



The Courier

St. Paul's United Church of Christ of Indianland

JULY/AUGUST 2022



State of the Heart!

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." (Matthew 22: 34 – 40)

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The challenge of being the church has been to come to a common ground on mission, worship, and teaching, and to figure out how each of those has changed over the past and into the future. Each of us has our own wonderful ideas and thoughts for each of those topics, and I believe it would make for a glorious conversation for all of us to share in! However, sometimes we are scared to speak, to share a thought; we feel unsafe, unworthy, foolish, and on and on as I could add thought after thought on how we might feel about speaking together. Jesus knew what people felt and how they thought, sometimes, I believe, before they even had it figured out. We, like the Pharisees and the Sadducees, work hard at not only testing our God and Savior, but at testing ourselves and others as well. Winning, at all costs, seems more important than almost anything else for far too many people and yes, Christians too! And so, with a portion of my thoughts already written, I ask "Where is your (our) HEART"? Are we getting even a bit closer to Jesus' words on what the Greatest Commandment is, let alone the second one?

There is a great deal of "noise" that sometimes distracts us from being a follower of Jesus and loving God as he has shown us. We find it easier to advise God than to love God. And yet, even when we stray from these commandments, God does not eliminate us, write us off, or forget about us. No, God offers us continual love, unending mercy through his forgiveness and a fresh start, over and over again and again. Wouldn't that make our lives so much better if we could do the same for the people around us, as well as those "strangers" or "enemies" we have identified? I believe it would certainly have a positive impact if we began to live more in the way of Christ than getting in the way OF Christ! It is always good to do a kind of check-up on who, how and why we are where we are and what we feel is the direction that the Spirit is moving us. I am certain that many of you have thoughts, fears, hopes, and ideas as well. I encourage you to share them with the church leaders as we continue to discern the past, present, and the future. After all, we are preparing to celebrate our 275th Anniversary next year. God is already in the future. We just need to find

Christian Education News

Pastor's Message — continued from page 1

We are entering the summer months and for many, a time of relaxation and vacation. You have heard it often, do not take a vacation from God! And we shouldn't do that. However, a time of rest, renewal and hopefully stillness, might just be what we need the most! Turn off the news, the phones, the many devices that we have that offer us "distraction" and "information" and listen to your heart and listen for God to speak to your heart, your soul, and your mind! For if Jesus said that is where our love is to be, then let us be loving and get it there as best we are able. Not loving all of the other noise or commotion that is all around us, but loving God's Word, God's love, God's grace for each of us and loving one another where they are, not where we think they need to be.

May we be emboldened in our faith, in our love, and in our grace, not judging or persecuting, but praying in order to change our world through faith, hope and love. Micah 6:8 reminds us of what it is that the Lord requires of us; He calls us to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God. May we always continue on this path with one another, knowing that God is there, Jesus is the constant light for us, and that the Holy Spirit is our source of strength in all things. Blessings, peace, and the courage to do what needs to be done by God's standard, not by ours. Change our heart, O God. Amen!

Pastor Martin

Vacation Bible School

SCHOOL IS OUT!!!!

What a year it has been. Days in classroom, other days learning on line. Well, finally the computers can be silent and you can now enjoy the summer weather. Time to enjoy swimming, sleeping, games, ice cream, and **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**. Definitely NO COMPUTERS!!!!

During last year's VBS, there were questions about different celebrations in the church. Questions about Jesus' resurrection, ascension, and the Holy Spirit.

During our VBS this year, we will try to answer the questions and help our children understand more about their Faith.

Vacation Bible school will run from **July 25, 2022 thru July 29, 2022 from 6:15 to 8:15 PM** with our annual Church service/picnic on July 31st at Indian Trail Park. The Theme this year is **CHRISTIAN CELEBRATIONS**. We will be learning more about and why we celebrate LENT, EASTER, ASCENSION DAY, AND PENTECOST.

There will definitely be SNACKS, GAMES, CRAFTS AND - FINALLY - THE LESSONS. All are invited to learn more about these Christian Celebrations.

