

# ZION'S HEAVENLY

**Look for:**

- \*Worship Schedule
- \*Acolyte Schedule
- \*Music Schedule
- \*Announcements
- \*Youth Group News



- \*Exciting Events
  - \*Monthly Calendar of Events
  - \*Birthday Calendar
  - \*Synod News
- And Much More!**

## HAPPENINGS

## JUNE

## NEWSLETTER



Photo by Gayle Mateyak

*233 Years of worshipping the  
Lord with each other....*

**ZION'S STONE CHURCH OF  
WEST PENN TOWNSHIP**  
A Federated ELCA & UCC Church

45 Cemetery Rd  
New Ringgold, PA 17960

570-386-5111

[www.zionstonechurch.org](http://www.zionstonechurch.org)

Rev. Russell Campbell, Pastor  
Cell # **610-737-2634**  
[zionstch@ptd.net](mailto:zionstch@ptd.net)  
[revarc@ptd.net](mailto:revarc@ptd.net)

***Come Worship with Us!***

***9:00am – Sunday Worship Service***

***(1st Sunday of the month Altar Communion)***

***10:15am – Sunday School***

***For All Ages***

***5:00pm – 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Night Worship Services***

***(1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Night of the month we will have communion)***

As of April 2005,  
Zion's Stone Church Lutheran Congregation and Zion's Stone Church United  
Church of Christ Congregation enter into a shared ministry. Keeping both  
heritages in the Sunday Worship Service each week.



# CHURCH STAFF...



**Pastor: Rev. Russell Campbell**

**Office Hours:**

Wednesday and Thursday 10:00am – 4:00pm

**Cell Phone # 610-737-2634**

**Pastor's Home Email:** [revarc@ptd.net](mailto:revarc@ptd.net)

**Pastor's Church Email:** [zionstch@ptd.net](mailto:zionstch@ptd.net)

**Church Administrator/Treasurer:**

**Charlotte Fritz Office Hours:**

Monday 12:00 noon to 3:00pm

Wednesday and Thursday 9:00am to 3:00pm

**Charlotte's Office Email:** [zscofc@ptd.net](mailto:zscofc@ptd.net)

**(Please use this email for information for Charlotte.)**

**Church Secretary:**

We are currently looking for a new Secretary. There is a new Secretary email: [ZSCSecretary@ptd.net](mailto:ZSCSecretary@ptd.net). Please use this email for Sponsorships, etc., someone from the board is checking this email.



**Church Office Phone Number:**

**570-386-5111 – When calling use:**

**prompt #2 for Pastor**

**prompt #3 for Secretary**

**prompt #4 for Charlotte**

**Check us out on Facebook!**

Thanks to Sarah Martinez  
for being our Facebook Coordinator!

**Zion's Stone Website**

[www.zionstonechurch.org](http://www.zionstonechurch.org)

**Music Director/Organist:**

Erin Zelinski – 570-205-3511

**Card Care coordinator:**

Nancy Meiser - 570-205-9267

**Sexton(s):**

Fred (& Donna) Gimbi - Home # 570-386-2888

Fred's Cell #570-573-7642

# **WORSHIP JUNE 2023**

**Sunday, June 4, 2023 – The Holy Trinity**

**w/ Holy Communion – Altar**

**9:00am - Worship Service**

**Sermon Title:** “The Great Omission”

Genesis 1:1-2:4a      2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

**Sunday, June 11, 2023 – 2 Pentecost**

**9:00am – Worship Service**

**w/Young People’s Time**

**Sermon Title:** “I Have Come”

Genesis 12:1-9      Romans 4:13-25

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

**Sunday, June 18, 2023 – 3 Pentecost**

**10:00am – Outdoor Worship Service**

at West Penn Park for Father’s Day

and Honoring of Graduates

Followed by a covered dish social!

