



THE CROWN NEWS

April 2024 Vol. 48 No. 4

Pastor's Corner

We are living through times of great division, the most I have experienced in my memory, and we feel lonelier. We were created with a need for belonging and want to be accepted. So, in this time, we need a place to come together and feel welcomed. In this season of Easter, we will be exploring the theme of "A Place to Call Home." Think for a few moments about what makes a place feel like "home" to you.

In the benediction response we sang during Lent, "May You Run and Not Be Weary," the ending lyric is "and may the road you travel always lead you home." The "home" I imagined as we sang this song was God, like the prodigal son coming down the road and into the welcoming arms of the father who is filled with mercy and love. Do we experience this type of "homecoming" when we gather on Sunday mornings? If not, what could change?

When I think of "home," I think of a place that is safe, welcoming and inviting – a place where "everybody knows your name" – a place where your mistakes and failings are forgivable and love is unconditional. This is who Jesus Christ calls us to be too! Yes, it is far easier to say than to live out, but that is our challenge especially with our core value of **inclusive refuge** and our new vision and mission that calls us to be **a safe space for those who feel afraid or powerless** and to **include people as they are**. I hope you will join us as we continue to look for meaningful ways to become "home" for another.

Blessings & peace,

Pastor Kathryn Kuhn



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A Message from the Council Vice President

As we gather together as a community of faith, we are reminded of the importance of inclusivity, compassion, and justice in all that we do. Our church has been on a journey as we redefine our vision and mission, guided by the voices and hearts of our congregants. We have made a commitment to embrace all people as they are, to serve compassionately, and to be champions of environmental and social justice.

In a world that can often feel divided and disconnected, our church stands as a beacon of hope and love. We strive to create a space where everyone is welcomed with open arms, regardless of their background, beliefs, or identity. We believe that by including people as they are, we can truly embody the teachings of Jesus Christ and live out the message of love and acceptance.

Our commitment to serving compassionately is at the core of everything we do. Whether it's through our outreach programs, community service projects, or simply lending aid, we seek to embody the spirit of kindness and generosity. By extending a helping hand we can make a real difference in the lives of others and show them the power of God's love in action.

As champions of environmental and social justice, we recognize the interconnectedness of all living beings and the importance of caring for God's creation. We are committed to advocating for policies and practices that promote sustainability, justice, and equality for all. Whether it's through volunteering with local organizations, or simply making small changes, we can make a positive impact on the world around us and be stewards of God's creation.

In embracing this new vision and mission, we are to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community and beyond. Let us continue to live out our faith with love, compassion, and justice, and inspire others to join us in making the world a better place for all.

Blessings and Peace,

Lou Gaudioso

Vice President Council



JOIN US!

MOCKTAILS & MEANING

4.18.24
6:30 - 8:30 PM

AFFORDABLE HOUSING
w/ Tenfold Lancaster

MOCKTAILS - DISCUSSION - COMMUNITY

www.apostlesucc.org/MocktailsMeaning

Church Happenings and News

COA Earth Day Clean-up

Get ready to roll up your sleeves and join Church of the Apostles UCC on April 7th at 10:30 AM for our Rader Park & Brubaker Run Clean-Up. Starting by the garden shed in the park, let's unite from 10:30 AM to Noon to beautify our community space. Embrace our mission of environmental care and advocacy as we dive into the work of caring for God's earth. Let's make a difference together!

Warm Hearts, Warm Gear: A Cozy Success!

As the winter season comes to a close, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to our Warm Winter Gear collection for the students of Wheatland Middle School. Thanks to your generosity, students were equipped with essential winter items such as coats, scarves, hats, gloves, and more to stay warm during the cold months. With our collections now officially wrapped up for this season, we encourage you to keep this initiative in mind during your spring cleaning. If you come across any gently used coats or winter gear, hold onto them until our next collection in the fall. Together, we can continue to make a difference in the lives of students in need within our community.



Apostles Caring Cart Ministry: Supporting Hershey Mill Home

Join us in making a meaningful difference in the lives of the residents at Hershey Mill Home! This group home, which provides care for 38 individuals facing developmental challenges, relies on our support for essential supplies.

