

JULY

JULY 4 - 10:00 am OUTDOOR WORSHIP - COMMUNION
JULY 4 - 11:30 am NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC (PAVILION)
JULY 11 - 10:00 am WORSHIP
JULY 18 - 10:00 am WORSHIP - REV. KURT NELSON, guest Pastor
JULY 22 - 7:00 pm THE WIRED WORD STUDY GROUP
JULY 25 - 10:00 am WORSHIP

THE EAGLE



DATED MATERIAL

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

St. John's UCC
1050 Buffalo Road
Lewisburg, PA 17837
stjohnslewisburg.org



**Pastor's
COLUMN**

Imagine the scene ... Someone is cooking dinner at home. The kitchen is hot, and it is late. The person was trying to rush things in order to finish, sit down, relax, and enjoy dinner. There was just one final item to chop up, and about halfway through the chopping ... oops. Chop, chop, chop, ouch, oh my, and some other words that we won't publish in a church newsletter. The "would be chef" had been doing things too quickly and sliced up a pretty big chunk of their thumb. Imagine the wound being cleaned and bandaging applied ... imagine, too, the cook being very angry with themselves. By that point dinner was going to be very late ... and in the process of trying to rush things made things were made a whole lot more complicated and painful than they needed to be.

You might be able to relate. I know I can ... the feeling of beating ourselves up about something, and/or regretting our actions after the fact. "What was I thinking??" We all may experience regret and self-criticism of our actions from time to time. The question is, however, does any of that anger directed at ourselves really help anything? The answer of course is no. Once the deed had been done, being angry about it really does not change anything. Learning from our mistakes and making different decisions in the future is helpful, very helpful in fact, but self-loathing never accomplished anything good. This is important to remember not only when we might be rushing and cut ourselves while cooking, but for the many ways we make mistakes, some much more serious than a cooking wound.

Yes, there are lessons to be learned ... perhaps next time don't wait until so late to start the dinner ... or slow down and think about what we are doing (even when we feel rushed) ... or haste makes waste ... or maybe it's not the best plan to try to fit too many things into our already busy lives and days.

There are lessons to be learned. Thankfully, there is also forgiveness. Our faith is a faith of mercy and forgiveness. We believe that Christ offers us forgiveness for our actions against others and ourselves. Christ does not want us to go around in constant regret, constant guilt, and thinking that we are no good as people. In the Bible Jesus speaks of repentance and forgiveness. In the act of repentance we admit what we have done, take responsibility for it, and try not to repeat the action in the future. These are the steps that are truly helpful after a mistake, and these are the things that Jesus calls us to do. Feeling guilt and self-hate after an event that we cannot change is not what Jesus calls us to. As people who are forgiven in Christ we strive to learn and grow and to be the children of God we are made to be.

The other part of forgiveness (often the more challenging part) is forgiving ourselves and trusting that we are forgiven and beloved just as we are. Some of us are better at beating ourselves up than we like to admit. Perhaps the ability to laugh at oneself can help us move toward forgiving ourselves. Maybe imagining what we would tell someone else who was in our shoes might help. Maybe reminding ourselves that we are forgiven and loved by our Creator God ... in this very moment, as we are can help us move closer to forgiving ourselves.

As we move into the summer, may we take our time and not rush, trying to live the life God calls us to. And when mistakes are made along the way, may we take a deep breath before moving forward or beating ourselves up. I hope and pray that this summer provides some opportunities for each one to breathe and rest and restore. This has been a rough time in many of our lives and for us a people. My prayer is that summer will afford moments of solace, silence and refreshment. May it be well with your soul.

