

1844

175th Anniversary

small church with a big heart

2019

The Link

Unionville Presbyterian Church

MAY/JUNE 2019

Inside this issue:

Loving Ourselves	5
PCUSA	6-12
Community	13-16
Loving God	17
Loving Neighbors	18-19
Leadership	20
Calendars	21

Special points of interest:

- Spiritual Birth Certificate
- Pastor's Night Stand
- 175th Anniversary
- Financial Update
- Living Out Christ's Call
- Discipleship
- Leadership

Our Christian Identity

The Holy Spirit in our hearts is our spiritual birth certificate. This inward spiritual experience identifies us as a child of God. Paul wrote, "The Holy Spirit speaks to our spirit, that we are the children of God (Romans 8:16). Although we know that we have this parent-child relationship with God, hurtful experiences in the past can erode our confidence; in who we really are and what we are really about today.

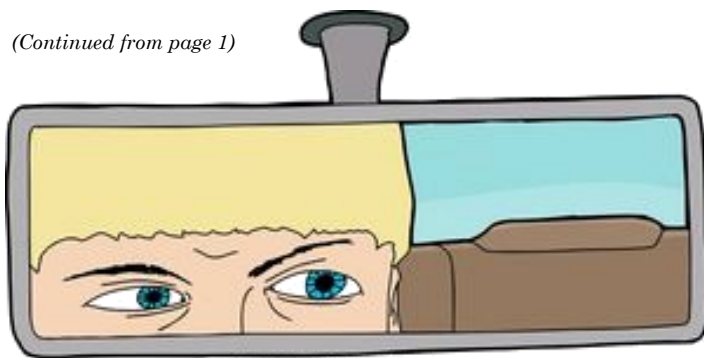
There is a tendency to link our identity to our past failures; something we may have done or said that was out of character because of immaturity or we were simply misguided at the time. We cannot let our past mistakes and missteps identify who we are today. We must ask God for forgiveness, then reach out if possible to whomever we have hurt and ask their forgiveness, then let go! At the same time, we look to God with assurance that we are a child of God, identified by our experiences with Him and not hurtful failures and mistakes in our past.

Those who have amended their behavior and have grown in their Christian faith, who have stolen in the past should not be labeled as thieves nor should they identify themselves in this way. Nor should the angry who have displayed their anger in the past, who have truly changed, be labeled as an angry person.

Regardless of our failures, many or few, big or small, we must not identify ourselves by the sins in our past that we have been forgiven for and have truly amended. King David (author of many psalms

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)



and ancestor of Jesus) committed adultery but was not labeled an adulterer all his life; instead he was labeled a “man after God’s own heart”. Abraham lied on two recorded occasions, but amended his behavior on a third similar circumstance; of course he was not labeled a liar, instead he is known as “the father of the faithful”. Paul was responsible for the imprisonment of many Christians in the name of the Roman empire, but was not identified as a persecutor but an Apostle, writing much of the New Testament, once he committed himself to Christ.

It doesn’t help that frequently so many of those in our orbit are so willing to keep us in the past; the same judgmental folds that have little knowledge of the circumstances and the influences that prevailed when bad decisions were made. Often these finger pointers have their own sins to deal with; the greater part, the same sins they are condemning in others; and worse, forgetting who they used to be. Paul wrote about this tendency; those that are either excusing or accusing one another and never facing up to their own sinful realities. Whatever others think of us or how they define us, we can’t cave in by looking in the rearview mirror; defining ourselves by looking backward at who we used to be.

It’s unfortunate, yet not uncommon, to hear Christians talk about a divorce they painfully endured in the past; referring to it as “my divorce”. Some have dropped out of school and so they say “I’m a dropout”. There are many other examples of language like this that fast forward our past mistakes and failures into the present. We cannot own our failures forever.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, a Christian essayist, once wrote “we have no obligation to explain ourselves, who we used to be, but to exhibit who we have become”. We are better off if we stop explaining our past failures to others, and stop speaking of them as if we will own them forever. We are who we have become.

I have found great strength and comfort in knowing that I am a child of God; unconditionally, without questions, and forever in God’s family. We do not have to feel beaten down. We have a spiritual birth certificate in hand, the Holy Spirit in our hearts confirming and assuring us of who we are and what we are about.

*I, God,
The Father and Creator of Heaven and Earth,
hereby declare that
Your Name
is a Child of God.*



But to all who believed Him and accepted Him, He gave the right to become children of God. They are reborn - not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God
John 1:12-13 NLT

On The Pastor's Night Stand

This month I read Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others by Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor. The renowned and beloved New York Times bestselling author of An Altar in the World and Learning to Walk in the Dark recounts her moving discoveries of finding the sacred in unexpected places while teaching the world's religions to undergraduates in rural Georgia, revealing how God delights in confounding our expectations.

