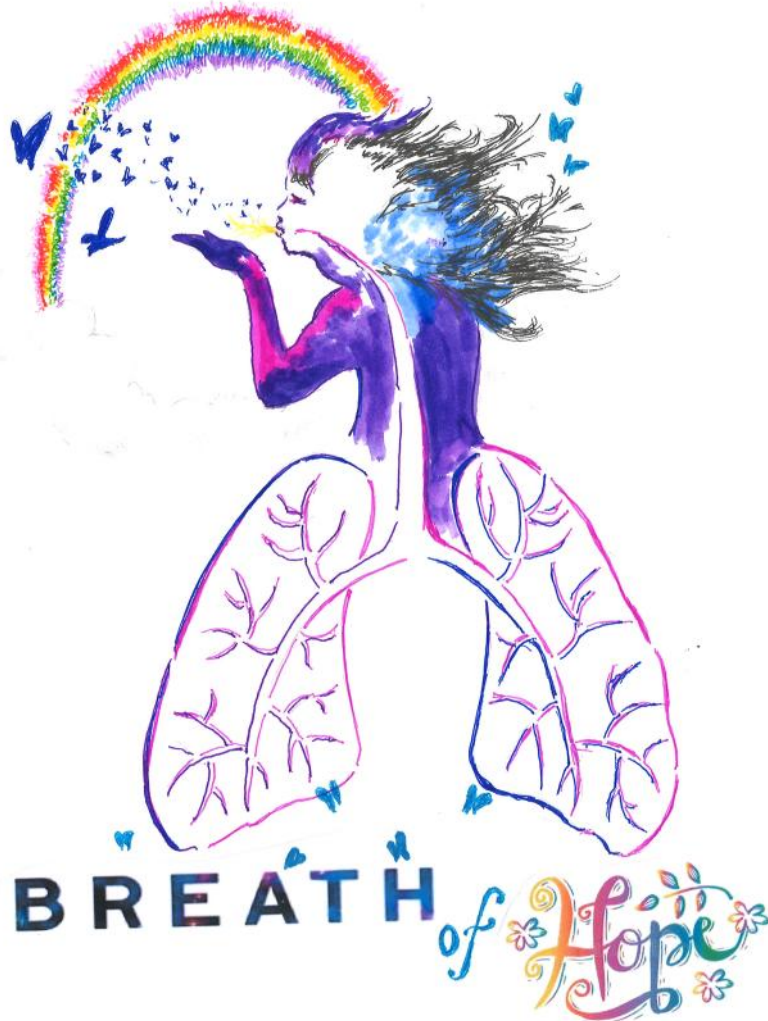


# The Spirit

Volume 93 No. 7 July/August 2026



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

## ***From Pastor Caroline***

As children, we often look forward to summer: no school, fewer rules, less structure, and more fun. Summer doesn't feel quite the same as an adult; there is still plenty of work to be done. We need play and purpose, rest and relaxation, and perhaps even a vacation. It feels fitting to focus on Sabbath as part of our summer worship series in July and August.

Our bodies and minds are not built to always be busy. Jesus took time away from the crowds and his disciples to rest and to pray, to pause and prepare for the work ahead. I will be traveling to Ireland July 5-17 for a spiritual retreat. I'm taking a few days after the retreat ends to explore Dublin, because the world is big and I want to see more of it. I look forward to being with my fellow seekers and sojourners as we make this pilgrimage of peace.

We will have another hymn sing on July 12. We'll sing our own favorite hymns and the favorite hymns of others, with which we might be unfamiliar. It is an opportunity to grow together in Christian fellowship and love, for we are called to learn as well as worship.

The gathering held at the labyrinth was well-received and that space is always available for quiet meditation and prayer. We will dedicate the peace pole and share prayers for peace on Sunday, July 12 at 8:45 am. On Saturday, August 22, we will be at St. John's Camp at 9:30 am to experience our "treasure in the woods." We pray in nature as well as in our building.

We had a wonderful evening of sharing with our Dominican congregation on June 13 and we'll hope to do more of this form of "dinner church" in the coming months. It was truly a delight for our spirits as well as for our bellies.

