

Church of the Apostles Staff Directory

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

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

Youth Leader
Johnathan Paredes

Director of Music Ministry
Lars Potteiger ext. 8203
larsp@apostlesucc.org

Director of Adult Choirs & Instrumental Music
Nathan Sheffer

Bell Choir Director
Lars Potteiger (Interim)

Children's Choir Director
Breanne Zipko

Technology Specialist
Johnathan Shaub

Sexton
Larry Rongione

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

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

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

Connect With Us!



Need Spiritual Inspiration?

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

THE CROWN



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

May 2021 Vol. 45 No.4

From The Senior Pastor

Spring has come and for the first time in over a year we have a complete, high-functioning staff in place to support the ministry of this congregation. We can have many wonderful plans but without all the other people to help make it happen, inform the community and make sure it runs smoothly on every level, it is a hard road to travel. When I wrote my annual report for 2020, I realized how much staff turnover we had gone through to bring us to this time and place.

At the April meeting of Council, the Council voted to bring April Fisher on to our staff as a regular employee in the role of Finance Coordinator, rather than a temporary employee through the staffing agency. April has learned much since beginning with us in August and she has also showed us all the gifts she brings to that position. We are grateful for her experience and wisdom in finding ways to better organize our finances and reduce costs.

The final person to join us is Schuyler (pronounced Sky'-ler) Nissly. If you receive our publications or emails, then you already have an idea of the gifts which Schuyler brings to us. Schuyler comes from a professional background in nonprofit management and marketing. She loves to give back and help in the community she grew up in after having lived in Philadelphia for the past 5 years. In her spare time, she enjoys riding her horse Winter, spending time with her bulldog Jaxson, line dancing, and enjoying time with her family and friends.

We are grateful to have this team to help us in "Sharing Christ's Love with All People!"



MEET SCHUYLER!

Schuyler Nissly is our new Communications and Administrative Coordinator. We are excited to have her join us!

In This Issue

- Message from the Council President
- Community Outreach
- Education & Family
- Congregational Life
- Thank You Notes
- Birthdays & Anniversaries



Hands in the Sanctuary



A Stephen Ministry Congregation



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A Message from the Council President

The angel said to the women: “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; He has risen just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay...then go quickly and tell his disciples: He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him. Now I have told you,” - Matthew 28:5-7.

New Beginnings

In this Easter-tide, it is a time of new beginnings. And hope renewed for many by the re-entry into the sanctuary for worship. Yes, it is WONDERFUL to be physically present in our beautiful sanctuary for worship! It feels like coming home. But, is this all that the church is? I believe that we need to enter a time of spreading the message to others who have not experienced the beauty of our church, but more importantly: the beauty of the heart of its members and COA’s dedication to mission and service to others outside of our walls. Our Mission statement is “Sharing Christ’s Love with All People.” I ask myself, what have you done to go and tell those outside our church: He is risen from the dead and is going ahead of you?

Membership

There are those who worry about the numbers of our membership roles declining. Yes, that is an important focus. Regular participation in worship and giving is the life blood of a church. But, how does our membership grow and how do others find out about the wonderful family that is COA? I urge every member to look around and see who is present physically as we re-gather and who is missing? Who could you reach in concern and invite them to re-engage? What do you do to invite others to come and see the empty tomb and hear the wonderful message of hope and love that is shared by our Pastors in worship?

Please be part of the new beginnings of Spring, re-opening and hope!!

Blessings,
Donna Carr

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 (717) 299-6007 or monicadaniels54@gmail.com
Lynn Steedle (717) 390-4152 or ccsteedle@gmail.com

Link 2:
Mary Ellen Bachman (717) 393-8922
Susan Shaak (717) 872-2987
Doug Nutt (717) 283-2937


Link 3:
Annette Rohloff (717) 394-0424 or rextomas@comcast.net
Bev Keller (717) 898-2146 or bek0914@aol.com
Cindy Williams (717) 572-3808 or clwjbwilliams@gmail.com
Nancy Steger (717) 617-2635 or nancyasteger@gmail.com


Link 4:
Jean Heidig (717) 394-8733 or geojean6@gmail.com
Donna Carr (717) 397-6305 or skeetcarr@comcast.net








May Preaching Schedule


 May 2nd: Pastor Kuhn

 May 9 (Mother's Day): Pastor Kuhn

 May 16: Pastor Motz

 May 23: Pastor Kuhn

 May 30: Pastor Kuhn





STAY CONNECTED!

