

The Spirit

Volume 74 No. 5 May 2021



**A publication of St. John's United Church of Christ
Chambersburg, Pennsylvania**

From Pastor Caroline

“We are pilgrims on a journey, we are travelers on the road, we are here to help each other go the mile and bear the load.” Richard Gillard’s 1977 hymn “The Servant Song” evokes the nature of discipleship and the necessity of community. We affirm the cost and joy of being the church, what it means to follow Jesus and to be his hands and feet in the world. We strive to create the beloved community and to bring forth the kingdom of God.

The past year has taught us a lot about resiliency and creativity and faith. We keep growing in the love of God and our neighbor. We embrace technology as a way to connect with each other. We pray for each other, knowing that God is with us in the midst of new dimensions. This month we will celebrate the life of Rev. Glenn E. Schultz on May 15 and the baptism of Sadie Grace Boyer on May 23 (Pentecost). We give thanks for the leadership of the past and the leadership of the future. We give thanks for opportunities to learn and grow and engage around tough topics such as fear, hatred, and marginalization and live out our Covenant of Welcome and Affirmation (May 16). We are regathering and reentering and reimagining what our future will look like, guided and sustained by the Holy Spirit.

Over the month of May, we will be reintroducing congregational singing (which I know we have all really missed) as well as PowerPoint presentations during worship. We give thanks for vaccines and increased eligibility, as well as updated guidance from the CDC regarding masks, distancing, and outdoor gatherings. Outdoor worship will be held the third Sunday of the month beginning in June, with music provided by our Praise Team. Saturday Night Worship will also be held outside in the summer months. We are Easter people, following the risen Christ. We are being the church wherever we are, inside and outside the walls of our building. God is still speaking; we are still listening.

May the fresh winds of the Holy Spirit enliven and invigorate us, guiding and sustaining us as we continue to navigate the days and weeks to come, living into a hopeful future, where all may be one.

Peace,

Pastor Caroline



- ◆ **Office Hours:**

Monday through Friday, 9am-3pm

- ◆ **Reminder:**

The Church Office is CLOSED on Monday, May 31, 2021 for Memorial Day.

- ◆ **Donations:**

We are still accepting donations of cleaning supplies such as disinfectant wipes and spray

- ◆ **Volunteers Needed:**

We are still accepting volunteers for the church office. Volunteers would be assisting in phone/door coverage, greeting visitors, and light office duties as needed. To sign up to be an office volunteer, please call the church office.

ST. JOHN'S NURSERY SCHOOL



School News

Happy Spring! I hope you are enjoying this beautiful weather! The Nursery School held their annual Smith Chicken BBQ on Saturday, March 27, and we sold just shy of 1,000 meals! This huge success would not have been possible without the support of St. John's Church and our Nursery School Ministry and Staff.

A very special thank you goes to Mary Lou Hendrickson, Linda Zeger, and Renee Byers for coordinating this fundraiser, and to everyone who worked the BBQ, sold tickets, and enjoyed the yummy chicken!

The Nursery School is still accepting registrations for the 2021-2022 school year. We are happy to report that we are currently 63% full, with new registrations arriving every week! Our staff is so excited to get back into the classroom!!

Blessings to you and your family,
Kari Rock Director, St. John's Nursery School



MUSIC MINISTRY


FOR ALL THE SAINTS,

This is a very famous hymn that I think many of you know and enjoy singing. It was written by the Anglican Bishop of Wakefield, William Walsham How, and first appeared in print in 1864. It is sung on “All Saints Day” as well as other times in the Christian Church year. All Saints day is a day of celebration and the stanzas of this hymn describe the common like of all saints; the credit to Jesus Christ for drawing us all to him; the strength and guidance we continue to draw from him, our joint communion in Christ for continued strength against evil and the coming day when the dead shall rise and we all worship together before God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

All saints day is celebrated as a Christian Festival to honor the saints who have died in the past year and in many Christian churches is celebrated on November 1st. in many places the tradition says that you should honor these saints by visiting the grave site, clean the stone and put flowers on the grave.

