

# The Spirit

Volume 82 No. 7 July/August 2025



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

## ***From Pastor Caroline***

In the excellent resource “A Sure Foundation: Resources for the Relationship Between Pastors and Congregations,” Pastor Roy M. Oswalt provides several reasons as to why a congregation should want its pastor to have a sabbatical leave:

“A sabbatical...encourages longer pastorates; refocuses ministry; contributes to a pastor’s spiritual growth; prevents burnout; establishes new patterns for work and self-care; and promotes congregational self-sufficiency.”

Any one of these reasons would be enough, I think, to promote and provide a sabbatical. My dad served in parish ministry for 40 years—and only had one sabbatical. I’m grateful that we have agreed on these six weeks in 2025 as a time for rest and renewal.

We have lived through a lot in the seven years that I have served St. John’s UCC. I never imagined pastoring in a pandemic and all that would be required “for such a time as this.” We underwent a period of study and conversation that culminated in becoming an Open and Affirming (ONA) congregation. We embarked on an intentional visioning process and created our Future Together Strategic Plan, which we are working hard to implement. We have changed our governance structure and I give thanks to those who are serving on the Council and the Missional Standing Committees (Spiritual Life, Congregational Care, and Community Engagement). And in the midst of this work, I have been grieving my dad.

Ministry is not an easy profession. I have never doubted my calling; yet there are days when I am spiritually, emotionally, and physically exhausted. I would prefer to “burn on, and not out” as one of my favorite podcasts, “Burn It All Down” used to say. These six weeks of sabbatical, from June 30 to August 10, will be a time for me to refocus and recharge.

What will I be doing? What do I hope to gain? I looked into several opportunities for travel, including to the Iona Community in Scotland, and still hope to incorporate those things into my six weeks of sabbatical in 2026. Primarily, this year I will be spending time with family and friends, attending UCC General Synod in Kansas City, MO as a delegate from the Penn Central Conference, reading many books, and taking day trips to places close to home. Plus, spending time with my two cats, Leah and Naomi, whose presence and purrs always help to ground and center me. And, perhaps most importantly, I plan to enjoy lots of naps.

I thank the Council and Personnel Committee, who have worked with me to make the arrangements for pastoral care coverage, worship leadership, and other responsibilities. Rev. Peter Emig, retired UCC minister, will preach and lead worship during the Sundays I am away, with the exception of July 20, where Ernie Welch will preach and Jerry Thomason will be the worship leader. Pastor Peter will also be available for any pastoral emergencies.

As we spend these next six weeks apart from one another, I invite you to participate with me in the practice of breath prayers. They are means to connect with God and our bodies. Inhale. Fill your whole self with breath. Feel the air in your lungs. Exhale slowly and fully.

Inhale: Keep my hand steady

Exhale: on the work that is mine to do

Inhale: Sincerity over cynicism,

Exhale: faithfulness over despair

Inhale: I will not waver in fear’s strong winds,

Exhale: but remain rooted in your Love.

*Peace, Pastor Caroline*



# MUSIC MINISTRY

**WOW!!!! Who would not want this?**

Well this is year 15 for Summer Singers!

At least that is how long I have kept written records of what we have done. I do think we started a year earlier and I kept no record!

Anyway, we do have a sizeable group this year and are working hard to set up a wonderful concert program season which is as follows:

Come and be blessed!

July 17 (Thur) 3PM St. Luke Lutheran Church

July 21 (Mon) 7 PM Quincy Hess Room

July 23 (Wed) 7 PM Menno Haven Life Center

July 25 (Fri) 2 PM Menno Haven Life Center

July 27 (Sun) 3 PM St. John's UCC Sanctuary

-Gary Crum



## July First Fruits

Help local students get ready for the 2025-2026 school year with United Way's "Stuff the Bus" campaign in the month of July!

Students across Franklin County need support to be able to start the school year off right with all the supplies needed to learn, engage, and thrive in the classroom.

Most urgent needs include: Headphones/Earbuds; Folders; Binders; Colored Printer Paper (not construction paper), and Composition Books.

Additional Supplies: Notebooks and paper; Calculators; Pencil cases, pens, pencils, and erasers; Art supplies (markers, crayons, etc.); Cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer; Rulers, protractors, and safety scissors; Glue and tape; Jump ropes and playground balls; Facial tissues; and Clear reusable water bottles.

