### News, Notes and Revelations from St. John's Blymire's United Church of Christ

<u>June 2022</u>

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## From the Pastor's Desk



## Greetings to you and peace from God our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Guess what????? I said the May column was my last, but I told a fib! Actually, since my last day of "work" for Blymire's church is May 31st, I still am responsible for a June newsletter message. I am taking the month of June as vacation and my actual retirement begins July 1st. So, I am accountable for the June message. Accountability was the focus of the children's message Jeri shared on May 22 and it definitely is an appropriate directive.

As many of you probably can figure out, I am in the process of packing up the books and other things I want to take home with me. It is an interesting process because I think about what I will need, what I might need, and what I don't think I will ever need again. At this point I do not plan to lead any other worship services but, depending on the need for supply pastors, that may change. I also have contemplated what areas of volunteering I might be interested in doing. That is something I will definitely be exploring in the next weeks. I also have been thinking about the possibility or probability of getting a part time job and what area of work I may be interested in doing. Lots of things to think about and a few decisions to soon be made.

I will share that over the last few weeks I have said that on May 29th, I will need to have a box of Kleenex with me because I know I will be shedding many tears. But, I was kind of caught off guard with some elements of the worship on May 22nd. As I began the sermon time with the prayer that I have used for some thirty-eight years, I got choked up because I thought about it probably being the last time I will offer that prayer. Then, as I completed the Benediction, my voice again choked. As I walked back the aisle, the flood gates opened. I had not thought about being that emotional for the last service that I would lead. As many of you know, Jeri and Sterling have planned the service for May 29th and I was told all I am doing is the Call to Worship and directing the choir anthem "Spirit of God" since Bethel UCC commissioned that anthem in honor of the 25th anniversary of my Ordination.

I never was one who liked surprises very much,....I usually like to know what is happening and what I am expected to do. But, I have behaved and not snooped around in Jeri's computer, etc. in order to see what he has planned. I just hope he does not include any embarrassing photos if he is doing a power point program.

I will admit that as I look to the next week, I still am at peace with the decision to retire. I have always affirmed that with any major decision we make, if our "gut feeling" is one of peace, then it is the right decision. I am there. I will say the only regret I have is that I will not be around my faith family regularly for the time being. I will have to stay away from the church for a time so I will absolutely miss my dear brothers and sisters in faith, but we will still be able to talk on the phone, etc.

So, until the time comes when I can be in worship with you all, just know that I love each and every one of you! I have been so richly blessed in my life by sharing these past years in our faith journey. And, we will be together again in the near future.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL!!!

With love, Pastor Lou Ann

#### **SPECIAL SERVICES in JUNE**

**June 5 – Pentecost Sunday** 

Supply Pastor: Rev. Curt Weber

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21 Sermon "Is God in Us?"

June 12 – Pentecost 1

Lay Speaker: Nelson Leader

June 19 – Pentecost 2, Father's Day

Supply Pastor: Rev. Patti Bream

June 26 – Pentecost 3

Lay Speaker: Cindy Innerst-Axe



June 5 - Soji Otuyelu

June 12 - Dennis Kohler

June 19 - Nelson Leader & Brenda Kerchner

June 25 - Hillbilly Heaven/Kenny Runkle Band

July 3 - Rita Persing

July 10 - New Life for Girls

July 17 - Tom Ensminger

July 24 - Linda Viscount

July 31 - Mandy Streavig

August 7 - Brittany Rasnake

August 14 - Priscilla Pettyjohn

August 21 - Becky Wilcox

August 28 - Sunny Side Gang

#### <u>JUNE</u> <u>BIRTHDAYS</u>



**May God** 

Bless You On

Your

Birthday!

