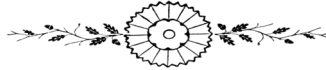


St. John's UCC, Fullerton

575 Grape Street, Whitehall, PA 18052

www.stjohnsuccfullerton.org T: 610-264-8421



~ ~ *From Pastor Bonnie* ~ ~

LIMINAL*

Neither this
nor that

Ripe, potent,
uncertain, shaky

A Dawning, a Dusking ...

The immanent threshold
emerging

Crossing ... to what?

Slow down

The moment is calling you
to pay ... exquisite ... attention

~ Christine McDougall

I can't think of a better word to describe the time we now live in than "liminal." And, I think Christine McDougall's poem offers a lot of wisdom for us in this liminal space, especially when combined with God's words spoken through the Psalmist (46:10) "Be still and know that I am God." "Ripe, potent, uncertain, shaky"... we've had no choice but to slow down in these days, but are we paying "exquisite attention?" Our ever-speaking God is still among us. What are you hearing? What threshold might God be calling you - calling St. John's - to cross?

Be God's,
Pastor Bonnie

*<https://heartfeltdolls.weebly.com/heartfelt-inspiration-a-blog-of-that-which-inspires-me/liminal-space>

A Couple of Things to know about Pastor Bonnie...

1. Pastor Bonnie is an early bird! She gets at least half of any given day's work done before 8:30 am, so don't be surprised if you get an email from her with a 5:15 am time stamp! *However...* she's not worth much after about 8:30 pm. Don't expect responses to emails or phone calls in the late evening from her.
2. Pastor Bonnie's Sabbath day is Monday. Except for emergencies, she will not be doing any church work, which includes checking phone messages or responding to emails, on Mondays. Please help her "rekindle the spirit of God within her" (2 Timothy 1:6) by honoring her Sabbath day. Thanks!



A Message from the Visitation Pastor

Now that our area has gone to "yellow" status (and hopefully "green" soon), I have begun doing some in-person visits. First, I call to see if someone would like a visit, or not. I understand that some folk might not want a visit, out of caution. I understand that. If someone would like a visit, I sanitize my hands and put a face mask on before coming to your place. During the visit, I maintain social distancing. After I leave, I sanitize my hands again and keep a record of whom I've come in contact with. Generally, nursing homes and hospitals have not opened much to visitors. When they do, I hope to be there. If you would like a visit, you can reach me at 610-844-6609.

Thank you!

Pastor Dave Quinn, Visitation Pastor



Photograph, please?

Miss seeing your St. John's family?? Don't forget that our church's website has a "Photo Gallery" page, and it can be a great place to share what you've been up to, and see what others have been doing! Do you have an awesome garden? Have you taken up a new hobby? Sewn some great masks?

Photos can be emailed to the church office (stjohnsuccsecretary@rcn.com) - please be sure that everyone in the photo is OK with having their picture posted online. Thanks for sharing and helping us stay connected!



CANCELLED

Community Meal at St. John's

The free Community Meal of the Whitehall-Coplay Hunger Initiative scheduled for Tuesday, July 21, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at St. John's has been canceled.

Update on Progress of Re-Opening Task Force

St. John's Consistory is continuing to meet by Zoom every few weeks and make adjustments and decisions for the church as needed.

We have formed a Task Force, headed by elder Marion DeMilio, that is working hard using the ever changing guidelines from the state, the CDC and the PNEC conference to come up with a plan on how to reopen the doors of St. John's in the future when we feel it can be done in a safe way.

We will keep you updated on the progress of the Task Force and the decisions of the Consistory and our new Interim Pastor Bonnie Moore. It is important that we consider every part and every person of our congregation in making these important decisions keeping everyone's health and safety in mind.

Please keep your Consistory in your prayers as we work to make the best decisions for St. John's. We will continue to "Be the Church" no matter where we are!

Colleen Kulhamer - Consistory President

For Now. . .