I am writing about this hymn because it has been selected by Rev. Glenn Schultz for his Memorial service to be celebrated on May 15th in our church. This is a very fitting piece of music for us to celebrate the life of a former friend and pastor of St. John’s United Church of Christ.

Gary Crum



MAY 17, 2021 | 6:30 PM

BIBLE & A BEER

Theological conversations
Rich discussion
Powerful testimony

Join us on Zoom:
Meeting ID: 988 0698 9309
Passcode: 958194

Bring your questions,
Invite your friends!

JOIN US FOR

Saturday Night Worship

May 8, 2021 | 5:30 pm | Fellowship Hall

Family-friendly worship
with Communion (bring your own elements)

Join us for a wonderful worship experience!

St. John's United Church of Christ
1811 Lincoln Way E
Chambersburg, PA



UPDATE:

Our Sanctuary Roof and Fellowship Hall Roof project is complete, April 2021.

Thank you to everyone that helped out covering the church pews, clean up, etc. A Huge Thank You to our Roofing Contractor Company, Donald B. Smith.



May BIRTHDAYS

Doreen Horn 5/09

Larry Wadel 5/11

Christina Myers 5/11

Christopher Marotte 5/13

Frances Herrity 5/14

Neilan Rensch Jr 5/14

Lori Leister 5/14

Naomi Mull 5/15

Jeffrey Young 5/16

James Boyer 5/16

Colton Wadel 5/16

Joe Wohl 5/17

Rafael Cuesta 5/20

Eleanor Leam 5/23

Vera Reber 5/23

Joann Snider 5/23

James Patterson II 5/23

**The Rev. Stephen Hoffman
5/25**

Luke Herbert 5/26

Jerry Miller 5/29

W Richard Rebok 5/30

Hayden Johnson 5/30

Noah Wright 5/30

Melinda Orndorff 5/31

Amanda Gillan 5/31



Youth Ministry

VBS is Taking Shape!

The Children and Youth Ministry Team has been hard at work envisioning and planning what Vacation Bible School will look like in 2021.

We are exploring an alternative curriculum that would suit a one-day VBS experience. We are planning an all day, one day only, outside event, on July 31st. If you have not been contacted but would like to help, please email Roxanne Davenport.

The items you have saved for “Knights of North Castle” will be used in 2022. Please do feel free to bring those items to the church. The decorated shopping cart is located at the entrance by Fellowship Hall.

Items for “Knights of North Castle”

Cotton filler/batting

Rolls of Iridescent cloth/paper

Long brown paper used as filler in packaging

Styrofoam coolers/lids used in shipping frozen food/medications

Puzzle pieces small to medium size

Scrabble tiles

Many thanks to the Youth and advisors who helped weed and mulch the flower beds at either end of Parking Lot A. Zoe Dereef, Addie Dietrich, and Melinda Orndorff. [They look great!](#)

SPRING CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 11 AM

Join us in the Sanctuary or on Zoom via video chat or call-in
Meeting ID 959 4270 2879 & Passcode 322355
Call in option: 646 558 8656 or 301 715 8592
(use Meeting ID and Passcode to join by phone)

Meeting packets will be available at the Welcome Center
and posted on our website.

THANK YOU!

St. John's Friends—there are not enough words to fully express our heart felt thanks for the sympathy love and support you have extended to our family during this time of loss. We are forever grateful during this time of loss. Kevin was a great husband and father lost at such a young age. Even though we can't repay you we will be forever grateful that you all were kind enough to do what you did even though you don't know me or my kids, but you all know my mom, Wanda Earnest.

Thanks again, the Durf Family and Wanda Earnest.



St John's Camp is a "GO" for 2021!

Camp Kum-Ba-Yah: Sunday June 27 until Wednesday June 30 for campers that have completed 3rd-5th grade.

