

A Publication of Church of the Apostles, A United Church of Christ Congregation

July 2021 Vol. 45 No.7

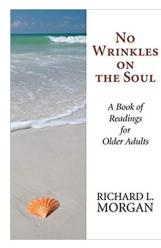
Pastor's Corner

As we currently appear to have turned a corner with the pandemic, we are ready to begin gathering and re-connecting in many ways. Over the past 15 months, the church has been active quietly, in behind-the-scenes ways, using our creativity and flexibility to continue to bring a message of hope and faith to our congregation and the greater community. It has felt as though this time of in-person gatherings without masks may never come, but it has and yet this is not a return just to what has been.

The pandemic has taught us that we need to be as intentional of our online presence as we are of our physical space. We are connecting with people from as far away as the Philippines through our Facebook devotional posts and our YouTube videos. Recognizing this, it is my hope that we will be adding to our online presence in new ways as well as making the early service available there too.

Plans are being made to host our Garage Sale in September and our Christmas in the Country bazaar in November, but they will look and feel different. Instead of having Vacation Bible School as we have in the past, we are looking to host Compassion Camp gatherings with the first being Sunday, July 25th. These will be intergenerational events where people of all ages are encouraged to attend, have some fun, learn a bit and physically be with others in our beautiful park.

One of the challenges of re-opening is realizing that we are not the same people. Our experience of the pandemic has varied greatly depending on where we lived and how many people were in our "bubble." I encourage us to listen to one another and to share with one another the challenges we have personally faced as we share empathy and compassion with one another. This helps us to build our compassion and empathy for those we do not yet know who are looking for a church to call home.



"No Wrinkles on the Soul"

Our Widows Support group is transforming into a new group to explore our faith as we age. We will meet monthly on the last Wednesday of the month at 9:30 am for a Bible reading and reflection based on the book by Richard L. Morgan. If you have interest in reconnecting with others, consider joining us in the parlor for the conversation about how our faith affects our life and how we may age gracefully. Please mark your calendars for July 28th at 9:30 am and join us!



PASTOR KATHRYN KUHN

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A Message from the Council President

As I was reflecting about just what to write for this message, I went through my devotions file and found this quote:

"Strong hope is a much greater stimulant of life than any single joy could be" Friedrich Nietzsche

This took me back to the dark days of the early part of the pandemic. We didn't know what the outcome would be....but as Christians, we have the gift of hope and are rooted in Him. Here we are on the downside of the pandemic thanks to the work of scientists, health care workers and others who helped to keep us safe. But I think what got me through is that strong HOPE, rooted in Christ and built up in him.

> "Just as you have received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in Him, rooted and built up in Him," - Colossians 2:6-7

I wanted to express gratitude to the members of COA who worked on the Re-opening Task Force and met frequently throughout the pandemic time to discern the best way to keep ALL of us safe. At times, there were disagreements, but overall we were able to remain grounded in the greatest commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves and come to a consensus. These people are: Barbara Achtermann, Bernie Fickes, Herb Forry, Erika Neiderer, Linda Lewis, Judy Waltman, Eric Maclaren, and Pastor Kathy. As we re-open COA more fully, let us all continue to be rooted in HOPE and LOVE for one another and embrace sharing Christ's love with all people.

Blessings, Donna Carr



In the Know...

2021 Garage Sale

I am thrilled to announce that barring unforeseen circumstances, we will be having our Garage Sale on September 24th and Saturday, September 25th. Many helpers will be needed Sept. 20th to Sept. 24th for sorting, pricing, and arranging so please start thinking about how many days you could help. It seems far away, but there is lots to do before it happens — Clara Kosmela.

