

# The Spirit

Volume 77 No. 6 June 2024



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

## ***From Pastor Caroline***

One of my favorite passages of scripture is Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. Pete Seeger wrote the song “Turn! Turn! Turn!” based on this passage in 1959 and it became a number one hit by the Byrds in 1965. It is a reminder to me of the constancy of change. The biblical writers know the truth that comes from life: change will happen, whether we are ready or not. Enjoy life while we have it; make the most of the present moment; and embrace the possibilities.

We are living in the season after Pentecost, in the so-called “Ordinary Time.” The Spirit is loose in the world, showing up in both dramatic ways and quiet moments. Some of what we do in the summer is look toward the future with anticipation, taking the time to pause and recharge after a busy program year. We center ourselves in God’s grace and goodness. We might travel or take a stay-cation. We immerse ourselves in the beauty of creation. Spend some time with the Divine, nurturing your inner life, listening for God’s still-speaking voice.

Consider participating in the “Prayer in Nature” event at St. John’s Camp on June 8 or the Meditation Class held on Mondays at 10 am in Library Room 106. The Labyrinth outside the Sanctuary is always a good place for outdoor contemplation, accessible 24/7. These are opportunities we hope will feed your soul and allow you to tend to your spirit.

I came across this quote by Ari Honarvar and it seems to speak quite well for our times: “Perhaps the most radical act of resistance in the face of adversity is to live joyfully.” There are so many things which trouble us, which cause us to worry and lose sleep. Jesus would, I believe, encourage us to choose joy. Believe there is good in the world and be the good. No wonder I love 1 Thessalonians 5:11, Philippians 4:4-9, and Micah 6:8.

Walking together, hand in hand, we are being the church. We are planting seeds that are bearing fruit, living into our Future Together Strategic Plan. Being the church takes all of us—including you. Thank you for your ideas, enthusiasm, and support. Thank you for your time, talent, and treasure. Together, we are being equipped for ministry, growing in love of God and neighbor.

Our Spring Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 23, following worship. This will be a hybrid meeting in our Sanctuary with the option to attend on Zoom.

Thank you again for your support during the past month as I have navigated long-distance caregiving and advocacy for my brother David. It means more than you know.

“Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be swift to love; make haste to be kind; and go in peace to love and serve the Lord.”

–Henri Frederic Amiel

Peace,

Pastor Caroline



# MUSIC MINISTRY

Dear friends of St. John's, we have come to the beginning of the summer season which means there will be no more choir music or handbell music in church during the summer months. At this point I would like to sincerely thank all the people who sing in the choir or play handbells. At present we have 25 choir members and 13 handbell players and a few substitutes who are willing to fill in when someone is absent. I am hoping our congregation appreciates the work each of these members and non members do during the year. I just wanted to say a big THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU. Further I want all to know who these people are who are willing to give of their time each week in practice and providing music for all on Sunday mornings.

## Choir Members:

Peter A'Zary  
John Bryner  
Roxanne Davenport  
Debbie Dilling  
Kathy Dryburgh  
Don Hendrickson  
Linda Hoffman  
Willa Kaal

Ferree Lefevre  
Chris Long  
Connie Morrill-Hair  
Dale Myers  
Sarah Myers  
Ginny Parker  
Gary Patterson  
Lee Powell  
Linda Zeger

Nancy Rebok  
Eileen Shaffer  
Keith Simmons  
Ruth Simmons  
Bill Slothower  
Joanne Slothower  
Dixie Weller  
Chris Willman-Bunge

## Handbell Ringers:

Ginny Cairns  
Roxanne Davenport  
Jeff Diller  
Linda Hoffman

Tena Keeney  
Chris Long  
Nancy Rebok  
Nancy Rood  
Linda Zeger

Joanne Slothower  
Eric Wadel  
Barb Wissinger  
Chris Willman-Bunge

Handbell Substitute Ringers: Erin Wadel and Mitzi Wadel

# 2024 USED BOOK SALE

**St. John's United Church of Christ**  
**1811 Lincoln Way E. Chambersburg PA 17202**

**Friday October 25th - 2pm to 8pm**

**Saturday October 26th - 9am to 5pm**

**Sunday October 27th - noon to 4pm**

Proceeds go to



# *Member Spotlight!*

## Colton Wadel

I am graduating from Chambersburg Career Magnet School. I plan on attending West Virginia University to double major in Supply Chain Management and Accounting.



