



THE LAMPLIGHTER NEWSLETTER

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOKENDAUQUA

JULY 2023

610-264-9693

EMAIL: NEWSLETTER@HOKEYPRES.ORG

WEBSITE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOKENDAUQUA

*****WE ARE ON FACEBOOK*****

Elders Class of 2023

- Sally Heffner
- Tammy Seidick
- David Sentiwany
- Eileen Tremblay

Elders Class of 2024

- Sue Butchinski
- Joyce Wheeler
- John Hrizuk
- Kevin Justice

Elders Class of 2025

- Gail Rhinehart
- Scott Kramlich
- John Faisetty
- Jennifer Hartman

Deacons Class of 2023

- Ethan Guzenski
- Colleen Kloiber
- Gail Kramlich
- Louise Juretus

Deacons Class of 2024

- Troy Guzenski
- Sue Hoke
- Samara Mebane
- Karen Sentiwany

Deacons Class of 2025

- Melody Faisetty

Independence Day—July 4th, 2023

"It is by the goodness of God that in our country we have those three unspeakably precious things: freedom of speech, freedom of conscience, and the prudence never to practice either of them."

~Mark Twain

"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others."

~ Nelson Mandela

"We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

~Thomas Jefferson

"It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ. For that reason alone, people of other faiths have been afforded freedom of worship here."

~Patrick Henry

"I shall earnestly and persistently continue to urge all women to the practical recognition of the old Revolutionary maxim. Resistance to tyranny is obedience to God."

~Susan B. Anthony

"Intelligence, patriotism, Christianity, and a firm reliance on Him, who has never yet forsaken this favored land, are still competent to adjust, in the best way, all our present difficulty."

~ Abraham Lincoln

"True patriotism hates injustice in its own land more than anywhere else."

~ Clarence Darrow

"The propitious smiles of Heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which Heaven itself has ordained."

~ George Washington

"With a good conscience our only sure reward, with history the final judge of our deeds, let us go forth to lead the land we love, asking His blessing and His help, but knowing that here on earth God's work must truly be our own."

~ John F. Kennedy



CHURCH FINANCES: FINANCIAL REPORT-(MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST) 2023

MTD: Actual Budget Over/Under

Per capita apportionment for 2023 is \$48 per member.

A REFRESHER ON WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES by Sue Butchinski

I wanted to take time to refresh everyone on what happens to your hard-earned money when you drop it in the collection plate each week. We have three categories on our envelopes, Current expenses, Benevolence and Building Fund. Current expenses, like it says, goes to pay for the budgeted expenses used to keep the church going, like payroll, insurance, property upkeep, utilities, office expense, etc. Benevolence is a pledged amount that goes to unified mission support split between Lehigh Presbytery, General Assembly and Synod. Session determines the amount pledged, and we have been at \$1000.00 per year for some time. I pay a prorated amount of \$83.33 monthly to the Presbytery, along with the prorated amount of our Per Capita for the year. The per capita is currently \$48 times the number of active members on our books at the end of

the previous year, therefore, I pay \$492.00 each month along with the Benevolence amount. The third category, Building Fund, is as it says, to be used for new builds, or building repairs beyond the realm of regular maintenance, which is a budgeted item. For example, the Brickote repair and painting came out of this fund. If someone donates to this fund, I can only use the funds for that purpose, and not for budgeted expenses, etc. That follows for all the other accounts that are separate from the budgeted accounts The Christian Ed fund, Memorial Fund, Special Collections (OGHS, Peace, Pentecost), Mission, Foodbank, Fellowship, Deacons, are all independent accounts which are limited to use for only their purpose. Memorial funds must be used for a special purpose, determined by Session, which can be identified as a memorial to the person or people for whom the money was donated, such as the front doors installed through Memorial funds. So for the three categories shown on the envelopes, the current balances are as follows: Current expenses is listed under the financial report in this newsletter each month; Benevolence is currently at \$3347.79, so we have over three years of coverage for this account; Building fund is currently at \$6648.60. If you have any questions about any of this, please contact me.

