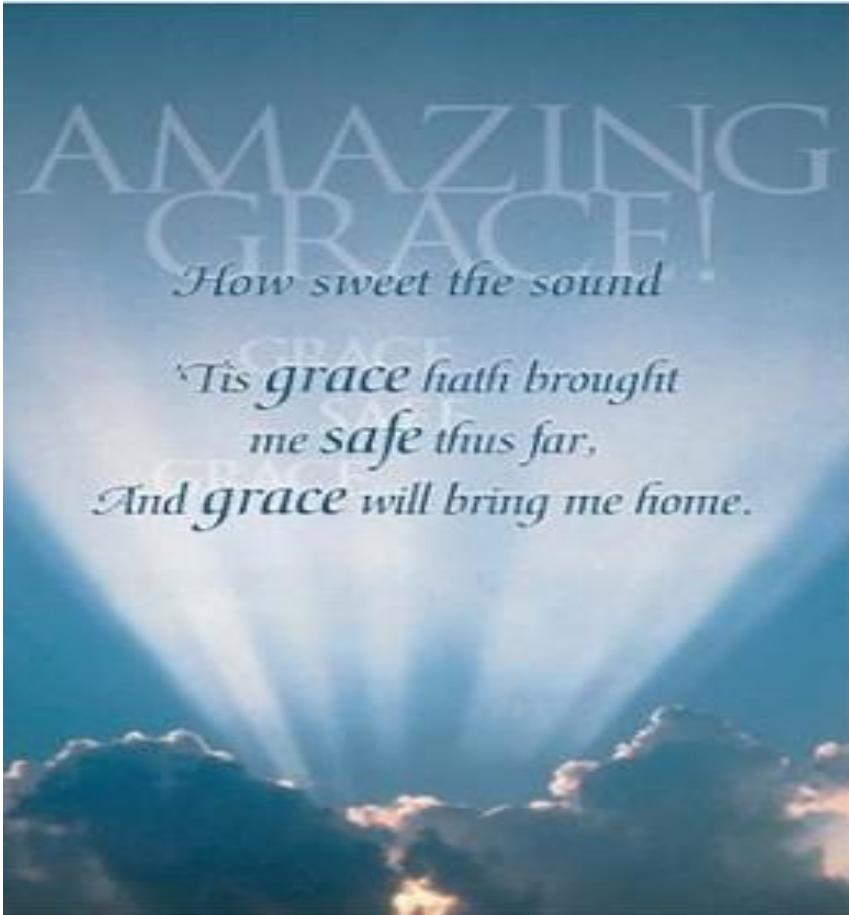


The Spirit

Volume 75 No 8 August 2022



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

From Pastor Caroline

In her book “Help, Thanks, Wow,” the writer Anne Lamott says prayers can be characterized in three fairly basic ways: Help “help me, help me, help me!”; Thanks “thank you, thank you, thank you,” and Wow: “all I can say is Wow” in response to wonder, awe, and amazement. The Psalms give us a blueprint of the ways we can pray, the words of faithful people to God who express the fullness of their emotions in their prayers. I love the psalms of lament because they include a statement of trust, saying that things might be going wrong but we trust that God is at work, that God is doing something about the situation that affects us individually or communally. The psalms of thanksgiving are just as important, as it is good and right to offer God our thanks and praise, to say “thank you” for the blessings we receive. “Count your many blessings, name them one by one, and give thanks for what God has done.” And maybe, just maybe, we’ll have a few “wow” moments along the way, as God’s grace and goodness moves to us say “Hallelujah!”

Our life together is blessed by the time, talent, and treasure of many members and friends. Our ministries and programs would not be possible without you. Thank you. We are looking toward the fall and the start of the program year on September 11. New church school classes are being planned for both adults and young children (see the Godly Play information on page 7). A Ladies’ Retreat is being planned for this fall at St. John’s Camp. Building projects such as the digital sign conversion and new roof are coming along; contributions supporting these projects are greatly appreciated. All around us, there is life happening here!

