

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.

Office Hours

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



Spring clean-up

June 4

Pentecost Sunday
Communion
Summer Schedule Begins

June 10

AA activities Committee Region Meeting

June 12

Consistory meeting at 6:30

May 13-June 30

Pastor Irv on vacation

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.



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

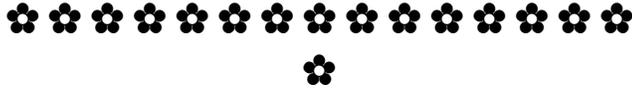
Bill Gieringer, Sexton

Anna DeAngelis, Secretary



Newsletter Articles

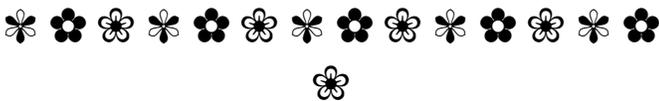
Please note that newsletter articles must be received by the 15th of each month. Either place them in the secretary's folder outside of Irv's office or e-mail them to Anna.



Prayer Requests

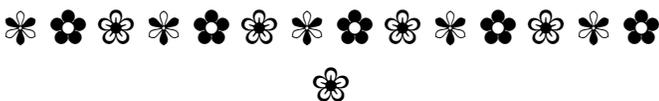
Jane Breininger, Christopher Brown, Mae Eisenhard, Nelson Feliciano, Frank Garon Sr., Jeff Grim, Ray Hausman, Jane Laudenslager, John Marsteller, Nancy Reichert, George Rodenbach, Kenneth Strohl, Steve Warner, and Ray Ziegler.

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!

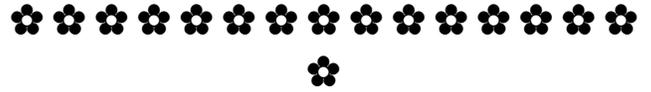


June Birthdays

- 5 – Marge Cope
- 15 – Brandon Krause
- 21 – Minnie Breininger
- 24 – Sawyer Marsteller

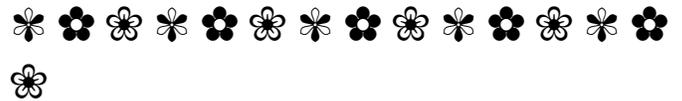
June Anniversaries

- 15 – Sue & Ron Snyder
- 15 – Tracy & John Kleinschuster
- 22 – Sandy & Tom Sobczak
- 25 – Minnie & Carl Breininger



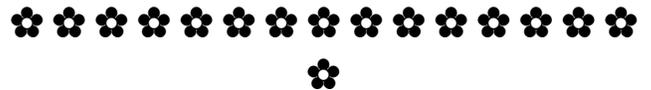
Busy Bees

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.



Movies in the Park

June 9 Pete's Dragon – Lone Lane Park, July 7 Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them – Breinigsville Park and August 4 Moana – Grange Road Park. We did this last year and they were quite successful. These movies are free to the public.



Summer Worship

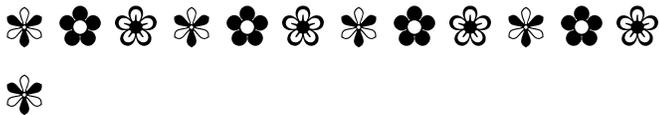
Our summer worship will begin on Sunday, June 4th and will end on Sunday, September 3rd. For the summer, coffee hour will be at 9:30am and services will be at 10:30am. There will be no sharing with the children during the summer. On September 10th we will have a combined worship and picnic with the Lutheran

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 Nursery and Sunday School at 10:15am and worship at 10:30am with the children's service.



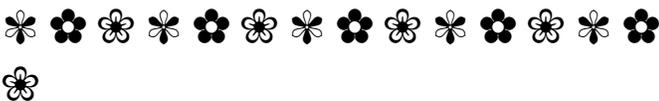
Geraniums

Pentecost Sunday is June 4th and as in the past we are seeking donations of geraniums to decorate the sanctuary. After the service, the geraniums will be planted in the planters outside the church. Anyone who would like to donate red geraniums should bring them to the church that morning.



Vacation

In the absence of Rev. Moore, Pastor Nelson Quinones will be the pastor on-call from May 13th to June 30th for St. John's UCC. In the event of a pastoral emergency, he can be reached at 610-653-5858.



Fifty days after Easter the Church celebrates the festival of Pentecost. The day recalls the time when the disciples were together, after Jesus' resurrection and his return to God. It was a festival day in Judaism (Also called Pentecost.) and Jerusalem was crowded with pilgrims. We're told that there was a sound of rushing wind and that tongues of fire appeared above the disciple's heads.