Peace and Blessings, Pastor Alice



JULY

Birthdays & Anniversaries

07/03 Wyatt Roberts
 07/04 Brooke Roberts
 07/06 Dorothy Bower
 07/07 Robert Brouse
 07/07 Daniel Saltsgiver
 07/08 Carol Laudermilch
 07/12 William Kugler
 07/14 Matthew Roberts
 07/17 Charles Fisher
 07/18 Brian Griffith
 07/18 Caleb Ransdorf
 07/18 Janet Zug
 07/24 Bill Ledgerwood
 07/25 Erin DeSantis
 07/27 Ann Hilliard
 07/28 William Fennell
 07/28 Alain Paradis

07/03 Linda & Wayne Williams
 07/07 Lisa & Brad Bingaman
 07/20 Rita & Brian Griffith
 07/27 Donna & Darryl Dreese
 07/30 Molly & Jeff Reitz
 07/30 Sharon & Clair Brown

Wired Word ZOOM

You're invited to a ZOOM Sunday School class on a Thursday evening in June. Linda Williams, Gary Nottis, and Pastor Alice will lead us in a discussion about one of the Wired Word topics. We will let you know ahead of time which topic we will use as our focus. So, mark your calendars for a **ZOOM gathering on Thursday, July 22nd, at 7 p.m.** The ZOOM link will be sent out a few days before the gathering. **Please call the office no later than July 21st, to be added to the ZOOM link email.** Join us for reflection on scripture in conversation with an event or idea from the current news.



MAY 2021 REPORT

Current Operating Receipts	\$	25,966.13
Current Operating Disbursements	\$ -	18,075.71
Current Operating Balance	\$	7,890.42



"WASHING THE FEET" PROJECT

Angie Donlin has created a program called "Washing the Feet". This program is designed to provide basic essential needs to patients in need, who come through the Emergency Department. We will be collecting the following items to support this endeavor.

- ◆ Travel-size body wash/bar soap
- ◆ Travel-size tooth paste
- ◆ Hair brush or comb
- ◆ Individually packaged tooth brush
- ◆ Wash cloth
- ◆ Gallon size zip lock "type" sealable plastic bag

There is a location in the Narthex for the collection of these items.

A note from the Christian Education Committee:

Coming soon...MESSY CHURCH!
Does this sound like fun?
We'll tell you more about it soon!



BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Building and Grounds is in process of evaluating/recommending projects to improve the use and 'curb appeal' of the Church. PLEASE consider making any observations YOU may have regarding issues and concerns regarding the exterior or interior of our facility.

Please contact Jim Tomlinson jimnsue@ptd.net with any comments/suggestions you have. BG will be meeting to discuss these issues.



Dear St. John's quilters,

Thank you for the touching gift you sent me in in the form of the beautiful patchwork quilt. I'm so grateful that God offers your generous hands and hearts in such a caring service. I thank you for the time and talent you so generously gave in creating such a lovely quilt. I will cherish its beauty and warmth as time goes on.

May God bless your ministry.

Sincerely,
Marvin Border

Dear St. John's Hospitality Committee,

Thank you for the scrumptious meals that were delivered to my home. I never expected to receive meals as good as the best restaurants in town, but they were on that tasteful level.

I know planning meals was especially challenging because of my dietary restrictions. In addition, the timing of your deliveries was ideal as I transitioned from hospital to home living.

I never thought that I would have to use this service of St. John's but when the need arose, I was so grateful that you were there. You provide an excellent outreach to shut ins. The caring and helpful service you provide makes me proud to be a member of St. John's.

May God continue to bless your ministry.

Sincerely,
Marvin Border

Dear Don and Consistory Members,

St. John's Quilters would like to thank the Consistory and congregation for purchasing the "Go Big Cutter" and accessories. The need for our quilts has been so great that we can no longer use our own home supplies.

Due to the generosity of those who have donated material for our ministry, we have large amounts to cut fo our quilts. This cutter will make that job easier!

With Appreciation,

Dear St. john's UCC members:

Thank you so much for your recent donation to the Devitt House. We always appreciate your kind support.

Sincerely,
Melonie Bushaw, Manager

Dear Quilters,

A few evenings ago, Alice Savage brought my husband, Charlie, one of your beautiful blankets. It was a lovely and wonderful surprise! I can't thank you enough for thinking of Charlie.

You Ladies do beautiful work and with it you spread happiness.

Charlie and I want to thank you for your thoughtfulness and kindness. He and I both love the blanket and we show it off to family and friends.

Thank you again, and God bless you all!