If you are willing to help in any way, please see Beth Sikorsky.

MOTHERS/FATHERS DAY

Christian Education News

SUNDAY SCHOOL

This past year, our Sunday school met in Fellowship Hall with all ages in attendance. It was a good year for those in attendance. I am hoping to see many of our children return to learn more about Jesus and how we can show/tell others about the relationship we can have with our Friend/Savior Jesus Christ.

Since children/youth have been meeting in classrooms in school, I am hoping for our attendance to increase. We have missed so much of their growing up both physically and spiritually.

Our **Annual Rally Day** will be held on **Sunday, September 11, 2022**. We will have a **special guest: Tootsee the Clown** will be bringing her special gifts to share with us. Please mark your calendars and join us for a time of Fun and Fellowship with Tootsee.

We also have an **ADULT CLASS** meeting every week. Their curriculum is a Lectionary based curriculum. For one hour each week you can put your brain in neutral to learn and fellowship with other adults.

If you have any questions, please see Beth Sikorsky.

HELP WANTED:

It will not be to long before a **new program year will be beginning** at St. Paul's. The pandemic has shown us we need each other. The expected classes in our Sunday school are Nursery/Kindergarten, Primary, and Youth. The requirements for a teacher are, a willingness to share your story with the children/youth. We don't need to be teachers to help children/youth know our friend Jesus.

Each of us learns something new every day in our lives. The same is true when reading/teaching the Bible. Our experiences or life makes the Bible come alive each time we read a passage.

The curriculum is online and very user friendly. The curriculum gives us the theme for the Sunday which also follows the Revised Common Lectionary. There are activities which reinforce the lesson. There is also room for your own creativity. If you would like to learn more about this opportunity, please see Beth Sikorsky.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Since the Pandemic, most places continue to work out how to welcome visitors and participants. Therefore, we stayed in Cherryville and traveled around the United States learning about Amish Communities. **We traveled using a 6-part Video, "Breaking the Silence: My Amish**

PRAYER LIST

Current Need:

Debbie Budinetz	Gloria Newhard	Brenda Usher	Kirsten Bickert	Debbie Prutzman
Dustin Miller	Sallie Weaver	Linda Hartzell	Stephanie Prutzman	Dale Coughlin
Linda Baumgartner	Logan Krick	Kathy Heist	Ukraine	Carol Samuels
Carol and Angela	Debbie	Alexa Muffley Holt	Gina Sikorsky Mitchell	
Eric Hantz	Robert Knot	Johnny	John Weaver	Magdalaina
Mike Hartman	Mae Fredericks	Anne Harrity	Angie	Terry Carlton
Faye Neff	Kim Mickey	Jimmy Hurstman	Mike Miller	Carl
Robbie Moore	Judy Silnik	Evan Hantz	Nancy Green	Andrea Coughlin
Zachary Long	Courtney Bloom	Kristen Meeker	Kay Bolus	Carol Williams
Harold Frable	Jeff Reihoff	Donna Whitman	Charles Wagner	Jerry
Nadia Cosper	Julie Gelfuso	Jessica Harris	Kayla Bartholomew	Jeanette Haram
Alyzah Borger	Ernest Muffley	Chelsea Caruso		

Longer Term Need:

Theresa Carbonell	Darryl Wentz	Jessica Smith	Pat James	Tina Rehrig
Brandon Snyder	Franklin Dorshimer	Joe & Deb McGeary	Mary Beatrice	Gary Kresini
Pat Neff	Vicki Hall	Cole Ruch	Kevin Reilly	Nigel Mease
Joseph Vadenya	David Jones	Linda Barkley	Aryiah	Becky
Russell Blakeslee	Deborah Peterson	Dawn Stattler	Karen Bet	Bob Bakross
Michelle Brosious	George Borger, Jr.	Marion Bossard	Sharlene Weaver	Shirley Cressman
Lori Rader	Pamela Martin	Susan Zachary	Joan Drey	The Chupa Family
Stan Butz	The Thomson Family	Kim Rey	Sam Steinmetz	Clark Plummer
Jim Miller	Howard & Ida Bachman		John Hine	Darlene Hock
Joanne Peters	Rose Lanus	Dorian Arnwine	Margo Roberts	Robert Custard
Vicki Eltz	Jeannie Yehl	Linda Becker	Laura Rannella	Gail Bauer
Noah Iucci	Lisa Dotson	Amber Steffie	Corey Doolan	Louise King
Karen White	Ryan Holmes	Peter Rosales	Katie & Maggie Paules	
Janet Erickson	Cindy Hogman	Edie	Ashley Henninger	
The Bauer Family				