Acts tells us that they began to speak and that their words were understood even by those who did not speak Aramaic. They were accused of bring more than a little drunk by some.

By the end of the day many people had been and became "Followers of the Way" as the early Christians were known. Since then it's been called by many, the "birthday of the Church," because it marks the gift of the Holy Spirit to the believers. One of the simplest definitions of the church has always been: "A group of believers plus the Holy Spirit."

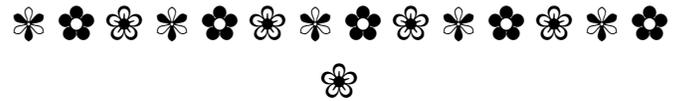
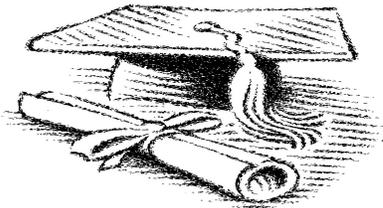
In the church the season of Pentecost (the season of the Church) stretches from the day of Pentecost until the celebration of the Reign of Christ which this year will be November 26. (Advent, the season of preparation for the celebration of Christmas begins on December 3.)

The Gospel lessons throughout the period talk about what the Church is, what the Church is called to be and do, what discipleship means, what it means to be a "follower of the Way."

Because life can be a little more relaxed than at other times, perhaps it could be a time for us as individuals and as a congregation of God's people to think about what Jesus' call means for us in our daily lives. How do we live out His call to reach out to those in our world who have no hope? How do we care for the people in our world, our society, our families, who Jesus speaks about in Matthew 25:31-46. A little time spent in considering who we are as 21st century "followers of the Way" can't but help us as we seek to do God's will in a complicated world.

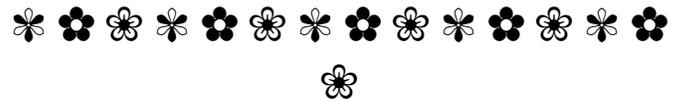
Peace be with you,
Pastor Irv





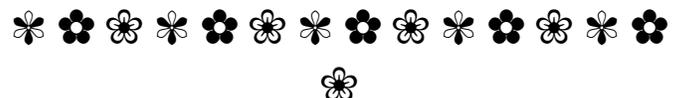
Vacation Bible School

Planning for Vacation Bible School has begun. It will be held the week of July 10th thru July 14th. The Lutheran Church will host "Hero Central—Discover Your Strength In God". Registration will be open until June 18th. Registration forms are available in the church office or on line at stjohsuccfogelsville.com or stjohs-fogelsville.org. We are asking for a \$5 donation to cover the cost of the CD and basic supplies. All volunteer clearances should be completed according to state laws. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact one of the churches to have your clearance submitted and completed before the beginning of VBS. We are looking for volunteers. If you have any further questions, please see Nancy Moyer.



Strengthen the Church Offering

Strengthen the Church Offering will take place on June 4th. This is one of four UCC special yearly offerings. Your gift will help to plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches, and develop spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Because of this offering, many more will hear the good news that "God is still speaking." Your offerings are directed to your church's Conference, Local Church Ministries, and The Stillspeaking Ministry for these purposes.



June Assistants

Assistant Minister

- June 4 – Zachary Edelman
- June 11 – Steve Conner
- June 18 – Sue Snyder
- June 25 – Marilyn Roth

Courtney Moyer graduated from Lehigh Carbon Community Center on May 18th with a dual Associates Degree in Graphic Design and Fine Arts. While at LCCC, Courtney has made the Dean's Honor List for 5 semesters. She will be transferring to Bloomsburg University in the fall to study Graphic Print Design. Congratulations.

We are proud to announce that Avery Cope will be graduating June 12th, 2017 from Parkland High School. Avery has been involved in Girl Scouts for the past nine years and has received the Girl Scout Senior Scholarship from the GSEP Parkland Service Unit. She's also been awarded a scholarship from Avery Dennison. Avery is the grand-daughter of Nevin and Marge Cope and the daughter of Ron and Kelly Jo Cope. We wish Avery the best at Millersville University this fall. Congratulations.



Special Congregational Meeting

There will be a special congregational meeting after the service on June 4th. Topics to be discussed are replacing of the windows, the church painting, and the replacement of the roof over the Sunday School area.



Thank You

Thank you to everyone who supported our fund raisers the past several months.