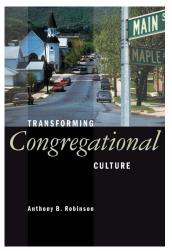
Parish Life Book Club

The COA Book Club will meet in the Narthex on July 13th at 2:00 pm to discuss American Duchess by Karen Harper. On August 10th we will discuss CASTE by Isabel Wilkerson. John Lewis and the Power of Hope by John Meachum is our book for Sept. 14th. On October 12th we will discuss The Residence by Kate Anderson Brower, and on November 9th we will discuss Dearly Beloved by Cara Well. Please consider joining us whether you have read the book or not. Any auestions. please call Clara Kosmela at (717) 569-9960.

Church Wide Book Study

After so many months of isolation and distancing, it is time to join together and to grow in our discipleship to Christ. Focusing on Anthony B. Robinson's book, <u>Transforming Congregational Cul-</u> <u>ture</u>, this church wide study, led by Pastor Motz, will run for a total of 6 sessions from July 14th to August 29th (with a one week break from August 9th - 15th).

Ben Campbell Johnson writes of this book, "Too many mainline congregations operate on old assumptions about their role in today's world. Robinson, a pastor, has worked his way through these misperceptions to new goals of ministry. He calls us back to the purpose of the church –



the transformation of life – and he gives practical, workable approaches for making the necessary shifts."

Endorsed by the Growth Taskforce as a book that "meets us where we are at," this study will be a rich time of discussion, reflection, and anticipation for where God is leading us.

To engage as many people as possible there three options for participation:

- In person: Sundays from 10:10-10:50am or Wednesdays from 11am-12pm.
- By Zoom: Thursdays from 7-8pm

Please register with the church office or by clicking "<u>in person</u>" or "<u>zoom</u>" to indicate the day you will primarily be attending. This will ensure we are preparing adequate space. Please note you are welcome to switch between sessions as needed, and if you can't make a week simply join in the following week.

Lastly be sure to order the book, <u>Transforming Congregational Cul-</u> <u>ture</u>, and have read the first two chapters by the first session. The book is readily found as a used book on Amazon (for under \$10) or other similar used book retailers. Limited copies will also be available for purchase before and after worship.

If you have any questions, contact Pastor Motz.



Education & Family

July Sunday School Themes

- July 4 God Created Sun, Moon & Stars July 4 Suncatcher Craft & Fireworks Experiments using water, milk and other SAFE components.
- July 11 God Created Fish, Water & Animals Water color painting
- July 18 God Created Land Animals Lisa Sanchez, Naturalist, to visit
- July 25 Celebrate Earth Day A visit from our friends Jody & Brian Williams, from Kingdom International Preschool in Cambodia

Ongoing projects – Celebrate Green tee shirts, bottle cap pictures, Creation Play

Compassion Camp

The first two dates are July 25th and August 15th, and we will run from 6-8 pm in Rader Park. This program will then continue into September and Fall. This is an offering for everyone since there is no VBS this summer.

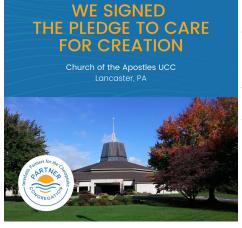
For members and the community, adults & children, join us as we learn what it means to be compassionate for all of God's Creation! There will be stations in the park for the families or individuals to participate in with various activities, including Vespers in the Pines! Dinner will be provided!

Please contact the office to register or for more information. Check our Facebook page and groups as details develop.

Family Science in the Park

Family Science in the Park - July 18th at 11 am. "Critters in the Creek" followed by a picnic! Bring your own picnic lunch and join us after the first worship service. Come out for some creek "stomping" as we discover what lives in Brubaker Run and what it means for the health of our stream. We will look for important critters (aquatic insects), do some water testing, and clean up the stream.

Family Science in the Park - September 19th at 6pm. Nocturnal Animals with Lisa Sanchez followed by an "Owl Prowl"! Mark your calendar and stay tuned for more details!



Green Team Update

The Green Team has joined with other churches and community members through POWER Interfaith to create a Lancaster team that will address and work on the issue of Climate Justice. We will continue to update the congregation as our work develops.