**Sermon Title:** “Come Go With Me”

Genesis 18:1-15      Romans 5:1-8

Matthew 9:35-10:8

**Sunday, June 25, 2023 – 4 Pentecost**

**9:00am – Worship Service**

**Sermon Title:** “Finders Keepers, Losers Weepers”

Genesis 21:8-21      Romans 6:1b – 11

Matthew 10:24-39

**Zion’s Stone Church Board Meeting**

Tuesday, April 12, 2023

X Pastor Russell Campbell  
X Blair Miller  
X Rosalee Rehrig  
X Rick Zelinski  
(X)=Board Member Present

X Nancy Meiser  
X Gary Clemson  
X Scot Dietrich

X Sam Schaefer  
X Amanda Sassaman  
X Dan Metzger

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Congregation present: Fred Gimbi Charlotte Fritz

**Call to Order. Opening Prayer:** Pastor Russel Campbell

**Pastor's Report:** Presented and Reviewed

**Secretary's Report:** Presented and Reviewed. Motion to accept: Dan. 2nd Blair/Sam

**Treasurer's Report:** Presented and Reviewed. Motion to accept: Scot. 2nd Sam

**Committee Reports: (Board Representative in parentheses)**

**Worship and Music (Rick Zelinski)** - Nothing new to report.

**Property (Scot Dietrich)**- Scot has cleaned around the edges of the Cemetery. He is awaiting a call back on a quote for resurfacing the parking lot. A discussion was held regarding the land rental. Options were reviewed and it was decided to keep the current agreement. Fred states he was able to clean the trophy case. He asked regarding any other things that are needed.

He will attempt to clean the outside windows as well as the hall floor with a buffer.

**Finance (Gary Clemson)**-Nothing new.

**CE/Sunday School(Rick Zelinski)**-Nothing new to report.

**Youth Group (Dan Metzger)**- The 30 hour famine will be held 4/21 through 4/22 with Youth Sunday being held on 4/23.

**Outreach/Evangelism/Fundraising (Amanda and Nancy)**- They will be selling Meatballs \$15 for 25. They will be made on 4/29. Several members have been helping Pastor Russ to do home communion. The Fundraising committee is planning the Social to be held at the park on July 30th from 11-7. The Fall Bingo will be 10/08. The pork and Sauerkraut Dinner will be 11/18. They will be planning a Holiday Craft Fair.

**Personnel (Amanda Sassaman)**-It was decided that a separate workshop will be held to discuss options regarding replacing Brenda as secretary on 4/19.

**Safety/Security (Blair Miller)**- Sam, Blair, and Nancy attended a shooter safety course entitled "Protect his house". There were many interesting things that were recommended the church should have. They will be setting up a meeting to discuss what can be changed and where to start.

**Other Comittees/Misc**-nothing presented

**New Business:**

-Nothing new

**Old Business:**

-nothing to report

**Next Church Board Meeting on Wednesday, May, 10, 2023 at 7pm**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Sam and seconded by Dan

### **NEWSLETTER SUBMITTALS...**

Please help the office staff be efficient by having all newsletter submittals emailed to the church office (or placed in the newsletter submittal boxes) by the newsletter deadline, the **Third Sunday** of each month.

If you would like your wedding announcement or if you have a loved one who has entered into eternal life, thank you messages, etc., please contact the office by the newsletter deadline or we may not be able to publish your information until the next month. *Thank You!*

### **ALTAR FLOWER & NEWSLETTER SPONSORSHIPS...**

Due to our current Florist Shop, Edward's Flowers, closing on May 31, 2023, we may not be able to get Altar Flowers, Rosebuds, etc. for a couple of weeks. We are currently working on obtaining another Florist to accommodate all of our floral needs. We will let you know when we find a florist that will be able to accommodate all of our floral needs.

Please be aware that the cost of the Flowers & Rosebuds will most likely change.

The cost of a newsletter sponsor is still \$20.00.

Special thanks to Edwards Flowers for their many years of making, delivering, and accommodating all of our flower needs. They are greatly appreciated by the members of Zion's Stone Church! Happy Retirement!

