

May 2020 Newsletter



CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WORSHIP 10:45 AM

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

717-762-4113

Website: www.apostlesucc.com

E-mail: apostlesucc@gmail.com

THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR



Maybe you, like me, have been using this time of “staying at home” to clean out closets, basements, attics and the sort. I still have boxes that I have not opened from our move to Waynesboro. So for me, it’s been finding special things that I had forgotten about, things that bring back remembrances of good times. One particular item I came across was the Kite in the picture that I’ve included with my message. Oh, what wonderful memories of times we as a family spent time out doors with our children, flying this kite.

This is the time of year when we think about flying kites. And these days, what I wouldn’t give to be out doors flying that kite again with my children and now, my grandboys.

I am reminded of an old story about a child who was in a big city park one windy day flying a kite. The wind was just right for taking the kite high into the air. It was a cloudy day, and there were a lot of low-hanging clouds in the sky. The kite kept going, and going, and going way up in the sky. The child was lucky to have a really big roll of strong string. Finally the kite went so far up into the sky that it could no longer be seen. But the child held tight onto the string and never let go.

A man came along and saw the child standing there holding onto the string, but he couldn’t see the kite. So he said to the child, “What are you doing?” And the child replied, “I’m flying a kite.” “But how do you know you are flying a kite?” the man asked. “You can’t see it.” And so, the child responded, “But I can still feel the kite tugging on the string.”

This story also reminds me that this is sort of the way God works. We believe that there is a Power in the world that we cannot see with our eyes. But we can sort of feel its tug. That Power most people would call God. In the Bible Jesus compared this Power, God, to the wind.

John 3:8 says, ***“The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you don’t know where it comes from or where it goes.”***

You can't see the wind but you can feel it. You can see how the wind changes things around us. So it is with God.

As with the child holding onto the string, even though the kite could no longer be seen, so it is with the Power we call God. We may not be able to see God with our eyes, but we can still feel the tug of God on our hearts and see God's impact on the people and the world around us.

May you all feel the Power of God in your lives; and in the words of Bert, the Chimney Sweep from *Mary Poppins*, "Let's go fly a kite!"

Blessings and Peace for the journey,
Pastor Narda

TITHES & OFFERINGS

From Stewardship & Finance Team

Your tithes and offerings received in April
were so needed and appreciated !

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.





Church of the Apostles, United Church of Christ

Pastor Narda J. Druckenmiller
336 Barnett Avenue, Waynesboro, PA 17268
717-762-4113
apostlesucc@gmail.com
www.apostlesucc.com

God's

4-U-2

Message for the May 2020 Newsletter
Subject: Resuming On-site Worship Services

Dear Members,

At this writing the timetable and process for the phased ending of the COVID-19 stay at home order and the “reopening of Pennsylvania” is anything but clear. I only know two things for certain. The first thing I know for certain is that the governor extended the statewide stay at home order through May 8th. After that, each county (perhaps individually, perhaps as part of a region) will go through a phased Red/Yellow/Green reopening process. The second thing I know for certain is that life after reopening won't be exactly the same as life before COVID-19.

What does that mean for Church of the Apostles? It depends. If Franklin County is designated Red on May 9th, then absolutely nothing changes. We are still in stay at home status, and on-site worship services are still suspended. What if we wake up Yellow on May 9th, or we move from Red to Yellow sometime during May? It depends. Under Yellow, gatherings of up to 25 persons are permitted. On many Sundays our church attendance is right around this number, usually a little higher. Should we have church? I don't know. (I bet you thought I was going to say, “It depends.”) Pastor Narda and your Consistory officers are going to attend a virtual meeting hosted by Penn Central Conference leadership on Monday, May 8th. We expect to get guidance from the Conference on reopening issues such as this one. We will also get guidance on social distancing in the reopened church. I don't believe we'll be able to crowd the back of the sanctuary any more.

I wake up every morning expecting to learn something that day. In other words, I wake up thinking I'm going to be smarter than I was yesterday. I'm usually disappointed in that regard, but I believe we're going to be a whole lot smarter about prospects for our reopened world, including our reopened church, in about a week. Unfortunately, the newsletter has its own timeline, and I've delayed getting this article to Linda as long as I dare. We've discussed this virtually within Consistory, and we think the most prudent action to take is to extend the suspension of on-site worship through May. Having said that, if we learn anything in the next week or so that permits us to speed up our reopening timeline, we will surely do it. In the meantime, we'll continue our daily messages and keep reaching out by telephone to members who are not on line. God bless you all.

Take care,

Bert Hovermale
Consistory President

Birthdays & Anniversaries

in
May



7 Jaxon Walker
9 Linda & Dan Ritchey
17 Nancy Piper
19 Mark and Katie Lux
27 Jean High
28 Mark Lux
30 Nicole Leidig
30 Ty and Holly Berkey

Wayne Band Concert

The Wayne Band will present a concert on Sunday June 28 at 3 PM. The concert will be outside, weather permitting.



