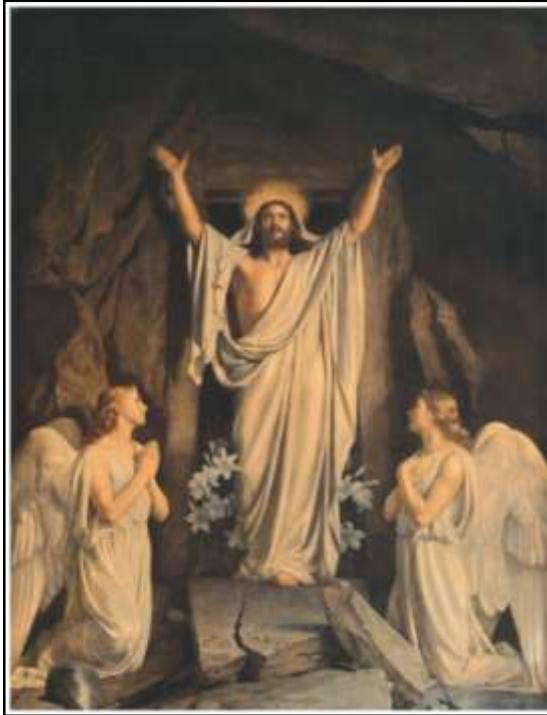


April 2017 Newsletter



CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WORSHIP 10:45 AM

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

(717)762-4113

***Website: www.apostlesucc.com
E-mail: ApostlesUCC@gmail.com***

From the Pastor's Study

In a few weeks we will celebrate Jesus' victory over death on a Sunday we call Easter. Although a religious holiday, for many Easter will have little to do with Jesus and more to do with Easter bunnies, egg hunts, baskets of candy, dinners with family and friends and the celebration of spring. Like Christmas, Easter has become more of a secular holiday for many rather than a day that commemorates an important event in the history of humankind; the resurrection of Jesus. Even many of those who identify themselves as Christians will spend more time on the secular aspects of Easter than the religious meaning of the day.

It is easy to be caught up in the commercialism and the secular activities of the religious holidays. There is nothing wrong with that except when we forget the true meaning behind those special days. Christmas and Easter are about Jesus and what God has done for us through his birth, his life, his death and his resurrection. When we forget those important things it is like having a birthday party with a cake, candles, balloons, gifts and songs but the party is for no one. The celebration is only for our own personal enjoyment. The recognition of **the significance of someone's life has been left out.**

All of us as Christians have the responsibility to tell the story of **Easter to those who may have never heard the miraculous story of Jesus'** resurrection. It is easy for those of us who grew up in the church to forget that there are now generations of people who did not. There are many young people and adults who have never had any kind of Christian education. Their only knowledge of the bible, of God, of Jesus may have only come from something they saw on television, a book they were given, or what they have been told by a friend or relative. No religious education being taught in public schools today.

You might be saying, "Well I'm not a Sunday school teacher, a pastor or any kind of teacher for that matter. And I'm not about to go around preaching to people like those self-righteous religious people." I understand how you might feel that way. But all of us are Christian educators in our own unique way. How others see us live our lives is a lesson in Christianity itself. How we speak, what we say, what we say we believe, teaches people what it means to be a Christian. What matters to us, what we are passionate about tells people what authentic Christianity is all about. Are we generally loving, kind, thoughtful, generous, forgiving, accepting of others different than we are, respectful, joyful, grateful, available, welcoming, compassionate, mindful, prayerful, devoted and committed to some degree; or at least working towards being those things. **Are we as Christians "one in the Spirit" as in the words of a popular** Christian hymn? Or, are we the opposite of all these things? Do we just go through the motions and pretend we are more Christian than we really are?

One of the ways I tell the good news of Jesus' is through the sending greeting cards at Christmas and even Easter. Although Easter cards are not sent as much as Christmas cards they are available. The hard part is finding an Easter card that even mentions what Easter is all about. It has become the same with Christmas cards that often express a secular greeting instead of something about the birth of Jesus, the real reason for the season.