### **Lectors are needed for every Sunday.**

Please sign up in the Narthex. If you or someone you know would like to be a LECTOR ... New volunteers are always welcome.

**Acolytes are needed for every Sunday...** please sign up on the calendar in the Narthex. Please arrive by 8:50am to prepare.

### **CHURCH AND AUDITORIUM FUNCTIONS NOW BEING SCHEDULED**

### **DO YOU HAVE A NEW ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE &/OR CELL PHONE NUMBER?**

Please notify the office either through email ([zscofc@ptd.net](mailto:zscofc@ptd.net)) or phone (570-386-5111) prompt #4 with your new information. This way we can keep in touch with you and provide you with important information regarding the church. Thank you!

(All the clip Art printed in this newsletter was taken from google clip art.)





# 2023 WORSHIP ATTENDANCE FIGURES...

April 2, 2023 – 136  
 April 6, 2023 – 51  
 April 7, 2023 – 68  
 April 9, (6:30) – 46  
 April 9, (9:00) – 151  
 April 16, 2023 – 103  
 April 23, 2023 – 105  
 April 30, 2023 – 105

May 7, 2023 – 63  
 May 14, 2023 – 117  
 May 21, 2023 – 112  
 May 28, 2023 –

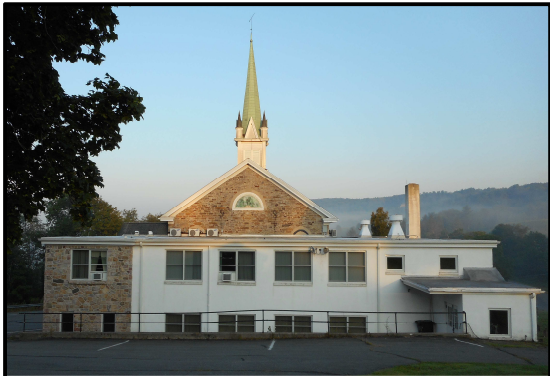


	<b>FINANCIAL REPORT</b>		
<b>2023 April</b>			
Current Giving:			
Total Income Budgeted for 2023-----\$ 228,518.41			
Total Benevolence income for 2023 -----\$ 11,500.00			
Total Income plus Benevolence ----- \$ 240,518.41			
Monthly		Weekly Budgeted	
Income & Benevolence		Income & Benevolence	
		Gain/ (Loss)	
\$23,663.82		\$16,377.34	
		(\$ 4,615.74 - per week)	
		(\$18,462.96 - per month)	

**Thank you for your continued support of Zion's Stone Church!**



The June Newsletter  
 is sponsored in memory of loved ones  
 by Pauline Oswald.



## SPECIAL THANK YOU...

*(The church receives thank you letters from other organizations that we support through Benevolence giving throughout the year.)*

**Youth Ministry...** On behalf of our community, thank you for your support I really appreciate this donation. I use these funds to purchase items that can't be purchased with the access card. Items such as laundry soap, dish soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes. I know these items are appreciated. God bless you with the same peace, hope, and love that you bring to the lives of others. Debra Balogach, Coordinator, New Ringgold Area Food Pantry

### **Special Thanks to Eden Troxell from...**

*Eden Troxell Photography* for taking the confirmands pictures at the worship service on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Eden is a professional, creative, & patient photographer - treating each session as a one-of-a-kind photo shoot that will capture the emotions and milestones of each moment. Every session is unique and we use our experience and creativity to make sure the photos represent the mood and personality of each subject. Eden Troxell Photography provides each and every client with beautiful and affordable photographs to cherish.