(And "for now" means as of the time this newsletter was published), our church building remains closed except for staff, who continue to work primarily from home, and those involved in recording parts of worship.

Anyone entering the building is asked to let the church office know you are there or better yet, when you are planning to be there, and to wear a mask and to practice social distancing if interacting with another. And of course, we ask that you not enter the building if you are sick or have been exposed to anyone who is sick.

Updates to our building re-opening plans will be sent out via email as they evolve, and can be heard as a recorded message by calling the church number, 610-264-8421, then press 5.

Join Worship by Phone...

Did you know you can join every Sunday's worship service by using your phone?

Dial the phone number listed below, put in the Meeting ID and password and you are connected. This is another way to enjoy the service.

Topic: Summer Worship Services

Time: 9:30 AM

Every week on Sun, until ???

Dial +1 646 876 9923

Meeting ID: 816 8509 8134 Password: 1902



"Safe Distancing" Ice Cream Social – Join Us!

Where: St. J's parking lot

When: Saturday, **July 11th**

Time: 1pm to 2pm

Featuring ice cream novelties, \$2.00 each.

For the safety of everyone, the following precautions will be in place: The "Ice Cream" Team will wear masks and gloves. They will have one person collecting money and one person handing out pre-packaged items. People will come over to where the "Ice Cream" team has ice cream set up, make their purchase and go back to their cars as to keep social distancing. People getting ice cream need to wear masks but obviously you don't need to wear them while eating the ice cream. LOL

Also, please remember that physical distancing should be maintained by all.

Proceeds to benefit St. John's. Event. It will be held rain or shine. Come one come all! Serving until sold out. Meet up with St. John's family. Can't wait to see you there. Any questions please call Kenda Catalini 484-358-7453.



Ice Cream Social

From the Stars Committee:



Do you love all things "tech?" Do you wish you knew how to navigate the internet like a nine-year-old? Are you willing to share your technological prowess or your digital curiosity with St. John's? The STARS Committee would love to hear from you - no experience necessary!

With the expansion of our online offerings during the pandemic, we are looking for additional folks willing to help with tasks such as being a tech host for Zoom worship (you get the awesome title of Superuser!), creating Google slides for worship, editing and uploading videos to FaceBook and YouTube, and more! Don't know how to do ANY of that? No worries - if you're willing to learn something new, St. John's STARS can teach you!

Contact Michelle Gutekunst at Starsofstjohns@gmail.com to volunteer or to learn more. Thank you!

Summer Zoom Worship Services

Worship services every Sunday at 9:30AM

Use the below link to join the worship services.

Time: 9:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81685098134?pwd=bmFSL2xFeGU2SEhpU050akNXcHZFQT09>

Meeting ID: 816 8509 8134 Password: 1902

Dial by your location +1 646 876 9923 US
(New York) Meeting ID: 816 8509 8134
Password: 1902

A Huge THANK YOU From Pastor Michelle!

A HUGE thank you to the congregation (and consistory Pres. Colleen) for the awesome Farewell Sunday, **May 24th!** I felt the love! Thank you for all your support and everything you have taught me over the past 7 years! Thank you for all the wonderful words of gratitude, bookmarks, and the gifts! Each one of you will be forever in my heart!!!

Love and Light,
Michelle.... oh St J's.... the Places YOU will GO!!!!
God Bless!



Another Way to Support St. John's UCC's Mission and Ministry!

Simply download the **GivePlus+** app on your smartphone, and find St. John's UCC, Fullerton. You can quickly and easily choose to give to St. John's on a recurring basis or one time only, either as a guest or by setting up and logging in to a GivePlus+ account. Your donations to St. John's through GivePlus+ will be included on your annual giving statement. Thank you for your generosity!



What's a Transition Team?