To participate, simply visit the Outreach bulletin board, take a sticky note, purchase the listed item, and place it in the large Caring Cart located next to the coffee station in the Narthex. Donations will be collected throughout April, with the final day for contributions set for Sunday, April 28th, when Rev. Kuhn will bless the donations during our service before they are dropped off at Hershey Mill Home. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our Outreach ministries!

Usher Appreciation Sunday

Join us for Usher Appreciation Sunday on April 21st! Let's express gratitude to our dedicated ushering teams who go above and beyond to serve during worship services. Beyond distributing bulletins, they provide assistance, monitor attendees, and ensure a safe environment. After the service, there will be a gathering in the parlor at 11:00 AM for all ushers. Interested in joining an ushering team? Come join us and learn how you can serve your church community!



**PENNSYLVANIA
INTERFAITH
POWER & LIGHT**

**Learn How YOU Can Make a Difference at the
National Faith + Climate Forum**

Communities of Faith Responding to Climate Change

Members & Friends of Church of the Apostles UCC have been invited to the National Faith + Climate Forum on April 16th from 12 - 5:15 PM. Organized by Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light, this event is designed to strengthen local congregations through care for creation.

Gather with fellow faith leaders at 1201 N Chester Rd, West Chester, PA 19380 for inspiring talks, practical workshops, and collaborative sessions. Whether you're a seasoned advocate or new to environmental activism, there's something for everyone. Snacks, conversation, and community building await you. Secure your spot today by registering at <https://tinyurl.com/FaithClimate-Forum>. Let's make a difference together!

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

- **April 9, 2024:** [Kindred](#) by Octavia Butler
- **May 14, 2024:** [The Art Thief](#) by Michael Finkel
- **June 11, 2024:** [The Radcliffe Ladies Reading Club](#) by Julia Bryan Thomas
- **July 9, 2024:** [The Paris Assignment](#) by Rhys Bowen
- **August 13, 2024:** [Women](#) by Kristin Hannah

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.



Preschool News

At the beginning of the month, students and staff at ACP had fun on Top-sy Turvy Tuesday & Wacky Wednesday during Read Across America week. Things at preschool were a little silly, mixed-up, and fun!

Our Pre-K enrichment class, Nature Explorers, is back at Rader Park on Monday afternoons. We are enjoying the signs of Spring and the beauty of Rader Park during this time.

It's hard to believe that we are headed into our last full month of preschool! This year has flown by! We are looking forward to our spring shows for our tots and 3-4 year old classes, as well as, Mother's Day Teas for our Pre-K classes. We will also visit Homestead Village for the last time this school year.

A few spots remain for the 2024-25 school year. Please contact Jeannie Clausen jclausen.acp@gmail.com if you or anyone you know might be interested in registering. Thank you!



Justice 4 Education Rally: Ensuring Equitable Education for All!

Join POWER Interfaith for the Justice 4 Education Rally on April 18th, 2024, at 4 PM, located at Victory Field in front of JP McCaskey High School. At Church of the Apostles UCC, we believe in advocating for compassionate social justice, including equitable access to education for all. The rally will feature voices from students, parents, teachers, SDOL Superintendent Dr. Miles, Rep. Smith Wade-El, and Rep. Sturla. Enjoy performances by the McCaskey Drum line, emceed by Isiah Perry, and indulge in delicious cookies and more. Register for the event using the QR code provided. Let's stand together for justice in education!





Church of the Apostles UCC's

Annual Garage Sale

Friday, April 5 | 8-2 PM
Saturday, April 6 | 8-1 PM



Discover
Treasurers!



Find
Bargains!

Sale Located At:
1850 Marietta Ave.
Lancaster, PA 17603

Food & Drink will be available for purchase

Some profits will be donated to Disaster Relief

(717) 392-5718 | office@apostlesucc.org



A Musical Note

WITH
LARS POTTEIGER

Our theme in worship for the Easter season this year is “home.” One part of life that I’ve always felt was synonymous with home is family. Growing up, our home was a place where my immediate family would do our various day to day activities and extended family would often gather for holidays. My last living grandparent passed away three years ago. While she was not a blood relative, she was family to me, nonetheless.

