

# ***August 2020 Newsletter***



## ***CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST***

***OUTDOOR WORSHIP at 10 AM***

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

***717-762-4113***

***Website: [www.apostlesucc.com](http://www.apostlesucc.com)***

***E-mail: [apostlesucc@gmail.com](mailto:apostlesucc@gmail.com)***

## THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR .....

*“Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.”*  
Romans 8:26-27

At times that we continue to find ourselves where we have to keep physically distant from one another, it is more important than ever that we draw close to one another spiritually, praying together, praying even when we think we cannot find the words. Maybe you are growing weary and find yourself struggling with the current COVID-19 statistics that reveal that we may have to go through another “stay at home” order with the numbers rising again.

I recently came across this resource: *Examen for Life During COVID-19* that Susan Haarman from Loyola University Chicago offers to help calm our hearts and minds during these difficult days. My hope is that you will find this practice helpful as we continue to do what we can to keep ourselves and others safe.

*(Take a moment to settle. Take a deep breath. Get comfortable.  
Like a rock settling on the bottom of a lake after it's thrown in, let yourself settle.)*

1. Acknowledge how you are feeling in this moment. If being calm is hard, acknowledge it. If you find yourself frustrated or stressed, acknowledge it. God wants to be present in all parts of our lives – not just the easy or serene moments.
2. Ask for light and insight as you prepare to review your day. For some that light may come in the form of a sense of the Divine. For others it's from a deep sense of your true self.
3. Take a moment to think about how COVID-19 has impacted your life. Even as we are being asked to distance ourselves from one another socially, ask yourself what connections you find yourself grateful for? Who make you feel grounded and connected to God?
4. Public health issues have a way of making us recognize how interwoven our lives are with others in society. It can help us realize who we may often choose not to see or connect with. Is there a person or group of people especially effected by COVID-19 that you don't often choose to see or connect with normally? What connections to others are you becoming more aware of? Who do you normally choose to reach out and connect to? Who do you avoid or refuse to see? If you can, picture the faces of these people. What connections do you take for granted in your life? What connections impact you the most?

5. Note the emotions you feel when you think of these individuals without judging or overanalyzing. Simply acknowledge them, pay attention, and listen to where God may be speaking.
6. As you think of the ways we are connected or disconnected to one another, pick a connection (or lack thereof) that seems important, significant, or is manifesting itself the strongest. Pause and reflect on where you're being invited to grow from that moment. If you are a person of faith, take a moment to pray with it.
7. God gifted us with limitless creativity and imagination. Even in this time of separation and possible isolation, what is one way you can maintain meaningful connection to others – whether directly, through technology, or intentional focus and attention?

*(Take a deep breath and moment of quiet. When you are ready, return to your day.)*

I have found these words by Laura Kelly Fanucci helpful as I contemplate these days we are in:

“When this is over, may we never again take for granted a handshake with a stranger, full shelves at the store, conversations with neighbors, a crowded theatre, Friday night out, the taste of Communion, a routine checkup, the school rush each morning, coffee with a friend, stadium roaring, each deep breath, a boring Tuesday, life itself. When this ends, may we find that we have become more like the people we wanted to be, we were called to be, we hoped to be, and may we stay that way – better for each other because of the worst.”

As your pastor, I want to thank you for the many ways you have “walked this uncharted path” with myself and your Consistory members at Apostles. These words came to mind from a letter in a time of Pandemic from our Officers of the United Church of Christ:

“Remember that we are a Christmas people, and that Jesus is incarnated in every act of love and kindness we extend to one another. Remember that we are an Easter people and we know that God can teach us beyond all the barriers the world can create. Remember that we are a Pentecost people who know that the Holy Spirit can revive us and who will be our strength in times of great distress. We can do this. We are the Church, the body of the risen Christ.”

I leave you with this prayer from St. Ignatius of Loyola:

“O Christ, Jesus, when all is darkness and we feel our weakness and helplessness, give us the sense of Your presence, Your love and Your strength. Help us to have perfect trust in Your protecting love and strengthening power, so that nothing may frighten or worry us, for, living close to You, we shall see Your hand, Your purpose, Your will through all things. Amen.”

Blessings and Prayers for the journey,

Pastor Narda

# From Bert Hovermale, Consistory President

## Outdoor Worship

“Take it outside, fellas.”

That line was from an old movie whose name I have long since forgotten. The speaker is the bar tender at a hole in the wall joint where a group of Navy sailors and a group of Marines are about to face off to determine who's toughest. The service men are concerned only about their pride, but the poor bar keep is trying to keep his establishment from being broken to bits in the ensuing fight. When the Pastor and Consistory decided to take worship outside, we were thinking about the fight against COVID-19, not inter-service rivalries.