Barbara Brown Taylor continues her spiritual journey begun in Leaving Church of finding out what the world looks like after taking off her clergy collar. In Holy Envy, she contemplates the myriad ways other people and traditions encounter the Transcendent, both by digging deeper into those traditions herself and by seeing them through her students' eyes as she sets off with them on field trips to monasteries, temples, and mosques.

Troubled and inspired by what she learns, Taylor returns to her own tradition for guidance, finding new meaning in old teachings that have too often been used to exclude religious strang-

ers instead of embracing the divine challenges they present. Re-imagining some central stories from the religion she knows best; she takes heart in how often God chooses outsiders to teach insiders how out-of-bounds God really is.

Throughout Holy Envy, Taylor weaves together stories from the classroom with reflections on how her own spiritual journey has been complicated and renewed by connecting with people of other traditions—even those whose truths are

quite different from hers. The one constant in her odyssey is the sense that God is the one calling her to disown *her version* of God—a change that ultimately enriches her faith in other human beings and in God.

I invite you to obtain your own copy and join me over a cup of coffee (or ice cream) and talk about it. If there is enough interest, we could start a discussion group. If you need assistance

purchasing the book, just let me know. Happy reading to you! If you need assistance purchasing the book, please do not hesitate to contact me.



UPC at The Blue Rocks

The UPC Choir will be performing the National Anthem, at the Blue Rocks game, on Friday, July 12. If you want to sing with the choir at this event, tell Bill Johnson.



175th Anniversary – Kirkin' O' Th' Tartan

This will be a year of celebration, but the big party will be on May 5, 2019. We will celebrate communion using our

antique pewter communion ware, honor

our heritage with a Service of the Scottish Rite, and enjoy a fabulous catered brunch following worship.

Our Service of the Scottish Rite will include a kirkin' of the tartans. The Kirkin' O' The Tartan Worship Service is an opportunity for all Christians to rededicate themselves to the God of their heritage, the Lord Jesus Christ, and renew their commitments to His service.

The Kirkin' O' Th' Tartan Worship Service seems so ancient that many assume it was brought to America by our Scottish forefathers. However, the first Kirkin' Service was probably held in Washington's New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, April 27, 1941. Its minister was the Rev. Dr. Peter Marshall, originally from Coatbridge, Scotland, Chaplain of the U.S. Senate and the Washington St. Andrew's Society. Since that time, Kirkin' ceremonies have been held throughout America. There is evidence that the American Kirkin' does have its roots in Scotland. It is said that when the English conquerors banned the wearing of the Tartan in 1745

that some Scottish clansmen began to carry swatches of the material concealed under their clothing into their

church services.

At some point in the service,

when the clergyman would give a blessing, the clansmen would touch their bits of Tartan, and with no outward signals, an underground Kirkin' occurred.

Presbyterian history is part of the history of Christianity, but the beginning of Presbyterianism as a distinct movement occurred during the 16th-century Protestant Reformation. As the Catholic Church resisted the reformers, several different theological movements splintered from the Church and bore different denominations. Presbyterianism was especially influenced by the French theologian John Calvin, who is credited with the development of Reformed theology, and the work of John Knox, a Scotsman and a Roman Catholic Priest, who studied with Calvin in Geneva, Switzerland. He brought back Reformed teachings to Scotland. The Presbyterian church traces its ancestry back primarily to England and Scotland. In August 1560 the Parliament of Scotland adopted the Scots Confession as the creed of the Scottish Kingdom.