There are multiple events planned for July and August: Frank Hancock will be giving a talk on the American Revolution on July 1 (see page 11); the Summer Singers will be here at St. John's on Sunday, July 26 (p. 24); we will have our annual Blessing of the Animals outdoor service on August 9 (p. 25); we'll beat the heat with a sweet treat and an Ice Cream Social on August 16 (p. 19), an End of Summer Dance on August 21 (p. 21) and "Gratitude Sunday" celebrating our love of St. John's UCC and what makes us so special ("this is us"; p. 27). Plus: VBS is July 19-23 (see p. 31). Summertime provides us with many opportunities to laugh, learn, and serve as we grow in love of God and neighbor.

Council is continuing to have exploratory conversations with Habitat for Humanity. Thank you for the congregational endorsement to continue the conversation and discern whether our property is suitable for building homes. We will communicate what we learn when we have new information to share. Thank you for your patience.

Many thanks go to all who helped move our parking lot project from wish-list item/dream to a reality! I'm especially pleased by the increased ease of access to our building, as it is an extension of the extravagant welcome and radical hospitality we seek to offer and model.

As we look forward the future with expectation and hope, may we indeed be renewed:

"Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth, from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace; let peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world, let peace fill our universe." (Satish Kumar)

*Peace, Pastor Caroline*



# MUSIC MINISTRY

## **ABOUT OUR CHOIR-----**

The Summer Singers Choir was formed at St. John's United Church of Christ in 2009 as a summer activity for those who enjoy singing. Our first choir was rather small but in the following years has grown to be what it is today. Last year we had singers who represented 20 churches in the Chambersburg area. This has become a vibrant ecumenical outreach for our church. We practice at St. John's UCC located at 1811 Lincoln Way East on Tuesday morning beginning in May and we finish our concerts by the end of July. We welcome anyone to join us who enjoys singing. If you are interested in joining this group in the future, please send your email address to **ggcrum@gmail.com** and you will receive future communications about choir activities during the next year.

Gary Crum

# First Fruit Offering

## MINISTRY MATTERS: SUMMER QUARTERLY FOCUS

The Community Engagement Committee invites you to support three local initiatives during the months of August, September, and October as we continue to grow in love of God and neighbor.

### 1) **Franklin Together—Franklin County Reentry Coalition**

**Website:** franklintogether.org

**Mission:** Develop collaborative community professional partnerships to empower formerly incarcerated individuals and their families, reduce recidivism, and encourage community contribution.

**Services:** Education on collateral consequences of convictions, stigma reductions, community engagement, advocacy for policy change, and programs like Gears for Change, which provides job-related clothing and footwear to support employment.

**Franklin Together** is a program of South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP) and is a reminder that we are called to visit those who are in prison and to work for the liberation of the oppressed.

2) **Homeless Matters of Franklin County** aims to reduce the burdens faced by individuals and families who are homeless in the area by creating opportunities for success and stability, even during difficult circumstances. A key focus is establishing the **Homeless Matters of Franklin County Day House** in Chambersburg, which will serve as a daytime resource center offering food, medical care, and a safe, supported space. Their work takes seriously Jesus' command to love our neighbors.

3) **Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Department** is a 100% volunteer department that responds to ~600-900 calls each year. Its fleet includes two Pierce fire wagons, a Seagrave heavy rescue squad, a Ford brush truck, a Dodge utility truck, and a Polaris UTV. They also provide professional EMS services to our community and several surrounding counties through a team of ~50 paid paramedics and EMTs, operating 24/7 with five ambulances, a medic unit, and five medical transport vans.

Whether you contribute via First Fruits Offerings, an envelope that you designate for First Fruits, a gift made through Vanco, or a check you mail to church, thank you for your support of these programs that serve our neighbors and demonstrate God's love in action!

# **Parking Lot Progress Report: The Work is Complete**

Thank you so much for your support of this long-anticipated work and the wonderful results that we are pleased to enjoy! Greg St. Clair and Tom Kinton provided significant leadership in researching and recommending the contractors, coordinating the on-site meetings and audio conferences to define the details of the work which needed to be accomplished as well as the small things which we might have overlooked. Tonya Schwartz, our office administrator, played a major role ensuring the work event schedules were defined, providing detailed communication and coordination with all impacted individuals and organizations (including Jessica and Friends and all three congregations who worship at St. John's). Another unexpected blessing was the cooperative manner with which each contractor worked with each other. We did have a couple of speed bumps, but nothing that compromised the smooth, efficient, and timely manner that this project was completed.

