

# The Spirit

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

## *From Pastor Caroline*

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, living into our Easter faith where God reigns and death does not have the final word.

Like many of you, I grew up with the traditions and practices of Lent. The disciplines of Lent have helped to center us in our faith, taking us back to the essentials, grounding us in the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. The season of Eastertide is less familiar, even to me. It is the season after Easter and before Pentecost, seven weeks of celebration, resurrection, and joy.

Why should we not focus more on joy? What not remember that hallelujah is forever?

The past several years have presented us with challenges that we could never have anticipated. As we reflect on what has been and what lies ahead, it is good to remember to focus on joy. The UCC StillSpeaking Writers Group put together an Eastertide devotional this year. It is a new project for them; usually they write devotionals for the more contemplative seasons of Advent and Lent. We spend so much time in Lent that we forget that Easter lasts even longer. As Vince Amlin writes, "Death has had its day. Hallelujah is forever."

Talitha Arnold quotes UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld's 1953 affirmation, "For all that has been, Thanks! For all that will be, Yes!" in her April 18 Eastertide devotional. What a truly transformative phrase. It is a reminder to look back with thanks and look forward with promise and hope and "yes." This is true in our personal lives; this is true in our life as St. John's UCC.

God continues to make all things new. God continues to break every chain, to bring life out of death, and to lead us and guide us as Easter people, people of the resurrection.

Our Easter celebrations continue on. This month we will celebrate the baptism of Zayla Marie Stull, daughter of Emily Stull and granddaughter of Amanda Gillan. Our Saturday service will be held in the Sanctuary as a service of story and song, reminding us of all that God has done. We will honor the life of Mary "Peggy" Orr, as she has joined the company of the saints of light. Camp Sunday will get us ready for the summer camping season at St. John's Camp. Our four confirmands are nearly done with this phase of their faith journey. Those who choose to be officially confirmed will join the church on Sunday, June 5, Pentecost. The month of May offers us a myriad of opportunities to celebrate life.

## ***From Pastor Caroline Continued***

I will be away with my Next Generation Leadership Initiative (NGLI) colleagues in Detroit, MI, April 28 to May 2. It will be so good to be with those friends whom I have not seen in-person in more than two years. Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Herrold will preach and lead worship on May 1. Recently retired pastor Rev. Peter Emig will preach and lead worship on May 15 while I am in Iowa visiting my dad (he'll be celebrating his 87<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 19) and brother David. I'm grateful for these opportunities for learning and celebration. There will be much joy, indeed.

May the season of Eastertide be filled with joy and wonder and awe. Alleluia! Amen.

*Peace,  
Pastor Caroline*

"Pastor Caroline's NGLI Cohort"



# ST. JOHN'S NURSERY SCHOOL

It has been an amazing year here at St. John's Nursery School. The 2021-2022 school year has been filled with many challenges and blessings and I am grateful for the opportunity to work with such talented staff and supportive families.

The toddlers have grown so much and mastered so many important developmental skills! They have grown in confidence and are ready to move on to our 3-year-old program next school year. The 3 year olds are an amazingly fun group. They have learned to be productive and confident members of our classroom communities and I am so proud of how they have grown this year! The 4 year olds are ready for Kindergarten! Through the curriculums of Eureka, Heggerty, and Foundations, our teachers have laid the groundwork for our students to be successful Kindergarten learners. I wish them the best on their next schooling adventure.

There will be many fun activities in May. Teacher Appreciation week, May 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, is being planned by Nursery School families. We can't wait to show our hard-working teachers how much we love and appreciate them! Our Family Carnival will be held Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-1:00 here at the church. This is a time to celebrate the children and families who we have had the privilege to get to know and teach this year. Finally, the year ends with graduation ceremonies for our 4/5 year olds on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the sanctuary. All are welcome to join as we celebrate those children who will be transitioning to Kindergarten in the fall.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Nursery School Ministry, Teachers and Assistants, Nursery School parents and children, Office Staff, Pastor, and SJUCC church members for your support, prayers, and dedication to our Nursery School mission.

Wishing everyone a fun, adventurous, and safe summer!

Kari Rock, Director

# BELLS IN THE WORLD TODAY

Bells have been around for over a thousand years. Early bells in England were huge and usually in church towers. However; handbells were first developed in the 17th Century. These bells were classified as percussion instruments and first developed by Robert and William Cor in 1696 to 1724.

