



The

Crown

Sharing Christ's Love with All People

A publication of Church of the Apostles,
a United Church of Christ congregation



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AUGUST



Inside this issue:

From the Pastor	2
Parish Life	5
Email Sign Up	7
Church Calendar	10



Check out our website at
www.apostlesucc.org



In May of this year, a federal judge eliminated the ban on same-sex marriages in the state of Pennsylvania. As a church within the United Church of Christ, which has a national reputation of being open and accepting of all sexual orientations, we need to consider the ramifications this may have on our congregation. As a congregation, we have not engaged in the process of "Open and Affirming" which are the "key words" for the LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual, questioning) community to know we are a safe place and do not advertise ourselves as such. We do say that our vision is to be "Sharing Christ and His Love with All People."

As a minister within the UCC, I have met many people of various sexual orientations and have heard their stories of discrimination. I have also seen the effect that severe illness and death has on couples who are not married. For me, this is a justice issue. Partners in same-sex unions deserve the same protections and guarantees as heterosexual couples have such as the right to see their partner in the emergency room, the right to make medical decisions when the partner is unable, the right to be covered under medical benefits and the right to receive Social security benefits upon the death of the partner. Because of my opinions and feelings if I was approached by a same-sex couple about officiating such a wedding, I would agree.

It is also helpful to look at this issue from the perspective of "What would Jesus do?" It is true, that of all the things Jesus is reported to have talked about, this is not an issue he addressed. However, we do know that Jesus' ministry was to those who were marginalized or rejected by the religious leaders of his time. He frequently crossed "boundaries" of cleanliness and societal norm to minister to those who were hurting and rejected by others. It is also true that the scripture from Leviticus was written for people who needed to procreate for humanity to survive as were many of

the other purity laws. Paul's letter to the Romans was written to men who were using sexual promiscuity to have power over other men and boys as a means of control.

The larger question becomes, "How does the congregation feel about such a wedding taking place in our sanctuary?" For insight on this, I brought this question to both the Ministry Planning Committee and our Council who said they would support my decision if I chose to officiate such a wedding in our sanctuary. But I would also like to hear from you, particularly if you feel strongly about this issue. Please call me, email me or schedule an appointment with me to discuss this issue in person.

I am hoping we can have productive dialogue regarding this issue.

Blessings & peace-

Pastor Kuhn

Giving Report for July 2014

At the end of June COA had operating revenues of \$234,028.28 and expenses of \$243,298.89 for a negative cash flow of (\$9,206.61).

Envelope and direct deposit income year to date was \$196,456.10 which is less than the \$198,169.51 collected at the same time last year.

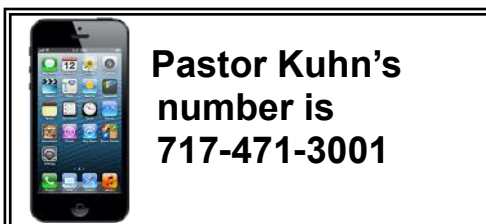
Operating expenses are \$8,092.14 above the same period last year.

ROOF FUND REPORT

As of June 17, 2014 we received donations totaling \$25,202.45

Your support to the project is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your gifts to COA.
Stewardship Commission



Crown Deadline

The next Crown
deadline is August 15

**Council Minutes
June 16, 2014**

ATTENDANCE: George Alspach, Lisa Christoffel, Erika Neiderer, Clara Kosmela, Cathie Oliphant, Cindy Williams, Julie Berkow, Pastor Kuhn, Peter Daniels, Chuck Erisman, Andy Appel, Jane MCarthy, Cathy Kenlin

ABSENT: Tom Lewis, Randy Sweigart, Andy Smith

DEVOTIONS: were provided by Clara Kosmela

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: After a motion by George A. and seconded by Jane M. the Minutes of April 28th were approved. Since there was not a quorum at the May meeting no business was conducted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: shows a negative of \$12,095.

The insurance costs were paid. Envelope giving is behind last year at this time. Expenses due to cold winter have been above last year.