Thank you as well to Pastor Caroline for providing executive support and guidance, allowing the team to execute their respective responsibilities.

Top to bottom, this project was a total success. I'm proud to have been a part of it.

-Tom (Echo) Harrison, project manager

## **Additional Considerations:**

We are planning to have new lines painted in the parking lots soon. Thank you for your patience as we await the finishing touches on this significant improvement to our parking lots and property!

The cost of this project is close to \$250,000. We will be drawing funds from our Trust Fund to cover the costs. Contributions toward the funding of this project may be made with "parking lot" in the memo line of your check or noted on your envelope.

This project has resulted in new, smooth and attractive parking lots which are much more accessible to members of our congregation an the wider community.

*Photos of the work on the parking lots are included on page 6—check them out!*



Above:  
wedge  
being laid in  
Lot A to  
improve  
accessibility

Right:  
Completed  
work in Lot  
A (minus  
new lines)

Photos by  
Tom (Echo)  
Harrison





**Church Office Hours:**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**9:00am - 3:00pm**

**Church Office will be CLOSED**  
**on Friday, July 3 in observance of Independence Day**

**Office Administrator: Tonya Schwartz**  
**Email: [manager@sjucc1811.org](mailto:manager@sjucc1811.org)**

**Office Assistant: Kristen Vannoy**  
**Email: [assistant@sjucc1811.org](mailto:assistant@sjucc1811.org)**

**Phone: 717-263-8593**



# Future Together Progress Report

*Council will continue to solicit feedback throughout 2026. A revised version of the Future Together Strategic Plan for 2026-2027 was endorsed at our Congregational Annual meeting. Copies are available from the church office and on our website.*

## **SPIRITUAL DEEPENING**

- Pastor Caroline leads a weekly book study on Monday afternoons at 1:30 pm. We are finishing up “The Walk” by Adam Hamilton in July. We will begin “Learning to Walk in the Dark” by Barbara Brown Taylor in August. Each week’s reading assignment is listed in News in the Pews and e-blast. Come and join the conversation!
- The Sunday Night Bible Study is held at 8 pm via Zoom. We are taking a break until Sunday, July 26, when we will begin studying the book of Ecclesiastes.
- Two of our three adult church school classes will continue to meet this summer on Sunday mornings at 8:45 am: The Wired Word meets in Room 116 and The Upper Room meets in Conference Room 111. Sunday Morning Caffeine will resume meeting this fall. Church school classes for elementary age and older youth will be piloted this summer, continuing to nurture the spiritual life of children and young people.
- 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.
- Yoga classes are held on Tuesday nights at 5:30 pm in Room 202. \$5/class.
- Our praise group shares their talents ~2x/month as part of a blended service.
- Our next hymn sing will be on Sunday, July 12. Save the date and come to sing!
- We had a wonderful prayer gathering at Labyrinth. More opportunities for prayer in nature are planned at the peace pole and St. John’s Camp (see page 20).
- The peace pole will be dedicated as part of the prayer gathering on July 12. May peace prevail on earth, indeed!

## **CONGREGATIONAL CARE**

- We are exploring what is involved in “dinner church” and a small group has been invited to help move this idea forward. A form of this was piloted on June 13 as we joined with members of our Dominican congregation to sing, pray, and eat together.
- We received five new members on Sunday, June 21, welcoming Kevin and Rachel Chapman, Jen Long, Rhonda Neff, and Bob Wolff to our St. John’s UCC family.
- A new idea for late summer is an **Ice Cream Social** featuring homemade ice cream and cookies. Save the date of August 16—come beat the heat with a sweat treat!

