

On the Journey ... at St. John's

August
2021

St. John's United Church of Christ
538 E. Thomas St.
Coopersburg, PA 18036
610-282-3310

Volume 22 Issue 8

From the Pastor's Desk-----August Blessings!

I hope you have had time to reconnect with your family in the recent months. I know many having been missing those special connections in their lives.

We have been busy working on introducing programming once again to the church while keeping up to date on the latest safety precautions and numbers of exposure to Covid-19 variants. I ask that you continue to pray for national and worldwide healing of this terrible ordeal.

In the month of August, we will not be using a worship series but offering individual Sunday themes. A new worship series will be introduced in September.

I have been working with the leaders of the COMPASS Veterans Support Group on integrating their program into the overall ministry of our church. This group has been working with veterans and their families for 6 years. They are bringing their established group to our location and hope to continue to grow. They will be meeting for the first time with us in September. If you know of veterans or family members of veterans who might be interested, please have them reach out to me. Everyone will be introduced to some of the leadership on World Communion Sunday, October 3rd. That is the day we will officially welcome them and pray for God's blessing on our joint ministry.

In this newsletter are numerous important dates and upcoming events. Our goal is to renew our programming and ministry to existing members as well as reach out to the community.

To those who have donated to our Mold Remediation Fund, Thank You! For those who may not know what I am talking about, the church basement has developed a serious black mold problem. We need to take steps to clean up this potential health hazard. Our first step is to clean out the basement and the second step is to have a professional company come in and clean and set up the correct machines to prevent future problems. Any size of monetary donation to this fund will be greatly appreciated.

Finally, we are looking to have a public memorial to honor the life of Miles Ott. If you knew him or know of those who might like to participate please reach out to me.

Blessings!

HOAGIE FUNDRAISER!

The Babb boys are once again selling hoagies to support their Boy Scout troop. Sandwiches are \$6 a piece. Turkey with or without onions or Italian with out without onions. Monies due by Thursday August 18th. You may sign up in the church entrance way, call the church office to place an order or contact their mom Sharin at Sharin_Swavely@yahoo.com.



CHURCH PICNIC

“Betty’s house” on August 8th. We will begin at 10 am with worship and then enjoy lunch together. The council is providing cold waters and hotdogs with all the fixings. We ask that you bring a lawn chair and a dish to share. Rain date is August 15th.



WE NEED YOU!

August 7th and 14th we are beginning the church basement clean out. We will begin at 8am. We need to do so to allow the mold remediation company to come in. We ask that you consider wearing glasses of some sort and a mask. Consider a change of clothes too. We do have some masks to give out. If you are sensitive to mold, we need people to work “above” on sorting and packing items up. I also need a couple of people to manage the kitchen. We want to provide coffee, water and snack for the workers. Please let me know how you can help!



Pastor Teresa



CONGRATULATIONS PATRICK!

Patrick will be finishing his judicial clerkship at the end of August and is excited to begin working in late September as a first year associate attorney for the law firm of Florio Perrucci Steinhardt Cappelli Tipton & Taylor. Their primary office is located in Phillipsburg, New Jersey, and they handle a wide variety of practice areas. Patrick will represent clients in New Jersey and work on a variety of civil and family matters.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROTOCOLS

Approved by Council 07/01/21

Once again we are taking additional steps to relax our Covid-19 guidelines. Masks are no longer required in the building. A few members who have severe health issues may choose to wear masks. Please be respectful and practice social distancing around them. We continue to encourage everyone to use hand sanitizer, and if you are feeling ill, please stay home on that particular Sunday. We will not have greeters handing out material but will start to have someone present to verbally greet people as they enter the building.

We will not be passing the peace. We will not be passing plates. The water fountain will not be opened. Bottled water will still be available.

We will be slowly introducing singing once again.

Also, because of space issues, we will not be going to Fellowship Hall to worship if the weather is warm. We will still be recording worship services.



AUGUST MILESTONES TO CELEBRATE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

5 Ann Snyder
15 Andrew Fegley
16 Ralph Pritsch
17 Dolores Bortz
22 Ralph Urmy
24 Jason Bortz
Diane Kuhns
25 Richard Wambold
26 Sue Bortz
27 Sue Kranzley
28 Linda Belke
31 John Schubert

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

21 Dan & Ashley Humphreys
31 Michael & Debbie Loew

Please help keep this listing up-to-date by contacting the office with additions and/or corrections! Thank you!

