

The Spirit

Volume 76 No 9 September 2023



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

From Pastor Caroline

My dad always taught me to view life as being filled with opportunities and possibilities. He was a master at the “both/and” approach in ministry and saying “yes, and” when new ideas were proposed. That doesn’t mean that everything will work out just the way you planned; as he often said, “if you wait for everything to be perfect, you’ll never do anything.”

Fall brings lots of possibilities, both with the start of a new school year and the start of a new program year. Throughout this newsletter, there are numerous events and activities planned, including our Family Fun Day, Autumn Afternoon Tea, church school classes, choir and bell choir rehearsals, and much more.

Our 2023-2024 Consistory was installed on Sunday, August 27, and begin their work as our governing board officially on September 1. We give thanks for these leaders among us. We are still seeking one Trustee and one Deacon—please contact Harold Collier if interested.

The IDEO model of “inspiration, ideation, implementation” that I was introduced to in May 2022 at my NGLI workshop on Creativity and Design has been a helpful framework in our visioning work with Convergence. The work of the St. John’s Future Together Task Force is in the process of transitioning to the next phase: implementation. That is always the key part of any project, putting our ideas into practice.

None of us is called to do everything; we are all called to do something. That’s the model Jesus laid out for us, beginning with calling the disciples and continuing into the founding of the early church. I hope that you will say “yes” to the opportunities and possibilities that lie ahead of us as we grow in love of God and neighbor and live out our calling as Christians.

Thank you to the members of the St. John’s Future Together Task Force, without whom our visioning work over the last year would not have been possible: Peg Bryner, Harold Collier, Lisa Fair, Connie Morrill-Hair, Eileen Shaffer, and Connie Strunk.

We dwell in promise and possibility, not in certainty or guarantees. The promise is not that our journey will be easy; the promise is that Jesus will always be with us. As John Lennon wrote, “Life is what happens to you while you’re busy making other plans.” Thank you for your love and support as I grieve the death of my dad, Rev. John E. Saxton. I’m grateful to have loved him and been loved by him. I’m so thankful that he was able to meet many of you when he visited in fall 2018 for my installation and his subsequent visit in fall 2019.

The words of the hymn “How Firm a Foundation” bring me great comfort:

*When through the deep waters, I cause you to go,
the rivers of woe shall not over you flow,
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
delivering you from your deepest distress.*

*Peace,
Pastor Caroline*



JOIN US FOR A FREE

Family Fun Day

SEPTEMBER 17
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

MUSIC | GAMES | FOOD

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1811 LWE, CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202
USE PARKING LOT B



St John's Nursery School

The nursery School has now entered its 52nd year of providing quality early childhood education to children in our community!

We have been blessed to welcome 127 children and their families this school year. We have 18 toddlers, 40 three year olds, and 69 four and five year olds excited to learn and have fun!

We welcome back our Teaching Staff; Lisa Etter, Angie Leedy, Katlyn Heverley, Jenn Smith, Carrie Lynn Parris, and Charon Barclay, along with our Assistants: Chazalynn Hackney, Vanessa Florea, Shanna Bell, Cara Cannon, and Megan Ritter.

Thank you in advance for your support of our Nursery School and a special thanks to the Nursery School Ministry for their outpouring of support, encouragement, and direction in planning this new school year.

Blessings,

Kari Rock, Director

Camp News –

Camp Celebration Saturday!

Mark your calendars for October 7th from 9:00 to 3:00 in the Fellowship Hall. This is an adult camp retreat happening at church. The day will include singing camp songs, making a craft, sharing camp memories, enjoying lunch and joyful fellowship. We will start the day by making camp sticky buns for our fall fundraiser. Come for the whole day or part of the day. The cost is \$15 to cover the cost of lunch and the craft. Look for more details to come.



Camp Sticky Bun Sale Sunday, October 8

Camp volunteers will be making and selling cinnamon sticky buns for \$12/dozen and \$7/half dozen! Orders and payment will be taken before and after church on Sundays, September 24 and October 1. Please, order sticky buns before Sunday, October 8 if you want 6 or more.