We will be collecting physical school supplies July 14 to 31 and monetary donations throughout the month of July via First Fruits.

You can also volunteer to help tally and pack school supplies. Contact United Way at 717-262-0015. Thank you for your support of students & families in Franklin County!



# ***The Caring Corner***

## ***About those Birthday Card Showers:***

What a positive testimonial we heard from Jerry Miller about the birthday cards he received from so many of his friends including folks here at St. John's. Card showers are a great way to brighten our spirits.

Just a reminder that you can request a card shower for a birthday or really any special event when you feel it would be beneficial to the recipient. The office looks for milestone birthdays but is always open to other requests.

Know someone who is going through a rough time or is about to have a birthday they aren't too crazy about? If you think a card shower will help, just let the office know at least a week before the event. It's an easy way to let people know we are thinking about them and that we care.

Blessings to you!

Your Friends on Called to Care



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## **Stewardship of civility**

There used to be a wise saying about arguments that kept things civil. One party or the other would say, “I disagree with what you say, but I defend with my life your right to say it.”

That sounds downright quaint in today’s climate, where partisans are more likely to say, “I disagree with what you say, and you are evil and have no right to that opinion.”

This month, as we celebrate Independence Day, we can relish the freedoms we take for granted, including freedom of speech, religion, and assembly.

At the same time, as Christians we remember not only Jesus’ command to love our neighbors as ourselves (Mark 12:31), but also to do unto others as we would have them do to us (Matthew 7:12). The “neighbors” and “others” certainly include those who hold different ideas on issues of the day.

How can we celebrate our freedom of expression in the context of Jesus’ commands?

Listen carefully, being open to another person’s ideas.

Respond thoughtfully and calmly, citing facts to support your argument.

Do not attack the person, only the ideas.

Remember the wise old saying, “I disagree with what you say, but I defend with my life your right to say it.”

We are stewards of our relationships with our neighbors. As followers of Jesus, we can be stewards of civility and lead our country to calmer, more amicable times.

*--Rob Blezard*

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*The Finance Task Force: Lisa Fair, Scot Orndorff, Jerry Thomason & Pastor Caroline*



## **Church Office Hours:**

**Monday - Friday  
9:00am - 3:00pm**

**Office will be closed on Friday, July 4 in  
observance of Independence Day.**

**Office Administrator: Tonya Schwartz**

**Phone: 717-263-8593**



# Future Together Progress Report

We continue 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**

- Pastor Caroline has been leading a weekly book study on Monday afternoons at 1:30 pm in the Conference Room. The group just finished reading “How We Learn to Be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith” by Mariann Edgar Budde. The group decided to pause while Pastor Caroline is on sabbatical. We will resume with a new selection in mid-August.
- Bible Study on Sunday evenings at 8 pm via Zoom continues with a study of Acts of the Apostles. The link is included in the weekly e-blast. This group will continue with lay leadership while Pastor Caroline is on sabbatical.
- The Wired Word adult church school class continues to meet during the summer months on Sundays at 8:45 am in Room 116. Email Harold Collier if you’d like to join the mailing list to receive the material in advance.
- The designated prayer center in the front lobby provides an alternative to joys and concerns and Life Talk. The prayer jars are for joys, concerns, and gratitude.
- Diana Kongkeattikul writes a weekly devotional for our website. An opt-in email list is available via the office if you’d like to receive her reflection directly in your inbox.
- The Spiritual Life Standing Committee met for the first time on May 21.
- Deacon and Elder training will be offered later this summer/early fall. Please contact Sarah Myers (Head Deacon) or Dwight Sollenberger (Head Elder) if you are interested in serving our church in these ways.

## **ENERGIZE PARTICIPATION**

- St. John’s Council typically meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Among other business, we are focused on getting the Missional Standing Committees (Community Engagement, Congregational Care, and Spiritual Life) up and running.

## **ENERGIZE PARTICIPATION**

- Did you know that we have a pickleball court in Fellowship Hall? We do! Contact the Church Office to reserve or sign up for beginners lessons (there is also a sign up at the Welcome Center). Many thanks to Skip Elliott for teaching these classes!
- We welcomed four new members to St. John's UCC on Pentecost Sunday, June 8. We give thanks that Kara Alt, Lloyd Beers Jr., Mary Lynn Cate, and Jim Wood have joined our family of faith! Their pictures are found on page 17.
- Another new member Sunday will be held this fall, date TBD.
- Planning is already underway for our annual Habitat for Humanity Book Sale.
- Summer Singers will be giving a concert at St. John's on July 27 at 3 pm in the Sanctuary. Mark your calendars now for this special event!
- Volunteers are needed for Vacation Bible School July 10-24; check out the Youth Ministry page (25) for specific needs. Contact Roxanne if you can help.
- A youth pizza and pool party are planned for August 8. RSVP to Roxanne.
- The Camp Ministry will host a "paint and picnic" day at Camp on August 16.

