



St. John's UCC, Fullerton

575 Grape Street ☩ Whitehall PA 18052
www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org
610-264-8421



***We Worship, We Love, We Serve
– No Matter What!***

**July 6, 2025
9:30am**



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

We Worship

Welcome to St. John's UCC, Fullerton!

We celebrate the life and hope we find together in God's love!

As the music begins, please find your place and quietly center your spirit for our worship of God together.

Our Offering is received as we gather for worship, with plates located on pedestals at the back. We graciously accept your gifts to God of praise and gratitude, to be presented during the service. While guests are welcome to contribute, please know there is no obligation; the financial support of our church is primarily the responsibility of our congregation members.

Children's Faith Formation begins in the early part of our worship service in the sanctuary, including the Children's Message. Parents are asked to accompany their child if they are at the kids' table in the back.

***Those who are comfortably able, please stand**

Vacation Bible School Highlight Reel

"Welcome Here"

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Steve Davis

- **SUMMER SUPPER SHARING FOR THE SOUL!**
Wednesdays @ 6:00pm beginning on July 2 & 9, 23 & 30, August 6 & 13, with mid-week Faith Formation guide, "How to Study the Bible and Enjoy It! (See pg. 13)
- Guest Pastors, July 13 – Rev. Bob Stevens and Rev. Janet Boyd leading worship
- Backpacks and Back to School Supplies (See pg. 15)
- Grape St. Elevator Access Door

***Greeting and Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

Music to Prepare our Hearts for Worship

Patrick Sandt, Director of Music

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist: DonnaLee Yeatts

One: If you are heavy-hearted, wondering if there is power to make you well, or feel weighed down by many demands,

All: The kingdom of God has come near.

One: If you are burdened by rules others have imposed or you are a keeper and maker of rules; if you feel at home in this place or you long to be accepted,

All: The kingdom of God has come near.

One: Come and worship God, the One who writes our names in the book of life and dares us to become new creations in Jesus.

All: The kingdom of God has come near.

***Gathering Hymn**

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning

Verses 1 and 2

found on page 3

An Affirmation of Christian Unity

Liturgist: DonnaLee Yeatts

Written by Ian Tozer

(1997 UCA Assembly)

All: We believe in God the creator, who is always creative and invites us to affirm and explore who we are, with all our differences; and who is the source of our faith.

We believe in God the Savior revealed in the world as Jesus the Christ who died and is risen, the one Lord of the church.

We believe in God the Reconciler, the Holy Spirit, who is always with us bearing witness with our spirits that we are the children of God.

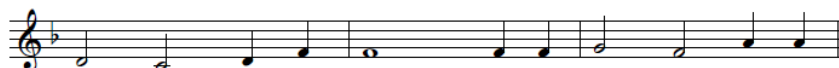
We believe that our smallness can never diminish God's vastness; that our frailties can never overcome God's will for wholeness; that our sin can never crush God's power for new life even in the face of death. We believe, and in this belief, we need one another, as a choir needs every voice and every part for the harmony to be complete. We believe - that in the Holy Spirit, in Jesus Christ and in the love of God - we are one!

We believe - And may our lives reflect our belief. Amen

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning



1. As a fire is meant for burn - ing With a
 2. We are learn - ers; we are teach - ers; We are
 3. As a green bud in the spring - time Is a



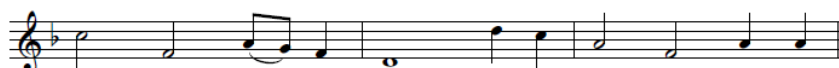
bright and warm - ing flame, So the church is meant for
 pil - grims on the way. We are seek - ers; we are
 sign of life re - newed, So may we be signs of



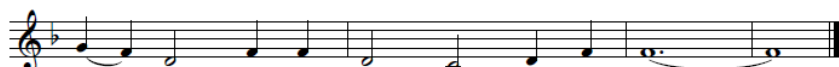
mis - sion, Giv - ing glo - ry to God's name.
 giv - ers; We are ves - sels made of clay.
 one - ness 'Mid earth's peo - ples, man - y hued.



