

**May 2016 Newsletter**  
**CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES**



*Children's Sermon*

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**WORSHIP 10:45 AM**

**336 Barnett Avenue**  
**Waynesboro, PA 17268 – 0288**

**(717)762-4113**

**Website: [www.apostlesucc.com](http://www.apostlesucc.com)**  
**E-mail: [ApostlesUCC@gmail.com](mailto:ApostlesUCC@gmail.com)**

## From the Pastor's Study May 2016

A few weeks ago I called a friend of mine who I had not heard from in some time. She is a young pastor of a small town church. We call one **another periodically to share what's going on in our personal lives and share** any church issues we might be dealing with.

I could tell right away that my friend, my colleague, was not herself. She is usually very upbeat, bubbly, cheerful and optimistic. It was evident in her voice that something was wrong. I commented on her mood and she admitted she was not her usual self and has not been for some time. I asked her what was going on and she shared a troubling situation she was dealing with in her church.

She painfully began to describe a situation she was encountering with one of the older men in her congregation. For some time one of the older, married men of the congregation was being flirtatious with her. He would often stand uncomfortably close to her, comment on how nice she looked; tell her how good she smelled. Sometimes he would put his arm around her and give her an unwelcome hug. He would frequently come to her office when she was alone and say things that, although not explicit, **were vaguely flirtatious. His comments were always followed by "but of course I'm a happily married man."**

My friend shared her uncomfortable feelings about his man with her **husband who laughed and told her she was imagining things. "Why would that old guy be interested in you? You're old enough to be his daughter; maybe even his granddaughter!"** Because my friend received no consolation from her spouse my friend began to doubt everything she was feeling. Maybe she was over reacting. Maybe she should just ignore it. But her gut feeling kept telling her differently.

When she told me that her gut feeling told her differently my **response was "you need to follow that feeling. You feel that way for a reason. That is your body telling you to be careful, protect yourself".**

**However, honoring those feelings was more difficult with her husband's dismissal of his wife's feelings.**

My friend faced a dilemma that many people, both men and women, but more frequently women, face in the workplace; sexual harassment. Yes, it occurs even when the workplace is a church making it even more stressful and difficult. Members of a church family, and especially the minister, should feel safe and respected in a house of worship. Unfortunately, churches are comprised of people and people, even Christians, do not always behave as they should. We have heard many situations in the news of church people, and even pastors, committing sometimes horrific offenses. And every time a non-church goer hears one of these many accounts what they believe to be true about the church **is confirmed; "churches are full of hypocrites." And those who are the victims ask "If I'm not even safe in my own church, where am I safe?"**

My friend, like others who are dealing with this type of abuse, is faced with a decision that will be difficult. She must either continue to try and avoid this man who makes her uncomfortable or she must bring it to the attention of the church board and ultimately the entire congregation. By choosing the option to expose him, she will risk losing her job, and risk dividing the congregation to such a degree it could be the beginning of the churches downfall.

The man who her gut tells her to stay away from is an accomplished, respected man in the church and the community. Unless he has a previous history of this kind of behavior many people will not believe the charges against him and will support him despite the evidence. He may, however, have a history with this type of behavior that many already are away of **but don't talk about publicly. My friend could be labeled a "trouble maker", "an over reactor" labels that may follow her if she is dismissed from her position.** The victim then becomes the persecuted.

**This is an unusual topic for my monthly "Pastor's Study". But it is** important to be reminded that situations like this do occur in our churches. Churches are not without people who chose to behave inappropriately. Perhaps because so many people believe that a church is a safe environment, a perpetrator feels safe and confident that he/she will not be suspected of any wrongdoing.

The church has enough bad publicity these days without adding any more to its reputation. It is up to all of us as Christians to assure that the church remains a safe place, a sanctuary away from the evils of the outside world. It is up to us to not only monitor the behavior of one another but monitor our own behavior. Sometimes we can be blind to our own behavior and refuse to believe that is in fact we who are the **perpetuator. I ask everyone to search their hearts and ask God's** forgiveness if anything we might have said or done even hints of abuse **towards someone else. God's house should always be a place where** everyone feels safe, valued and loved. It is up to everyone to assure that it is.

