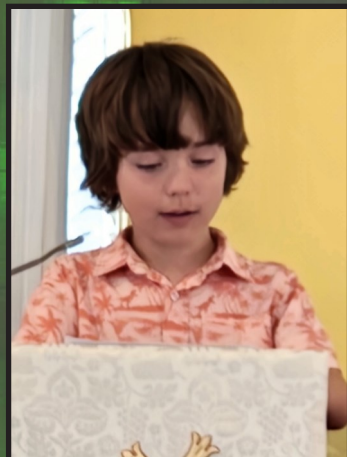




A huge Thank-you to all who were involved in Youth Sunday,



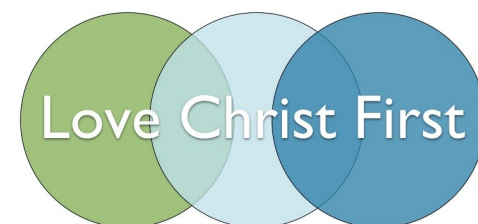
Our Sunday School Teachers were recognized for their dedication and service this year.



Our Sunday School Classes and Confirmation Class led the worship service on Youth Sunday, May 14th.



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Operation Smile

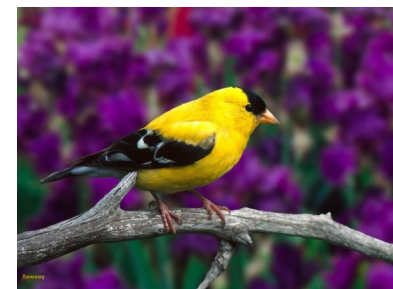
Operation Smile revolutionized cleft surgery globally in 1982. With nearly four decades of experience as one of the largest surgical volunteer-based nonprofits, Operation Smile staff, its private-public partnerships and thousands of volunteers have improved the health and dignity of patients with cleft conditions, helping them to better breathe, eat, speak and live lives of greater quality and confidence.

While one cleft surgery can transform a child's life in as little as 45 minutes, Operation Smile is committed to providing patients with health that lasts by being there to offer patients additional surgeries, dentistry, psychological services, speech therapy and other essential cleft treatments. Its training and education programs elevate local surgical standards and entire health systems, aid safe surgery and enable a global network to reach more people earlier in their lives.

You may add your donations to Operation Smile with you contributions to First UCC. Indicate the amount you wish to go to Operation Smile and we will send a single check to them at the end of the month of June.



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





Sundaes on Sunday

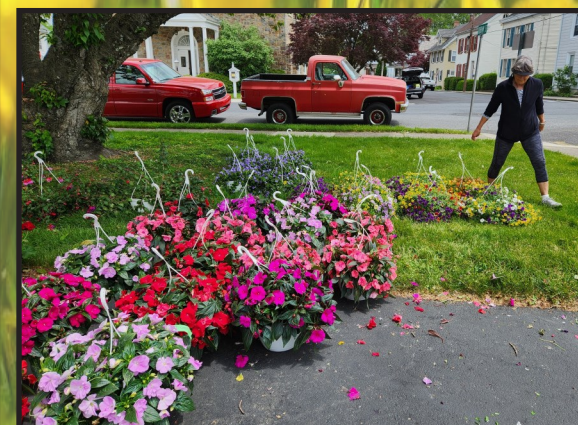
As Sunday School came to an end for the summer, everyone enjoyed a special ice cream treat after worship.



Thank you to everyone who helped with our Annual Yard Sale



Thanks to those who helped with this year's flower sale





Thank you to our dedicated Tuesday Men's Group. They meet for breakfast each week and then come to church to do any jobs that need attention. If you are interested in joining them, they meet at 8 AM at the Hellertown Diner and then come back to the church around 9 AM.

March 21, 2023

Dear Ms. Hughes,

Our sincere thanks to you and the congregation for raising \$695 toward the 2022 CROP Hunger Walk. As you know, a portion of all donations is distributed locally and a check for \$200 has been sent to the food pantry at New Jerusalem Lutheran Church.

We are so pleased that you've rejoined the Walk. 2022 marked 15 consecutive years for your congregation and we hope you'll continue with us as we walk to end hunger one step at a time.

Sincerely,

Matthew Pizel, Coordinator
Bethlehem Area CROP Hunger Walk



Have you noticed the updated sign? It will be dedicated on Sunday, June 11th.



I don't know what has happened to me, I've never been a fan of houseplants. But, lately, I've had this desire to surround myself with living things, with green things. So, now, I have a pothos plant hanging in my bedroom and a succulent sitting on my television stand. As I sit and look at these beautiful green plants, I can't help but smile, and talk to them as though they are friends. They serve as a reminder of the beautiful creation that God has laid out for us. Honestly, I am amazed by the amount of joy something as simple as a houseplant can bring.