We have recently signed the Partner Congregation Pledge for Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake. We are pledging to be good stewards of the land and waters of the Chesapeake and help protect our shared watershed. Check out the pledge and what it means here:

> https://www.interfaithchesapeake.org/ sign_our_partner_congregation_pledge

If you're interested in joining the Green Team or helping with any of the work or programs happening, please contact Hannah Royer. <u>hannahmengel@gmail.com</u>

Upcoming Events for Families:

Wacky Wednesdays!

July 7, 14, 21, 28 and August 4 10:00 AM –11:30 AM

We are back in person this summer at Rader Park! For more information on this summer reading program please <u>click here</u> or email <u>hannahmen-</u> <u>gel@gmail.com.</u>

Barnstormer's Baseball Outing for COA: Friday, August 27 -6:30 Clipper Magazine Stadium

The theme is Willy Wonka Night and there will be a Candy Drop for Kids! If we have 20 going, tickets will be \$9.50

Please call the office and give name, number going, and contact phone number so we can see if there is interest! <u>Dead-line for calling to reserve</u> is July 15.

Reopening Task Force Update

We have continued to monitor the Covid case statistics in our community as well as the PA Department of Health and CDC guidance. Emerging from the pandemic restrictions is " a work in progress"! We ask patience and Christian love with all....both inside and outside the walls of our church.

Mask usage: Fully vaccinated people do not have to wear masks. We are asking all who are NOT vaccinated to continue to mask up when IN-SIDE the church. Also, we are aware that that there are members who cannot be vaccinated due to their personal health conditions. Children under age 12 cannot yet be vaccinated and their parents may choose to have them wear masks. Please be respectful of all. Masks should be worn by all when singing inside because singing can cause aerosolization of the Corona Virus (research is evolving in this area). For outdoor worship, masks are not required but may be worn as you wish.

Social distancing: We will continue to have the pews marked for seating safety in the sanctuary. If you wish to socialize with fellow members, we ask that for the time being that this be done outdoors rather than gathering in the Narthex.

Hand sanitizing: We ask that members continue to practice good hand hygiene and make use of the sanitizing stations in the Narthex.

Communion: We will continue to make pre-packaged elements available at communion services. Members may continue to bring their own elements.

Pew items: Welcome Cards will continue to be used to mark attendance and make concerns known to the Pastors. They can be deposited into the wooden box on the table in the narthex along with your offering envelopes. Bibles and hymnals will be returned to their location in the pews. Please help reduce unnecessary contact by taking any paper items such as bulletins/tissues etc with you when you leave the service.

Food and drink: We are not offering the coffee service and hospitality table for the summer. We ask that you not bring your own drinks into the sanctuary at this time.

Sunday School is being held outside in Rader Park for the safety of unvaccinated children during the 9am worship service.

Please address any concern or suggestions to Donna Carr (717-475-5285 or email at <u>skeetcarr@comcast.net</u>.

Interested in Donating?

Food Bank Needs:

green beans, corn, peas, applesauce, pancake mix, pancake syrup, large grape jam

Apostles Assistance Needs:

dish liquid, laundry detergent, wash cloths, deodorant, paper towels, toilet paper

Stamps for Veterans!

Remember we are still collecting used (cancelled) stamps off of envelopes to save for Veterans. Stamps can be dropped off in the office in a box labeled stamps. If you have any questions, please reach out to Skip Rhodes at (717) 872-5913.

Community Outreach

Apostles Caring Carts

Thank you so much to all of you who have already donated to our current ministry to support ABBA Christian School and Orphanage in Kenya! We will continue to collect donations until the end of August in the large Caring Cart in the narthex. The school has children grades K-6th. They are requesting NEW jump ropes, underwear and socks, pencils and erasers, pencil sharpeners, chalk, rubber boots, and flip flops. Thank you so much for helping these children.

Congregational Life

United Church of Christ and Us

Church of the Apostles is one church in a larger body of churches. The chart below shows you just a section of where Church of the Apostles fits into the wider (National) United Church of Christ. Penn Central Conference had our annual meeting on June 12th. The National Church's annual meeting (called General Synod) will be virtual on July 11th-18th.

