

The Good News Letter

2017



Mission Statement

The mission of St. John's United Church of Christ is to share with our community the Gospel of God's love by the stewardship of our lives in outreach, fellowship, education, caring and worship.

Monday through Friday 9:30am-1:30pm



August 4
Movies in the park

August 6
Communion

August 14
Consistory meeting at 6:30

August 19
Mom's of Multiples Swap Meet



St. John's United Church of Christ

1027 Church Street

PO Box 817

Fogelsville, PA 18051

Office Phone: 610-398-7015

Church Hospital Code # 467

E-mail: stjohnsucc1@gmail.com

Website: www.stjohnsuccfogelsville.com

Web & Facebook Submissions:

stjohnsuccfogelsville@gmail.com



Church Staff

Pastor: Irvin Moore

Minister of Music: Dave Roth

Cell: 610-737-0530

E-mail: rothd@rcn.com or rothpiano.com

Bill Gieringer, Sexton

Anna DeAngelis, Secretary

Office Hours

Opportunities Available

We all have talents that are given to us by God. Those talents vary. Some are able to speak in public; others feel more comfortable sharing in small groups. Some are good at organizing; others are good at carrying out directions. As shown at coffee hours, some are really good at baking. (Some are really good at eating, too.) Some feel comfortable visiting with our older—or infirm—members. There are many different ways that our talents can be used by God for the benefit of our members, our congregation and the community.

If you are comfortable speaking in public (or if you want to give it a try even though it seems scary) talk to Pastor Irv or contact the church office about being an assistant minister. If you enjoy talking to people one-on-one, consider being a greeter on a Sunday or going along with a few of our members who visit our sick and shut-ins. Good at cooking or baking? We can always use help with coffee hour and with the occasional fellowship meals we offer or providing food when we host a bereaved family after a funeral service.

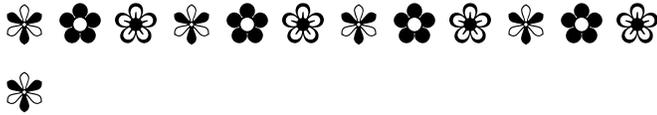
If your time is limited and you want to contribute financially you can sponsor bulletins and altar flowers or make a contribution toward coffee hour. The cost for flowers is \$35 per Sunday and bulletins for \$5 per Sunday.

Thank you for sharing your talent in God's service.



Movies in the Park

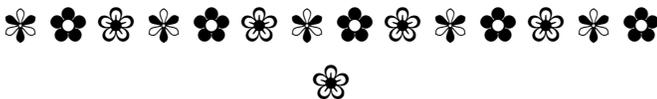
August 4– Moana – Grange Road Park



Prayer Requests

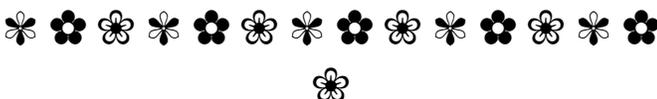
Ernest Breininger, Catherine Csencitz, John Csencitz, Nelson Feliciano, John Marstellar, Jane Laudenslager, Nancy Reichert, George Rodenbach, Polly Snyder, Kenneth Strohl, Steve Warner, and Ray Ziegler.

If you or a loved one needs to be hospitalized, please inform the hospital staff that St John's UCC church code is 467. We also ask that you or a family member please notify the church office of your hospitalization when you enter and when you leave—call 610-398-7015. Thanks!



Capital Improvement Campaign

St. John's UCC has a Capital Improvement Campaign, for some much needed repairs. If you would like to donate to this fund, please make checks payable to St. John's UCC and put "Capital Improvement" on the memo line. Thanks!



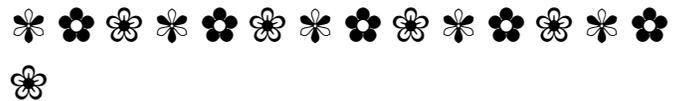
August Birthdays

- 1– Sandy Sobczak
- 2 – Bryan Sobczak
- 3– Avery Cope
- 10 – Pete Paduch Jr.

