

March - April 2018 Newsletter



CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

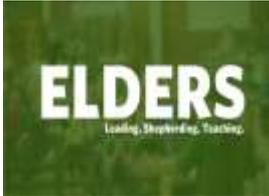
WORSHIP 10:45 AM

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

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CONSISTORY
MEMBERS



Julia Cramer

Judy Fitz

Richard Hovis

Mary Lou Misner



Randy Cramer

Gilbert Hovermale

Sondra Monn

Nevin Monn

From our Consistory President

Dear Members,

Yes, Pastor Michael did agree to be our $\frac{3}{4}$ part-time pastor to begin this year, but then decided to accept a full-time position at a church near Lebanon, PA.

I received his letter of resignation in early January and his last Sunday worshiping with us was February 25th. Of course, we had a pot luck luncheon and lots of goodbye wishes!

He has been our minister for nearly eight years leading us in worship and the life of the church. We are so thankful for his long ministry here and wish him all the best in his future ministry as an Interim minister at Quentin, UCC. He will always be remembered in our hearts and prayers, with gratitude for his time spent with us, leading us, caring for us. We wish him Many Blessings!

All of the many times of passage experienced in the life of a church family are difficult. At this time of pastoral transition the consistory, worship committee, organist, and church secretary have been forming plans to guide us through toward our new minister. We will soon begin to interview for the position of part-time pastor.

The next few paragraphs tells you what we have planned for worship into the month of March and through Easter Sunday.

Come to worship to hear the Good News! Our guests have prepared to lead us with some new messages from new perspectives. And as always, great organ & piano music by our Organist, Jim Heefner!

In Christ,
Mary Lou

Goodbye to Pastor Michael!

We wish him well and pray for him as he begins his new call to Quentin, UCC located outside of Lebanon, PA.

What Happens Next?

Consistory met with Rev. Betsy Bruaw and our way forward is coming into focus! Betsy's job for the Penn Central Conference is to guide churches and pastors in transition. She even gave us homework! We have compiled our church biography for her to use in choosing who she will recommend to interview with us.

Please keep in prayer the life of this congregation.

Farewell for Pastor Michael

Sunday, February 25th was Pastor Michael's last worship service. As you might have figured, we gathered for a pot-luck lunch after that service! During the service Rev. Mark Ruzicka from the Mercersburg Association's Committee on Ministry led us in a Liturgy of Farewell. The purpose was to help all of us to formally recognize life's many times of passage, of endings and beginnings. All of it with the help of God. Guided by the Holy Spirit.

Please keep Pastor Michael in prayer for his new beginning.

Our New Beginning

Our new beginning will have us updating our church profile. That process will uplift the many blessings of this congregation, as well as our needs. The interview process will begin in the search for our new part-time minister. Meanwhile...

On March 4th guest pastor Rev. Nora Faust from the Penn Central Conference will lead our worship service.

In the following weeks we'll have a hymn sing on March 11th by Jim Heefner with Bob Benchoff leading worship. Then we'll meet Alyssa Boyer on March 18th, a student at Lancaster Theological Seminary who is pleased to have the opportunity to lead us in worship.

Coming to celebrate Palm Sunday and Easter with us is guest pastor Rev. Gloria McPherson who will lead both of those worship services.

God is truly with us as the Holy Spirit has called these leaders to guide us through this time of transition, a time Betsy referred to as being in "God Time". Please keep all of our guests in prayer as they provide worship to sustain and inspire us.

PART-TIME PASTOR: How Does It Work?

Part-time Pastor Robert LaRoche of the Congregational Church of Union UCC in Connecticut has written a book about it entitled “Part-Time Pastor Full-Time Church”. Here are some excerpts from his book:

Available data shows that the majority of churches in this country are identified as small ones. Churches ought to be comfortable with their smallness and move beyond any inferiority complex about it. Some factors are beyond the control of churches in this regard: the changing place of religion in American life, demographic and population shifts, the advent and development of new religious movements, and many more. The simple reality is that most Americans are not in any church of any size on Sunday morning. Thus rather than bemoaning what it is not, the small church needs to cherish and affirm what it is in the current religious configuration of this nation – a magnificent gift !