## **CONGREGATIONAL CARE**

- Information on Caregiver Support groups that are available in the community are posted on the bulletin boards and part of our email chain. We hope these resources (among others) are helpful to our congregation.
- The prayer chain is a wonderful way to pray with and for one another. To join the prayer chain or to share a prayer request, please contact the church office.
- We are still working to get the new pictorial directory finished. We need your help! If you have not yet submitted a photo or would like help having one taken, please contact the church office.
- "Life Talks" has been a wonderful addition to our Sunday mornings after worship. Grab and snack and coffee and meet in the parlor after worship to gather together for conversation and support.
- Thanks to all who came to the annual Church Pentecost Picnic on June 8.
- A "Gratitude Sunday" is planned for August 24 starting with a pancake breakfast.
- Blessing of the Animals will be Sunday, August 17, out on the lawn. Bring your pets!

# Future Together Progress Report

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The Wired Word Church School class is exploring other ways that SJUCC can be involved in the wider community, including with NETwork Ministries and Sweet Grace Ministries. We build community as we serve the community.
- Thank you to many of our members who supported the Franklin County Legal Services Book Sale May 30, 31 and June 1. Their success is our success, and vice versa!
- Check out page 19 for photos from the Race Against Poverty on Friday, June 6. St. John's UCC was a sponsor and had a team participate (including a cheering section!).
- A Civil War Ball will be held on July 11 in Fellowship Hall. See page 15 for details.
- An end of summer dance will be held on Friday, August 22. See the flyer on page 23.
- We will support United Way's **Stuff the Bus** campaign again this year from July 15 to 31. Children in school districts across Franklin County will be supported. Monetary donations will be accepted through First Fruits in July.

## FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

- A community art class is renting space at St. John's on Mondays (room 116). Use of our space by community groups continues to increase.
- Congregation Centro Misionero Internacional utilizes room 201 on Wednesday evening and Sunday mornings for worship and fellowship. This congregation is very happy to be here and have adopted the flower bed between the playground and Fellowship Hall.
- Ghostwriter, LLC continues to help us apply for grants. We recently received funding for projects at St. John's Camp and to improve sound quality and hearing accessibility at St. John's (primarily in the Sanctuary).
- We are actively exploring the repair of our parking lots and access road. The Council and Finance Committee have been obtaining quotes and reviewing options.
- Online giving and other giving opportunities are regularly advertised. A QR code is placed in our publications. Finance-related articles are included in every Spirit.
- Jessica and Friends are pursuing licensure for their adult day program.

## **Announcement about Book Study:**

Our Monday afternoon book study group will be taking a break while Pastor Caroline is on sabbatical. We will re-gather after Pastor Caroline returns. Happy summer!

## **Sunday Night Bible Study**

Join us on Sunday nights  
at 8 pm on Zoom for Bible Study  
Bible Study on the book of Acts!

Check out News in the Pews & E-blast  
for each week's reading assignment.

We encourage looking at a variety of translations;  
lay leadership will facilitate the sessions  
in July/August while Pastor Caroline is on sabbatical.

The link to join is included in the e-blast  
and News in the Pews.

# Formation of Missional Standing Committees

**Community Engagement: The Community Engagement Committee is responsible for building relationships and maintaining engagement with our community, overseeing outreach to our local and global communities, and partnering with other churches and organizations as we remain faithful to our mission to grow in love of God and neighbor.**

The Community Engagement Standing Committee met on May 28 to coordinate many of the events already in progress and planned for 2025. Initially members of the Invitational Ministry, ONA, and Outreach ministries met to start defining our efforts in our new structure. Members of Camp ministry have also joined in this effort. Many events are planned for July and August along with yearly recurring events.