I find myself thinking a lot about blessings as I look at my new green friends. Psalm 23 has been running through my head a lot over the past few weeks. As I was reading through different translations, I took pause on this paraphrase. "You revive my drooping head; my cup brims with blessing (Psalm 23:5b, MSG)." I think it is easy to get really caught up in the dark valleys of this life. Sometimes, like the leaves of my new plant, we start to droop because we need nourishment. Sometimes, we don't even notice that our cups are overflowing with blessings. My prayer for you is that you find what draws you closer to God and what brings you alive. Take the time to tend that relationship.

In light and love,
Pastor Becky

Hero Hotline

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

Children Pre-K through 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

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

The Dan Deysher & Tom Snyder Scholarships

The last date to apply for these scholarships is June 1st.

Please drop off your form in the Church Office.

Scholarship recipients will be announced Sunday, June 18th, during worship.





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 will meet June 4 and June 11, 11:45am - 12:45pm

then 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 7th 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.

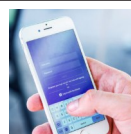
First Day of Sunday School Classes - September 17

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

mphughes22@gmail.com 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!**

June Sponsors/Volunteers

June 4

Counting Team.....	Team 4
Ushers.....	Team 3
Altar Flowers.....	Catherine Underkoffler
Bulletins	Doug Milller
Lay Reader	Doug Major

June 18

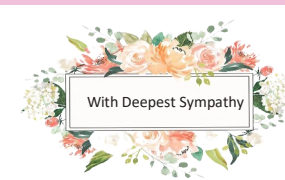
Counting Team.....	Team 2
Ushers	Team 5
Altar Flowers.....	Nick & Joan Kiak
Bulletins	Jane Parenti
Lay Reader	Bob Scherer

June 11

Counting Team.....	Team 1
Ushers.....	Team 4
Altar Flowers.....	Bill Roth
Bulletins	Catherine Underkoffler
Lay Reader.....	Ann Brown

June 25

Counting Team.....	Team 3
Ushers.....	Team 1
Altar Flowers	Mark Lorah
Bulletins	Jim & Linda Exley
Lay Reader.....	Georgie Stuempfle



To the Family and Friends of:

Irene Heller

April 28, 2023

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, sheep of your own fold, lamb of your own flock, sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints. in light. Amen.



The Trustees of the Remembrance Fund

Have received and gratefully acknowledged

a gift given in loving memory of Jim Joyce:

Gretchen Diehl & Leroy Wagner

Darryl & Annette Fatzinger

Bill Roth

a gift given in loving memory of Jeffrey Petruno:

Albert & Susan Lishman

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 **1st UCC women members & friends!**

**1st and 3rd Mondays –
for June and July**

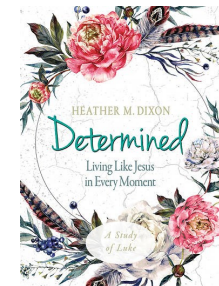
10:30am in the Wimmer Rm

June 5 and 19 --- July 3 and 17

PLEASE note the change in weeks,

to accommodate vacations and 1st 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!**

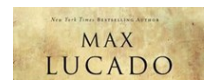


Sunday Morning Study 9:15 each week

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.



**Coffee
& Conversation**

Every Sunday morning

9:45 AM

before worship

in the Wimmer Room



Women's Breakfast at the Hellertown Diner

June 13 , 8 am, Second Tuesday of each month

Come as you are!

Come whenever you are able!

First one there, grabs a table!



SOUP KITCHEN



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 resumed in April. 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 IS OUR FIRST 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

Happy Anniversary!

1st UCC ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY – JULY 16, 10:30am

Join us for our celebration of 153 years with worship and communion

Fellowship Hour to follow



Summer Singers needed -

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

June Birthdays

6/1	Kim Kyra	6/17	Robert Scherer
6/2	Dorothy Freeman	6/19	Owen Ross
6/3	Minga Ferencin	6/21	Brian Chapman
6/3	Chris Reilly	6/21	Katherine Martin
6/4	Nancy Heintzelman	6/22	Logan Weaver
6/6	John Harvey	6/22	Charles Weaver
6/6	Cindy Searfoss	6/23	Melissa Mullen
6/7	Michael Mullen	6/24	Melissa Mills
6/8	William Mills	6/24	Helen Ross
6/8	Amanda Rogers	6/25	Elena Yonney
6/10	Matthew DeLade	6/27	John Chapman
6/10	Jody Miller	6/28	Gretchen Diehl
6/12	Richard Shook	6/28	Diane Matey
6/13	Ory Ball	6/29	Justin DeRenzis
6/16	Carlann Broglie	6/30	Phyllis Heil-Henry
6/16	Emma Rose Petruno	6/30	Morgan Mixa

June Anniversaries

6/10	Terry & Rebecca Snyder
6/11	David & Susan Moran
6/11	Dave & Georgie Stuempfle
6/17	Glenn & Ann Brown
6/18	Nick & Joan Kiak
6/19	Albert & Jane Parenti
6/21	Curtis & Tammie Vosburg
6/22	Joseph & Heather Searfoss
6/23	John & Becky Harvey



Stewardship of God's People at First Church

Date	Contributions	Benevolences	Attendance
April 2	\$4,080.82	\$552.00	84
April 6	\$400.00		60—Maundy Thursday
April 9	\$5,015.50	Fundraisers	105—Easter
April 16	\$2,331.70	\$31.00	73
April 23	\$1,660.10		68
April 30	\$1,020.86		63
Total	\$14,508.98		
Revenue required	\$20,000.00		
Over/Short	-\$5,491.02		

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.



