

The Spirit

Volume 94 No. 8 September 2026



For you make me glad by your
deeds, O LORD; I sing for joy
at the works of your hands.

- Psalm 92:4

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

From Pastor Caroline

The calendar has once more turned to September – where has the time gone? Fall is here, and with it, the start of the program year.

As part of our commitment to spiritual life and faith formation, church school classes for all ages resume on September 13. For adults, we are pleased to offer The Wired Word, The Upper Room and Sunday Morning Caffeine. For young people, we are pleased to offer Godly Play, Spark! Elementary, and the Scripture/Contemporary Issues Discussion class.

Additional non-Sunday morning opportunities include the Sunday Night Bible Study at 8 pm via Zoom, the Monday afternoon book study, and the Ladies' Bible Study on Tuesday nights. Nancy Gaal facilitates the Ladies' Bible Study; reach out to her if interested in participating.

Choir and bell choir rehearsals also resume this month. Contact Gary Crum to learn more and consult News in the Pews for exact dates and times of rehearsals.

Council is working hard to formalize our structure for Congregational Care. As part of our desire to connect YOU will all that is happening at St. John's, take a look at page 17 of the Spirit where we have a list of various ways to get involved and who to contact.

Our big focus in the fall is the Habitat for Humanity Book Sale, which brings together folks from all over the community to donate, sort, and sell used books, puzzles, games, DVDs, CDs and audio books. Our sale in 2025 raised \$34,000 and we hope to exceed this in 2026! You are welcome to bring your books to church (donation boxes are in both lobbies), promote the sale by putting flyers around the community, and volunteer with the sorting and selling. Contact Harold Collier to learn more!

Our Family Fun Day will be held after worship on Sunday, September 13, serving as a back-to-school celebration and a kick-off for the fall. With a bounce house, DJ, petting zoo, and more, there's lots of fun to be had by all. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us! Speak with Roxanne Davenport to sign up to volunteer.

Make sure to save the date and sign up for the Chili Cook Off on September 27. Proceeds from this event go to support the Power Pack program at Falling Spring Elementary. A sign up is located at the Welcome Center. Bring your appetite to eat and your dollars to donate!

An update on our finances (especially in light of the HVAC and parking lot projects) from Scot Orndorff, our Treasurer, is included (pg. 8). Please carefully and prayerfully consider how you can support our ongoing efforts toward financial sustainability. We are grateful for your contributions of time, talent, and treasure as we grow in love of God and neighbor.

Finally, I am very pleased to share with you more about my trip to Ireland and Northern Ireland in July. I will be giving a travel talk on this pilgrimage after worship on Sunday, September 6. May we all be refreshed and renewed as we celebrate what has been and look forward to what is ahead.



MUSIC MINISTRY

More about Fanny Crosby

Frances Jane Van Alstyne (more commonly known as Fanny J. Crosby) was an American mission worker, poet, lyricist and composer. A prolific hymnist, she wrote more than 8000 hymns and gospel songs with more than 100 million copies printed. She is also known for her teaching and rescue mission work. -Wikipedia

Some of her most popular hymns were “Blessed Assurance” in 1873, “Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior” in 1868 and “To God be the Glory” in 1875 which is one of my favorites.

Fanny Crosby lost sight at about 6 weeks old. This was caused by a doctor’s treatment which the family believed damaged the optic nerve and caused blindness. One of Fanny’s most famous quotes was “If I had a choice, I would still choose to remain blind for when I die, the very first face I ever would see will be the face of my beloved Jesus.”

Gary Crum



First Fruit Offering

Updates from Community Engagement

This quarter's First Fruit offerings will be divided between **Homeless Matters, Franklin Together (the Franklin Re-Entry Coalition)**, and the **Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Department**. We are collecting physical items for Franklin Together; a collection box is available in the lobby.

The Upper Room church school class donated \$150 in items to Victory House. Ballroom dance lessons begin on September 10 and run for six weeks. Our annual Family Fun Day celebration is September 13. Learn to play pickleball on September 20 from 3 to 5 p.m. A new pinochle group will meet on September 21 and 28 from 3 to 5 p.m. We will resume cooking meals for NETwork Ministries on September 24 at 11 a.m. The Chili Cook-Off is scheduled for September 27, with proceeds supporting the weekend Backpack Program at Falling Spring Elementary School. A new American Mahjong group is also forming; contact Harold Collier if you are interested.