St. John's UCC's Transition Team is a small group of individuals appointed by Consistory to meet regularly with Pastor Bonnie and to work with the congregation to help SJF be in the best possible shape to call a new settled pastor. The Team will meet on an as needed basis to ensure that SJF is making the best use of its time between settled pastors, and that the congregation is addressing the focus points for the interim time. These include:

- *Heritage* – reviewing and embracing the church's history
- *Leadership* – ensuring that the congregation's way of organizing is effective and enables all members to fully use their gifts for ministry
- *Mission* – clarifying and/or redefining the church's sense of purpose and direction
- *Connections* – assessing and building denominational and community relationships
- *Future* – exploring what God may be calling the congregation to next

Please note - the Transition Team is **NOT** the Search Committee! Next month's newsletter will include more about the differences between the two.

The names of the people serving on the Transition Team will be shared as soon as the Team is finalized, and the congregation will receive regular updates about their work during the interim time.

Mission Committee Articles

Mask Ministry

The Mission Committee is offering to our St. John's family the opportunity to receive a hand-sewn face mask during the Covid-19 pandemic. Please contact Marion DeMilio to place your order at 610-797-9652 or momoyer@ptd.net. There are limitations as to the number you can order. There is no charge, however, if you would like to support the mask making ministry, donations to St. John's would be greatly appreciated. (please mark your donation "Mask Ministry")

Backpack & School Supplies Donations Drive-By

(For Whitehall-Coplay School District Students)

Date: Thursday, July 23 (Rain or Shine)

Times: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon and
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Place: St. John's Grape St. Parking Lot

Items Needed:

New/gently used backpacks	Pencil sharpeners
1" & 1½" 3-ring binders	Erasers
Loose-leaf notebook paper	Dividers with tabs
Pencil cases/pouches	Pencils
Colored pocket folders	Composition books
Black permanent markers	Pens
Box of crayons	Colored pencils
Rulers	Yellow highlighters
Glue sticks	Index cards

Enter on Grape Street and leave by rear alley. Please wear a mask and observe 6 ft. distancing. If you have any questions, contact Carol Raszler at 610-393-7572 or crazzler@aol.com.



“Fun” Raising (IronPigs)

Due to the uncertainty of whether baseball will be played this season, we regret to inform you we had to cancel our church’s IronPigs Night in the grandstand that was scheduled for Monday, August 10. If you have any questions, contact Carol Raszler.

The Youth Ministry Team is Looking for Volunteers

Do you have a passion for working with youth? Are you comfortable leading groups or providing 1:1 mentoring? Do you like to plan or coordinate events? The Youth Ministry team is looking for fresh faces, ideas and help with our youth groups this fall. If interested please contact Jenn Hunsicker at 610-781-7710 or jennhunsicker25@gmail.com.

St. John’s UCC Christian Early Learning Center Now Enrolling for our 2020-2021 School Year!

We are hopeful we will open in September. We are in compliance with all CDC guidelines and have created new cleaning protocols and procedures. We have also created a virtual curriculum in case we need to close at any given time.

We are offering: Preschool classes (3yr): 2 day
Pre-K classes (4/5yr): 3 day ~ 4 day ~ 5 day
CONTACT US TODAY AT 610-433-0254 FOR MORE INFORMATION



Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who helped at the Food Drive on **Wednesday** at the church parking lot. We had 9 volunteers. We had a pick-up truck full of groceries and at the Food Pantry we had 11 volunteers to unload the truck, check dates and stock shelves. Thank you for what I call “People helping People”! What a Special Group of People!

Everyone Stay Healthy,
Bob Dougherty and Bill Meckes



Deaths

Robert Weaver died on April 18th. He is survived by his wife, Nancy and his children and grandchildren.

Anna Mae Folk died April 24th. She is survived by daughter Lori and grandchildren.

Renee Spielman died May 15th. She has a daughter Amanda and grandchildren.

Muriel Kloiber died May 28th. She is survived by her daughter Joan, grandchildren and a great-grandson.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of Robert, Anna Mae, Renee and Muriel.