## ENERGIZE PARTICIPATION

- Thank you to everyone who made St. John's Camp a success again this year. We are blessed by our "treasure in the woods"! If you are interested in renting the camp, it is available from May to September.
- The lobby bulletin board highlights "Growing and Sharing Together" and includes both tips/tricks for gardening, as well as reflections on the beauty of nature. YOU are encouraged to add your ideas, photos, etc. to the board.
- A special Gratitude Sunday celebrating "This is Us" will be held on August 30. See page 27 for more details about how you can share photos highlighting what you love about St. John's UCC.
- Blessing of the Animals will be held on Sunday, August 9. We will gather outside to honor our animal companions. Pets are welcome to come in person or via photo.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Our partnership with **NETwork Ministries** continues through the **Summer Snacks Program**. The congregation are invited to contribute donations (food and funds) to help sustain this important ministry serving young people. Collection boxes are in the front lobby (by the Welcome Center). Ideas about what to donate are on page 12.
- Council has asked the Community Engagement team to explore another major event similar to the Book Sale. We are having initial conversations with **Marantha Ministries** to consider how we can amplify and support their mission at this critical time in their life as an organization.
- New ideas are being shared and expanded, such as the Chili Cook Off on September 27 and a possible Bingo and Silent Auction event. Stay tuned for details!

## FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Council and the Finance Task Force continue to explore options for our building and property to generate revenue. Additional grant writing services are being considered as we seek to address maintenance needs beyond the annual budget.
- We are exploring sponsorship options for the annual Book Sale, helping St. John's to generate income to offset expenses for this very popular community event.
- Check out the completed results on pages 5-6 of the parking lot project. We are very pleased with the final results, and especially the expanded accessibility.
- Thank you to everyone who participated in the conversations regarding our possible expanded partnership with Habitat for Humanity. Council is continuing to be in contact with Habitat as we explore the viability and suitability for a portion of our land to be used to construct homes.

# LITTLE FREE PANTRY

Located in Parking Lot B.  
1811 Lincoln Way East Chambersburg, Pa



## *St. John's "Little Free Pantry"*

FREE canned goods and non-perishable items available to those who have food insecurities.

**Give if you can, but take what you need!**

We appreciate the generous support of our congregation,  
Boy Scout Troop 136, Cub Scout Pack 136,  
and Girl Scouts to ensure this pantry stays stocked.



# **AMERICAN REVOLUTION TALK**



**WEDNESDAY, JULY 1**  
**6:30 PM**

**ST. JOHN'S UCC**  
**1811 LWE CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202**  
**PLEASE PARK IN LOT B**

Join COL (Ret.) Frank Hancock for an engaging presentation on the American Revolution. Using historical artifacts, he will explore how the Revolution unfolded and highlight the patriots who shaped its course. He will also share the important role Cumberland County played, including Colonel William Thompson, Washingtonburg, and the 1775 attack on Quebec.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**WE HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US FOR THIS  
INFORMATIVE & INSPIRING EVENING!**  
**FREE TO ATTEND; DONATIONS ACCEPTED**

# HELP US PROVIDE SUMMER SNACKS FOR NETWORK MINISTRIES!

St. John's UCC will be collecting funds and snacks for NETWORK Ministries this summer.

## **What to Donate**

Uncrustables  
(PB&J)  
Water Bottles

Granola bars  
Trail mixes  
Low sugar juices

Pretzels  
Healthy snacks  
(small bags)

## **Drop-off Location**

*Boxes are in the front lobby by the Welcome Center*

*Perishable items will be purchased with monetary contributions*



**QUESTIONS?** Contact Diana Kongkeattikul or Don Hendrickson

## Sunday Night Bible Study

Join us on Sunday nights  
at 8 pm on Zoom for Bible Study!  
We are currently studying the book of Ecclesiastes.  
Note: this study will begin on **July 26**.

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

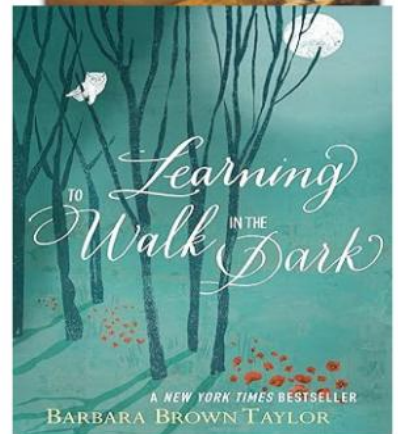
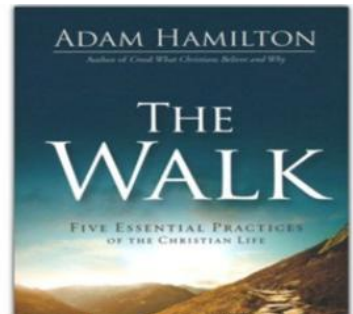
We encourage looking at a variety of translations;  
Pastor Caroline is using the Common English Bible (CEB).

