

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

May
2019

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

Volume 20 Issue 5

MAY HAPPENINGS FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK (THESE ARE IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER)

**I will be leaving for a Worship Design Retreat in Lake Tahoe next week. My plane leaves Mother's Day, May 12th and I will return very early in the morning May 18th. Jane Matsinger will be preaching in my absence. If there is an emergency please contact John Ruby at (267) 221-8915 first. He will determine the next steps. I have limited email and phone access in my absence.

**Church Cleanup inside and out! The date set is Saturday, May 11 beginning at 9 am. We need your Help!

****Worship Schedule**

May 5th Footsteps on the Road to Emmaus
May 12th Mother's Day (Pastor Teresa away at education Jane preaching)
May 19th Jane Preaching, (Pastor Teresa will be back that day as liturgist)
Vespers at 5 pm.
May 26th Memorial Day
June 2 Revelation 22 - End Times
June 9 Pentecost
Taking In New Members
Vespers 5 pm.

** We are starting a New Book Study "Why I Left/Why I Stayed" This book correlates with the fact that the author Tony Campolo is coming to our area in early September. We will be hearing from him in worship and after church discussion. I will also be doing a summer worship series on one of this books. Please consider joining us. The cost of the book is \$11. You may purchase your own copy or there is a Kindle version. As always if cost is a problem, please speak to Pastor Teresa. Please sign up or email Pastor Teresa you are joining us. Class will be after church on Sundays.

**If you are interested in becoming a member of St. John's please let Pastor Teresa know. We will be having a new members' dinner to introduce the church and denomination to you and explain what membership means. This call is not meant to place pressure on anyone. You are always welcome to worship and fellowship with us regardless if you are a member or not. We are hoping to bring new members in to the church on Pentecost if that works for most. (June 9th).

NEWS FROM OUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Greetings,

The topic today is a few simple house-keeping items.

First is a clarification on the duties and requirements of Greeters and Ushers. Greeters and Ushers should arrive 25 minutes prior to the service. Greeters do not hand out bulletins. That task is for the Ushers located at each sanctuary door. I agree there is some confusion. Sometimes it is because one or two people are late or don't show at all. I am the guiltiest of everyone who jumps in and tries to cover for one or two people. So, if you are on the list, please try to be on time.

Second, Council, to include past members of Council, distributes the elements during communion.

May 11th is clean-up day. Starting at 9:00 AM we will be inside cleaning and outside weeding. Choose your poison. There will be coffee, light beverages and food.

Many thanks to Craig Thatcher for installing our Electronic Giving App. This is going to be a valuable tool as we try to meet our financial needs.

And finally, I am sure by now everyone has heard about the arson fire at Iglesia Pentecostal Church in Bethlehem. Individually we can help. Search the Internet and go to [Fundraiser in Bethlehem Pa, go fund me.com](#). On that page you will see a number of Go Fund Me candidates from the Bethlehem area. Iglesia Pentecostal is one of them.

Hope everyone had a happy and blessed Easter,

John Ruby
Council President

IN LOVING MEMORY



Tomas J. Bamberger, 77, of Coopersburg, died Monday, April 29, 2019 in his home. He is the husband of Elizabeth J. "Betty" (Rose) Bamberger. He was born in Lancaster on July 2, 1941 to the late Grant W. Bamberger, MD and Jo Marie (Rider) Bamberger. Tom served our country faithfully in the US Army Medical Service Corps for 21 years, retiring as a Colonel. Tom graduated from Twin Valley High School, Dickinson College with a BA, Boston University with a MAIA, the US Army Command & General Staff College and the University of Michigan's School of Bank Management. He was a Commercial Lending & Management banker at Nazareth National Bank, First Valley Bank/Summit Bank, First National Bank of Allentown, Girard Bank and retired after 36 years as an Executive Vice President & Senior Loan Officer. He was an active member of St. John's UCC, Coopersburg. Dedicated to helping others, Tom volunteered in many organizations: Boy Scouts of America (Minsi Trails Council), Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner Chair; Kids Peace, Executive Committee, Finance & Facility Committee Chair; Lehigh Valley Industrial Park, Treasurer/VP Finance, Finance Committee, Chair & Executive Committee. SURVIVORS: In addition to his wife of 54 years; children: Michael G. (Machelle A.) of Tangent, OR, Marc A. (Christine S.) of Coopersburg, Matthew T. (L. Lenore) of Quakertown, Maria E. (David F.) Emanuel of Stratham, NH; brothers: David R. (Penny Cohen) of Apex, NC, Rev. James R. (Nancy) of Bellefonte; sister-in-law: Joan Bamberger of Titusville, FL; former sister-in-law: Karen Bamberger of Lititz; grandchildren: Samantha R., Noah T. Bamberger, Cole D., Graham T., Elly E. Emanuel. Predeceased by a brother Grant W., Jr.