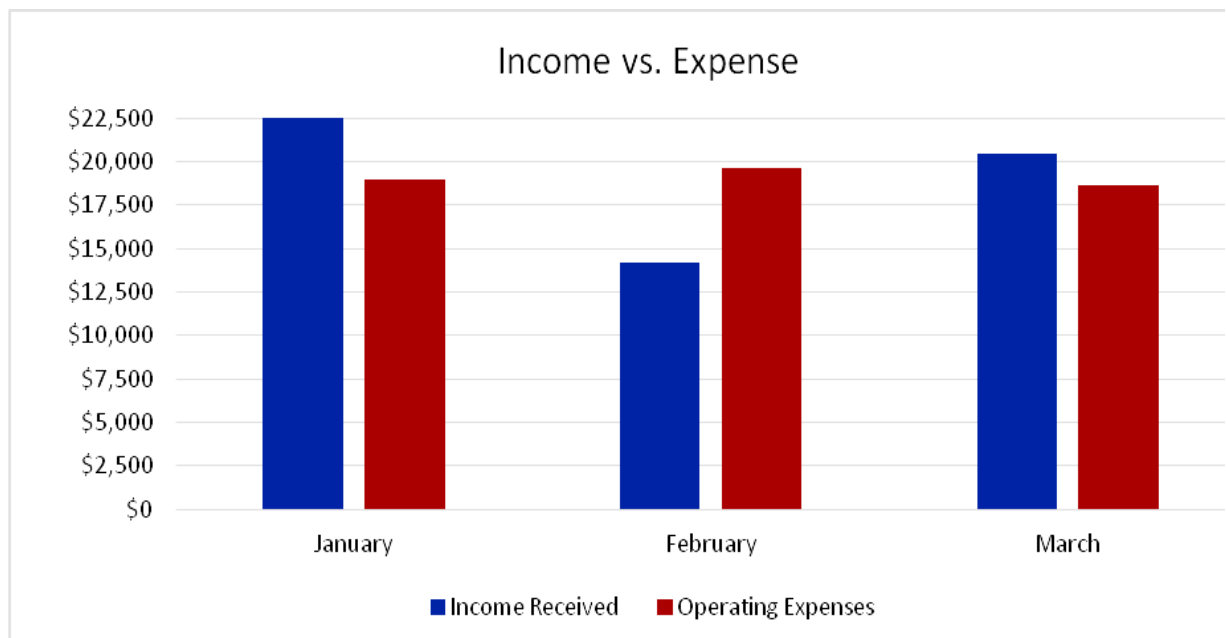


LOVING OURSELVES

Finance Ministry Team Update

*Remember the church
in your will!*

As of March 31, income received (\$73,097) was greater than operating expenses incurred (\$57,260). There were a few people who made a full year contribution in January that is inflating the income year to date. If we were to pro-rate their contributions, income would be \$56,222 compared to expenses of \$57,260. Our expenses through March month-end are below budget (\$57,260 vs \$60,072). Please see the chart below for a comparison of income received to operating expenses by month.



The Finance Ministry Team will continue to monitor and report income and expenses on a monthly basis and look for ways to control expenses.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or comments for the FMT, please feel free to contact its chair, Fred Hoge. You can do so in person, by phone (610-357-8464), or email (hogekf@verizon.net). You may also contact the church treasurer, Mary Hewes, by phone at 610-347-2327 or by email at hewesmb@aol.com.



Matthew 25 Invites the PC(USA) to Boldly Live Out Christ's Call April 20, 2019

Vision unites all Presbyterians and makes us relevant

By Donna Frischknecht Jackson | *Presbyterians Today*



Matthew 25 is an invitation to all PC(USA) churches to serve boldly and to make the world a just one for generations to come. Courtesy of PC(USA)

A wondrous change is taking place — a movement of the Spirit. Presbyterian congregations are reprioritizing the work of the Church, taking it from an institution of survival to a way of getting actively engaged in the community and making the world a better place.

These are congregations that take to heart the words of Matthew 25. They not only feed the hungry, clothe the naked and visit the sick and imprisoned. They are also getting to the root causes that create an unjust world. These congregations see that “the love of God has skin on it,” as the Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, president and executive director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency in Louisville, says. Moffett, a pastor herself, knows all too well that Presbyterians can make some of the best mission statements. The challenge, though, is to live them out.

“What we do matters to God,” she said. “It’s time to change our perspective.”

In April, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) invited congregations to be part of that change by becoming Matthew 25 churches. Matthew 25, however, is not an initiative or program to spur numerical growth. It is simply an invitation to churches, big and small, to bring focus to and frame the work they’re called to do. And, in the process, Matthew 25 invites Presbyterians of various theological and political views to stand on common ground together, strengthening the denomination to become “a more relevant presence in the world,” Moffett says.

What is Matthew 25?

Matthew 25 is an invitation from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) that calls us to actively engage in the world around us. We are called to act boldly and compassionately to serve the people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) seeks to become a Matthew 25 denomination and invites congregations and mid councils to join in this journey.

Accepting the Matthew 25 invitation means churches will embrace one or more of three areas of focus in their communities:

(Continued on page 7)

- Building congregational vitality
- Dismantling structural racism
- Eradicating systemic poverty

Churches are invited to sign up to become Matthew 25 congregations at pcusa.org/matthew25. There, congregations can embrace one or more of the three focuses of discipleship: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism and eradicating systemic poverty. Congregations are also asked to share their stories of how they're using the gifts God has given them to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor. The best part of this invitation, Moffett recognizes, is that many Presbyterians are already doing Matthew 25 work. By sharing the work of Matthew 25 with one another, though, Moffett hopes to “awaken our church to be faithful to Scripture” and increase the “spirit and energy of our congregations and mid councils.”

Here, *Presbyterians Today* shares what Matthew 25 looks like when it's lived out. These churches are already actively and boldly engaged in their communities. They are examples of what the Church is being invited to be.

Building congregational vitality

You might think that the vitality of a congregation or worshiping community is based on the number of members, the scope of programs, the size of financial gifts or some other statistics. Not so — at least not entirely. Rather, a community's vitality is primarily its spiritual strength and its capacity for purposeful mission.

“You judge vitality by how many people will miss the church if it is no longer there,” Moffett said.



Liberty Community Church practices “a ministry of liberation for the poor and oppressed,” says the Rev. Dr. Alika Galloway, with community engagement being Christ's call to the church. *Courtesy of Alika Galloway*

Liberty Community Church is one congregation that would be missed by many. The Rev. Dr. Alika Galloway, who co-pastors with her husband, the Rev. Dr. Ralph Galloway, has long practiced what she says is a “ministry of liberation for the poor and oppressed” in Minneapolis.