Camp Noah: Tuesday, July 6th until Friday July 9th, for campers that have completed K- 2nd grade.

Camp Galilee: Sunday July 11th until Wednesday July 14th, for campers who have completed 6th-9th grade. We added 9th grade for campers who would have "aged out."

We are also looking for lots of volunteers to help with camp this summer. We are particularly in need of male and female counselors for the two overnight camps. Also, because we created an extensive health and safety plan following recommendations from the CDC and PA Department of Health, we really need additional staff. You can help by volunteering to share a Life Learnings or a God Talk, coming up to help in the kitchen, or volunteer to be a part of the cleaning crew to help keep camp safe for everyone involved. All volunteers need to have Safe Church Clearances. If you are interested in volunteering in any capacity this summer for St. John's camp, please contact Calvin Frantz at calvinafrantz@yahoo.com or at our Camp e-mail camp@sjucc1811.org.

Thank you and we are looking forward to having campers back at St. John's Camp this summer!

THE OPEN AND AFFIRMING MINISTRY TEAM

In our Open and Affirming Ministry's efforts to keep informed of upcoming emphasis on educating ourselves of important days to recognize, and to at least pause for a few moments, to honor groups with various struggles and needs, we are listing some of those times for the month of May:

Designations for recognition during the entire month of May are -

---Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

---Mental Health Awareness Month

May 17 – International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia

May 21 – World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development – a day to learn to live together in harmony.

A special emphasis will take place on Sunday, May 16 at St. John's UCC to highlight the May 17 focus. As part of our worship on May 16, we will hear a personal story from alithia zamantakis, Director of LGBTQ Programs and Services at Shippensburg University. She is a PhD Candidate in Sociology at Georgia State University where she also received her M.A. in Sociology. Her dissertation analyzes the sociopolitical and cultural conditions that give rise to anti-Black trans violence. A published academic and literary author, alithia is dedicated to making trans lives livable.

Following the worship service, there will be a Q&A session wherein alithia will touch on how we come to internalize fear of and contempt for queer/trans individuals. She will discuss the social roots of transphobia/homophobia, how it plays out in the lives of queer/trans people, and how it affects all of us, including those who are not queer/trans. She will conclude by discussing how we shift from a place of fear and contempt to a place of empathy and compassion. This is an opportunity for us all to develop a deeper understanding of marginalized individuals. Please join us as we continue to live out our covenant of welcome and affirmation at St. John's UCC.





The First Fruits for the month of May is in support of the Race Against Poverty. This is a community event that takes place in Chambersburg and benefits the Support Circles initiative at SCCAP (South Central Community Action Programs). This event began in 2010 and the Race has drawn over 5000 runners/walkers of every age. Pre-pandemic years, it was an opportunity to race through historic downtown Chambersburg as participants raised funds for the cause. However, last year and this year, the race is a virtual activity, wherein folks can do their run or walk within a designated week long format. 100% of the proceeds from the event goes to Support Circles where families attempt to overcome poverty and build long term financial stability, benefitting themselves as well as being more engaged and participatory in our community, working together to enhance all of us as we build to be a beloved community. Supporting the Race Against Poverty is an opportunity for St. John's to take a stand against poverty. Several churches have supported this program in varied ways over these many years, some preparing meals for their regular weekly meetings, some making direct financial donations. This year, the St. John's Outreach Ministry and the ONA Ministry have come together to request St. John's support this fundraising event by becoming a financial sponsor. It is a way for St. John's to promote our message of welcome and support. This will also result in the name of St. John's being featured in much of the publicity and memorabilia. We ask that you support us via the designated recipient of First Fruits for the month of May.



Outreach would like to thank the congregation for its generous support of our First Fruits and our Lenten offerings. January First Fruits for the Fayetteville Food Pantry amounted to \$665.00 dollars.

February First Fruits for CAMS South and North:

The youth donated 21 bags of hygiene items for CAMS South totaling \$268.12 CAMS North received a check for \$349.88.