Then pick up your “ready to bake” sticky buns on Sunday morning, October 8. Freshly baked sticky buns will also be on sale, after church, on October 8 for \$2 each. Help support St. John’s Camp and enjoy a tasty treat! All proceeds support the Camp Fund.



St. John's Outreach Continues in our Community

The summer and upcoming months offer St. John's the opportunity to support local projects and programs that provide resources and affirmation of individuals often marginalized. On Juneteenth weekend, we engaged with Racial Reconciliation in the Juneteenth celebration held at the gardens at Network Ministries. St. John's had an activity table at this event.

In preparation for the turning of seasons, we have supported the Mum fundraising sale for Franklin County Pride. **October 8** offers another opportunity for us to show our support to Franklin County Pride. The Pride festival runs from 12 pm – 5pm at Wilson College. It features a variety of family-friendly events, entertainment, quintessential Pride activities, and a mix of local and regional vendors from small and large businesses, restaurants, churches and nonprofit organizations.

The goal of Pride Franklin County is to support the LGBTQ community and their contributions to our community, as well as bringing together the LGBTQ community and its straight allies to celebrate diversity, acceptance and respect. St. John's will again host a table at this event. We encourage you to attend as we build bridges with one another in our community.

St. John's t-shirts and hoodies for sale!

St. John's U.C.C Shirts!!

T-Shirts - \$12 each

Hoodies - \$25 Each

Sizes: Small - 2 XL



**Visit the office to
get yours today!**

1811 Lincoln Way East
Chambersburg, PA 17202

(717) 263 - 8593



Autumn Afternoon Tea

"Fil for a Queen"



**To purchase tickets or a table,
please call (717) 263-8593**

Tickets are \$25 , cash or check

Reservation Deadline is September 15

September
23

01:30 PM

St. John's UCC

Fellowship Hall

1811 Lincoln Way East

Chambersburg, PA 17202

Tea includes: a cup of soup, salad,
tea sandwiches, scones, and sweets
(and, of course, endless pots of tea!)



Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9am –3pm

Church office is closed Monday, September 4, 2023 for Labor Day.

We are still in need of office volunteers!
Please contact Loretta if you are interested and can help.

Loretta Zimmerman - Office manager

Heather Nickey - Office Assistant

Church office (717) 263-8593



MUSIC MINISTRY

A Healthy Choir part 2

Researchers have found that synchronizing your voice in a group can also help your heartbeat do the same. It has been discovered that your heart beats more with the pulse of the music when in a group.

Research has shown that singing in a choir reduces the stress hormone “cortisol” and boosts immunoglobulin an antibody. This evidence suggests that regular musical and singing habits can play a role in maintaining a healthy immune system.

In 2012 at Cardiff University, researchers uncovered evidence that lung cancer patients who engaged in choral singing had greater expiratory capacity than people who did not. Also professor Brenville Hancox formed a choir for people with Parkinson's Disease and participants felt voices became strengthened by singing.

Since learning new songs is cognitively stimulating and refines the use of memory, it has been proven that singing can improve mental agility and even help those with dementia.

I hope by now that you are getting the point! I hope that I see many new singers in choir soon.

Gary Crum

USED BOOK SALE



Save the Dates

St. John's 2023 sale will be:

Friday, October 27, 4 to 9 pm

Saturday, October 28, 9 am to 6 pm

Sunday, October 29, Noon to 4 pm

Donation Dates at St. John's

Tuesday, September 5 to Friday, October 6

M-F 9 am to 3 pm, plus Saturday Sept. 30 &

Saturday Oct. 7

Please, call 717-263-8593 for pickup of large quantities

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

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 | 6:30 PM

BIBLE & A BEER

Theological conversations
Rich discussion
Powerful testimony

Join us at 6:30 pm **now at**
The Trojan Diner & Sports Bar!
1121 Lincoln Way E
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Bring your questions,
Invite your friends!