In Christian Love, Pastor Michael

*"My friends, if any followers have wandered away from the truth, you should try to lead them back."-James 5:19*



## Are You a Fan of “The Wheel”?



“The Wheel” is what my great aunt used to call Wheel of Fortune. It was her favorite show and nobody better call her or stop to visit her when it came on the air. Perhaps you too would enjoy putting big black letters on a white board. If so, here is your chance to feel little bit like Vanna White. The church sign gets changed manually every week. Usually Pastor Michael chooses the message and changes the board. However, he would appreciate it if someone else would take over the responsibility to free him up to do other things. He will still choose the message each week. All you need do is stop by the office, pick up the new letters and replace the old message with a new one. See Pastor Michael if you are interested. Sorry, there will be no prizes awarded.



***Birthdays  
&  
Anniversaries  
in  
May***



9 Linda & Dan Ritchey  
13 Betty Yeakle  
17 Nancy Piper  
18 Pastor Michael  
19 Mark and Katie Lux  
27 Jean High  
28 Mark Lux  
30 Nicole Leidig  
30 Ty and Holly Berkey

**Calendar of Events**  
**May**

|    |   |          |
|----|---|----------|
| 1  | Worship                                 | 10:45 AM |
| 8  | Worship                                 | 10:45 AM |
| 9  | Social Seniors<br>at Trinity Waynesboro | 2-4 PM   |
| 9  | Buchanan Quiltmakers                    | 5:30 PM  |
| 15 | Worship                                 | 10:45 AM |
| 15 | Consistory                              | 12:15 PM |
| 17 | Silver Express Delivery                 | 1 :30 PM |
| 22 | Worship                                 | 10:45 AM |
| 29 | Worship                                 | 10:45 AM |



Weight Watchers meets every  
Tuesday at 5 PM  
and Wednesday at 9 AM

Al Anon meets every Thursday  
from 8-9 PM

# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS *in May*

## Lay Readers

The scriptures will given to you the week before you are scheduled to read.

***No assigned readers***

***for***

***May***



***The Nursery is Available if Needed.***



## Ushers & Greeters

May 1: Randy Cramer & Donna Levick

May 8: Brian & Debbie Jacobs

May 15: Nevin & Sondra Monn

May 22: Tony & Donna Haugh

May 29: Bob & Trudy Stum



## Communion Assistants

May 1: Randy Cramer, Donna Levick & Judy Fitz

## Social Seniors



The Monday May 9, 2016 meeting of Social Seniors is at Harbaugh Hall at Trinity Church in Waynesboro from 2 to 4 p.m. The program will be presented by our local police on Scams, Fraud, and Prevention of Identity Theft.

## Church Staff & Committees



**Pastor:** *Michael Cromer* Home: 717-776-7612  
Cell: 717-816-2940  
Email: [mcromerm@aol.com](mailto:mcromerm@aol.com)

**Church Office:** 762-4113 Email: [apostlesucc@gmail.com](mailto:apostlesucc@gmail.com)  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday - Friday 8:30 AM – 3 PM

**Secretary:** *Linda Ritchey* 762-1789

**Volunteer Financial Secretary:** *Judy Fitz* 762-4028

**Treasurer:** *Linda Ritchey* 762-1789

**Choir Director:**

**Organist:** *Jim Heefner* 765-9534

**Consistory President:** *Randy Cramer* 717- 387-1657

**Vice-President:** *Jean High* 762-7794

**Altar Guild:** *Danny & Laurie Deavers* 717-655-5078

**Archive:** *Linda Ritchey* 762-1789

**Christian Education:**

**Christian Outreach:**

**Lay, Life, & Work:**

**Outdoor Ministry:** *Bob Benchoff* 749-5202

**Property:** *Bruce Barr* (301) 824-2849

**Spiritual Council:** *Randy Cramer* (717)387-1657

**Spiritual Council Vice-Chair:** *Dave Patterson* 762-1452

**Stewardship & Finance:** *Donna Haugh & Jean High*



## Adopt a Planter or a Tree

Please consider adopting a tree or planter during the summer months. By adopting a planter you will commit to watering the flowers in the planters throughout the summer months as needed. By adopting a tree on the church grounds you will be weeding around the tree and mulching it. A mulch pile is available on the parking lot across from the Biblical Garden to use, and a wheelbarrow for use is located along the right side of the storage shed. In past years the same people have performed these summer tasks and they will continue to do so. However, please help take some of the burden of this maintenance off of the shoulders of others. A signup sheet map of the church property and the location of the trees and planters is in the narthex.