**Thank you** for the kind words on the passing of Bernie Gigli (pronounced Jill E) the husband of David's late sister Paulette. And thank you to those who prayed on the long term prayer list for him these last several years, David and Adele Snyder



**Congratulations to** Zack & Mallory (Loughman) Freed on the baptism of their son **Jaxson Thomas Freed** who was born on November 7, 2022 and was baptized on Sunday, May 21, 2023 by Rev. Russell Campbell. Jaxson's Godparents are Adam & Gabrielle Frantz. Jaxson is the Grandson of Chris & Gail Loughman and Thomas & Kimberly Freed

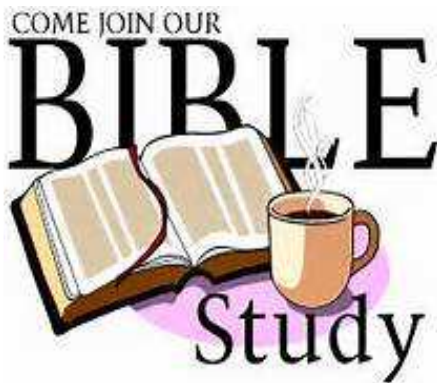


# ***THURSDAY MORNINGS***

# ***&***

# ***THURSDAY NIGHTS***

w/The Rev. Russell Campbell



Bible Study  
is being  
postponed  
until fall.



## **SATURDAY WORSHIP SERVICES...**

Saturday Night Worship Services  
Have been cancelled until  
September.



## *Christian Sympathies go to...*

*David & Adele Snyder and Family & Friends on the death of David's brother-in-law, Bernard Gigli, who entered into eternal life on Wednesday, May 10, 2023.*

*Devin & Melissa Meiser and Family & Friends on the death of Melissa's brother, Robert (Robbie) Eckroth, who entered into eternal life on Tuesday, May 23, 2023.*

*Our deepest sympathies go out to you all.*



**Thank you to our Director of Music  
Erin Zelinski  
for sharing her musical talents  
with us during worship!**

Choirs are on vacation!  
Erin will start reminding you when practice  
will resume again!  
Enjoy the summer everyone!



*We welcome Clayton & Beth Billman  
into the household of faith here at  
Zion's Stone Church. Clayton & Beth  
will be received into the membership of  
Zion's Stone Church on June 11<sup>th</sup>  
by Letter of Transfer.*



## Congratulations to:

**Parker Oswald**, son of Matthew & Heather Oswald. Parker graduated from Tamaqua Area High School and is planning on attending Pennsylvania College (Penn Tech) for HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning).

**Molly Clemson**, daughter of Gary & Stacey Clemson. Molly graduated from Misericordia University with a master's degree in Speech Language Pathology. She will be completing her clinical fellowship at Early Bird Therapy/Growing In Motion in Camp Hill, PA.

**Nick Clemson**, son of David Clemson & Larrine Miller, graduated from the University of Maryland with a Bachelor's in Business Administration degree.

**Ariel Frederickson**, daughter of Shawn & Kelly Frederickson, graduated from LCCC with an Associate in Psychology and is transferring to Kutztown University for a Bachelor in Psychology.

**George Hegedus IV**, son of George & Susanne Hegedus III, graduated from IUP College with a Master's degree in opera performance.



**Emmeline Knowlan**, daughter of Rob & Kelly Knowlan, graduated with a Masters of Arts Communication degree at East Stroudsburg University. She is a Senior Communications Consultant at Lumen Technologies.

**Connor Knowlan**, son of Rob & Kelly Knowlan, graduated with a BA Communications Arts & Science degree at Penn State University. He is planning on going for his Master's degree at Syracuse University.

**Brady Miller**, son of Dwane & Jessica Miller. Brady graduated from LCCC with an Associate's degree in General Studies. Brady is pursuing an apprenticeship with a sheet metal workers union to study HVAC.

**Dylan Miller**, son of Dwane & Jessica Miller. Dylan Graduated from Penn State with a degree in Civil Engineering. Dylan took a job with Chesapeake Construction in Maryland.

**Makenna Storch**, daughter of Barry Storch & Marianne Storch, graduated a semester early in December of 2022 from Bloomsburg University with a Bachelor of Art degree in Criminal Justice and a minor in psychology. Makenna has accepted a job at the Naval Support Activity Base as a Children & Youth Program Assistant (CYP) in Mechanicsburg.