- 1. Debbie Boyd
- 2. Jenna Woerner
- 3. Michael Barley
- 9. Matthew Boyd Chase Morton Sandy Brown Wanda Gobat
- 10. David Cress
- 13. Aria Shane Joseph Klyeman
- 14. Gaeton Contino
- 15. Dolores Barley Richard Forbes
- 18. Mike Axe
- 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 - 50 years

June 5 - Kimberly & Tracey Dilling - 9 years

June 13 - Patrick and Erin Michaels - 13 years

June 18 - Doug & Linda King - 57 years

June 19 - David and Maranda Morton - 23 years

June 20 - Carl and Sharon Criswell - 52 years

June 22 - Tarrence and Sandra Ness - 26 years

June 25 - Sterling and Debra Boyd - 16 years

June 28 - James and Jean McDowell - 53 years

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

**Undesignated General Fund** 

Red Brick Chapel

Cemetery

Month-2022	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Income	Expense
January	\$9,995.00	\$10,580.71	\$0.46	\$254.37	\$915.03	\$0.00
February	\$8,570.74	\$11,555.09	\$1,000.48	\$390.39	\$0.23	\$294.90
March	\$96,036.48	\$15,958.44	\$0.41	\$563.73	\$0.19	\$845.18
April	\$9,517.87	\$14,766.40	\$1,000.35	\$16,785.27	\$200.20	\$2,370.60
May						
June						
July						
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						
Total	\$124,120.09	\$52,860.64	\$2,001.70	\$17,993.76	\$1,115.65	\$3,510.68

Balance of Undesignated General Fund @ May 1, 2022

\$74,017.52

Balance of Red Brick Chapel Fund @ May 1, 2022 (Includes \$61,957.19 Endowment)

\$64,146.68

Balance of Cemetery Fund @ May 1, 2022 (Includes \$876,203.37 CD's, Trusts, UCC Foundation)

\$881,685.74

#### Financial Assistance Given through Hand of Hope Fund - 2022

Beginning January	amilies	\$\$\$	Do	onations	R	alance
January				J.141.0113	ם	alance
•					\$	162.74
			\$	80.00	\$	242.74
February	1	\$ 25.00	\$	35.00	\$	252.74
March	1	\$ 25.00	\$	11.00	\$	238.74
April			\$	59.00	\$	297.74
May						
June						
July						
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						

**Total** 2 \$ 50.00 \$ 126.00

#### REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS and those in need of PRAYER

Peggy Luckenbaugh

Room 704B
Colonial Manor Nursing Home
970 Colonial Avenue
York, PA 17403

Linda Trone
Room 604
Colonial Manor Nursing Home
970 Colonial Avenue
York, PA 17403



Carolyn Innerst Room 123 Senior Commons@Powder Mill 1775 Powder Mill Road York, PA 17403 Keeping in our prayers

Dolores Barley
Jeanette Black
Cindie McKinsey
Ginny Weber
Friends battling cancer
Covid 19 patients

Remember and pray for Our Members in the

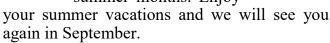
A1C Ness, Brandon 6907 S. Camino de la Humanidad Tucson, AZ 85756

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**MEN'S GROUP** 

Our Men's Group will not be meeting over the summer months. Enjoy





Our third chicken BBQ of the season will be held on Saturday, June 11, from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM. You will get a 1/2 chicken, baked potato, applesauce, roll and butter all for \$10.00. To place an order, please call the church office at 244-0655. We sold out early nearly every month last summer, so to be guaranteed a dinner, it is best to pre-order. Other BBQ's will be held on the 2nd Saturday of each month thru November.

We are also planning to set up a bake sale table and would welcome donations of homemade cookies, cupcakes, candy, etc. Please put individual portions in baggies or plastic wrap. They may be dropped off at the church the day before or the morning of the BBQ. Thank you.

#### **CRAFTERNOONERS**

Our next "Crafternooners" meeting will be held on Sunday, June 26, from 1:00-4:00 PM. Bring any craft project that you would like to work on, or if you are not crafty, bring games to share with others for an afternoon of fellowship and fun. Please join us and bring a friend if you like.



#### 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.

We will meet the second Wednesday of each month starting at 11:00 AM and playing until people are ready to stop. Our next meeting will be on June 8. If you have any questions, please call Janie Montgomery (717) 891-3607 or Diana Myers (717) 855-4752

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#### Meet Our Graduates

#### Dallastown Area High School

**Emma Boyd,** daughter of Matt and Jill Boyd, will receive her high school diploma on June 2. She will be attending Millersville University where she plans to major and in elementary and special education.

**Eli Matthews**, son of Mike and Heather Matthews, will also receive his high school diploma on June 2. In August he will begin training at the Nascar Technical Institute. He hopes to join an NHRA team in the future.