Not to preach our creeds or cust - oms, But to
 By our gen - tle, lov - ing ac - tions, We would
 As a rain - bow lights the heav - ens When a



build a bridge of care, We join hands a - cross the
 show that Christ is light. In a hum - ble, lis - t'ning
 storm is past and gone, May our lives re - flect the



na - tions, Find - ing neigh - bors ev - 'ry - where.
 Spir - it, We would live to God's de - light.
 ra - diance Of God's new and glor - ious dawn.

Text: Ruth Duck, b.1947, © 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.

Tune: BEACH SPRING, 8 7 8 7 D; *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. by Marty Haugen, b.1950

A Prayer for Confession

Liturgist: DonnaLee Yeatts

One: Peaceful and merciful God, you promise that your Kingdom is within our reach. Yet we are often distracted by disagreements, demands, requirements, and rejections.

All: Have mercy on us O Lord

One: As we seek to follow Jesus, our rules and offences can separate us. Help us to refrain from deepening our divisions, and empower us to restore one another, fulfilling Christ's command to love.

All: Have mercy on us O Lord

One: You promise us victory over all that threatens to separate us from your presence. Help us forsake earthly power and victory, as we strive for the love your kingdom brings.

All: Have mercy on us O Lord

One: We ask for your grace to become more like Jesus, letting go of fleeting rewards of earthly status and recognition. Help us seek instead the eternal reward of resting in your loving arms.

All: Have mercy on us O Lord

(Time for Silent Prayer)

Words of Assurance

Liturgist: DonnaLee Yeatts

One: People of God, rest assured, God hears us and has mercy. God turns our wailing into dancing and our deepest regrets in our greatest joys.

All: O Lord, our hearts sing to you. May we know the gift of your forgiveness now and always. Thanks be to God!

Children's Message

Rev. Steve Davis

Hymn

Gather Us In
Verses 1 and 2

found on pages 5 and 6

Gather Us In



1. Here in this place new light is stream-ing,
 2. We are the young— our lives are a mys - t'ry,
 3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter,
 4. Not in the dark of build - ings con - fin - ing,



Now is the dark - ness van - ished a - way,
 We are the old— who yearn for your face,
 Here we will take the bread of new birth,
 Not in some heav - en, light - years a - way, But



See in this space our fears and our dream - ings,
 We have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 Here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



Brought here to you in the light of this day.
 Called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 Call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 Now is the King - dom, now is the day.



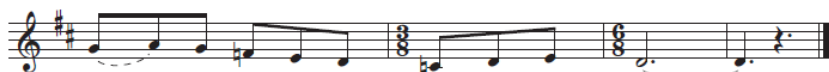
Gath - er us in— the lost and for - sak - en,
 Gath - er us in— the rich and the haugh - ty,
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion,
 Gath - er us in and hold us for ev - er,



Gath - er us in— the blind and the lame;
 Gath - er us in— the proud and the strong;
 Give us to eat the bread that is you;
 Gath - er us in and make us your own;



Call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
Give us a heart so meek and so low - ly,
Nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
Gath - er us in— all peo - ples to - geth - er,



We shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
Give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.
Lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950
Tune: GATHER US IN, Irregular; Marty Haugen, b.1950
© 1982, GIA Publications, Inc.

*Scripture Reading:

Galatians 6:1-10

Read by: Dewey Yeatts

My brothers and sisters, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride.
For all must carry their own loads.

Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher. Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up.

So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith.

One: The word of God for the people of God!

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Rev. Steven Davis

**The Church: Seeing and Being Seen
The Spirit that Supplies Us**

Song of Praise

This is My Song
Arr. by Joel Raney

Bells of St. John

We Love

Prayers of the People and Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Steve Davis

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Rev. Davis

*Please sign the communion book in the back of the church
if you have not done so at a service of communion in 2025.*

We are an Inclusive Community!

In the United Church of Christ, we observe an "open communion."

ALL people are welcome to receive

the gifts of God's grace and love with us at the table.

In the UCC, ALL means ALL!

The Invitation to Receive

One: Holy are you, God of compassion, for when death threatened your children and sin vowed to turn the universe back to chaos, you sent your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to heal the brokenness for the world. He did not grow weary of doing the right things, but confronted the wrongs of the world; he endured the violence of sin, that we might receive

the gentleness of life with you forever; he carried our sins to the cross, that we might bear the burdens of our sisters and brothers; he went ahead of us into death, that we might walk in the Kingdom.