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

## Monday Afternoon Book Study

Our current selection is “The Walk:  
Five Essential Practices of the  
Christian Life” by Adam Hamilton.  
We should finish this book on July 27.  
The group will begin “Learning to  
Walk in the Dark” by Barbara Brown  
Taylor on August 3.

We read one chapter a week and have  
a robust discussion of the material.  
Check out News in the Pews for each  
week's reading assignment.  
Everyone is welcome!



# St. John's Camp



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 25 campers, 8 youth helpers, 8 adult counselors and our cook, Kirk. We had Life's Learnings presenters: Tom and Dave Kinton (bat boxes & physical activities - *Land Shark & drill exercises*), Chani Wolf (tie dye shirts & Japan), Susan Collier (yoga), and Corey Noggel (Native Americans). We visited Tuscarora Wildlife Education Project's nature center and the Cowans Gap's Nature Center with a bird lesson presented by the park's naturalist. The week was also filled with all the usual daily camp activities: Chapel, God Talk, camp songs, crafts, physical activities, nature lessons, and swimming at the Gap. It was a very active and enjoyable week!

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.

Camp Ministry





# A CIVIL WAR BALL

Commemorating  
The burning of Chambersburg  
Presented by

**St. Johns UCC &  
Discover Danceworks**  
In association with Danza Antiqua

**Admission @ the  
door : Adult \$10.00  
Under 18 \$5.00**  
For Adults, & Age 10  
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.

Come & 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, July 10th, 7pm-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,  
The Triumph, a Scottish Reel and others.

Proceeds go to Discover Dance Works (501c3) &  
St. John's UCC Community Initiatives  
Email [DiscoverDanceWorks1@gmail.com](mailto:DiscoverDanceWorks1@gmail.com)  
Or call/text 717-414-1166 for more information  
Light refreshments will be provided.  
Copyright Danza Antiqua 2026. All rights reserved.

**20  
26**

# USED BOOK SALE

HELD AT

**ST. JOHN'S CHURCH  
1811 LWE, CHAMBERSBURG, PA**

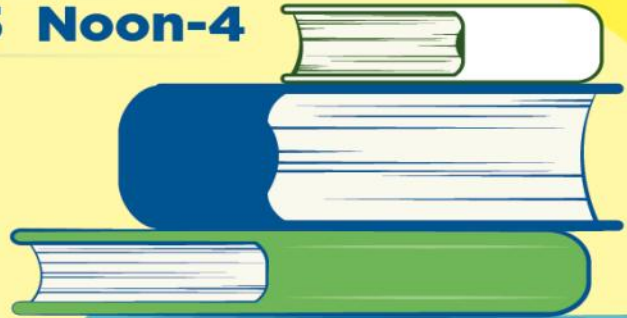
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Oct 23</b>	<b>2-8</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Oct 24</b>	<b>9-5</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Oct 25</b>	<b>Noon-4</b>

BENEFITING



**CASH AND CHECKS ONLY**

We welcome new and used books on all subjects, including paperbacks. We also welcome DVDs, audiobooks (on CDs), puzzles, and board games. We respectfully decline textbooks, encyclopedias, musty books, music, and cassette & VHS tapes.



**DONATIONS ACCEPTED  
AUG 31 - OCT 10**

**DROP OFF LOCATIONS**

1. Patriot Federal Credit Union lobby locations in Franklin County
2. St. John's Church, Chambersburg, Monday-Friday 9-3
3. Habitat ReStore donation center, Wednesday-Saturday, normal hours
4. Bulk donations call 717-263-8593 or email [assistant@sjucc1811.org](mailto:assistant@sjucc1811.org)
5. Colony House Furniture

SPONSORED BY:  
[www.bcmpayroll.com](http://www.bcmpayroll.com)  
**BCM**  
 payroll services





## SAFELY COOK FOR CROWDS

Course teaches food safety for volunteers

Discover how you can reduce the risk of foodborne illness in *Cooking for Crowds: A Volunteer's Guide to Safe Food Handling*.

