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From the Pastor's Desk



PASTORAL REFLECTION

In our Ascension Day shared worship service, we talked about Jesus' Ascension and Dandelions as being signs of hope. This time of year, dandelions seem to appear everywhere — pushing up through sidewalks, spreading across lawns, and sending their tiny seeds dancing into the wind. Some see them as weeds. But perhaps they also have something to teach us about hope.

A single dandelion releases hundreds of seeds, each carried by the breeze to places unknown. While many land within a short distance from its parent flower, others travel farther than we imagine, taking root in unexpected places. Hope often works the same way. A kind word, a simple prayer, a moment of compassion, or an act of courage may seem small, but God can carry those seeds farther than we ever see.

In a world that can feel heavy with worry and division, we are called to be like dandelions: tenacious in our growth, persistent in our spreading joy like the beautiful yellow faces of each bloom and the delightfully fluffy parachute seeds, and encouraging folks to make a wish, to hope for something new — BIG or small — and blow out spreading God's word and love.

Jesus calls us to be peacemakers, truth-tellers, and the embodiment of hope. We are to personify his radically personal and communal love into the world. We are to reflect hope and love in the most unexpected places: through compassion, by working for justice for all, through communities that refuse despair, through people who keep planting seeds of kindness in hard ground — one person, one word, one act at a time.

Jesus' Ascension reminds us that Christ is no longer confined to one place or one body. He is in us, and we are in Him. We are now His body — mind, hearts, hands, and feet. Through us... the movement of Christ's ministry spreads like dandelion seeds blown on the wind.

Jesus often pointed to the natural world to reveal truths about the kingdom of God. In the Gospel of Matthew, He reminds us that even the smallest seed can grow into something life-giving and strong. Hope begins small sometimes — quiet, fragile, almost unnoticed — but in God's hands it becomes something beautiful and amazing.

So, when you see dandelion seeds floating through the air this season, may they remind you that hope is never wasted. The Spirit is always planting new possibilities, new life, and new beginnings — often in places we least expect.

Blessings and peace,
Pastor Brenda

Shared Ministry Worship and Picnic Brings Congregations Together

On Sunday, May 17, members of Hayshire United Church of Christ and St. John's Blymire's United Church of Christ gathered at Hayshire UCC for a meaningful worship service and fellowship picnic that reflected the spirit of Shared Ministry, as we celebrated our 1 year anniversary together.

The Ascension Sunday Service provided a special opportunity for both congregations to worship together and celebrate their shared faith. Liturgists from both churches including Pastor Cindy Innerst-Axe, Crystal Martin, and Peggie Free, participated in leading worship, highlighting the shared ministry and collaboration that continues to strengthen the relationship between the congregations. Pastor Brenda's sermon focused on the theme of "waiting" and utilized the dandelion as a creative illustration of her topic. Music provided a joyful expression of praise during our worship service. The combined choirs from both churches offered a beautiful anthem, "Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise," adding richness and inspiration to the Ascension Sunday service. The congregation joined together in singing beloved hymns including "I Love to Tell the Story" and "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today." The worship service was enriched by Lanie Knaub's music.

Following worship, everyone gathered in the fellowship hall for a delicious picnic luncheon filled with wonderful food and warm fellowship. The main course featured fried chicken, pulled rotisserie chicken, and salad. Members of Hayshire UCC generously provided a wide assortment of side dishes including pasta salad, deviled eggs, carrot salad, mashed potatoes, and many other favorites. Members of St. John's Blymire's supplied an impressive variety of homemade desserts, including delicious pies and cakes that were enjoyed by all.

The afternoon also included fun activities for all ages. Participants enjoyed several lively rounds of "Snack Foods" Bingo, while children had the opportunity to decorate river rocks with colorful and creative designs.

The Shared Ministry Worship Service and picnic provided a joyful reminder of the blessings found in worshipping, serving, and sharing fellowship together. The day was filled with music, laughter, meaningful conversation, and the continued strengthening of friendships between the two congregations. We are looking forward to our next gathering on September 13th at St. John's Blymire's UCC.