Book sale donations, sorting, and moving are in full swing. Activities begin August 31 and continue through the sale on October 23, 24, and 25. This year's goal is to raise enough money to fund a Habitat home over the five years we have held the sale. There are many ways to participate. Contact Harold Collier to join the fun and fellowship.

The next Community Engagement Team meeting will be on September 28. We are always looking for ideas and volunteers to help strengthen our relationships with the community and one another.

Get involved: Whether you can donate, volunteer, attend an event, or share a new idea, your participation helps us serve our neighbors and build a stronger community. Contact Harold Collier to learn how you can take part.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (Does my “little bit” help?)

Yes – your contributions to First Fruits and other local and global agencies REALLY DOES MATTER!!

Excerpt from African Mission Healthcare Newsletter:

“A Cry from the Box: The Training Behind One Baby’s Fight to Live”

“Winny had just given birth at a small rural dispensary in Kenya when she was told the words no mother should ever hear: her baby would not survive. He had arrived too soon – born at just 30 weeks and weighing only 2.2 pounds. He was fragile, tiny, and desperately in need of specialized care the facility could not provide. The umbilical cord had not even been tied when Winny was handed her newborn son in a box and told to take him home for burial. But on the motorcycle ride home, Winny heard something that changed everything. A cry. Her son was alive.

Winny and her husband rushed him to Kapsowar Mission Hospital where the newborn team moved quickly. They warmed his tiny body. They started IV fluids. They administered antibiotics. They began the careful, disciplined work required to help a critically premature baby survive.”

In our recent Lenten “First Fruits” offering, we included African Mission Healthcare’s pediatric program. The above story represents the success of trained staff in services provided to these parents. Support such as this is what enables programs like African Mission Healthcare’s ability to provide these types of services.

Thank you for supporting Community Engagement’s outreach visions!

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 currently reading “Learning to Walk in the Dark” by Barbara Brown Taylor. Each week’s reading assignment is listed in News in the Pews and the e-blast. Come and join the conversation!
- The Sunday Night Bible Study is held at 8 pm via Zoom. We are currently studying the book of Ecclesiastes. Each week’s reading assignment is listed in News in the Pews.
- Fall church school classes will resume for all ages on Sunday, September 13. We are pleased to have three classes for adults: **The Wired Word** meets in Room 116, **The Upper Room** meets in Conference Room 111 and **Sunday Morning Caffeine** meets in the Parlor Room 104. Classes for young people include: **Godly Play** in Room 119, **Spark! Elementary** in Room 115, and **Scripture/Contemporary Issues Discussion** for teens in the Youth Room 206.
- 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.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

- We look forward to finding a date this fall to gather with the Dominican and Mexican congregations who worship at St. John’s. It is good to sing, eat and pray together! Stay tuned in October for another “dinner church” opportunity!
- The Ice Cream Social on August 16 was well attended with lots of delicious ice cream and homemade sweet treats. Thank you to everyone who came—it was fun!
- Pastor Caroline will be offering a “**Travel Talk**” on her pilgrimage to Ireland/Northern Ireland after worship on Sunday, September 6. Light refreshments will be provided.
- A listing of small groups and contact persons is listed on page 17, helping to connect people with opportunities and activities here at St. John’s.
- A sign up for the **Food Safety** class on Tuesday, September 22 is at the Welcome Center. We love to feed people and want to do so safely!