- 11– Sydney Cope
- 19 – Michele Romig
- 20 –Cindy Eckert
- 20 – Jason Moyer
- 20 – Nancy Moyer
- 25– Mallory Cope
- 28 – Dorothy Breininger
- 31—Nora Garon

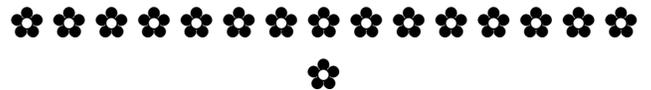
August Anniversaries

- 9 – Marjorie & Nevin Cope
- 21 – Tina & Mark Laudenslager
- 23 – Nancy & Larry Moyer



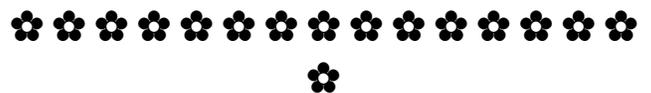
Busy Bees

Hoagie sales will resume in September. More information on them will follow.



Dutch Lunch

Please join us for lunch at the **Starlite Diner** on Thursday afternoons at 12:00 p.m. It will be Dutch Style where everyone will treat him or herself for a lunch out. We will have informal discussions of faith and life, time to share, support, break bread together, and get to know one another.



Thank You

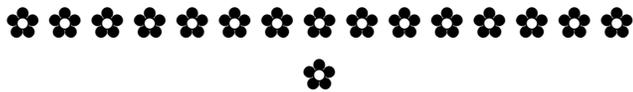
Thank you to our assistant ministers and ushers.

Thank you to everyone who has given to the Joyful Noise offering.

Thank you to everyone who has made a donation to the food bank.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the lunches that were given to the homeless during Musikfest.

Thank you to everyone who help with or gave donations to the VBS program.



Summer Worship

Our summer worship is in effect and will continue through September 3rd. For the summer, coffee hour will be at 9:30 and services will be at 10:30. On September 10th we will have a combined worship and picnic with the Lutheran Church. This year the event will take place in the Falcon Pavilion at the Upper Macungie Park on Route 100. On September 17th we will convert to our regular schedule with Bible Study at 9:00am, Nursery and Sunday School at 10:15am and worship at 10:30am.



I get a newsletter every month from the church in England where I worked for about 6 weeks about 15 years ago. Some of you will remember Pastor Crane's service with us. (For those who do not remember, he was the British pastor who came here.)

The article that follows is written by the current pastor of Haverhill Methodist Church.

'May the same mind be in us, that was in Christ Jesus'. Philippians chapter 2 verse 5

Dear Friends, A little boy was watching a sculptor at work. For weeks this sculptor kept chipping away at a big block of marble. After a few weeks he had created a beautiful marble lion. The little boy was amazed and said: "Mister, how did you know there was a lion in that rock?" The Christian writer Henri J. M. Nouwen says the sculptor's secret is to know "by heart" what is in the marble. We believe that God is our Maker - our 'Sculptor'. God knows us 'by heart' - God not only sees us for what we are but