# Sunday School News...



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

*It's Here... It happens this month!*

June 26-30

6:30-8:30 pm

This is a community event and is open to all kids age 3 to 5th grade!

Forgot to register? Do it right now 'on-line' or pick up a form.  
 Can't make it every night? No worries... come when you can.  
 Play on a sports team? Invite the rest of your team.  
 Make the Move and *Twist* with us all week long!  
 VBS Contact: Eileen Coombe (570-386-4180)

**LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR THE SUMMER - JUNE 11**

*We'll be back in the fall...*

*See you September 10*



### VBS - DAILY BIBLE POINTS:

**DAY 1** Jesus is holy and that changes everything

**DAY 2** Jesus is trustworthy even when I doubt

**DAY 3** Jesus is forgiving even when I sin

**DAY 4** Jesus is worth following even when it gets tough

**DAY 5** Jesus is for everyone, including me



**SHOW ME YOUR WAYS, GOD; TEACH ME TO FOLLOW YOU - PSALM 25:4**



*Join Us  
for a  
Memorial Butterfly Release!*

*When: Wednesday June 14, 2023*

*Time: 5:30 PM*

*Where: E. Franklin Griffiths Funeral Home & Cremation Svcs.*

*655 East Broad St. Tamaqua, PA 18252*

*Sign Up: Call 570-668-2550 by June 2, 2023*

*Weekdays 9:00 am to 4:00 pm*

*Butterflies represent hope, new life, peace, and a connection to nature. This event is open to the public; you need not be affiliated with the funeral home to sign up to release a butterfly in memory of loved ones or to attend.*



***Please welcome our 2023 Confirmands into  
the Family of Zion's Stone Church***

***Tyler Edward Buchman***  
***Son of Jared and Amy Buchman***

***Madelyn Grace Miller***  
***Daughter of Dwane and Jessica Miller***







***Congratulations to James Martinez on his promotion to Gunnery Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps.***

*James achieved the rank of E-7 of Gunnery Sergeant.*

*James's wife, Sony, was given the honor of pinning him.*



## **Coming back home:**

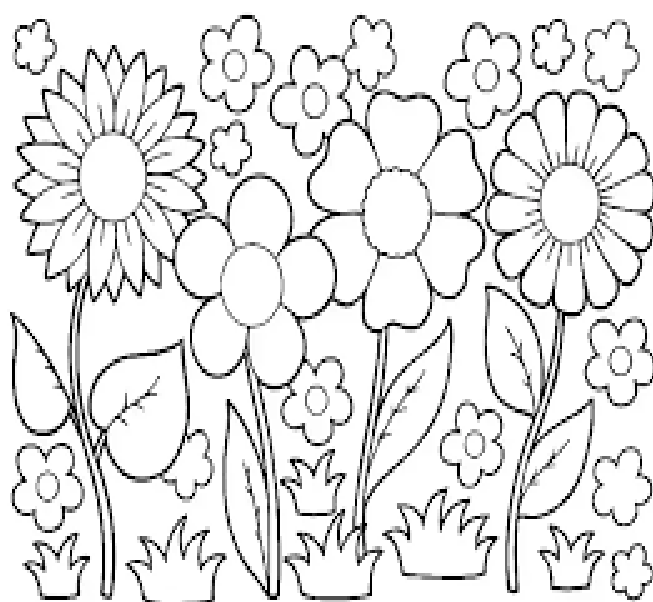
Nicholas and Kenadi Clemson will be returning to the states next Month where they will then move to Florida.

They presently live in Rota Spain where Kenadi is stationed in the US Navy. While attending the Univ. of Maryland Nick was also a full time substitute teacher on base at the school. He also was the girls' basketball assistant coach and the Boys baseball coach.

Nicholas is the son of David Clemson and Larrine Miller. He is also the grandson of Larry and Linda Meckes



# ZION'S COLORING CORNER



June 14th

FLAG DAY!