The roof has been completed at a cost of \$85,628. So far \$21,577 has been donated to the roof fund. **INSURANCE:** After a motion by George Alspach, Council unanimously adopted the following policy required by our insurance company:

Beginning June 1, 2014 all new employees of COA shall grant permission to allow COA to obtain information regarding their driving history from the PA Department of Motor Vehicles. The personnel committee of COA shall initiate the inquiry no later than the employee's first day of employment at COA. If the report does not meet or exceed the eligibility criteria for employment established by the personnel committee, appropriate action shall be taken per our current hiring procedures.

The driving records of all COA employees shall be reviewed at least once a year.

COMMISSION REPORTS

OUTREACH-Julie Berkow

Carol Nielson is composing a letter to the confirmands of ideas they can participate in to stay involved with COA.

We should all meet the confirmands, get to know them, tell them about your ministry- ask them what their interests are.

No youth going to annual Youth event.

PROPERTY- Chuck Erisman

Bridge in Rader Park will be refurbished with volunteers from the church June 24-28. When completed a Gator will be able to drive over it.

ADDITIONAL STAFF PERSON

What are the things someone can do to grow the congregation?

Pastoral Care is important but it doesn't grow the congregation.

Cathy Kenlin expressed the feeling that "part time" help doesn't stay.

Ordained Pastor-Associate Pastor-part of job is youth, but can also do weddings and funerals.

Growing the Church-Keep confirmands involved. Three years until another confirmation class. 35 in youth choir.

Volunteer co-ordinator
Need for classes for educating parents.
Should also work for "older" members.
Can we afford?
We need to be ready to change.

PASTOR KUHN

Summer worship is highlighting the Ministries we



have in the church. Tell Kathy if you have ideas or would be willing to participate.

Julie—Power Packs

Jollys—Vacation Bible School

Karen C.— Seeds of Hope Garden

Bob and Betty Reiff—Saturday Breakfast

Jane M.—Wishing Well

Same Gender Weddings

Now legal in PA Pastor Kuhn will put an article about this in the Crown inviting members to discuss this with her. Council and MPC support Pastor Kuhn's decision to officiate same sex weddings in our Sanctuary.

We as a congregation need to learn to talk to each other on issues that have two sides.

NEW BUSINESS

Cindy Williams questioned how the next Garage Sale Profits will be spent? Is it decided by the workers or just goes into the General Budget? We plan to compare with how the proceeds are spent from the Bazaar. Julie thought 25% goes to the General Budget from the Bazaar. The two large fund raisers are not treated in the same manner. Both fund raisers are under Parish Life where it will be discussed next month.

Jack Silknetter will be invited to speak to council next month regarding the warehouse bought recently by the Lancaster County Council of Churches.

CHURCH VAN

Van has had some difficulties the last few weeks. It belongs to Homestead so we need to tell them it needs a tune up. Homestead's new van does not fit under our portico.

Next meeting- Monday, July 21st
Pastor Kuhn offered a closing prayer.
Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Clara Kosmela, Council Secretary

Council

From the President...

SEASONS: moving on.....

You, as I, probably didn't notice any importance of July 2nd this year. In the larger scene, July 2nd is 'just another day'----well, almost: it is the middle of the year, most years: with some change in leap years. So, now we might think in terms of---the year's half gone, what have I accomplished, what do I need to do before the end of the year, etc., etc.and have you noticed the change? June 21 was the longest daylight of the year...with about 15 hours, 2 minutes. July 2nd the daylight was 14 hours, 58 minutes. Subtle change.

So it is with the seasons: our seasons can be almost as subtle: after the "last snow" melts, Spring flowers have already started blooming----but there are always some who bloom before the "last" snow.....subtle change. We have "summer" temperatures before summer begins....sometimes not so subtle change.

So also do we have 'seasons' in our lives: the Spring of Youth, the Summer of ... (fill in your choice), the Autumn of our years.....and the bleak [?] winter of our end years.....and as we move from season to season, there are changes we encounter.

In the calendar year, changes are often imposed on us: warm coats in winter, air conditioning in summer, less obvious in spring and fall? In the calendar of our lives, much change is imposed as we move from the youth of spring through the allegorical seasons. And we're not always happy with the changes imposed: more rules, more advice, glasses, hearing aids, walkers.....innumerable doctor's prescriptions [and orders].