sees what we can become. God knows our potential and wants to release it. But we know we don't have the capacity to do it by ourselves, we are as powerless as the block of marble. God wants to make us just like Jesus. We need the same mind of Christ so that we have the same attitude of Christ and follow his way of humility and self-emptying love. This only happens when we have the 'same mind of Christ' shaping and forming us. Having the same mind of Christ means being mindful of others. May the compassionate mind be in us, that was in Christ Jesus, toward those who are sick and suffering. May the prayerful mind be in us that was and is in Christ Jesus. Jesus loved people but sometimes needed to be alone to pray; he prayed for His disciples; he prayed for forgiveness for those who persecuted Him and he prayed for those who received Him. Jesus believed in people and did not lose heart; he disregarded His own comfort for others; he humbled Himself and became obedient, even unto death, even death on the cross. May the selfless mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus. God our sculptor is molding us into his compassionate, prayerful, selfless people. We have discovered that this goal is at the heart of the book of James. God is carefully chipping away at us throughout our lives. Like the sculptor he knows what is within, knows us by heart, and with great patience we are taking shape, as we daily yield to the work of his tools in our lives. There is an ongoing work of new creation within us by the Holy Spirit. May the mind of Christ shape us, and may the heart of Christ continue to move us to share his love with others. I hope that in this summer season you will find moments of relaxation and renewal.

Peter Goodhall, pastor, Haverhill Methodist Church, Haverhill, UK

BIBLE STUDY

Sunday morning Bible Study will resume the same day that Sunday school for children begins again: September 17. The group will meet, as before, in the family room at 9:00 AM every Sunday. Until the group decides otherwise, we will be studying the Gospel lesson for the Sunday following the day we meet. So, for example, we will study the Gospel lesson for September 24 when we meet on September 17.

Here is the schedule through November 19:

9/17: Matthew 20:1-16 (The laborers in the vineyard)

9/24: Matthew 21:23-32 (Jesus' authority question, story of 2 sons)

10/1: Matthew 21:33-46 (Parable of the wicked tenants)

10/8: Matthew 22:1-14 (Parable of the wedding banquet)

10/15: Matthew 22:15-22 (Paying taxes to Caesar)

10/22: Matthew 22:33-46 (The great commandment)

10/29: Matthew 23:1-12 (Scribes and Pharisees denounced)

11/5: Matthew 25:1-13 (The 10 bridesmaids)

11/12: Matthew 25:14-30 (Parable of the talents)

11/19: Matthew 25:31-46 (The last judgement).

You are welcome to join us for any or all of these sessions. Discussion is lively as we try to relate Jesus' words to our church and to our own lives.

Peace be with you,
Pastor Irv



Schedule

Anna will be out the office on July 31 and August 1. She will be in the office August 2 from 11-3 and August 3 and 4 from 9:30-1:30.



Lunches For The Homeless

We are once again going to partner with Christ Church UCC in Bethlehem to help provide lunches to the homeless during Musikfest. Our date to provide lunches is Monday, August 7. The need is greater this year, and we have been asked if we can provide 75 lunches. If you can provide items for these lunches, a sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board in the narthex. If shopping is a problem or if you would just prefer to make a monetary donation, that would be great, as we will need to buy lunch meat, cheese and buns to make the

sandwiches. Also, if you have any small tubes of toothpaste, toothbrushes or small bottles of lotion that you might have picked up when you stayed in a hotel, that might be nice to include with the lunches. If you have any questions, talk to Marilyn Roth, her phone # is 610-395-3083 or Sue Snyder can be reached at 610-488-8397.



August Assistants

Assistant Minister

- August 6 – Zachary Edelman
- August 13 – Sue Snyder
- August 20 – William Gieringer
- August 27 – Janet Grim

Offering

- August 6 – *Sue Snyder & Larry Moyer
- August 13 – Tom Sobczak & Mark Laudenslager
- August 20 – Susan Roth & Marilyn Roth
- August 27 – Suzanne Reigel & Catherine Garon



Consistory Notes

July 10, 2017

- 1) Pastor's Report – Rev. Moore thanked the Consistory for time off for his vacation. Bible

Study will begin again on September 17. The jazz service will be on October 15. As an historical buff, he has been looking through some old time things and may plan a special service around that for October 29. Marlene recommended recognizing our education people at a service sometime in September. Tom asked about another Memorial Service for those that we have lost in the past year, as the one last year was well-received. Rev. Moore thought that that was a good idea.