## **June Events included:**

Sponsorship of the Race Against Poverty on June 6, with a St. John's Team participating in the race (see photos on page 23) and First Fruits contributions in May

## **July/August Events include:**

A Civil War Ball on July 11 (see page 15 for details)

"Stuff the Bus" school supply drive with United Way will be from July 14 to 31 to help children in schools throughout Franklin County; monetary donations will also be accepted through the month of July

Vacation Bible School held July 20 to 24

Summer Singers concert on July 27, 3 pm

"Paint and Picnic Party" at St. John's Camp, August 16

End of Summer Dance on August 22

**Note:** Monthly First Fruits contributions and quarterly benevolences help to support various ministries in our community. See pages 16-17 for more information.

As we continue to expand our Community Engagement Committee, we encourage those interested to join us. Folks involved include: Jim Boyer, John Bryner, Peg Bryner, Renee Byers, Harold Collier, Susan Collier, Emily Hoger, Mark Hoger, Tom (Echo) Harrison, Aaron Hartman, Neath Ham, Tena Keeney, Heidi Ramos, Courtney Robertson, Jerry Thomason, Chani Wolfe, MaryLee Yaukey, & Pastor Caroline.

**Congregational Care: The Congregational Care Committee works to nurture and promote a loving and caring culture to ensure a healthy and supportive congregation and live into our vision as a Christian church.**

This missional standing committee met on April 28 to build the team that will form this committee. If you have an interest in being part of this work, contact Pastor Caroline or a Council member.

Gratitude Sunday is planned for August 24 starting with a Pancake breakfast.

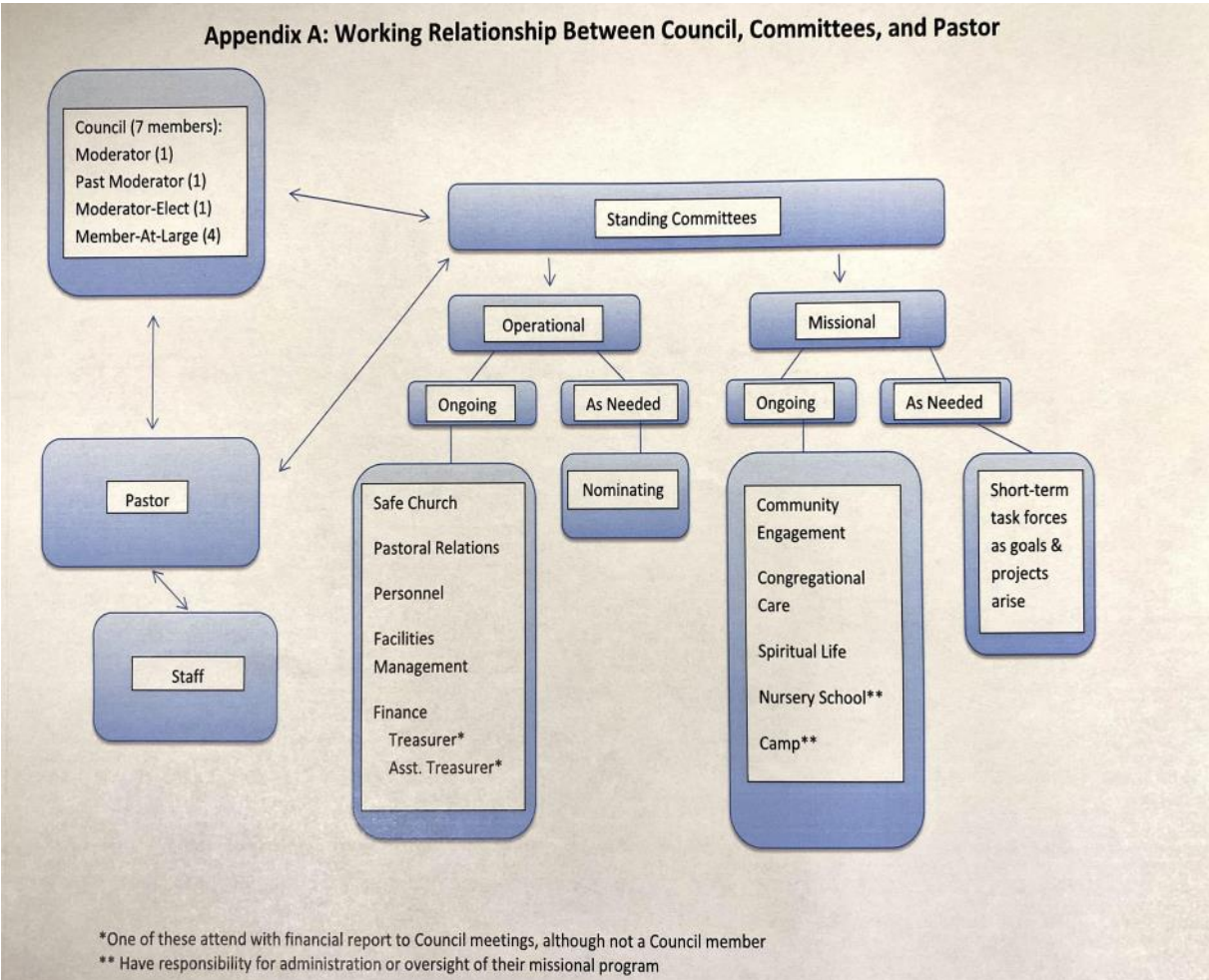
The team focused on ways for all members to have opportunities to join our journey. Working together and participating in small groups are the foundation of our congregation.