Online and Phone Worship Services are Continuing as we resume in person worship

Our worship services will continue to be available online via our [Website](#), [Youtube](#), or [Facebook](#) as we resume in person worship. For bulletins and more information visit www.apostlesucc.com/sermons.

Worship services can also be accessed toll free via the Worship by Phone Line at 888-440-0106

Join us in peace

→→→→→

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

←←←←←

Let us offer our prayers together on May 6, 2021

Upcoming Special Events

- Sunday May 2nd, from 10 am— 1 pm, Earth Day Cleanup and Picnic at Rader Park
- Thursday May 6th, National Day for Prayer!
- Tuesday May 11th, from 2 pm— 3 pm, Book Club in the Parlor
- Sunday May 16th, from 2 pm— 4 pm, Morgan Davis Flute Studio Recital at the Portico. This event will be cancelled in the event of rain.
- Saturday June 26th, at 7 pm, The Nanny at the Manor House Performance

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 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 on Zoom.)
Chair: Clara Kosmela
Ph: 717-468-3492 • Email: joli6291@yahoo.com

Property Commission
(Meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 7pm on Zoom.)
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

In the Know...

2021 Garage Sale
Save the date of September 24th and 25th as possible dates for the next COA Garage Sale! This of course depends on the Covid-19 conditions in the community at that time, but at least we have a date to seriously hope for. If you saved things for the 2020 Garage Sale and still have them please keep them a little longer! More info to come! - Clara Kosmela

Parish Life Book Club
The Apostles Bookclub has moved from Zoom meetings to the parlor on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2:00. We wear masks and observe social distancing. May 11th we will discuss WHISTLE BLOWER by Susan Fowler. On June 8th, THE ALICE NETWORK by Kate Quinn will be discussed. AMERICAN DUCHESS by Karen Harper will be discussed July 13th. On August 10th, we will discuss CASTE by Isabel Wilkerson. Please consider joining us whether you read the book or not. Any questions, please call Clara Kosmela at (717) 569-9960.

Bottle Caps
The Green Team is collecting Bottle Caps for a project. Please save your bottle caps and bring them to church! (All sizes and colors!) We will place a collection box in the coat room. Thank you.



ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

E-Giving Now Even More Mobile Friendly

Recent upgrades to our e-giving option has made our website a great option for both mobile and desktop/laptop based giving. Check it out today and you will discover how easy it is to give at www.apostlesucc.org/give. Note, we will continue to keep the GivePlus+ mobile app active, but we think you'll agree that the website give option is a much better experience even on mobile devices. Save a shortcut to your screen and you will be set to go!

Coming This May – A New Way to Connect with Members

We have been hard at work developing the new Realm Church Management Software to be a ministry tool that has value for the entire congregation. For congregational members it will give you direct access to your personal information, the new online church directory, and an increasing number of opportunities to communicate and collaborate with others. For the staff, it will provide a way to coordinate ministry activities, effectively direct communication, enhance member care, and streamline data management.



With last minute details being handled, we are planning for a May launch of Realm into the life and ministry of Church of the Apostles. Look for an email by mid-May with an invitation to log in. For those who are more mobile oriented, you'll have access to the free Realm Connect App available for Apple and Android devices. Plus, we will schedule virtual and in person orientation sessions so that everyone with internet access can join in.

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 www.apostlesucc.org/give

	April 2021	April 2020
Revenue	111,603.06	112,076.77
Operating Expenses	179,864.77	150,487.32
Revenue	(68,261.71)	(38,410.55)



Education & Family



Apostles Community Preschool

717-392-5598

1850 Marietta Avenue
Lancaster, PA 17603

Apostles Community Preschool

Spring is finally here! Apostles Community Preschool had a wonderful month learning about our beautiful planet, Earth! We learned about Earth Day and the amazing things that happen on our Earth during springtime! The children took nature walks to observe signs of spring and learned how we can help protect our Earth and keep it clean. They also learned about plant life and used a variety of science experiments to study how things grow.