Hayshire UCC Leadership Team



DID YOU KNOW? PRAYER VINE

The Prayer Vine began years ago. At that time there were three or four of us who would gather at the end of the church service and pray in the front pew for people whose names had been written on a prayer request card. Then, because of Covid requirements, we prayed online, texting prayer requests and sending prayers.

There are 12 Prayer Vine Warriors now. The number of people we have prayed for is countless, but we know they have all been touched by God in some way—through His healing hand, His comforting touch, His giving courage, guidance and hope to all. There are so many of God's children who are hurting in so many different ways—in our homes, in our community, in our country, and around the world. The Prayer Vine members pray for each of them every day.

If you are in need of prayer, or if you know someone who is in need of prayer—a family member, friend, stranger, or colleague you would like us to pray for, it's easy. Just send a text to Ginny Weber at (202) 549-4358 and your request will be sent to the Prayer Vine. If privacy is needed, you don't need to give their full name, or even their name at all—God knows who they are and their needs.

"For where two or more gather together because they are mine, I will be right there among them." Matthew 19:20 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Prayer Vine members

Joint Worship & Picnic



WORSHIP SERVICES FOR JUNE 2026

JUNE 7, 2026 - Second Sunday after Pentecost — “Joy at the Table” COMMUNION

Isaiah 25:6-8 - feast on God’s holy mountain

Luke 14:12-17 - the table is ready

JUNE 14, 2026 – Third Sunday after Pentecost — “Mission of the 12”

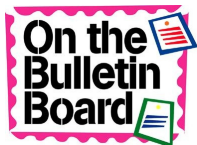
Matthew 9:35-10:23

JUNE 21, 2026 – Fourth Sunday after Pentecost/Father’s Day

Cindy Innerst-Axe preaching

JUNE 28, 2026 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost — “Holy Welcome”

Matthew 10:40-42



Flyers and sign-up sheets for various events and fundraisers (both our church and others) have now been moved to the middle bulletin board in the hallway. Please check them out. A big thank you to Sharon Stein for setting this up!



The FUN Team will be hosting a social on the fourth Sunday of each month after the worship service. The purpose will be to celebrate those members whose birthdays or anniversaries fall during that month. Our June celebration will take place on the 28th. Please join us, especially if you are one of those being honored that day.



You are invited to join us on Saturday, June 20, at 5:00 PM for a potluck dinner, followed by the movie “Father of the Bride.” There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway for you to let us know how many will be coming and what you will be bringing. The FUN Team will be providing drinks. Bring your friends and relatives for an evening of good food and fellowship. Hope to see you then!

Since our Sunday school class is taking a break for the summer, we have decided that after the worship service we will show videos of plays that had been presented by our Church Mouse Players many years ago.



On May 31 we will be showing “Virgil’s First Easter” and on June 7 “Cricket County Academy.” More may follow at a later date. If you haven’t seen any of our Church Mouse performances, you are in for a treat. If you saw them or participated in them, it will be fun to reminisce. Everyone is invited to join us for a good laugh. You may be surprised at the talent in this congregation!



Our next chicken BBQ will be held on Saturday, June 13, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM. Dinner includes 1/2 chicken, baked potato, applesauce, roll and butter all for \$12.50. To place an order, please call the church at (717) 244-0655 or sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway. We usually sell out early, so to be guaranteed a dinner, it is best to pre-order.

We are also planning to set up a bake sale table and would welcome donations of homemade cookies, rice krispie treats, cupcakes, candy, etc. Please put individual portions in baggies or plastic wrap. Thank you.