National Headquarters - Cleveland, Ohio

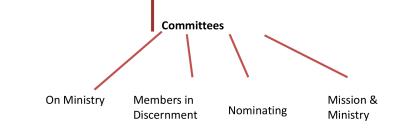
36 Conferences throughout US

Looking at Pennsylvania Conference. We are in Penn Central & Lancaster Assoc.

Penn West Penn Central Pennsylvania Southeast Penn North

177 churches in Eight (8) Associations

Central / Gettysburg / Harrisburg / Lancaster / Lebanon / Mercersburg / Northern/ York



A MUSICAL NOTE WITH LARS POTTEIGER

There are a number of patriotic songs that come to mind that we sing to celebrate our nation's independence on the Fourth of July. "America," also known as "My Country 'Tis of Thee," is one of these popular patriotic songs that has a very unique story behind its inception. Our nation is not the only country to use this song as its national anthem: it was used as the national anthem for at least seven other countries by the time it was first printed in the American British colonies in the mid-1700s.

The melodic origins of "America" are unknown. The tune was first published in a music book in England in 1744 titled *Thesaurus Musicus*. Shortly thereafter this tune became very popular in England under the title of "God Save the King" and became the national anthem for the United Kingdom. Other nations use this same melody with different text for some military hymns as well as their own national anthems.

The origins of the text for "America" are more straightforward than its melody. Samuel Smith penned the lyrics in 1831 and first premiered the song at an Independence Day celebration that same year. There are other versions of text set to this same melody as well. One version was written for George Washington for his first inauguration. There was also a version written for the abolitionist movement in 1843 that speaks out against the injustices of slavery. This practice of setting different lyrics to familiar melodies was very commonplace in early American history. Songwriters would write their lyrics down and sell them in an early form of sheet music known as a broadside. Broadsides helped to birth a popular American musical culture as well as the music industry in the United States.

Please keep a lookout for various musical offerings for August and the fall in the August edition of the Crown. May God give you peace, blessings, and joy this summer!

Sources:

https://www.loc.gov/item/ihas.200000012/

• https://www.allabouthistory.org/my-country-tis-ofthee.

htm#:~:text=My%20Country%20%E2%80%98Tis%20of%20Thee%20was%20first%20performed,Smith%20was%20a%20B

aptist%20minister%2C%20author%2C%20and%20journalist. • https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/America (My Country, %27Tis of Thee)



Team River Runner will be returning to Church of the Apostles from August 8-15, 2021. This program builds confidence and resilience in children living with blindness, and their families by teaching them how to kayak as a family while partnering them with Veterans living with disabilities. As in the past we will be looking for volunteers to assist throughout the week. In collaboration with COA we have developed creative and innovative ways for you to share your times and talents. We are looking for a wide range of talents, anything from kitchen assistants, musical talents, to campfire attendants. Sign-up sheets are also available in the Lobby. In addition you will be able to register via Sign-Up Genius at the following link:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C45ABAD28A5FFC70-team



For more information contact Jennifer Eaton at Jennifer.eaton@teamriverrunner.org or at 717-617-7549







7/1	Joan Turns *	
7/2	Ellen Schellenberger	
7/3	Tristin Neiderer	
7/4	Patrick Carr	
7/4	Helen Ebersole	
7/5	Jennifer Eaton	
7/6	Earl Cardellino	
7/6	Cheryl Desmond	
7/6	Cliff Rampaul	
7/7	Sharon Martin	
7/7	Lois Houck *	
7/8	Dustin Koehler	
7/8	Aaron Watkins	
7/10	Julie Berkow	
7/10	Eva Johnson	
7/11	Mischelle Van Buskirk	
7/13	Andrew (Andy) Appel	
7/13	Jared Braun	
7/14	Annette Rohloff	
7/15	Nancy Payne	
7/19	Dominic Williams	
7/20	Joan Hansel	
7/21	Jean Heidig	
7/21	Melissa Koehler	
7/22	Judy Waltman	
7/24	Donna Lockey	
7/25	Doris Krammes	
7/25	Grant Hansel	
7/25	Karen Williams	
7/26	Emily Sheffer	
7/27	Jeannie Clausen	
7/28	Bonnie Bechtold	
7/31	Will Newport	



Happy Anniversary!