And as members of Church of the Apostles, we need to think about how we can help our Church recognize, analyze and respond to the changes that occur in any church--even ours--that enables the church to weather all seasons, not simply surviving, but thriving.

Let's not just think about our future seasons, but let us have dialogue that leads to plans that leads to a Church for all seasons.....

Parish Life

Choir Retreat



The 2014 Choir Retreat will be held on Saturday, August 16 at the home of Al and Betsy Bischoff. All interested people should arrive before 9:00 a.m. so we are prepared

to sing at 9:00 a.m. We will work on anthems for the 2014-2015 season. This is a great opportunity for each current choir member to bring along someone who is interested in becoming a choir member. Please attempt to find at least one person to bring to the retreat. This may be someone who is potentially a new church member or a current member seeking a way to enhance his or her Sunday worship. In addition, a corn roast, prepared by the Bischoffs, will follow all of Saturday's events!

Our present choir is a dedicated group who like to sing and have fun. We can always use more voices, so please consider joining us at the retreat. If you have any questions, please see Nathan or Cindy.

There is a sign-up list posted outside the choir room.

Summer Sunday School



June 1 to August 31
9:15 am in Room 215
Ages 3 up

A variety of teachers will be teaching this class.

Seeds of Hope

Our focus in the garden for the past month has been to expand our network of users of the produce and expand the list of volunteers willing to work in the garden. We've made some good headway in both directions.

Two new outlets for our produce are The Loft at the Millersville Brethren in Christ Church, and the Millersville Meals on Wheels. Manor Township is working on an effort to coordinate their various outreach programs under one umbrella so they can provide services more efficiently. The Loft was recommended to us by someone who knows our Seeds of Hope mission. The director of the Meals on Wheels was visiting her mother at Homestead Village and accompanied her on a visit to our shed one day when we were "selling" produce. She struck up a conversation and ultimately left with a five gallon bucket of onions.

As the word of our garden reaches more and more ears, people contact us and ask if they can help. The Towne and Country Garden Club, which meets monthly at Homestead Village, contacted us and wondered if they could help in the garden. These ladies have proved very valuable to us over the last couple weeks. They have been weeding and weeding. One of the women wrote an article about our garden for their newsletter because she was so impressed with our purpose.

Back again for a second summer are our young men from the Turning Point program in Lancaster. They have been sentenced to attend the Turning Point program to avoid having a juvenile record and the program requires them to do community service every day at various non-profit agencies all over the county. Again, word of mouth led them to Apostles. This year we have a dozen young men pulling weeds, mulching berry plants, and soon digging up potatoes. It's a real "circle of mission" when one program gives their time to another organization which ultimately helps others.

As members of Church of the Apostles, we can be very proud that we reach out to so many members and community neighbors to perform so many hours of mission work. The Seeds of Hope garden is one of those many programs that work to help others. Be generous to all our programs of outreach with your time, your talents and your treasures.

Dining Around

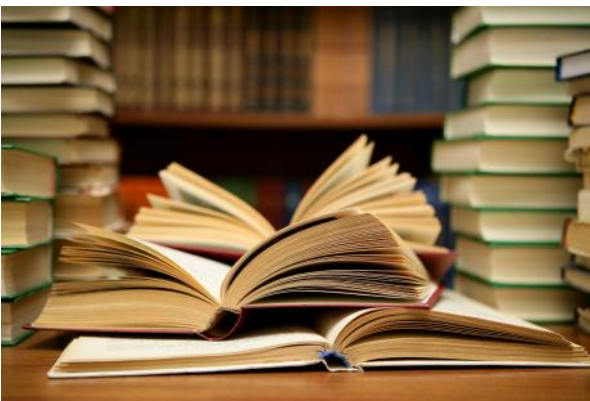


Dining Around has been a favorite for those who have participated for a number of years at Church of the Apostles. As a new season approaches, new groups are to be organized and hopefully many will be interested in having the pleasure of the company of church members and friends. It is a goal to have groups of no more

than eight persons, church members, friends, couples and singles to share in socializing by meeting for dinner, brunch, or any other creative activity with each participating to plan. We anticipate starting new groups in September.