All: As we dance to the Table to be filled with hope, we remember all that Jesus has done for us, and all that we have been called to do in his name. Great is the mystery of faith for Christ died, bearing our burdens. Christ was raised, mocking death's power. Christ will return, for the good of all.

One: You never grow weary of feeding us with the Bread of Life, or refreshing us with the Cup of Grace, for you use these simple gifts to transform our brokenness.

All: Through this gift of bread and wine, may we bring healing to the sick, freedom to the oppressed, speak peace to the human household, and carry the Kingdom with us wherever you would lead us. For we will not keep silent, but praise you forever and ever, God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

Words of Consecration

Rev. Davis

Sharing the Meal

The elements will be passed in the pew. We will receive the bread and eat at the same time, then the cup is passed and all drink together.

Hymn during Communion

Taste and See
by James Moore

*Please join in singing the refrain after the soloist sings the refrain.
found on page 9*

Refrain sung twice while the elements of bread are passed.

One: The body of Christ, given for us.

All: Amen

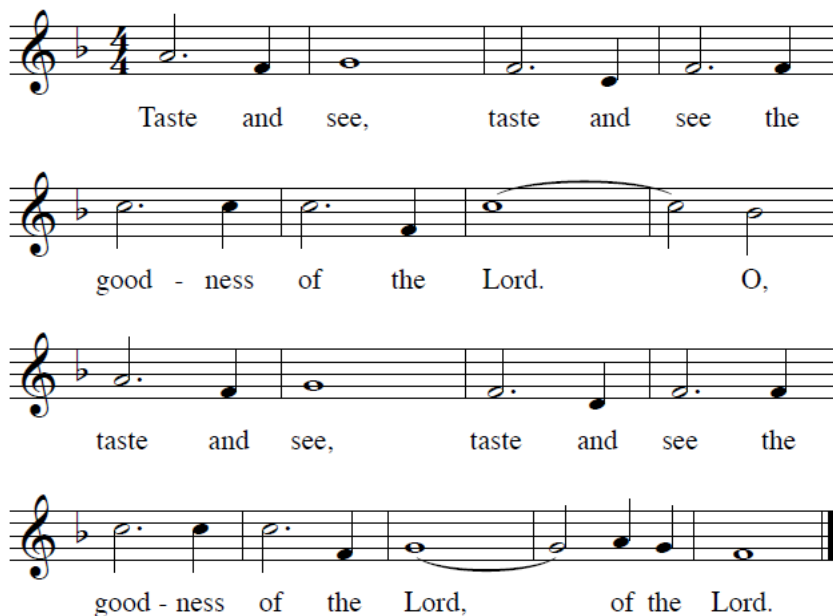
Refrain sung twice while the elements of wine are passed.

One: The cup of our salvation, given for us.

All: Amen

TASTE AND SEE

James E. Moore, Jr.



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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Davis

All: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace. This we pray in your most holy name, Amen.

Offering Our Gifts, Tithes and Offerings to God



Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness in supporting the ministry of St. John's UCC!

**Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Liturgist: DonnaLee Yeatts

**All: Generous God, you share your kingdom with all
humanity, drawing closer to us than our very breath.
May our offering this day support your holy work, and
may all come to know that your kingdom has truly come**

We Serve

near. Amen

***Closing Hymn**

*God of Our Fathers
Verses 1 and 2*

found on page 11

***Benediction**

Rev. Davis

***Postlude**

*Fanfare on “America”
Arr. by Eleanor Whitsett*

Patrick Sandt, Director of Music

*.When the altar candles have been extinguished, our time of worship is concluded
and our service in the world continues. The Benediction and Postlude send us out to
be the people of God in our community.*

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God of Our Fathers



1. God of our fa - thers, whose al - might - y hand
2. Your love di - vine has led us in the past,
3. From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti - lence,
4. Re - fresh your peo - ple on their toil - some way,



Leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
In this free land by you our lot is cast;
Your might - y arm our ev - er sure de - fense;
Lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;



Of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,
Be our strong rul - er, guar - dian, guide, and stay,
Your true re - lig - ion in our hearts in - crease,
Fill all our lives with heav'n - born love and grace,



Our grate - ful songs be - fore your throne a - rise.
Your word our law, your paths our cho - sen way.
Your boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
Un - til at last, we meet be - fore your face.

