



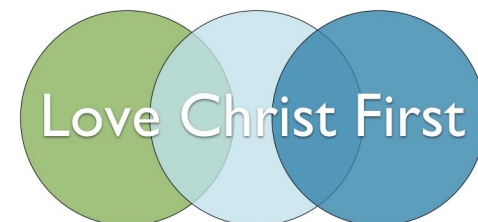
Our updated sign was dedicated in memory of Jane Kemmerer



Pastor Becky leading the dedication ceremony



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



## Wounded Warrior Project—July's Mission Project

**Wounded Warrior Project** (WWP) began in 2003 as a small, grassroots effort providing simple care and comfort items to the hospital bedsides of the first wounded service members returning home from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. As their post-service needs evolved, so have the programs and services. Today, through the direct programs in mental health, career counseling, and long-term rehabilitative care, along with the advocacy efforts, they improve the lives of millions of warriors and their families.

This effort requires the passion and commitment of friends, supporters, and like-minded organizations that enable them to fulfill their mission. With their collaboration and support, they strive to ensure that when those who serve come home, they're afforded every opportunity to be as successful as a civilian as they were in the military.

Countless brave men and women who served in recent military conflicts were injured in service or left with lasting invisible wounds, including depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and debilitating brain trauma. Advancements in technology and medicine save lives – but the quality of those lives might be profoundly altered. The numbers speak for themselves, because not every warrior can. With the support of their community of donors and team members, they give a voice to those needs and empower our warriors to begin the journey to recovery.

You may add your donations to **Wounded Warrior Project** with your contributions to First UCC. Indicate the amount you wish to go to **Wounded Warrior Project** and we will send a single check to them at the end of the month of July.



First United Church of Christ  
Pastor Becky Thomas  
501 Northampton Street  
Hellertown PA 18055  
(610)838-8811  
office@firstucchellertown.org

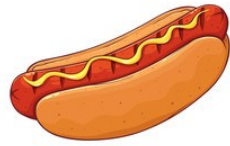






## First UCC Day at Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs

30 of us enjoyed the lovely weather  
and exciting baseball game



Marji led us in a Children's  
sermon which centered  
around Jesus choosing his  
disciples. Matthew Harvey  
portrayed Jesus and was sent  
into the congregation to  
choose "disciples".



## Congratulations to Our Scholarship Winners



The Dan Deysher  
Music scholarship  
was awarded to  
Sarah Beers. She is a  
student at Saucon  
Valley High School  
and is studying the  
violin.



The Tom Snyder  
Academic Scholarship  
was awarded to Josiah  
Lamirand. He recently  
graduated from the  
Lehigh Valley High  
School for the Arts and is  
headed to Northeastern  
University in the fall.





June 2, 2023

Dear Members of First UCC,

We are proud to provide compassionate person-centered care to every resident who calls Phoebe home, and charitable care when needed. You will help us fulfill our mission, and you also help us provide the opportunities that make life worth living, like seasonal celebrations, enriching community life activities, and uplifting spiritual programs.

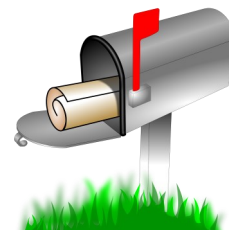
Thank you so much for your congregation's generous donation of \$100 to Phoebe. We can't thank you enough for your support and commitment to those we serve.

With gratitude,

Kristen Paupini

Donor Relations Coordinator

### Change of Address:



**Catherine Underkoffler**

Sacred Heart Senior Living

4851 Saucon Creek Rd., Rm 307

Center Valley PA 18034

**Michael & Rachel O'Connell & family**

3055 Hawk Valley Ct.

Center Valley PA 18034



June 19, 2023

To the Congregation of 1st UCC Hellertown,

Thank you very much for the music scholarship! I have enjoyed playing violin at 1st UCC in the past, and I hope to play at 1st UCC in the future.

Until then, I'll practice my little heart out!