This course is designed for volunteers from organizations such as churches, fire companies, and booster clubs who serve food to the public. It can help you understand risks involved in preparing large volumes of food and the important safety practices needed to ensure a safe event.

### TOPICS

- + Preventing cross contamination
- + Controlling time and temperature
- + Maintaining good personal hygiene
- + Cleaning and sanitizing
- + Planning a successful food event

COOKING FOR CROWDS: A VOLUNTEER'S GUIDE TO SAFE FOOD HANDLING

**Tuesday, September 22  
5–8 p.m.**

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

Register Today!  
[extension.psu.edu  
/cooking-for-crowds](http://extension.psu.edu/cooking-for-crowds)  
or 877-345-0691



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UBR AGR 26-1168



**PennState  
Extension**

## 2026 Blessing of the Animals



Bring pets or their photos to the  
10AM Outdoor Sunday Worship  
on **August 9**

Pets of all kinds are welcome to  
join us for that service in person  
or via photo.

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



# 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.

# HERE'S THE SCOOP



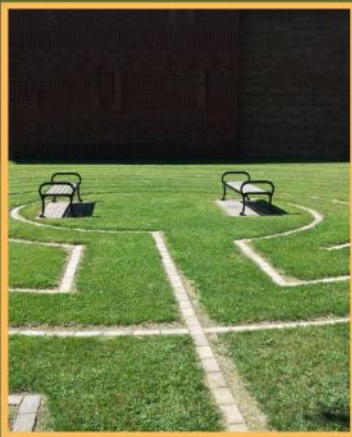
**SUNDAY,  
AUGUST  
16TH AFTER  
WORSHIP  
IN  
FELLOWSHIP  
HALL**

We are planning an ice cream social. If you would like to bring homemade ice cream or baked goods, please sign up at the Welcome Center. We'll beat the summer heat by enjoying the A/C and a sweet treat!

ST. JOHN'S UCC

# PRAYER *Gatherings*

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
PRAYING IN NATURE!



SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 8:45 AM @ THE LABYRINTH  
SUNDAY, JULY 12, 8:45 AM @ THE PEACE POLE (OUTSIDE)  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 9:30 AM @ ST. JOHN'S CAMP

GATHER IN THE BEAUTY OF CREATION  
TO NUTURE YOUR PRAYER LIFE!

1811 Lincoln Way East  
Chambersburg 17202



*End of Summer Dance*  
*DJ Frank Hancock*

**Friday, August 21, 2026**

**6pm**

**St. John's Fellowship Hall**

**Donations Accepted**

**St. John's United Church of Christ**

**1811 L.W.E, Chambersburg, PA**

**Parking Lot B**



JULY 20, 2026 | 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!



AUGUST 17, 2026 | 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!



# St. John's United Church of Christ

## SUMMER SINGERS

### 2026 Concerts

- July 16 (Thur) 2 PM St. Luke Lutheran Church  
July 20 (Mon) 2 PM Quincy Hess Room  
July 22 (Wed) 7 PM Menno Haven Life Center  
July 24 (Fri) 2 PM Menno Haven Life Center  
July 26 (Sun) 3 PM St. John's U.C.C. Sanctuary

***Come and be blessed!***

# Growing & Sharing Together

With the days growing longer and the sunshine warms the soil, many of us are already digging into one of spring/summer's greatest joys: **gardening**. Whether you tend a backyard plot, a raised bed, nurture a few pots on the patio, or simply enjoy watching flowers bloom, we invite YOU to join us in celebrating the beauty and creativity of our community's gardens.

We will be **highlighting photos** showcasing favorite plants, latest garden projects, and proud harvest moments. Big or small, every garden has a story and we'd love to see yours!

There will also be a section to **share helpful gardening tips** - from what to plant each month to how to trim, prune, and keep your garden thriving. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just getting started, these insights will help you make the most of the growing season.

As the summer progresses, we hope to create a **sharing table** in the lobby where you can offer extra vegetables, herbs, seeds, or flowers.

Let's grow, learn, and share together this season. Happy gardening! We are indeed growing and sharing together.