Over the past few years I have included in my Easter cards one of the palm crosses we give out on Palm Sunday. It is interesting to see those crosses in the homes I visit throughout the year. They are often tucked into the corner of a mirror or a picture. It is obvious that that those little palm crosses have some significance to the people who received them, even those who may never attend church. They are a daily reminder to those who display them in their home of the significance of the cross and what Jesus means to this world.

I encourage you to send at least one Easter card to someone that **might be in need of some good news. Good news doesn't do anything for anyone unless they hear it. Be a voice this year that exclaims "He is risen!"** Invite someone to church on Easter Sunday. Offer to bring someone to church that no longer drives. Make someone you know who could use some good news your project this Easter and share with them the hope that Easter means for all who simply believe.

Easter Blessings,
Pastor Michael

"And how can the message be proclaimed if the messengers are not sent out? As the scripture says, "How wonderful is the coming of the messenger who brings good news!"-Romans 10:15 (Good News Translation)



A Quote about Church

“If you’re helping to row the boat, you don’t have time to rock it.”



Religious Art in the Narthex

Have you taken time to look at the two prints on display in the narthex? The religious artwork currently featured is by Salvador Dali; his work called **St. John of the Cross** and **The Sacrament of the Last Supper** are Dali's interpretations of the crucifixion and the Last Supper. Read the interesting story behind the creation of these two paintings.



***Birthdays
&
Anniversaries
in
April***



- 1 Jeff Dingle
- 1 Gloria Miller
- 4 Nancy Dinterman
- 9 Dallas Pagach
- 22 Nicole and Steve Leidig
- 24 Wally Fisher
- 25 Martha Smith

**Calendar of Events
April**

- 2 Worship 10:45 AM
- 9 Worship 10:45 AM
Special Music by Simple Gifts
- 9 Simple Gifts Concert 12-1 PM
- 9 Christian/Jewish Seder 3 PM
- 10 Buchanan Trail Quilters 5:30 PM
- 13 Maunday Thursday Service 6 PM
- 13 Good Friday Service 6 PM
- 16 Easter Service 10 AM
- 18 Silver Express Delivery 1:30 PM
- 23 Worship 10:45 AM
- 30 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 April



Ushers & Greeters

- April 2: Tony & Donna Haugh
April 9: Bob Benchoff & Randy Cramer
April 16: Jean High & Judy Fitz
April 23: Bob Stum & Ernie Fitz
April 30: Brian & Debbie Jacobs



Communion Assistants

- April 2: Tony & Donna Haugh
May 7: Tony & Donna Haugh

CONSISTORY MEMBERS



- Julia Cramer
Jean High
Mary Lou Misner
Martha Smith



- Donna Levick
Sondra Monn
Nevin Monn
Brian Jacobs



Social Seniors

Social Seniors will be held on Monday April 17,
2 - 4 PM at Trinity Waynesboro.

Change in Simple Gifts Concert

The acclaimed musical duo Simple Gifts will perform at our April 9 worship service. They had been scheduled to be with us on April 2 but due to a family crisis with one of the musicians their schedule had to be changed. They will continue to play after the service in a mini concert until 1:00. Simple Gifts are with us through a grant the church received.



“Silver Express” Food Bank

Thank you for your help to fill their
bowls!



Donations for this month
will be delivered **April 18.**



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

Tuesday Morning Movies at the Church

The movie admittance fee is free and so is the popcorn. As of this writing we have watched three movies on the new big screen television in the social hall. The response has been favorable with around twelve people attending each week. Movies will continue to be shown on Tuesday mornings. The start time varies from 10:00-11:00 depending on the length of the movie that day.



Spring Clean Up at the Church

A church is no different than our houses; they need a spring cleanup to maintain the beauty of the building and its grounds. Volunteers are needed for the following tasks. Please contact Pastor Michael or Bob Benchoff if there is a particular task you are willing to do. Remember the church belongs to all of us and we should all take pride in keeping it looking good. You may perform these tasks at a time and date that suites your schedule.