Join us for Outdoor Worship on Saturday, August 13 at 5:30 pm (rain location: Fellowship Hall) and Sunday, August 28 at 10 am. A prerecorded service will be available on 8/28 for those who are worshiping from home. In the event of rain, we will worship inside (no livestream) on 8/28. We are blessed with beautiful grounds and it is always good to worship God in nature!

As I shared in last month’s newsletter, this fall we will be working with Rev. Cameron Trimble and Convergence to help us re-engage with clarified vision. As our visioning partner and coach, Cameron will encourage and support us as we consider our present and our future, the impact that we desire to make in our community, and how we can use all of our assets (including our building) to bring people together and grow in love of God and neighbor. The video introducing Cameron and the outline of this work was shared in a special eblast and is available by request.

This work invites us to offer feedback, generate ideas, connect with the wider community, and clarify who we are and why we're here. Having a coach and visioning partner to help us ask questions, seek solutions, and encourage us along the way is an important component of our future. We will also continue to plan events and activities that promote fellowship, friendship, and service. Our desire to love, learn, worship, witness, welcome and serve fuels our current ministries and the future-looking visioning work we will begin this fall.

The model of "inspiration, ideation, implementation" and the gifts of curiosity and creativity are helpful in leading us forward into the future. It means asking "how might we" questions, and dream, vision, and try, without knowing just what will happen. Sometimes the greatest inventions and innovations happen when we say "yes" without pre-determining the outcome.

Jesus came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Jesus came to break the chains that would host us hostage and harden our hearts. Jesus came to deal with the demons. And he modeled that love is always the way forward. It is okay to have Jesus and a therapist, too.

Both nationally and locally, we are seeing an increased need for support and education around mental health. There are two opportunities this month around mental health that I want like to highlight. We will have a book discussion of "Blessed are the Crazy" by Sarah Griffin Lund on August 11 at 2 pm in the parlor. Please order a copy of the book from your favorite retailer or request that the Franklin County Libraries obtain a copy. We will also be hosting a **free** suicide prevention class called "QPR: Question, Persuade and Refer" on August 11 from 6-8 pm in our Fellowship Hall. As CPR is for the heart, QPR is for the mind. QPR training, aka gatekeeper training, teaches people without professional mental health backgrounds to recognize the signs that someone may be considering suicide, establish a dialogue, and guide the person to seek professional help. We first offered this training in 2019 and it is a valuable resource I highly recommend. If you have any questions about either of these events, please let me know.

In the work that we do now and the work that we hope to do in the future, may we be guided by God's love and grace, giving God thanks and praise and asking for help along the way.

*Peace,
Pastor Caroline*

MUSIC NEWS

“Psalms”

Many of you know from reading your Bible that quite a few of the Psalms are specifically written for the “Director of Music”. Sometimes that is to David and it may also state the type of instrument to be used. Many times strings are noted. So, you see music has been an integral part of the worship service for hundreds of years. The psalmist says, “I will praise God’s name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving” (Ps. 69:30).

This month one article in “The Upper Room” referred to sacred music. The author states that he did not have a lot of natural musical ability and that he found it frustrating to try to learn new songs each week. But then he realized that we worship in song to acknowledge our love for God, not to perform or seek adoration for ourselves. **THIS IS OUR OFFERING TO GOD!**

Gloria Crum



THE CARING CORNER

On behalf of Called to Care, Caring Cooks, Prayer Shawl Ministry and the Flower Distribution Team, we wish everyone a safe and healthy August.

If you are fortunate enough to have vacation plans, we wish you safe travels.

If you are staying home this summer, we wish you a quiet and refreshing month.

If you are faced with health issues, we pray you find comfort in knowing your friends at St. John's will pray for you and that God is with you through it all.

As we prepare for another year of service, please contact Lisa Shew, Office Assistant, Lisa Frantz or Connie Morrill-Hair if you would like to be involved with Called to Care, Caring Cooks, Prayer Shawl Ministry or the Flower Distribution Team.

Have a beautiful, blessed and safe August.