2025 Council: Moderator Harold Collier, Past Moderator Tom (Echo) Harrison, Moderator Elect Diana Kongkeattikul, Jill Miller, Dale Myers, Heidi Ramos, and Secretary Eileen Shaffer.

**Spiritual Life:** The Spiritual Life Committee, with the help of the Worship Support Team, is responsible for worship, education, spiritual formation, and communion. The Spiritual Life Committee ensures our congregation establishes and lives a covenantal relationship with one another while nurturing a welcoming culture for visitors and members of the community.

Monday afternoon book study and the Sunday evening Bible study are well-received offerings led by Pastor Caroline. Monday Meditation and Tuesday Yoga classes are attracting new attendees from both the congregation and wider community. A small group has been formed to write a behavioral covenant (some “Holy Manners”) for use in helping us to live with one another. There will be several opportunities for congregational review.

Folks involved in the Spiritual Life Committee include: Lloyd Beers, Harold Collier, Jen Long, Diana Kongkeattikul, and Pastor Caroline.



Bible and a Beer will **NOT** meet in July. We hope to see you in August!

AUGUST 18, 2025 | 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!





# A CIVIL WAR BALL

Presented by  
**St. Johns UCC &**  
**Discover Danceworks**

*In association with Danza Antiqua*

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

**@ ST JOHN'S UCC**

For Adults, & Age 10 **1811 Lincoln Way EAST, Chambersburg, PA.**

thru 17 accompanied  
 by an adult.

## What to Wear

Guests may dress in  
 Civil War era attire  
 or modern 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.*

**Friday, July 11th, 6:30pm-9pm**

***No previous experience necessary ~ These  
 are walking dances***

*Guests will learn & dance some of the most  
 popular & fashionable dances of the 1860's  
 in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.*

## Dances

*A Grande March, Soldiers Joy, Waltz,  
 Polka, Quadrilles, Virginia & Cumberland Reels,  
 Carillon de Dunkerque, and others.*

***Proceeds go to Discover DanceWorks (501c3) &***

***St. John's UCC Community Initiatives***

***Email [DiscoverDanceWorks1@gmail.com](mailto:DiscoverDanceWorks1@gmail.com)***

***Or call/txt 717-414-1166 for more information***

***Light refreshments will be provided.***

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## WHAT IS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AT ST. JOHN'S?

Sometimes it is helpful to review and contemplate in what ways we support our community, as a body professing the desire to live out our mission of service to others. Often in our coming to worship services, engaging in meetings, and financially supporting various activities, we lose sight of the total picture of those whom we reach out to support. For many years, St. John's UCC has carried a budget line item categorized as "Benevolence." Recipients of these funds have changed off and on throughout the years and has primarily been under the purview of "Outreach." This ministry annually reviewed the distribution of these funds on behalf of the congregation. Several years ago, in addition to this regular budgeted amount, we began a monthly First Fruits Offering recipient to which we presented the total collected during that month.

As we have recently transitioned and established a Standing Committee of Community Engagement, we wish to highlight where these funds have recently been used. And, we wish to emphasize that in addition to continuation of financial support to many varied programs and agencies, Community Engagement encourages members and friends of St. John's to find an area or two in which you may be willing to directly engage in some type of volunteer/service in our community. We acknowledge that many of our members/friends already have some direct engagement, and we hope to increase our visibility in this active way.

