

November 2019 Newsletter



CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WORSHIP 10:45 AM

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

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Congrats!

Yes, congratulations to all of us at Apostles!
At our Annual Meeting Narda Druckenmiller
was officially elected as our Settled Pastor!

THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR

Hopefully you, like me, are still “flying high” from our Worship Service, your affirmation of me to be your called/settled pastor here at Church of the Apostles and our annual meeting yesterday (Sunday, October 27th). I find myself still humming our opening hymn for worship, *“We Praise You, O God”* which causes me to recall some of the words to this hymn, *“We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; in grateful devotion our tribute we bring...”* And I am still filled with emotion and deep gratitude for the events of Sunday, and that our Redeeming and Creating God has given me the opportunity to serve here at Church of the Apostles with, and among you.

I wanted to share some of the things I am grateful for, in no particular order, and in spite of the fact that my list of “gratitude’s” is endless:

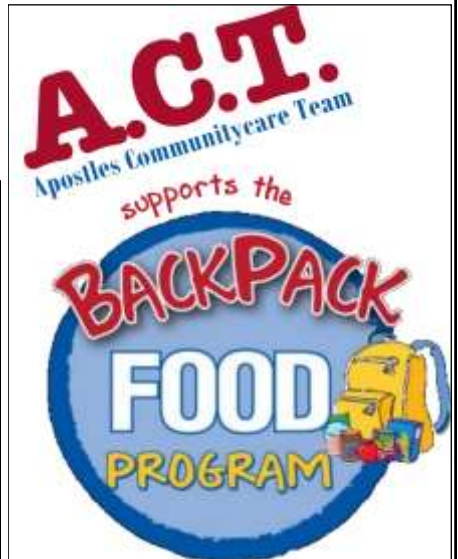
- For the wonderful ways you have made me feel welcome in this community of faith, and for your loving support of one another in times of need.
- For your willingness to stretch and grow in various ways including your willingness to learn new songs, hymns and singing the old with new words.
- For striving to live fully into the words that I often open our Worship services on Sunday mornings, *“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here at Church of the Apostles.”*
- For your extravagant giving of time, talents, and money to ministries within our own community, the denomination, and beyond.
- For your willingness to embrace new worship opportunities such as International Day of Peace; for offering faith formation opportunities like the Advent and Lenten Devotional studies; plus other new outreach opportunities like Pets and Blessings, for starters.
- For the courage to take a leap of faith by accepting the proposal for a new sound system, plus the TV screens that will be a valuable tool for us to enhance our worship experiences and show visitors we have a desire to grow and are looking to the future as a faith community.

For dedicated and capable lay leadership and your recognition that we can do what we do through the power of the Holy Spirit, giving God the glory.

I’m still humming the hymn and remembering more words, *“With voices united our praises we offer, and gladly our song of thanksgiving we raise.... to you our great Redeemer, forever be praise!”* These words bring to mind my hopes for us as we embark on this new phase in the ministry of Church of the Apostles:

- May you continue to seek, discern, and listen closely to the leading of the Holy Spirit.
- May you continue to reach out beyond our own four walls to share the Good News and serve our community and beyond.
- May you continue to welcome all who enter through our door here at Church of the Apostles.
- May you and I always give God the praise and glory in and for all things!

Blessings for the journey,
Pastor Narda



CHRISTIAN OUTREACH PROJECT



Please consider helping us.
A light lunch will be provided.
Contact Judy if you can help.

We will be assembling disaster buckets
after Church on November 10.
This activity is for **ALL** ages.
We are planning on taking the buckets to
Church World Service on December 2.



Birthdays & Anniversaries In November



- 3 Joshua Misner
- 5 Bruce Barr
- 7 Robert and Shelley Benchoff
- 27 Colin Berkey
- 27 Sondra Monn

Social Seniors

Social Seniors will meet Monday,
November 11 from 2 - 4 PM at
Trinity UCC in State Line.

The program will be
"Baskets of History",
looking at the history
of all three churches,
in addition to some games.

Calendar of Events for November

- 3 Worship 10:45 AM
- 5 Election Day All day
- 10 Worship 10:45 AM
- 10 Clean-up Bucket Assembly after Worship
- 17 Worship 10:45 AM
- 17 Consistory 12 Noon
- 19 Silver Express Delivery 1 PM
- 24 Worship 10:45 AM
- 24 Waynesboro Fellowship of Churches
Community Thanksgiving Service 3 PM



Fall Book Study

***September 12 - November 21
beginning at 11 AM***



Weight Watchers meets every
Tuesday at 6 PM
and Wednesday at 9 AM

Worship Assistants *for*



November

November 3: Bert & Laurie Hovermale

November 10: Tony & Donna Haugh

November 17: Nevin & Sondra Monn

November 24: Chris & Cristie Bobb

Lay Readers *for* November



November 3: Bert Hovermale

November 10: Donna Haugh

November 17: Pastor Narda

November 24: Mary Lou Misner

WANTED: *Audio/Video Engineer Trainees for Church of the Apostles new Audio/Video system.*

Training expected to begin late November/early December.