We also celebrated Easter with egg hunts, treats and sweet delights. We were reminded of God's greatest gift and everlasting love. The children enjoyed hearing an Easter story, read to us by Pastor Kuhn in the Sanctuary.

2021 Drive-Thru Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt

This year we held our Easter Egg Hunt in a different format on March 27th. It was a beautiful and fun day for the Drive-Thru Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt! Thanks to all who helped, donated for the goodie bags, and participated in any way to make it a successful event! We gave away 70 goodie bags to kiddos/ participating families.



Graduates Wanted!

The Education Commission is seeking anyone graduating this year from high school, college, technical school, etc. The commission will recognize these graduates at a later date.

Please contact:
Church office – office@apostlesucc.org/717-397-5218
Judy Waltman – jlwaltman@comcast.net/717-285-7395



In loving Memory of

- ♦ Two UCC Pastors, Reverend Earnest Strassburger and Reverend Ed Steedle by their Families
- ♦ Skeeter's Mother, Magdalene Carr and Donna's Mother, Evelyn Butzer by the Carrs.
- ♦ Sandy's Mother, Mrs. Mabel Kilgore and Joe's mother, Mrs. Geraldine Weidel by Joe and Sandy Weidel
- ♦ Wife and Mothers, Betty and Gladys Holmes and Ethel Farmer by Marty Holmes
- ♦ Susan Nolt, a Stephens Minister, by Lynn Steedle

Wondering Where to Send Articles for the Crown?

Please send articles for the June edition of the Crown to Schuyler Nissly, the Administrative and Communications coordinator by Saturday May 15 at:
office@apostlesucc.com



Our 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. 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



Lars Potteiger	05/01
Joseph Motz	05/02
Russell Weiser	05/03
Allison Carr	05/03
Cynthia Williams	05/04
Bonnie Esbach	05/05
FlorenceMae Waldron	05/06
Cynthia Bischoff	05/07
Michael Preston	05/08
Dillion Walters	05/08
John Hess	05/09
Charles Hungerford	05/10
Haley Breslin	05/10
Mary Schick	05/12
Amy Berger	05/12
Samantha Oliver	05/12
Dennis Eyrich	05/14
Cindy Hendrix	05/14
Allison Alspach	05/16
Kirsten Clouser	05/16
Annette Shindler	05/17
Kenneth Kimmel	05/17
Erika Neiderer	05/17
Lois Masho	05/18
Haley Rineer	05/19
Elizabeth Rineer	05/19
Carol Nielsen	05/20
Finn Conrad	05/22
Hannah Royer	05/23
Caitlyn Motz	05/24
Rosemary Humphreville	05/26
Nathan Sheffer	05/27
Nina Bahling	05/27
Gail Frankhouser	05/28
Karen Culp	05/29
Karen Youtz	05/31

