



THE CROWN NEWS

March 2023 Vol. 47 No. 3

Pastor's Corner



"Tell me and I'll forget. Show me, and I may not remember. Involve me, and I'll understand." - Indigenous American Proverb

We are in the season of Lent throughout the month of March. Lent has traditionally been a time to let go of something in order to get closer to God. Usually we try to give up a habit or something we love as a gift and sacrifice to God. In the previous *Crown News*, Pastor Kathryn set a challenge to us for Lent. Let us open our hands to make space to receive and to hold while we let go of the closed fist of our traditional way of doing church. Seems that we are in a season of change from the weather, time, nature and everything in and around the Church of the Apostles. Change is scary, risky, and can be overwhelming because in the best case scenarios we hope that whatever endeavors we choose will be successful. Throughout the Epiphany season we have been wrestling with this idea and spoke about trusting in God. Now that we are in Lent, we want to let go of what we know with our heads; and hold on to God with what we know in our hearts. As we start the Jeremiah Project in the coming months, the leadership no longer just wants to tell you or show you where Apostles is going in the future, but instead and more importantly, we want you all to be involved and to share with us all where God is telling us where we are going. Where are we called to be the image and reflection of Christ in this setting? How can Church of the Apostles be the church God is calling us to be? As you all get involved in the upcoming sessions, get to know one another. Listen for God's voice as we build our mission and vision together for the future of Church of the Apostles.

Blessings & Peace,

Jonathan Paredes

One Great Hour of Sharing

On Sunday March 19th our special giving opportunity will be the "One Great Hour of Sharing Campaign". To learn more about this special giving opportunity turn to [pg. 7](#)



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A Message from the Council President

At the Council meeting held on Saturday, January 21, the following was confirmed by a vote of 11-0: In keeping with the Bylaws of the Church of the Apostles (III.D.1) "The Council shall meet at least *quarterly*". The decision of the Council was that for 2023, or until further notice, Council meetings will be held quarterly rather than monthly. The primary reasons for this change are twofold:

- a). To focus our attention more fully to the Agile Church project.
- b). Develop Council members that have a better understanding of how all the commissions of our church function.

Accordingly, each member of Council must either: Join an Agile Church team that will focus on accomplishing Agile Church healthy church checkup recommendations.

Or Attend a commission meeting (*of which they are not a member*) in each of the non-Council meeting months.

Shortly after Easter (week of April 16th) our Jeremiah project teams will begin to meet. The purpose of this project is to specifically define the *vision* and *mission* that God has for our Church at this time. This is a six-week small group study (meetings will be either in person or online) with each session being led by members of our church. Team leaders will be trained by the Agile Church Group to facilitate the content of the meetings. We ask that you prayerfully consider becoming a team leader or co-facilitator. If this is not your calling, we ask that you sign up as a group participant. This is an extremely important time in the life of our Church; in addition to your thoughts and prayers, we need your participation. Our Jeremiah project challenge is 80% participation among members who attend church in person or online. Team leaders, meeting places, dates, and times are listed in this edition of the Crown. Joining a group is key to helping our Church meet or exceed this participation goal to shape our future direction.

Blessings and Peace,

Lou Gaudioso

Council President

You're Invited

The Lancaster Association Spring meeting for the United Church of Christ is Sunday, March 26th at 3pm at Christ U.C.C in Elizabethtown. Directions are available in the office.