## Plant Swap Anyone?



A few years ago the church held a plant swap in May. People were invited to bring plants from their garden to share with others who will do the same. If you are interested in a plant swap this year please contact Pastor Michael.

## Jewish Food Festival Attended

On April 17 three of the youth from our youth group along with Donna Levick and Pastor Michael attended the Jewish food festival at Congregation B'nai Abraham synagogue in Hagerstown. The food was delicious and everyone ate foods they had never eaten before. Afterwards the group visited the sanctuary where the rabbi answered questions about the synagogue and Judaism.



## Pastor's Vacation



Pastor Michael will be on vacation from May 16-24. If, however, there is an emergency you may call him since he will not be venturing far from home. Donna Hale, a community chaplain and member of First Church Carlisle will be the guest speaker. Please make her feel welcome.

# CPR Training Completed

Eight people from the church took CPR training last month, two of them members of our youth group. Our instructor, Patsy Burns, was an excellent teacher and made the class an enjoyable experience. Everyone will receive a certificate certifying they are qualified to administer CPR.



# OUTDOOR MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



This spring we have some exciting new projects:

Creating the Peace Pole Garden

Creating the new flower beds on both sides of the north entrance sidewalk canopy

Adding new plantings along the north side of the building

Power washing the sidewalks

Install four lawn banner posts along Barnett Avenue

In addition, we have the regular spring mulching, the outdoor planters, the biblical plants garden, and the bed under the Amsterdam sign to spruce up and plant !

Volunteers will be needed to help with watering during the dry spells. Please contact Bruce Barr or Bob Benchoff if you will be able to help with the outdoor ministry.

## COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS



This is the 7<sup>th</sup> year for our Community Garden, which is located behind the fellowship hall !

A big thank you to Franklin County Master Gardener Trey Gelbach, who is our volunteer Community Garden Coordinator this year. Trey can be reached at 717-816-8792.

Presently all of our plots are taken. If you are interested in a plot we will be glad to put you on the waiting list !

When available the free plots are acquired by signing the Community Garden Contract which lists the terms, rules & conditions for participation.

# 31 NEW FACES AT APOSTLES SINCE 2010 !



Thirty-one new faces in the last six years shows a steady growth in the number of people who have become a part of the ministry & mission of our congregation !!!

Our Church Growth committee takes this opportunity to recognize them and to say thank you for sharing their time, talent & treasure :

Laurie Deavers Danny Deavers Janet Bonner Dennis Bonner  
Selina Lowrey Andrew Lowery Julia Taylor Randy Cramer  
Arianna Taylor Phoenix Pryor Alijah Pryor Esther Pryor  
Dylan Cramer Troy Bryan Austin Bryan Cameron Bryan  
Brady Bryan Donna Levick Darlene Sease Larry Little  
Joanne Keech Trey Gelbach Sondra Monn Nevin Monn  
Tracy Westfall Wally Fisher Jerri Jones

PLUS a core Youth Group of 4 regulars and others who participate from time to time !

We look forward to welcoming more new faces as they discover and share in ministry here at the Church of the Apostles !

Please remember to place ideas for church growth into the church growth suggestion box in the narthex.

## “Silver Express” Food Bank

Thank you for your help to fill their  
bowls!



Donations for this month  
will be delivered **May 17.**



All canned/boxed food on the shelves will be delivered  
each month to ensure freshness.

# Habitat For Humanity of Franklin County

Friends / Volunteers:

Habitat has had a groundswell of interest in volunteerism this year. Thank you! We have recently added multiple people to our email distribution list. For this reason I will share what volunteering with us in 2016 will look like.

Together we finished home #36 for the Arevalo family in February. Thanks to you, house number #37 located at 25 N Broad St in Waynesboro now has 4 framed walls (see attached photo). Trusses are planned to be set next week. This project is a Thrivent Builds house and is marching along in progress very nicely. Thrivent Financial has donated \$67,500 to Habitat for this project. Please visit them at [www.thriventbuilds.com](http://www.thriventbuilds.com). Within the next two weeks we will excavate and pour footers at 850 Limestone Drive in Chambersburg. This will be the Plummer home and is our first home to be funded by our Habitat ReStore. Thank you everyone for making the store such a success. Visit [www.yourlocalrestore.com](http://www.yourlocalrestore.com) if this is new to you.