Scientists continue to learn more about the virus, but what seems very clear now is that the virus is much more difficult to transmit outdoors than indoors. Gathering in groups inside is still a very risky proposition, but gathering out of doors can be done safely, provided people remain a good social distance apart. For an added bonus, the wearing of masks is not required outdoors as long as we can maintain good social distancing.

With safety as our number one goal, Pastor Narda and Consistory have decided to continue with outdoor worship for as long as the weather permits and outdoor gatherings are allowed. We will stay with our summer starting time of 10:00 AM through at least September 13<sup>th</sup>. Please continue to bring your lawn chairs and bug spray. Help in setting up and taking down the canopies and the outdoor audio system is always welcome.

## Annual Meeting

Please plan to attend the church's Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 25, 2020. We won't be able to have a meal together, unfortunately, because of the pandemic. We will have a standard business meeting in lieu of a fellowship time right after the worship service ends. We will worship inside that day, if possible, because we want to use the monitors in the sanctuary to display information so that everyone can see it.

The Annual Meeting is an important event in the life of the church. We'll discuss the events of 2020 and our plans for 2021. We'll go over our 2020 expenditures and our budget for 2021. We'll discuss any proposed changes to the church's Constitution and Bylaws. Finally, we'll vote for new members of Consistory to replace those members whose terms expire at the end of this year. Those members are Richard Hovis, Judy Fitz, Laurie Hovermale, and me.

Our four new Consistory members will join Chris Bobb, Tory VanReenen, Joanne Keech, and Larry Little to form Apostles' Consistory for 2021.

## Have You Thought About Joining Consistory?

Consistory is Christian Leadership in action. Christian Leadership means being a servant/leader with Jesus as our model. Jesus is the king that was born in a stable, the messiah who washed the feet of his followers. So, Consistory members don't just make decisions about whether to hold worship indoors or outside, or whether to spend money on this object or that service. They also serve the church and the larger community by helping with teams that take care of the church building and grounds or provide help to people experiencing food insecurity, to name just two.

We all pray that 2021 will be better than the current year, marked as it is with a deadly worldwide pandemic, economic upheaval, injustice and unrest, and societal divisions such as we've never seen before. The year 2021 will make its own demands on us, and the People of God need to be ready to lead and to serve and to continue to "Be The Church" going forward.

Will you help? Please see any current Consistory member.

Thank you. May God bless and keep you all.

Bert

Bert Hovermale  
Consistory President



## ZOOM MEETINGS AVAILABLE FOR TEAMS

The church now has a Zoom account for online team meetings! Team leaders should contact Linda with the date and time needed for their meeting. Team members will receive an email invitation to the meeting.

Consistory has been meeting through Zoom recently; it's easy to use and works very well !



## ANNUAL MEETING

**Our Annual Meeting  
will be held on October 25th,  
immediately following  
Worship. This will be a  
business meeting  
to approve the  
2021 Spending Plan.**

**Please plan to attend.**

If you are unable to attend Worship  
and have internet capability,  
you can access

## Apostles Virtual Church

on our website by visiting  
[www.apostlesucc.com](http://www.apostlesucc.com).  
Click on **"Live Stream Recordings"**  
under the WORSHIP tab.

## TITHES & OFFERINGS

*From Stewardship & Finance Team*

Your tithes and offerings that have  
been received were so needed  
and appreciated !

If you are unable to attend  
Worship, please continue to send in  
your offering on a regular basis.

The church office is open on  
Wednesdays from 9am-12 pm,  
they can be mailed to the church,  
or dropped off  
in the church mailbox.

The mailbox is locked  
and Linda is checking it.



## **Readers for August**

August 2: *Bob Benchoff*

August 9: *Judy Fitz*

August 16: *Laurie Hovermale*

August 23: *Donna Haugh*

August 30: *Mary Lou Misner*

Sept. 6: *Bob Benchoff*

## **Birthdays & Anniversaries in August**



8/2 Linda Hovis  
8/14 Robert Stum  
8/15 Linda Ritchey  
8/16 Joanne Keech  
8/17 Sophie Misner  
8/17 Cole Leidig  
8/17 Reid Leidig  
8/21 Donna and Tony Haugh  
8/23 Ethan Berkey  
8/24 Robert & Trudy Stum  
8/27 Charles and Jean High  
8/30 Donna Levick

## **Outdoor Services**

**will be held through  
September 13  
at 10 AM.**

***Please bring your own lawn chairs.***

***If it rains or if the heat is  
uncomfortable, you can sit in your  
air conditioned car and listen to  
the service by tuning into  
radio station 88.9 FM***

*Masks are not required for Outdoor  
Services as long as good social  
distancing is maintained between you  
and others who are not part of  
your household.*