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



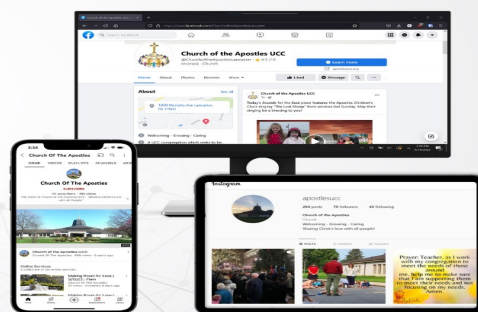
ChurchoftheApostlesLancaster



ChurchoftheApostles



ApostlesUCC



Church Happenings and News

Garage Sale April 14th & 15th

Hopefully by now you have items set aside for us to sell at our annual garage sale. These items can be brought to Fellowship Hall or put in the hallway across from the kitchen the week after Easter on Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday from 9 AM to 6 PM. We will also accept donations on Thursday until noon. In addition to donating items for us to sell we are looking for members who are willing to help with other aspects of our garage sale. Cindy Williams will be calling for helpers to price, sort, display, and fold clothes. To reach out to Cindy and volunteer call (717) 715-0716. Doris Robb will be calling for cashiers to do 2-hour shifts from 8 AM to 2 PM on Friday or 8 AM to 1 PM on Saturday. To get the time and table you want, please call Doris at (717) 393-7788.

Garden Plots Available

Church of the Apostles UCC has garden plots available in Rader Park. These plots are 20'x20' and 20'x40' and rent for \$10 and \$15 respectively for the the season. If you have any interest at all you may connect with Marty Holmes in Church or at (717) 898 - 2058. Please also fill out a form (available at the Welcome Center and in the Office) and return it to the office with payment.

Jeremiah Project Groups

Sunday, March 12th will be our “Kickoff Sunday” for sign-ups! In the meantime, we wanted to share the current chart of sessions below. Our aim is to have sessions that will remain together throughout all six lessons. Each session will be using the same curriculum and going through it in the same order. We hope you will expand your circle of church friends through the sessions. If you find that none of these work for you, or if you are moved to act as a co-leader, or leader of an additional group, please contact Barbara Achtermann (717-824-3265) or bachtermann@comcast.net.

Day/ Time	Place	Leadership
Tuesdays 2 PM	Culp Home	Louise Zabel / Karen Culp
Tuesdays 7 PM	Church	Ellen Schellenberger / Judy Waltman
Wednesdays 7 PM	ZOOM	Flo Waldron / Randy Leonard
Wednesdays 8 PM	ZOOM	Jim Stoltzfus / Allison Carr
Saturdays 10 AM	Smedley Home	Joyce Scout Smedley / Robin Lucey
Saturdays 2 PM	Church	Cathy Kenlin
Sundays 10 AM	Church	Mark Achtermann
Sundays at 10 AM	Church	Carol Neilsen

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.

- **March 13, 2023:** School for German Brides by Aimie Runyan
- **April 11, 2023:** Death at LA Fenice by Donna Leon
- **May 9, 2023:** Run Rose Run by Dolly Parton & James Patterson
- **June 13, 2023:** The Crimson Chord by Jill Eileen Smith

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.



Deux Voix ~ March 15th

A New Approach to Classic Sound
Stephen Distad - Organ
Justin Langham - Trumpet

Rizzetta's Tones ~

May 10th

American Celtic
World Band



Highland Chancel

Choir ~ June 7th

Robert Ray's 'Gospel Mass' and Musical Theatre favorites

Highland Presbyterian Church

500 E. Roseville Rd. Lancaster, PA

Wednesdays at 7PM.

No Tickets Required. Free Will Offering



Preschool News

Apostles Community Preschool had a love-filled month in February and our hearts were warm and full of love! February was all about caring at Apostles. We celebrated Valentine's Day during the first weeks of February with kind acts, thoughtful cards and some fun and games! Love was all around us as we reviewed and celebrated the things we can do to be bucket fillers—share, take turns, and use kind words and gentle hands.

We also had a blast during Rhyme Time with Dr. Seuss! Through stories, music, and games, the preschoolers learned all about rhyming words. Rhyming is not only fun, but also helps children develop important early literacy skills. We had silly days like Topsy Turvy Tuesday and Wacky Wednesday! This unit ran in conjunction with Read Across America, which is an annual event held near Dr. Seuss' birthday to promote literacy and encourage a love of reading!