During our Lenten season, we reach out into a more global perspective with our Lenten Offering spanning several weeks between Ash Wednesday and Easter.

In our desire to keep communication open with you, we are highlighting those programs and agencies which we have supported over these last several years via the "**Benevolence**" budget funds: Women in Need, United Churches of Chambersburg; Emergency Needs Fund (Salvation Army); Franklin County Jail Ministry; Occupational Services (OSI); Meals on Wheels; Maranatha Food Pantry; Five Talents; Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Dept.; SCCAP (South Central Community Action Programs); Boys and Club of Chambersburg; and Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

A portion of the **Benevolence funds** also goes to: Glenn Schultz Scholarship; Hoffman Homes for Youth; St. John's Steve Hoffman Scholarship; Neighbors in Need\*, One Great Hour of Sharing OCWM\*; (Our Church's Wider Mission) \* ; (\*UCC special offerings).

During this past year, we have supported the following via our **First Fruits and Lenten Offerings**: Homeless Matters; Diaper Depot; Race Against Poverty; Sponsor A Camper; Maranatha Food Pantry; NETwork Ministries; Fayetteville Food Pantry; Heifer Project; Angel Tree; Hoffman Homes for Youth; Peru School; Burkina Faso Women Healthcare Initiative Foundation; and African Mission Healthcare; and United Way's "Stuff the Bus."

(At the beginning of the month we attempt to <sup>16</sup>appraise members and friends of the recipient and their mission).

**It is important to note that in addition to these efforts which have been led by the Outreach Ministry, our Invitational Ministry and Open and Affirming Ministry have also broadened our areas of support in the community.**

1) Activities and events planned and implemented by **Invitational Ministry** have provided generous financial support to many agencies and programs.

Invitational Ministry activities have generated funds supporting many programs: e.g. St. John's Book Sale providing Habitat for Humanity with generous financial support as well as building relationships with others who engage in the book sale each spring organized by Community Legal Services, having fostered a relationship between St. John's and this community service.

The Dance Group; Mothers' Day Ball; Church Picnics; Civil War Ball; Pancake Breakfast; Family Fun Day; Fall Tea; Craft night; Chili Cook Off; No Tricks Just Treats; Cookie Walk; Backpack Program helping to feed children on weekends; Pork and Sauerkraut Dinners; Dance Classes; Pickle Ball on site; Spring Tea.

**2) Open and Affirming has led the path to our Covenant of Welcome and Affirmation and provides support to other resources in our community addressing the needs of the marginalized.**

Open and Affirming has lent its personnel and financial support to Race Against Poverty, Pride Fest, showing films (e.g., "Join or Die"), ONA Sunday. As a congregation, we all have become participants in the welcoming of marginalized community residents, including our LGBTQ+ friends.

**As we have begun this transition, we have also expanded the Community Engagement umbrella to include the Camp Ministry, thus lending support to:**

Sponsor a Camper First Fruits, Weekend Adventure at Camp; Camp Paint Party and Picnic; Sticky Bun Sale; Camps Kum-Ba-Yah, Camp Noah.

**Other new activities which have just begun** and fall under Community Engagement are Learning more about Sweet Grace Ministries; Jessica and Friends utilizing our facility; Snacks provision to Network Ministries; Cold Weather Shelter volunteers.

St. John's also lent direct and financial support to the partnership of Menno Haven and Habitat for Humanity in the completion of a home for a couple of our members.

**SO --- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** takes on many foci and ways in which to engage. We applaud each of you who have stepped up over the years as we review and evaluate where best to support our local, and in some cases global, services. May we continue to prayerfully consider, in our review and evaluations, where we might best lend financial support and on-hands assistance in our love and service to others in our local community. We celebrate the integration of these previously established ministries at St. John's UCC into a collaborative effort in this journey and we welcome your continued support as we move forward!



## 2025 Blessing of the Animals

Bring pets or their photos to the  
10AM Outdoor Sunday Worship  
on **August 17**

Pets of all kinds are welcome to  
join us for that service or to be  
part of the online slideshow.

We give thanks for the furry friends,  
past and present, who make  
such a difference in our lives.



## Gratitude Sunday

You're invited to "Gratitude Sunday" on August 24!

We will gather in Fellowship Hall  
for a pancake breakfast at 8:45 am  
and worship at 10 am.



Let us come together  
with thanks and praise!