# WE NEED YOUR HELP ONCE AGAIN!

We will once again be hosting a Basket Extravaganza at our  
**OLD FASHIONED CHURCH SOCIAL.**

This year, the Social will be at the West Penn Park  
on **Sunday, July 30, 2023 from 11:00am – 7:00pm**

We are in need of donations of (new) wrapped (\$25 or higher) basket items (or your (new) unwrapped items) by July 23<sup>rd</sup> by 11:00am) If you want to donate but not shop, just let Charlotte Fritz know by Sun., July 16th (by 11:15am).

**Dates & Times for drop off are as follows  
and are Subject to Change:**

Mon., July 17 – 12:00pm – 2:00pm

Wed., July 19 – 9:00am – 2:00pm & 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Thurs., July 20 – 9:00am – 2:00pm

Sun., July 23 – 8:00am – 11:15am

**Please don't bring your items until the drop off dates & times.**



## Upcoming Events at Ben Salem United Church of Christ:

June 11 – 11:00am – 5:00pm – **Strawberry Social**

1965 Church Hill Road, Lehigh, PA 18235

Music by Daybreak and Lost & Found

There will be good food, a bake sale, basket raffle, & quilt raffle

For directions, visit [www.bensalemucc.com](http://www.bensalemucc.com),

on Facebook! For more information, call 570-386-3870



## The Barnstormers *in Concert*....

Saturday, July 8, 2023 at 7:30pm – Ben Salem United Church of Christ  
One of the many sought-after male choral groups in the Northeast, The Barnstormers have been thrilling audiences for more than seventy-five years with their repertoire of oldies, pop, show and patriotic tunes. (New singers are always welcome. Please visit our website or call 315-436-9018 if you'd like tossing with the Barnstormers.) **COME & ENJOY A WONDERFUL EVENING OF MUSIC  
FREE ADMISSION!!**



# SAVE THE DATE....

**2023 Old Fashioned Church Social**  
will be held at the

**West Penn Park,**

655 Zion's Stone Church Rd,  
New Ringgold, PA 17960

**on Sunday, July 30, 2023**

**11:00am – 7:00pm**

Yes, that's right, the OFCS will be  
held this year at the West Penn Park!

**This Event is open to the public!**

Everyone is welcome!!

Bring a friend or two!

## **BASKET EXTRAVAGANZA**

Last Year we had a 100 baskets!

We hope to make that this year!

All Items valued at \$25.00 or higher!

**We will have lots of fun GAMES,  
River Duck Races, Prizes too!**

Break -A- Plate



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# ZION'S OLD FASHIONED CHURCH SOCIAL Continued

There will be **YUMMY** food to purchase, such as:



Turkey BBQ, Hamburger BBQ, Hot Dogs,  
Church Filling, Turkey & Waffles,  
Homemade Haluski, Homemade Baked Beans,  
Macaroni Salad, Waffles, & Ice Cream, &  
Beverages



(Menu is subject to change)

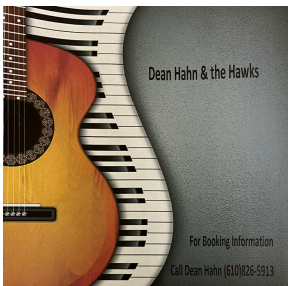
**ENTERTAINMENT provided by:**

(To Be Determined - 11:00am – 1:00pm)



**The Good News Travlin' Band – 1:00pm – 3:00pm**

Featuring a blend of traditional, country, bluegrass & Southern gospel music. We have an unique, live sound & have married some of the great hymns of days gone by w/our country style musical flair. We are able to bring our love of the lord & His message to life with our music & would love to share it with you!



**Dean Hahn & The Hawks – 3:00pm – 6:00pm**

The Hawks, a Palmerton country and gospel group. The harmony group is made up of husband-and-wife team Lisa and Duane Hawk and area dairy farmer Dean Hahn.