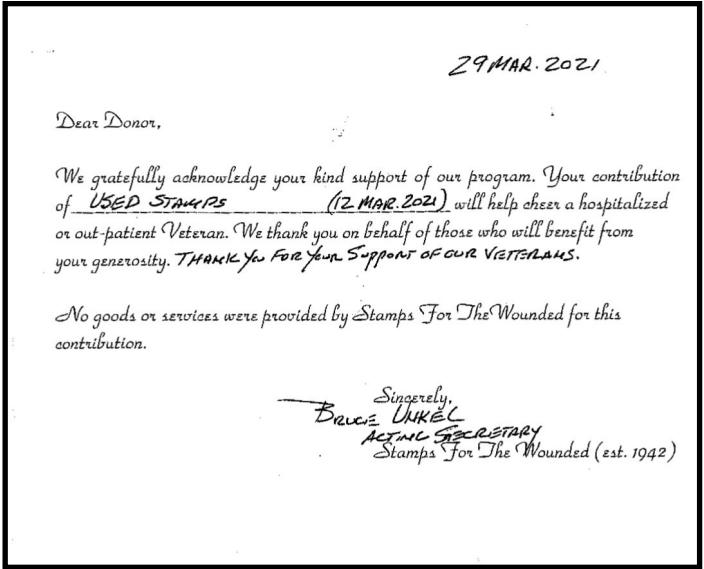


May 4: Richard & Loris Cunningham celebrating 19 Years!
May 14: Mark & Molly Reinhardt celebrating 38 Years!
May 15: Earl & Eleanor Cardellino celebrating 56 Years!
May 15: Dennis & Jennifer Eyrich celebrating 22 Years!
May 25: Erik & Ashley Laymon celebrating 8 Years!
May 30: Richard & Lois Millhouse celebrating 61 Years!

Thank You

We'd like to say thank you to Donna Carr, Tom Weaver, and Melissa Koehler for helping us procure our COVID shots. Navigating the various sites was overwhelming at times and we really appreciated everyone's help.
- Rich & Carol (Burkholder) Braine

Ella and Austin love it when they receive mail and felt very loved! Thank you so much for the Easter cards.
- Hannah Royer



Happy Anniversary!

Wishing these perfect pairs
a perfectly happy day.

Interested in Donating?

Food Bank Needs:
green beans, corn, peas, applesauce, pancake mix, pan-cake syrup, large grape jam

Apostles Assistance Needs:
dish liquid, laundry detergent, wash cloths, deodorant, paper towels, toilet paper

GROCERY CARDS AVAILABLE!

GIANT Stauffers OF KUSSEL HILL weis

Seeds of Hope Garden In Search of Helpers!
Spring has sprung! Come out and enjoy spring planting season. Flexible times available, contact Carol Nielson or the church office.

Community Outreach

Apostles Caring Carts
Thank you for all of your donations to the Apostles Assistance Fund on Donation Fridays when the church was in lockdown. The Caring Carts are back in place in the Narthex. The small Cart will continue to collect donations of food, personal care supplies, and home care supplies for the Assistance Fund. In the large cart we will be collecting specific items for AB-BA Christian School and Orphanage in Kenya, Africa. Randy Leonard has volunteered in the school with a group and speaks very highly of this school and its founders.

The Outreach Commission has donated funds twice to help support the school and we would also like to donate items that these children desperately need. We are asking for donations of children’s flip flops, jump ropes, rubber boots, pencils, erasers, pencil sharpeners, socks, underwear (boys and girls), crayons, and chalk. The children range in age from kindergarten to sixth grade. We will be collecting these items until the end of June. Thank you!

Market Basket Updates
Our sale of Grocery cards is continuing. We will be taking orders in the narthex or outside on the 1st and 2nd Sundays of May, following both worship services. There will be order forms available. After completion, you can attach your payment and place it in the appropriate box. You may pick up your cards on the 1st or 2nd week in June. Safety of everyone is our concern.

You may pick up your ordered cards on the 1st or 2nd Sunday or at a pre-arranged day & place.

Since we are still dealing with COVID, and you may not feel safe worshipping indoors, you may purchase Stauffers (\$50), Giant (\$50) or Weis (\$50) cards by phone or email. Payment can be exchanged for the cards on Sunday mornings or elsewhere, at your convenience. Checks will still be made out to COA with Market Basket on the note line.

You may contact me, Karen Helmeczi (717-299-2972) or email me at kjhelmeczi@gmail.com and I can arrange to meet you on Sunday mornings or elsewhere at your convenience. I live at Homestead Village so I am near the church. My address is: 1832 Westcott Drive.

If you have any questions please call me or see me on Sunday mornings.
-Karen Helmeczi

Congregational Life

Serving Christ’s Church in Wider Ministries

Did you know that you can serve God beyond our congregation? There are positions on committees in the Lancaster Association UCC, in the Penn Central Conference UCC, and in the national setting. If you are interested in developing social events with other churches, the Mission and Ministry Committee of the Association is looking for people to serve. If you are wondering about how the UCC makes a difference on a national level, consider being a delegate or an alternate delegate to the General Synod which takes place every other year. There is so much more, too, that takes place beyond our church! If you would like to learn more, please contact our office at office@apostlesucc.org.