“We model and teach that community engagement is the call of the church of Jesus Christ,” said Galloway.

A little over a decade ago, Galloway began offering a “drop-in” space for women who worked as prostitutes near the church. Galloway's husband gave up office space to create a place for the women to sit, talk to other women, receive a glass of water and even get condoms. That was the start of a ministry that would be known as the Northside Women's Space (NWS), which is not a stand-alone mission apart from the congregation.

“The people that we serve are the people we worship with and vice versa,” said Galloway. “The session and pastors made a difficult decision to not form a separate 501(c)(3) so that there would never

(Continued on page 8)

be a distinction between the church and the work of Northside.”

Today, that work continues as Liberty Community is raising

\$4 million to expand NWS to include the Northside Healing Space, which will serve the needs of men and children. Galloway says it will be “a sacred space to heal from untreated and unrecognized trauma.”

“Our sisters in NWS encouraged us to expand our vision of healing,” Galloway said, recalling how a woman told her, “What’s the use of us getting healed if we have to go back into a messed-up community? We want everyone healed, including our children and men.”

Northside Healing Space’s mission, Galloway says, will be the “healing of trauma through rest, remembering, resistance and revival.”

Another indicator of congregational vitality is a church’s focus on growing disciples who are actively engaged in the mission of God in their community. The Rev. Shelli Latham of Druid Hills Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, who says living out Matthew 25 is about “constantly growing” and keeping eyes open “for you will encounter people in need every day,” is beginning to see that growth in her congregation.

On the Druid Hills Presbyterian campus is a ministry known as Mercy Community Church — a community started in 2005 for those in poverty or who are homeless. The ministry is led by the Rev. Chad Hyatt, co-pastor and an associate of the Missionaries of the Poor, a Catholic religious order that embodies a daily commitment to the spirituality of Matthew 25; the Rev. Maggie Leonard, a Presbyterian and co-pastor; and the Rev. Brittany Fiscus-van Rossum, also a Presbyterian minister and Mercy’s associate pastor. Mercy’s mission is to serve meals, provide clothes and welcome strangers, five days a week.

Mercy’s website says it best: . . . *seeking to create space in our lives where God might help us to grow in new ways.*

That growth has filtered to the Druid Hills congregation, Latham says, as she now gets Druid Hills members saying to her on a Sunday, “We are going to worship with Mercy.”

“They tell me as if they are ‘cheating’ on me, but it is wonderful to see,” Latham laughs, adding that serving is about more than just making sandwiches, as Druid Hills does every third Sunday for its Sandwich Ministry to feed the hungry. To make a difference in one’s community, one has to hear the stories of those who are homeless and who are struggling.

“We do *for* others well, but *with*? Not so well,” Latham said. “We should be sitting together with those we want to serve.”

Sitting together at the table is now happening every month at First United Presbyterian Church in De Pere, Wisconsin.

In late 2018, the church started a free monthly meal where church members don’t just serve food to those in the community. They break bread — together.

According to Tori England, a member of First United Presbyterian, over the past six months, monthly attendance has gone from 50 diners to 120. While the meal is a success on paper, the real success is that the congregation is reaching what Amy Cassidy, a member of session, calls “the best

(Continued on page 9)

hidden group of people in poverty.”

Like many churches, First United has wondered how to reach those in need who are struggling silently, whether due to pride or not being aware of the resources available. First United’s dinner, which is called “Agape,” capturing the expansive love of God, has started to break that silence, as neighbors begin to know each other better, sharing and listening to one another’s stories. And as First United Presbyterian engages with those in the community, those in the community are engaging with the church.

“Many people who come to the dinner are staying afterwards to help clean up. They want to be part of the ministry,” Cassidy said.

Dismantling structural racism

Racism is not primarily about individual prejudice or an individual’s beliefs and attitudes. Rather, racism in the U.S. is a socially constructed system. Some people are advantaged, and others are disadvantaged, merely because of their skin color, ethnic identity or their ancestral background. Social power and prejudice have combined to treat people differently, whether intentionally or unintentionally. Some people are privileged while others are oppressed. As a consequence, there is unequal and inequitable access to resources such as money, education, information and decision-making power.



Confronting deeply ingrained racist systems and structures in our communities and country takes sensitivity and stamina. Before congregations and worshiping communities can confront the harsh realities of racism, it is helpful to have a good foundation.

Members of Druid Hills Presbyterian Church in Atlanta recently visited the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama — a sacred space for truth-telling about slavery in America. Druid Hills has been studying the book “White Fragility” and tackling conversations on race. *Courtesy*

of Druid Hills Presbyterian Church

A group from Druid Hills Presbyterian Church in Atlanta is building that foundation with an important conversation. In the winter, about six to eight folks opened their laptops for a Zoom online video meeting on Robin DiAngelo’s book “White Fragility: Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism.”