Required: a willingness to learn and a desire to help make a joyful noise to the Lord.

A desire to explore your creative side is a plus. Sunday work required, and the pay is lousy [there isn't any], but the benefits are heavenly.

See Bert Hovermale for more details.

Communion Assistants

November 3:
Bert & Laurie Hovermale

December 6:
Judy Fitz & Donna Levick





A Message from our new Transitional Conference Minister, Rev. Carrie Call, PhD

Dear Friends of Penn Central -

I spend quite a bit of time on the road. When I'm driving around this beautiful state I am often struck by the sheer number of small churches. In the United States there is at least one church present in every hamlet and many more located outside of towns. Some of the churches I see are no longer open as churches. They may be shuttered or turned into a private residence or repurposed for a community center or a real estate office. I often wonder what happened to the individuals who attended when it was a church. Where are their descendants now?

Some of you may know that the majority of Americans attend small churches of less than 100 members. This makes sense - social psychology research shows that people can keep track of and function well within groups of about 100. And churches of less than 100 members can and do thrive. Thriving is a holistic concept and involves several aspects. Within thriving small churches the congregation has a vital sense of their own Christian mission. They know and embrace their unique role is within the wider community. They uphold an outward focus. They care for their own while also sharing Christ's healing power in the wider area with those who are, for example, hungry, victims of disaster, struggling with addiction, or needing educational support. A church that only takes care of its own has forsaken its primary duty: to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and follow in his ways.

A thriving church also prays - for its own ministry and for the world. And it practices hospitality by welcoming the stranger. I know of one very small church that was reluctant to hold ESL classes (a ministry the pastor had suggested) because the members feared that the people they were serving might "steal the stained glass windows." That is not an example of a thriving church. Living out gospel values as a community can be deeply challenging. This is the cost we willingly bear as the cost of discipleship, because we know that living this disciple-life connects us to a well of joy that is beyond what the world offers.

Thriving churches are focused on the here and now. They are not beholden to the past, although they might celebrate it. But more importantly, they are not beholden to the future. They are not clinging to questions of their future or what will happen to them. Instead, they recognize that with the time they have they must respond to the call of Jesus in every way they can. And they trust that God is with them now and into the future.

Finally, thriving churches are not necessarily growing in numbers. When I meet with small churches they often ask about growth. They ask me, how can we grow? As if growth in numbers is the most important aspect of ministry. I encourage them to set aside talk of numerical growth. After all, in some communities this will not be possible due to demographic and historical reasons. However, thriving is possible, no matter the size. A church with a clear sense of mission and purpose rooted in the transformative power of the gospel has the potential to bring living water to those who are dying of thirst. Look around you. Who is in need of living water? Remarkably, once we focus on that question our concern with numbers recedes. And we can show the world how many of our churches are small AND mighty.

Peace, *Carrie*

Community Thanksgiving Service November 24th at Church of the Apostles



The Waynesboro Area Fellowship of Churches Community Thanksgiving Service will be held on Sunday November 24th, 3 PM, at Church of the Apostles. Pastor Narda will be delivering the message.

Trinity's Senior Choir will bring the anthem for that service and our folks have been invited to join in.

Rehearsals will be Wednesday, November 6th, 13th and 20th at 7 pm until approximately 7:20 pm. The anthem is "We Come Rejoicing" by Joseph Martin.

**CROP
HUNGER WALK**
ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME



A Big THANK YOU to Our Walkers:



Bert & Laurie Hovermale,
Stacey Murdorf,
Sondra Monn,
Pastor Narda,
Jared, Chris &
Cristie Bobb
raised \$785 for
the Crop Walk
on October 13!

CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

September 15, 2019 Special Meeting

APPROVED:

*The proposed 2020 Spending Plan as presented by Stewardship & Finance Team

*The proposed Audio and Visual System as presented by the Worship Team

*To begin the process of calling Narda Druckenmiller as Settled Part-Time Pastor

These three items passed at a Congregational vote on October 27, 2019.

August 30, 2019 Email vote

*To hire Long Tree Specialists to remove large trees on church property

September 9, 2019

*To hire Decker Electric Services to install the electric water heater

October 7, 2019

*To add “a Pennsylvania non-profit corporation” to the Constitution under Article 1. NAME

This passed at a Congregational vote on October 27, 2019.



