



THE CROWN NEWS

July 2023 Vol. 47 No. 7

Pastor's Corner

Saying goodbye is always difficult but I like to be dramatic. Depending on your perspective and opinion, fortunately or unfortunately, I will be with our congregation for a little longer.

I am at the end of the ordination process and want to be faithful to our denominational procedures. We are all too familiar within our congregational polity, most things take time. My plan is to complete the requirements and be authorized for ordained ministry, pending a call. Then, I will start the search and call procedure within the Southern New England Conference. Once called, I will be ordained at Church of the Apostles.

At the same time, old age has caught up to me too. While on vacation in Europe, I must have walked too hard or eaten too many croissants because I tore some important components in my knee. Thankfully, there is little pain and discomfort. However, it will require surgery and rehab in a prompt manner. I am not rushing to leave Apostles but I do understand there is an urgency to completing my time here and starting a new chapter with my family in Connecticut.

There is the struggle of wanting to rush things and lining up things while at the same time allowing God to intervene and open the right opportunities. Proverbs 3:5 (NLT), "Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding." We all have that struggle where we just want to finish a project or a task to move on to the next one. It's hard to sit in the process and appreciate the time of growth and learning.

Church of the Apostles is on a similar track with the Agile Church work. We would all love to just be done with it all and have the end results. As the Agile Church strategy is designed, it is in doing the work that the growth happens. The final product reflects the hard work done to get to where we want to be. We aren't done at the end of the Agile Church project. It is actually the first step in the continuum of growth for Apostles. The truth is when we are done with Agile Church, then we will know what more work we must continue going forward. It never ends. When we are done growing then we are dying. My hope is for many more years of uncomfortable growth for Church of the Apostles.

Blessings,
Jonathan Paredes
Designated Associate Pastor

8 July, 2023
6:30 PM

Swing Street Concert

Rader Park Pavilion
1899 Apostles Way

In This Issue

- Message from Executive Committee, [pg. 2](#)
- Church Happenings & News, [pg. 3](#)
- Community Outreach, [pg. 4](#)
- 5 free things to do on Independence Day, [pg. 5](#)
- "Deck of Cards" Prayer Book Story, [pg. 6-7](#)
- Birthdays & Anniversaries, [pg. 8](#)
- Flower Sponsors, [pg. 9](#)
- Financial Giving Report, [pg. 10](#)
- Church Member Notes, [pg. 11](#)

A Message from the Council President

Twenty minutes after our 10 o'clock service on June 11 was completed, it was extremely encouraging to see that about half of all who attended the service were still in the narthex enjoying treats from the hospitality table and fellowship with each other. I spoke with Jan Baker who along with her daughter Johanna were the chief architects of the narthex redesign project. We agreed that it was wonderful to see that two of the first completed pieces of the Agile Church recommendation plan were working so well (the narthex redesign and hospitality table). Stay tuned for more pieces of the plan to be executed.

The remaining steps for the Jeremiah Project are:

- * Vision Summit...Complete. All input from the small group sessions was consolidated into lists of key concepts by the small group facilitators.
- * The output from the vision summit will be typed up and presented to the vision writers. The vision writers team has been identified and, at this point, is awaiting council approval.
- * The Agile Church consultant will return in July to facilitate a Vision Writers Workshop.
- * Writers will create a draft of the Vision/Mission statement and present it to Church Council for review.
- * The Vision/Mission statements will then be distributed to the congregation for review and comment.
- * The Vision Writers team will review congregational input and revise as needed.
- * The final Vision/Mission will be presented to the congregation for affirmation.
- * Once affirmed by the congregation, the implementation phase will begin. This will include a communication plan and review of all church programs and activities to ensure they align with the new Vision/Mission. The Council then will begin development of strategies to fulfill the new Vision/Mission.