Our build days are announced by volunteer coordinator Bruce Burr (his email address is [doxdad@gmail.com](mailto:doxdad@gmail.com)) and our projects are led by construction manager Steve Myers. We usually begin work around 8:00 am and take a break mid-morning for updates and prayer. At each project we provide a port-o-pot, necessary construction tools, and instruction. If you have a favorite hammer or nail pouch feel free to bring them along. Close toed shoes only please.

A special welcome to our new volunteers and thank you to our faithful crew. 2016 is off to a great start. Let's build!

Mark D. Story  
Executive Director





## Solution from April's: 16 hidden Bible book names

*The letters in bold reveal the solution to the April Newsletter paragraph with 16 Bible book names hidden in it.*

I once made a **remark** about the hidden books of the Bible (merely by a **fluke**). It kept people **looking** so hard for the **facts** and for others it was a **revelation**. **Some** were in a **jam**, **especially** since the name of the books were not capitalized, but the **truth** finally struck home to **numbers** of readers. To others it was a real **job**. We want it to be **a most** fascinating few moments for you. **Yes, there** will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require **judges** to help them. I will quickly admit **it usually** takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud **lamentations** when it is found. A little lady says **she brews** a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can **compete**. Relax now. There really are sixteen names of books in this story.

## NEW WORD FIND:

### Find the Hidden Books

*Can you find thirty (30) books of the Bible in this paragraph? Actually, there are 31 if you can find the variant of one Old Testament prophet's name, a variant that's used in the text of the King James Version (not as the title of a book, but in the text itself).*

There are 30 books of the Bible in this paragraph. Can you find them? This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much, he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or a scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a new record. The local paper, The Chronicle, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, "The books are all right here in plain view hidden from sight." Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus; there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found. God Bless.



**THE BOOKS  
OF THE BIBLE**

# UCC Disaster Ministries supports West Virginia "Bridge Project"

*April 13, 2016, Written by Carol Fouke-Mpoyo*



UCC Disaster Ministries is contributing \$5,000 to an innovative, increasingly ecumenical "Bridge Project" in southwestern West Virginia that is restoring access and safety to residents whose small "private access" bridges were washed out by severe flooding last spring.

The floods damaged or destroyed 1,000 homes, also washing out 300 "private access" bridges, forcing people to take inconvenient detours at best, or to risk dangerous crossings at worst.

"Occasional bridge losses were common in West Virginia, but facing 300 lost was an especially difficult prospect," said Jim Ditzler, UCC Ohio Conference Disaster Ministries Coordinator. The conference includes West Virginia.

Residents of the region's hills and valleys rely on hundreds of small private bridges to safely cross the many creeks that thread through their communities, The bridges are their lifeline to work, school, the doctor's office, the grocery store and emergency services.

"The bridge loss had a major impact on home safety issues where residents were prevented from access to health and fire protection services," Ditzler said. One woman drowned last July when she was swept from a car that stalled as the driver tried to cross a creek.



Other contributors to the Bridge Project include State Farm, Adventist Community Service, the Presbytery of West Virginia and Brethren Disaster Ministries.

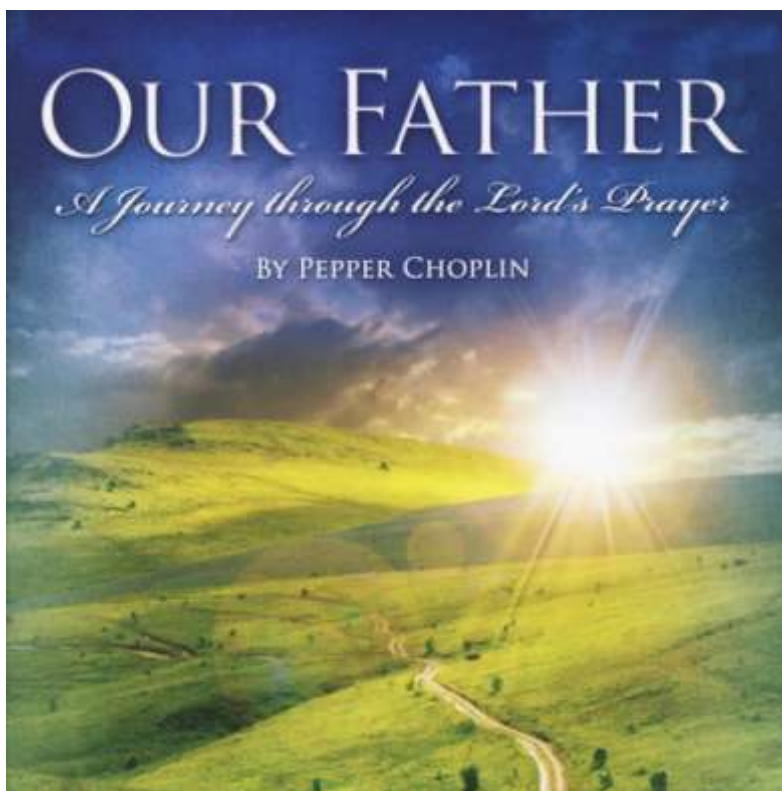
UCC Disaster Ministries' contribution matches a \$5,000 contribution from the Ohio Conference, which is aiming to raise \$16,000, the estimated cost per bridge. "If we can achieve that," Ditzler said, "we will have an 'Ohio' bridge since the source of funds used can be identified in naming the bridge."