## Stuff the Bus

The collection of physical items for United Way's "Stuff the Bus" school supply drive will run July 15-31. Please look for the boxes in the vestibules and consider contributing through the First Fruits offerings.



# Ladies Luncheon

The group will continue to meet on the  
2nd Wednesday of each month.

Our next gatherings will be Wednesday, July 8 and  
Wednesday, August 12  
at 11:30 am at Hoss's Steak & Sea House.  
(20 Falling Spring Road, Chambersburg, 17202).

No need to RSVP; just come and enjoy!

# Mens Breakfast



We will be meeting **Thursday, July 2 and  
Thursday August 6**  
**at 7 am** at Texas Lunch.  
(108 LWW, Chambersburg, PA).

We look forward to seeing any and all for  
our next breakfast.

# Gratitude Sunday



**“This is us” a celebration of who we are.  
Please share photos in advance or bring them with  
you. Sharing what you love about St. John’s.**



**\*You’re invited to “ Gratitude Sunday” on  
August, 30th 2026!**

**We’ll gather in the Fellowship Hall  
for pancake breakfast at 8:45 AM and  
Worship  
to follow at 10:00 AM.**

**Let us come together with thanks and  
praise!**



# July Birthdays

07/01 Makayla Sheele

07/05 Marco Dereef

07/05 Kelly Ann Hoover

07/07 Rodney Byers

07/10 Robert Archibald

07/10 Linda Zeger

07/11 Betty Koontz

07/11 R. Kyle Myers

07/12 Renee Byers

07/13 Annabella Burns

07/13 Elizabeth Nutter

07/13 Bill Slothower

07/15 Alexis Reichelderfer

07/16 Charles Reichelderfer

07/21 Connie Stenger

07/23 Maurice Marotte III

07/23 Kevin Woy

07/24 Beckhym Collier

07/25 Kirk Johnson

07/25 Kiana Smith

07/28 Jill Bard

07/30 Jessica Hoffeditz

07/30 Stacey Johnson

07/30 Deanna Statler



Happy  
**BIRTHDAY**

# August Birthdays



08/02 Arlene McFate

08/18 Erin Wadel

08/06 N. Erin Hartman

08/19 Jerry Thomason

08/07 Sean Collier

08/21 Susan McNew

08/07 Jean Cook

08/21 Ann Osterman

08/07 Lynann Funk

08/21 Dwight Sollenberger

08/08 John McGinley

08/23 Cooper Miller

08/09 Sadie Boyer

08/23 Dolores St. Clair

08/10 Carol Foltz

08/23 Sarah Young

08/11 Kevin Chapman

08/24 Connie Kaiser

08/12 Emily Hoger

08/24 Wayne Statler

08/13 Joel Munday

08/26 Zayla Stull

08/14 Rodney Rotz

08/27 Jennifer Hudzinski

08/15 Kirk Zeger

08/28 Eric Hoover

08/17 Joyce Patterson

08/31 Kenneth Horn

08/17 Eric Wadel

08/31 Elizabeth Widmann



## Youth News

### July

- 5 K-12 Faith and Fellowship 8:45 Youth rm.
- 12 K-12 Faith and Fellowship 8:45 Youth rm.  
VBS workday after Worship
- 19 K-12 Faith and Fellowship 8:45 Youth rm.  
\*\*Children and Youth sponsor coffee hour\*\*  
Bible School begins 6:00pm
- 24 Splash Party at Chambersburg Aquatic Center 5-8pm
- 26 K-12 Faith and Fellowship 8:45 Youth rm.  
VBS Sunday 10:00am  
VBS take down after Worship  
Confirmation Information Meeting Rm116

### August

- 2 K-12 Faith and Fellowship 8:45 Youth rm.
- 9 K-12 Faith and Fellowship 8:45 Youth rm.
- 16 K-12 Faith and Fellowship 8:45 Youth rm.
- 23 K-12 Faith and Fellowship 8:45 Youth rm.
- 30 K-12 Faith and Fellowship 8:45 Youth rm.

**Children's Corner is available every week throughout the year during Worship.**

# Faith and Fellowship Sunday Summer Programming

In the past, Youth Church School classes have taken the summer off. Due to request, we will be having modified classes in the Youth room for school-age students only, much of the summer.

