

March 2017 Newsletter



By Alijah Pryor

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 March 2017

I recently remodeled my kitchen for the first time since 1976 the year I bought my house at auction for the outrageous price of \$21,000. Those attending the sale that day expected it to bring no more than \$15,000. At that time the house, built in 1926, had only a single laundry sink in the kitchen. Although there was a well there was no bathroom, no plumbing except for a pipe running from a cistern into the kitchen.

Money was tight and so there was not much to spend on professional remodeling. And so a friend installed some basic plumbing and a sink in an old cupboard base in the kitchen. That is what I have been using for that past forty years. Through the years the floor has been recovered several times and a drop ceiling was installed. But the current tile was cracked and chipped and some of the ceiling panels were beginning to fall down. The spigots in the old sink were leaking and so was the drain.

After six months of waiting on contractors, I now have a new pine tongue and groove board ceiling, a new vinyl floor, and cupboards custom made by a local Mennonite cabinetmaker. Through the years I had bought numerous things I found at flea markets and antique co-ops for the remodeled kitchen I dreamed of having one day; an antique porcelain cast iron kitchen sink with a drain board on the side like my grandmother once had in her kitchen, **depression era green glass door knobs for the cabinets, a 1930's kitchen cupboard, a hanging gas lamp.** What a joy to finally be able to bring all these things together to create the kitchen I always wanted. The project is complete and it is everything I hoped it would be.

It is interesting how a newly remodeled room can have such a positive **effect on how you feel. My newly remodeled kitchen makes me feel like I'm living in a new house. My enthusiasm for cooking has returned. I'm packing a lunch every day with healthy food.** I am eating at home instead of at a fast food restaurant. I love spending time in this room. It has brought new life to my home.

Change is not always welcome. We like it when we can change our living space, change the landscape of our yard, change the way we look with a new haircut, change our bodies by losing weight, change our wardrobe, change the car we drive. But all of those changes are about changing how things look or changing something that improves our comfort, our standard of living.

The change we dislike is changing what we believe to be true. We dislike change that requires us to look at the world differently than how we have always looked at it. The change we most dislike is change that asks us to look at the reasons we believe what we do. Perhaps we believe what our parents believed. We believe what we have been taught by the church. We believe what society holds to be true. Despite the source of our beliefs, all of our beliefs should be the subject of scrutiny at times. We may discover that what **we have always believed doesn't have much of a foundation. Sometimes we are *forced* to evaluate our beliefs and at other times we are *invited* to evaluate what we believe.**

The church has recently begun a journey towards perhaps becoming ONA an Open and Affirming church, a church that accepts, welcomes and affirms the sexual orientation of all people. It is not a journey that many churches, even in the United Church of Christ, have been brave enough to begin. A church's reluctance to begin this journey is out of fear of how it might divide or mortally wound a church. It requires all of us to think outside the box, and yes, all of us think within the parameters of a box or a circle. Our comfort zone lies within those parameters. Venturing beyond those defined shapes often makes us uneasy.

Jesus never told anyone what to believe. Even if he did human nature dictates that most of us will believe only what we want to believe about anything. Just ask any parent who has tried to tell their son or daughter what to do based on what they have found to be true from their own life experience. **Jesus provided information that he knew to be true of his father's kingdom.** Yet much of what he said was so radical, so far removed from what most **people believed they didn't believe him. Some did, however. And those who did find a whole new world awaited those who chose to see things differently**

than the rest of the world. New doors were opened, new life began. New relationships were formed; lives were changed for the better.

Throughout these forty days of Lent many of us will be reevaluating our lives. What changes can we make that would improve our lives, but more importantly will please God. Changes in what we believe to be true should be part of our reevaluation because what we believe dictates much of how we live our lives. We may find that after evaluating our beliefs that we will continue to believe as we always have. We might find no reason to change what we believe.

However, we may discover that our old way of thinking about something has prevented us from growing spiritually. What we have always believed to be true had no real foundation, in fact it may have been formed out of a personal prejudice we have carried our entire life. Perhaps now is the time to think outside the box and see where it takes us.

I heard these words spoken by someone the other day and they resonated with me and perhaps they will with you when you are struggling with a spiritual decision. ***“Grace and love are what we need to live.”*** I ask you to keep those words in mind as you journey towards Easter. How do grace and love come into play and affect all of our lives for the better?