On behalf of the Executive Committee,

Lou Gaudio

Council President

Follow us on social media to stay up-to-date on church events and watch past services



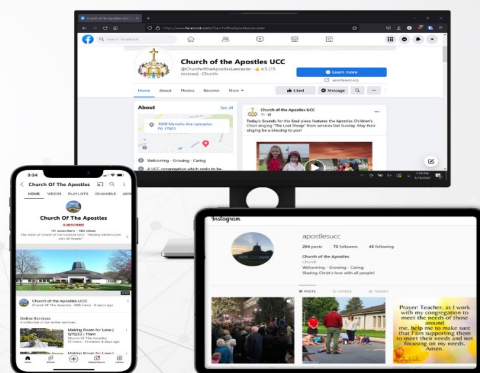
ChurchoftheApostlesLancaster



ChurchoftheApostles



ApostlesUCC



Church Happenings and News

Blessing Bags

Blessing Bag donations are needed for Compassion Camp on July 23rd in Fellowship Hall. Donatable items include: travel size toothbrushes, toothpastes, shampoos/conditioners, peanut-butter crackers, packs of tissues, mini-bags of pretzels, hand-sanitizers, mints/lifesavers, Chapstick's, Wet Wipes, protein/breakfast bars, cookies (no chocolate), and so much more! All donations can be brought to the church prior to Friday, July 21st and left in the collection box in the narthex near the shopping cart.

Seeking Preschool Teacher

Apostles Community Preschool is seeking candidates for a teacher position in our tot (2-3 year old) program. The position is Monday-Friday 8:40-11:40 AM. Ideal candidates have a bachelor's degree in education, psychology, social work, or related field and love working with children in a positive, loving environment. Please contact Maggie Biggs, ACP Director (mbiggs.acp@gmail.com) if interested in interviewing for this position.

Market Basket is Back!

The Market Basket Ministry is up and running again! Yay! Karen Culp is the new coordinator and open for business! You can order and pick up grocery cards to Stauffer's, Weis, and Giant on the first two Sundays of the month after the 10 AM service in the Narthex. Outreach uses the 5% made on the purchase of these cards for various ministries. We would love to have more people participating in this program. Everyone shops at a grocery store so please consider using these gift cards to purchase your groceries. The more cards we sell the more we are able to fund our Outreach ministries!

Garage Sale Update

The Garage Sale committee voted to donate proceeds from this year's sale and some that remained from last year's sale to the following: UCC Disaster Relief for Ukraine \$1,000 and Disaster Relief for Turkey and Syria \$1,000. The remaining money will go to Pastor's Assistance Fund, Education - Science in the Park, Milagro House, Clare House, Mom's House, and for items needed at Church of the Apostles! Thank-you to everyone who donated items to be sold at our Annual Garage Sale.

Apostles Assistance Needs

Apostles Assistance is greatly in need of the following donations:

- Toilet Paper
- Cleaning Products
- Shampoo & Conditioners
- Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
- Sanitary Pads
- Hand creams
- Dish detergent
- Tissues
- Deodorant
- Dishcloths
- Gift cards for Walmart, Target, Etc.
- Monetary Donations



Food Bank Needs

- Cereal
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Fruits
- Rice
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Pasta Sauce
- Hamburger & Tuna Helper
- Canned & Boxed Potatoes
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Canned Chicken & Tuna



Parish Life Book Club

Book Club meets in the Narthex on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2:00 pm! Please consider joining us whether you have read the book or not. Below are our upcoming books and days. Any questions? Contact Clara Kosmela at (717) 569 - 9960.

- **July 11, 2023:** Surviving Savannah by Patti Callahan
- **August 8, 2023:** Mad Honey by Jodi Picoult

Upper Room Daily Devotionals

Looking to grow your spiritual practices with daily prayer, scripture, and reflection? The Upper Room is a great resource provided by the church to aid you in knowing and experiencing God more fully. Pick up a copy any Sunday at the Welcome Center or call the church office if you need a copy mailed to you. The devotionals are free with donations being welcome.