JUNE
BIRTHDAYS



***May God
Bless You On
Your
Birthday!***

1. Debbie Boyd
2. Jenna Woerner
3. Michael Barley
8. Elizabeth Gurreri
9. Matthew Boyd
Chase Morton
Sandy Brown
Wanda Gobat
10. David Cress
13. Aria Shane
Joseph Klyeman
14. Gaeton Contino
15. Richard Forbes
18. Mike Axe
19. Elsie Ewell
20. Ida Michael
22. Sharon Criswell
Gunther Knickel
23. Ashlyn Innerst
24. Wyatt Myers
25. Sandy Innerst
26. Carol Gingerich
Jeremiah Rayhart

CELEBRATING JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- June 3 - Keith & Beth Markey - 54 years
- June 5 - Kimberly & Tracey Dilling - 13 years
- June 13 - Patrick and Erin Michaels - 17 years
- June 18 - Doug & Linda King - 61 years
- June 19 - David and Maranda Morton - 27 years
- June 20 - Carl and Sharon Criswell - 56 years
- June 22 - Tarrence and Sandra Ness - 30 years
- June 25 - Sterling and Debra Boyd - 20 years
- June 28 - James and Jean McDowell - 57 years

FINANCIAL REPORT

Undesignated General Fund

Month-2026	Income	Expense	Net		
January	\$5,463.00	\$10,620.34	(\$5,157.34)	*	
February	\$10,107.73	\$13,291.23	(\$3,183.50)	*	
March	\$19,611.00	\$15,556.50	\$4,054.50		
April	\$11,527.00	\$11,552.43	(\$25.43)		
May					
June					
July					
August					
September					
October					
November					
December					
Total	\$46,708.73	\$51,020.50	(\$4,311.77)		

* Church services cancelled several weeks because of snow.

Balance of Undesignated General Fund @ May 1, 2026

\$6,643.50

Financial Assistance Given through Hand of Hope Fund - 2026

	#	Total	Monthly	Available
	Families	\$\$\$	Donations	Balance
Beginning				\$ 245.22
January	5	\$ 200.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 595.22
February	3	\$ 150.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 570.22
March	7	\$ 300.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 430.22
April	5	\$ 150.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 385.22
May				
June				
July				
August				
September				
October				
November				
December				
Total	20	\$ 800.00	\$ 940.00	

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS and those in need of PRAYER

Terry & Fran Doll
 Room 346
 Residence @ Fitz Farm
 2200 Springwood Rd.
 York, PA 17403
 Terry's cell (717) 968-2454
 Fran's cell (717) 968-8754



Peggy Luckenbaugh
 Room 710B
 York View Nursing Home
 970 Colonial Avenue
 York, PA 17403

Wendy Black
(Jeanette Black's daughter)
 Room 210B
 Pleasant Acres Rehab
 118 Pleasant Acres Rd.
 York, PA 17402

Joyce Horning
 Room 320
 Residence @ Fitz Farm
 2200 Springwood Rd.
 York, PA 17403
 (717) 793-7221



Remember
 and pray for
Our Members
 in the
Military

Tech Sergeant Brandon Ness
 221 E. Catalpa Ct.
 Derby, KS 67037

EMMANUEL'S CLOSET



Thank you so much for your continued support of Emmanuel's Closet. Our client list keeps growing each month. If you are considering a donation, these are the items that we are most in need of right now: Juice, Desserts, Manwich (Sloppy Joes), Mashed potatoes, Gravy, Spaghetti noodles, Beets, Cereal, Oatmeal, Poptarts, Toilet paper (no larger than 6 packs). We are also in need of brown paper grocery bags with handles, the kind you get when picking up grocery orders or having them delivered to your house. If you would like to make any monetary donations, you may place them in one of the envelopes in the Emmanuel's Closet basket on the Welcome Table. Thank you again for all your help.

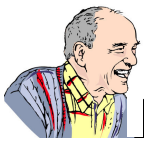


Emma Boyd, daughter of Matt and Jill Boyd and granddaughter of Sterling and Debbie Boyd received her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Millersville University in December 2025. She is currently working as a substitute third grade teacher in the Southern York School District. In September she will begin a job as a fulltime third grade teacher at Leaders Heights Elementary School in the Dallastown School District.

Samuel (Sam) Eliot Ness, son of Tarrence and Sandra Ness and grandson of Greg and Sonja Ness, will receive his high school diploma from York County School of Technology on May 28. He plans to major in Film Production at the Douglas Education Center in Monessen, PA (near Pittsburgh).