ENERGIZE PARTICIPATION

- **St. John's Camp** is available to rent from May to September. We give thanks to be able to share this wonderful place with the wider community.
- Livestreaming equipment is being installed in the Fellowship Hall. We look forward to using this space for additional opportunities for learning, worship and service.
- Thank you for “**sharing the harvest**” from your gardens! A table is set up in the front lobby for fresh produce and/or flowers. We are growing and sharing together!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Summer Snacks Program for NETwork Ministries. We will be cooking a meal for NETwork kids once a month on the 4th Thursday beginning September 24.
- Collection boxes for Franklin Together (the Franklin County Re-Entry Coalition) are in the front lobby. Our First Fruits offering for this quarter helps to support those who are coming back into the community after being incarcerated, as well as those who are experiencing homelessness (Homeless Matters) emergency services (Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Department).
- Collection of books, DVDs, CD, puzzles and games for the **Habitat for Humanity Book Sale** have officially begun! Sorting of items will be done on Mondays at 9 am at the Mobile Works building located at 2116 LWE. We already have 10,000 donations! Contact Harold Collier with questions or to get more involved.
- The **Chili Cook Off** will be held after worship on Sunday, September 27. Sign up at the Welcome Center to bring chili, rice, cornbread, and/or dessert. Proceeds will benefit the Power Packs program for kids in our community.

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.
- **Grant monies** have helped to install livestreaming equipment in the Fellowship Hall, expanding our options for fellowship, fun, and worship as a whole church.
- We are in the process of securing sponsors for the annual Book Sale, helping St. John's to generate income to offset expenses for this very popular community event. Contact Harold Collier if you'd like to become a sponsor.
- Conversations with Habitat for Humanity are ongoing as we explore the viability and suitability of a portion of our land to be developed for housing. Guilford Township's Board of Supervisors recently reviewed updated plans. We anticipate having more conversations as a congregation this fall as we know more about what is possible.

Major Project Financial Status Report

GOOD NEWS! The HVAC loan was officially paid off in July. It took us just over 5 years to fully pay off the \$500,000 loan, which was the objective when borrowed in 2021. Below is a summary of the project costs and funds raised to date (July 31, 2026) to cover them.

HVAC system 2021	\$ 575,012
Interest expense and bank fees (2021 – 2026)	<u>39,463</u>
Total Costs	\$ 614,475
Receipts at 7/31/26	<u>559,471</u>
Amount needed to fully fund HVAC project	<u>\$ 55,004</u>

Our goal remains to fully fund this project with donations. Since we were going to move from a 3.75% fixed interest rate to a 7.25% variable rate in August 2026, Council decided to use existing cash to pay off the loan now (5 years early). Consequently, we are leaving the “Mission Possible” Campaign open to accepting donations going forward until we receive the \$55,004 needed to make that happen. Your continuing support is greatly appreciated!

The other project just completed is the parking lot, which has been in discussions for at least 30 years. And it does look great! This project cost a total of \$ 293,541 and was paid from the following sources:

Borrowing from our Trust Fund	\$ 227,771
Penn Central Conference Grant	10,000
Allocated donations	1,565
Operating cash	<u>54,205</u>
	<u>\$ 293,541</u>

This results in \$281,976 of donations needed to reimburse the Trust Fund and operating bank account. While there is no official “fundraising campaign” for this project, Council is requesting your ongoing financial support over the next several years to get us back to the financial status we had before the project. Annual donations of \$47,000 would take 6 years to make this happen. Your commitment to our financial sustainability is greatly appreciated.

We will continue to periodically keep you informed of how we are doing with respect to the donations needed for both projects. Thank you for your generosity!

-Scot Orndorff, Treasurer



Church Office Hours:

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

**Church Office will be CLOSED
on Monday September 7, 2026 in observance of
Labor Day**

**Office Administrator: Tonya Schwartz
Email: manager@sjucc1811.org**

**Office Assistant: Kristen Vannoy
Email: assistant@sjucc1811.org**

Phone: 717-263-8593



St. John's Nursery School has just begun its 55th year of providing quality early childhood education to children in our community!

We have been blessed to welcome 127 children and their families this school year. We have 16 toddlers, 41 three year olds, and 70 four and five year olds excited to learn and have fun!

We welcome back our teaching staff: Lisa Etter, Angie Leedy, Katlyn Heverley, Charon Barclay, Shanna Bell, and Elizabeth Clark, along with our assistants: Chazalynn Hackney, Vanessa Florea, Megan Ritter, Nicole Arnett, Amy Rosenberry, and Adrienne Grossberg. We are all looking forward to a fantastic school year!

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

Blessings,

Kari Rock, Director

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.