The discussion “provided the space for us to be honest with one another and practice being comfortable in talking about this,” said Latham.

The “White Fragility” Zoom meeting wasn’t the first time that technology was used as a way to bring Druid Hills’ worshipers together to learn.

“Atlanta traffic is terrible and many of our young people were not coming back to the church for classes,” Latham said. “Using Zoom is providing us with the time to engage with one another. Zoom time provides the space for us to get into the gritty topics we need to get into.”

“White Fragility” was also recently studied at New Hempstead Presbyterian Church in New City,

(Continued on page 10)

New York. However, this wasn't the first book about race the congregation has tackled, says the Rev. Dr. Lori Knight-Whitehouse. New Hempstead Presbyterian has been reading books on race for the past three years, and the results have been positive. The book discussions have inspired those in the congregation to take action and attend rallies, Knight-Whitehouse says. The discussions have also welcomed those from outside the church community.

"The book studies have been a good way to witness to the community," she said.

Eradicating systemic poverty

It is startling to learn that 25 percent of children under 6 now live in poverty in the U.S. What is even worse is the fact that poverty is the greatest threat to the healthy development of children because of its long-lasting, negative consequences: inadequate quality and quantity of food, exposure to violence, underfunded schools and lack of early childhood educational opportunities, frequent housing mobility, and exposure to pollution and other health risks.

And while many congregations excel at putting together Thanksgiving food baskets and providing backpacks filled with school supplies for those in need, the Band-Aid approach, while helpful, is only a temporary solution.

"Such services are needed, yes. But we also need to be getting to the heart of the 'why,'" said the Rev. Paul H. Moore.



The members of Chain of Lakes Church in Blaine, Minnesota, would describe their church as being passionate about eradicating homelessness in their community. The church partners with nonprofits and helps with various activities to raise awareness and money, such as bagging groceries for Hope 4 Youth. *Courtesy of Chain of Lakes Church*

Moore has been the pastor of Chain of Lakes Church in Blaine, Minnesota, since 2009. The church plant, which began with seven families, now averages 80 in worship. Plans are currently underway for the congregation to break ground for a new building in the spring of 2020. Chain of Lakes, though, isn't your average church startup. At the very beginning, the congregation sought to answer what its "heart-first" was. "Heart-first," Moore explains, is ministry that most touches the heart of a congregation.

"We sometimes work on so many different ministries that they get diffused. The 'heart-first' ministry helps a church to focus on one thing and do that one thing right," he said.

It was during the many interviews in the community to discover Chain of Lakes' heart-first ministry that the Chain of Lakes congregation heard of the growing homelessness problem in the area, specifically the growing number of homeless youths.

"That started us on our journey," Moore said.

Today, Chain of Lakes Church is part of a movement to end homelessness in Minnesota's Metro-North area. The congregation, Moore says, has gone "to extraordinary lengths to partner with organizations to help end homelessness."

(Continued on page 11)

Those great lengths include running three food shelves at local high schools; partnering in raising money for HOPE Place, the only residence for homeless youth in Anoka County; serving at Stepping Stone, a local emergency housing shelter; and providing spring break bags and Christmas bags filled with food and necessities for vulnerable youth at Anoka Regional High School.

But as Moore and his congregation do this work, they keep hearing the same question from others. It's a question they themselves have asked: What leads a person to be homeless?

Feeding the hungry takes many hands. Luckily, the Rev. Paul H. Moore of Chain of Lakes Church has many in the congregation — young and old — who rise up to help others. *Courtesy of Chain of Lakes Church*

That question led Chain of Lakes to team with the local Rotary in March to host a forum, "Root Causes of Homelessness." About 70 people attended and listened to the four speakers who shared the startling statistics of homelessness, especially among youth.

The evening opened with the latest homelessness statistics from the Wilder Foundation's triennial homeless report. The Wilder Foundation is a Minnesota nonprofit that has been committed to those in need since the early 1900s. Its report revealed that 10,233 people experienced homelessness in 2018 in Minnesota, a 10 percent increase from 2015. It also found that on any given night, an estimated 6,000 Minnesota youth experience homelessness.

And while there was no easy answer on to how to eradicate homelessness, participants in the forum, which included high school counselors and representatives from local housing shelters, offered starting points:

- Create more connections with vulnerable adults and youth. "Often when an adult or youth experiences an incident that could lead to homelessness, they don't have the connections that can help them overcome that incident," Moore said.
- Provide more shelters. According to Moore, one local organization has a waiting list of more than 300 people for its shelter.

Increase the minimum wage and lower costs of entry-level apartments. "There's no doubt in my mind that if Jesus were here right now, he would be encouraging his followers to advocate for a higher minimum wage and lower rents. He would be encouraging all people to share an attitude of grace towards a person who is homeless," Moore said.