Handbells were brought to America in 1845 by P.T. Barnum, well known showman and entrepreneur. Handbells are assigned to ringers, each getting 2 to 6 bells which means that a ringer being absent from a practice or performance leaves an empty spot in the middle. These bells are usually made of bronze or brass and most have a clapper. The bells can be rung or struck with a mallet. There are two companies in America that produce almost all handbells in the world. These two companies are Schulmerick and Malmark and both are located in southeastern Pennsylvania.

An octave of bells contain 13 bells and at St. John's we have five octaves which means we have 61 bells. I am giving you this information because we are having a Handbell Festival along with two other choirs here in our sanctuary. It is our hope that many of you will be able to attend the concert on Sunday May 15 at 7 pm.

Hope to see you here. Gary Crum

# YOUTH MINISTRY

## May Calendar of Events

1	9:00	Church School
	11:15	Confirmation
8	9:00	Church School
		Children's Corner during worship
15	9:00	Church School
20		Pizza and Family Games night 6 pm
22	9:00	Last Church School
		Children's Corner during worship
	11:15	Confirmation- Families invited for Statements of Faith

## Confirmation Candidates

St. John's currently has four young people who have been traveling on a faith journey for six months now on the Confirmation path with the help of wonderful mentors. Zoe Dereef, Elijah Herbert, McKenna Mooshian, and Jared Reichelderfer. We have been enjoying their questions, doubts and insights, and look forward to their future contributions. Join us on Pentecost to welcome those that make the next step.

## FAMILY FUN

Hey, let's try to get together like we used to for some fun family fun! Hungry

Hippos, Minute to Win It and some card/board games? Meet at 6 for

pizza, bring your favorite salty/sweet snack, and game, then let

look out! RSVP to Roxanne by May 13th with a count!

# YOUTH MINISTRY

## COMING NEXT FALL!

### GODLY PLAY

St. John's Church School is looking forward to adding a new program to our Christian education, geared towards our younger children, beginning at age 3.

"The Godly Play® method is a curriculum of spiritual practice exploring the mystery of God's presence in our lives. The Godly Play curriculum engages what is most exciting about religious education: God inviting us into—and pursuing us in the midst of—Scripture and spiritual experience. Godly Play practice teaches us to listen for God and to make authentic and creative responses to God's call in our lives." It is a hands-on, manipulative, storytelling approach. The Godly Play curriculum guides participants through self-discovery, which is fundamental to the Montessori tradition from which Godly Play developed.

Trainings for this program are being arranged and more leaders and helpers are needed. Please see Roxanne Davenport if you are interested.

## VBS 2022

Mark Your Calendars!

July 31 thru August 4



# ***A Message from the “Caring Corner”***

Called to Care is so thankful for the many supportive friends we have at St. John’s UCC.

Friends who are no longer able to drive, but continue to find ways to participate, to serve and to be available best they can.

Friends who have suffered much loss but continue to tell us they are thankful for all they do have and always find a way to share a smile or gentle touch.

Friends who take the time to call or send a card or just say hello at church and when we are out and about.

Friends who have been hurt by words or actions but keep trying.

Friends who find ways to connect us on Sundays and on many other days of the week.

Friends who help take care of our grounds, building, our camp, and each other.

Friends being friends.

On behalf of the Called to Care Team, thank you for being our friends and for all that you do to help others.

Blessings,

Lisa Frantz and Connie Morrill-Hair



# FIRST FRUITS

The First Fruits for May is in support of the Race Against Poverty.

The race Against poverty is an opportunity to stand as a community against the poverty that grips many of our own and stifles full potential. Poverty impacts entire communities and requires community solutions.

The race is on June 3<sup>rd</sup> this year and it is in person.

100% of the proceeds support The SCAAP program, Circles. This helps families to build stability in their lives, and to begin to overcome poverty.

Outreach and ONA ministries are teaming together to support the Race Against Poverty. We welcome you to support the Race Against Poverty for May first fruits.

Supporting this community effort can help us to get out our message of welcome and openness out to our community.

You can register to participate for this race by going to their website: [raceagainstpoverty.org](http://raceagainstpoverty.org)



# **ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT BIBLE AND A BEER**

Pastor Caroline will be out-of-town on May 16.  
We will not hold our usual monthly Bible and a Beer.  
Please join us at The Cottage on June 20!