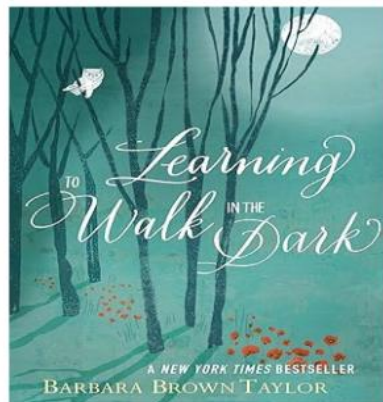
Check out News in the Pews & E-blast
for each week's reading assignment.
We encourage looking at a variety of translations;
Pastor Caroline is using the Common English Bible (CEB).

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

Monday Afternoon Book Study

Our current selection is "Learning to Walk in the Dark" by Barbara Brown Taylor.

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!



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.

New Pinochle Group Forming

Come Play, learn and enjoy fellowship with others.

All skill levels are welcome!

New players are encouraged to join - we'll be happy to teach you how to play.

Dates: September 21 and September 28

Time: 3pm - 5pm

Place: Church Library

Bring a friend and join the fun!





Beginners Pickleball

September 20th

3pm-5pm

Fellowship Hall



Welcoming new members to the court that want to learn and play. If interested contact Harold Collier at hcollier@comcast.net.

BIG Sale

20
26

USED BOOK SALE

BENEFITING



Habitat
for Humanity
of Franklin County

OCTOBER 22-25

HELD AT ST. JOHN'S UCC 1811 LWE, CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202

EARLY ACCESS DAY: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22 FROM 5PM-9PM

TICKET REQUIRED FOR ENTRY - GET TICKETS AT [HTTP://SECURE.QGIV.COM/FOR/USEDBOOKSALE](http://secure.qgiv.com/for/usedbooksale)
TICKET AND \$20 CASH OR CHECK REQUIRED AT ENTRANCE FOR EARLY ACCESS

FREE ADMISSION DAYS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23 FROM 2PM - 8PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 FROM 9AM - 5PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 FROM 12PM - 4PM

BAG SALE DAY BUY 3, GET THE 4TH FREE

- GREAT SELECTION OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS!
- CASH OR CHECK ONLY. NO CREDIT CARDS
- BOOKS ARE SORTED INTO CATEGORIES
- PUZZLES, GAMES, CDS AND DVDS ALSO AVAILABLE!
- PRICING \$1.00 - \$3.00

OVER
60,000
DONATED BOOKS!

You do not want to miss this sale!



SCAN HERE
TO RECEIVE
EMAIL
UPDATES!





SAFELY COOK FOR CROWDS

Course teaches foodsafetyfor 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
Fellowship Hall
1811 Lincoln Way
East
Chambersburg, PA



Register at the Welcome Center.
There is no cost to participate.



**PennState
Extension**



St Johns FALL 2026

Starts Thursday September 10



Beginners Class: 6-7 pm (Swing/Foxtrot/ChaCha/Tango/Line Dances)

BeyondBeginners: 7-8 pm (MORE: Swing/Foxtrot/Cha Cha/Tango/ Bachata/Line Dances and Rumba)

- At St. Johns Church 1811 Lincoln Way E, Chambersburg, PA 17202
- Learn how to dance- enjoy it the rest of your life 😊
- Dates: Thursdays- September 10, 17, 24 : October 1, 9, 15.
- 6 Lessons for a total of \$35.00 per person. Pay first night cash or check.

*Partner NOT required

* To sign up contact Frank Hancock at fhancock@comcast.net OR Harold Collier at hcollier@comcast.net or call 717-241-4483 or text 717-448-7839



Chili Cook-off Lunch September 27

11:30 am after Worship

Menu: Chili, Cornbread, Rice, & Desserts

Vote (\$) for your favorite chili recipe.
Donations & Vote money support to the Power
Pack Program for kids in the community.



**Come and enjoy
the food & friendship
in Fellowship Hall!**

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

Ways to Get Involved: Small Groups & Contacts!

With lots of opportunities, it can hard to know what all we do and who to contact if you are interested in becoming involved! We hope this list of activities and leaders will be helpful as we resume the full fall schedule here at St. John's UCC!