Consider this format a part of developing our relationships with each other and with those we do not know. There are no limits; each group does as it wishes. Call the church office with your name, address, and phone number to be a part of this important church activity. You can also return a completed form that is in the bulletin thru August.

Book Club



Join us August 12th in the library for a discussion about "Traitor's Wife" by Allison Pataki and Margaret "Peggy" Shippen's life. Was she the link between Revolutionary War traitor Benedict Arnold and his British co-conspirator John Andre?

September 9th's book will be "River of Doubt" by Candice Millard.

Thank You!

Dear Friends,
Thank you very much for the beautiful yellow rose to honor my 90th year.
Sincerely,
Helen Evans

To the congregation,
Thank you for your recent donation of Box Tops and Campbell Soup labels. We really appreciate it.
Hoffman Home

Dear COA,
On behalf of Crispus Attucks Community Center, I would like to thank you for your donation to our summer camp. Please know that your generosity and thoughtfulness are greatly appreciated. Your support allows Crispus Attucks to continue in their mission to serve the youth and families of Lancaster County.

Crispus Attucks is not just a community center. The organization has been meeting the needs of the community since 1927 by providing youth programming, hunger alleviation, and cultural events.

Your support is a great encouragement for us to continue to work diligently on behalf of those with the most needs. An investment in Crispus Attucks, is an investment in the future of our community.

Thank you again for your support.
Sincerely,
Cheryl Holand-Jones

Dear COA family,
Nathan and I want to thank you so much for all of the support we have received from you, our church family, since the birth of Ella Grace in February. We would particularly like to highlight all of the amazing support we have received from the New Mom's support group. I had requested help with meals once I returned to work in May. I can't express what a life saver these delicious meals have been to us! We are so grateful! It has been challenging adjusting to being back to work full time and this support has made the transition a

great deal less stressful. Thank you for continued thoughts, prayers, and continued support!
The Daggett's - Nathan, Emily, Emma, & Ella

Dear COA,
Thank you so much for the love and support that you have continued to give me over the years. I have considered myself very lucky to have the opportunities provided such as being in Sophia, teaching Sunday school, volunteering for Schreiber, and playing violin.
Peace and Love,
Ann Berkow

I want to thank the anonymous donor who placed the two gas cards in the Outreach box this past week. The cards have been passed on to Pastor Kuhn to use through the Apostle's Assistance program. Thank you for your generosity!
Julie Berkow, Outreach Commission

Dear COA Family,
Thank you for the lovely card and iTunes gift card. I really appreciate your generosity and am so glad to be a member here at COA.
Sincerely,
Emily Sheffer

Dear COA Family,
Thank you so much for the graduation card and iTunes gift card. It means a lot to me!
Jason Irwin

Dear COA,
My heartfelt thank you for the beautiful flower delivered to me for my birthday! What a wonderful surprise when the Heidig's pulled into my driveway. I couldn't imagine delivering on a Sunday, but it was a much better delivery-- it was from my church family.
Thank you for giving me such joy on my birthday!
Alice Peterson



Sign up to Receive Church Communications via E-Mail:

Help our church save time and money by allowing us to e-mail your copy of "The Crown" newsletter and other key church correspondence directly to your e-mail box. Simply provide your e-mail contact information to include the information requested below:

Name(s) who can be reached at this e-mail address and who are members of the Church of the Apostles:

Preferred e-mail contact address for me/my family:

Be certain to advise the church of any changes to your e-mail address.

Send this information via e-mail to Kaitlin McNew at kaitlinm@apostlesucc.org or drop off at the office. Thank You!