Lisa Frantz and Connie Morrill-Hair



YOUTH MINISTRY

August Calendar of Events

7 VBS Sunday

12 or 19 (Weather pending) Pizza and Swim party at
Chambersburg Aquatic Center 4-8 PM

14 Godly Play Orientation 9 am

Children's Corner during worship

18 Godly Play Orientation 6:30 pm

28 Children's Corner during worship

PIZZA AND SWIM PARTY

**CHAMBERSBURG AQUATIC
CENTER—AUGUST 12 OR 19TH
4-8 PM (weather determining)**

Cost \$14 (service hours can be applied)

**Contact Roxanne with a count
and about service hours.**

**We will meet at the entrance to
the Aquatic Center.**



*Coming Soon: **Godly Play***

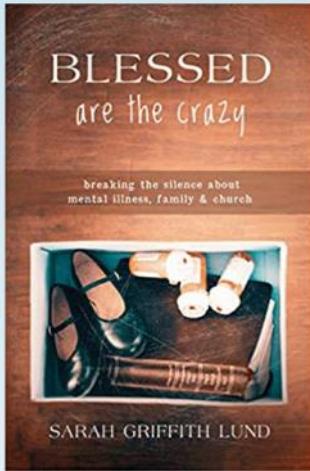
an interactive, hands-on
approach for young children
to learn the stories of
scripture and faith

*Sundays at 9 am
starting September 11, 2022*

St. John's United Church of Christ
1811 LWE Chambersburg, PA 17202

Families with younger children interested in the theory and format of Godly Play are invited to attend either of two orientation sessions. These sessions will be on August 14th @ 9am and on the 18th @ 6:30 pm in room 119.

Helpers for this adventure and other classrooms are needed. Please see Roxanne Davenport if you are interested in helping. Once a month is appreciated.



Book Discussion
Thursday, August 11, 2022
2:00 pm in St. John's parlor

Blessed are the Crazy:
breaking the silence
about mental illness,
family & church.
by Sarah Griffith Lund

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



QPR: Free Suicide Prevention Class

Thursday, August 11th
6 pm to 8 pm
at St. John's in Fellowship Hall

with Patricia Cambri, *BSW/MS*
Program Specialist and on the Staff of OSI
Nationally Certified Instructor

QPR- Question, Persuade and Refer is an educational awareness program and a nationally recognized suicide prevention strategy which provides practical guidance in listening and responding to individuals who may want to end their lives. As CPR is for the heart, QPR is for the mind. You will be trained to recognize suicide warning signs, ways to initiate conversations, and methods of providing help and hope to individuals whether they are part of your family, friends or community. QPR training, also known as gatekeeper training, teaches people without professional mental health backgrounds to recognize the signs that someone may be considering suicide, establish a dialogue, and guide the person to seek professional help. The training is highly interactive and is focused on dispelling myths of mental health issues.

St. John's United Church of Christ, 1811 Lincoln Way E. Chambersburg PA 17202
(parking lot B for Fellowship Hall)

CHURCH WIDE LADIES' RETREAT
AT ST. JOHN'S CAMP
SEPTEMBER 30—OCTOBER 1
(RAIN DATE OCTOBER 14 AND 15)
SIGN UP SHEET IN LOBBY
ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT
DIANA KONGKEATTIKUL



AUGUST 15, 2022 | 6:30 PM

BIBLE & A BEER

Theological conversations
Rich discussion
Powerful testimony

Join us at 6:30 pm at The Cottage Pub
572 Wayne Avenue Chambersburg

Bring your questions,
Invite your friends!



JOIN US FOR

Saturday Night Worship

August 13, 2022 | 5:30 pm | Outside on the Lawn

Family-friendly worship
with Communion

Join us 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

It can be overwhelming to type in Recognition Days for a particular month and see all that pops up. There are all kinds of recognition for religious observances, arts and entertainment, specific causes, cultural recognitions, food and beverage, federal holidays, etc. One that shows up for August is National Traffic Awareness Month. If you drive on I-81 these days, you might strongly support the need for reminders on this topic. Narratives about this recognition remind us that many accidents are because of people driving too fast or too slow (a rare one perhaps), or being distracted in one of several ways. In the “How to Observe” section, it states: 1) Pay attention to the road; 2) Observe and encourage traffic safety rules; and 3) Pledge yourself to traffic safety and awareness.