- ◆ Wired Room Sunday school class—Lloyd Beers
- ◆ Upper Room Sunday school class—Connie Strunk
- ◆ Sunday Morning Caffeine Sunday school class— Mark Shoap
- ◆ Sunday Night Bible Study and Monday afternoon Book Study—Pastor Caroline
- ◆ Ladies' Bible Study on Tuesday nights—Nancy Gaal
- ◆ Ladies' Luncheon—Linda Zeger
- ◆ Men's Breakfast—Jerry Thomason
- ◆ Godly Play children's church school class—Roxanne Davenport
- ◆ Spark! Elementary children's church school class— Chani Wolfe & Melinda Orndorff
- ◆ Scripture/Contemporary Issues Discussion class for teens—Diana Kongkeattikul
- ◆ Choir and Bell Choir— Gary Crum
- ◆ Livestream and Media—Calvin Frantz
- ◆ Worship Praise Team—Diana Kongkeattikul
- ◆ Children's Corner—Roxanne Davenport
- ◆ Flower Delivery—Connie Morrill-Hair
- ◆ Greeters—Don Hendrickson and Cathy Kinton
- ◆ Lectors—Judy Hodges
- ◆ Coffee Hour—Harold Collier
- ◆ Network Ministry Meal Prep (4th Thursday of the month) - Harold Collier
- ◆ Facilities Maintenance—Tom (Echo) Harrison
- ◆ Dance Lessons and Seasonal Dances—Harold Collier
- ◆ Pickleball, Pinochle, and/or American Mahjong—Harold Collier
- ◆ Habitat for Humanity Book Sale—Harold Collier
- ◆ Family Fun Day— Roxanne Davenport
- ◆ Chili Cook Off—Susan Collier
- ◆ Afternoon Teas—Sue McMurtray

thank you

Dear St. John's Family,

Thank you for the cards and flowers that were given to Barbara Soper for her birthday.

Sincerely,

Pete and Lisa A'Zary

Dear St. John's Congregation,

Thank you so much for your ongoing generous support. Our Program is possible because of dedicated donors like all of you. You are collectively making an incredible difference in education in the most remote parts of the Amazon rainforest.

Clair Lannoye-Hall, Ph.D.

On behalf of Peru Adopt-A-School

I would like to thank St. John's Family for all the lovely cards plus two flower arrangements for my 98th birthday.

I would like to thank the school children for the cards they made, signed and sent the cards. It made me happy for the day. It made me feel like a queen for the day.

Thank you,

Margaretta "Lousie" Kennedy

thank you

Dear St. John's friends, thank you for your many cards, emails & texts during my medical treatments. It seems like a never-ending journey, but you are helping enormously.

A special thanks goes to Connie MH for keeping our garden happy throughout our "Summer of Hershey." And we appreciate her remembering us every day in other ways.

Love & kisses & gratitude to Scott, for being my caregiver, driver, support animal, rule-enforcer, grocery shopper and on & on.

Rejoice, rejoice!

Rejoice, give thanks and sing!

Ginny Cairns

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.

Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

TRAVEL TALK: IRELAND

Sunday, September 6 after worship
Room 116

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Four Polaroid-style photographs are arranged around the central text. Top left: A stone Celtic cross in a grassy field. Bottom left: A woman standing in a field with mountains in the background. Top right: A globe of the Earth seen through a circular opening in a stone archway. Bottom right: A woman standing in a field with mountains in the background. A dashed blue line with red location pin icons and small airplane icons connects the photos.

St. John's United Church of Christ | 1811 LWE
Chambersburg, PA 17202

SEPTEMBER 21, 2026 | 6:30 PM

BIBLE & A BEER

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!