## **CARRIAGE RIDES FROM**

Crystal View Carriage Services

Owner, Kyle S. Hoppes

333 Mush Dahl Rd, New Ringgold, PA 17960

[crystalviewcarriage@gmail.com](mailto:crystalviewcarriage@gmail.com)

Crystal View Carriage Services are available for Weddings, Proms, Graduations, Reunions, Sleigh Rides, Valentine's Day, & more! Check out their website: [www.crystalviewcarriage.com](http://www.crystalviewcarriage.com)





Penn Northeast Conference UCC, 431 Delaware Ave., Palmerton, PA 18071

[www.pnec.org](http://www.pnec.org) 610-826-3113; 610-826-5464 FAX

Conference Minister, Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates [bonnieb@pnec.org](mailto:bonnieb@pnec.org)

Rev. Christian Creyer [christianc@pnec.org](mailto:christianc@pnec.org)

Barbara Jennings [barbaraj@pnec.org](mailto:barbaraj@pnec.org) Patty Rehrig [patty@pnec.org](mailto:patty@pnec.org)

**SEND ARTICLES TO BE INCLUDED TO [patty@pnec.org](mailto:patty@pnec.org)**

*A Letter from the Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates, Conference Minister*

Matthew 37: 37-39

*Jesus said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’*

Dear Friends,

Yesterday I presented a one-hour program at Moravian Village at the invitation of the Spiritual Life Committee. They wanted their residents to know something about the UCC. Some of our UCC folks were present but most of the group were from other denominations.

During our time together, one individual asked me to explain being open and affirming. I did so, accenting the broadness of the definition – not just welcoming and affirming LGBTQAI individuals, but those with cognitive challenges, physical challenges, mental health challenges, those of different races and ethnic groups, those from differing theological backgrounds. I mentioned that we have 9 Open and Affirming (ONA) churches in our Conference. It is a number that disappointed some of the residents. It disappoints me as well.

I did explain that we have several congregations who are, in fact, welcoming although they do not define themselves as ONA. I mentioned to them that for people who have been hurt by the church, ONA is like the “welcome mat” that tells those folks that the church is a safer place for them. I did say I wondered how many of our congregations were basing their beliefs on histories about sexual orientation being a “choice” rather than a biological part of an individual’s being.

Maybe we need to have this conversation again in our Conference. I know we need to have the conversation in all the congregations who are welcoming but reluctant to identify as ONA. Are you a part of one of those congregations? Do you want to learn more, explore more, and make a commitment to welcome, affirm, and love all our siblings in Christ? I will help you. Others in our Conference will also help with the education, as will the national Open and Affirming Coalition. Stretch out your hands in love, my friends. Blessings, Bonnie





**NEPA SYNOD**  
NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD



## **WE MATTER TO THE WHOLE CHURCH: A STORY FROM OUR SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD**

Being a member of a congregation council is significant in the life of a disciple. Serving as a leader in a congregation is rewarding, terrifying, awe-inspiring and messy. You are among friends, family and your community of believers, and are chosen to lead in your congregation. It's just a few times a month, but as Barbara Nugent, a synod vice president, shares, "Then life happens, and you find out the reporting required. Situations occur; personalities clash; decisions need to be made. Who do you go to for direction?" The Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod provided that direction in February when it offered training to 70 congregational lay leaders that strengthened each person's skills and faith. From evangelism to the ELCA constitution and bylaws, they gathered to meet the passions and needs, offering workshops with special breakouts for presidents, vice presidents, secretaries and treasurers that covered such topics as worship and music, communications, advocacy, stewardship and social justice/anti-racism. The day started with Bishop Kurt Kusserow encouraging these valued leaders to keep the focus on our purpose:

"Your leadership in the life of your congregation ought always to bear in mind that your congregation finds its fulfillment in the universal church, and that the universal church exists in and through congregations such as yours. I think this means addressing local questions and concerns in the life of your congregation as if they matter to the whole church (because they do)." Everyone was hungry to gather ideas, consider future steps but also have an opportunity to connect, be empowered, feel valued and cared for and remember the excitement of being church. Rev. Melissa Stoller, director for evangelical mission, said it this way: "The day was a very visible yet not necessarily quantifiable force that we are church together. Wandering but not alone. Feeling worry, power, uncertainty, and joy as one." Central to this gathering was living into the mission of this synod "to serve, connect and equip congregations of the SWPA synod to tell the story of Jesus." Everyone knew that the synod was there for the congregations with staff, volunteers and greater church support, not only this day but in the days to come, and synod staff are supported through the generous mission support of congregations allowing them to be there for our leaders. One leading Scripture for the day reminded each leader of their value: "Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word" (Acts 6:3-4). Hoping each of our synods are seeking ways that work for them to encourage and empower congregational leaders. Knowing that we are church together, church that supports each other across the whole church prayerfully, financially, emotionally and with a hope for renewal.

June is Pride Month which celebrates LGBTQIA+ folx and their many achievements. Although injustices and prejudices still exist within our society, we have made great strides since the Stonewall Riots in 1969, attaining marriage equality. However, as previously mentioned, we still have a long way to go in the struggle for equal rights. By learning about LGBTQ Pride/History Month, congregational members are more likely to have an understanding and acceptance for all individuals, no matter what they look like, what gender they do or don't identify as, and who they love. Consider celebrating PRIDE in your congregation!

# Happy Birthday To Everyone Born in June!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<sup>1</sup> Dylan Crowley	<sup>2</sup> Amy Mogish	<sup>3</sup> Mason Gerber
<sup>4</sup> Tyler Hackman Mackenzie Muffley Billy Tuckett	<sup>5</sup> Reese Zelinski	<sup>6</sup> Bentlee Reed	<sup>7</sup> Fern Hauck Jessica Pistone	<sup>8</sup> Renee Gerber Lawson Miller Amanda Stiegerwalt	<sup>9</sup> Benjamin Hehn	<sup>10</sup> Geraldine Balliet Darlene Clark Michelle Davenport
<sup>11</sup> Shayna Dietrich Eileen Meiser Kevin Tyson	<sup>12</sup>	<sup>13</sup>	<sup>14</sup> Brenda Osenbach Stacy Bittermann Cara Stern	<sup>15</sup>	<sup>16</sup>	<sup>17</sup> Justin Clinton
<sup>18</sup> Kenneth Jones Sandra Zehner	<sup>19</sup> Jessica Miller	<sup>20</sup> Tim Lorah Laurie Miller	<sup>21</sup> Kelly Lehman	<sup>22</sup> Kristin Abernathy Wyatt Hamm Lillian Gernert Larry Stival Jean Tyson	<sup>23</sup> Stephanie Bell Michael Coombe	<sup>24</sup> Wayne Miller Alan Steigerwalt
<sup>25</sup> Danika Beers Landon Kamant Nathan Shellhamer	<sup>26</sup> Melissa Smith	<sup>27</sup> Margaret Martinez Jett Pilla	<sup>28</sup> Rosalee Rehrig Kristine Troxell	<sup>29</sup> Lisa Zehner	<sup>30</sup> Dorothy Knowlan Darin Ruch	



# JUNE 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Choirs are enjoying the summer off and will resume in late August	2	3 No Saturday Worship Services until September
4 9:00am Worship w/HC 10:15am SS 7pm – Yth Group Mtg	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 9:00am Worship 10:15am SS	12	13	14 7:00pm Board Meeting	15	16	17
			[6/14 – 6/20 -	FRED IS	ON	VACATION -----
Father's Day 18 10:00am Worship Service at West Penn Park Covered Dish to follow ---- No Sun. Sch.	19 FRED IS ON	20 VACATION---- ]	21	22	23	24
25 9:0am Worship Sunday School will return in September	26 [6:30-8:30pm	27 6/26 – 6/30 -	28 VACATION	29 BIBLE	30 SCHOOL-----]	