Beginning June 7<sup>th</sup>, and offered every Sunday except July 5<sup>th</sup>, through August 30<sup>th</sup>, two brief classes will be offered along with fellowship and munchies, during the church school hour. Staffing will be provided by volunteers, to allow parents to continue to enjoy their class time. Please see Diane Kongkeattikul if you can help.

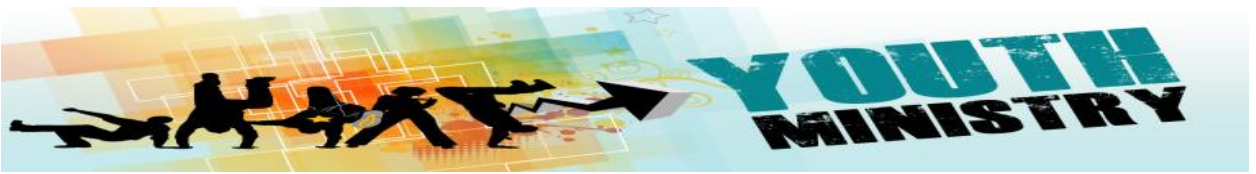
Regular classes for 3 yr. olds through high school will resume on September 13<sup>th</sup> in their classrooms.



## Vacation Bible School

**July 19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**6:00 - 8:15 pm**



## **Avalanche of Coats Mission Project**

During the week of VBS, clean and gently used coats, mittens/gloves, hats and scarves of all sizes (yes, adult too) and gender will be collected for the Salvation Army's "Coats for Kids" project.

Boxes will be set up at the back entrance of the church by Lot B for your donations!

Thank you for continuing to care for our neighbors!

## **VBS Wish List**

- Snow Sports Equipment:
  - Skis and or poles
  - Sleds
  - Saucers
  - Toboggans
  - Ice skates
  - Snowboards
  - Snowshoes
- White Poly-fill Stuffing/batting
- Styrofoam balls 3" diameter and larger



**Annual splash party July 24<sup>th</sup> 5-8 pm**

**Chambersburg Aquatic Center!!!**

To close the week of Bible School and add a little more fun to the end of summer vacation, our pizza and splash party will begin at 5, meeting in front of the pool entrance at 4:45. Cost is \$6 for borough residents and \$11 for non borough (ages 1-4 and 60+, \$10).

Service hours can be used.

See Roxanne if interested. Permissions and up to date medicals are only needed if a parent is not staying.

# Committee & Ministry Chairs 2026

**Camp**—*MaryLee Yaukey*

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

**Community Engagement**—*Harold Collier*

**Congregational Care**—*TBD*

**Facilities Ministry**—*Tom Harrison*

**Fellowship**—*Sue McMurtray*

**Finance**—*Scot Orndorff*

**Library**—*MaryLee Yaukey*

**Music Ministry**—*Gary Crum*

**Nursery School**—*Linda Zeger*

**Personnel**—*Lisa Fair*

**Pastoral Relations**—*Tom (Mt. Union Rd) Harrison*

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

**Safe Church Compliance**—Safe Church Compliance Steward, *Sarah Herbert*

**Safe Church Response**—Safe Church Compliance Steward, *Sarah Herbert*

**Safety and Security**—*Tom Kinton*

**Spiritual Life**—*Lloyd Beers*

**Technology and Media Ministry**— *Calvin Frantz*

Want to serve  
on a Ministry or Standing  
Committee?

These groups would  
welcome you and  
your talents!

Speak to these leaders or  
Pastor Caroline today to  
learn more and join them!

# 2026 COUNCIL

## Moderator Team

Harold Collier, **Past Moderator**

Diana Kongkeattikul, **Moderator**

Harold Wissinger, **Moderator Elect**

## At Large Members

Kara Alt

Lloyd Beers Jr., **Secretary**

Tom Harrison

Connie Strunk

## Additional Non-Council Positions

Scot Orndorff, **Treasurer**

Jerry Thomason, **Assistant Treasurer**

Dick Rebok, **Authorized Check Signatory**

Susan Collier, **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 5, 10:00 am (Sanctuary & Livestreamed)  
Sunday, August 2, 10:00 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***