**-Pastor Caroline**

**JOIN US FOR**

# **Saturday Night Worship**

May 14, 2022 | 5:30 pm | Sanctuary & YouTube  
Family-friendly worship  
with scripture and song

Join the Amistad Praise Band  
for a wonderful worship experience!

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



## **“NOTES” FROM ONA (Open and Affirming) MINISTRY**

Ten members from St. John’s participated in the Trans Day of Visibility Rally on Saturday, April 2, in downtown Chambersburg. Pastor Caroline was one of several speakers at this event which aimed to petition our borough council to reconsider its position on the Non Discrimination Ordinance that had been adopted in November 2021 but rescinded in February 2022.

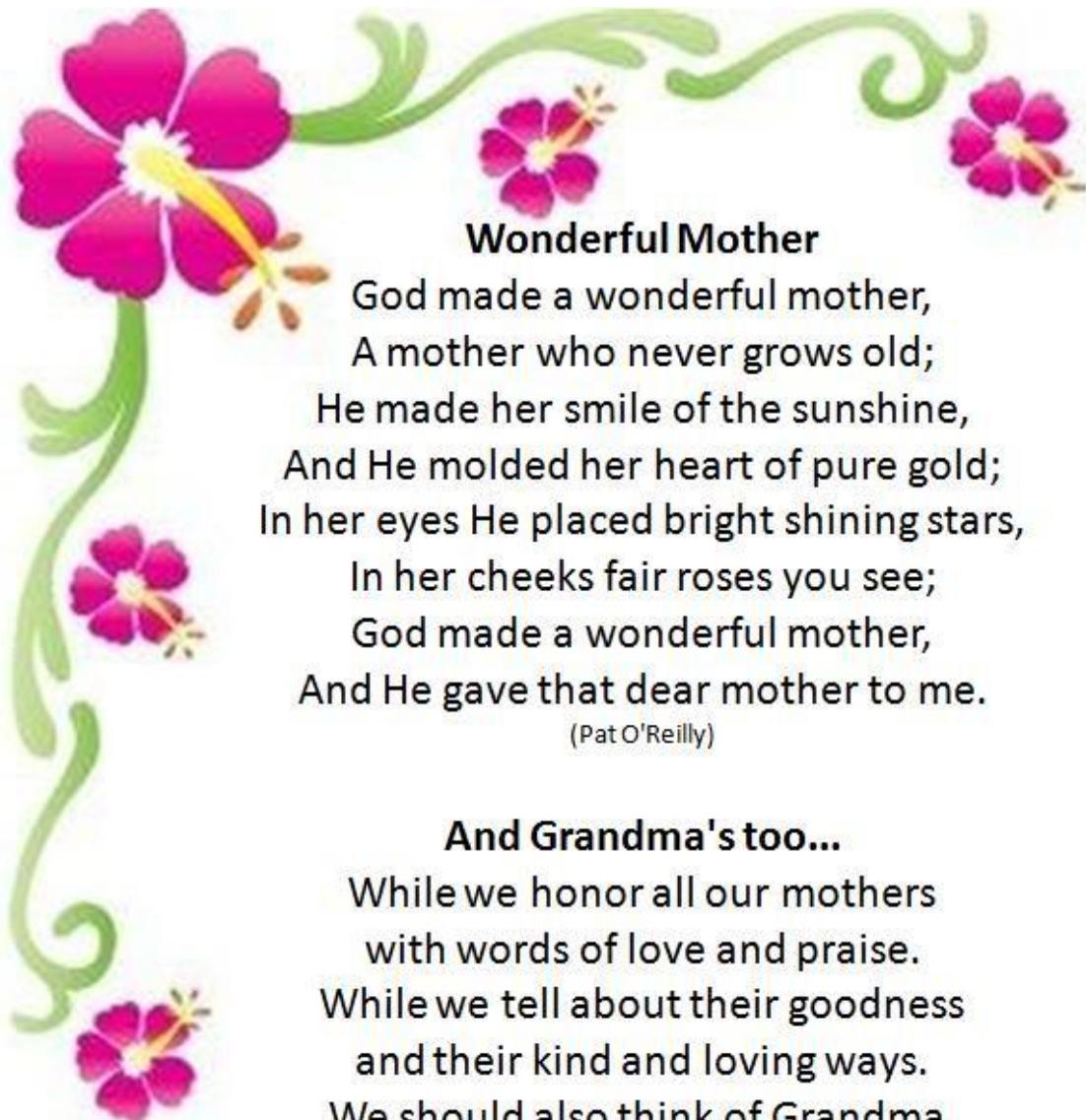
**ONA Ministry has purchased a banner which it will display at a table at the Pride Fest in October 2022. The banner, however, is not just for ONA’s use but is available for any other ministry at St. John’s which may have opportunity to display it at events here at the church or in the broader community. Please contact the church office if you wish to borrow the banner.**