Amelia (Mia) Rose Ness, daughter of Tarrence and Sandra Ness and granddaughter of Greg and Sonja Ness, will receive her high school diploma from York County School of Technology on May 28. While there, she received an award as the most improved student in Licensed Cosmetology. Amelia also plans to attend the Douglas Education Center with a major in Special Effects-Make Up Artist

Please pray for Emma, Sam and Mia, along with all the other recent graduates as they begin new chapters in their lives.



MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will be taking a break for the summer. See you all in September.



Dallastown Golden Age Club

The Dallastown Golden Age Club will hold their next meeting here at our church on Thursday, June 18. New members, as well as guests, are always welcome. The actual meeting begins at 1:00 PM, but they would like attendees to arrive between noon and 1:00 to sign in and check out all the information tables.



CHAIR YOGA

Are you looking for some gentle, easy exercise? Come check out our Chair Yoga classes! These classes are especially good for beginners. No equipment is necessary. Yoga is one of the most highly recommended forms of exercise for seniors!

You can come occasionally, one, two or three times a week. Just come and give it a try! It's easy! You don't have to be a church member to participate. All are welcome.

The classes are held from 10:00-11:00AM Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays here at the church. There is a \$10 fee for each class.



CARD and GAME CLUB



We have started a group to play card and board games here at the church. Everyone is welcome, and if you don't know how to play certain games, there will be someone who can teach you. You can bring lunch or order in. Meetings are the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month starting at 11:00 AM and playing until people are ready to stop. Our June meetings will be on the 10th and 24th. Come join in the fun one or both weeks.



If you haven't been to the Book Room lately, it's time to visit again. New items continue to come in. Pick up some books to read by the pool or the beach this summer. Hardbacks are just \$1.00 and paperbacks, puzzles, games and DVD's are just \$.50 each.

MESSY CHURCH



What is Messy Church? It's church, but not as you know it! Messy Church is a form of Community Outreach for families, friends and neighbors. It involves creativity, celebration and hospitality! It's church for people of any age and at all stages of their faith journey. A meal will be provided. Our next Messy Church gathering will be held on Friday, June 19, 6:00-8:00 PM. This month's theme is "Outdoor Summer Fun." Any questions, see Sharon Stein.



GUIDED MEDITATION AND DRUM CIRCLE

Meditation and Music are very good ways to deepen your personal spiritual practice. Relax, let go of worldly thoughts, and sink into your soul. You are invited to join us Saturday, June 20, at 10:00 AM, for Guided Meditation, followed by Drum Circle, with a variety of instruments available. We meet at the home of Cindy Innerst-Axe, 2285 Swamp Road, Dallastown. Call Cindy at (717) 855-6330 with any questions

WOMEN OF WONDER



Who? What? Where? When? We are a group of women who just enjoy each other's company, conversation and compassion...while sharing a message of God's love to each other, our church family, and our community. We read scripture and share devotions. We offer advice, support, and sometimes a shoulder. We laugh together and find joy.

If this sounds like something you or a friend would like to do, please join us. We meet on the fourth Saturday of each month at 11:00 AM. Our next gathering will be June 27. Lunch afterwards is optional. Everyone is welcome. For more info, text or call Ginny Weber at (202) 549-4358.



The York County Area Agency on Aging will once again be offering classes here at our church. This series is called "HEALTHY STEPS IN MOTION" and is designed to help reduce falls. Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:00-2:00 PM. They will run from July 21 - August 13.

There is no charge for the classes, but you must pre-register. There are a limited number of spots, so it is best to call early. See the flyers on the bulletin board in the hallway for more information.



Here is a test to find out whether your mission in life is complete. If you're alive, it isn't.

Richard Bach



JUNE 2026

Some minds are like concrete; thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.