Join us for



Saturday Night Worship

*This service is designed to provide a relaxed, informal,
intimate atmosphere for worship and fellowship.
This family-friendly worship service includes communion
and activities for children.*

*ice cream
social after
the service!*

September 9, 2023

5:00 pm

In Fellowship Hall

(Use Parking Lot B)



St. John's UCC 1811 LWE Chambersburg, PA 17202

thank
you

“We are so appreciative of the support and care by Caroline and members of St. Johns UCC as they help us through this long recovery for hope. “ Thank you all! - Alison Hopper

Thanks to the generosity of the Schultz family and memorial monies collected for Glenn Schultz, a picnic table has been purchased in memory of Rev. Glenn and Dottie Schultz.

Pete A'Zary and both Tom Harrisons assembled the table. We look forward to many happy times gathered around the picnic table!





1. Hunger and homelessness often go hand in hand. Homeless people deserve healthy food, too. In addition to providing ongoing humanitarian aid and relief, Homeless Matters is partnering with Franklin County Housing Authority (FCHA) to develop the “Helping Hands- Food and Resources Delivery to Homeless Program” designed to meet the targeted needs of the homeless community in the Franklin County Area. **We currently have over 300 unhoued adults and children just in Chambersburg!!**

a. A team of people from Homeless Matters and FCHA will collect, bag, and deliver food and resources to homeless individuals. Requested item list:

*Small hygiene products (travel size: Shampoo, body wash, wash cloth, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, razors, tissues, sunscreen, woman’s hygiene products)

Bottled water, plastic utensils, napkins, can openers

*Sleeping bags, small blankets, socks, hats, scarves, gloves

*First aid kits

b. These items will be bagged and delivered to homeless individuals living on the street, in their cars, in hotels, couch surfing or who have newly secured housing and need a help to get started in their new home. This also includes food insecure veterans. With your help, this outreach program to the unhoued will have a life-changing impact on the individual beneficiaries and to the entire community in the Franklin County area.

c. Please know that 100 percent of your donations will go directly toward purchasing food to keep this project ongoing.

To arrange drop off items, please contact:
717-263-4200 Ext. 106

Monetary donations can be made to:

www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=QQRR2N3ZFLRW

Or: PO Box 581, Chambersburg, PA 17201

Contact : homelessmattersfc@gmail.com

Or visit www.homelessmatters.org



Ladies LUNCHEON

Seven ladies enjoyed the peace and quiet of a separate room at The Historic Texas Lunch on Wednesday, August 9. Pastor Caroline quizzed the group with questions that could only be answered with the names of hymns.

As planned each lady described a summer vacation with special memories for her—all happened within our own unique country. We will travel to Maria and Sal's pizzeria in Fayetteville (4550 Lincoln Way East) on Wednesday, September 13. Friends are welcome. This time prepare to share memories of your school days— elementary, high school, college.

MENS BREAKFAST



We will be meeting Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 7am at Chris's Kitchen (across from Perkins)

We look forward to seeing any and all for September's Breakfast

September BIRTHDAYS

Michele Wadel 09/03

Margaret Schollaert 09/04

Melissa Reichelderfer 09/04

Evan Michael Blumberg 09/06

James Moyer 09/07

Michael Herbert 09/07

Connie Morrill-Hair 09/09

Lisa Hess 09/11

Harold Wissinger 09/11

Diana Macfarlane 09/13

Lisa Singleton 09/14

Aiden James Van Why 09/14

John Tucker 09/15

Larry Stenger 09/15

Catherine Kinton 09/18

Swann Kongkeattikul 09/18

Manuel Cuesta 09/18

Virginia (Ginni) Parker 09/20

Brayden Brown 09/20

Tracey Wright 09/22

Matthew Strunk 09/22

Hannah Herbert 09/22

Carl Barton 09/23

Stephen Wright 09/27

Dr James Strite Jr. 09/29

Jack Mull 09/29





Youth Calendar of Events

September

3 Labor Day weekend No church School

10 Church School begins 8:45?

Children's Corner during worship

Confirmation begins 11:15

17 Church School 8:45

Family Fall Fun Day 11:30-1:30

24 Church School 8:45

Children's corner during worship

Welcome back to the new church school year! We are excited to see everyone and hear about your summer and back-to-school experiences. I will be sending out soon new medical forms to all families to complete and return to me, as they need to be done each year. The general permission forms only need to be signed again and since I am teaching it is hard for me to get around to parents during the church school hour so I will be looking for each of you before or after worship with your paperwork.