Community Outreach

crocs™ For Kenya

Our next collection in the Apostles Caring Cart will be CROCS FOR KENYA! We are collecting donations of crocs and other items for the kids (ages 4 to 16) at ABBA'S HOUSE which is a Christian orphanage and school for children in Kenya. There are 250 kids attending this school and they can use many donations. We are collecting Crocs, socks, underwear, pens/pencils, jump ropes, children's vitamins, band-aides, and children's Tylenol. We are also collecting gently used or new long skirts for the girls. If you would like to make a monetary donation to ABBA'S HOUSE, please make a check out to COA and write ABBA HOUSE on the memo line. The school is hoping to get funding for solar panels to run their water pumps. They not only supply water to their school, but to many in their community. What wonderful work ABBA HOUSE does for their very poor community in Kenya! Thank you for your generous support of all of our outreach ministries!



Abba's House

On Monday night June 12th the Outreach Commission heard a compelling presentation by Pastor Simon Muhota and his wife Margaret. They are the directors and founders of ABBA'S House and Christian Academy in Kenya, Africa.



ABBA'S House was founded in 2007 as an orphanage and has grown to include an academy from pre-school through 7th grade. Many of the students have gone on to higher education. These teachers often comment on the students' readiness for the challenges of a higher education.

We have supported ABBA's House in the past. Now they are seeking funding from various partners to help purchase solar-powered panels to operate the well and provide water at no cost to them and the community because electricity in Kenya is unregulated and extremely expensive. Any support that COA can provide through prayers and finances is much appreciated. For other ways to donate look for more information from the Outreach Commission on the items that are needed for the children.



- 1 Marietta Fireworks and Family Fun** - Come early to enjoy activities with your friends and family including food trucks, bounce houses, and more before the fireworks show begins. Free parking opens at 4:30 PM.

July 01, 4:30 PM

Community Bible Church, 331 Anderson Ferry Rd Marietta PA 17547

- 2 Fireworks and Independence Day Celebration at Clipper Stadium** - Come out for a day of fun at Clipper stadium with live music from the Clockwork-Band, hot dog eating contests, field games, egg toss contests, inflatable obstacle course for kids, and so much more. Free to the public!

July 01, 4:00 PM

Clipper Magazine Stadium, 650 North Prince St Lancaster PA 17603

- 3 Patriotic Concert** - The annual Patriotic Concert featuring the U.S. Army Band, "Pershing's Own", local color guard, and fireworks that all promise to delight. No tickets required.

July 02, 7:30 PM

Longs Park, 1441 Harrisburg Pike Lancaster PA 17601

- 4 July 4th Celebration and Fireworks Extravaganza** - Join us in celebrating America's birthday. Enjoy good food and homemade ice cream, festivities, and fireworks! Free to the public!