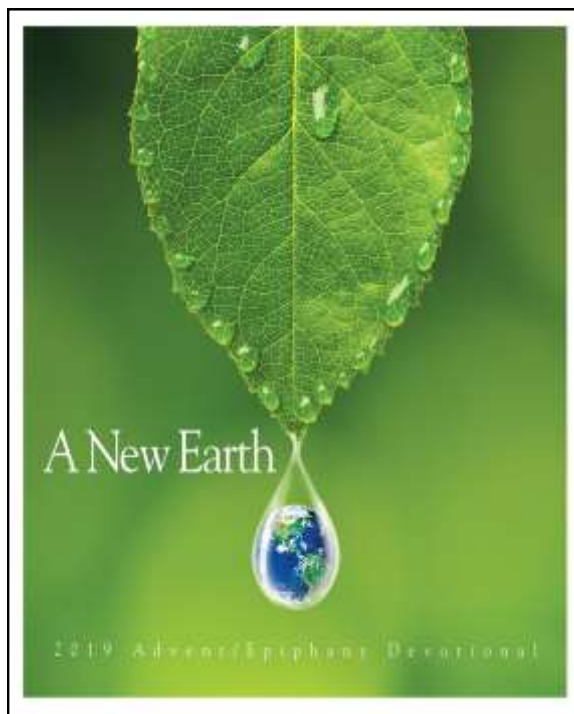
Our New Sound System Has Been Ordered!

Envelopes are available in the pews
if you would like to make a donation to help defray the cost.

*Include your name on the envelope to receive credit for your donation
on your 2019 tax statement.*

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL DISCUSSION GROUP

Sundays at 9:30 AM During Advent, in the Social Hall



The UCC gives us a great resource to help us prepare to celebrate the coming of our Lord – the Advent Devotional. Like its Lenten counterpart, this little booklet has a short but thought-provoking message for each day, all pointing to a central theme for the season. Some days it seems as though the devotional message is written especially for me, touching something inside me that needs to be explored, changed, or healed before I can welcome the Christ Child once again. Have you ever felt that a devotional message was speaking directly to you? The devotional is another way that I know that God is still speaking – to me, to us, to the world.

The Advent Devotional Discussion Group meets before church on Sundays during Advent, beginning December 1st. On December 1st we'll talk about the theme for the season and the devotional message for that day, the first day of Advent. On subsequent Sundays we'll discuss the messages for the week just ended. Did any of them resonate particularly well with you? Did any of them seem to reflect God's saving grace in our conflict-ridden times? Did any of the messages give you a moment of peace in your busy Christmas season? Come to share or just to listen.

The group will meet at 9:30 in the social hall, but if you're a Sunday Slow Roller please join us whenever you can get here. You'll be just as welcome.

Faith Build 2019 CELEBRATION!



The partner family worked hard on the project.



The foundation was poured on April 16.



In Progress.

Join us Sunday, November 17th

Habitat for Humanity of Franklin County in partnership with Thrivent Financial and several local churches is proud to announce the completion of the 2019 Faith Build Project.

We are celebrating with an Open House from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM followed by the Home Dedication at 4:00 PM on Sunday, November 17th, 2019 at the home located at **228 Dickinson Ave., Waynesboro, PA 17268.**

Please join us. This event is free and open to the public, so please feel free to share this information.

If you worked on the project, heard of the project, or just want to learn more, we want you to help us celebrate and dedicate this home.



THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF FRANKLIN COUNTY FAITH BUILD PROJECT 2019

Church of the Apostles, UCC took its first of many Habitat for Humanity week-long summer workcamps to Massachusetts in 1987 and has had a relationship with our local affiliate, HFH of Franklin County since its beginning in 1994.

Presently, there is an URGENT NEED for all Franklin County churches to support the Faith Build Project 2019 located in Waynesboro. At the time of this publication there is currently about \$15,000 needed to fully fund the home that will be dedicated in November.

A Faith Build Project follows the Biblical model, which is a partnership between HFH of Franklin County, Thrivent Financial, who will match up to half the cost to build the home, and the churches of Franklin County who demonstrate the love of Jesus as we act as "His hands and feet" and build a home with a local family in need, this year the Knepper family pictured here.



The Knepper Family of Waynesboro, PA

Therefore, to help make sure that the home is fully funded so the Kneppers will be able to move in, we will have a special offering envelope available during the month of November.

Please remember that whatever amount you are able to give will be DOUBLED, thanks to Thrivent Financials' generosity.

Thank you in advance for your help with this urgent need !

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Please forward an address change to the Church office.



November 2019

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.