#### **Dover Area High School**

**Tyler Adams,** son of Chris and Karen Adams and grandson of Ed and Barb Adams, will receive his high school diploma on June 4. He will be working at Weis Markets.

#### Millersville University

**Sarah Leader**, daughter of Brad and Michele Leader, graduated on May 6 with a Bachelor's degree in Biology. She will be working full time and applying to veterinary school.

#### **Penn State University**

**Chase Matthews**, son of Mike and Heather Matthews, graduated on May 7 with a Bachelor's degree in Cyber Security Analytics and Operations. He was the recipient of an NSA (National Security Administration) certificate. In the fall Chase will be starting his Master's degree program at Penn State. He is currently working for Change Healthcare as a Cyber Threat Engineer.

#### York College

**Wyatt Myers,** son of Kevin and Renne Myers, graduated on May 14 with a degree in Respiratory Therapy.

#### **University of Maryland**

Brittan Farley, daughter of Stacie and John Farley and granddaughter of Bron and Peggie Fee, graduated on December 21, 2021 with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and Policy. She is currently studying for a Masters of Science in Environment Studies at UNC, Wilmington.

#### **Towson University**

**Ariel Contino**, daughter of Doug and Tina Leader, graduated on May 27 with a Masters in Education/Autism. She teaches Special Education in Harford County, Maryland.

We congratulate these graduates upon the completion of their studies and wish them well as they begin the next phase of their lives.



Our annual summer concert series will be starting up again on Sunday afternoons from 2:00-4:00 PM. The first concert will held June 5, featuring the Spring Garden Band. Other concerts will be as follows: July 10-First Capital Brass, August 14-Timeless, September 18-Bluestone. The public is invited to join us in the

pavilion behind our church. In case of inclement weather, the concerts will be moved indoors to the church. There is no admission charge, but a free will offering will be taken. Snacks will be available for purchase. Bring your own lawn chairs or blankets or sit at one of our picnic tables.

On Saturday, October 1, from 5:00-7:00, there will be concert featuring the German band, the Dockenspeilers. German food (hot dogs, sauerkraut, German potato salad, etc.) will be available for purchase. This will also be held in the pavilion.



#### **FATHERHOOD- A MANY SPLENDORED THING!**

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

**Charles Wadworth** 



**June 2022** 

#### **TALKING IS LIKE KETCHUP**

I sat in my dad's living room reading one night while he watched television. An hour passed before I realized it, and I felt bad for not speaking during that time. I asked if he was OK, and he said yes. Then I apologized for not talking more. "Carmen," Dad replied. "Talking is like ketchup. If you like the meat enough, you don't need the ketchup—and if you like the company enough, you don't need the conversation. My dad never earned a college degree, but he was the smartest person I ever knew.

**Carmen Mariano** 

#### **GOOD VIBRATIONS**

My dad died unexpectedly at age 78, leaving our family heartbroken. During the funeral mass, my sister felt her phone vibrate in her purse. She was a little surprised that someone would be calling her, knowing she was at dad's funeral mass. Afterward, she found there was a message: "Hi, this is your dad," said the male voice. "I wanted to let you know I made it home."

The caller obviously had the wrong number, but the message was clear. My dad had completed his journey to heaven and wanted us to know.

Thanks, Dad—until we meet again

**Nancy Perkins** 

A minister and a bus driver reached the Pearly Gates together and were assigned their quarters. The minister got a dilapidated shack in a farm meadow; the bus driver, a home in an elegant neighborhood. The pastor went to St. Peter and said, "while on earth I preached to thousands of people and tried hard to follow all the commandments. What an exemplary life the bus driver must have led!" St. Peter responded, "during your sermons, most everybody slept, but when the bus driver worked, everybody prayed."



**Rev. James L White** 

Fear can keep us up all night long, but faith makes one fine pillow.



I think it's my job to make the grace of an invisible God, visible wherever I am.

**Paul Tripp** 

If you're lucky enough to get old you should celebrate it!

Iris Apfel

Do you face fifteen thousand problems? Before you count yourself out, turn and look at the One standing next to you. Christ can help you do the impossible! You simply need to give him what you have and watch him work.