Those Who Mourn:

The family and friends of Arlene George.

Hands For Prayer



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

people & Places

Sensational 70's Club

- 11 — AY Hughes
- 16 — Donald Brensinger
- 20 — Janet Gaston
- 23 — Sallie Weaver
- 29 — Rochelle Salabsky
- 30 — Wilfred Smith

Exceptional 80's Club

- 13 — Shirley Eckhart
- 26 — Eleanore Schroeter

Wedding Anniversaries

- 4 — Pat & Carl James, Sr —
60 years
- 9 — Irene & Wilfred Smith —
53 years
- 11 — Tina & Robert Litsch —
42 years
- 15 — Beverly & Wilson Putt —
64 years
- 22 — Katie & Kyron Arner —
2 years
- 24 — Wanda & Patrick Bloch —
17 years
- 26 — Stacy & Sean Maynard —
2 years

- 2 — Terrence Field
- 3 — Hope Fritz
- 4 — Lucas Angstadt
Aubree Silfies
- 5 — Kayla Bradberry
Joseph Bradberry
Gavin Heffelfinger
- 7 — Steph Carbonell
Wade Budinetz
- 11 — AY Hughes
- 12 — Jaclyn Bickert
- 13 — Shirley Eckhart
- 15 — Steve Kovalchick
Melissa Burchett
- 16 — Donald Brensinger
David Hartzell, Jr
- 18 — LeeAnn Hildebrand
- 20 — Janet Gaston
Raivyn Smiley
- 22 — Karissa Schmidt
- 23 — Sallie Weaver
Jaron Graver
Taylor Biechy
- 25 — Lance Strohl
- 26 — Eleanore Schroeter
Kim Drey
Charles Vilanova
Connor Fritz
- 29 — Rochelle Salabsky
Michael Petruska
- 30 — Wilfred Smith

OUR MISSIONS

Noisy Offering for July is: Allentown Rescue Mission

ABOUT US: Here at the Allentown Rescue Mission, we are a team of dedicated employees and volunteers who meet people where they are, and give them the resources to get where they are going.

We are a non-denominational, social services organization, that provides critically-needed goods and services to homeless and impoverished men, without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, or religion. The Allentown Rescue Mission is not a church but does cooperate with many different churches that are concerned about poverty and homelessness.

Our motivation for helping those less fortunate goes back for more than 100 years. We believe that we all deserve a second chance and work to provide hope and renewal to the homeless men of the Greater Lehigh Valley.

TODAY: The Allentown Rescue Mission continues to reinvent itself to address the increasingly complex root causes and issues of homelessness. Many of our clients experience "dual-diagnosis;" they have both a chemical addiction and some form of mental illness. Staff is educated and experienced, professional and compassionate.

For more than 100 years, the Allentown Rescue Mission has been a place where men have begun to experience restoration.

Noisy Offering for August is: Bethany Children's Home

Mission and Vision: The mission of Bethany Children's Home is to provide a safe place of nurture, protection, and supportive care to aid our residents in their self-understanding, growth, and healing toward a brighter, healthier future.

Our vision is of a community where all youth and team members are safe in their environment and feel safe within themselves. To bring this vision into reality, we provide the resources needed to children and families to work through their losses, enabling them to have a brighter future.