Models for part-time pastors:

- #1. Pastor employed full-time elsewhere, part-time in the church.
- #2. Pastor employed primarily as a pastor with less than full-time salary and holding a part-time job as well.
- #3. Pastor serving half-time as a pastor and working in another job half-time as well.
- #4. Pastor serves as a part-time pastor at two or more churches. Another option would be a stand-alone part-time pastor position with no second job or the pastor is a student.

The author, Pastor LaRoche, is a Model #1. He is a full-time high school guidance counselor and married with three children while serving as a part-time (bivocational) pastor. Here is a “Sample Summary of Bivocational Ministry”:

“Ours is a very active church and I am very involved in leading and facilitating programs within it. I am not only accessible but also actively involved in the workings of the church on a day-to-day basis, even though I am not physically present through traditional office hours. In a typical week, I work between twenty-five and thirty hours in my capacity as pastor. In certain weeks, that goes up to close to forty. My congregation has not asked me to do time sheets or time cards. We make maximum use of Sunday mornings for meetings and educational programming. I am available for meetings by appointment based on mutual convenience and am responsive to requests for home and hospital visits. I communicate regularly through email updates. I also am in regular contact with our congregation leaders regarding committee work

and worship planning. Our website is highly utilized and a strong vehicle for communication. I have developed a blog for deeper exploration of issues discussed and preached about at worship. We have established communication channels for those in the congregation not engaged in internet use. I am very available for phone calls at home, and people affiliated with our congregation are given my cell phone number as well. I type the worship bulletin at home and it is emailed to one of our deacons by Wednesday of each week. We have no secretarial help. I spend extensive time at home in sermon preparation and in ongoing worship planning with our music director and the large number of people who share worship leadership. What you do not see in all of this is the traditional daytime office hours arrangement, but I think that I am highly accessible to my parishioners.”

Church Office Hours

Linda will be in the office on Wednesday mornings / early afternoons. Please have any information for the weekly bulletin, newsletter or bulletin board in the office or the box outside the office door by 9 AM on Wednesdays.



Social Seniors

The March Social Seniors will be held on March 12 at Trinity Waynesboro from 2 - 4 PM. Program will be presented by Suzie Vance, owner of Elegance Unlimited Jewelers, Hagerstown MD and her topic will be “Diamonds”. Suzie has been in the jewelry business for thirty years and her store offers many personal services. Suzie will discuss how older diamonds can be redesigned, repurposed, and cleaned, strengthened or repaired. After her presentation, Suzie will give her expert opinion on a piece of your personal jewelry that you might want to ask a question about. She will also be giving discount cards for future purchases at her store as well as a Door prize to one lucky winner. Sounds like an interesting afternoon, so come join us and stay for refreshments.

The April Social Seniors will be held on April 9 at Trinity State Line from 2 - 4 PM.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS *in March & April*



March

March 4: Randy Cramer & Bob Benchoff

March 11: Tony & Donna Haugh

March 18: Brian & Debbie Jacobs

March 25: Nevin & Sondra Monn

April

April 1: Tony & Donna Haugh

April 8: Ernie Fitz & Judy Fitz

April 15: Donna Levick & Conner Jacobs

April 22: Nevin & Sondra Monn

April 29: Brian & Debbie Jacobs



Communion Assistants

March 4: Randy Cramer & Bob Benchoff

April 1: Tony & Donna Haugh

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The former St. Paul - Harbaugh Charge of the UCC officially became The Church of the Apostles, UCC at a Uniting Service held at Trinity, UCC, Waynesboro on March 26, 1967.

The Building Committee is shown in the following photo. Our celebration will continue with progress photos leading up to the Building Dedication in 1969.