Alfred E. Neuman

How do you relate to the heavenly Father? Is your faith of an old-testament type where you fear God more than you love him? The hands-on practical teachings of Jesus will testify to a rewarding and everlasting parent/child spontaneous interaction. God is neither a stern disciplinarian nor an absentee father. He is a stay-at-home dad."



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

God isn't shaking His head in disapproval as we make our way toward Him. He's got His arms outstretched, welcoming us home to Him with love.

Bob Goff

JUDGING

Ignorance is swift to speak And say what's on its mind And though it uses lots of words, I think that you will find That wisdom waits and thinks awhile And mulls it o'er a bit And may come closer to the truth Because they thought on it.

I wonder why we're quick to judge Another person's deeds When we don't understand their thoughts, their worries or their needs.

God knows each human mind and soul, He also knows their heart So if we'd let God be the judge We might be pretty smart.

WATCH YOUR MOUTH

No one can tame the tongue. We use it to say, "Praised be our God and Creator," then we use it to curse each other—we who are created in the image of God. — James 3:8-9 (The Inclusive Bible)

"Dad, I have to tell you something," my child said cautiously. "Yes honey, what is it?" "I...I know some bad words."

I was interested to know what words he thought were bad, so we worked our way through the alphabet.

Afterwards he asked, "Why do kids say those words? I think they just want to sound like grown-ups. But that's not how grown-ups talk, right Dad?" "That's right, sweetie. I love you. Good night."

I got a little misty, marking this childhood milestone of curse-word acquisition. But it also made me think that I need to be more careful about what I say.

Honestly, I'm not too worried about the kind of "bad words" my child listed. What I want him to learn is the power of words to affirm, encourage, and build up a person—and the power of words to demonize, dehumanize, and tear down. I need to model that for my child. This is where the author of James calls me out, and where my child's question calls me in.

Years ago, a friend observed that I could seemingly "find something bad to say about anyone." It stung because it was true. Being a parent makes me want to change that in myself so that I do not pass it on to my child.

If he hears me cutting down and tearing up others, how could he take me seriously when I chide him for gossiping or putting others down? And how can he trust that my sweet words are sincere and that my bitter words won't be directed at him? Maybe I can't tame my tongue completely, but for my child's sake, I'll watch my mouth!

Prayer

Holy One, may the words of my mouth honor your presence in others.

Chris Mereschuk from the U.C.C. Daily Devotional

"By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he's wrong.

Charles Wadsworth



"Dad: A son's first hero, a daughter's first love."

Source Unknown

EVERYONE NEEDS A CHEERLEADER

Every person needs to hear a “wonderful.” Here’s why: companies spend billions of dollars to convince us that we are chubby, smelly, ugly, and out-of-date. Inadequacy indwells a billion hearts. Would you distribute encouragement? Will you make some happiness happen? Will you remind humanity that we are made in God’s image? That we are chosen and destined and loved?

Start by listening intently. Ask someone to tell you his or her story. Give the rarest of gifts: your full attention. Praise abundantly. Biblical encouragement is no casual kind word, but rather a premeditated resolve to lift the spirit of another person. Everyone needs a cheerleader. Give the gift that God loves to give: the gift of encouragement. This is how happiness happens.

Max Lucado

*Mistakes
are proof
that you
are trying.*



SIMPLE QUESTION? WHO IS GOD?

CHRIS (age 5): He’s a big, big thing, but you can’t see him. He has big hands and he can pick you up and carry you around. And he won’t drop you, not even if you try to jump. He can fly.

MITCH (7): A lot of people don’t believe in God, these people are called ATMs.

JOCELYN (4): Dogs and angels are God’s best friends.

BRAD(7): You have to go to church and listen to a preacher tell you about him every week and then give him money so he’ll let you go.

CARREY (9): God likes to hear people sing. I don’t know why. Some people do not sing good.

TOMMY (10): God is invisible. If you ask him to show himself to you he won’t. Trust me, I’ve tried.

TRYNA (8): I used to have a friend who didn’t believe in God. And I was like, “Why? It don’t cost anything.”

SARAH (10): Anything you want to say, God will listen. You can talk whenever. He will listen. Doesn’t matter what you say. Even if you’re not in a good mood.