From,

Sarah Beers

**Dine-to Donate—  
August 15th 5-8 pm  
at DiMaio's Italian  
Ristorante & Pizzeria  
27 Main Street,  
Hellertown**

**We will receive 10% of the food purchased that evening. This will include dine-in and take-out orders. We will hand out tickets to present the evening of the event. You can get yours in church on Sunday, or in the church office during Office hours.**



*I've always thought summer was supposed to be a time for us to slow down. The bright warm days are invitations for us to bask in the beauty of God's creation. The songs of the birds and the scent of honeysuckle calling us to appreciate their beauty. The sight of lightning bugs call us to enjoy the slightly cooler air of the night. Yes, there is something about summer that has always made it feel like the best season to pause.*

*But, so far this summer, I've found that I haven't taken much time to breathe. I've noticed the songs of the birds, but only in passing. I haven't allowed myself the time to linger in the scent of honeysuckle. Nor have I sat enjoying the beauty of the lightning bugs as they light up the night. The days seem to pass faster and faster and, had I not stopped to write this message, I fear I may not have realized that I've been neglecting my time with God. You see, I've always found that God feels extra close when I pause to enjoy the beauty of creation. I hope that this is a reminder to all of us. Slow down, breathe, and take some time to sit in God's presence this season.*

*In light and love,  
Pastor Becky*

## Hero Hotline

**Vacation Bible School July 31 – August 4, 2023  
9am – Noon**

Children Pre-K though grade 6

At Hero Hotline Heroes work together to bring peace and build one another up. Heroes will discover that God speaks to and directs us in many ways, helping us to stand up for what is right.

Register your child or volunteer at:

**[hellertownheroes.mycokesburyvbs.com](https://hellertownheroes.mycokesburyvbs.com)**

Contact Marji Hughes with any questions @ 610-838-8811



## Summer Singers needed -

**Sign up with Patti O'Connell to sing at Sunday morning worships in July and August.**





**Sunday School** classes are finished for the summer.

The **Nursery** is open for young children during Sunday worship. An adult is required to remain in the nursery when anyone under age 16 is present.

Confirmation Class is on break until their last two classes August 27 and September 3.

Confirmation Sunday is September 10 at 10:30 worship.

## HERO HOTLINE - Vacation Bible School

**July 31 - August 4 9am - Noon**

Register online at <https://hellertownheroes.mycokesburyvbs.com>

Volunteers 7<sup>th</sup> grade and up may register online as well --- or contact Marji Hughes

See flyer included in this newsletter for more information.

## Kickoff Sunday - Confirmation Sunday - September 10

Worship 10:30am includes the rite of Confirmation for the youth who have

journeyed together for the last two years. Special **Fellowship Hour** following the service.

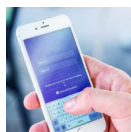
## First Day of Sunday School Classes - September 17

Questions, concerns, ideas, or joys to share? Speak with Marji Hughes.

[mphughes22@gmail.com](mailto:mphughes22@gmail.com) 610-984-5053 Consider the Board of Faith Formation as you prayerfully contemplate where God is calling you to ministry with First UCC.



## Join us Online!



To watch on Facebook, go to <https://www.facebook.com/hellertownucc> and you will see the live stream as the top post.

To watch on YouTube, go to <https://www.youtube.com/@firstucchellertown/streams>.

To view a playlist of our choir anthems, go to <https://tinyurl.com/FirstUCCMusicMonday>. Each Monday, the choir anthem from Sunday is posted on the playlist.

All of these links will soon be embedded into our new website. **Stay tuned!**

## July Sponsors/Volunteers

### July 2

Counting Team.....	Team 4
Ushers.....	Team 2
Altar Flowers.....	Diane French
Bulletins .....	Doug Miller
Lay Reader .....	Marji Hughes

### July 16

Counting Team.....	Team 2
Ushers .....	Team 4
Altar Flowers.....	Richard Carl
Bulletins .....	Bob Kervin
Lay Reader .....	Diane French

### July 9

Counting Team.....	Team 1
Ushers.....	Team 3
Altar Flowers.....	Catherine Underkoffler
Bulletins .....	Alice Totenbier
Lay Reader.....	Becky Harvey

### July 23

Counting Team.....	Team 3
Ushers.....	Team 5
Altar Flowers .....	Carlann Broglie
Bulletins .....	Jim & Linda Exley
Lay Reader.....	Becky Rosenberger

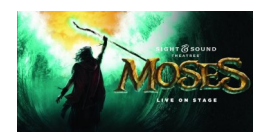
### July 30

Counting Team.....	Team 4
Ushers.....	Team 1
Altar Flowers ....	Nancy & David Heintzelman
Bulletins .....	Andy & Melissa Spear
Lay Reader.....	Phyllis Scherer