Thank you to everyone for your Joyful Noise donations. Every little bit helps and the organizations do appreciate your donations.

Thank you for the graduation announcements.

Thank you to Sue Snyder for coordinating the fill-ins for Pastor Irv while he enjoys a well-deserved vacation.

Offering

June 4 – *Marilyn & Mark

June 11 – Sue & Susan

June 18 – Suzanne & Mark

June 25 – Catherine & Larry



Joyful Noise

Joyful Noise Offering for May will be donated to Meals on Wheels of the Lehigh County. They are a local non-profit organization that serves seniors or adults with disabilities who are primarily homebound and unable to cook or shop for themselves. They have on average 450 clients each weekday on 33 routes; 848 volunteers deliver over 165,000 meals each year. They also provide grocery shopping, frozen weekend meals, pet food for clients with pets, and emergency meals for use when they can't deliver due to bad weather.

Joyful Noise Offering for June will be donated to The Haafsville Sanctuary. The Sanctuary is a safe haven for homeless cats and dogs. Our animals are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, treated for fleas and parasites and tested for heartworm. They have saved over 5,000 animals and placed them loving "forever" homes. Our donation will go towards their "Raise the Ruff" fundraiser.

These funds will be to construct a new shelter building which will provide the space needed to rescue and save the lives of more dogs and cats.

Joyful Noise Offering for July will be donated to The American Red Cross and in August it will be donated to the Community Services for Children.



Consistory Notes

May 10, 2017

1) **Pastor's Report** – Larry read a written report submitted by Rev. Moore. "Anna has purchased the new phones, but they have not

been installed yet. Thank you for letting me have this time to go to Maine. In case of an emergency, call Rev. Nelson Quinones at 610-653-5858. Summer hours will be in effect from June 4 through September 10. No Sunday School in the summer. Coffee hour will be at 9:30 a.m. Worship at 10:30 a.m. as usual. Sunday School and regular hours will resume on September 17. June 4 is Pentecost. We would like to have red geraniums in the sanctuary that Sunday. If you would like to donate geraniums, bring them that Sunday, and they will be planted in the outside planters after that.

2) **Correspondence** – A letter was received from The Miracle League thanking us for our \$75 donation.

3) **Treasure's Report** -

a) **General Monthly report** - The Checking Account balance as of the end of April was \$17,164.26. General Fund balance - \$11,689.14. Benevolence balance - \$609.50. Building Fund balance - \$4,865.62. Total income for April was \$11,336.41. Total expenses for April were \$5,050.23. Our April Joyful Noise offering will go to Easter Seals.

b) **Capital Fund**- Balance \$54,758.95.

c) **Memorial Fund** – Balance \$22,685.13.

d) **Endowment Report** – \$100,267.00.

4) **New Business Report**

a) **Service with St John's Lutheran** - Fall picnic, date to follow.

b) **Visit with other churches for church development.** When time allows.

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

5) **Outreach Events** -

a) **Movies in the park!!** June 9 – Lone Lane Park – Pete's Dragon; July 7 – Breinigsville Park – Fantastic Beasts; and August 4 – Grange Park – Moana.

b) **Memorial Day service** - Marilyn and Ray are ready to go.

c) **Gift bags** – School supplies for Fogelsville School for the fall.

6) Christian Education -

a) **VBS**-We will be working with St John's Lutheran Church week of July 10, 2017.

7) Search Committee –

a) **Line up pastors/guest speakers for May/June while Pastor Moore's is on Vacation.** Sue Snyder has taken care of that.

8) Media Tech –

a) **Website & Facebook**, look for Iron pigs game day pictures!!

9) Property Issues - Collecting additional quotes

a) **Replacement roof cost for Sunday school area** – Bids were received from Kuhnsman and J. W. Contra.

b) **Church Paint outside – Bids were received** from Sobrinski Panting and Certa-Pro painters.

c) **Window replacements , North side of building (15 windows).** Kunsman and Hess submitted bids for the windows.

The bids for the roof replacement, church outside painting and window replacements were discussed and recommendations made which will be presented to the congregation at a congregational meeting?.

d) **Repair of sound system** – Dave Roth came to the meeting to discuss his meeting with **Commtech** regarding the repair of our sound system and present their written proposal. Recommendation was made to have the system repaired.

For the good and welfare of the church
- **Something to consider** – Dave Roth also presented to Consistory that we could have a problem playing music for the public regarding copyright laws. In order to make us legal, a church our size would need to spend about \$175 and that would also give us access to a computer music library. Food for thought.