Wishing these perfect pairs a perfectly happy day.

7/5	Ronald & Deborah Accomando
7/3	Louis & Arlene Gaudioso **
7/5	Don & Julie Berkow
7/9	Scott & Stephanie Moore
7/10	Abe & Leigh Breslin
7/11	Glenn & Helen Ebersole **
7/14	Marsha & Charles Erisman
7/17	James & Linda Eaton
7/17	Robert & Gail Frankhouser
7/17	Kristi & William Newport

** 50+ Anniversaries

A woman of faith and love

Bonnie Jolly

Please join us on Saturday July 17 at 1pm in the Sanctuary to celebrate the life of Bonnie Jolly.



*90+ Birthdays



In loving Memory of

- Robert and Ardell Schock by their son and daughter-in-law Darrell and Linda Schock
- George Heidig by his wife, Jean
- Dawn Dougherty by her husband, Jim and their family

Wondering Where to Send Articles for the Crown?

Please send articles for the August edition of the Crown to Schuyler Nissly, the Administrative and Communications coordinator by Thursday July 15 at: <u>office@apostlesucc.org</u>. Articles sent after the deadline will not make it into the August edition of the Crown so be prompt! 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 a week. Our suggested contribution for sponsoring flowers and bulletins is \$35; however, any amount is welcomed and appreciated.

If you would like to sponsor flowers, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or send it into the office. You can also sponsor flowers online at <u>https://</u> <u>secure.myvanco.com/YGMP/campaign/C-</u> <u>YH1E</u>. 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 flowers on the following date:

"In honor of" or "In memory of"

Your name

Phone number

Please place this form in the church office or an offering plate. If you have any questions please contact: Jean Heidig 717— 394 — 8733 Wilma Klingler 717— 584 — 6430

Want to Receive the Crown Digitally?

If you would like to update your preferences on how you are receiving the Crown whether that be digitally, print, or both, please contact us at <u>office@apostlesucc.org</u> or directly update your preferences through your Realm login.

COUNCIL MEMBERS AND COMMISSION CHAIRS

President: Donna Carr Ph: 717-475-5285 Email: skeetcarr@comcast.net

Vice President: Stephanie Moore Ph: 717-330-8892 Email: smmoore331@gmail.com

Treasurer: Andy Smith Ph: 717-615-1649 Email: andy.smith@bbandt.com

Secretary: Cathy Kenlin Ph: 717-940-0364 Email: cmkenlin@comcast.net

Education Commission (Meets the 2nd Monday at 6:30pm in April in Fellowship Hall Chair: Judy Waltman Ph: 717-285-7395 Email: jlwaltman@comcast.net

Worship Commission (Meets the 1st Monday of the month at 6:30pm in the Narthex) Chair: Bernie Fickes Ph: 717-925-9155 Email: penguindiva@verizon.net

Parish Life Commission

(Meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 7pm in Room 308-310) Chair: Clara Kosmela Ph: 717-468-3492 Email: joli6291@yahoo.com

Property Commission

(Meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 7pm in Room 305(Chair: Herb Forry Ph: 717-201-7863 Email: heforry@comcast.net

Stewardship Commission

(Meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7pm in the Narthex) Chair: George Alspach Ph: 717-201-2526 Email: galspach@aol.com

Outreach Commission

(Meets 2nd Monday at 7pm every other month in the Parlor.) Chair: Jane McCartney Ph: 717-392-4844 Email: spmccartney@comcast.net