Consistory has extended the suspension of on-site worship through May.

We will keep you informed of the date we are able to resume services as the situation around COVID-19 continues to develop.

Worship Assistants *for* **June 7**

USHERS: Bob Benchoff & Ernie Fitz
READER: Bob Benchoff

Community Garden Space Available

Free use of garden space is available for the upcoming season. Contact the church office to reserve your garden space.



While We've All Been Away from the Church...

A DUCK MOVED IN !



**A Mallard duck has built a nest
under a pine tree on the church lawn.**

Hoping for duckling pictures in next month's newsletter!



POLLINATOR & WILDLIFE HABITAT 2020

FREE YOUNG MILKWEED PLANTS AVAILABLE DURING THE MONTH OF MAY IF/WHEN FRANKLIN COUNTY RE-OPENING PLAN ALLOWS.

The Church of the Apostles, UCC pollinator & wildlife group have young milkweed plants available to transplant. Please contact Bob and Shelley Benchoff at 717-749-5202 or benchoff360@comcast.net for information.

Ernie Fitz will again be planting Peredovik black oil sunflowers around the east, south and west sides of the habitat this year and Dan Ritchey has already started mowing the walking paths to provide easy access to observe the plants and wildlife. Please remember to use insect repellent and maintain Pennsylvania's COVID-19 polices.

The church is planning to host Julie Shindle's butterfly program in August, also subject to Franklin County's re-opening plan.



Thank you so much to everyone for all of the cards that arrived on my birthday. They really made my day!

~ Martha Smith



Church of the Apostles UCC
336 Barnett Avenue
Waynesboro, PA 17268-1810

Dear Friends:

Your generous donation to the Church World Service Blankets program tells people in crisis, "You're not alone. Someone cares."

We are deeply grateful for your support. Because of your compassion,

- Families who have lost their homes to tornadoes, floods, earthquakes and other disasters are getting help with blankets, emergency food and shelter – and with rebuilding their lives and livelihoods.
- People struggling against crushing poverty and harsh climates are learning sustainable farming practices that will help them keep food on the table – and take it to market.
- Vulnerable children have access to clean, safe water and the nutritional food essential to growth, development and life itself.

On behalf of all the people who feel more hopeful and less alone because of your generosity, we thank you. Please accept this Blankets certificate honoring your vital partnership with CWS in building a world where there is enough for all.

Sincerely,

Rev. John L. McCullough
President and CEO
Church World Service



CWS Blankets Honor Certificate

*In grateful recognition of your support
for emergency response and sustainable development
around the world through Church World Service.*

Church of the Apostles UCC

Waynesboro, PA

March 2020

Building a world with enough for all.



IMPACT REPORT 2019

The CWS Kit and Blanket Programs are two of the many ways Church World Service shares in a hope-filled tomorrow. Your support truly makes a difference in the lives of children and families all over the world. Here's how CWS has provided kits & blankets through your support of this program.

This year, in the **United States**, we've distributed over **96,000 CWS Blankets and Kits**.

"When you are staying in a temporary shelter something as simple as a CWS Hygiene Kit and a soft blanket to keep you warm can provide you with a little piece of comfort and dignity."

-REV. TERRY KUKUK, DAYTON OHIO TORNADO RESPONSE, 2019



This year, **internationally**, we've distributed over **58,000 CWS Blankets and Kits**.



TOTAL KITS AND BLANKETS DISTRIBUTED GLOBALLY: **154,334**



CWS

cwskits.org
cwsblankets.org

OUTREACH NEWS

The first quarter APOSTLES CARE TEAM fund check was mailed to Waynesboro Human Services for \$310.05.

We have been working on ways to increase our balance in the Silver Express Fund. We have been able to secure a grant of \$500.00 from M&T Bank and a donation of \$1500.00 from the Waynesboro Owls Club. We have also applied for a grant from the Waynesboro Beneficial Association. There will be a basket at the side door with samples of grocery items and a box for cash. This will help remind us of this worthwhile outreach program.

- ___ ACT Fund
- ___ Silver Express
- ___ Habitat for Humanity

Consistory discussed this at their last meeting and a suggestion was made to put options on the yellow pew envelopes. When Church resumes, there will be 3 choices on each envelope and we would like for you to check which outreach you want to receive the money. Waynesboro

Human Services, Silver Express or Habitat for Humanity. Please put your name or envelope number on the envelope to receive credit on your tax statement.

Especially during this time when Waynesboro Human Services needs more help than ever, we do not want to take donations from the Backpack Food Program. We just want to make other options for our members and this may act as a reminder for the other programs.

Judy Fitz,
Team Leader



**Please
support
these
Important
Outreach
Missions!**

**SILVER
EXPRESS
DELIVERY**



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

God's

4-U-2

Please forward an address change to the Church office.



May 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.