

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.

Spring clean-up

July 2  
Communion

July 4  
Office closed for holiday

July 7  
Movies in the park

July 10-14  
VBS at Lutheran Church

July 10  
Consistory meeting at 6:30



**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](mailto:stjohnsucc1@gmail.com)

Website: [www.stjohnsuccfogelsville.com](http://www.stjohnsuccfogelsville.com)

Web & Facebook Submissions:

[stjohnsuccfogelsville@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsuccfogelsville@gmail.com)



**Church Staff**

**Pastor: Irvin Moore**

**Minister of Music: Dave Roth**

Cell: 610-737-0530

E-mail: [rothd@rcn.com](mailto:rothd@rcn.com) or [rothpiano.com](mailto:rothpiano.com)

**Bill Gieringer, Sexton**

**Anna DeAngelis, Secretary**

Office Hours

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



**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.

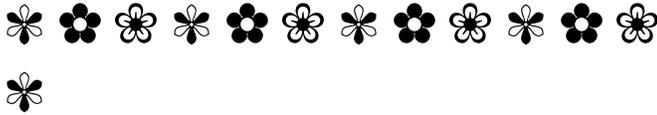
If you are comfortable speaking in public (or if you want to give it a try even though it seems scary) talk to Pastor Irv or contact the church office about being an assistant minister. If you enjoy talking to people one-on-one, consider being a greeter on a Sunday or going along with a few of our members 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

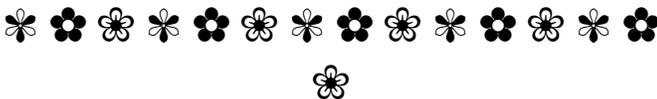
July 7- Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them – Breinigsville Park  
August 4– Moana – Grange Road Park



## Prayer Requests

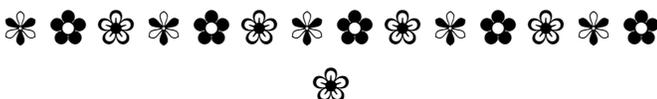
Jane Breininger, Catherine Csencitz, Nelson Feliciano, Ray Hausman, Jane Laudenslager, John Marsteller, Nancy Reichert, George Rodenbach, Kenneth Strohl, Steve Warner, and Ray Ziegler.

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

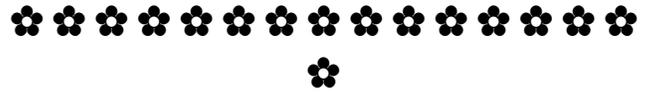
St. John's UCC has a Capital Improvement Campaign, for some much needed repairs. If you would like to donate to this fund, please make checks payable to St. John's UCC and put "Capital Improvement" on the memo line. Thanks!



## July Birthdays

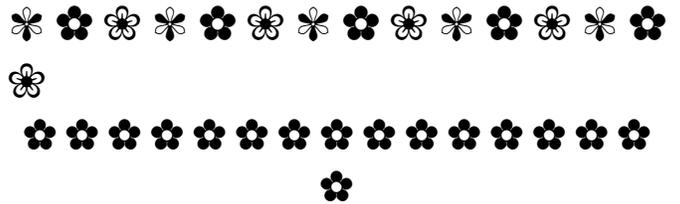
- 4 – Nancy Reichert
- 6 – Wanda Fehnel
- 7 - A Marie Johnson
- 10 – Tyler Krause
- 18 – Roy Lehr

- 18 – Roger Lehr
- 20 – Roseann Laudenslager
- 23 –Nicholas Edelman
- 25 – Linda Eroh
- 25 – Mark Laudenslager
- 27 – Janet Grim



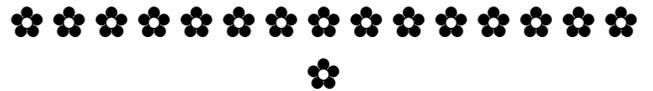
## Busy Bees

The Busy Bees are taking a well-deserved vacation. The next activity will be a hoagie sale in September.



## 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 everyone who donated geraniums for our flower boxes.

Thank you to our assistant ministers and ushers.

Thank you to Lauren Sobczak for her outstanding work on our website.

Thank you to Sandy and Lauren Sobczak for the time they spend with the children. They are doing an outstanding job with the Sunday School.

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



## Summer Worship

Our summer worship is in effect and will continue through September 3<sup>rd</sup>. For the summer, coffee hour will be at 9:30 and services will be at 10:30. There will be no sharing with the children during the summer. On September 10<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> we will convert to our regular schedule with Nursery and Sunday School at 10:15am and worship at 10:30am with the children's service.



## Schedule

Anna will be out the office 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.



I've had a quote on the door of my office for a while. I keep it there because I think it's a terribly important one. It's from a Facebook article by Anne Lamott (I've talked about her before.) in which she quoted a priest friend of hers named Tom Weston. The quote goes like this:

You know you've created God in your own image when He or She hates all the same people you do.

In a society as polarized as ours is today it strikes me as something I need to remember. Maybe it's something for all of us to think about as we celebrate our nation's 241<sup>st</sup> birthday.

The story is told that someone from the North came to Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War and asked the President if he thought that "God was on our side." Lincoln is said to have responded "Sir, my concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right." It is very

easy for any one of us to come to the conclusion that we are "right" and that those who think differently are somehow, "wrong." That "we" are on God's side and "they" are not. It strikes me that where battle lines are drawn truth is often the first casualty. My New Testament professor in Seminary once said that "When we grip the cross by the part that sticks up above the crosspiece and wield the cross like a sword, the first person we slay is Christ himself."