Giving Report

E-Giving Continues to Grow

The ease of our e-giving option is evident in electronic contributions having nearly doubled from this time last year. Plus contributions for memorials, special offerings, and out-of-state gifts are growing every month. Now is a great time to check out e-giving! Discover the ease and versatility that has people continuing to give electronically for all their faith-filled gifts to God's ministry. Give at <u>www.apostlesucc.org/give</u>

	May 2021	May 2020
Revenue	215,410.84	182,995.47
Operating Expenses	284,237.81	260,065.98
Net Operating Income	(68,826.97)	(77,070.51)

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:

Steve/Monica Daniels Lynn Steedle

Link 2: Mary Ellen Bachman Susan Shaak Doug Nutt

Link 3: Annette Rohloff Bev Keller Cindy Williams Nancy Steger

Link 4:

Jean Heidig Donna Carr (717) 393-8922 (717) 872-2987 (717) 283-2937

(717) 394-0424 or rexthomas@comcast.net (717) 898-2146 or bek0914@aol.com (717) 572-3808 or clwjbwilliams@gmail.com (717) 617-2635 or nancyasteger@gmail.com

(717) 299-6007 or monicadaniels54@gmail.com

(717) 390-4152 or ccsteedle@gmail.com

(717) 394-8733 or jean.heidig@gmail.com (717) 397-6305 or skeetcarr@comcast.net



Upcoming Special Events

COA Events

- Wednesday July 7, 14, 21, 28 and August 4, from 10 am 11:30 am, Wacky Wednesdays!
- Monday July 12, at 11am, Family Science in the Park, "Critters in the Creek"
- July 14 August 29, Church Wide Book Study, In person on Sundays from 10:10 am—10:50 am or Wednesdays from 11 am –12pm. Zoom sessions on Thursdays from 7-8pm.
- Sunday July 25, at 10am in Rader Park, Meet our friends from Cambodia, Jody and Brian Williams.
- Sunday July 25 from 6pm-8pm, Compassion Camp

Community Events

- July 10, 8am-Noon, Annual State Street Yard Sale (State Street in Lancaster)
- July 24-31, Lebanon Area Fair
- August 8-15, Hartman Center Spirit Week, for more information visit <u>https://pccucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/</u> <u>HCSpiritbrochure2021.pdf</u>
- August 23-28, Elizabethtown Fair



2021 General SYNOD: Rooted Love

The biennial national UCC meeting, <u>to be held virtually for the first</u> <u>time ever</u>, takes place July 11-18. Registration opens in May, including a free option to sign up only for worship. The three services will take place:

- Sunday, July 11, at 5 p.m. EDT
- Wednesday, July 14, at 8 p.m. EDT
- Sunday, July 18, at 6 p.m. EDT

Information on the three featured preachers is here. For more information on this event please visit ucc.org!

Church of the Apostles Staff Directory

Pastors and Leadership

Senior Pastor The Rev Kathryn L. Kuhn ext. 8201 kathrynk@apostlesucc.org

Associate Pastor The Rev. Joseph Motz ext. 8202 josephm@apostlesucc.org

> Youth Leader Johnathan Paredes

Music

Director of Music Ministry & Interim Bell Choir Director Lars Potteiger ext. 8203 larsp@apostlesucc.org

Director of Adult Choirs & Instrumental Music Nathan Sheffer

> **Children's Choir Director** Breanne Zipko

Lancaster, PA

Permit No. 1065

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Organization

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Office

Communications and Administrative Coordinator Schuyler Nissly ext. 8200 office@apostlesucc.org

> **Finance Administrator** April Fisher ext. 8207 finance@apostlesucc.org

Operations

Property Manager Eric MacLaren ext. 8214 ericm@apostlesucc.org

Larry Rongione

Technology Specialist Johnathan Shaub

Sexton

Need Spiritual Inspiration?

Visit us at www.apostlesucc.org/ faith-and-inspiration for weekly devotionals, sounds for the soul and more!





www.apostlesucc.org Email: office@apostlesucc.org Phone: 717-392-5718 Lancaster, PA 17603-2398 1850 Marietta Avenue

Church of the Apostles, UCC

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