We look forward to the month of March and restarting our intergenerational visits to Homestead Village!

We will also be having our S. Clyde Weaver Sub & Soup Sale now until March 17th. A pint of soup of your choice will be \$6, and a sub of your choice is \$7. Order forms are located in the church office and must be returned to the ACP Parent Council by the 17th. As always, thank-you for your support!

Church of the Apostles
a United Church of Christ congregation



Easter Memorial Flowers

Memorial Flowers will again adorn the Sanctuary on Easter morning, April 9
If you would like to place a memorial, please complete the form below and
return it with your check to the church office by Tuesday, April 4

Memorials will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Some of the plants will be taken to our members in nursing homes. We encourage those who make memorials to take plants with them after the services on Easter morning. Plants from the Narthex may be taken after the 9:00am service and all others after the 11:00am service. If mailing donation, please address to: Easter Flowers, Attn: B. Fickes, Church of the Apostles, 1850 Marietta Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17603. Earmarked: Easter Flowers

Attached is my contribution of \$_____ for Easter decorations and flowers.

Presented by: _____

"in memory of" or "in honor of" (circle one)

Church of the Apostles
a United Church of Christ congregation



A Musical Note

WITH
LARS POTTEIGER

A Passion play is a religious drama of medieval origins depicting the suffering, death, and resurrection of Christ. Passion music was an established form of musical expression in the Baroque era, but Bach elevated this tradition through his *St. Matthew Passion*. The text is from Matthew's gospel, chapters 26 and 27. Bach used a librettist to set text for the recitatives and arias, and interspersed harmonizations of well-known chorale melodies that would have been familiar to a listener in 1727. The *St. Matthew Passion* is three hours long and calls for two choirs, two orchestras, and soloists. Bach chose to write for a larger ensemble because St. Thomas in Leipzig, the church at which this work first premiered, had two separate choir lofts and organs. When it was originally performed on Good Friday, an hour long sermon was inserted between the first and second parts of the work. This piece was not readily received at the first performance because it was perceived as too operatic in nature. Bach's music fell out of favor after his death, but was revived in an 1829 performance that included Fanny and Felix Mendelssohn. This performance helped to create renewed interest in Bach's music, which has proliferated in the public ever since. I had the pleasure of performing this piece as a child in a youth choir as part of the Bethlehem Bach Festival. Not only is this piece a profound musical experience for both performer and listener, it also clearly depicts Bach's faith passionately expressed through sound.

The next event in the Apostles Academy Concert Series will feature the Amy Banks Quartet on April 30th at 3pm in the sanctuary. Banks is a sought-after jazz vocalist and performer in Lancaster and Central Pennsylvania, and is sure to deliver a high-energy performance with her ensemble.

Peace,

Lars



Answers on pg. 11

Community Outreach

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Cont.

Our special offering for the month of March is for One Great Hour of Sharing. Each Lent, we join together with churches all over the world to raise money for disaster relief. Dating back to 1946, One Great Hour of Sharing began as a way to raise money for victims of war in Europe. Episcopal Bishop Henry Sherrill lead a small group of Americans whose goal was to raise one million dollars in one hour. The next year, it is estimated that 75,000 churches across the country participated.

Today, nine Christian denominations participate in One Great Hour of Sharing. Funds are used to provide clean water, food, education, and health care to those in areas of need, as well as providing funds for disaster preparedness and immediate action in times of crisis. You can donate physical offerings in person on Sunday, March 19th or donate electronically through Realm. Scroll down to One Great Hour of Sharing in the drop-down menu on the giving page.

Thank you for your consideration and generosity! "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." - Hebrews 13:16

UCC Supports Quake Survivors

UCC offers prayers, launches appeal to aid Turkey and Syria after earthquake. Read More at tinyurl.com/UCCSupportsQuakeSurvivors.

(Photo from the Middle East Council of Churches. Aleppo, Syria.)