# Future Together Progress Report

May 2024 continues the progress on our work together into the future. You will note that several of these activities overlap in different areas of our Strategic Plan. We hope this “progress report” helps everyone to see how we are living into our St. John’s UCC Future Together Strategic Plan.

## **SPIRITUAL DEEPENING**

- ◆ Prayer in Nature scheduled for June 8th at St. John’s Camp led by Aaron Hartman
- ◆ Henry Hopper is hosting a meditation class weekly.
- ◆ The Wired Word class will continue over the summer months.
- ◆ Watch for a new prayer jar ministry coming soon.

If you missed a copy of the Spirit, links for past editions are now available online.

## **ENERGIZE PARTICIPATION**

- ◆ A poverty simulation workshop has been postponed—watch for a new date this Autumn.
- ◆ A task force continues their work reviewing the governance and leadership teams needed to succeed in reaching our goals. Our hope is to have a presentation ready for the congregational meeting in June 2024.
- ◆ Cathy Kinton has prepared visitor bags to share with our visitors.

## **CONGREGATIONAL CARE**

- ◆ Our May 26th service will focus on mental health.
- ◆ VBS is scheduled July 28th through August 1st.
- ◆ The Elders are working to reach our members and help connect and support our journey together.
- ◆ A group study of “The Purpose Driven Life” by Rick Warren is being planned.
- ◆ A Healing Service is planned for June 2nd.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

- ◆ A Red Cross Blood donation drive is scheduled for May 31st.
- ◆ Our Autumn Tea is planned for September 21st.
- ◆ A Civil War ball is planned for June 29th.
- ◆ The Habitat For Humanity Book Sale is scheduled for October 25,26, and 27.
- ◆ We are hosting a concert on August 16th—watch for details.
- ◆ The Summer Singers are looking for singers with concerts scheduled in the summer.
- ◆ Family Fun Day returns on September 8th

## **FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY**

- ◆ Camp Ministry has developed a new rental fee structure. A grant was received from Penn Central Conference to assist campers and camp upgrades.
- ◆ St. John’s has engaged Berkstresser Realty. We have a new group starting July 1st in 2 of our rooms that ARE VACANT
- ◆ To assist us in applying for grants, St. John’s has engaged Ghost Writer LLC with several grant applications submitted
- ◆ Online giving and other giving opportunities are regularly advertised. A new QR code is placed in our publications.



*"When I read scripture and church history, I see God working through adversity so often and calling people to abide in faith when outcomes are not certain and when the winds of the world feel like there's no way forward ... I believe that God is using constraint in churches all over. That financial constraint is compelling congregations to pick up their feet and do more of what they've been called to do all along ... Could God not use financial constraint to generate creativity? When you have a power outage and everything in the refrigerator goes bad, you start getting creative about what's in the pantry and discover you can make some pretty great things. That's when the creativity happens, not when you can just go to the refrigerator anytime you want and pull out something that's ready to eat ... And that's where I feel like there's really God's genius at work in this because it's not even just creativity for its own sake or meeting the needs of the world, it's also compelling a greater fidelity to the New Testament vision of the spirit working through many members. You can't be dependent on one professional Christian to do it all for the people anymore. There has to be more collective effort. There has to be more trust in this. There has to be more relevance. You have to have missional impact. You can't be an island. And the economic constraints are forcing all of this to be born. And it's good for the churches to have these constraints because ... when you start talking about money, people do notice. People take their budget seriously. So if that's what the people need to get them going in a path of faith, let it be so. To God be the glory."*

**Rev. G. Jeffrey Macdonald**  
**First Congregational Church of**  
**Kensington United Church of Christ**



# MEDITATION GROUP



-EVERY MONDAY @ 10 AM  
-CHURCH LIBRARY ROOM  
106  
-NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
CONTACT HENRY HOPPPER AT  
HENHOPPER@AOL.COM OR  
(717) 660 - 2325

# SPRING CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 11 AM

Join us in the Sanctuary or on Zoom via video chat or call-in

Meeting ID 216 127 9033 & Passcode stjoh

Call in option: 646 558 8656 or 301 715 8592

(use Meeting ID and Passcode to join by phone)

Meeting packets are available at the Welcome Center and Narthex and by request from the church office.