Compiled by Sean Dietrich

BE A MIRACLE WORKER

I think that we have a major misconception about what miracles are. As children, we were taught things like Biblical miracles that happen to only a select few people, and that are witnessed by very few people. A miracle, though, isn't necessarily about divine intervention--rather, it may not include God at all. If we look at one of the definitions of the word, we see "a highly improbable or extraordinary event, development, or accomplishment that brings very welcome consequences," and that ends up leaving lots of doors open for us.

Someone we know may consider it a miracle that a bag of groceries ended up appearing on their porch when they most needed it. A miracle may just be that person who offers to tutor the student who's doing poorly in math, just when that person was about to give up completely. A miracle may be having someone take a person's work shift so that person can do something extremely important to him or her personally.

We can all be miracle workers, though most of us have probably spent a lot of time and effort convincing ourselves that we don't have it within us to be so. I remember once raking the leaves in our yard and noticing that our neighbor hadn't gotten to hers yet. I had an extra half hour available and I love raking leaves, so it was no problem for me to go over there and take care of them. She considered it a miracle because she had been dreading the task and hadn't been able to find any time at all to do it, and she hadn't even asked anyone to do it. It made me feel very good to have a positive impact on a neighbor who was a very kind person.

Miracles are within our power to create and share. We can make them happen daily on a very small scale, and the small scale is extremely important to many people on this planet. I want to keep my eyes and mind and heart open to opportunities to work miracles in life, for doing so will make my life much, much more special. Sometimes, even, the best miracles are the smallest and the least expected.

Tom Walsh

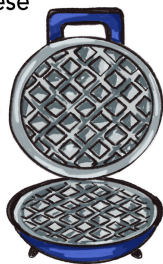
FAMILY FEAST



Serve protein-packed waffles for a family breakfast on **FATHER'S DAY** or any special occasion.

What you need:

- Adult help
- Waffle maker
- Blender
- 1 cup old-fashioned oats
- 1 cup cottage cheese
- 6 eggs
- Cooking spray
- Diced strawberries
- Powdered sugar



What you do:

1. With adult help, preheat the waffle maker.
2. In the blender, add oats and cottage cheese. Crack eggs in a separate bowl, then add to the blender. Pulse to combine the mixture. Then blend on medium speed for 10 seconds.
3. Coat the waffle maker with cooking spray. Spoon about 1/3 cup batter onto the iron and close.
4. Carefully remove the waffle when it's golden brown. Repeat with remaining batter.
5. Top with strawberries and powdered sugar. Makes about 6 waffles.



Puzzle!

A Father's Love

Directions: Match the biblical children to their father, using the clues by the father's name. Then write the corresponding letter on the lines to complete the Bible verse below.

Shem, Ham & Japheth = M	John the Baptist = N
Solomon = O	Jacob & Esau = A
Jonathan = I	Cain, Abel & Seth = O
Jesus = C	Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar,
Rachel & Leah = S	Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin, Dan, Gad,
Isaac & Ishmael = P	Naphtali, Asher & Dinah = S

God:	"This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."	_____
Adam:	God gave him another son because the older killed the younger.	_____
Noah:	His sons were blessed and told to multiply and replenish the earth.	_____
Abraham:	God promised he would be a father of many nations. The Jews and Arabs descend from these two sons.	_____
Isaac:	His older son sold his birthright, and his younger son tricked Isaac and received the blessings for the firstborn.	_____
Laban:	He had two daughters; the older was tender-eyed and the younger was very beautiful. Both married Jacob.	_____
Jacob:	Two wives and two handmaids gave him 12 sons and a daughter.	_____
Saul:	His son was David's best friend.	_____
David:	He had many children, but one was known for his wisdom, for having many wives and for building God's temple.	_____
Zechariah:	His son, a cousin of Jesus, was born to be a messenger of repentance.	_____

As a father has _____
on his children, so the LORD has
_____ on those who
fear him. *Psalm 103:13, NIV*