Graduating Seniors

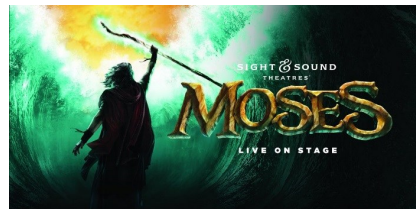
We congratulate our graduates as they continue on their life's journey.

Our High School Graduate

Josiah Lamirand is graduating from Lehigh Valley High School for the Arts. He will be attending Northeastern University in the fall.

Our College Graduate

Jared Thatcher is graduating from DeSales University with degrees in Criminal Justice and Homeland Security. This summer he is headed to Ocean City Maryland to serve as a seasonal police officer with hopes of the job becoming full-time.



BUS TRIP TO SIGHT AND SOUND ...MOSES
SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023—BUS WILL LEAVE FROM FIRST UCC @ 8 AM
DINNER @ MILLER'S SMORGASBORD
Cost : \$199.00...WIMMER FUND WILL PAY \$99/PARISHIONER COST \$100
NON-PARISHIONERS' OUT -OF-POCKET WILL BE \$199
COST FOR EACH CHILD (3-12 year of age and younger) will be \$85.00
PAYMENT DUE BY JUNE 4, 2023

Blueberry Pie Fundraiser for the 4th of July

Blueberry Crumb Pies—homemade in our church kitchen

Price \$18.00 (serves 8)

Last date to order: June 13th

Pickup date: June 30th at church



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.

June 2023	10:30 AM	4	Worship
	10:30 AM	11	Worship
	10:30 AM	18	Worship
	10:30 AM	25	Worship
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

Like us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/hellertownucc



The June Newsletter has been sponsored by
Alice Totenbier

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 June 4—10—Phyllis Heil-Henry

Week of June 11-17—Georgie Stuempfle

Week of June 18—24 - Letty Petrundo

Week of June 25—July 1 — Carlann Broglie

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

Meeting

Important VBS Leaders/Helpers Meeting

Thank you to those of you who have volunteered for Hero Hotline Vacation Bible School!!!

Some of you are deeply experienced and some are new to leadership this summer, and you are all vital to this fun, faith-filled week - no matter where your talents lie.

There is a Hero Hotline VBS leaders gathering on Monday, June 5 6:30 pm in the Wimmer Room at 1st UCC.

Please make every effort to attend so we are able to take stock of where you would like to be and we need help the most.

Also, if you have not yet done so, please take a moment to register as a volunteer on our Cokesbury website:

hellertownheroes.mycokesburyvbs.com

All volunteers 18 and over who have not done so in the last 5 years are required by law to submit the 2 Pennsylvania Child safety clearances. You can find them at:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/KeepKidsSafe/Clearances/Pages/default.aspx>

Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance

Pennsylvania State Police Criminal History Clearance

They are free for volunteers. If you have any questions or need help I will gladly work with you to get these done.

Hope to see you all on June 5! Light snacks and beverages will be provided.

Thanks again for your commitment to this wonderful ministry of 1st UCC.

Consistory Minutes in Brief

Monday May 15, 6:30 pm

Highlights of Treasure's April Report

Our YTD (Year to Date) cashflow is down \$1,139.

We have used 36% of our budgeted Annual Expenses for the year.

Our investments are up 5% for the year.

Our utility bills increased by 30.6% over the same period in 2022.

Highlights of Pastor's Report:

Breakdown of hours for major responsibilities:

Hours Dedicated to Worship: 45, Meetings: 10

Hours Dedicated to Pastoral Care: 15.5

Continuing Education Hours: 6

Office Hours: 29

Pastor Becky requested that we sponsor the cost for her to attend a PNEC Program, Community of Practice for pastors serving more than one church. We are sharing the cost with Lower Saucon UCC.

A staff retreat is in planning stages for spiritual fellowship and team building.

Deacons: Pentecost May 28, 10:30 worship with Communion. Wear your red and orange to celebrate Pentecost.

Trustees: The new church sign installation is complete.

Music and Worship: Pastor Becky and Marji would like to plan a Women's Retreat to include the women of Lower Saucon UCC.

Stewardship: Stewardship plans to send out six month giving statements to members the beginning of July.

Search Committee: The Search Document Packet is completed and online with PNEC. We now wait for profiles from future candidates.

Community Days: On August 19, First Church will have a stand and sell strawberry shortcake.

New Business: October 15, we are preparing for the installation of Pastor Richard Teitsworth with the Degree of Pastor Emeritus.

Next Meeting is June 12, 2023 at 6:30 pm in person in the Wimmer Room.

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



Penny Party



We are currently planning a Penny Party for September 17, 2023. We are asking for donations of items for participants to bid on. 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!