Pulpit Supply for July, 2023

July 2: Rev. Goudy

July 9: Rev. Bartha

July 16: Rev. Goudy

July 23: Revd.'s Donigian, Joyce and Doug

July 30: Rev. Palmer



July 2023: Ushers and Greeters and Communion

July 2: D. Fink & D. Pontician

July 9: Karen & Dave Sentiwany

July 16: John & Melody Faisetty

July 23: Tom & Sally Heffner

July 30: J. Wheeler & C. Clancy

July 2 Communion Set-Up: Sue Butchinski

July 2 Communion Servers: S. Butchinski and E. Tremblay



JULY & AUGUST 2023



JULY 2023

July 3: Matthew Faisetty

July 4: Samantha Bilder, Judy Taniser, Jimmy Bode

July 7: Tyler Linton, Trevon James

July 8: Donald DeWalt

July 11: Bill Fenstermaker, Melissa Moran

July 12: Chad Heiney

July 14: Evelyn Hodes, Olivia George

July 17: Carol Clancy

July 19: Linda DeWalt

July 20: Len Burkert, Anthony Scheirer

July 21: Paul Woodling

July 22: Donna Fink, Rita Scheirer

July 23: Ora Kramlich

July 27: John Bowman

July 29: Amy Gourniak

July 31: David Micio, Nick Micio, Debbie Snyder and Steven Snyder

AUGUST 2023

August 1: Shane Fillman

August 2: Michele Walters

August 4: Brock Fenstermaker

August 7: Vanessa Schlosser James, Stephanie Bennett

August 8: William Michael Ducko, Eric Bode

August 9: Jeanne McNeill

August 13: Janet Bloszinsky

August 18: Barbara Quigg

August 20: Chris Mondschein

August 23: Linda Schlosser

August 26: Melissa Scheirer Fillman

August 27: Jayne Stevens

Help Us Go Green!!

Mission Project: Collecting Crayons. You may place your crayons in the big green bucket in Fellowship Hall. Crayons will go to the National Crayon Recycle Program. This program recycles unwanted, rejected, broken crayons into new crayons through our partnership with Crazy Crayons. This keeps thousands of pounds of waxy sludge out of the landfills and puts fun, uniquely shaped crayons back into the creative hands of children!

Mission Project: The Coplay Lions Club sent a letter thanking our church for our recent donation of used eyeglasses and cases. The Mission committee has decided to KEEP COLLECTING

Mission Project: Greeting Cards are sent to St. Jude's Ranch for Children in Bolder City, NV where they are used to provide teens with life and work skills. Collection box in Fellowship Hall.

Mission Projects Continued: All of these missions help us to be good stewards of the Earth's resources and eliminate waste that would end up in landfills.

The last day of Sunday School was June

4th. The Sunday School teachers greatly enjoyed their students this year and praised them during our recent Session meeting. Thank you parents and caregivers for bringing the children to church for class. Our Christian Education department looks forward to next year—if you have children interested in enrolling for Fall please contact our church office. Thank you and have a great summer!

Whitehall Coplay Hunger Initiative Food Pantry Requested Items:

Canned fruit, small and large cans of tuna, cereal, mac & cheese, pasta (all kinds).



MALAWI

You can follow the
Monts on Facebook

Proceeds from the yard sale were \$1545.54 and will be used to help with the insulation of the Sunday school room and also for the Whitehall food banks. Thanks again to all who helped make the yard sale the success that it was.

There are three ways to give. Your Time—Your Talents—Your Financial Offerings. How can you give back?

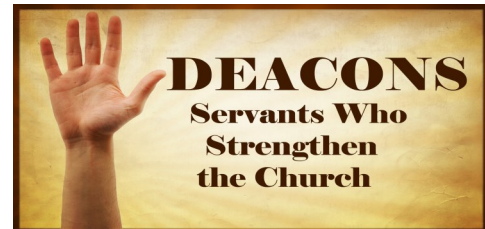


Forgive

Forgive someone. Today forgive.
Turn from bitter to positive.
End frustration, anger, pain;
Wash the anguish from your brain.

No need to reconcile or tell;
Just feel better and get well.
A brand new, peaceful life to live,
That's your gift, when you forgive.

By Joanna Fuchs



Were you aware that if you need assistance with food or housing, bills etc. that you can call 211 and you will be connected to Essential Community Services thanks to the United Way of PA.

IN NEED OF COMMUNITY SERVICES?

CALL **211**

Our church choir is small but mighty! The congregation has been enjoying the lovely anthems sung during the worship service. Thank you Megan for your direction, and thank you choir members! They are always happy to welcome new members—if you are interested, please join us in September when we start practicing again.



Helping Others Understand Grief. What is supportive can look different to each of us. Most have the best of intentions, but sometimes words, ignorance, or perhaps their own grief gets in the way. Surely, loss is something we all wish we did not have to go through. But, sometimes educating ourselves and others on what we are experiencing or need from them can help the process.

Let people know it is okay to talk about your loved one. Just as you need to give yourself permission to grieve, sometimes others are waiting for your permission to share and be with you in your grief.

Ask for patience. Educate on the loneliness of grief. We are not our best self when we are grieving or maybe we are just all over the place with what we are feeling. Be more patient with yourself in this process and help others know you need patience from them, as well.

Educate on the loneliness of grief. Grief is already a lonely process. Then, sometimes we feel abandoned by those we thought would be there for us. Let those who genuinely care about you know what you need from them. This can help you feel less isolated and also let people know you are open to support. Taken from "Comfort for the Grieving Heart" provided by St. Luke's hospice Bereavement Program.

*"If there ever comes a day when we
can't be together, keep me in your
heart. I'll stay there forever."*

Winnie the Pooh

Our Fight Against Food Insecurity

Our church has been active in the fight against food insecurity in our area since 2016 so I wanted to update you on where and how we've been involved. We were collecting food for the Whitehall Food Pantry that operates out of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church for some time before they requested a monthly donation of \$100 in lieu of the food so they could purchase what they needed. That donation continues every month. We currently have a balance of \$759.34 in the account which will fulfill our commitment through December of this year. We also collect items for holiday meals as needed. As such we are alternately the gravy church, stuffing church, pie crust church, etc. Also in 2016, we got involved with the Whitehall Coplay Hunger Initiative through the Community Meals and the Summer Breakfast Program. As WCHI expanded to opening a food pantry, we began collecting food and making monetary donations to them as we were able. Donations were made from the church as well as the Deacons, in the amount of \$3400.00. We continue to list their requested food items in the bulletin and newsletter for items to be dropped off in the shopping

cart by the stairlift.