Moore and his congregation are extending that grace now, and are thinking about that grace long-term. When Chain of Lakes Church breaks ground next spring for its new church, there are plans to include a gym for local teens to gather. But there are bigger dreams as well.

"We would love to build a shelter on the church property," Moore said, recognizing there probably will be some pushback from the community. Still, any pushback will be worth it, for the work in reaching out to the homeless has brought with it many blessings.

"We didn't start this with the intent of the youth coming to worship," Moore said. "But now three homeless teens have come to worship and have enriched the congregation. They have made us embrace the messiness of life."

Val Owens, a member of Chain of Lakes Church, agrees. Speaking at the "Root Causes of Homeless-

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

ness” event, she admits that working with the youth “has changed my life” and that those in the church as well as the teens “have grown so much together.”

For Moore, this is a call that he was made for. Moore’s passion for getting to the heart of the systems that create poverty was instilled in him at a young age. When he was in the fourth grade, his parents intentionally moved their family from the comforts of their suburban home and into the inner city. It was then that Moore, having seen those with and those without, came up with a solution to poverty — “we should just abolish money,” Moore recalls with a chuckle. The young Moore was so convinced that would work that he wrote letters to government representatives asking them to pursue this.

“I wasn’t successful,” he said. “But that was the start of my passion for helping low-income people. That was the start of my call into ministry.”

Lord, when did we see you . . . ? What is your Matthew 25 call? The invitation has been given. How will your congregation answer?



COMMUNITY



On March 20, 2019, eleven of our finest Webelos, earned their Arrow of Light.

Webelos Earn Arrow of Light

This is the highest honor for any Cub Scout. This marks their transition from the Cub Scouts to Scouts. These young men have made it through the ranks of Bobcat, Tiger, Bear, Wolf, and two years of Webelos to earn this prestigious



Service Project Fulfilled

Evan Cousins, a Unionville High School National Honor Society student, accompanied by Carol Buckley, Chairperson of our UPC Missions Ministry, recently performed road pickup on

UPC’s adopted stretch of Wollaston Road for his required service hours.

See how clean!



Law Enforcement Sunday

Being a police officer is a calling. Some are continuing a family tradition of police work. Or they believe in a clear line between right and wrong. Or they want to provide a service to the community that they grew up in. Whatever the reason, law enforcement is not just what they do – it is who they are.

Police officers stand in the gap to keep the peace, all too often in world of ever-increasing violence and brokenness. Keeping the peace often involves taking trouble makers into custody – a scenario that can often end badly.

Police officer Adam Plantinga, author of “400 Things Cops Should Know: Street Smart Lessons from a Veteran Patrolman,” states that “Just because a suspect is unarmed, doesn’t mean he isn’t a deadly threat.”

Officer Plantinga feels that there is a common misperception about police officers: “that cops are one-dimensional, trigger-happy bullies who took the job because they didn’t want to go to school past the 12th grade.”

Law enforcement is a highly challenging, very volatile field. Officers daily draw on skills they already have and some they are still working on. At any given moment, officers need to be a “psychologist, centurion, street lawyer, pilot, coach, marksman, and soothsayer.”

Although there have been many recent, widely publicized and horrifying stories of police shootings; the actual statistics tell a different story. (I encourage you to look at the 2016 Harvard Study by economics professor, Roland G. Fryer, Jr.) Any officer can tell stories of the many times deadly force could have been justifiably used but was not. That being said, the recent incidents have strained the relationship between the police officers and the people they serve.



I want to be clear, as in any profession, there are employees that should not be in that job. The men and women that I am privileged to work with do not condone the use of unnecessary force and are faced with split second decisions most of us could never imagine.

When officers are sworn in, they take an oath. The oath is usually something like “On my honor, I will never betray my badge, my integrity, my character, or the public trust. I will always have the courage to hold myself and others accountable for our actions.

“I will always uphold the constitution my community and the agency I serve” (taken from the International Association of Chiefs of Police website, www.iacp.org). The police motto is **“To Protect and Serve.”** With that oath comes great responsibility to the people

(Continued on page 14)

(Continued from page 13)

they have sworn to serve and protect.

We, the community, though, have responsibilities to the police officers. Authority is not a bad thing – everyone alive is under some type of authority. We should honor the authority the police officers represent. We should recognize the losses they have suffered. **Thus far in 2018, 48 officers have died in the line of duty (as well as 6 canine members of police departments).** In addition, a police officer dies by suicide every 81 hours.

As the Chaplain for the Kennett Township, Southern Chester County Regional, and Kennett Square Police Departments, I am privileged to walk alongside these brave men and women. I encourage you to join me in the prayer I pray for them every morning:

Almighty God, whose great power and eternal wisdom embraces the universe, I give you thanks for the brave men and women who serve our community. I give You thanks for these dedicated public servants who have answered Your call to serve and protect. Please watch over them and protect them from harm in the performance of their duty to stop crime and violence. Help them keep our streets, homes, and places of work and play safe both day and night. I commend them to Your loving care because their duty is dangerous in the cause of freedom and justice. Grant them Your unending strength and courage in their daily assignments. Protect them always

and unite them safely with their loved ones when their duty has ended. Amen.