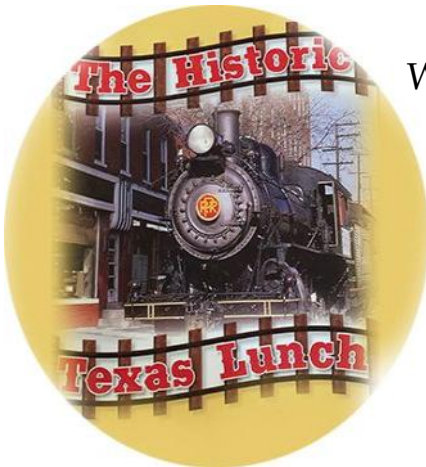
Ladies Luncheon

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

Our next gathering will be **Wednesday, September 9th**
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, September 3rd**
at 7 am at Texas Lunch.
(108 LWW, Chambersburg, PA)

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

September Birthdays



09/03 Michele Wadel

09/18 Catherine Kinton

09/04 Melissa Reichelderfer

09/18 Swann Kongkeattikul

09/04 Margaret Schollaert

09/19 Perry Skipper

09/06 Evan Michael Blumberg

09/20 Virginia (Ginni) Parker

09/07 Michael Herbert

09/22 Hannah Herbert

09/07 James Moyer

09/22 Kyra Sollenberger

09/09 Connie Morrill-Hair

09/22 Matthew Strunk

09/10 Helen Bernecker

09/22 James Wood

09/11 Kara Alt

09/29 Jack Mull

09/11 Lisa Hess

09/29 Dr. James Strite Jr.

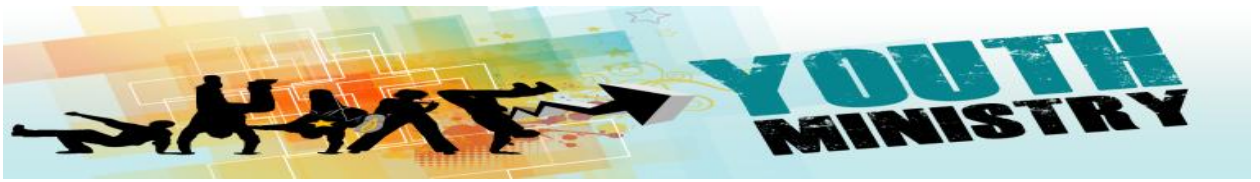
09/11 Harold Wissinger

09/12 Alexandra Dennis

09/13 Ferree Le Fevre

09/13 Diana Macfarlane

09/15 Larry Stenger



Youth Calendar of Events September

13 First day of Church School 8:45

Family Fun Day 11:30-1:30

20 Church School 8:45

Start of Confirmation classes 11:30-1:00

27 Church School 8:45

Church School Returns

Church School resumes beginning September 13th at 8:45.

Again, three classes will be offered:

Godly Play for ages 3-K in rm. 119

Spark for Grades 1-5 in rm. 115

Scripture/Contemporary Issues Discussion Class for Grades 6-12 in rm. 206

Although Church Membership is not required for any Youth function,
current permissions and medical forms are.

Family Fun Day

..is just that.. a time for families to have a little fun together after worship! Games, food, crafts, music, bouncing and furry friends are awaiting you outside on the lawn, or in Fellowship Hall (weather dependent) from 11:30-1:30 on September 13th.

Volunteers to help at our various stations are needed!

Ways to have Fun in Worship.....

The Children's message is for all of us so there is no age specific. There are also activity bags in the back of the sanctuary. The larger bags are for younger friends and the smaller bags for older friends. Again, see a greeter for help if needed.

The Nook in the Narthex is for our active toddlers, and the gated space in the Parlor for our babies and their parents.

Children's corner continues **weekly**. Adults with clearances who are willing to help with this on any Sunday of the month from time to time, please contact Roxanne. Help to supervise babies or toddlers for parents who need a quiet time to worship, is always appreciated and is on a request basis. Again, see Roxanne to be put on the list for greeters to come to get you if a request is made.

VBS Wrap Up



Another successful Vacation Bible School concluded at the end of July. 32 students registered, with an average of 28 in attendance each night. A huge thank you to our 8 Junior helpers (teens) who worked under the supervision of our 42 adult volunteers. Highlights were the performance from the STEP Team at Network, and the use of the Gaga Pit! Our Mission project was raising awareness and money for Network Ministries, as well as collecting cold weather items for our neighbors, through the COATS for KIDS program. I am so thankful to all who make this huge ministry happen!!!

Check out the pics on our church website or youth Facebook page!

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)

Upcoming Communion Dates:

Sunday, September 6, 10 am, Sanctuary & Livestreamed
World Communion Sunday, October 4, 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

Office Hours: Mon -Fri from 9 AM -3 PM