I found it confusing to navigate this relationship as a child. Why did I have five grandparents when most of my friends had four? Why did we have to celebrate holidays separately with some of our grandparents and not others? As I became older I learned more about my maternal grandparents’ divorce: my biological grandfather remarried and his new wife moved from Ohio to live with him in the Reading area. I further discovered that Grandma Hinkle had children and grandchildren from her previous marriage in Ohio. This knowledge helped reshape my idea of what family can be. Grandma Hinkle showed me all the love, support, and encouragement that my other biological grandparents did, especially in regards to my musical pursuits. She was a gifted musician and took her role as a grandparent and musical mentor very seriously in a manner that was both loving and compassionate.

We define home and family in different ways depending on our life experiences. How we do this helps to give us a sense of grounding, meaning, and helps to define who we are. To quote part of Morris Chapman’s “The Family Prayer Song”:

Staying together, praying together
Any storm we can weather, trusting in God's Word.
We need each other, fathers and mothers,
Sisters and brothers in harmony and love.

Peace,
Lars



SILVER WOOD & IVORY

Two Women, 19 Flutes and
Recorders, Piano, Celtic Harp, and a
Whole Lot of Friendship

Don't Miss This Free Concert!
APRIL 28TH, 2024 @ 3 PM

 **Church of the Apostles UCC** located at
1850 Marietta Avenue Lancaster, PA 17603

Team River Runner Updates

Team River Runner in the Winter

Ever wonder what Team River Runner does in the winter months? Here's a sneak peek. To keep up with our paddling skills and to introduce new paddlers to the lifestyle of paddling, we meet at Millersville University for pool sessions. Twice a month from October to April we meet at Pucillo Gymnasium to keep our members connected and maintain our skills while learning new ones along the way.



Believe it or not, we are not just about being in our kayaks. The winter months give us an opportunity to enhance other necessary skills as well. In February we hosted a Wilderness First Aid Class, including a knots and ropes class in the Youth Center. There are many scenarios we put ourselves in where emergency responders are not less than 10 minutes away, but perhaps hours away. This class gave us all the skills we need to get through the toughest of emergency situations in the wilderness.



In March we hosted our annual Safety Standdown in the Youth Center. This class is all about safety protocols on and off the water. Anything from ensuring our gear is in good condition and is reliable; to creating float plans to ensure we thought through every possible scenario when taking individuals out on the water.

We would like to thank COA for your continued support, not only in the summer but year-round. Our number one mission is ensuring every paddler's safety, and you are helping us achieve our mission.

Compassion Team's

Listening Sessions

On September 23rd, 2023, the Compassion Team received training from Liz Grubb of Mental Health America, focusing on non-judgmental listening and offering resources for professional help. To arrange a private, confidential session with our flexible team, consult the posted schedule, with Thursdays as preferred days. Contact **Donna Carr (717) 475-5285** or **Ellen Schellenberger (717) 945-4057** be connected to the assigned person for the week to coordinate a suitable time.

Compassion Corner

Following the 10 AM service, the Compassion Corner will be accessible for anyone interested in exploring books and other mental health materials. This resource is open every Sunday of the month and can be found in the Associate Pastor's office. A Compassion Team member will be on hand on second Sunday's to assist you in locating what you require.