JOIN US FOR

# PAINT & PICNIC

AT ST. JOHN'S CAMP

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16

PAINTING PARTY STARTS AT 9 AM  
PICNIC LUNCH TO FOLLOW IN THE  
PAVILION AROUND NOON  
COME TO PAINT, PICNIC, OR BOTH!

17436 STUMPY LANE  
FORT LOUDON, PA 17224



## Family Fun Day

Save the Date! Sunday, September 28

Details to follow



*Thank You*



Dear Sweet Sue, Ladies and Gentleman,

Just a note to say thank you to all of you who put your time, talents and efforts into making the Spring Tea delightful. The food was delicious and the presentation was beautifully done.

Your friendly gentleman servers did a great job!

Your theme “Springtime in Paris” was an added bonus and we all loved the decorations.

Once again, thank you to all of you who did a fantastic job—we are all looking forward to the Fall Tea.

Blessings,  
Mary Ann Reasner

A special thank you to my friends at St. John’s. Thank you so much for the cards, notes, flowers, prayers and visits since I have been a patient at the hospital and then Brookview Rehab Center. Thank you soooooo much!

-Gloria Crum

# WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!



Upper Left:  
Kara Alt

Upper Right:  
Lloyd Beers, Jr.

Left:  
Jim Wood and  
Mary Lynn Cate

# St. John's Camp News



Dear St. John's Family,

Thank you so much for supporting St. John's Camp! Camp was a true joy this summer with a total of 33 campers and many helpers. We appreciate all who took time from their busy spring and summer to share their talents with St. John's Camp. Your help behind the scenes and throughout the week are greatly appreciated. We value the church members' dedication and hard work in providing a fun and enriching environment for the campers. The memories made this summer will be cherished for years to come.

Thank you for your commitment and love for camp.

## Feel Good Yoga

at St. John's with Sue Collier

Tuesdays, 5:30 PM

Room 202

\$5.00

Come and enjoy the  
benefits of Feel Good Yoga



St. John's United Church of Christ, 1811 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg. Use Parking Lot B.

# RACE AGAINST POVERTY 2025



Photos from the 15th Annual Race Against Poverty (RAP) held on Friday, June 6. Thanks to all those who walked, donated, and supported this event!



# July BIRTHDAYS

07/01 Makayla Sheele

07/03 Joanne Shew

07/05 Marco Dereef

07/05 Kelly Ann Hoover

07/06 Jeffrey Baltozer

07/07 Rodney Byers

07/10 Robert Archibald

07/10 Linda Zeger

07/11 Betty Koontz

07/11 R. Kyle Myers

07/11 Kimberly Rzomp

07/12 Renee Byers

07/13 Annabella Burns

07/13 Elizabeth Nutter

07/13 William Slothower

07/13 Atley John Van Why

07/14 Cassandra Rzomp

07/15 Alexis Reichelderfer

07/16 Charles Reichelderfer

07/18 Grace Kongkeattikul

07/21 Connie Stenger

07/23 Maurice Marotte III

07/23 Kevin Woy

07/25 Kirk Johnson

07/25 Kiana Smith

07/28 Jill Bard

07/30 Jessica Hoffeditz

07/30 Stacey Johnson

07/30 Deanna Statler



# August BIRTHDAYS

08/02 Arlene McFate

08/06 N. Erin Hartman

08/07 Sean Collier

08/07 Jean Cook

08/07 Lynann Funk

08/08 John H. McGinley

08/09 Sadie Boyer

08/10 Carol Foltz

08/12 Emily Hoger

08/13 Joel Munday

08/14 Rodney Rotz

08/15 Kirk Zeger

08/17 Joyce Patterson

08/17 Eric Wadel

08/18 Erin Wadel

08/19 Jerry Thomason

08/21 Susan McNew

08/21 Ann Osterman

08/21 Dwight Sollenberger

08/23 Cooper Miller

08/23 Dolores St. Clair

08/23 Sarah Young

08/24 Connie Kaiser

08/24 Wayne Statler

08/26 Zayla Stull

08/28 Eric Hoover

08/28 Aleeya Leister

08/31 Kenneth Horn

08/31 Elizabeth Widmann



# Ladies LUNCHEON

As usual our Windy Knoll meeting had many (12) attendees. Pastor Caroline offered grace. Messages were written on a card for Joanne Shew. During ice cream treats we discussed facts about ice cream such as its invention in China.