August Birthdays

Date	Name
2	Deborah Accomando
3	Kari Sears
4	Paul Hocker
6	Robert Miller
6	Donna Bechtold
6	Travis Duffey
7	Barbara Davidson
9	Kathryn Barto
9	Stephen Noland
9	Luane Morrison
10	Beverly Waltman
11	Bob Reiff
11	John Eshbach
11	Kandi Fickes
13	Ronald Accomando
13	Kathy Duffey
14	Virginia Brown
18	Kitty Nestle*
18	Bernie Fickes
18	Bill Stock
18	Barbara Sears
19	Judith Frable
19	Richard Manning
19	David Schick
19	Steven Harelson
20	Mary Alice Butkofsky*
20	Kathleen Houck
20	Jill Moseman
21	Donald Culp
21	Colleen Forsyth
21	Matthew Lewis
22	Thomas Weaver
22	Kathie Rhyne
23	Dan Fickes
23	Dawn Dougherty
23	Dan Lockey
24	Jeremy Bischoff
25	Janice Reed
27	Gwen Gaudioso
27	Matthew Dougherty
28	Nancy Hungerford
28	Linda Fungaroli-Azaroff
29	Doris Robb
30	S Kate Kendig
31	Amy Otthofer



Anniversaries

Name	Wedding
Paul and Mary Jean Irion**	8/29/1944
Paul and Anna Rader**	8/30/1947
Edward and Nacy Fitzkee**	8/19/1950
Phares and Ann Harting**	8/18/1951
Donald and Dorothy Freeman**	8/19/1956
Frank and Mary Huber**	8/24/1957
Rod and Barbara Bimson**	8/23/1958
Karl and Doris Krammes**	8/30/1958
Michael and Nancy Steger**	8/25/1962
Joe and Sandy Weidel**	8/16/1964
Russell and Anne Weiser	8/20/1966
Gary and Susan Sensenich	8/5/1967
Ted and Mary Alspach	8/22/1970
Skeeter and Donna Carr	8/21/1971
George and Donna Bechtold	8/20/1972
Charles and Gwen Kopp	8/18/1973
Tom and Linda Lewis	8/25/1973
David and Karen Longenecker	8/2/1975
Stephen and Jane McCartney	8/9/1975
Donald and Karen Culp	8/20/1977
Herb and Patty Forry	8/28/1977
Mike and Lisa Christoffel	8/25/1979
Debra Walburn	8/2/1980
Don and Vickie Winfindale	8/9/1980
Terry and Kandi Fickes	8/8/2003

Altar Flowers



Our altar flowers are an integral part of our worship service. Not only providing a physical symbol of beauty during our worship, after the service they are given as a symbol of love and caring to a member of our community who is unable to be with us physically. The cost of our flowers and bulletins averages about \$140.00 a week. Our suggested contribution for sponsoring flowers and bulletins is \$35.00; however, any amount is welcomed and appreciated.

If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or send it into the office. A thank you letter will be sent following your sponsorship with directions for sending in your donation. Thank you for your support in this important ministry.

Worship Commission

I would like to sponsor altar flowers on the following date:

"In honor of" or "In memory of"

Your name

Phone number

**If you have any questions please contact:
Dawn Dougherty (892-0350)
or Bonnie Jolly (872-4053)**

August Altar Flowers



August 3

In Loving Memory of:

- Our daughter, Erin McCartney Nusbaum, by Steve and Jane McCartney
- Helen E. Keller by Bev and Ken Keller

August 10

In Loving Memory of:

- John E. Markle by his wife, Audrey Markle and family
- Joseph Rinier by his wife, Earla Rinier, and Dorothy Greenawalt
- George Wm. Davis Jr. by his wife, Gail Davis

August 17

In Loving Memory of:

- Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Fickes Sr. and Mr and Mrs. Charles Spangler on the birthdays of their children, Dan and Bernie Fickes
- My parents, Norma and John Bachman, my brother, John Jr., and sister, Ann Louise, by Mary Ellen Bachman
- Mr. and Mrs Harry Grabill by Elizabeth Grabill Bartholomew

In Honor of:

- The 56th wedding anniversary of J. Rodney and Barbara L. Bimson.