*The Trustees of the Remembrance Fund  
Have received and gratefully acknowledged  
a gift given in loving memory of Jim Joyce:*

*Mike & Edna Santo*



**BUS TRIP TO SIGHT AND SOUND ...MOSES**  
**SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023—BUS WILL LEAVE**  
**FROM FIRST UCC @ 8 AM**



## Staff

Rev. Becky Thomas, Designated Interim Pastor	610-297-2295
Marji Hughes, Minister of Faith Formation	610-984-5053
Pat O 'Connell, Minister of Music	484-357-9764
Phyllis Scherer, Administrative Asst.	610-554-6223
Tammie Vosburg, Church Treasurer	610-533-8009
Sherwood Stauffer, Sexton	610-838-7391

## Consistory Members

### Elders

Sandy Bender	610-248-4978
Amy Mixa	610-428-0583
Georgie Stuempfle	610-838-7493

### Deacons

Minga Ferencin	610-213-9036
Karen Frankenfield	484-554-6621
Diane French— President	610-360-8897
Sandy Panick	610-838-1695

### Trustees

Ann Brown—Secretary	610-462-7056
Keith Lentz	610-838-1171
Doug Major	610-392-0503
Aaron Kelley	203-313-0072

**Church Office Hours:** — The Office will be open **9:00 am to 1:00 pm**, Monday thru Friday. Please make your calls to 610-838-8811 and conduct your business during those hours. Other calls will be recorded on voicemail. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and cooperation.

Always inform the church office if you are hospitalized. Please do not trust that word will get to the office through the grapevine. **Our hospital code is 428.** You can mention that if you are admitted.

## **“Bibles and “Brunch”**

**for all 1<sup>st</sup> UCC women members & friends!**

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>**

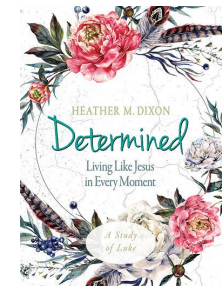
**Mondays – for July**

**10:30am in the Wimmer Rm**

**July 3 and 17**

**PLEASE note the change in weeks, to  
accommodate vacations and 1<sup>st</sup> UCC calendar.**

We will continue our video study “Determined” and take a summer break for August. Coffee, tea, cold beverages and light snacks available. Participants **are not required to attend every session.** Drop-ins are welcome!

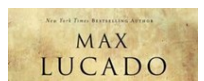


## **Sunday Morning Study 9:15 each week**

in the YA Café. Just come and join any Sunday

for **Max Lucado's “Life Lessons from Matthew”.**

Speak with Tricia Shelly 610-657-3828 for more information.



LIFE LESSONS FROM  
MATTHEW



*Every Sunday morning*

**9:45 AM**

*before worship*

*in the Wimmer Room*



# *Happy Anniversary!*

**1<sup>st</sup> UCC ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY – JULY 16, 10:30am**

*Join us for our celebration of 153 years with worship and  
communion. Fellowship Hour to follow .*





**FIRST UCC RETURNING TO SOUP KITCHEN**  
**AT NEW BETHANY HOSPITALITY CENTER BETHLEHEM**  
**First Wednesday of every month—9:30 AM – 1:00PM**

Our monthly crew visits to the soup kitchen stopped because of Covid. Brandy, Coordinator of the Center, informed us noontime meal service has resumed.. First UCC is signed up for the **first Wednesday of every month**. Five members are needed to chop, prepare, and serve meals at noon finishing at 1:00.

**HERE ARE PHOTOS OF OUR CREW AND THEIR CHEF**

Interested in starting a second crew or be put on a sub list????

Contact Jeannie Miller 610.838.9704 Elsie Stout 610.838.6470 Jane Joyce 610.838.7593

## Women's Breakfast

at the Hellertown Diner

July 11 , 8 am,

Second Tuesday of each month.

*Come as you are!*

*Come whenever you are able!*

*First one there, grabs a table!*

At our June meeting we had 14 women. Please feel free to join us in July.