In line with our ONA Covenant, may we remind ourselves to apply these to how we relate to marginalized individuals: 1) Pay attention to how the marginalized are often ignored and treated unjustly; 2) Observe the lessons taught us in scripture in modeling love and care to others; and 3) Pledge ourselves to ‘living out’ this love and care on a daily basis. May we reflect on this as we move into August and prepare for our new ‘church year’ and live into our ONA Covenant of Welcome and Affirmation.





It is with joy that we thank our St. John's family for the recent shower of birthday greetings! Your many kindnesses have blessed us over the years, and we deeply appreciate your love and support. Forrest and Betty Koontz

As you know I am home and recuperating after a long battle but progressing every day. I appreciate all of the prayers, cards, and calls for my recovery from dear friends at St. John's. I know these prayers are heard and I know are making me stronger. I keep all of my St John's family in my prayers everyday for health and happiness.

I have so much to be thankful for. I truly appreciate my church family's love, cards, calls, waves on Sunday morning and prayers. It makes the biggest difference in my day and I feel so blessed to have all of you in my life. I hope to be gaining strength and able to get back to Sunday services before too long so that I can see the many friends I have at St. John's. God Bless and many, many thanks again.

Love, Donna Hilton

LADIES LUNCHEON

On Wednesday, July 13, nine St. John's ladies met at Longhorn Steakhouse. Lively conversations began immediately. After delicious salads, sandwiches and soups were enjoyed, the group answered "Christmas in July" trivia questions. Then the most important July holiday was remembered with a treat of red, white, and blue M & M's.

We hope to meet at Menno Haven's Grill on Wednesday August 10, at 11:30 am. Join us!



MENS BREAKFAST

We will be meeting on Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 7 am at Chris's Kitchen (across from Perkins)

We look forward to seeing any and all for August's breakfast.



FIRST FRUITS FOR AUGUST

Our First Fruits organization for August is Network Ministries.

Network Ministries is an urban youth ministry in Chambersburg. Their mission is to share the love of Jesus with those who are the most vulnerable. They strive to equip children and young adults with the skills necessary for spiritual growth, academic achievement, life management and Christian leadership.

Currently they serve 100 children and are supported by 40 churches.





Join us for Worship!

St. John's
United Church of Christ

Sundays in the Sanctuary
At 10:00 AM (Parking Lot A)

+ Saturday Night Worship Services
2nd Saturday of each month at 5:30PM
in Fellowship Hall or outside. (Parking Lot B)