Our classes this year are:

“Godly Play”, a Montessori hands on approach to storytelling to promote thinking and creative expression. We are offering it for Preschool age children.

“SPARK” Activate Faith for grades K-6th which connects Worship and Church School using crafts, games and scripture based on the Revised Common Lectionary.

Grades 7-12, Teen Discussion using “ The Wired Word” to connect current events with Christian Living in this day. For Girls only present classes, “Bad Girls of the Bible” may be offered.

Family Fall Fun Day

The second Family fun Day will be held this year on September 17th directly after worship. Last year we had a large turnout so help from our teens is needed to run events for the younger children. Please see Roxanne to help and earn service hours.

Network Ministries STEP TEAM Workshop

Earlier this summer we had the privilege of hosting Network Ministries STEP Team during one of our worship services. They were so awesome, and I thoroughly enjoyed talking with them and their advisor. We talked about the possibility of having them come do a workshop for our Youth and any young at heart church members. I have not contacted them yet about this endeavor and dates but am polling our youth families about interest. I know schedules play a big part, but I would hate to invite them and have no one show up. RSVP soon.

If you are unfamiliar with their program, please check network-ministries.org, talk to me, Pastor Caroline, or John Bryner. Check out the flyer on the Youth bulletin board outside the office also. I would love to see our youth linked up with them.

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here"

St. John's United Church of Christ

Program Year starts Sept. 10, 2023

Church School classes begin at 8:45 am

Choir practice is at 9:45 am

Worship is at 10:00 am

<https://sjucc1811.org/>

1811 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg PA



THE GLEANING PROJECT

of South Central Pennsylvania

HELP SAVE THE HARVEST

1 in 5 kids in South Central PA is "food insecure" and miss out on dependable fresh fruits and vegetables

20-30% of food loss occurs during agricultural production, harvesting, and distribution.

All of that waste is perfectly delicious, nutritious, local food that doesn't make it to market for a variety of reasons which are usually cosmetic (size, color, shape etc.)

In 2022, The Gleaning Project saved and supplied **750,000+ lbs** of fresh produce to community partners in Franklin and Adams Counties

In 2023 we're hoping to save even more. Here's how:



Freezing

Labeled fresh fruits and produce can be used anywhere from months to a year after harvest depending on storage! This produce, picked at peak ripeness, contains important nutrients essential for a healthy lifestyle that will be preserved by freezing instead of going to waste!



Canning

Canning produce can extend it's life from 12-18months ! Both water bath and pressure canning can be used to salvage produce from fields and extend harvest year round to those who are food insecure and without freezers!



Saving the Veggies

With the help of the community, The Gleaning Project hopes to save more produce than ever and continue to fill the food gap that occurs during months where harvest has stopped but hunger persists.



Interested in Helping?

CONTACT US!

Franklin Co. Gleaning Coordinator - Cory Hess

Assistant Coordinator - Bernie Armstrong

chess@sccap.org

barmstrong@sccap.org



thegleaningproject@gmail.com



717-492-6269



SCCAP

South Central Community Action Programs
Empower • Engage • End Poverty

Ministry Chairs

2022-2023

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—*Mary Lou Hendrickson*

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 2022-2023

Trustees

Thomas Harrison—**Vice President**

Larry Wadel

Elders

Harold Collier, **President**

N. Aaron Hartman

Jill Miller

Gary Patterson

Dwight Sollenberger

Carol Yarema

Deacons

Allen Frantz

Mike Blumberg

Cathy Kinton

Sarah Myers, **Secretary**

TBD

TBD

Pastor

The Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

Sunday Worship will be at 10 am (Offered In-Person and on YouTube)

Upcoming Communion Dates

Saturday, September 9, 5 pm, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 10, 10 am, Sanctuary & Livestreamed

World Communion Sunday, October 1, 10 am, Sanctuary & Livestreamed

Saturday, October 14, 5 pm, Fellowship Hall



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