A 50th Anniversary committee will be formed to plan a Service of Celebration to commemorate the Building Dedication in 2019



Building Committee

Back Row: Richard Miller, Donald McCleaf, David Barkdoll,
Clarence Harbaugh.

Front Row: Audrey Eshleman, Betty Lynerd, James Burns.

Community Good Friday Service

The Community Good Friday Service will held at 7 AM on March 30 at the YMCA. Continental breakfast will be served.



Committee Sign-Up

Thanks to All of You who are already working on a committee or two!

And Thank You to all who recently signed on to a committee!

The response was great and I look forward to working with everyone!

Missed the sign-up??? Contact Mary Lou



Community Gardens

The 2018 garden season will soon be here!

Contracts have already been mailed to current members of the Community Garden.

Interested in the gardens?

Contact Mary Lou Misner, church coordinator, mlmisner@pa.net/717-749-3839



“Silver Express” Food Bank

Thank you for your help to fill their bowls!



Donations for this month will be delivered **March 20 & April 17.**



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

Monthly donations are much appreciated!



Please check the bulletin board located at the side door entrance each week for updated information.

OUTDOOR MINISTRY SPRING PROJECTS



- * Prepare crushed stone pad for the new Dennis Bonner Memorial Shed
- * Paint mower shed to match the new shed
- * Trim low & dead limbs on various trees
- * Weed, fluff mulch & plant the flower beds & 2 front door planters

Please contact Bob Benchoff or Bruce Barr if you are able to help with these projects.

Thank You from our Outreach Ministries



Waynesboro Community & Human Services:

Thank you for your donation of \$200.

(This was donated from our Garden Produce money.)

Thank you for your donation of hats, gloves & mittens.

(From the Mitten Tree.)



Hoffman Homes for Youth:

We are so grateful to you for \$100 donation for birthday cards. Your continued support is a blessing to our children and honors our mission to serve them - Thank you!



Thank you for your gift to **Our Church's Wider Mission.**

We are deeply grateful for your congregation's gift.

POLLINATOR'S HABITAT 2018

SUNFLOWERS



This year we will invite the community onto the grounds for photos and sunflowers. Photography invitations will be advertised with parking in the parking lot and walking over to the field. Picking will be at advertised times with a church member(s) available to do the cutting with pruners/loppers from the inside rows along the wildflower area with the walking path providing access. There is a limit of five sunflowers per person/ family. Sunflowers will be free, as gifts to members and the community. At Ernie's suggestion there will be three plantings so the blooms will last longer.

The inner rows first, middle rows next and outer rows last for the best visibility from the roads.

MILKWEED & WILDFLOWER AREA



A walking path with donated entrance & exit signs will again be kept mowed during the season. Donated nectar flowers will be planted in the habitat area between the walking path entrance & exit along the edge of the church lawn. Since we already meet the requirements, we will become an official MONARCH BUTTERFLY WAYSTATION certified by & registered with MONARCH WATCH as described at www.MonarchWatch.org located at 2701 Centerville Road, Wilmington, DE 19808 to show that we are supporting the conservation & preservation of this endangered & beloved

butterfly and it's spectacular annual migration. Interested church & community members are invited to become part of the Pollinator's Habitat & Monarch WayStation group to participate in the planting & maintenance of the nectar flower beds plus any additional Monarch Watch membership activities of interest such as monarch observation counts, record keeping & other educational experiences such as raising and if desired, tagging of monarchs before release. A church member is needed to lead this group(contact Bob Benchoff if you are interested) and conduct regular meetings for planning and activities. Julie Shindle, who gave a talk on Monarch Butterflies to our Social Seniors last year has already signed up to be a member of the group !

Good-Bye Pastor Michael



Pastor Michael told the children "The things I want you to always remember" and presented each of them with a bible.