Outside Tasks

- Clean out storage shed.
- Re-attach soffit vent panels
- Trim and replace shrubbery around building.
- Weed and mulch beds
- Plant flowers in beds and planters (May)

Indoor Tasks

- Wash Sunday school windows and blinds
- Clean hall closets and high air vents
- Clean out ceiling light panels
- Sand and finish sanctuary window sills
- Sand and finish ends of pews near stained glass windows





Christian/Jewish Seder

The church will hold its 6th annual Christian/Jewish Seder on Palm Sunday, April 9 at 3:00 followed by a potluck. Some of you have participated in this Passover meal most every year because you have found it to be a meaningful, spiritual experience. It has deepened your appreciation of your Jewish heritage and you have found that it is a wonderful way to begin Holy Week. As Christians we observe this meal because it reminds us that God did not first reveal himself to us but to the Jewish people. We are also reminded that Jesus was a Jew.

The Seder is a sacred time of food and fellowship that tells the Exodus story of the Jewish people. It is a time for adults to educate their children about their spiritual heritage and a time for adults to remember the history of their faith. The Seder follows a certain order using various symbolic foods and drink to tell the story of the Jewish people's flight from Egypt. Although this may sound like a boring, tedious, solemn event it is actually joyful and fun. It is a family event in which children play an important part in the Seder. Each person receives a booklet instructing them what to say during the Seder. After the symbolic meal we will share the food we have brought during a traditional church potluck. There are sign-up sheets at the church or let Pastor Michael know if you are coming so we can set a place for you at the Seder table.

Easter Hats

Ladies, let's renew an old tradition of wearing a very special hat to the Easter morning church service. Many of you have hats you haven't worn for years because they have gone out of fashion. Perhaps you own one of your mothers or grandmother's hats. Perhaps buy a new hat and dress it up for Easter Sunday.

Please note: don't wear a hat that is so big it blocks the view of the people in the pew behind you.



Holy Week Services

Holy Week is the week leading up to Easter Sunday. It is the last week of the season of Lent. There are two special services during Holy Week' Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

Maundy Thursday Service-April 13, 6:00 PM

The name Maundy Thursday comes from the Latin words *mandatum novum*. It refers to the new commandment Jesus gave his disciples to love one another. Therefore, Maundy Thursday could be called, "*new commandment*" Thursday. This year those who attend the service will sit at a long table as the disciples and Jesus did on the night before his crucifixion. Participants will be served wine/grape juice and bread as the disciples were. This will be the manner in which we serve communion for the service.

Good Friday Service-April 14, 6:00 PM

On Good Friday the church marks the death of Jesus by crucifixion. It is called "*good*" because of what Jesus's death means for the salvation of the world. This somber service includes a dramatic reading of the gospel account of Jesus' Passion (*his suffering after the Last Supper prior to his crucifixion including his trial and crucifixion.*) Although a dark and somber service we are not to be sad. Instead we should express our wonder and gratitude as we rejoice over Gods desire to redeem us, his children, and offer our gratitude for Jesus, God's greatest gift to his people.

Easter Sunday April 16, 10:00 AM

On Easter Sunday we celebrate Jesus rising from the dead. Our Easter service will be a joyful celebration of new life through Christ. Our children will play a special part in the service by singing a song they have been practicing for Easter. They will also show us the beauty of the resurrection by decorating a bare wooden cross with flowers. Please note that the service begins at **10:00** so that everyone has time to return home to be with their friends and family for their Easter dinner.



Mercersburg Association Invitation and Needs

The Mercersburg Association will hold its Spring meeting at First United Church of Christ, Carlisle on May 7 at 3 PM. Members of all church congregations are invited and encouraged to attend.

A layperson is needed for a 2 year term for the Committee on Ministry. The committee works with churches in transition and their pastors, and oversees Members of Discernment and Boundary Training. The committee meets the first Monday of each month at Grace UCC in Shippensburg.

The Miracles of Nature

The following quotes about nature come from a publication about gardening called The Potomac Almanac-Garden Tips from Piney Thicket by Florence Cleveland dated 1969.

Each spring when the weather gets warm I am more and more inclined to go on my knees in the garden. The cool, refreshing fragrance of newly turned soil promises new life and hope.

