



SOUP AND STUFF STARTS IN SEPTEMBER

Starting on September 12th and continuing every Wednesday from 6:00 pm until 7:30 pm, Vance Memorial Presbyterian Church will kick off a new initiative called Soup and Stuff. This evening event will be held in the Robbie Clarke Room and include a light meal of soup and bread and then time for participants to excuse themselves to choir practice or to enjoy adult educational or social programming.

The first segment of this programming we will attempt will be a book study called *The Prodigal God* written by *The New York Times* bestselling author Timothy Keller.

Newsweek called renowned minister Timothy Keller "a C.S. Lewis for the twenty-first century"...in *The Prodigal God*, Keller takes his trademark intellectual approach to understanding Christianity and uses the parable of the prodigal son to reveal an unexpected message of hope and salvation. Within that parable Jesus reveals God's prodigal grace toward both the irreligious and the moralistic. This book will challenge us to see Christianity in a whole new way. In this six-session small group Bible study, the author uses the Prodigal Son to illustrate the depth of God's love and how God's grace extends into some very unexpected places.

Taking you beyond the traditional focus on the wayward younger son, Keller helps you glean insights from each of the characters in Jesus' parable: the irreligious younger son, the moralistic elder son, and the Father who lavishes his love on both. Inside this guide, you'll explore questions for group discussion and personal reflection, and exercises that will help you experience the truths of Jesus' parable in your own life. The gospel is neither religion nor irreligion, but something else entirely. Whether you're a devout believer or a skeptic, *The Prodigal God* will challenge you to see Christianity in a whole new way.

See you on Wednesday evenings! Come enjoy the Spirit of Vance!

AdVance News Weekly

Sunday, September 16, 2018

- Good Morning! Please fill-out, sign and pass the Pew Pad to fellow worshippers and place it in the pew rack near the center aisle. Please place today's slip in the offering plate as it passes.
- We thank Ted Owens for serving as our liturgist in worship. Now that summer is over and we are all getting back into the swing of things how about signing up to be a liturgist? Please sign up on the clip board at the Welcome Center in the Narthex or contact Sue Abraham at soabraham@aol.com if you are interested in this important service to our congregation.
- Sanctuary Flowers are given in memory of Jean & Carl Gustkey.
- Sunday School for children, youth (Confirmation Class), and adults is at 9am every Sunday. We will be asking someone to lead each week's adult session which will meet in the church library. Anyone wishing to volunteer to lead just one session should talk to Erica or Jane. *User-friendly curriculum will be provided.* See you next week!
- The Vance Church Soup Kitchen Team will be serving Sept. 18, 2018 from 8:30am-12:30pm. Just meet at the Soup Kitchen if you would like to volunteer!
- Food Pantry: The Deacon's would like to thank the church for their generous donations of non-perishable food items to the Food Pantry. In AUGUST, your generosity helped 23 Ohio County Families with Groceries! **SEPTEMBER is PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY and CRACKERS MONTH** Please use a "FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS" envelope in the pew rack for your monetary donations, and place them in the offering plate as it passes.

