

NEWSLETTER

FOR MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF FALKNER SWAMP UCC



See inside for:

- *Consistory highlights*
- *Financial matters*
- *Summer schedule*
- *Pollinator garden picture*
- *Preston's Pantry (Multi-Service) needs*

Happening at church this week:

-Work began this week to take down old piping in preparation for our new heating system. Good's assures us, "You'll have heat for the winter"!

Upcoming ... (beyond this week)

-July 7 – 1 pm, Postcard writing party to elected officials, invited by and held at St. James UCC, 321 S. Limerick Rd., Royersford. Please see or contact Rev. Frances for more info, pastorfalknerswamp@comcast.net.



Thank you to our Cleaning Crew this month! They keep all our church spaces sparkling & fresh.
For June, we thank Bob & Sharon Schnaars.
For July, we thank Matt & Laura Brown.

Always room to add more cleaners and cleaning teams! Contact church office if you have some time & can help out: 610-323-4053 or falknerswamp@comcast.net

Asking for volunteers for Altar Guild. Only need five minutes of your time following Sunday Worship to perform the following:

- Covering paraments and brass with white covers
- Removing numbers from hymn board
- Doing a quick check of pews for bits of trash or any item left behind

Please contact Fran Berkowitz (fiberko@aol.com)



Dear Falkner Swamp Friends,

We are transitioning to a once-a month newsletter beginning July. We'll continue monthly through October, incorporating my sabbatical from Sept 1 through Oct 31. As needed, weekly newsletters may come out.

Over the past month much has changed in our nation. I wish I had clarity myself to help you also cut through the billowing clouds of bombs that keep going off (literally and figuratively.)

I made a list of “all the things” – from gun violence, war, Supreme Court decisions that are and will drastically alter our landscape, the hearings about the January 6 insurrection, earthquakes & continued climate change damage. It makes my heart hurt and head spin.

For now I am sitting with the events swirling around us and offer them to God in prayer. As a person of Christian faith, I am aware that God will ask me to participate in the healing of our world, as Jesus modeled and then equipped his disciples to do likewise.

As I am absorbing the earthly news, I am reminded of the gospel good news, that God loves us fiercely and forever and forever is seeking to heal and transform *all creation*. See for example Genesis 1:31; Exodus 6:1-8; Psalms 96, 102; Isaiah 40; Micah 4: 1-4; Luke 1:25-35; Luke 4:14-21; Matthew 5:1-16; Matthew 27:51-56; Matthew 28:8-10; Mark 10:21; Mark 12:28-34; John 15:1-17; John 16:12-16; Acts 2:42-47; Acts 10:34; Ephesians 1:3-14; Colossians 1:15-20; Revelation 20:1-6.

As we approach this Sunday, closest to July 4, we will consider Jesus' words to his disciples as he sends them off in pairs to share this gospel good news, Luke 10:1-11, 16-20. A guiding question for me as I consider how to share this scripture with you is, what does it mean to carry our peace with us?

July 10 will be an Apostolic Sunday. Erica and the choir are putting together a hymn sing with introductions for each. The list includes: It is Well With My Soul (Wayne Gruver), In the Garden (Deb Gruver), Take My Life and Let it Be (Arlene Umstead), Amazing Grace (Bob Schnaars), Precious Lord Take My Hand (Debbie Lord), and How Great Thou Art (Bob Erb).

July 24 I will offer a service of healing. It will include many of the elements for worship as on a typical Sunday, and also time for people to approach for prayer and anointing with oil, if desired. July 31-August 7 are my final vacation Sundays for the year, and we will welcome Laura Brown and Rev. Paul Jones to lead us in worship.

With you on the journey, Rev. Frances

July

3 10 AM/Worship Communion 7 PM/AA Mtg.	4 	5 **Rev. Frances' & Sharon's office hours 9 – 12 PM	6 Sharon's office hours 9:30 – 1:30 PM	7 **Rev. Frances' office hours 1 PM Postcard Writing Party, St. James Limerick	8	9
10 10 AM/Worship 7 PM/AA Mtg.	11	12 **Rev. Frances' & Sharon's office hours 9 – 12 PM	13 Sharon's office hours 9:30 – 1:30 PM	14 **Rev. Frances' office hours	15	16
17 10 AM/Worship Apostolic Sunday Hymn Sing led by Erica Creed 7 PM/AA Mtg.	18	19 **Rev. Frances' office hours	Sharon vacation July 16 - 23		22	23
24 10 AM/Worship Service of Healing 7 PM/AA Mtg.	25	26 Sharon's office hours 9 – 12 PM	27 Sharon's office hours 9:30 – 1:30 PM	28	29	30
31 10 AM/Worship Laura Brown preaching Future of F.S. special offering 7 PM/AA Mtg.	Rev. Frances vacation July 25 – Aug. 7					

Please note vacations – Sharon: July 16 -23, Rev. Frances: July 25 – Aug. 7

** Times vary, please call or text for an appointment: 484-995-2705.



Prayer requests will be kept on the prayer list for 3 weeks.