Meditation Walk & Book Exchange

This meditation walk is available to everyone who wishes to walk around Rader Park and rest every now and then. There is a box inside each gazebo with a paper you may read and contemplate. If there are extras, you may take a copy. Otherwise, leave the main paper, which is in a plastic sleeve, for the next person. A flyer should also be there for you to take home or give to a friend. The Book Exchange is located in front of the Youth Center. It is filled with donated books. Feel free to borrow. Bring it back or give another book anytime you are nearby. No penalties.



Strengthen the Church Offering Sunday

You have a special giving envelope in your box for May 23. It is *Strengthen the Church*, which is a special offering to energize and build the future of the UCC, shared at the conference and national levels. *Strengthen the Church* offerings support youth ministries and full-time leaders in new churches in parts of the country where the UCC’s voice has not been heard. Your gift will support new churches, foster new ideas in existing churches, and develop the spiritual lives of our youth and young adults. Please consider giving generously to this important ministry which serves to strengthen the UCC!

Covid Update

Re-opening Task Force has revisited the initial metric of a 10% positivity rate as the marker for closing down inside service. At this point, the vaccination rate in our older and vulnerable members is increasing, so we feel comfortable in recommending continued monitoring of the recommendations of the PA Dept of Health and the CDC. Members have been very good about complying with all mitigation measures including mask use at our indoor services. Beginning in May, members will have a choice of an outdoor service if that is most comfortable for them. There is a good variety of options for participating in the indoor services virtually including Facebook, YouTube and Worshiping by Phone if in-person attendance is not comfortable for a member.

We recently had a vaccine clinic for our members and the community at the church on 4/25/21. Melissa Koehler, our member who owns the Hillcrest Pharmacy, is willing to schedule vaccine appointments at her location in Mountville. We encourage members who are still seeking a vaccination to seek out an appointment through the Vaccinate Lancaster web site. Tom Weaver from our church is also willing to assist any member seeking help getting an appointment for the COVID-19 vaccine.



Music is alive and well at Church of the Apostles this spring! Below are some performances and other opportunities I would like to make you aware of that are happening at the church and through the Apostles Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Storyteller Bill Hager is performing a dramatic reading of his Mary Poppins inspired story, “The Nanny in the Manor House.” The date of this performance has **changed** from 5/22 at 7pm **to 6/26 at 7pm**. Mr. Hager engages his audience in a multimedia telling of this beloved story with a unique twist: the children that Mary Poppins cared for have all grown up! This all-ages performance will be held in our sanctuary. A freewill offering will be collected for the Lancaster County Children’s Health Alliance in lieu of tickets for the performance that evening. One hundred percent of the money collected will be donated to this charity to assist with their work in the Lancaster area. Please email me at larsp@apostlesucc.org to place your reservation for this performance, as we have limited seating available.

Pianist Maria Corley will give a concert in our sanctuary as part of our Apostles Academy Concert Series on 6/12 at 3pm. Ms. Corley is not only an accomplished pianist, she is also an educator, voice actor, award-winning poet, and author. You can read more about Ms. Corley on the web at mariacorley.com and find out more about her various projects and performance dates. Please check the June Crown and church’s website to see if this concert will be held in person or virtually.



The Adult Choir has resumed rehearsing at 7pm on Thursday evenings. We are socially distancing and masking for rehearsals in the sanctuary, and preparing music for the later services in May. If you have an interest in singing with the choir, please email Nathan Sheffer at noshief@yahoo.com for more information - no experience necessary!

I am also beginning a weekly online music ministry series titled “Sounds for the Soul.” This series will feature videos of music selections that will appear weekly on the church’s website and other media platforms. Music speaks to us all in unique and individual ways – I hope that you will be able to tune in and find some music that speaks to your soul.

Please check the church’s website and future editions of the Crown for more events coming up at our church later this spring and summer. I hope to see you out and about at Apostles!

Peace and Blessings,
Lars