New Giving Option Now Available

GIVE VIA TEXT MESSAGE

Text 'COA' with or without the amount you want to give to 73256

- 1 Click the link
- 2 Complete your gift





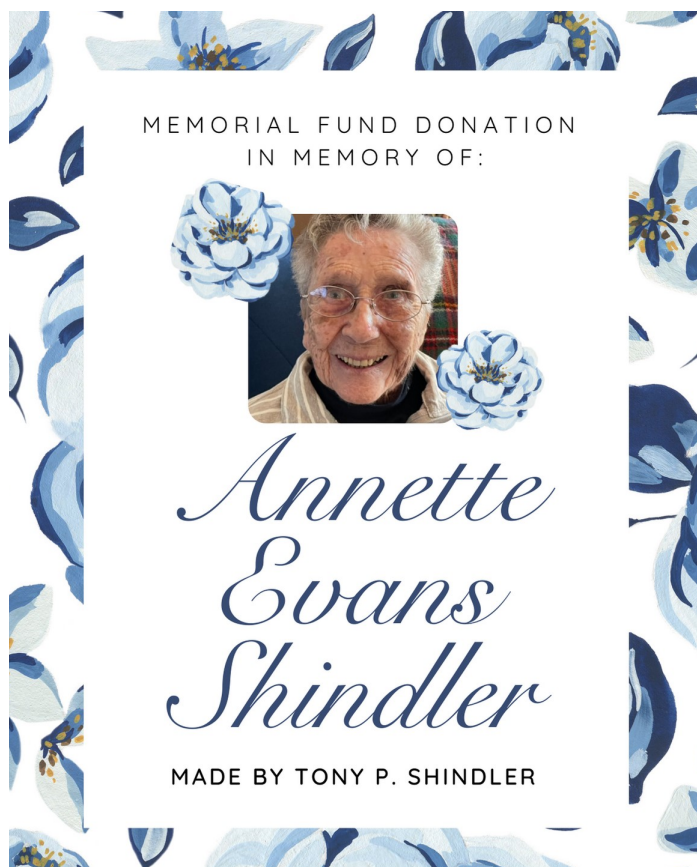
4/2	Barbara Bimson
4/3	Sallie McMinn
4/4	Michael Buckwalter
4/4	Aria Rampaul
4/4	Lois Schousen*
4/5	Beth Buckwalter
4/6	Jim Eaton
4/6	Allison Weiser
4/6	Sunshine Whittington
4/7	Jim Dougherty
4/9	Randy Sweigart
4/11	Cole Bravo
4/11	Jane McCartney
4/13	Kristi Newport
4/14	Ethan Smith
4/14	David Miller
4/15	Peter Schmiechen
4/16	Joyce Baker
4/16	Katherine Seiler
4/18	Susie McCooey
4/20	Ashley Laymon
4/20	Richard Millhouse
4/21	Larry Neiderer
4/22	Kamron Fickes
4/23	Lou Gaudioso
4/23	Janice Morris
4/28	Dawn Zipko
4/28	Carl Zartman

*90+ Birthdays



4/7	Holly & John Kleimo
4/14	Don & Pat Hess*
4/15	Jonathan Paredes & Lucy Santizo
4/21	James & Connie Souders
4/23	Kathy & Randy Johnston

*50+ Anniversary



Dear Church of the Apostles UCC,

Thank you for your generous donation of
\$2,005.00 on 2/22/2024!

You make it possible for LEF to support student
success and maintain a robust alumni association.

We couldn't do it without you!



Many Thanks from Angela,
Sandi, Kathy & Dave



April 14th
In Honor of our 56th
Wedding Anniversary
 By Pat Hess

April 21st
In Loving Memory of
Candy Cunningham
 By Dick Cunningham

Have an Article for the Crown?

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

Please be aware that articles **MUST** be sub-
 mitted 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.

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS AND COMMISSION CHAIRS

President: Johanna Baker

Ph: 717-799-0001

Email: Johanna.baker@yahoo.com

Vice President: Lou Gaudioso

Ph: 717-371-4402

Email: ajgaud@comcast.net

Secretary: Karen Braun

Ph: 717-471-5987

Email: karenbraun87@gmail.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 305)

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

(Contact Pastor Kuhn for more Information)

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 the Parlor)

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

	February 2024	February 2023
YTD Revenue	\$70,107.51	\$67,499.31
YTD Operating Expenses	\$102,802.15	\$104,823.84
Net YTD Operating Income	-\$32,694.64	-\$37,324.53

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 ccsteadle@gmail.com
Bev Keller	(717) 898-2146 or bek0914@aol.com
Nancy Steger	(717) 393-7856 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) 584-6791
Doug Nutt	(717) 753-8564
Cindy Williams	(717) 715-0716



Gratitude in Giving: A Thank You Note from the Hempfield Community Food Pantry

Thank you for your support to the Hempfield Area Food Pantry evidenced by your **recent generous financial contribution of \$211.00**. It is contributors like you who confirm the mission of the pantry...to serve those in our community who are struggling to feed their families.

Diane L. Gerlach

Vice President/Pantry Coordinator

FAITH FORMATION

Every Sunday

*ROOTED FOR GRADES 4TH-8TH AT
9:55AM IN RM 308.*

NOT MEETING APRIL 21ST

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

NOT MEETING APRIL 7TH



Church of the Apostles Staff Directory

Pastors and Leadership

Senior Pastor

The Rev Kathryn L. Kuhn ext. 8201
kathrynk@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 bulle-
tins, sounds for the
soul and more!

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