The Whitehall Pantry (est. 1974) obtains about 50% of supplies from Second Harvest and the remaining 50% from churches like ours, individual donations and support from local businesses. They serve about 125 families per month and are open, by appointment only, on Mondays from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. They can be reached at 484-246-5715. Whitehall Coplay Hunger Initiative, operating out of St. John the Baptist Church in Stiles, obtains the majority of their supplies from Second Harvest, along with purchases made from grants obtained from Lehigh County and donations of food and money from churches like ours and other local organizations and businesses. They also provide fresh vegetables in the summer from their garden at Mickley-Prydun Farm. They are supplying food and toiletries to just under 1000 people per month, and are open, by appointment only, on the 2nd and 3rd Thursdays of each month, from 9:30 am to 1 pm and from 4:30 pm to 7 pm. They can be reached at 484-225-0358. In addition to the donations, we have active volunteers at both locations. We want to thank everyone who donates of their time, talents, and treasure to the fight against food insecurity in our community.



Please drop a card or note to our members who, because of health or transportation problems, find it difficult to worship with us Sunday morning.

Janet and Walter Bloszinsky	5998 Coplay Rd. Apt. #1, Coplay, PA 18037
Esther and Donald DeWalt	276 Circle Drive, Catasauqua, PA 18032
Linda DeWalt	Cedarbrook, 350 S. Cedarbrook Rd., Room 322, Allentown, PA 18104
Dolly Kramlich	Above & Beyond at the Knights, 1545 Greenleaf St., #206, Allentown, PA 18102
Dick & Marie Lychak	Gino J. Merli Veteran's Center, 401 Penn Ave., Scranton, PA 18503
Dorothy Somers	3000 Fellowship Drive, Rm 102, Whitehall, PA 18052
Jim Shedlauskas	3021 Rosewood Court, Whitehall, PA 18052

Deborah Altorfer

Larry Hein

Joy Messner

Vance Woodley

Stephanie Baily

Louise Hein

Lois Messner

People suffering from depression.

Karen Becker

Pamela Henckel

Todd Messner

People who are suffering because of the

Bedocs Family

David Hertzog

People in the Military

virus.

Cory Borger

Matthew Hess

Angie Pontician

Elizabeth Connors

Nicky Hudack

Jacob Rivera

Kathy Cutter

Bill Jodry

Josie Sabella

Esther DeWalt

Joe Kanusky

Ben Sammak

Michael Dobry

Raymond Kern

Linda Schlosser

Doreen

Barbara Knarr

Joshua Scoble

Dolly Dougherty

Linda Kramaranko

Rowan Sharrar

Due Family

Rosemary Kravenko

Jim Shedlauskas

Pat Frankenfield

Caroline Laudhorn

Joanne Sienkiewicz

Peter Gilbert

Jaden Leiby

Carol Steigerwalt

Steve Glick

Marie Lychak

CSS Emily Thrasher

Raina Gomez

Richard Lychak

Paul Transue Jr.

Maria Gontkosky

Ivy Lynch

Jim Tremblay

Charlie Grim

Charles McGarvey

Donna Walck

Joey Groller

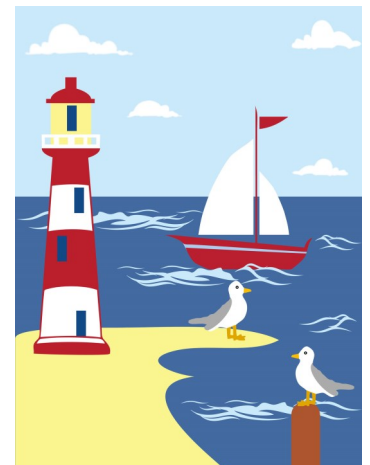
Joe Macrina

Carol Wal

Glenn Harris

Juliet Malay

Mike Woodling



Pie Day Fellowship Hour! Our wonderful bakers cooked up some tasty pies to share over fellowship and coffee on Sunday, June 25th after the worship service. Thank you for sharing your yummy talents!



**REMEMBER TO
SAVE YOUR
REDNER TAPES,**

You may find the container in Fellowship Hall. The Redner profit goes toward the area food banks.

JULY 2023



SUN.

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

						1
2 5th Sunday after Pentecost Rev. Goudy, Communion. Immigration Sunday	3	4 4th of July— office closed	5	6	7	8
9 6th Sunday after Pentecost Rev. Bartha	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 7th Sunday after Pentecost Rev. Goudy	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 8th Sunday after Pentecost. Rev. Donigian	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 9th Sunday after Pentecost. Rev. Palmer	31					