The total for our Lenten Project in March and April totaled \$4,664.22 Each organization will receive \$1,166.07.



Dear Church Family,

Our family is so grateful for the cards and notes and the sympathy expressed following the death of my mother, Carol Confer, in Rochester, NY. We also were so appreciative of the basket plant we received from the congregation.

We are truly blessed to be part of this warm, caring congregation.

Thank you!

Blessings to all,

Cathy & Tom Kinton

I want to say thank you to my St. John's family for the beautiful cards and notes I received after Glenn's passing; also for Pastor Caroline and Connie Evans visit. It meant so much to me. Since Glenn passed 2 days before his 95th birthday he didn't get to see all his cards and notes he received, but it meant so much to me and Glenn's family to read them. It was such a comfort and support.

Ann Osterman

Thank you so much for all the prayers, emails, calls, meals, cards, planters, and assistance I have received in these very difficult past 3 months. Healing is a continuous journey. This church family is amazing and I could not have gotten this far without your support. Roxanne Davenport

Thank you St. John's family, for flowers, cards and prayers. It always made my day when I knew someone was thinking of me.

Bernice Tosten

Thank you to my St. John's family and also to Pastor Caroline for sending me an Easter lily. As I watched the service Sunday, the alter looked so beautiful with all the white lilies . I also want to thank Lynda Pound for bringing the flowers all the way to my home in St. Thomas.

Lois Young

Dear St. John's family,

I am still enjoying my BIG, BEAUTIFUL Easter lily all 6 flowers have bloomed. Thanks for remembering me. Thanks also to the many "family members" who sent birthday cards.- I really had quite a display on my hutch cupboard.

Beverly Peters



Ministry Chairs

2020-2021

Called to Care—*Connie Morrill-Hair
and Lisa Frantz*

Camp—*Eileen Shaffer*

Caring Cooks—*Lisa Frantz*

Children & Youth Ministry—*Roxanne Davenport*

Facilities Ministry—*Ken Dilling*

Fellowship—*Sue McMurtray*

Finance—*Scot Orndorff*

Invitational Ministry—*Susan Collier*

Library—*Mary Lee Yaukey*

Nursery School—*Linda Zeger*

Open and Affirming—*Jim Boyer*

Outreach—*Lynda Pound*

Prayer Shawl Ministry — *Nina Widmann*

Public Relations— *TBD- Suggestions/ Volunteers Welcome!*

Safe Church Compliance—Safe Church Compliance Steward, *Sarah Herbert*

Safe Church Response—Safe Church Compliance Steward, *Sarah Herbert*

Safety and Security—*Tom Kinton*

Technology and Media Ministry— *Calvin Frantz*

Worship/Music Ministry—*Gary Crum*

Want to serve
on a Ministry?

These Ministry teams
would welcome you &
your talents!

Speak to them or Pastor
Caroline today to be a part
of these ministries.

CONSISTORY 2020-2021

Trustees

Peter A'Zary

Ken Dilling, **Head Trustee**

Tom Kinton

Elders

Peg Bryner

Fran Herrity

Diana Kongkeattikul, **Vice President**

Connie Morrill-Hair

Gary Patterson

Eileen Shaffer, **Secretary, Head Elder**

Deacons

Mike Blumberg

David Dietrich

Julie Dereef

Lisa Fair, **President, Head Deacon**

Calvin Frantz

Michael Herbert

Pastor

The Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

**Sunday Worship will be at 10 am
(Offered Online and In-Person*)**

St. John's UCC Communion Dates for 2021

Saturday, May 8, 5:30 pm (Fellowship Hall*)

Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 10:00 am (Online & In-Person*)

Sunday, June 6, 10:00 am (Online & In-Person*)

Saturday, June 12, 5:30 pm (Outside on the Lawn)

*In-Person dates subject to COVID-19 restrictions



St. John's United Church of Christ

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Chambersburg, PA 17202**

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