Text: Daniel C. Roberts, 1841-1907

Tune: NATIONAL HYMN, 10 10 10 10; George W. Warren, 1828-1902

Flower Sponsorship

In memory of mother and grandmother Arlene Snyder
by Paul and Carol Raszler and sons Michael and Joey

Our Worship & Faith Formation Sunday Schedule 9:30am Worship

Attendance – June 29

Onsite – 82 Online – 31

4th Sunday after Pentecost, July 6

Lectionary Readings

2 Kings 5:1-14 and Psalm 30

Isaiah 66:10-14 and Psalm 66:1-9

Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16 and Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: DonnaLee Yeatts

Scripture Reader: Dewey Yeatts

Worship Tech: Bill Castello

Altar Guild: Cindy Reck

Ushers/Greeters: Sharon Antrim, Robin Brensinger, Charlotte

Kerrigan, Kathy Roth

5th Sunday after Pentecost, July 13

Lectionary Readings

Amos 7:7-17 and Psalm 82

Deuteronomy 30:9-14 and Psalm 25:1-10

Colossians 1:1-14 and Luke 10:25-37

Serving in Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Janet Boyd

Scripture Reader: Kim Hillegass

Worship Tech: Bill Castello

Greeter: Marion DeMilio

Ushers: Carole O'Connell, Wayne Litchenberger

Altar Guild: Marion DeMilio

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers all those who are ill, in our area hospitals, or otherwise in need of prayer: Larry Albright, Phyllis Ambearle, Grace Arnold, Margaret and Richard Baatz, Christina Bach, Clarence Biehn, Sherry Castello (Bill's mom), Rob Czekner, Janet Ebert, Gus Geissinger, Gary George, Sally Gibson, Tracey Glass, Ron Glass, Donna Held, Geraldine Keim, Emma Kuczek Repp, Gayle Mihulec, Karen Moyer, Joey Raszler, Bert Smith, Leona Snyder, Martha Strauss, and George Williams.

Continued prayers for those in our military, especially Dominic DeMilio, Kaden Rossanese, and Nathan Unger.

If you or a family member is admitted to the hospital, tell them you are a member of St. John's or use the church code, **473**. To add someone to our prayer list please contact the Church Office.

SUMMER SUPPER SHARING FOR THE SOUL!

Wednesdays @ 6:00pm

July 2 & 9, 23 & 30, August 6 & 13

This tongue twister opportunity to deepen our faith and enjoy a fresh time of learning is perfect for your Wednesday evenings this summer. This special summer series invites you to step into Room 201 (Sanctuary/Office level) for supper (salads and sandwiches), study, and a sacred safe space where spiritual senses are stirred and sharpened. Savor a summer evening of sharing designed to stir your soul and strengthen your spiritual walk.

Send us a signal that you're ready to Sign up on Sundays or send an email to Steve! We will be discussing the book, "How to Study the Bible and Enjoy It" by Rev. Skip Heitzig. When you let us know your intention to participate, we will order the book for you. (\$7 donation if you're able.) We will also sign up to donate salads and slider sandwiches each week for us to enjoy together.

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE AND ENJOY IT!

The book *How to Study the Bible and Enjoy It* by Skip Heitzig comprises eight chapters, each designed to guide readers through a comprehensive and engaging approach to Bible study. The chapters are as follows:

1. Deciphering the Bible
2. Finding the Right Tools
3. Getting Started
4. Observation: Opening Your Eyes
5. Interpretation: Opening Your Mind
6. God's Creative Writing
7. Application: Opening Your Heart
8. Practicing What We've Preached

These chapters collectively provide a structured framework for participants to delve into the Scriptures, emphasizing the importance of observation, interpretation, and application in the study process. This is not a Bible Study, but rather a fresh way to look at HOW we study God's Word to find greater meaning from the ancient word and our Still Speaking God. **Save the dates and sign up today** to take part in this special summer study series!

REDNER'S, GIANT & WEIS

Save the register tapes from Redner's and the church receives 1% back. A collection jar for the tapes is on the table in the lounge area or see Karen Stoitsits. Please do not roll the Redner's tapes and do not include other stores' receipts. Buy Giant and Weis gift cards and the church receives 5% back. Also good for purchasing gas. You can get your gift cards from the office or by seeing Tom Moyer & Carol Raszler every Sunday.