Bethany Children's Home is affiliated with many industry and community organizations, including:

Association of Fundraising Professionals

Greater Reading Chamber Alliance

Conrad Weiser Rotary

Hugh Smith and Associates

Pennsylvania Council of Children, Youth and Family Services

Society for Human Resource Management

Take Heart Counseling and Equine Therapy

OUR MISSIONS

July Mission: Phoebe Home

Founded in 1903 and affiliated with the United Church of Christ, Phoebe offers the desirable amenities, benefits, and programs of larger, more urban senior communities, but with the feel of a small town surrounded by local attractions and natural beauty. Backed by over a century of experience – and inspired by a core mission to promote healthy aging – Phoebe’s communities and services provide active retirement with the security of a full continuum of senior care.

Far beyond our borders, our services support the needs of seniors throughout Pennsylvania, from Comforting Home Care and Pathstones, to our Telehealth program in partnership with Lehigh Valley Health Network, to Brain Fitness and the Phoebe Institute on Aging, our reach in providing supportive living and deeply thoughtful wellness programs does not stop at the walls of our communities.

As a non-profit organization, we’re focused on creating a culture of caring campuses rich in amenities, and superior retirement living at a superior value. At Phoebe, we believe your senior years are your greatest years.

Phoebe offers a full continuum of care — from independent living to rehabilitation, personal care, and memory support — through four continuing care retirement communities. Love where you live, with the added security of knowing that as your needs change you won’t ever have to move. You’ll already be where you need to be – with access to all the resources you’ll ever need, while being surrounded by the people you want to be with.

In addition to eight managed or owned affordable housing locations, four pharmacies, and several other community-based services, Phoebe offers 14 entities serving 12 Pennsylvania counties.

As senior living experts, we not only are recognized in our communities for our best-in-class care, we have an industry reputation for excellence and the awards and regional reputation to prove it.

Q. Do I have to pay an entrance fee?

A. The Terrace at Phoebe Allentown offers two plans that require an initial investment to become a resident, as well as one plan that requires only a security deposit.

Phoebe Berks Village does require an initial investment to become a resident, although there is a fee-for-service option available. The amount of the entrance fee depends on the size of the unit selected.

At Phoebe Wyncote the rates vary slightly with size of apartment.

Q. Are healthcare services provided?

OUR MISSIONS

August Mission: Lancaster Theological Seminary

Lancaster Theological Seminary: Where God Transforms Us to Transform Others and the World

Lancaster Theological Seminary is a richly diverse and dynamic graduate school of theology located in the historic city of Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

An ecumenical seminary affiliated with the United Church of Christ, Lancaster Seminary is home to an engaged community of students and faculty from many Christian traditions and backgrounds.

Our mission is to educate and nurture leaders to join in God's redemptive and liberating work so that all creation may flourish.

As a student at Lancaster Theological Seminary, you are both encouraged and challenged in your beliefs, and your spiritual formation is nurtured. You will enjoy meaningful access to our renowned faculty and build lasting bonds with your peers as you learn and worship together.

Our programs integrate intellectual, spiritual, and vocational learning that is grounded in real-world contexts through interaction with local and global communities of faith.

Our Beginnings: Lancaster Theological Seminary was founded in 1825 at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania as a seminary of what was then called the Reformed Church in the United States, often called the German Reformed to differentiate it from the Dutch Reformed or the Reformed Church in America. At the time of our founding, there was one professor, five students, and approximately 200 books in the theological library.

Student Body Statistics (as of October 1, 2021)

Enrollment: 88

Degree and Non-Degree Program Enrollment:

	Female	Male	Day Program	Weekend Program	Total
Master of Divinity	25	26	13	38	51
MA (Religion)	0	1	1	0	1
MA (Ministry & Leadership)	3	4	1	5	6
Doctor of Ministry	15	12	28	-0-	28
Unclassified/Certificate Programs					
	2	1	2	-0-	2
Totals	45	43	45	43	88

Lay, Life and Work

Summer is finally here!!! As we enjoy the warm weather and longer days, LLW is busy planning for the future.