August 24

In Memory of:

- Loved ones by Jim & Bonnie Jolly

August Events

August 2 Saturday

8:00 am Downtown Breakfast Ministry
4:00 pm Walker Reunion

August 3 Sunday Communion

9:00 am Nursery
9:15 am Worship with Children's Sermon
9:30 am Sunday School
10:00 am Blood Pressure Screening
10:00 am Brubaker Reunion
10:15 am Children's Library
10:45 am Worship Service
2:00 pm Homestead Village Worship

August 4 Monday

7:30 am Meditation Monday
12:00 pm Food Bank
7:00 pm Lancaster Association Meeting
7:00 pm Ministry Planning Committee

August 8 Friday

5:00 pm Auchi/Snyder Wedding Rehearsal

August 8 Saturday

12:00 pm Montreat Reunion
4:00 pm Auchi/Snyder Wedding

August 10 Sunday

9:00 am Nursery
9:15 am Worship with Children's Sermon
9:30 am Sunday School
10:15 am Children's Library
10:45 am Worship Service

August 11 Monday

7:30 am Meditation Monday
12:00 pm Food Bank
7:00 pm Commissions: OR,PL,PR,WR

August 12 Tuesday

2:00 pm Book Club

August 13 Wednesday

6:30 pm Website Committee Meeting
7:00 pm Craft Circle
7:00 pm Education Commission

August 14 Thursday

7:00 pm Stewardship Meeting

August 17 Sunday

9:00 am Nursery
9:15 am Worship with Children's Sermon
9:30 am Sunday School
10:15 am Children's Library
10:45 am Worship Service
3:00 pm J.P. McCaskey Reunion

August 18 Monday

7:30 am Meditation Monday
12:00 pm Food Bank
7:00 pm Church Council Meeting

August 24 Sunday

9:00 am Nursery
9:15 am Worship with Children's Sermon
9:30 am Sunday School
10:15 am Children's Library
10:45 am Worship Service
2:00 pm Flute Recital

August 15 Monday

7:30 am Meditation Monday
12:00 pm Food Bank

August 27 Wednesday

7:00 pm Craft Circle

August 31 Sunday

9:00 am Nursery
9:15 am Worship with Children's Sermon
9:30 am Sunday School
10:15 am Children's Library
10:45 am Worship Service

CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a need or concern for yourself or others, please call or email any person on the Prayer Chain and your request will be sent through all the links of the chain and the power of prayer will be a blessing to you and yours.

Link 1:

Betty Holmes	203-1118 or bettyholms@aol.com
Steve/Monica Daniels	299-6007 or monicadaniels54@gmail.com
Lynn Steedle	390-4152 or ccsteedle@gmail.com
Jim/Bonnie Jolly	872-4053 or jbjolly@comcast.net

Link 2:

Harriet Latschar	859-1535
Mary Ellen Bachman	393-8922 or maryellenbach717@gmail.com

Link 3:

Annette Rohloff	394-0424 or rexthomas@comcast.net
Bev Keller	898-2146 or bek0914@aol.com
Cindy Williams	572-3808 or cynthiabarrywilliams@gmail.com
Mike/Nancy Steger	617-2635 or stegs4u@hotmail.com
Susan Shaak	872-2987

Link 4:

Kit Gregory	299-6677 or kitpaul@comcast.net
Jean Heidig	394-8733 or geojean6@gmail.com
Donna Carr	397-6305 or ddcarr@lancastergeneral.org




Food Bank

Please plan to continue your generous donations to the food bank.

Food Bank Needs:

Rice (One lb. bags)	Peanut Butter
Canned Fruit	Brown Grocery Bags
Hamburger Helper	Tuna Helper
Macaroni and Cheese	Canned Tomatoes (One lb. or less)





Donations

Thank you stamp savers. Keep saving stamps for the Wounded Veterans. Drop off in the office for Skip Rhodes.

Donations

Pull tabs, Campbell Soup Labels & Box Tops for Education are needed. These benefit the Ronald McDonald House and Hoffman Home.



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A Stephen Ministry Congregation



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Director of Adult Choirs & Instrumental Music

Nathan Sheffer

Bell Choir Director:

Ron Bellamy

Children's Choir Director

Johanna Baker

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The Rev. Nevin Schellenberger

The Rev. Glenn J. Rader