

# The Spirit

Volume 76 No 10 October 2023



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

## ***From Pastor Caroline***

October is one of the “ber” months and with it comes cooler temperatures, changing colors, and conversations about what you’re going to dress up for at Halloween. October is also when we celebrate World Communion Sunday and Reformation Sunday.

World Communion Sunday promotes Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation and focuses on (as the name implies) communion. Observed since 1940, we are reminded of how we are connected in Christ, regardless of our theology or denomination. This year, we will celebrate World Communion Sunday on October 1.

Reformation Sunday marks the remembrance of the start of the Protestant Reformation in 1517, as well as the continual process of forming and reforming the church. You are invited to wear red to remind you of the fire of the Holy Spirit to worship on Sunday, October 29.

These liturgical observances connect us to Christians locally and globally. We give thanks for these opportunities to engage with our past, our present, and our future.

The **Chambersburg Area CROP Walk** will be Sunday, November 5. The starting point is Zion Reformed Church, 259 South Main Street. Registration is at 1:30 pm and the walk begins at 2:00 pm. The mission of Church World Service and CROP remains the same: feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and heal the sick. Materials about CROP Walk are available at the Welcome Center. Donations will be received throughout the month of October.

Consistory had a retreat with members of the St. John’s Future Together Task Force on Saturday, September 16. It was a positive start to the process of implementing our strategic plan (always the most challenging phase of any visioning process). We give thanks for the leaders among us, especially those serving on Consistory and the members of the St. John’s Future Together Task Force.

None of us is called to do everything; we are all called to do something. 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.

When my mama died in October 2011, my dad took a leave of absence from his job as a chaplain at the Mayflower Community and then retired. He said “I can’t minister and mourn at the same time.” He was 76 when she died and had been ordained 50 years by that point. He was at a very different place in his life and his ministry. I’m still at the start of my career and I have no plans to retire. But I’m trying to figure out how to minister and mourn at the same time. I wasn’t in ministry when my mama died, so this is brand new territory for me. Thank you for your prayers, patience and encouragement as I find my way in this season.

*Peace,*  
*Pastor Caroline*

# Afro-Christian Convention: The Fifth Stream of the UCC

At General Synod this summer, delegates formally recognized the Afro-Christian Convention as one of the official predecessor bodies of the UCC, a “fifth stream” in the canon of our history.

To learn more about this history, Pastor Caroline and Jerry Thomason are leading a 3-session book study on Rev. Dr. Yvonne Delk’s book “Afro-Christian Convention: The Fifth Stream of the UCC.

**Tuesdays, October 10, 17 and 24**

6:30 pm in Conference Room 111  
and via Zoom

Meeting ID: 811 3178 5871

Passcode: 315050





# St John's Nursery School

We are loving this Fall weather and all of the signs of the changing season!

The new school year is in full swing and we are so proud of our students. The children are adjusting well and they are making a lot of new friends. They are learning the rules and routines, and about what it means to be a part of the classroom community.

October is a busy month at the Nursery School. Children will start off the month by having their school pictures taken. Next, they will have a special visit from the Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Department, where they will learn about fire prevention and get to tour a fire truck. They will end the month with classroom parties celebrating Fall with themed crafts, snacks, and games.

The Nursery School will also be selling The Butcher Shoppe cookie dough and coffee again this year, as well as pizza and sub coupons. It has been a very successful fundraiser in the past. Students will begin taking orders mid-October with delivery to the Church the beginning of December.

Thank you for your continuing support of our Nursery School,  
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.

# *First Fruits for October*

October First Fruits are going to support the “power packs” program at Falling Spring Elementary School. The “power packs” are weekend backpacks of food for children in need, making sure that all children have food to eat over the days they are not at school. Your generous support of this program is greatly appreciated.



# 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

# FROM THE CARING CORNER

On **Tuesday, September 12**, we gathered at Norlo Park to enjoy an Ice Cream Social and to honor three members of the Called to Care Team who are retiring from 'active' duty.

Nina Widmann, Connie Evans, and Lisa Frantz were part of the originally commissioned team in June 2007. They have been an active part of Called to Care serving in a variety of capacities and will be missed.

We will now refer to these ladies as Adjunct Support—when folks let Called to Care know there is a need for homebound or other caring support, they will be kept in the loop but will no longer work as visiting partners or be responsible for managing our card ministry.

The ice cream was tasty, the weather was spectacular, the fellowship was wonderful. Thank you to everyone who could attend and to these wonderful supporters of St. John's UCC.

## **Called to Care Team:**

Connie Morrill-Hair (chair), Carol Marotte, Mary Moyer,

Judy Patterson, Lynda Pound, Eileen Shaffer,

Diana MacFarland

Adjunct member: Lee Powell

Flower Ministry Supporters: John and Jolene McGinley,

Mary Lou and Don Hendrickson, Alison and Henry Hopper,

Mary and Jim Moyer, Lynda Pound, Lee Powell,

Connie Morrill-Hair







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

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

## How Does Music Affect Animals?

I know people who play the radio or TV for their pets when they are away from their house.

I am sure that many of you have tried doing this when you are away. There are tons of studies done to determine how certain music tones affect those who can hear them. Music is truly a powerful medium that has been known to help people in so many ways. The same is true of animals. Its just important to remember the type of music is incredibly important. Classical music is typically the way to go for your pets. Any true hard rock or heavy metal will be more noise than anything but soothing for your pets. So why not give it a try and see what the right kind of music can do for your favorite pet. Help keep them calm!