Please contact Rev. Frances if the prayer request should be extended.

- Caitlin & Jordan, for Caitlin's pregnancy and the unborn baby
- For the teenaged children and grandchild of Alisha, Deb Gruver's co-worker, who was killed in a car accident.
- Betsy Basile, at home recuperating from recent hospital stay.
- Kyle S., for him and for his family upon the death of his grandmother on June 1.
- Tom, Arlene's nephew, for health issues.



Some Highlights from May's Consistory Meeting

- Full, approved minutes are on the bulletin board outside the church office.
- Rev. Ann Few will cover Rev. Frances' sabbatical, Sept. 1 – Oct. 31
 - Heater work is starting soon
 - Property Committee is preparing recommended steeple repair options & will present to Consistory and then to the congregation for a vote
 - As the sponsoring church for Laura Brown's Member in Discernment process, Consistory approved sharing 1/3 of the cost (\$600) for PHYSIS testing & creating a Discernment Committee to support Laura
 - Falkner Swamp received "5 for 5" recognition at the Spring Conference meeting held June 3-4. Being 5 for 5 means that our church provides support to Our Church's Wider Mission and the four Special Mission Offerings received throughout the year: One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen The Church, Neighbors In Need and The Christmas Fund.

Faithful Giving: Falkner Swamp by the (financial) numbers:

This financial information is for the month of May 2022.

Total general fund intake and outgoing is:

General Funds Income:	\$9,160.18
General Funds Expenses:	\$27,311.08
General Fund Loss for month:	(\$18,150.90)

Restricted Funds Income:	\$732.38
Restricted Funds Expenses:	\$578.88



For more information see Vivian's Treasurer's Report on the bulletin board outside the church office.

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

– Winston Churchill



Summer Schedule for Apostolic and Vacation Sundays

As a reminder, our church observes an “Apostolic Sunday” as Rev. Frances is three-quarters (not full) time with our church. Typically, they occur every other month, for a total of 6 per year. On these Sundays, called “Apostolic” in reference to the Apostles in the book of Acts who were itinerant (traveling) preachers, we often host a supply preacher who leads worship with our lay leader. It turns out there will be an Apostolic Sunday both in June and July, plus some vacation Sundays. Rev. Frances arranged the following for those Sundays this summer:

July 10 (Apostolic): Hymn Sing, prepared by Erica Creed and members of the Choir
July 31 (Vacation): Laura Brown
Aug 7 (Vacation): Rev. Paul Jones

Rev. Frances will be on sabbatical Sept 1- Oct 31. The Rev. Ann Few will provide pulpit supply on most Sundays. More details to follow.

Summer Hours for Erica, Organist/Choir Director

July 7, 10am-12pm
July 14, 10am-12pm
July 27, 6-8pm

Choir will start back up on Wednesday, August 3.

Summer Newsletters

Monthly newsletters for July, August, September & October

If you have any submissions for the newsletters, please get them to the office by the last Tuesday of the month. If you miss a deadline, we can email announcements/information separately.

Pollinator Garden 6/28/2022



STOCK PRESTON'S PANTRY

The Pantry is running low of the following items:

FOOD

- CRACKERS
- MASHED POTATOES
- STUFFING MIX
- CHEF BOYARDEE MEALS
- CANNED POTATOES
- CANNED DICED TOMATOES
- CANNED FRUIT
- HAMBURGER HELPER
- SPAGHETTI SAUCE
- CEREAL
- PANCAKE MIX
- OATMEAL
- JUICE BOXES
- KIDS SNACKS
- BAKING SUPPLIES (SUGAR, FLOUR, ETC)

PERSONAL CARE

- SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER SETS
- HAND SOAP
- UNSCENTED BAR SOAP

CLEANING & PAPER PRODUCTS

- DISH SOAP

Donations can be dropped off at the Multi-Service Building between 9 am - 4 pm Monday through Friday.

Or in the bin @ church. We'll be sure to get them to Multi-Service.