During the last year, we offered space at St. John’s for a local PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbian and Gay) group to organize and meet regularly at our facility. They continue to organize and meet once a month.

On June 3, the next Race Against Poverty will be held in Chambersburg. Again, this year two of our ministries (Outreach and Open and Affirming) are supporting a sponsorship for this event, which in addition to supporting the many important services of SCCAP, yields additional visibility for St. John’s in our community.

**On June 18, the ‘Love Demonstration’ that occurs in recognition of Juneteenth will be held. There will be a group from St. John ‘s participating in this event and announcements with more specifics of time and location will occur in our Eblast closer to the time. We invite members to join in this event that again provides opportunity not only to recognize the importance of this ‘second independence day’ which is a celebration of hope and freedom of enslaved in the US at the end of the Civil War, but is another opportunity for St. John’s to have additional visibility in its mission.**

**ONA Ministry invites St. John’s members to demonstrate God’s love in our public dialogue within our church community and in the broader community in which we live.**



### **Wonderful Mother**

God made a wonderful mother,  
A mother who never grows old;  
He made her smile of the sunshine,  
And He molded her heart of pure gold;  
In her eyes He placed bright shining stars,  
In her cheeks fair roses you see;  
God made a wonderful mother,  
And He gave that dear mother to me.

(Pat O'Reilly)

### **And Grandma's too...**

While we honor all our mothers  
with words of love and praise.  
While we tell about their goodness  
and their kind and loving ways.  
We should also think of Grandma,  
she's a mother too, you see....  
For she mothered my dear mother  
as my mother mothers me.

Author Unknown



Dear St. John's Family:

Thank you to all my friends at St. John's that sent me so many, many birthday cards for my 85th birthday. I was very touched and blessed by all of your thoughtfulness.

God Bless,  
Peggy Marotte

Dear St. John's family:

Thank you for the plant arrangement to brighten my day as I recover from surgery and my upcoming treatments.

Sharon Mayer



Oh, what a wonderful surprise week I had even BEFORE my birthday! On the previous Monday when I checked my mailbox there were several birthday cards and EVERY DAY after more and more. Amazingly, no two alike. THANKS SO MUCH St. John's family for your caring actions. I am truly blessed to be a part of this congregation.

Bev Peters

My thanks for the many birthday cards I received for my 98th birthday and the lovely flower arrangements also.

Thanks to the lady who delivered the flowers on that cold windy day.

Mabel Perry

Thanks to everyone who sent me a birthday card for my 98th birthday. It was greatly appreciated. Evelyn Sites