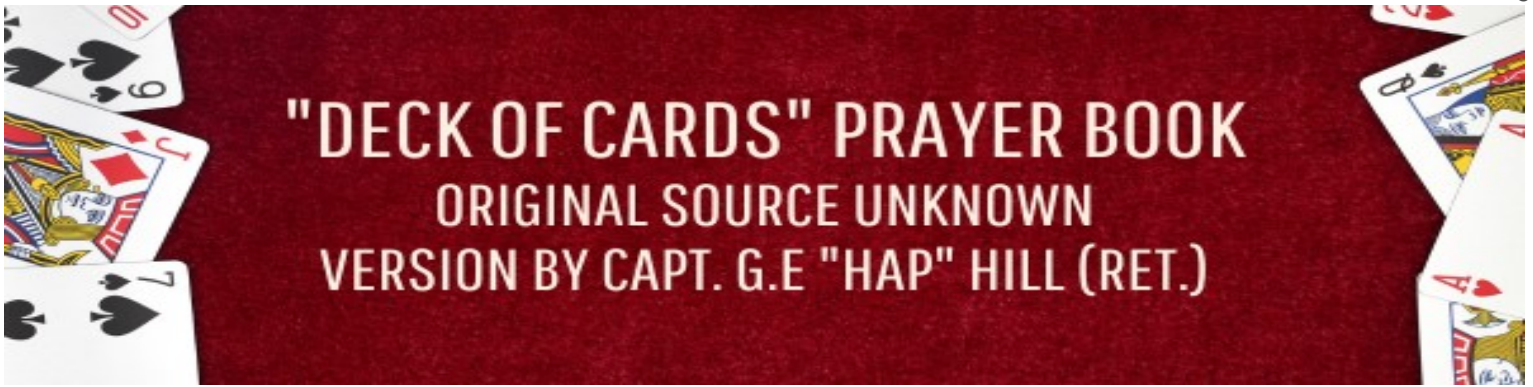
July 04, 3:00 PM

Stone Gables Estate, 1 Hollinger Lane Elizabethtown PA 17022

- 5 4th of July in Lititz Springs Park** - Lititz's 204th Fourth of July Celebration! Saturday includes Baby Parade, music, and ends with fireworks! Free to the public!

July 04, 3:00 PM

Lititz Springs Park, 24 N. Broad Street Lititz PA 17543



Upon finding that the *War To End All Wars* was actually at an end, a soldier wandered away from his barracks and into town. As he passed a small church, he stopped and looked in and saw that the townsfolk had gathered to worship. The soldier wandered in, walked down the aisle and slid into a pew. He took his seat next to some worshipers who were at that moment sitting with their heads bowed in prayer. The soldier, having no prayer book, took out a time-worn deck of playing cards. He fanned the cards before him and started to mumble to himself. His fellow worshipers, amazed at the soldier for displaying a deck of cards, the "Devil's Tickets", in the house of the Lord, nudged him and whispered, "Put those away, you can't do that here!"

The soldier paid little attention to them and carried on with his cards and mumblings. Soon the fellow worshipers became alarmed and sent out for the constable and the poor soldier was arrested. He was placed in jail for the night and the next morning was brought before the town Magistrate, charged with disorderly conduct for displaying a deck of cards in a place of worship. The Magistrate asked what he had to say for himself, "Guilty or not guilty?"

The soldier standing before the bar of justice replied, "Not guilty, Your Honor, and with your kind permission, I would like to present this defense for my actions."

With that, he took out his old time-worn deck of cards, fanned them out before him, and then he began:

- ◇ "Your Honor, to me this deck of cards is my prayer book and Bible. When I look into these cards and see an Ace, it reminds me that there is only one God.
- ◇ When I see the Deuce, it reminds me that the Bible is divided into two parts, the Old and the New Testaments.
- ◇ When I see the Three, it represents the three persons of the Blessed Trinity - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.
- ◇ When I see the Four, it reminds me of the four great Evangelists, who wrote the Gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.
- ◇ When I see the Five, Your Honor, I think of the five virgins who kept their lamps trimmed while waiting for the coming of the Lord.
- ◇ When I see the Six, it reminds me that in six days God made this great Heaven and Earth.
- ◇ When I see the Seven, it represents the Sabbath, a day of rest and worship.
- ◇ When I see the Eight, it reminds me of the eight righteous persons who were saved from the Flood - Noah, his wife, and their three sons and their wives.
- ◇ When I see the Nine, I'm reminded of the nine lepers who were cleansed of their sins, but did not give thanks, such was their ingratitude.
- ◇ When I see the Ten, I think, not only of the tenth leper, who did give thanks, but of the Ten Commandments handed down by Moses on the stone tablets, each spot for one Commandment.

- ◇ Now, Your Honor, the Jack reminds me of the Knave of the Devil and to shun his temptation.
- ◇ When I see the Queen, I think of the blessed Virgin Mary, who is the Queen of Heaven.
- ◇ The King is, of course, the King of Heaven and Earth and All Things, to whom we should all bow down and give thanks."