The **Church Picnic** is planned at Indian Trail Park on **Sunday, July 31st**. The church service will begin at 10:30am and food and fellowship will follow. Please **bring a covered dish to share, dessert, cake walk item and a BINGO prize**. LLW will provide **hotdogs and BBQ**. The creek will be cool and refreshing so water shoes and towels may be needed if you are tempted to enjoy the water!! **We will also be having a dime toss** so bring some dimes, or if you need some, a dollar bill, and toss for a cause. All proceeds will go to the Allentown Rescue Mission. If you are uncomfortable with a buffet picnic, you may bring your own meal for yourself and your family. If you are unable to bring something, please bring yourself as we will have plenty to share.

A Chicken and Pulled Pork Dinner is planned on **Saturday, September 17th**. Tickets will be **\$11/meal** choosing between a half of chicken or a generous serving of pulled pork and every meal will include a baked potato, green beans or corn, applesauce or coleslaw, a roll, dessert and a beverage for those who eat in. **Meals may be takeout or eat in**. Tickets are now available and will be available to purchase after church or by calling the church at 610-767-4572. Desserts will be needed for this event so please donate one or more if you are able to. Please plan ahead as there will be a limited amount of day of event tickets available.

The recent Hoagie Sale went well and another is planned for **Tuesday, September 27th** pick up in Fellowship Hall between 4-5:30pm. Each hoagie will be \$5 and a sign up sheet will be available in the Narthex. The profit from this fundraiser will benefit the Sunday School Students for a future Sight and Sound trip.

Dream Come True is planned for **Sunday, October 2nd** and more information will follow.

Finally, stay tuned for more information regarding a **Chili Dinner** planned on **Saturday, October 15th**. This will be a return event enjoyed by many and is a fun day to fellowship and try different recipes.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 10th at 7:30pm**.

The consistory persons for the month of July are Greg Glovas and Joe Nierer.

The consistory persons for the month of August are Jeff Hantz and Sallie Weaver.

Worship Information

July 3rd

Flowers: The first vase is presented by Beverly and Wilson Putt for the 1st birthday of great granddaughter, Maci Anne Farley.

Bulletins: None Presented.

OT: II Kings 5: 1 — 14

NT: Galatians 6: 1 — 16

Gospel: Luke 10: 1 — 11, 16 — 20

July 10th

Flowers: The first vase is presented by Mrs. Wesley Miller in honor of son Dustin's birthday on July 13th.

The second vase is presented by Mrs. Wesley Miller in honor of son Wes' birthday on July 14th.

Bulletins: None Presented.

OT: Amos 7: 7 — 17

NT: Colossians 1: 1 — 14

Gospel: Luke 10: 25 — 37

July 17th

Flowers: None Presented.

Bulletins: None Presented.

OT: Amos 8: 1 — 12

NT: Colossians 1: 15 — 28

Gospel: Luke 10: 38 — 42

July 24th

Flowers: The first vase is presented by Stephanie and Leon Prutzman for Leah Prutzman's birthday.

Bulletins: None Presented.

OT: Hosea 1: 2 — 10

NT: Colossians 2: 6 — 19

Gospel: Luke 11: 1 — 13

July 31st — Church Picnic

No Flowers to be sponsored this day.

Bulletins: None Presented.

OT: Hosea 11: 1 — 11

NT: Colossians 3: 1 — 11

Gospel: Luke 12: 13 — 21

August 7th

Flowers: None Presented.

Bulletins: None Presented.

OT: Isaiah 1: 1, 10 — 20

NT: Hebrews 11: 1 — 3, 8 — 16

Gospel: Luke 12: 32 — 40

August 14th

Flowers: The first vase is presented by the Family Trust Fund in memory of Verna Stuber.

The second vase is presented by the Prutzman's in celebration of their 16th wedding anniversary on August 20th.

Bulletins: None Presented.

OT: Isaiah 5: 1 — 7

NT: Hebrews 11: 29 — 12: 2

Gospel: Luke 12: 49 — 56

August 21st

The first vase is presented by Shane & Gwen Hershman and Sierra & Tyler Isringhaus in honor of Kathryn Hershman's birthday.