I suppose in a month of patriotic fervor we need to be especially prayerful and watchful. I've learned many times (the hard way) that I have no corner on the truth and that I am in the wrong as often as I am in the right. I have also learned to question myself – especially when I am so sure of something that there can be no doubt that I'm in the right.

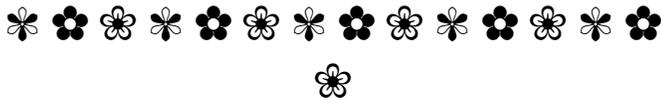
Celebrate freedom. Thank God for a nation where we can be free. And pray for that nation.

Peace be with you,  
Pastor Irv



V a c a t i o n  
B i b l e  
S c h o o l

The theme for this year's **Vacation Bible School** will be Hero Central: Discover Your Strength in God! The kids will take an awesome adventure alongside some of their favorite Bible heroes and discover the qualities that make us truly heroic in God! The Lutheran Church will host the event this year. It will be held on July 10<sup>th</sup> through July 14<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 12noon. Closing Ceremony/Picnic on Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup>. Post VBS Service at the Lutheran Church on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. Registration is going on now. We are asking for a \$5.00 donation to cover the cost of a take-home music cd and basic supplies. To register, see Nancy Moyer or call the church office at 610-398-7015. We are still seeking volunteers; if you would like to be involved, please see Nancy Moyer.



# July Assistants

## Assistant Minister

- July 2 – Janet Grim
- July 9 – Frank Garon
- July 16 – Mallory Cope
- July 23 – Marilyn Roth
- July 30 – Steve Conner

## Offering

- July 2 – \*Marilyn Roth & Tom Sobczak
- July 9 – Sue Snyder & Larry Moyer
- July 16 – Susan Roth and Catherine Garon
- July 23 – Mark Laudenslager & Suzanne Reigel
- July 30 – Marilyn Roth & Tom Sobczak



## Newsletter Articles

Please note that newsletter articles must be received by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Either place them in the secretary's folder outside of Irv's office or e-mail them to Anna.



## Consistory Notes

June 12, 2017

### 1) Correspondence-

Notes: Alan Miller Retirement Gathering announcement July 23, 2017  
4:00 p.m. at Northampton Memorial Center.  
Cost \$25.00

### 2) Treasurer's Report –

a) General Monthly report - A 3-page written report was submitted for the month of May 2017. A donation for sound system repair was received this past Sunday in the amount of \$1,000 which will go back into the Building Fund. The sound system repair was funded in the amount of \$2,975.00 from the Building Fund. Checking Account balance at the end of

May was \$15,579.40. The Joyful Noise offering for May, in the amount of \$112.03, went to Meals on Wheels. The sale of meat pies made a profit of \$226.

- b) Capital Fund - Balance of \$54,768.85.
- c) Memorial Fund – Balance of \$22,691.28.
- d) Endowment Report – As of June 12, 2017, the balance was \$101,842.00.

### 3) Old Business - Issues

a) Continue building repairs - Had Fire inspection this week, couple of issues. Two batteries were out in the emergency lights and the emergency light battery on the front porch needs to be replaced.

b) Learning Director - Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, June 19 at 6:30 p.m. to address congregational concerns.

### 4) New Business Report

a) Service with St John's Lutheran - Fall picnic the Sunday after Labor Day at the Route 100 Park.

b) Marlene Ritter volunteered their home for a picnic to be held in July or August.

c) Dave Roth is forming a Jazz service, details to follow.

### 5) Outreach Events

a) Movies in the park!! June was a big success with our Pete's Dragon theme, July 7th Fantastic Beast at Breinigsville Park and August 4th Moana at Grange Road Park.

b) Memorial Day service -Thank You Ray and Marilyn, this also was a Success!

c) Soup kitchen, make up back packs – Possible projects for fall.

d) Catherine suggested putting together Emergency Room packs for kids with coloring book, crayons, etc. Marlene said that she has a contact at the hospital and will find out what there is a need for.

e) Lunches for the homeless during Musikfest was done last year with a church in Bethlehem. Sue will watch the PNEC web site for that announcement.

f) Catherine also suggested once again gathering school supplies for the needy at the Fogelsville school. She will contact the

principal and ask to be contacted when the list is available.

6) **Christian Education** -

a) VBS-We will be working with St John's Lutheran Church week of July 10, 2017 (Sharon Snyder Chairperson). Donations to St John's UCC can be made for our half of the cost to operate this program. Children are the future!

7) **Search Committee** -

a) PNEC Conference Minister Alan Miller will be with us this Sunday!! He will be retiring this year.

8) **Media Tech**

a) Website & Facebook, Look for Movies in the Park pictures!! They are great.

9) **Property Issues** -

a) THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT SUPPORTS OUR Capital Campaign!!

b) S.S. Roof, Painting and Window repairs are on being scheduled.

c) New Sign will help to make us visible to road traffic, info from Tom at another meeting when the roof, windows and painting projects are completed.

For the good and welfare of the Church,  
around the room comments –

Marlene suggested that in the fall it would be nice, during a service, to acknowledge and support our education people who do so much for the church.