

July 2017 Newsletter



Vacation Time

CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WORSHIP 10 AM

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

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Website: www.apostlesucc.com

From the Pastor's Study

After taking an early retirement from the federal government and before I attended seminary I was working several part time jobs. One of those jobs was helping people plant flower beds and container gardens. I helped them select plants, amend their soil, and offered them ideas on how to create the kind of garden they wanted. I would also assist them with watering and weeding throughout the summer. I soon became known as "The Garden Coach" and had more than enough work for one person. There were many people who wanted a beautiful garden but didn't want to invest the time it takes to plant it and maintain it. I enjoyed my work because I have always enjoyed the reward of seeing a barren, empty piece of ground become a beautiful garden full of flowers, greenery and new life.

During that time there was a small mid-week farmer's market held under the roof of a parking garage in the center of a nearby town. Between the cement and asphalt of downtown was a long narrow strip of barren ground that ran along a sidewalk and the wall of the garage. As a volunteer working to promote the farmers market I suggested that a community garden of flowers and vegetables might be planted in that narrow strip of soil. The idea was accepted and many hands came together to plant and maintain the garden.

The results of the project were extraordinary. A variety of flowers bloomed, tall sunflowers lined the brick wall of the garage, vines grew up trellises, vegetable plants produced in abundance, bees and other insects arrived on the scene to do their thing. This barren piece of earth became alive with beauty and new life. People took pictures of the garden. An artist set up her easel in the parking lot; the garden the subject of her painting. Out of town visitors staying in the hotel next door marveled at its beauty and said that they hoped the garden would continue for years to come.

But the garden didn't continue past its first year. Town officials hearing of all the activity around the farmers market and the garden decided they needed to investigate. After their investigative visit to the market they were concerned that some of the plants were growing over the sidewalk and obstructing peoples' path. They decided that since the market had become so popular it should have its own building instead of a parking garage. And so the farmers market moved into a building farther downtown. No further efforts

were suggested or made to keep the garden. The town sent a work crew with a truck to dig it up and haul the plants away. The space that was once teeming with beauty and life attracting compliments and inspiring people was covered over with white gravel.

That same summer I was hired to help a woman create a garden space along her house in town. Although she had a long narrow back yard, she wanted to plant something in the space along the side of her house that was paved with cement and bordered by a paved alley. We planted containers of flowers and placed them down the side of her house. An old dresser was set along the house and flowers were planted in its open drawers. A long, strip of cement became a beautiful garden like the one that once surrounded the parking garage.

This garden, like the market garden, became another source of joy and inspiration for people in the neighborhood. One neighbor commented that she loved to walk over to the garden because it reminded her of the gardens she remembered seeing in Cape Cod. The popularity of this garden led to other requests for my assistance in creating something similar at other people's houses. Sadly, once I stopped offering my gardening services that garden also was abandoned. The owner no longer wished to put the effort into creating and maintaining it each year. That space is again a strip of cement along a house that borders an alley.

Seven years ago the lawn behind the church was only planted in grass. It was suggested that the space become a community garden. That idea, that seed, was planted and today there are fifteen garden plots teeming with herbs, vegetables, and flowers. Gardeners from the community plant and maintain their individual garden plots. Like all gardens, some years they are lush and beautiful while other years they are dry, weedy and not so attractive. Their success is determined by a number of things; the weather, and the effort each gardener puts towards their garden plot. No garden grows without assistance from the one who planted it. We can plant seeds and seedlings but without our care many of them will never reach their potential. Anything that is planted, whether it is a plant or an idea, must be nurtured in order for it to grow and prosper and produce a harvest.

The lessons one learns from gardening are many. But the most important lesson I have learned is that if we, with God's help, don't care for, support and nurture the things that are important to us we will never see the growth and the harvest that is possible. Everything, whether it be a seed, a seedling, a child, a family, a relationship, a community, a church must be cared for and nurtured if it is to survive and achieve its full potential. If we ignore the responsibility of caring and supporting the things that are important to us they will eventually die and like an abandoned garden will become barren, lifeless and produce nothing.

In Christian Love,
Pastor Michael

"What matters isn't those who planted or watered,
but God who made the plants grown.
The one who plants is just as important as the one who waters.
And each one will be paid for what they do.
...you are God's garden and God's building."
-1 Corinthians 3: 7-9



Pastor's Vacation

Pastor Michael will be on vacation from July 16 - July 24. Rev. Donna Hale will supply for him on one of the Sundays he is away.



Simple Gifts Music Workshop at Hoffman Homes

The church received the following note from Linda Littleton of the group Simple Gifts who provided a music workshop for the children of Hoffman Homes last month. The workshop was paid for in part by a grant the church received through the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts.

"We were touched by the kids and it was special for us to play for them. Hope to do it again."

And from Heather Rohrbaugh, Administrative Ass. to the Development Dept. at Hoffman Homes came this note.



"Thank you for the gift of music. Simple Gifts gave a wonderful presentation at Hoffman Homes. The children enjoyed hearing the different instruments and styles of music, and several of them learned how to play the spoons and the limberjacks."