July 9 and August 13 (always the SECOND WEDNESDAY of the month at 11:30) will be our next TWO meetings. Norland Pub and Fiesta Maya have been chosen as our next two locations. Since we prefer eating OUTSIDE at the Pub, the weather will determine our July place. A telephone call will inform you of the final decision.

**Please RSVP to Bev Peters to indicate if you will be joining the group.**

## MENS BREAKFAST



We will be meeting **Thursday, July 3 and August 7 at 7 am** at Texas Lunch (108 LWW, Chambersburg, PA).

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

# **End of Summer Dance**

## **DJ Frank Hancock**

**Friday, August 22, 2025**

**6:00 pm**

**St. John's Fellowship Hall**

**Donations accepted**



**St. John's United Church of Christ**  
**1811 LWE, Chambersburg, PA Parking Lot B**



## **July/August Calendar**



July 14 6:00 pm VBS Volunteers Meeting Fellowship Hall

July 20-24 VBS 6-8:15 Fellowship Hall

July 27 VBS Sunday Fellowship Hall

August 8 Youth Splash/Pizza Party 5-8 pm Chambersburg Aquatic Center

## **Youth News**

Church School is over for the summer, but Children's Corner will continue to be offered through the summer months during the Worship hour. Please see Roxanne if you can help!

## **LOVE Quilt Project**

It takes a village.....and our own Chani Wolfe has brought this to our Youth to work on during Children's Corners:

### **THE LOVE QUILT PROJECT STORY**

LQP raises funds to support the specific educational and emotional needs of at-risk children living in foster care in South Africa and the United States. Along with the donation for their educational needs we also engage with children in both countries to create art squares containing messages of compassion, kindness, and love for children facing the challenges of foster care. These messages are stitched into beautiful handmade quilts and then given to each child we help.

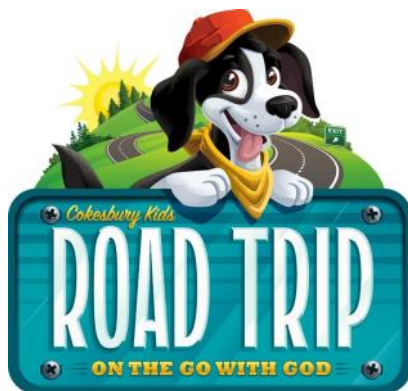
### **MISSION STATEMENT**

To provide educational support to at-risk South African and American children living in foster care, and to provide Love Quilts for each child that we support.

Our annual Youth Splash Party will be held on August 8<sup>th</sup> at the Chambersburg Aquatic Center from 5-8pm. Mark your calendars! We meet at the entrance around 4:45. Let me know if you will be later. Service hours may be applied to your admission. Permissions will be emailed out and I must have current medical forms so your RSVP is necessary. Pizza will be ordered for 6:00ish.



Costs are as follows: Borough resident \$6 Fr. Co./ Shipp. Resident \$9 Other \$11



**VBS 2025**

**Help is needed!!! Contact Roxanne**

Preschool Crew leaders

**July 20-July 24 6-8:15 PM**

VBS Work dates June 29 and July 13<sup>th</sup> after Worship

(Lunch served. Please let Roxanne know if you will help for the count)

**VBS Volunteers Meeting July 14<sup>th</sup> 6 pm in Fellowship Hall**

**All new volunteers are strongly encouraged to attend**

# Ministry Chairs

## 2024-2025

**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**—*Linda Zeger*

**Open and Affirming**— *N. Erin 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.

# 2025 COUNCIL

## Moderator Team

Tom Harrison, **Past Moderator**

Harold Collier, **Moderator**

Diana Kongkeattikul, **Moderator Elect**

## At Large Members

Jill Miller

Dale Myers

Heidi Ramos

Eileen Shaffer, **Secretary**

## Additional Non-Council Positions

Scot Orndorff, **Treasurer**

Jerry Thomason, **Assistant Treasurer**

Dick Rebok, **Authorized Check Signatory**

Sarah Myers, **Head Deacon**

Dwight Sollenberger, **Head Elder**

Sarah Herbert, **Safe Church Compliance Steward**

## Pastor

The Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

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

## **Communion Dates:**

Sunday, July 6, 10 am, Sanctuary & Livestreamed

Sunday, August 3, 10 am, Sanctuary & Livestreamed



*“To grow in love of God and neighbor”*

**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***