ATTENTION LADIES

On September 18th we are going to gather for a Ladies Luncheon. We will be meeting at 11:30 at the Copperhead Grille in Center Valley. Watch for a sign up sheet. As always you can sign up by contacting Pastor Teresa. We can also arrange car pools! This is our first chance to get back together. Ladies of all ages are welcome!



COMPASS

On September 7th we will begin to co-host a veterans group entitled COMPASS. We welcome all veterans whether church-going folk or not to join this group. This is NOT a drop in group; you must pre-register. To do so please reach out to Pastor Teresa by email RevTeresaMartin@outlook.com, or her cell phone number is 717-654-4044. This a group for veterans to find support and be able to speak with other veterans about experiences of war and life. Veterans of all ages are encouraged to join. An article written by two of the founders and leaders of the group can be found in the church lobby. It gives a detailed explanation of the group. We will be happy to mail this out if you call the office or contact Pastor Teresa.

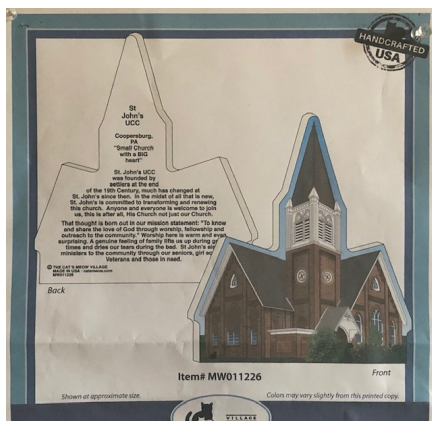


ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is now available through the app tithe.ly. Go to St. John's website, click on give, and then follow the cues. Credit or debit cards are accepted on our secure site. An email receipt of your giving will be sent to you.

CAT'S MEOW STATUES

We are taking orders for Cat's Meow Statues of our church. The cost is \$20. Please contact Linda Belke at LThomer712@gmail.com or contact the church office.



If you are looking to give back in a small way, check out <https://www.blackoutcoffee.com>

This is some of the best coffee ever! (From Paul Belke) and with every purchase they support our troops or give you the opportunity to say thank you to our troops overseas by donating coffee.

Check them out on the internet!



**PLEASE REMEMBER OUR WEBSITE
(STJOHNSCOOPERSBURG.ORG) OR OUR FACEBOOK PAGE
(ST JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, COOPERSBURG)
HAS UP-TO-THE-MINUTE CHURCH INFORMATION**

BETTY LOU'S PANTRY

Needs are:



Boxed foods such as cereal, meat helper, macaroni and cheese.

For our own Blessing Box we need socks, preferably over the ankle.



WE ARE PART OF THE AMAZON SMILE PROGRAM!

This is the way the corporation of Amazon.com gives back to the community. Your Prime membership and passwords stay the same and are not shared. .05% of every sale goes to the church.

Below is the link to take you directly there.

Any questions, speak with Pastor Teresa. Her email is

RevTeresaMartin@outlook.com <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-6286946>



We are hosting a Band Camp for the Lesson Center at the church in the months of July and August. If you get a chance, go and show your support!

The bands will be performing at Musikfest on Sunday, August 8th from 11:45am - 2:30pm at Plaza Tropical. We also have an additional date the following Thursday, August 12th at the Allentown ArtsWalk from 4:00pm - 6:00pm.

ALTAR FLOWERS

God has truly blessed our world with flowers, especially this spring and summer. Flowers on the altar are one way we can give back to Him some of the beauty. Won't you please consider sponsoring a Sunday or two by signing up on the flower chart in the narthex. You can either bring your own or drop an envelope marked "flowers" in the offering plate with \$20.00 in it. Either way please sign up so we know ahead of time. Thanks from Betty



VESPERS

Evening Vespers return in-person in the Sanctuary at 5 PM on the Sundays listed below:

SAVE THE DATES

October 3
November 21
December 19
January 16
February 20
March 20
April 10
May 15

We begin the 2021-2022 season (our 6th season) with **CRAIG THATCHER** on **October 3**. Some of your favorite musicians will be returning and there will also be some new faces and voices. So stay tuned for more updates.

Evening Vespers will also be recorded. Light refreshments will be offered following Vespers in Fellowship Hall, to enable social distancing. Safety and health guidelines will be followed.

We're excited to be resuming this mission, uplifting spirits through music and word.

Marlene and John

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www.stjohnsuccoop.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OUR MISSION:

To know and share the love of God through worship,
fellowship and outreach to the community.

August