Another way to support the police officers is to participate in the events of **National Police Week, May 12 – May 19, 2019**. This week was established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962 to pay special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others. A wonderful resource is the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund website – www.nleomf.org. Their goal is to inspire every citizen to value law enforcement and to tell the story of American law enforcement and make it safer for those who serve.

On **Sunday, May 19 at 9:00AM** UPC will be having a “Police Officer Recognition” during our time of worship. All officers and their families, as well as anyone who wishes to celebrate our officers is welcome to join us! A dessert reception will follow the service.





An Invitation

Saint Patrick Parish Jubilee Year Golf Outing

*Celebrating St. Patrick's rich history
in the Kennett Square community.*

**Monday, May 6, 2019 at
Kennett Square Golf & Country Club**

11:00 AM | Check-in & Lunch

12:00 PM | Tee Time

5:00 PM | Dinner & Awards

**Register online and learn more at
stpatrickkennettsquare.org/jubilee-year-golf-outing.**



SPC Community Outreach Center, Erected 2014

SHILOH Presbyterian Church Oxford

PANCAKE & OMELET BREAKFAST March 9, 2019



Place: SPC Community Outreach Center
42 South Fifth Street, Oxford, PA

Time: 8:30 – 10:30 A.M.

Donation: Adults, \$7.00; Children (4–11),
\$5.00; 3 years and under, free.
Tickets are purchased at the door.

Coordinators: Sheila Bowers and Susan Ruffin

This Breakfast has been scheduled for the second Saturday every other month.
Various items are included on the menu.

For information, please leave a message at the church office, 610-932-9256.

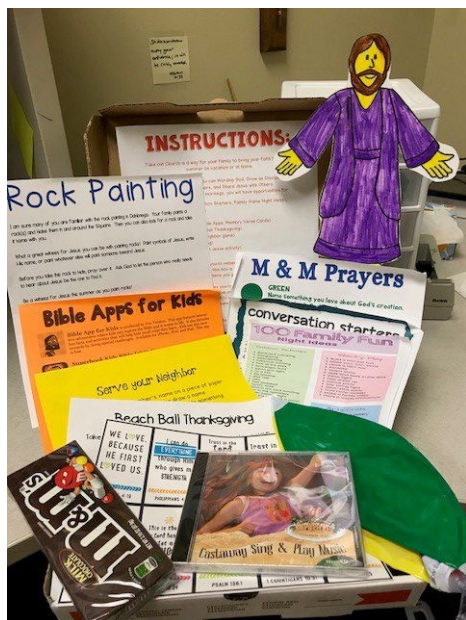
Thanks for your support. Happy St. Patrick's Day!!



LOVING GOD

From the Desk of the DCM

TAKE-OUT CHURCH BOXES = FUN FOR THE FAMILY ON VACATION!



What is Take-Out Church? When you go on vacation do you wish for activities to engage the family and practice your faith? A special way to remember you are a part of God's family and loved. This summer we have "Take-Out Church" boxes full of activities, to take and enjoy on your vacation. Just sign a box out and return the box to the Sunday school room when you return from your vacation. All boxes are the same.

There's so much to do inside! Use the conversation starters to engage the family while traveling to your favorite vacation location. Remember Flat Stanley? You'll find Flat Jesus inside the

Vacation Box. Take Flat Stanley along and snap pictures of him having fun with your family and while you enjoy all your activities. Then look to the Starbucks prayers and guiding prayer prompts. Each color of Starbucks has a corresponding prayer. I won't spoil the fun by telling you everything that's included inside. Remember to come to the Sunday school room and sign your Take-Out Church box out for your summer vacation!

Here are some conversation starters to get you started while you plan your next vacation or "staycation".

If you could stay up all night, what would you do?

If you could be an Olympic athlete, in what sport would you compete?

You are going to be alone on a deserted island for a year and you get to take one book/DVD/CD. What would you take?

What superpowers would you like to have?

If you were writing a newspaper article about your day, what would the headline be?

Have a happy and safe vacation!





LOVING NEIGHBORS

Twelve UPC volunteers together with volunteers from Bethany Presbyterian Church and Hamorton United Methodist Church worked for 2 hours on Sunday, April 28, to package 10,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger's mission to end hunger by providing food & life-changing aid to people in developing nations.



Mission/Outreach



National Day of Prayer Invitation

The Avon-Grove Ministerium warmly invites you and your church to join our annual National Day of Prayer gathering in Penn Township Park, Jennersville, PA. This multi-church prayer/worship meeting will be held on Thursday evening, May 2, from 6:30-7:45 PM.