# A CIVIL WAR GRAND BALL

## COMMEMORATING THE BURNING OF CHAMBERSBURG

*Come and join the fun as  
Nancy J. Walker & Jef Savage lead an  
evening of Civil War Era Dances.*

**@ ST JOHN'S UCC**

**1811, Lincoln Way EAST, Chambersburg, PA.**

**Friday, June 28th, 6pm - 9pm**

*Guests will learn & dance some of the  
most fashionable dances of the 1830's -  
1860's in a friendly and relaxed  
atmosphere. Come and try the Grande  
March, Soldier's Joy, Waltz, Polka,  
Quadrilles & Country Dances, including  
Virginia & Cumberland Reels, and the  
"noisy" Carillon de Dunkerque.*

**NO PREVIOUS DANCE EXPERIENCE NEEDED  
THESE ARE MAINLY WALKING DANCES**

**Pay at the door**

*Proceeds benefit St. Johns UCC Community  
Programs and Discover DanceWorks (501c3)*

*For more information call 717-414-1166  
or email [DiscoverDanceWorks1@gmail.com](mailto:DiscoverDanceWorks1@gmail.com)*

**Light refreshments will be served.**

*Copyright Danza Antiqua 2024. All rights reserved.*

**Adult \$10.00**

**Under 18 \$5.00**

**For Adults, & Age**

**12 thru 17**

**accompanied by an  
adult.**

**What to Wear:**

*Guests may dress in  
Victorian era attire  
or casual.*

**For your SAFETY**

*Wear shoes that are  
safe to dance in -  
should be flexible  
with soles that can  
easily slide. Flat or  
small heels (no more  
than 1/2") Please do  
**NOT** wear: flip  
flops, clogs, shoes  
with open backs,  
boots, high heels, or  
cleats on shoes.*



*Thank You*



My thanks to everyone for the 100 birthday cards. Thanks also to Rev. Caroline and Diane Macfarlane for their visits, flowers and balloons. You all made my day more special.

Thanks again, Mabel Perry.

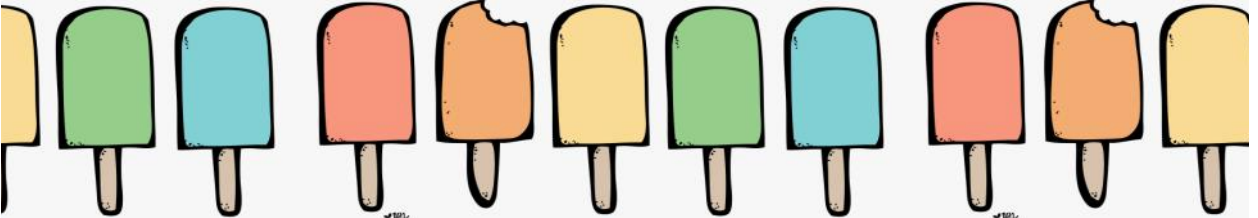
I thank you all for the birthday cards I received for my 96 year birthday. It was a good feeling to know that I am still remembered as a member.

Sincerely Margaretta Kennedy



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

The church office will be closed on Wednesday, June 19 in observance of Juneteenth



Loretta Zimmerman - Office Manager  
Heather Nickey - Office Assistant

Church office # (717) 263-8593

# Planning for Community Engagement

Did You Know. . .

That among all the designated “Awareness” days and months throughout the year, there is a plethora of recognitions, including for the month of June: International Day of Action for Elephants in Zoos (June 8); International Lynx Day (June 11); National Cougar Day (June 12) and National American Eagle Day (June 20). You can spend hours surfing the internet and find almost anything or any group gaining awareness at some point in the calendar year.