Kay Thomas

Dear Congregation of St. John's UCC:

On behalf of the Snyder-Union-Northumberland Habitat for Humanity Board and Development Committee, I wish to thank you for the recent donation to our organization to aid in the continued effort to provide affordable homes in our three-county area.

We cannot build homes without people like you that open up their hearts and support our cause. On behalf of our entire affiliation, I extend our gratitude.

Sincerely,

Hannah R. Patches

Administrator and Development Officer

Dear friends at St. John's,

Thank you so much for the use of your picnic pavilion. The ladies of Sigma enjoyed a wonderful time in this beautiful setting, with much nice amenities.

With best regards,

Susan Tonzetich

For Sigma Chapter, Delta kappa Gamma International.

Dear Church Partner,

Thank you for your congregation's gift to World Vision. Churches like yours enable World Vision to provide essential care, encouragement, and hope to hurting children and families.

World Vision is truly blessed to have you as a partner--and champion for kids. Thank you for your gift and your compassion for others.

In His Name,

Edgar Sandoval Sr., President

Dear Rev. Rauch,

Thank you for your congregation's gift to Phoebe! Your support is more important now than ever as we continue to serve those most vulnerable during these challenging times. Because of donors like you, we are able to provide personal protective equipment for our residents and staff, uplifting community life and pastoral care programs that promote fullness of life, innovative educational programs, pharmacy services, and charitable care for our residents in need.

Again, thank you for your commitment to Phoebe and the residents we serve.

With Gratitude,

Stacey L. Prohaska, Executive Director of Philanthropy

Dear Friends,

Thank you very much for your support of the Donald Heiter Center. Your contribution has helped to raise funds to be used for the general operation of the Center, facilitation of our many programs and to offer scholarships to local families who cannot afford to participate. We could not exist without the generous support of community members.

Warmest Regards,

Andrea Tufo, Executive Director

JULY VOLUNTEERS

Ushers:

Lock-up: **DON ADAMS**

Lay-Reader: **JOHN LETTEER**

Preparation of Communion Elements: **DIANNA SPICKLER**

JULY	Children's Church	OPENER/FLOWER DEL.
4	UNAVAILABLE	CAROL BERRY
11	UNAVAILABLE	
18	UNAVAILABLE	
25	UNAVAILABLE	

JULY	FLOWER SPONSORS	Acolyte	Drivers Route 1*
4	BETH MOSER	?	UNAVAILABLE
11	JANET & MICHAEL ROBERTS	?	UNAVAILABLE
18		?	UNAVAILABLE
25		?	UNAVAILABLE

JULY	GREETERS
4	OUTDOOR WORSHIP
11	THE DONLIN FAMILY
18	DEE & BILL LEDGERWOOD
25	MARTHA & BRUCE RAUCH



**Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Indoors or online
on Facebook or YouTube**

Visit us on the Web!
www.stjohnslewisburg.org



**St. John's United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here!

1050 Buffalo Road
Lewisburg, PA 17837
Phone: 570-523-0162
E-mail: stjohnsucc@ptd.net

MONTHLY COMMUNION MISSIONS

- JULY** - Heifer Project
 - AUGUST** - Donald Heiter Center
 - SEPTEMBER** - Ingathering for Food Pantry
 - OCTOBER** - William Cameron Engine Co.
- SPECIAL OFFERING FOR JULY** - Transitions

YARD SALE - SEPTEMBER 1ST, 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

St. John's will be having a Yard Sale on **SEPTEMBER 1**, between **8:00 AM** and **3:00 PM**.

For all of those with slightly used items for the yard sale, we will be accepting them in the Fellowship Hall starting in Aug.

We will be using the hall for the sale of clothing, shoes, books, puzzles etc. The garage/pavillion will be used to sell the bigger items, household goods, furniture, etc.

This is one of the biggest fund raisers for St john's and many helpers will be needed. I will be available from 10-12 every Monday in August to help sort and organize and we will set up the Fellowship Hall Monday Aug 30 and the garage Tues Aug 31. If you can help, please call Linda Sartwell @570-966-1101.