Birthdays & Anniversaries in July



7/2 Debbie Jacobs
7/4 Keira Lux
7/10 Heather and Shawn Shatzer
7/16 Connor Jacobs
7/24 Shelley Benchoff
7/27 Cherry Snyder
7/30 Maggie Shatzer
7/30 Katie Lux

Calendar of Events July

| | | |
|----|---|---------|
| 2 | Worship | 10 AM |
| 9 | Worship | 10 AM |
| 14 | Outdoor Movie | 8:30 PM |
| 16 | Worship | 10 AM |
| 18 | Silver Express Delivery | 1:30 PM |
| 23 | Worship | 10 AM |
| 30 | Worship | 10 AM |
| 30 | Waynesboro Historical Society: Harbaugh Church Window Dedication | |



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 July



Ushers & Greeters

- July 2: Jean High & Judy Fitz
July 9: Nevin & Sondra Monn
July 16: Tony & Donna Haugh
July 23: Bob Benchoff & Bob Stum
July 30: Brian & Debbie Jacobs

Outdoor
Worship
Service



Outdoor Worship Service

Our second outdoor worship service will be on July 9 at 10:00 at the outdoor worship area on the church grounds. You may sit under the trees or in the sunlight. You are welcome to bring your own folding chair although chairs will be provided. Dress comfortably and casually.

Harbaugh Window Dedication

There will be a special dedication service at Harbaugh Church on Sunday, July 30 at 2:00 to acknowledge the recent preservation work on the churches stained glass windows.

Pastor Michael will conduct the brief service that will be followed by a reception at Church of the Apostles.



CONSISTORY MEMBERS



Julia Cramer

Jean High

Mary Lou Misner

Martha Smith



Donna Levick

Sondra Monn

Nevin Monn

Brian Jacobs



Compliment from a Neighbor

As I was getting into my car last week to go home one of the neighbors who has lived near the church for many years approached me and asked, *“Who is responsible for the church grounds? I have never seen them look more beautiful.”*



Outdoor Movie at Apostles

Trinity UCC, Waynesboro, Trinity, State Line, and Church of the Apostles will come together as one church family on Friday July 14 for an outdoor picnic potluck followed by the showing of Disney's most recent version of Beauty and the Beast. The film will be shown outside on a large screen. We will gather at 6:00 and plan to eat at 6:30. The movie will begin around 9:00 or whatever time it is dark enough to show it. If you would like to attend but do not drive at night, provisions are being made to pick people up and take them home after the event. You are asked to bring something to share for the potluck as well as your own dinnerware and eating utensils, a lawn chair or blanket to sit on for the film. Please sign the sign-up sheet in the narthex so we have an idea of how many burgers and hotdogs will be needed.



"Silver Express" Food Bank

Thank you for your help to fill their
bowls!



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



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

May 31, 2017

Dear Sponsors at Church of the Apostles,

A pleasant day to all of you! How are you doing? Are my friends ^{and} great there? I am hoping that all of you are in good condition and safe in all your doings. He and my family are doing good.

About my studies, I got a general average of 82 percent in my report card. I will do my best to get higher grades in the next grade level. Our classes ended last March and this coming June 5 I will be in Grade 6 already. I'm a bit excited to see my new classmates, teachers, friends and new lessons that our teachers will teach us.

Our summer vacation here is almost over. Though, I spent ~~most~~ my vacation together with my kalasman co-sholars. Last April 17-22, 2017 we had our vacation Church School (VCS) classes. Our theme during the one week activity is "Living in a Child Friendly World". Our teachers taught us more on God's words, bible verses and its context and especially with our theme. As with my family, we went to Makitapay, Zamboanga City (one of the Municipality in the province of Negros Oriental) Philippines. We had picnic in one of the beaches there. We had so much fun swimming, playing and eating. How about there? When is your summer vacation?

Please send my regards to all the members of the church. Thank you so much for the continued support in my studies. God bless all of you.

Love,
Nelwin D. Adling

A
Letter
From
our
Sponsor
Child,
Nelwin
Adling



**Nelwin
Adling,

May
2017**

Thank you so very much, Cassandra Lewis
Pat & Ter

Daddy's Sweeties

Thanks, Bobbie Swape #312

JOHAN HOFFMAN

Jeb's Eater

Pat Bealinger, thanks so much.

Dodie S. Monna Boyce

Rose Miller

Matha Sanders

Fern Pryor

Linda Crawford

Sandra Waggoner

Rod Baker Gilda Barrin tos

Not for you me too ~~stay~~
Chris

Thank You

from

Trinity House

[Signature]

Jean 315
Brenda Lynn 509

Bonnie Worthman
303

Your kindness

is greatly appreciated

Carolyn Smith Barb Criley

Carolyn Caulfield Megan O'Leary

Donna Femi Dale Hall

Natalie McLucas Betty Freeman

Brenda Sheffler

Jean Wagoner

Sandra Waggoner

Donna Vaughn

Brian Welsh Rose Miller

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Please forward an address change to the Church office.



July 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.