St. John’s ONA and Outreach Ministries wish to highlight some special dates and activities for the month of June 2024 here in our local community. As we move forward in our efforts to be engaged in community, we call these to your attention:

1) June is PRIDE month and June 26 is LGBTQ+Equality Day.



2) National holiday “Juneteenth” is officially June 19. The local Juneteenth celebration here in Chambersburg will be held on June 22nd at the Mike Waters Park on Second Street. This event will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Details of this event will be forthcoming.



3) June 23rd is ONA Sunday in the UCC denomination. St. John's will be joining other UCC churches across the nation highlighting our support and welcoming to marginalized individuals. As an ONA church, we strive to demonstrate this care and welcome throughout the entire year, and wish to join the other UCC churches in our nation on this denominational day of recognition in our worship.



4) Race Against Poverty will be held on Friday, June 7. Funds from this event go towards support for the Circles Program, where families meet together, share together, and set goals to assist in moving out of poverty and become further contributing citizens to a thriving community.



So, as we may recognize and appreciate diversity in the elephants, the lynx, the cougars and the eagles as part of God's creation, may we also find ways to engage in many of our local activities and events in efforts to experience the wonders and love of diversity in our own locale.

# First Fruits

Outreach Ministry's First Fruit collection for June will be donated to the Fayetteville Food Pantry. The Food Pantry is hosted in St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church Fayetteville and is operated in partnership with the South-Central Community Action Programs (SCCAP). St. Paul supports the operation and management of the small emergency food pantry which is stocked with nonperishable foods. St. Paul members provide volunteer staffing and receives considerable support, both volunteer labor and financial, from Fayetteville and surrounding communities. The food pantry serves approximately 120-130 families in the Brownsville, Fayetteville, North Mont Alto and South Mountain communities. The food is available to anyone who has a need and there are no eligibility requirements. This pantry is entirely financed and stocked through local donations. Hours of operation are the 2nd and 3rd Thursday of each month from 12 PM – 2 PM. The Fayetteville Food Pantry provides a valued service to the aforementioned communities, especially in these continuing inflationary times. The Outreach Ministry appreciates your contributions to this worthy local charitable organization.



St. John's QR Code  
for Giving Online



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



# The Caring Corner



*Then Jesus said: “Come to Me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.”*

*(Matthew 11:28 (NLT))*

Save the date: **Sunday June 2, 2024**

All Are Welcome to our Sunday Morning Healing

Service where you can quietly share your concerns with two others and receive a personal prayer. You can also confidentially submit your prayer request for a special prayer of healing. Won't you join us and bring someone who could use some support during a challenging time.

## **Don't Forget—St John's Cares about you**

Need a prayer—the office can take your prayer request and send it to the prayer chain.

Need a meal—the office can contact Caring Cooks and arrange support for you.

Need a visit or know of someone who does—The office can contact Pastor Caroline and/or the Called to Care team and arrange the visit.

Want to add flowers to the Sanctuary—the office can make sure your name is added to the flower chart and work with you on your order.

We have a wonderful team in our church office that are ready and available to help facilitate your needs.



Things have been happening at camp! Camp Ministry applied for and received a \$5,000 grant from UCC's Penn Central Conference Outdoor Ministry. The grant will be used for the bus rental, to help sponsor campers, for maintenance and improvement projects and for camp activities and supplies.

Camp clean-up on Saturday, April 27 went very well in spite of the rain. The Boy Scouts and several church members really cleaned up the leaves! The camp grounds look great with the chapel and camp fire areas cleared of leaves as well! Several church members worked in the kitchen cleaning and organizing. The kitchen and dining hall, furniture was moved and floors were scrapped, swept/ vacuumed and mopped, ready for a new coat of paint.

Work has begun with grant funds used for paint and painting supplies. In early May, Mike Blumberg painted the kitchen and dining hall floors. Before the start of camp, the ministry will paint the bathroom shower floors. There are several other projects that will be completed with the direction and help of Dick Rebok and Tom Kinton.