The second vase is presented by the Family Trust Fund in memory of William Hall.

The bulletins are presented by Shane & Gwen Hershman and Sierra & Tyler Isringhaus in honor of Kathryn Hershman's birthday.

OT: Jeremiah 1: 4 — 10

NT: Hebrews 12: 18 — 29

Gospel: Luke 13: 10 — 17

August 28th

The first vase is presented by Mrs. Wesley Miller in memory of husband Wesley Miller.

The second vase is presented by the Nuscher family in memory of Pat Vesely.

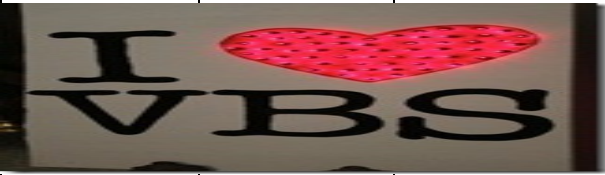



Bulletins: None Presented.

OT: Jeremiah 2: 4 — 13

NT: Hebrews 13: 1 — 8, 15 — 16

Gospel: Luke 14: 1, 7 — 14

JULY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:00A — Christian Education Online 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person, in the parking lot or on the telephone	4 	5	6	7	8	9
10 7:30A — Contemporary Praise Service with Communion 9:00A — Christian Education Online 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person, in the parking lot or on the telephone	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 9:00A — Christian Education Online 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person, in the parking lot or on the telephone	18	19	20 5:00P —Hall and Pavilion Usage	21	22	23
24 9:00A — Christian Education Online 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person, in the parking lot or on the telephone	25 6:15P to 8:15P Vacation Bible School	26 6:15P to 8:15P Vacation Bible School	27 6:15P to 8:15P Vacation Bible School	28 6:15P to 8:15P Vacation Bible School	29 6:15P to 8:15P Vacation Bible School	30
31 9:00A — Christian Education Online 10:30A — Worship Service — at Indian Trail Park with Picnic to follow. Nothing online this day.						

OFFICE HOURS: The office hours vary. Please call the office to schedule an appointment if you need to. General messages may be sent to office@indianland.org or call 610-767-5751. In case of emergency, please

AUGUST 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 7:30P — Elders	3	4	5	6
7 9:00A — Christian Education Online 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person, in the parking lot or on the telephone	8	9	10 10:00A — "To 275" Committee 7:00P — Worship and Arts 7:30P — Lay, Life and Work	11	12	13
14 7:30A — Contemporary Praise Service with Communion 9:00A — Christian Education Online 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person, in the parking lot or on the telephone	15 Newsletter Articles are Due!	16 7:00P — Consistory	17	18	19	20
21 9:00A — Christian Education Online 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person, in the parking lot or on the telephone	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:00A — Christian Education Online 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person, in the parking lot or on the telephone	29	30	31			

OFFICE HOURS: The office hours vary. Please call the office to schedule an appointment if you need to. General messages may be sent to office@indianland.org or call 610-767-5751. In case of emergency, please contact Pastor Martin Nuscher on his cell phone, 484-707-7006 or by email to pastor@indianland.org.

St. Paul's UCC of Indianland

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Please note that the next Courier for publication will be the **September 2022 newsletter**. Please plan your submissions accordingly and submit no later than **August 15th**. If there are any questions or concerns please call the office at **610-767-5751** or email them to **office@indianland.org**. **Thank you very much.**

Traditional Worship Service — Sundays at 10:30 am — in person, on-line, FM transmitter (.25 mile radius from church) or via your telephone

Christian Education Hour — Weekly lessons will be on Face Book at 9:00am.

Contemporary Praise Worship — in person only service on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 7:30am.

Please send any prayer requests to office@indianland.org or call and leave them on our answering machine at 610 — 767 — 5751. We love to **PUSH** — that is **Pray Until Something Happens**.

Celebrating Our 274th Anniversary — 1748 — 2022