***Masks and  
social distancing  
are required  
inside the church.***

***Thank you  
for understanding.***



# School Supply List

- Pencil Boxes
- Zippered Pencil Boxes
- 24 ct #2 Pencils, Ticonderoga
- 24 ct Crayons
- 8 ct Large Crayons
- Highlighters – single & 4 count
- 4 ct Dry Erase Markers
- Skinny markers
- Large Pink Erasers
- Pencil Top Erasers
- large Glue Sticks
- Paper and plastic Pocket folders with clasps
- Paper and Plastic Pocket Folders without clasps
- Sticky notes
- Wide Ruled Notebook Paper
- 1 inch 3 ring binder
- 2 inch 3 ring binder
- Trapper Keepers
- Colored Pencils
- Red or Black Pens
- Ear Buds or Head phones
- Lanyards
- Backpacks
- TI-83 or TI-84 Graphing Calculator
- New or gently used clothing – jeans, shorts, shirts, sweatshirts, sweaters, skirts, dresses
- Underwear
- Socks
- Toiletries: Bars of soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothpaste
- Tissues
- Hand sanitizer
- Gallon Plastic Zipper Bags





# SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

Waynesboro Community and Human Services are collecting school supplies again this year.

Families in our area will be looking at their children's class supply lists and wonder how they will be able to afford everything on the list as well as get school clothes and pay their rent and other household bills. Last year they distributed supplies to 305 children in 141 families.

However this year, we only have a few weeks to get the supplies. This year they have expanded needs to include new or gently used children's clothing. Backpacks are always needed.

We will need the items by Sunday, August 9.

Christian Outreach Team



Dear Friends,

Thank you.

\$350 was sent to Waynesboro Community & Human Services for the 2nd quarter ACT fund. Thanks everyone for their support during these uncertain times.

You made a difference to someone who needed you. Their financial lifeboat was fragile and an emergency overturned it. You went to them and offered a hand up because that was all they needed. We are, after all, a community of neighbors who care.

Your generous donation helped Waynesboro Community and Human Services to serve nearly 1,000 families last year and more this year. It offers them information, clothing, food, diapers, counseling, and financial assistance to keep them in their home with the heat on. The Community Nurse program helps them stay in their home not in the emergency room or nursing home. We could not do it without you.

Thank you for being the neighbor who reaches out.

Sincerely,

*Denise Esser*

Denise Esser

Executive Director

Waynesboro Community & Human Services





*There's a  
basket  
at the  
side entrance  
for  
canned food  
donations  
for  
Silver Express.*

**SILVER  
EXPRESS  
DELIVERY**



## Mission Central is the Mission Partner for Penn Central Conference's Annual Meeting

Mission Central has assisted people locally, nationally and globally and provided aid in every major weather disaster since 2002. In 2019, they distributed over \$7.8 million in resources, reaching over 2.7 million people.



**YOU CAN HELP!**  
The Goal is 500 Care Kits  
for those in need.

(Many are going out to school students  
and homeless in need of these resources.)

Mercersburg Association  
has been asked to contribute  
**adhesive bandages, 3/4" to 1"**  
wide, needed by August 16.



**Thank you for connecting God's resources with human need.**



# Pollinator & Wildlife Habitat

MONARCH BUTTERFLY WAYSTATION

## AUGUST 2020

The sunflower plants are growing taller each week and before long the blooms will appear for PHOTOGRAPHS and SUNFLOWER BOUQUETS FOR THE CONGREGATION AND COMMUNITY. Contact Shelley & Bob Benchoff for the free bouquets.

Due to the late arrival of the monarch butterflies this summer JULIE SHINDLE'S BUTTERFLY PROGRAM IS POSTPONED UNTIL THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup> AT 6:00 PM. Because of the PA COVID-19 mandate to limit indoor groups to 25, THE PROGRAM WILL NOW BE HELD OUTSIDE TO ALLOW FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING. PARTICIPANTS WILL NEED TO BRING THEIR LAWN CHAIRS. If the WEATHER is UNSUITABLE the program will be held the NEXT DAY at the SAME TIME.

Julie will teach about the Monarch and Black Swallowtail butterflies, their habitats, and how to raise the caterpillars to adults and release them.

Our Pollinator & Wildlife Group will provide nurseries for families to use in raising monarch caterpillars. To order a nursery, contact Shelley & Bob Benchoff at 7717-749-5202 or [benchoff360@comcast.net](mailto:benchoff360@comcast.net) by August 31<sup>st</sup>. Reserved nurseries will be distributed at the program.

Following the presentation, participants will be invited to visit the Habitat to observe the wildlife and to collect, if desired, Monarch caterpillars and milkweed leaves to begin their nursery. Insect repellent is recommended for the evening walk.

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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



*Please forward an address change to the Church office.*



# **August 2020**

## ***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.*