stay too long, they will soon have major challenges on their hands.*

**5. They have established traditions and methodologies they refuse to give up.** *One such church had run out of space for their community groups. There was a class, however, in the biggest room in the church other than the worship center. That class had been in that room prior to the Apostle Paul. They occupied less than ten percent of the room. If they were willing to leave, the one room could have become five rooms. They refused. It was, after all, their room.*

*Many churches are struggling to find pastors. Many of those churches have experienced high pastor turnover. Word travels fast among pastors. At some point, the pool of those pastors willing to come to your church will dry up.*

*Any change will have to come from the hearts of the church members. They must understand it is not their church. Until that point comes, pastors will leave quickly.*

*If they are even willing to come at all.*

Thomas S. Rainer