### July Birthdays

7/3	Amt Thatcher	7/19	Sharon Yeakel
7/4	Jacob Scherer	7/20	Jack O'Connell
7/6	James Reiss	7/21	Madyson Schrammel
7/8	Cindy Sabo	7/21	Beth Shelly
7/8	Chloe Schultz	7/21	Brian Weiss
7/8	Sarah Yohn	7/22	Natalie Miller
7/9	Bob Kervin	7/22	Will O'Connell
7/12	Betty Parsons	7/22	Brenda Shaffer
7/13	Thomas Ball	7/23	Andreas Borelli
7/13	Mildred Lewis	7/24	Phyllis Scherer
7/14	Natalie Ball	7/26	Dean Shaffer
7/14	Timothy Getz	7/28	Cyndi Price
7/15	Thomas Vosburg	7/29	Thomas Moran
7/17	Carson Petrundo	7/30	Diane Miller
7/18	James Thatcher	7/31	Aleaya Myers

### July Anniversaries

7/3	Nathan & Jen Yonney
7/15	Chris & Tanya Scherer
7/18	Bradley & Madison Miller
7/19	Joel & Mary Stoneback
7/21	Stephen & Stephanie Oblas
7/25	Michael & Melissa Mullen
7/30	Rocco & Annie Policare
7/30	Gary & Jan Weaver



### Stewardship of God's People at First Church

Date	Contributions	Benevolences	Attendance
May 7	\$5,766.20	\$506.00	70
May 14	\$5,087.53		70
May 21	\$9,063.86	Fundraisers	65
May 28	\$3,887.06	Yard Sale \$1,289.00 Braveheart \$345.00	64
Total	\$23,804.65		
Revenue required	-\$16,000.00		
Over/Short	\$7,804.65		

### 2023 Sponsors

We are looking for sponsors for Newsletters, Bulletins and Altar Flowers for 2023. The cost to sponsor Newsletter is \$60.00/mo., Bulletins - \$10.00/wk., and Flowers- \$40.00/wk. Sign-up sheets for the Newsletter, Flowers and Bulletins may be found in the Narthex.





## Hero Hotline Vacation Bible School 2023 Mission Project

We will be collecting Disposable diapers,  
wipes and receiving blankets for  
*The Caring Place* in Allentown.

Items may be placed in the Pack and Play in the Narthex.



## **The Caring Place** **931 Hamilton Street** **Allentown PA 18101**



Mary Griffin, Executive Director, gave birth to The Caring Place in June 1996 after seeing firsthand the unmet needs of troubled children and teenagers. She was compelled to create a child-centered organization, a place where she could carry out God's call to "take care of my kids." Griffin started The Caring Place with only her personal savings for funding and her faith in God. Mary Griffin opened The Caring Place to show young people they are loved and provide them an opportunity for a better future. Since 2004, it has secured its current Hamilton street location and grown from its twelve initial youth participants to serve more than 500 young people per year.

Programs at the Caring Place such as Mentoring, Entrepreneurship, College prep, Sign Language, Gardening, Science, After School care are educational as well as entertaining and maintain the interest of the children and youth while providing for their daily needs. Under the guidance of caring volunteers, these young people also learn life skills that will empower them throughout their lives.



## Penny Party—September 17—12 noon



We are asking for donations of items for participants to bid on at the event. Items should be non-perishable. Examples of items (but not limited to: six-pack soda, spaghetti sauce, pickles, toilet paper, paper towels, beauty products, doggie treats, canned vegetables. **Use your imagination** for other items. We are accepting them at any time. See Phyllis in the Office if you have questions, or you are bringing in donations. This is always a fun event. You don't want to miss this one! Bring your change!!!!



## Upcoming Schedule of Services

You will be notified by Facebook or One Call of any changes to the schedule listed below. If you are not receiving messages by One Call, please contact the Church Office with your contact information. If you have recently changed your email address, or phone number, please update your information in the church office. Thank you.

July 2023	10:30 AM	2	Worship
	10:30 AM	9	Worship
	10:30 AM	16	Worship –Anniversary Sunday/Communion
	10:30 AM	23	Worship
August 2023	10:30 AM	6	Worship
	10:30 AM	13	Worship
	10:30 AM	20	Worship
	10:30 AM	27	Worship
Sept 2023	10:30 AM	3	Worship
	10:30 AM	10	Worship/Confirmation/Communion
	10:30 AM	17	Worship/First Day of Sunday School
	10:30 AM	24	Worship/Sunday School

## Like us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/hellertownucc](https://www.facebook.com/hellertownucc)



The July Newsletter has been sponsored by  
Jim & Linda Exley



## Blessing Box Schedule



Our Blessing Box Food Pantry is being used heavily. We are blessed to be able to help. Obviously, there are many in our community who are aided by your generosity. We need to replenish our emergency supply. Always needed are: breakfast foods, tomato sauce, spaghetti noodles, soup, vegetables, canned tuna, other pasta, etc. However, please do not purchase large boxes of cereal or extra large jars of tomato sauce because they do not fit in the box. We suggest buying items in cans and plastic containers.