He folded up the deck of cards, shuffled them once, and fanned them out again. Then he continued:

- ◇ "Your Honor, when I look into this deck of cards, I see that there are 365 spots, as there are 365 days in the year.
- ◇ The Joker stands for Leap Year, 366 days.
- ◇ There are fifty-two cards in this deck, there are fifty-two weeks in a year.
- ◇ There are twelve face cards in the deck representing the twelve months of the year.
- ◇ Actually, there are thirteen lunar months in the year represented by the thirteen cards in each suit.
- ◇ Speaking of the suits, the deck is divided into four suits, Clubs, Diamonds, Hearts, and Spades; and we know that the year is divided into four seasons - Summer, Winter, Spring and Fall.
- ◇ Lastly, Your Honor, this deck of cards has two colors, red and black; the red stands for the daylight, and the black for night.

So you see, Your Honor, not only is this deck of cards my prayer book and Bible, it is also my Almanac!"

With that, His Honor said, "Case Dismissed!"



Church of the Apostles UCC CAN COLLECTION

We are saving aluminum cans to be returned to the recycling center for profit! Cans can be dropped off at the Youth Center at Rader Park in the large marked bin. Please have them in a plastic bag if possible. Thank-You for your continued support of this program.



7/1	Kay Thomas *
7/2	Ellen Schellenberger
7/3	Tristin Neiderer
7/4	Patrick Carr
7/4	Helen Ebersole
7/5	Frank Wilson
7/6	Earl Cardellino
7/8	Dustin Koehler
7/8	Aaron Watkins
7/10	Julie Berkow
7/10	Eva Johnson *
7/11	Mischelle Van Buskirk
7/13	Andy Appel
7/13	Jared Braun
7/15	Nancy Payne
7/17	Judy Ruppert
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	Grant Hansel *
7/25	Doris Krammes
7/25	Karen Williams
7/26	Emily Sheffer
7/27	Jeannie Clausen
7/28	Bonnie Bechtold

*90+ Birthdays

7/3	Lou & Arlene Gaudioso *
7/5	Julie & Don Berkow
7/5	Erin & Chris Rohrbaugh
7/9	Scott & Stephanie Moore
7/10	Abe & Leigh Breslin
7/11	Glenn & Helen Ebersole *
7/14	Chuck & Marsha Erisman
7/17	Jim & Linda Eaton *
7/17	Bob & Gail Frankhouser
7/17	Bill & Kristi Newport

*50+ Anniversary



Please join Eva Johnson's
family in celebrating with
a Card Shower!

Please share with others
who know her.



Cards can be sent to her home:
68 Kindred Place, Annville, PA 17003
Questions? Contact Eva's Daughter,
Sharon Taylor, (734) 748-4147





**Please use the form to the right
to sponsor flowers.**

Have an Article for the Crown?

Please send articles for the August
edition of the Crown by
Friday July, 14th to
office@apostlesucc.org.

Please be aware that articles **MUST** be
submitted by the 14th and be less than 200
words. All articles must include a Who,
What, Where, When, Why and How. If you
have any questions please direct them to
the Administrative & Communications
Coordinator, Paityn Nissly.

Flowers are an integral part of our worship service. Not only providing a physical symbol of beauty during our worship, but allows us to honor and remember the cloud of witnesses who have enriched our lives. The cost of our flowers and bulletins averages about \$110 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, fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or send it into the office. Please include your sponsorship donation with this form or check the box below if making your donation online through Realm.

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

☐ Check here if sponsorship donation has been made online.