*In Grace and Love,
Pastor Michael*



The Pastor's View


This...is...the...way...the...church...sometimes...

looks...to...the...pastor...when...he...goes...

to...the...pulpit.

BUT


The church would look like this if everybody
brought somebody to church with them.




Many thanks to
Church of the Apostles
for hosting a Serrv Sale in 2016!

Your dedication to our nonprofit mission supports children's nourishment and education, the advancement and empowerment of marginalized women, and positive change for fair trade artisans in 25 countries.

"The idea of working with craftspeople to empower them not only economically but socially brought me to Sashu in 1978. Since then I have been continually inspired by the change I see in the artisans and in their children. Our work contributes substantially to creating a fairer and more sustainable world!"



*- Deepa Mehta, Co-founder and CEO
of Serrv partner Sashu, India*

 **serrv**
creating connections
fair trade • handmade • nonprofit

Birthdays & Anniversaries in March



- 1 Laurie Hovermale
- 3 Erica Pryor
- 5 Tony Haugh
- 6 Maude Barr
- 7 Pat Bostwick
- 9 Tim Misner
- 12 Dan Ritchey
- 14 Trudy Stum
- 15 Richard Hovis
- 15 Steve Leidig
- 20 Sandra Smith
- 20 Gilbert and Laurie Hovermale
- 25 Mitchell Leidig
- 29 Jake Jacobs

Calendar of Events March

- 1 Ash Wednesday Service 6 PM
- 5 Worship with 10:45 AM
Covenant Players
- 5 Potluck Luncheon 12 PM
- 6 College Club 6 PM
- 12 Worship 10:45 AM
- 12 Consistory 12 Noon
- 13 Buchannan Trail Quilters 5:30 PM
- 19 Growth Committee 9:15 AM
- 19 Worship 10:45 AM
- 19 ONA Lunch & Learn 12 PM
- 21 Silver Express Delivery 1:30 PM
- 26 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 March

The Nursery is Available if Needed.



Ushers & Greeters

March 5: Brian & Debbie Jacobs

March 12: Tony & Donna Haugh

March 19: Jean High & Bob Stum

March 26: Nevin & Sondra Monn



Communion Assistants

March 5: Brian & Debbie Jacobs

April 2: Tony & Donna Haugh

CONSISTORY

MEMBERS



Julia Cramer

Jean High

Mary Lou Misner

Martha Smith



Donna Levick

Sondra Monn

Nevin Monn

Brian Jacobs



Free Little Library



The library is housed on the book shelves in Fellowship Hall.

All are welcome to use the library by borrowing/donating good books, DVDs and tapes.

Please, use discretion in content of donations.

Free, church related resource materials are also located in the center section.

Yes, It is Already Time to Order Easter Flowers

Order forms to order Easter flowers for the sanctuary are now available. Please place your order early. Consider ordering a flower, food for the soul, for a shut in and deliver it to them on Easter morning. Flowers are a luxury for people with a limited income.



Social Seniors



Social Seniors will be held on Monday March 13,
2 - 4 PM at Church of the Apostles.

The program will be "Sheep to Shawl",
on spinning sheep wool to make shawls.
This won second prize at the Farm Show!

New Flat Screen T.V.

Thank you Judy Fitz for donating the funds to purchase a 60" flat screen television for the social hall. The new television will allow the church to enhance its ministry through movies. Thanks to Randy Cramer for installing the new television.



Our First Film

Our book study group just completed reading A Man Called Ove. We will watch the film version of the book on Tuesday, March 7 from 10:00 AM-Noon. All are welcome to join us.



“Silver Express” Food Bank

Thank you for your help to fill their bowls!

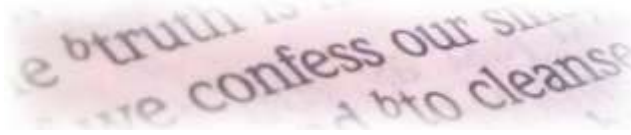


Donations for this month will be delivered **March 21.**



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

Why We Do What We Do



Why do we say a prayer of confession every Sunday at the beginning of our worship service? Regular prayers of confession encourage honesty and openness in our relationship with God. Our faith, our relationship with God does not mature if we fail to express our hopes, fears, our sins, desires, thanksgiving and praise to God. Our confession is part of the covenant we have with God. We do not offer our confession to God in hope that God will forgive us; God has already forgiven us through Christ. Our confession at the beginning of the service prepares us to proceed through the remaining service free from any guilt or shame we might be carrying that would hinder our worship and understanding of God's word.