A small package is opened. Out roll the crisp, hard seeds holding life giving mysteries therein. Marvel that in that seed lays all the potentialities of life itself! The seed asks for little other than what God has provided. From nature: sun, water, and suitable soil. From us: a little time and care. Then the harvest comes, a miracle to re-affirm our faith in God. What joy to care for this miracle! Watching the miracle of creation, the drive of instinct, could one fail to believe in a Higher Power? Digging in the soil, coming close to nature restores the belief in the miracle, the awareness of the Power of the Higher Being. Nature always has something to tell us.





One Penny.
A world of change.

March 20, 2017

M. Cromer
Church Of the Apostles
336 Barnett Avenue
Waynesboro, PA 17268-1810

Dear M. Cromer,

Thank you for your continued generosity to Pennies for Peace. We are grateful for your kindness and support of our mission to empower communities of Central Asia through literacy and education, especially for girls, promote peace through education, and convey the importance of these activities globally.

100% of your donation goes directly to building new schools, repairs and improves existing schools and purchase equipment- such as uniforms, furniture, and school supplies- for students and teachers in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Tajikistan. Before your help, children in these areas rarely had a chance to go to school—now they have hope for a better future!

You have joined all 50 states and 31 different countries who have participated in Pennies for Peace! We have had over 7,000 Pennies for Peace programs with over 7 million raised. Those donations have supported over 100,000 students in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Tajikistan.

Please visit Pennies for Peace at www.penniesforpeace.org to learn more about what's happening with the organization both overseas and stateside.

Thank you for helping build brides of peace, one penny at a time!

Best Wishes,

Alanna Brown
Pennies for Peace Program Manager

Acknowledgement of Charitable Contribution

Contributor: M. Cromer
Church Of the Apostles
336 Barnett Avenue
Waynesboro, PA 17268-1810

Gift Amount: \$72.00
Date Received: 3/20/2017
Gift Restriction: Pennies for Peace

Thank you!



Thank You

From
Al-Anon

Dear Pastor Michael & Friends at the
Church of the Apostles,

We want to make a small
donation in appreciation for the
use of your hall to meet in for our
Al-Anon group. We are so happy
and do appreciate your hospitality.

We are grateful to God for
leading more individuals to our
group in the past couple months
and will continue to work on
making literature available to
attract more persons who have
family or friends struggling with
addiction.

Thanks again for your support
and encouragement & especially
your hospitality!

Sincerely, Paulette Nidd
240-446-2080



HARTMAN CENTER

10th Annual

GOLF OUTING



SATURDAY, MAY 13 • 2017 • 1:30 PM

FAIRVIEW GOLF COURSE - QUENTIN, PA
(LEBANON COUNTY)

www.fairview.distinctgolf.com (choose "contact" for directions)

- Benefits Hartman Center Church Camp and Retreat Ministries and Camper Scholarships
- \$80 per golfer Includes: Greens Fees, Cart, Golf, Gifts and Dinner.
- Portion of fee is donation to Hartman Center outdoor ministries for youth of all ages.
- Hartman Center is a ministry of the Penn Central Conference of the United Church of Christ.
- Dinner Includes: Petite Delmonico Steak & BBQ Chicken Breast, Baked Potato, Salads, Rolls, Cake, Drinks.
(all catered by Quentin Tavern) - Dinner Only Option \$25.00
- **FORMAT:** 1:30 p.m. Shotgun Start, Scramble Format, Hole Contests, and Prizes. Hole Sponsorships Available for Your Business, Church, Group or Foursome!
- For more info, contact Dave Bushnell 717-371-2593 or abushnell@aol.com

\$10,000
Hole-in-One
Contest Prize

Sponsored by
Hamilton Motorsports
Used Truck Sales
of Manheim, PA

REGISTRATION: Online credit card registration available at: www.hartmancenter.com or www.pccucc.org or mail: Hartman Center Golf Outing, Penn Central Conference UCC, 900 S. Arlington Ave., Rm. 227A, Harrisburg, PA 17109-5060
To mail, include name(s), address, phone, email, with payment.

Prepayments to PENN CENTRAL CONFERENCE "Golf Outing" Deadline on/before April 26, 2017

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Please forward an address change to the Church office.



April 2017

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.