John 6:11 says, "Jesus took the loaves..." This is the story of the day Jesus fed the five thousand men, plus women and children. He didn't have to use the loaves — he made manna fall for the Israelites.

Instead, he chose to use the single basket of a small boy.

What's in your basket? All you have is a wimpy prayer? Give it. All you have is a meager skill? Use it. All you have is the strength for one step? Take it. God used three nails and a crude cross to redeem humanity. If God can turn a basket into a buffet, don't you think he can do something with your five loaves and two fishes of faith?

Remember, you are never alone.

**Max Lucado** 

"Spring being a tough act to follow, God created June."

Al Bernstein



#### BE GRATEFUL FOR HIS WATCHCARE

Gratitude is one of the most effective ways to raise the level of your thoughts. Sometimes you can find yourself crushed under the weight of your lowest thoughts – fears, anxieties, etc. When you take some time to observe all that you possess without any effort of your own, you will often gain a new perspective about your life and any situations with which you are currently struggling.

Consider for a moment, what did you do to avoid dying while you slept last night? How much effort did you invest into making sure you were breathing all night long? How much did you pay for the air you breathe or the sun that warms you? None of these things that are necessary for your life have been obtained by your efforts. Normally you don't worry about these things during your daily life. You don't spend your days in agony thinking about what would happen if the sun disappears from the sky. You assume and take for granted that it will always be there.

This is faith. Even those who claim to not have any religious or spiritual inclinations possess enough faith to believe that they will wake up again each morning. This is the nature of faith in the care of the Father. Know that you are always under His care and realize that you possess everything you really need just by birthright. As your faith becomes stronger and more mature, you can begin to accept with certainty that you are a much beloved child of God.

11:11 Progress Group

#### NOW MORE THAN EVER, WE NEED TO BE ABLE TO OFFER EACH OTHER GRACE.







Grace for having different opinions.

Grace for not always knowing the answer.

Grace for making mistakes.

Grace as we learn to do better.

Grace for doing the best we can....

That's how we get thru tough times like these\_\_\_\_ by lifting each other up, by forgiving each other's humanness, and loving each other when it's hard.

#### **Tiny Budhha**

Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, GOD smiles from above and says, "Relax, sweetheart, it's just a bend, not the end!

Wisdom is the reward you get for a lifetime of listening when you'd have preferred to talk.

**Doug Larson** 

#### ADVICE FROM AN OLD HILLBILLLY-

Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bullstrong

Keep skunks, bankers, and politicians at a distance. Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.

Words that soak into your ears are whispered, not yelled.

The best sermons are lived, not preached.

Forgive your enemies; its what GOD says to do.

Don't corner something that is meaner than you.

It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.

You cannot unsay a cruel word.

Every path has a few puddles.

When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.

Don't be banging your shin on a stool that's not in the way

Silence is sometimes the best answer.

Borrowing trouble from the future doesn't deplete the supply.

Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.

Find yourself in a hole? First thing to do is stop diggin'.

Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.

The biggest troublemaker you'll ever have to deal with watches you from the mirror every mornin'.

Always drink upstream from the herd.

Good judgment comes from experience, and most of that comes from bad judgment.

Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.



## EMMANUEL'S CLOSET June 2022

## Below is a list of items that we are especially in need of right now:

Beverages (all types)
Manwich
Tuna Helper
Chicken Helper
Cereal
Icing
Cake Mix
Brownie Mix
Pancake Syrup



#### **E.C. Continuing Needs**

Juice

Cereal/Oatmeal

Peanut Butter/Jelly

Pancake Mix

Spaghetti Sauce

**Boxed Dry Pastas** 

Helper Meals

**Dessert Items** 

Condiment Items

Canned Tuna/Meats

Canned Fruit/Vegetables

Soap

Shampoo

Toilet Paper

Paper Towels

Dish Washing Liquid

Laundry Detergent

All-Purpose Cleaners

#### Please, NO Expired Food Items

Our clothing and household room will remain closed through 2022.

Please do not put any of those items in the bin or bring them to Emmanuel's Closet.

We hope to reopen in 2023.

THANKS FOR CARING!