UCC Disaster Ministries Executive Zach Wolgemuth said, "This project demonstrates the effectiveness of committed collaboration and out-of-the-box thinking. Jim and I worked closely to bring this issue to the National VOAD members last spring in order to cast a broader net of support and the result has been engagement at multiple levels from numerous organizations supporting in any way they can. This is a very worthwhile project that is making a lasting impact on people's lives."

Individuals interested in supporting the WV VOAD Bridge Project may do so through the UCC's Emergency USA Fund.



Trinity UCC in Waynesboro  
June 5, 2016 at 2pm



**A choral interpretation of "The Lord's Prayer"  
Accompanied by orchestra, featuring 50+ singers  
From local churches**

Trinity UCC  
30 W. North Street  
Waynesboro, PA 17268  
**All Are Welcome**  
**Free Will Offering**



### **Hoffman Homes for Youth**

A Psychiatric Residential Treatment Program for Children  
815 Orphanage Road, Littlestown, PA 17340  
717-359-7148 • Fax 717-359-2600  
www.hoffmanhomes.com

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C. Mitchell Snider, MBA, Chief Executive Officer

April 22, 2016

The Church of the Apostles  
United Church of Christ  
Attn: Pastor Michael Cromer  
336 Barnett Ave  
Waynesboro, PA 17268

Dear Pastor Michael Cromer,

**"There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children.  
One of these is roots, the other, wings."**

JOHANN WOLFGANG VON GOETHE

For more than a century, Hoffman Homes for Youth has offered shelter, caring and comfort—roots—to those most vulnerable of children. For the past 25 years, we have provided life-changing treatment and healing for thousands of children and youth who are struggling with mental illness and severe behavioral challenges.

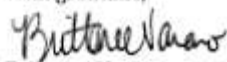
We are proud of our legacy of caring—and equally as happy to embrace our future. Our newly opened on-site, private academic school was founded to ensure that our children receive a high-quality education during their stay with us. Hoffman Academy provides a differentiated and progressive curriculum focused on our students' health and positive growth. Recently, due to the generous support of donors and through a supplemental grant and Title 1 funding, we were able to provide our school students with individual iPads to support advanced learning. The integration of this technology into our curriculum allows faculty to engage students in a way that is relevant—keeping their interest and making them *want* to learn, even as they receive leading-edge, developmentally appropriate instruction. Coupled with our comprehensive creative therapies, which promote constructive self-expression, our program promotes the healing, personal growth and achievement of each and every child we serve, to give them the wings needed for a better life and a promising future.

#### **A brighter future, thanks to you**

Please know that your support is helping to make a tremendous difference in the lives of our children and our community. Your contribution to Hoffman Homes is an investment in our children's future, and we couldn't be more grateful. On behalf of the children we serve, THANK YOU for your gift of \$135.00 (check no. 6150 dated 03/23/16) to support our mission.

Thanks to you, we have a long, deeply rooted history of caring—and, with your continued support, we'll have the brightest of futures, dedicated to the health and well-being of our children.

With gratitude,

  
Brittnee Varano  
Director of Special Events  
& Community Development

*Thank you for your continued  
support and faith  
in our mission!*

**THE CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES  
336 BARNETT AVENUE  
WAYNESBORO, PA 17268-0288**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

*Please forward an address change to the Church office.*



**May 2016**

***MISSION STATEMENT***

*We are called together to worship God, united by the Holy Spirit, and chosen as instruments of our Lord's purpose to teach, support and serve all people. We witness to the church, the community and the world by showing joy in the faith and using our talents to praise God.*