Live Streams: www.youtube.com/c/StJohnsUCCChambersburgPA

St John's Church Ballroom Dancing Starts Thursday Oct 6

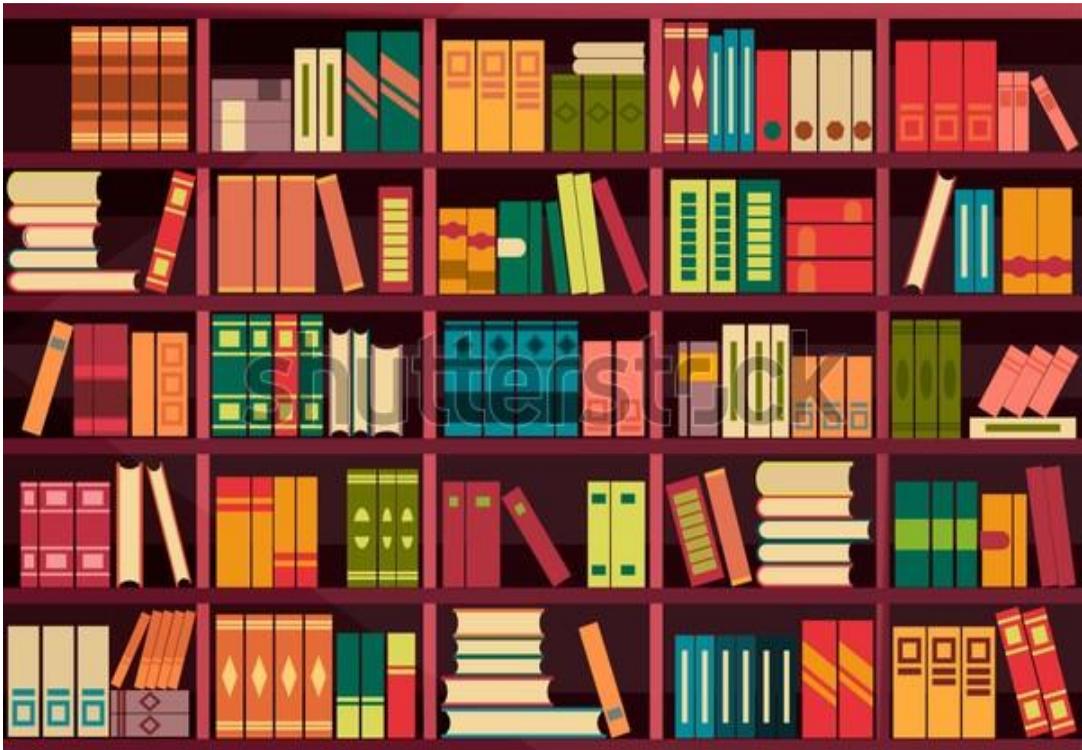


- **Beginners Class 6:00-7:00. (Swing, Tango, Cha Cha, Foxtrot)**
- **Second Timers Class 7:00-8:00 (Swing Triple Step, Bachata, Waltz, Rumba, Enhanced Cha Cha, Two Step)**
- **Starts Thursday Oct 6: Remaining Thursdays- Oct 13, 20, 27; Nov 3, 10**
- **Contact: Frank Hancock at fhancock@comcast.net (717-241-4483) or Harold Collier hcollier@comcast.net to sign up.**
- **Location: St. John's United Church of Christ-1811 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg, PA 17202. Use Parking Lot B for Fellowship Hall.**

LIBRARY NEWS

We are looking to weed out the collection of books that are no longer relevant. We will be barcoding all books and moving toward a more digital process in the location of books and their information.

If anyone would like to help in this process, please let MaryLee Yaukey know. Thank you!



INTERESTED IN JOINING ST. JOHN'S UCC?

NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED:

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

DECEMBER 11, 2022

MARCH 12, 2023

JUNE 11, 2023



NO MATTER WHO YOU
ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE
ON LIFE'S JOURNEY,
YOU ARE WELCOME
HERE

NEW MEMBERS' CLASSES WILL BE
SCHEDULED TO SUIT THE GROUP

PLEASE SPEAK WITH OR CONTACT
PASTOR CAROLINE IF INTERESTED

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Arlene McFate 8/2

Mary (Peggy) Orr 8/5

N. Erin Hartman 8/6

Dorothy "Dot" Baylor 8/7

Jean Cook 8/7

Lynann Funk 8/7

Sean Collier 8/7

John H. McGinley 8/8

Sadie Boyer 8/9

Carol Foltz 8/10

Emily Hoger 8/12

Joel Mundy 8/13

Christine Pensinger 8/15

Kirk Zeger 8/15

Joyce Patterson 8/17

Eric Wadel 8/17

Erin Wadel 8/18

Jerry Thomason 8/19

Ann Osterman 8/21

Susan McNew 8/21

Dwight Sollenberger 8/21

Holly Pefley 8/22

Dolores St Clair 8/23

Sarah Young 8/23

Cooper Miller 8/23

Alma Bassler 8/24

Connie Kaiser 8/24

Wayne Statler 8/24

Kitty Ingram 8/27

Eric Hoover 8/28

Aleeya Leister 8/28

Joann Brechbill 8/29

Kenneth Horn 8/31

Elizabeth Widmann 8/31



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

Communion Dates:

Sunday, August 7, 10 am, Sanctuary & Livestreamed

Saturday, August 13, 5:30 pm, Church Lawn (rain location Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, September 10, 5:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 11, 10 am, Sanctuary & Livestreamed

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*