Gary Crum

From the Public Opinion

# 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**

OCTOBER 16, 2023 | 6:30 PM

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# **BIBLE & A BEER**

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Theological conversations  
Rich discussion  
Powerful testimony

Join us at 6:30 pm 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!*

**October 14, 2023**

**5:00 pm**

**In Fellowship Hall**



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



## What does it mean to be Open and Affirming at St. John's UCC – Chambersburg??

Almost 3 years ago, St. John's UCC voted to adopt a Covenant of Welcome and Affirmation of marginalized individuals. We seek ways to affirm those of differing sexual orientation, to learn more about our underlying mistreatment via slavery and its repercussions, to acknowledge our lack of compassion and caring of indigenous natives as our country expanded in what was believed to be creation of a 'Christian' nation in the eyes of some. And, sadly, still today we have fallen short of trying to fully understand how much of our past has led to some of our current divisiveness, and thus, often failing to find ways to affirm and serve our neighbor with understanding, compassion and assistance with basic resources in many cases.

ONA Ministry wishes to remind that we can show our support to the LGBTQ+ community by participation at the **Pride Festival on October 8 at Wilson College**. The festival runs from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on that date. 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 is to lend support to the LGBTQ+ community, as well as bringing together the LGBTQ community and its straight allies to celebrate diversity, acceptance and respect. St. John's will be hosting a table at this event.

An opportunity for learning more in our history is a newly published book titled “**Afro-Christian Convention: The Fifth Stream of the UCC.**” Many of us in the UCC denomination have not been cognizant of an early group of churches/congregations that were one of the streams of believers who were joined together in the UCC formation in 1957. The Reverend Dr. Yvonne Delk’s publication of collected writings about the time in the historical formation of black churches/congregations is an informative and challenging read as we learn more about their recognition and/or lack thereof in the formation of the UCC denomination. There will be opportunity for you to participate in **discussions on this book** in October. The dates are **October 10, 17 and 24 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** This will be a hybrid event allowing for in person participation in Room 111 at the church or via Zoom. The discussions will be led by Pastor Caroline and Jerry Thomason. We strongly encourage you to participate in this book discussion.

Open and Affirming (ONA) Ministry continues to encourage you to join us in efforts to build bridges with one another in our community.



# Ladies LUNCHEON

The food was very good, and abundant, as nine ladies enjoyed lunch at Maria and Sal's in Fayetteville on Wednesday, September 13, at 11:30 am. Carol Foltz was a new attendee.

Pastor Caroline offered grace. A "thinking of you" card was written to Nina Widmann. As stories of school days were shared, we learned a bit more about each other.

Beginning with September persons with birthdays in that month will choose the location for the following month. Since Diana Macfarlane was absent Connie Hair (also September birthday girl) chose Rosalie's as our October location.

Therefore, plan to car pool, since parking is limited. The big table in the back has already been reserved for our group on Wednesday, October 11th at 11:30 am. See you then.

## MENS BREAKFAST



We will be meeting Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 7am at Chris's Kitchen (across from Perkins)

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



# OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/01 Lynne McGough

10/02 Susan Collier

10/02 Dariawn Barbour

10/05 Katrina Dietrich

10/07 Kenneth Dilling

10/08 Camden Wadel

10/10 Sandra Lewis

10/10 Judy Cook

10/11 Charity Brumfield

10/11 Logan Parsons

10/12 Scot Orndorff

10/14 Wayne Scubelek

10/14 Peggy Bryner

10/14 H Mark Bard

10/14 David Taylor

10/16 Barbara Aveni

10/16 Rev. Robert Macfarlane

10/16 Tena Keeney

10/16 Michael (Mike) Hoffeditz

10/18 Sarah Myers

10/20 Jonathan Miller

10/25 Roxanne Davenport

10/26 Harold Hopple

10/26 Lisa Fair

10/27 Nancy Rebok

10/30 David Collier





## Youth Calendar of Events

October

1 Church School 8:45

Confirmation 11:15

8 Church School 8:45

Children's Corner during Worship

15 Church School 8:45

22 Church School 8:45

Children's Corner during Worship

Confirmation

29 Church School 8:45

## Trick or Treat....Smell My Feet.....

Older Youth who are not trick or treating themselves are invited to help hand our candy at the church on October 31st from 6-8 pm. St. John's usually gets several hundred kids from our neighborhood and others. We dress up and have a lot of fun providing this ministry!

See Roxanne to help!



## 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](http://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.



**THANK YOU VERY MUCH**

**TO EVERYONE WHO MADE OUR FAMILY FUN  
DAY SUCH A WONDERFUL EVENT. SPECIAL  
THANK YOU TO SHEETZ AND GIANT FOOD  
STORES FOR THEIR SPONSORSHIP.**



# COOKIE WALK

Saturday  
Dec. 2, 2023

Save the Date



# Ministry Chairs

## 2023-2024

**Called to Care**—*Connie Morrill-Hair*

**Camp**—*MaryLee Yaukey*

**Caring Cooks**—*Lisa Frantz*

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

**Facilities Ministry**—*Tom Harrison*

**Fellowship**—*Sue McMurtray*

**Finance**—*Scot Orndorff*

**Invitational Ministry**—*Susan Collier*

**Library**—*MaryLee Yaukey*

**Nursery School**—*Connie Strunk*

**Open and Affirming**— *TBD*

**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* 22

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 2023-2024

## Trustees

TBD

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**

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

Saturday, October 14, 5 pm, Fellowship Hall

All Saints Sunday, November 5, 10 am, Sanctuary & Livestreamed

Saturday, November 11, 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](http://www.sjucc1811.org)*