**Please place this form in the church
office or an offering plate.
If you have any questions please
contact the office:**

**(717) 392 - 5718 or
office@apostlesucc.org**

**or
Bonnie Eshbach
(717) 569-0213**

COUNCIL MEMBERS AND COMMISSION CHAIRS

President: Lou Gaudioso

Ph: 717-371-4402
Email: ajgaud@comcast.net

Vice President: Karen Braun

Ph: 717-471-5987
Email: karenbraun87@gmail.com

Secretary: Johanna Baker

Ph: 717-799-0001
Email: Johanna.baker@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Cathy Kenlin

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

Education Commission

(Meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm in room 304)
Chair: Judy Waltman
Ph: 717-285-7395
Email: jlwaltman@comcast.net

Worship Commission

(Meets the 1st Monday of the month at 6:30 pm in the Choir Room)
Chair: Bernie Fickes
Ph: 717-925-9155
Email: berenicefickes4@gmail.com

Parish Life Commission

(Meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 7 pm at 1866 Villa Court)
Chair: Clara Kosmela
Co-Chair: Louise Zabel
Ph: 717-468-3492 / 717-984-6604
Email: joli6291@yahoo.com / ldvilla@comcast.net

Property Commission

(Meets the 1st Monday of the month at 630 pm in the Parlor)
Chair: Tom Weaver
Ph: 717-205-7335
Email: tom.weaver.24@gmail.com

Stewardship Commission

(Meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 pm in room 304)
Chair: George Alspach
Ph: 717-201-2526
Email: galspach@aol.com

Outreach Commission

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

Giving Report

Thank you for your continuing generosity to God's ministries. Your ongoing, regular contributions allow us to live out the mission and calling gifted to us by God. Through you, lives are being touched, grace is being offered, healing is being nurtured, and the transformative reign of God is being shared.

Financial Report

	May 2023	May 2022
YTD Revenue	\$217,853.77	\$278,905.96
YTD Operating Expenses	\$275,681.18	\$293,058.24
Net YTD Operating Income	-\$57,827.41	-\$14,152.28

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.

Steve/Monica Daniels	(717) 299-6007 or monicadaniels54@gmail.com
Lynn Steedle	(717) 390-4152 or ccsteedle@gmail.com
Bev Keller	(717) 898-2146 or bek0914@aol.com
Nancy Steger	(717) 617-2635 or nancyasteger@gmail.com
Jean Heidig	(717) 394-8733 or jean.heidig@gmail.com
Donna Carr	(717) 397-6305 or skeetcarr@comcast.net

Mary Ellen Bachman	(717) 393-8922
Susan Shaak	(717) 872-2987
Doug Nutt	(717) 753-8564
Cindy Williams	(717) 715-0716



Dear Church of the Apostles,

Thank-you for the card and gift!! - Alexa Neiderer

Thank-you for the scholarship and gift card. Sincerely, Tristin Neiderer

With love and gratitude, I wish to thank my church family for the many lovely cards, caring phone calls, prayers, and offers of transportation during this trying time for me. This surprise stroke is slowly relinquishing its hold. I plan to get back to church once I am cleared to drive and find a used automatic car.

Blessings to all,
Bev Moran
(717) 598-1522 (new phone number not in printed directory)

Tuesday Tussles With God

Join Mark Achtermann and Les Helmeczi on Tuesdays at 10:30 AM in Burkholder Chapel at Homestead Village or on ZOOM at 7 PM.

Contact the church office at
office@apostlesucc.org or (717) 392-5718 to join



Church of the Apostles Staff Directory

Pastors and Leadership

Senior Pastor

The Rev Kathryn L. Kuhn ext. 8201
kathryn@apostlesucc.org

Designated Associate Pastor

Jonathan Paredes ext. 8202
jonathanp@apostlesucc.org

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 Cornielle

Office

Finance Administrator

April Fisher ext. 8207
finance@apostlesucc.org

Administrative & Communications

Coordinator

Paityn Nissly ext. 8200
office@apostlesucc.org

Operations

Property Manager

Eric MacLaren ext. 8214
ericm@apostlesucc.org

Sexton

Larry Rongione

Technology Specialist

Jaben Jury

**Connect With
Us!**



**Need Spiritual
Inspiration?**

Visit us at
[www.apostlesucc.org/
faith-and-inspiration](http://www.apostlesucc.org/faith-and-inspiration)
for our service bulletins,
sounds for the soul and more!

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