Counselors, kitchen helpers and Life Learnings presenters are needed. If you are available June 21-28 to help with camp for a day or more, please contact Mary Lee Yaukey ([mlyaukey@comcast.net](mailto:mlyaukey@comcast.net)) or Renee Byers ([rbyers@comcast.net](mailto:rbyers@comcast.net)).

Please, share information about our beautiful camp with your friends and family! Sign up children, grandchildren and friends to come to camp. Rent the camp for casual events and encourage others to rent our beautiful camp. There is nothing more calming and uplifting than spending time outdoors at camp!

St. John's is so blessed to have this wonderful gem in the mountains!



**PRAYER IN**  
**NATURE MEET-UP**

**HOSTED BY AARON HARTMAN**

**WHEN: SATURDAY, JUNE 8**

**TIME: 10:30 AM - NOON**

**WHERE: ST. JOHN'S CAMP  
(RAIN DATE JUNE 15)**

JUNE 17, 2024 | 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!



Due to schedules, the Saturday Service in July  
will be held on Saturday, July 27

*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.*



**June 1, 2024**

**5:00 pm**

**Fellowship Hall**

St. John's UCC

1811 LWE Chambersburg, PA 17202



# Ladies LUNCHEON

Extra tables and chairs had to be located to seat the 16 ladies who met for lunch on Wednesday, May 8, at the Menno Haven Club Room. Many remembered to bring photos of their mothers and others shared stories of the women who made us who we are.

June is always our visit to Windy Knoll for ice cream and other treats. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, June 12, to join the group at 11:30. On that day we will share photos or stories of our dads or tell of special summer vacation plans.

## MENS BREAKFAST



We will be meeting Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 7am at Chris's Kitchen (across from Perkins)

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

# June BIRTHDAYS

06/03 Mark Reichelderfer

06/03 Cheryl Sollenberger

06/03 Heidi Ramos

06/04 Owen Reichelderfer

06/04 Adelaide Dietrich

06/05 Connie Strunk

06/07 Gary Johnson

06/09 Constance Reichelderfer

06/10 Matthew Hoover

06/14 Stephanie Baltozer

06/14 John Campbell

06/16 Carol Yarema

06/17 Lynda Thomason

06/19 Jill Miller

06/20 Thomas Kinton

06/21 Lynda Pound

06/21 Kerry Miller

06/22 Thomas Steele

06/23 J Christian Snavelly

06/24 Antonio Cuesta

06/26 Kay Hughes

06/29 Betty Niemond

06/29 Susan Weller

06/29 Marlee Rae Ridings

06/30 Barbara Soper





## June

- 12 Children's corner
- 26 Children's Corner





## Save the Date

VBS

July 28- August 1, 2024

See Roxanne to  
help!!!!

Registration for students and volunteers is open on the church website.

Crew leaders are needed

Work Days are July 14 and 21! Mark Your Calendars!!!!



# Ministry Chairs

## 2023-2024

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

**Camp**—*MaryLee Yaukey*

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

**Facilities Ministry**—*Tom Harrison*

**Fellowship**—*Sue McMurtray*

**Finance**—*Scot Orndorff*

**Invitational Ministry**—*Susan Collier*

**Library**—*MaryLee Yaukey*

**Nursery School**—*Renee Byers*

**Open and Affirming**— *N. Aaron Hartman/Mark and Emily Hoger*

**Outreach**—*TBD*

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** — *N. Aaron Hartman*

**Public Relations**— *TBD*

**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 2023-2024

## Trustees

TBD

Thomas Harrison—**Vice President & Head Trustee**

Larry Wadel

## Elders

Harold Collier, **President**

N. Aaron Hartman

Jill Miller

Gary Patterson

Dwight Sollenberger, **Head Elder**

Carol Yarema

## Deacons

Allen Frantz

Mike Blumberg

Cathy Kinton, **Head Deacon**

Sarah Myers, **Secretary**

Chris Willman-Bunge

TBD

## Pastor

The Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

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

Communion Dates:

Saturday, June 1, 5 pm, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, June 2, 10 am, Sanctuary & Livestreamed

Sunday, July 7, 10 am, Sanctuary & Livestreamed

Saturday, July 27, 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)*

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