#### **Revelations for JUNE from "Bly Mire" Mouse**

My goodness has there been a lot of activity here recently!!! I just LOVE it!!! Of course, the monthly chicken Bar-B-Ques are in full swing. And (don't let the FUN Team know) but I always check out the baked goods that are brought in. My goodness.....the awesome fudge made by JOHN HERBST and NELSON LEADER!!!! I had to start walking the perimeter of the parking lot because I packed on a few pounds! And there has also been some delicious loaves of breads!!!! WOW!!!

NELSON LEADER was totally surprised on May 8th when his family were in attendance to celebrate his 80th birthday. The choir (with a few extra voices) sang two songs that affirmed Nelson's faith journey and his service to Blymire's as our Music Director. Then, the family had cake and snacks for all to join in celebrating Nelson!!!

And on a sad note, we had a FULL house here on May 21st. TODD MYERS passed away after a short battle with cancer and his memorial service was at the church. The attendance was amazing!!! It was a statement about what a great guy he was and how he touched so many lives!!! Then, that evening there was (what was supposed to be) a surprise birthday party for SONJA NESS. It was a grand celebration of (I guess I am not giving it away) her 75th birthday!!! Hope you have many more SONJA!!!

On May 22nd, we had a presentation from CATHERINE STONER updating us on the mission work she is doing with INNOCENCE in Uganda. How AWESOME to see the power of God providing what he needs for his community! She was a guest speaker also at a Men's group meeting and they voted to give \$500.00 to the work she is doing. That paid for a pig sty and Innocence and the community are now raising some pigs. They also have acquired a two room school building and have begun teaching children from the community!!! PRAISE GOD!!!

Then, the event we are experiencing on the 29th — Pastor Lou Ann's recognition of retirement. July 1st is the technical date of her retirement but she will be taking the month of June as vacation. I have been hearing numbers bantered about for the service and the luncheon and it sounds like it will be another full house!

We are also having the recognition of graduates during that worship service and this year, Blymire's has six young adults to celebrate. EMMA BOYD and ELI MATTHEWS graduate from Dallastown High School; SARAH LEADER, CHASE MATTHEWS, and WYATT MYERS have received their college degrees; and, ARIEL LEADER CONTINO has completed her Master's degree. We CONGRATULATE these along with other family members who have graduated or are graduating in 2022!

And, have you noticed the bulletin boards? I totally enjoy seeing the creativeness of those who put them up! NANCY TAYLOR did the boards for a few years and now PASTOR LOU ANN, MARTI LEADER, and PEGGIE FREE have placed uplifting messages for us to enjoy!

But, you know what? Now with summer beginning, the activity is going to slow down. Sunday School ceases to meet; The Men's Group is not meeting during the summer; PRT will meet in August when (hopefully) they will have an Interim Pastor. I am thankful that summer is here but I will miss all the activity!

#### June humor:

From the Church

Mouse

What rhymes with orange? No it doesn't.

What did Adam say to Eve when handing her something to wear? "Take it or leaf it."

When someone needed a boat made, what did the people in town say? "We Noah guy."

Until next month.....God Bless!
With Love, Bly and Mire and family





Some popcorn plus a little heat makes a big change.

#### What you need:

- 2 Tbsp. popcorn kernels
- 2 tsp. oil
- 1 Tbsp. sugar
- Brown paper lunch bag

#### What you do:

- 1. Add popcorn kernels, oil and sugar to the bag.
- 2. Fold the bag's top down about half an inch. Repeat two more times. Gently shake to mix ingredients.
- 3. Microwave for 1½ or 2 minutes (or use the Popcorn setting). Allow bag to cool before removing and opening it.
- 4. As you share popcorn with family and friends, discuss the change in the kernels. Read Acts 2 together. What changes did the disciples experience? What was the source of their power?



## A **powerful** calling

Before his ascension, Jesus tells the disciples they will receive a gift and carry out a job.

Directions: Use the code to fill in the blanks and complete Acts 1:8, NIV.

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Ŷ	R	н	L
À	S	Р	W
쌤	0	Α	1
8	Т	N	E



"But you will receive \_\_\_ \_ \_ when the

Holy \_\_\_ comes on you; and you

will be my \_\_\_ in Jerusalem,

and in all Judea and Samaria,

and to the ends of the  $\frac{1}{40} = \frac{1}{40} = \frac{1}{40}$ 

ACTS 1:8, NIV

Answer: power, Spirit, witnesses, earth