WHITEHALL FOOD PANTRY

For the month of July, we are collecting pancake mix, pancake syrup, coffee, and canned baked beans. Any other non-perishable food items as well as monetary contributions are always welcome. A shopping cart can be found in the coatroom area by the sanctuary for you to place your food donations. If you would like to volunteer at the pantry on the 4th Monday of each month from 9am to 11am or 5:30pm to 8:00pm at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, please contact Gary Black at (484) 274-2405 or gary.t.black@outlook.com.

GRIEF SUPPORT ~ HEALTHCARE MINISTRY

You are invited to attend a grief support group at Asbury UM Church, 1533 Springhouse Rd., Allentown on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 1pm in the upper-level Parlor and is led by Rev. Evelyn Stupp, Asbury's Pastor of Bereavement and Care Ministries. Please contact her at estupp@asburylv.org or (610) 428-9095 for more details and to indicate your interest. The next support gathering is **Tuesday, July 22**.

PEOPLE NEEDED TO SERVE ON "FUN-RAISING" COMMITTEE

Help is needed for anyone interested in serving on St. John's "Fun-Raising" Committee. If you have thoughts on ways to raise money for the church, ideas for new fundraisers, suggestions for current fundraisers, we need you to consider becoming part of this committee. For more information, contact chairperson Amy Feidler at (835) 210-5944 or email at alfeidler@gmail.com.

GENERAL SYNOD EXPENSE – Special Offerings

This year, the PNEC has selected both Rev. Steve Davis and Tyler Shankweiler and others to represent our conference at the national level

of our global denomination, July 11-15, in Kansas City, Missouri. The PNEC will reimburse travel, food and General Synod expenses by 50% for all delegates. To help offset the expense for Pastor Steve and Tyler, we have a special offering plate and envelopes available for your donations. Contributions may also be made online noting General Synod Expense. Thank you for your generosity and support.

LEHIGH VALLEY SAVEAROUND BOOKS

With the year half over, we can now offer these books to you at a reduced cost of only \$10. You'll find coupons for restaurants (both dining and fast food), clothing, sporting goods stores, businesses, fun & recreation activities & more. Checks are payable to St. John's. See Carol Raszler any Sunday morning before or after worship to make your purchase and to look over the book to find all the bargains available.

BACKPACKS, CALCULATORS & SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

We are collecting backpacks and school supplies for the children in the Whitehall-Coplay School District. A list of items was included in the July newsletter. A shopping list and a collection bin can be found on the table in the coatroom area next to the sanctuary. In addition, there is also a **drive-by scheduled at the Grape Street parking lot on Saturday, July 19, from 10:00am to noon.** Deadline to receive items is Sunday, July 27.

FRIENDSHIP BIBLE CLASS PICNIC

The adult Sunday School picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 16, beginning at 1:00pm at the Raszler's cabin near Schuylkill Haven—rain or shine. In addition, class members and friends who wish to camp outside are invited to stay the entire weekend. Hamburgers, hot dogs & beverages will be provided; however, each family is asked to bring a covered dish. RSVP to Carol at (610) 393-7572 or at craszler@aol.com no later than Sunday, August 3, to confirm who's coming and what covered dish you will be bringing. Further information and directions will be available in early July.

**CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK
OF JULY 6 – JULY 13**

Sun 7/6	9:30 am	Worship
Tues 7/8	1:00 pm	Staff Meeting
	6:30 pm	Stewardship and Finance
Wed 7/9	9:00 am	Verso Chat
	12 noon	Painting Group
	6:00 pm	Painting Group
	6:00 pm	Summer Supper Study
	6:30 pm	Zumba
	7:00 pm	SAA Recovery Group
Thurs 7/10	6:30 pm	Choir
Sat 7/12	9:30 am	Zumba
Sun 7/13	9:30 am	Worship
	1:00 pm	Music Camp
		Newsletter Deadline

OUR STAFF

Senior Pastor	Rev. Steve Davis srpastor@sjuccf.org
Director of Music	Patrick Sandt music@sjuccf.org
Office Administrator	Alison Berger Boor officesecretary@sjuccf.org
Treasurer	Sue Weldner sbweldner@gmail.com
Financial Secretary & Coordinating Custodian	Michelle Gutekunst financialsecretary@sjuccf.org custodians@sjuccf.org
Worship-Media Tech & Connections Newsletter Editor	Bill Castello stars@sjuccf.org newsletter@sjuccf.org
Custodian	Christina Bach ironton1@verizon.net