Week of July 2—8—Doug Miller

Week of July 9—15—Marji Hughes

Week of July 16-22 — Andy Spear

Week of July 23-29 —Phyllis Scherer

Week of July 30-Aug 5 —Ann Brown

Week of Aug 6—12 —Sandy Panick

Week of Aug 13—19—Amy Mixa

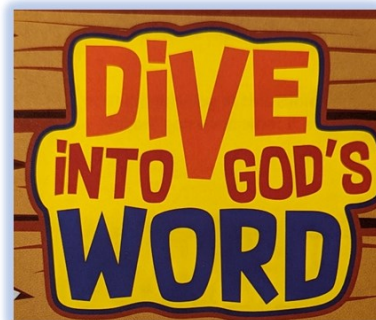
Week of Aug 20—26—Diane French

Week of Aug 27-Sept 2—Phyllis Heil-Henry

Week of Sept 3-9—Georgie Stuempfle

Week of Sept 10-16 - Letty Petrundo

Week of Sept 17-23— Carlann Broglie



Time for picnics and swimming and ball games and sunshine and watermelon and practically anything one can think of! Most kids are trying hard to NOT think about school and maybe not thinking about church, either. But, even when you are not thinking about church, God is thinking about and watching over you. When you are not at Sunday School, God is hoping that you will still take time to pray, think about Jesus, and listen for the Holy Spirit.

All Sunday School kids should have received a book called "Dive Into God's Word" which "dives" into the Bible in different ways - including sea-themed activities, fun facts, and stories. Every page teaches about the love and saving grace of Jesus with a different book for older and younger kids.

When you come to Sunday School in September, there is a prize for everyone who can show that they finished their booklet !!



## Consistory Minutes in Brief

Monday June 12, 6:30 pm

**Guest Presenter:** Jeff Luther from Hi-Tech Securities. He gave us proposals for updating our fire & security systems.

### Highlights of Treasurer's April Report

First Church is doing well this month. Last month there was a deficit of \$1,140.00 but this month we had \$5,560.00 Net Cash Flow. Benevolences/Missions are also doing well. Our investments are up by 4%. Tammie is exploring new contracts for our office copier- contract expires in October.

### Pastor's Report:

Pastor Becky said this month her hours at First Church were low, but last month they were high. She is trying to balance her hours.

### Elders' Report:

Georgie reported that there are now 4 members on the Card Ministry Team. Cards are being sent for various life events.

### Deacons' Report:

Reminders to Ushering teams of responsibilities checklist were remailed to all ushers. Pastor Becky has offered to continue to bring up prayer requests for those who cannot walk up to the altar. At the request of a parishioner, cups of water will be added to the communion trays in the center, then a circle of white grape juice, then the wine.

New Security Company will send a revised estimate for updating our system.

### Music and Worship: J

July 16th is Anniversary Sunday. There will be communion, special music by the choir and a fellowship hour after service.

**Stewardship:** This team met on June 9th and will meet every 3 weeks. They are examining the list of members on the books who have not attended in the last 5 years.

**Search Committee:** One candidate was interviewed by the Committee and it went well. The Committee is not sure how long applications will be taken. Sara Heintzelman will check with Conference to explore how long our church must keep the application process open.

**Safety Committee:** Sandy Bender reports it has been difficult finding members for the committee. So far we have two volunteers. A meeting will be scheduled soon.

**Community Day - August 19,** Keith will announce in church about looking for volunteers to help with this event. We are also looking for donations to cover cost of the cake and the strawberries. Sign-up lists will be posted at church for help in the kitchen on August 18th and set-up, tear down, and manning the booth on the 19th.

### New Business:

First Aid and CPR Training: Minga will check into classes.

Norine Haas has announced that she will establish a new scholarship fund in the name of her husband and son. It will be for post-high school education.

Doug Miller would like his plaque rehung somewhere in the church. This will be done.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be July10, 2023 at 6:30 pm in the Wimmer Room.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Keith Lentz (Substituting for Ann Brown)

A copy of the full minutes is available in the Church Office.