We will pray together in Christian unity into five prayer targets: America, Church, Families, Ethnicities, and Loving God. We'll use a variety of prayer styles interspersed with songs of worship. The meeting will be

hosted by Avon-Grove Ministerium but co-led by leaders from churches throughout Southern Chester County. We are delighted that the Oxford Ministerium is joining with us this year. We anticipate a couple hundred in attendance as we gather in the large park pavilion.

If the weather is inclement that evening, we will all meet at the Jennersville site of Willowdale Chapel, very close to the park.

THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER | MAY 2, 2019

★ PRAY FOR AMERICA ★

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

LOVE ONE ANOTHER. JUST AS I HAVE LOVED YOU JOHN 13:34



NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG #LOVE1ANOTHER

Easter Egg Hunt



A
H
a
p
p
y
Easter!



Leadership of Unionville Presbyterian Church

ELDERS

Moderator: Rev. Annalie Korengel

Clerk of Session: Sue Minarchi

DEACONS

Co-Moderators: Mardette Alexander
and Kay Dunkle

Class of 2019

Joan Deming-Murphy
Susan Minarchi
Greg Permar

Class of 2020

Carol Buckley
Michael King
Curt McCray

Class of 2019

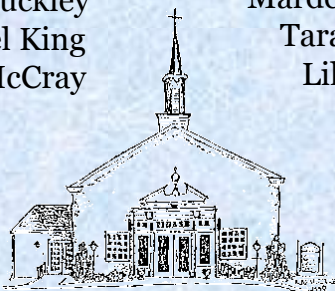
Mardette Alexander
Tara Dickinson
Lillian Ryan

Class of 2020

Betty Bryer
Judy Jackson
Brian Roberts

Class of 2021

Fred Hoge
J R Nelson



Class of 2021

JoAnn Fisher
Marlel Holloway

STAFF

Pastor/Head of Staff: Rev. Annalie Korengel

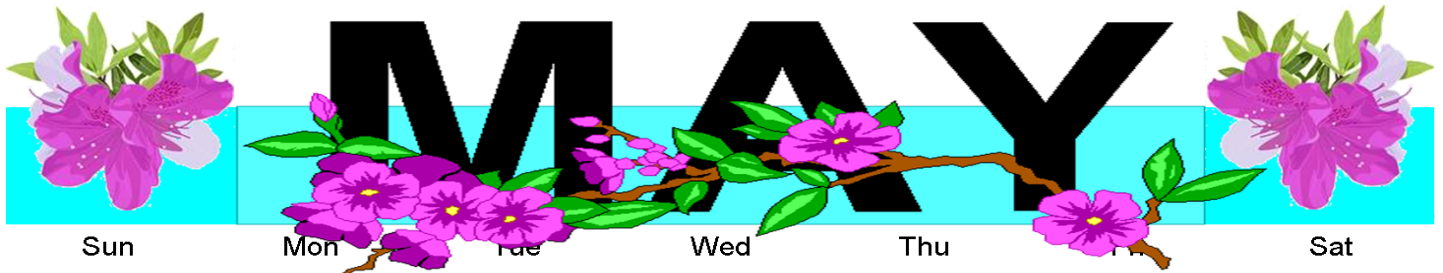
Director of Children's Ministry: Lizabeth G. Conners


Secretary: Judy Krug

Financial Secretary/ Treasurer: Mary Hewes

Director of Music Ministry: Bill Johnson

Nursery Attendant: Olivia Finkey



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 LIFE 9:30 Handbells 6:15 Adult Study 7:00 Choir 7:00	3 AA 7:00	4
5  COMMUNION Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00	6	7 Choir 7:00	8 Adult Study 9:30 If Love Was Enough 7:30	9 LIFE 9:30 Adult Study 7:00	10 AA 7:00	11
12 Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00 Bake Sale	13 Finance 10:00	14 Choir 7:00	15 Adult Study 9:30	16 LIFE 9:30 Adult Study 7:00	17 AA 7:00	18
19 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS SUNDAY Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00	20 Team Night 7:00	21 Choir 7:00	22 Adult Study 9:30	23 LIFE 9:30 Adult Study 7:00	24 AA 7:00	25
26 Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00	27	28 Choir 7:00	29 Adult Study 9:30 Prayer/Praise 3:30	30 LIFE 9:30 Adult Study 7:00	31 AA 7:00	



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 COMMUNION Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00	3	4 Choir Picnic 6:00	5	6 LIFE 9:30	7 AA 7:00	8
9 PENTECOST Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00 F A M I L Y P R O M I S E	10 Finance 10:00	11	12 If Love Was Enough 7:30	13 LIFE 9:30	14 AA 7:00	15
16 Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00	17	18	19	20 LIFE 9:30	21 AA 7:00	22
23 Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00	24 Session 7:00	25	26 Prayer/Praise 3:30	27 LIFE 9:30	28 AA 7:00	29
30 Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00						

Unionville Presbyterian Church
812 Wollaston Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Phone: 610-347-2327

E-mail: unionvillepc@gmail.com

Website: www.unionvillepresbyterianchurch.org

Loving God and our neighbors as ourselves