ONA Meetings

So far we have held two ONA meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for March 19. Attendance for the meetings to discuss the church becoming Open and Affirming has been good. Still, not everyone who has an opinion or concern has expressed them. An Open and Affirming church is a church that welcomes and affirms people of all sexual orientations. Affirm does not mean we just tolerate, it means we support people no matter what their sexual orientations might be and accept them for who they are.





DANNY THOMAS, FOUNDER, 1962

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Presented to:
United Church Of Christ

In recognition of outstanding support in helping
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital keep its promises to children
and families battling cancer and other deadly diseases.

Presented with gratitude by:

Danny Thomas
Danny Thomas
February 2017

Clogging and Old Time Music Event



Our annual February special event with Tom Jolin, Rock, Candy and Slim was as much fun as ever. This year all four musicians played for our worship service. The attendance for that Sunday was 51, our largest attendance since Christmas. Most of the people who attended the worship service stayed for the potluck and concert afterwards.

I think that everyone would agree that music and dancing can lift your spirits like nothing else can.





Al Guyer

A lifetime of adventure



Martinsburg residents Jack Baker and Al Guyer reminisce about their youthful adventures.

Duo brings adventurous spirit, memories to life at Homewood

It is often said that childhood friends can go for extended periods of not seeing one another, yet, when reunited, they are able to pick up where they had left off. Such is the case with John (Jack) Baker and Albert (Al) Guyer, residents of Homewood at Martinsburg.

Growing up in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, a mutual interest in music is what sparked the friendship between Jack and Al as they both sang in their school choir. During high school, they spent Sunday afternoons riding their bicycles around the rural

By Monica Knauss
Homewood at Martinsburg

communities where they lived. Bicycles were eventually replaced by motorcycles.

Al recalls a road trip that started out with both young men riding their motorcycles to Florida to attend the Church of the Brethren's annual conference. Along the way, Jack's bike broke down, and he sold it for \$10.

"I had too much gear on my bike to take Jack with me," Al recollected, "so I went on ahead and Jack ended up riding a bus. All of a sudden, Jack looked out the window and saw his pastor driving by."

Jack caught his pastor's attention, and yelled for the bus driver to pull over, and he hitched a ride with his pastor. "I rode my bike the whole way down and back," Al said with a grin.

But both men agree that the highlight of their younger days together was a trip they took as Seagoing Cowboys with Heifer Project, now known as Heifer International.

After World War II, Heifer Project partnered with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to ship livestock overseas. The Seagoing Cowboys were the men recruited by Heifer Project, an outreach of the Church of the Brethren, to accompany and tend to the cattle and wild horses that were sent to war-torn countries.

In December 1945, at the ages of 18 and 19, Jack and Al were part of the crew that left Baltimore on the USS Mexican with 444 bred Holsteins below deck, and 202 wild horses on the top deck. They arrived in Gdansk, Poland 22 days later. The ship returned to Boston Harbor in February 1946, via Copenhagen, Denmark and Grangemouth, Scotland.

Following their trip, both young men began their college careers at Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pa., before graduating from colleges in Kansas. Both men got married after graduating from college and went on to pursue their professions and raise families. Jack returned to central Pennsylvania where he taught music, and Al served as a pastor in the Church of the Brethren in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Colorado.

Fast forward to 2014. Jack, a resident at Homewood at Martinsburg, contacted his long-time friend and encouraged Al to return to the area and move to Homewood. Both widowers, the men each have an apartment on Homewood's campus. At the ages of 89 and 90, they get together for lunch from time to time and enjoy reminiscing when they come across pictures from days gone by.

Almost 70 years have passed since the duo shared their



Jack Baker and Al Guyer shared a love of bicycles and then motorcycles that led to a lifetime of adventures. Today, the pair can be found at Homewood at Martinsburg - still sharing adventures.



spirit of adventure and service, yet their shared experiences provided a foundation that would last a lifetime, and a friendship that remains as strong as the memories are vivid.

Note: For more information about the Seagoing Cowboys, visit www.seagoingcowboys.com.

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Please forward an address change to the Church office.



March 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.