CAMP CLEAN UP  
SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022  
9 AM





## ST. JOHN'S CAMP SCHEDULE 2022

**Camp Noah** July 5 - 8 -grades completed K - 2nd

**Camp Kum Ba Yah** July 10-15 grades completed 3rd-5th

**Camp Galilee** July 17-22 grades completed 6th-9th

**Mark your calendars and save the dates!**

**Come enjoy our treasure in the woods!**



## Church Office



### ***Office Hours:***

**Monday through Friday, 9am-3pm**

**The Office will be closed Monday, May 30 in Observance of Memorial Day.**

# MAY BIRTHDAYS

<b>Jocelyn Kuhn</b>	<b>5/01</b>	<b>Colton Wadel</b>	<b>5/16</b>
<b>Erika Burkard</b>	<b>5/01</b>	<b>Joe Wohl</b>	<b>5/17</b>
<b>Rebecca Marotte</b>	<b>5/04</b>	<b>Zoe Dereef</b>	<b>5/18</b>
<b>Margaretta Kennedy</b>	<b>5/05</b>	<b>Rafael Cuesta</b>	<b>5/20</b>
<b>Sabrina Sollenberger</b>	<b>5/05</b>	<b>Vera Reber</b>	<b>5/23</b>
<b>Betty Mehaffey</b>	<b>5/06</b>	<b>Joann Snider</b>	<b>5/23</b>
<b>Mary Lou Hendrickson</b>	<b>5/07</b>	<b>James Patterson II</b>	<b>5/23</b>
<b>Keiran Dereef</b>	<b>5/07</b>	<b>Reed Zeger</b>	<b>5/24</b>
<b>Doreen Horn</b>	<b>5/09</b>	<b>The Rev. Stephen Hoffman</b>	<b>5/25</b>
<b>Larry Wadell</b>	<b>5/11</b>	<b>Brenna Rosenberry</b>	<b>5/25</b>
<b>Christina Myers</b>	<b>5/11</b>	<b>Luke Herbert</b>	<b>5/26</b>
<b>Christopher Marotte</b>	<b>5/13</b>	<b>Jerry Miller</b>	<b>5/29</b>
<b>Lori Leister</b>	<b>5/14</b>	<b>W. Richard Rebok</b>	<b>5/30</b>
<b>Heather Myers</b>	<b>5/14</b>	<b>Hayden Johnson</b>	<b>5/30</b>
<b>Naomi Mull</b>	<b>5/15</b>	<b>Noah Wright</b>	<b>5/30</b>
<b>Jeffrey Young</b>	<b>5/16</b>	<b>Melinda Orndorff</b>	<b>5/31</b>
<b>James Boyer</b>	<b>5/16</b>	<b>Amanda Gillian</b>	<b>5/31</b>

# LADIES LUNCHEON

St. John's ladies FINALLY enjoyed a lunch at the Family Plate restaurant. The food was abundant and tasty.

Since March's St. Patrick's day celebration never occurred, Bev Peters donned her light flashing shamrock necklace and presented Chris Long with a clay pipe decorated with a shamrock since it was determined she had the most Irish ancestry.

Chris, Connie Evans, Diana Macfarlane and Pastor Caroline were then quizzed on scrambled Holy Easter Words.

Sharon Mayer was sent a "thinking of you card".

The Trojan Diner was chosen for our Wednesday, May 11 luncheon at 11:30. Bring a friend or come meet "new friends". All are welcome. To have a seat saved for you call Bev at her number 717-709-2817.



## **Men's Breakfast Location:**

Chris's Kitchen (across from Perkins)

We will be meeting on Thursday, May 5, 2022—7am

Will look forward to seeing any and all for April's Men's Breakfast.



# Ministry Chairs

## 2021-2022

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

**Camp**—*MaryLee Yaukey*

**Caring Cooks**—*Lisa Frantz*

**Children & Youth Ministry**—*Roxanne Davenport*

**Facilities Ministry**—*Peter A'Zary*

**Fellowship**—*Sue McMurtray*

**Finance**—*Scot Orndorff*

**Invitational Ministry**—*Susan Collier*

**Library**—*MaryLee Yaukey*

**Nursery School**—*Linda Zeger*

**Open and Affirming**—*Jim Boyer*

**Outreach**—*Sarah Myers*

**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 2021-2022

## Trustees

Peter A'Zary

Thomas Harrison

Tom Kinton, **Head Trustee**

## Elders

Peg Bryner

Harold Collier, **Vice President**

Diana Macfarlane

Connie Morrill-Hair, **Secretary**

Gary Patterson

Eileen Shaffer, **President, Head Elder**

## Deacons

Mike Blumberg

Julie Dereef

Calvin Frantz

Michael Herbert

Cathy Kinton

Sarah Myers

## Pastor

The Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

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

***St. John's UCC Communion Dates 2022***

**THERE ARE NO COMMUNION DATES IN MAY.**

June 5, Pentecost Sunday, Sanctuary 10 am

June 11, Outdoor Worship on the Lawn, 5:30 pm

July 3, Sanctuary 10 am

July 9, Outdoor Worship on the Lawn, 5:30 pm

**St. John's United Church of Christ**

**1811 Lincoln Way East  
Chambersburg, PA 17202**

**Phone: 717-263-8593**

**Fax: 717-263-9010**

***Website: [www.sjucc1811.org](http://www.sjucc1811.org)***

***Office Hours: Mon — Fri from 9 AM — 3 PM***