2) Correspondence -

a) IRS Letter fine from 2011 – Larry received a letter from the IRS telling us that we owe \$1,800.04 from 2011. We are not sure what this was for. Tom will check into this and get back to us.

b) Easter seals - Thank you letter was received for our Joyful Noise offering sent to them in the amount of \$128.24.

c) Meals on Wheels - Thank you letter was received for our Joyful Noise offering sent to them in the amount of \$112.03.

d) A letter was received letting us know that the Penn Northeast Conference and the Penn Southeast Conference will be merging. We do not have any details for that merger at this time.

3) Treasurer's Report -

a) General Monthly report - As of 6/30/2017, the balance in the checking account was \$11,807.69.

b) Capital Fund- Balance as of 6/30/2017 was \$47,177.67. \$8,000 was transferred into the checking account in the building fund to cover the down payments on the windows, roof replacement and painting projects.

c) Memorial Fund – Balance was \$22,696.88. We are now \$7,697.00 over the minimum \$15,000 that must remain in that fund.

d) Endowment Report – Balance is \$101,266.00.

4) Old Business – Issues -

a) Offer to have service/gathering at the Ritter Home – The date chosen was August 20 for the service/gathering at the Ritter home.

5) New Business Report -

a) Service with St John's Lutheran - September Fall picnic

b) Rally Day Planning. Ideas – Sandy is thinking about a "Rally Night" with antique cars, games, etc. May be a two hour event.

c) Sunday School and Nursery Teachers needed to substitute, please speak with Sandy.

d) If you would like to help with coffee hour in the summer at 9:30am, please see Larry.

6) Outreach Events -

a) July 14th Fantastic Beast at Breinigsville Park and August 4th Moana at Grange Road Park. Lauren is working on some kind of raffle idea.

b) Lunches for homeless during Musikfest - Marilyn and Sue are working on putting together 75 bag lunches as we partner with Christ Church UCC in Bethlehem to help feed the homeless in Bethlehem during Musikfest. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for donations. Our date to deliver the lunches is August 7. We will need help on Monday, August 7 to put the sandwiches together and finish up the lunches for delivery to Bethlehem before noon.

c) Packets to be given to children in the ER to keep them occupied during the wait – Sue Snyder made up a sample bag with items to be considered. Marlene pointed out that there could be as many as 75 children per day in the ER's making it almost impossible to keep up with demand. It is possible that this type of bag might be given to Turning Point which is a place of escape for abused women and children.

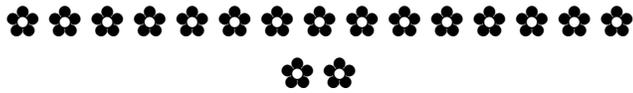
7) Media Tech - Website & Facebook, Look for Movies in the Park pictures!!

8) Property Issues –

a) Parking lot needs sealing. Tom will get a quote.

b) S.S. Roof, Painting and Window replacements are being scheduled. Tom said

the roof will be done in September, the windows in August, and the painting will be scheduled after the windows have been replaced and sealed.



While walking up the front lane to his house, Pastor Norris of First Church heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly wilted his collar. His five-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead bird and were giving it a Christian funeral. The burial spot was dug, and the minister's son was selected to say the appropriate prayer. So, with dignity he intones his version of what he thought his father always said, "Glory be to the Faaaather, and to the Sonnnn...and into the hole you goooo."

An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him, "Tommy, how do you expect to get into heaven someday?"

The boy thought it over and explained, "Well, I'll just run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the gate until St. Peter says, 'For heaven's sake, Tommy, come in or stay out.'"

The minister's wife was a wonder at conserving food and rarely had to throw away a bit of it. At one meal she served her pastor husband nothing but leftovers the parson viewed with great disdain. He began to pick at the food, causing his wife to say, "Dear you forgot the blessing."

"Listen, sweetheart, if you can show me one item that hasn't been blessed at least two times, I can't see what another prayer can do for it."