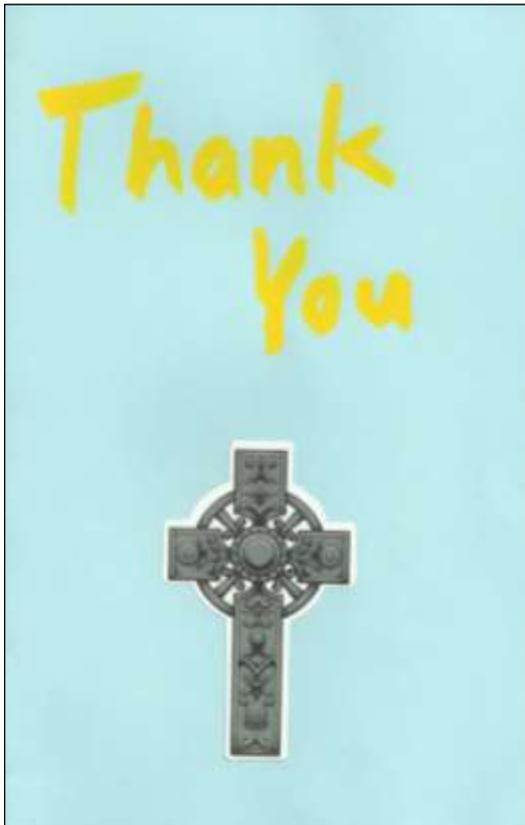


Pastor Michael was presented with a picture album from the congregation.



Of course we had a delicious pot-luck luncheon and cake!

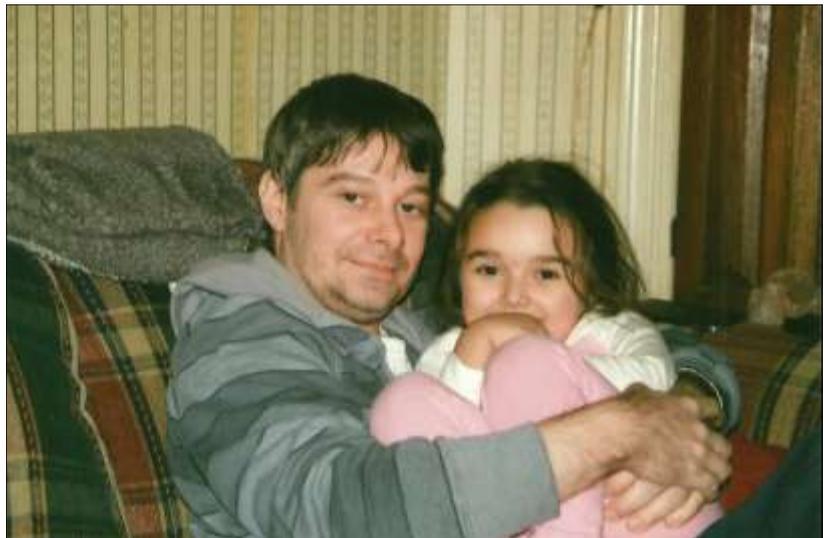




Thank you all so much
for the help, prayers,
and gracious thoughts.
"Whenever I am afraid,
I will trust in You."
Psalm 56:3
Sincerely Yours,
Abram

*Pastor Michael's
nephew, Abram, fell
from a balcony in
Ocean City,
Maryland last
summer.*

*The congregation
supported him with
a donation at
Christmas .*



Abram & Skyler Cromer

Thank
you

Dear Friends:
Thank you for the many cards, prayers
and kind words, and also the beautiful
flowers arrangement we received following
the passing of my brother. They are all
very much appreciated at this difficult time.



God Bless

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

Just taking a minute
to say thank you.

Sorry to be slow to give you our
donation. We are a very small
group and funds are limited. We
do appreciate your hospitality and
your patience with us!
Thanks again for being
so hospitable to our Antietam
Al Anon Family group (AFB) -
We are most grateful. Just so you
know we will have a new treasurer
Mary Ann Bell - soon! Please let
God bless! Priscilla N



Thank
You

From Al Anon

**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 & April 2018

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.