Bearing Witness

Additional UCC aid to Ukraine refugees to be sent through partners in four countries after trip to region. Read More at tinyurl.com/UCCaidtoUkraine.

(The UCC delegation, the Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson, the Rev. Kent Siladi, the Rev. Joshua Baird and Peter Makari, attend worship in Budapest, Hungary.)



Bilombele & Generina Families Update

The Refugee Welcome Team is happy to report that both of the mothers now are employed! Mlasi has been working for a few months now at URBN, which is the Urban Outfitters warehouse in Gap. There is transportation available for her to use. A friend of hers watches the children while she is at work. Bilemanga just got hired at the Marriott in downtown Lancaster, working in the kitchen. Church World Services has an employment specialist who assists in getting jobs for the refugees. We are so thankful that both families are now on the road to financial independence.



3/2	Pat Sullenberger*
3/2	John Wallach
3/3	Betsy Bischoff
3/3	Allison Carr
3/5	Judy Jarvis
3/7	David Longenecker
3/9	Susan Shaak
3/10	Anya Sheffer
3/11	Scott Moore
3/13	Marty Holmes
3/14	Max Koehler
3/14	Kathleen Stoyer
3/16	Patricia Shane
3/16	Peter VanBuskirk
3/17	Jean Cunningham*
3/18	Hunter Hackenburg
3/18	Sharon Schaeffer
3/19	Chris Bracken
3/20	Mara Pakalnins
3/21	Jan Baker
3/22	Milt Gockley*
3/22	Erik Laymon
3/23	Luci Stoltzfus
3/25	Barbara Butzer*
3/27	Randy Morrison
3/27	Caroline Rice
3/29	Loris Cunningham
3/30	Gary Brown
3/31	Nathan Moore

* 90+ Birthdays



3/1	Frank & Teresa Wilson
3/11	Dustin & Melissa Koehler
3/16	Kenneth & Bonnie Medved
3/18	Stephen & Gail Noland*
3/21	Gary & Ginny Brown*
3/22	Chris & Karen Braun

*50+ Anniversary

Have an Articles for the Crown?

Please send articles for the April edition of the Crown by Wednesday, March 15th to office@apostlesucc.org.

Please be aware that articles **MUST** be submitted by the 15th 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.



March Flower Sponsors

March 5th

**In Loving Memory of Betty Perry &
Paula Alspach**

By Robert Perry

March 19th

**In Loving Memory of
Thomas Lewis, Sr.**

By Tom & Linda Lewis

March 26th

**In Loving Memory of our Parents,
Robert & Catherine Johns,
Louis & Anna Gaudioso, Sr. and
Sister, Patti Sawka**

By The Gaudioso Family



**MEMORIAL FUND
DONATION**

BY JOSEPH & SANDY WEIDEL
IN MEMORY OF

*Annette
Rohloff*

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:**

Jean Heidig - (717) 394-8733

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 room 305)

Temp. Chair: Chuck Erisman

Ph: 717-569-6510

Email: caerisman@comcast.net

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

	January 2023	January 2022
YTD Revenue	\$40,150.35	\$139,926.76
YTD Operating Expenses	\$51,415.91	\$54,193.34
Net YTD Operating Income	-\$11,265.56	\$85,733.42

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) 753-8569
Cindy Williams	(717) 572-3808



Answers to St. Patrick's Day Riddles.

1. Lepre-coins
2. Potatoes
3. They already wear green!
4. A Sham-Rocket
5. Lucky Charms (of Course).

Thank You

The office staff would like to thank the Outreach Committee for the beautiful valentines presents. This was a lovely surprise and we are very grateful.



FAITH FORMATION

Every Sunday

*ROOTED FOR GRADES 4TH-8TH
BEGINNING AT 8:55 AM IN ROOM 308*

*PRESCHOOL - 3RD GRADE IN ROOM 306
FOLLOWING CHILDREN'S TIME*



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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