**For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten son,
that whosoever believeth in him should not perish,
but have everlasting life.**

John 3:16

OFFICIAL NOTICE FROM PASTOR TERESA

I am going OVER THE EDGE! Literally Sat. June 1st.

I am participating in the Lehigh Council of Churches Valley Over the Edge. I will be rappelling down from the top of Two City Center, a mid-rise 11-story Class A office/retail building on the corner of 7th and Hamilton Streets in downtown Allentown.



You may go on line to support me at the Lehigh Council of Churches (Website/donations/Teresa Martin) or put a special marked envelope marked “Pushing Pastor Teresa Over the Edge” in the collection of secretary’s desk. All the money I raise will benefit the homeless in Allentown.

Please consider supporting me!



EVENING VESPERS – SAVE THE DATES

We are so excited to be celebrating our third year of Evening Vespers. We are blessed to have wonderfully talented musicians to guide these special moments of respite in our sanctuary. They ALL enthusiastically responded immediately to our invitation. You will recognize many of these musicians and have the opportunity to meet some whom you may not have heard before. The music promises to be diversified with each musician bringing their own unique style with great passion and spirit. ENJOY and bring a friend or neighbor.

MAY 19	Imagine – Fulfill Hidden Promises	John Carelli
JUN 9	Sunshine and Growth	Mike Holliday

The evening will flow between readings and music, with somewhat more emphasis on the music. There will be an opportunity to move about the sanctuary as one chooses. In addition to personal prayers and anointing with Pastor Teresa, there will be a prayer station where anyone may write a prayer request and put it in the basket. We’ll continue to offer light refreshments immediately following Vespers.

Looking forward to seeing you at Evening Vespers.



RISE AND SHINE YOGA Wednesdays, 9 - 10 a.m. St. John’s parlor, \$10 class. Please contact Carol at 610.428.1236 to register.

MAY MILESTONES TO CELEBRATE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 8 Dan Humphreys
- 26 Elsie Bell
- 27 Dana Musgnung
- 28 Denise Knittle

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 14 John & Anne Schubert
- 23 Keith & Teresa Martin
- 27 Matt & Lenore Bamberger

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



THUMBS UP for the performers for the Vespers series who continue to be top-notch! If you are not attending, you are really missing something terrific! Thumbs Up to all of the special music that was planned during the holiday season!



We are now part of the Amazon Smile Program! This is the way the corporation of Amazon.com gives back to the community. You must shop through Amazon Smile every time. 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. Please share with family and friends! This is an easy way to give back to the church. Any questions, speak to Pastor Teresa.

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

COB CORNER

The COBCares task force is working on this year's Community Outreach Benefit, our 18th. We will have more details soon about our golf tournament, 5K Costume Dash and other fund-raisers, but now, we want to introduce two more families we will be helping.

David Tankelewicz, 32, of Quakertown, is a U.S. Marine who suffered a Traumatic Brain Injury while on patrol in Anbar Province, Iraq, in 2007. His vehicle hit a roadside bomb. He fell when he returned to Camp Lejeune and his condition worsened. To this day, he suffers violent seizures, migraines and other health problems, including anxiety and depression. He rarely leaves his apartment where he lives with his girlfriend and caretaker, Christina, their son, 5 and Christina's daughter, 10. David gets medical care from the VA in Philadelphia, which rates him 100 percent disabled. He has reached out to mentors among older veterans in the area, but cannot work. They have fallen behind on bills, and David probably never will be able to work again.

Pam Wallace, 73, of Coopersburg, is confined to a wheelchair due to a series of ailments and injuries. She has been in and out of care facilities since last year, and her goal is to return to her apartment in Coopersburg or a care facility that offers activities that meet her skills and intellect. Pam is a photographer and artist, attended Dartmouth College and worked most of her life as a caregiver and behavioral health staff member. Thanks to support from her home church, St. James Lutheran, she got a new power wheelchair. COBCares will help with her immediate need, replacing her hearing aids at a cost of several thousand dollars.

RAFFLE TICKETS will be available in May! Many people support COB with donations to purchase raffle tickets! Drawing will be held at Coopersburg Community Day in September. Prizes: \$5,000, \$500, \$250.

OUR OTHER RECIPIENTS: Stacie Herceg, double lung transplant patient will most likely be at Penn until mid June. It appears that she does not need a kidney transplant. She walks with much assistance, has difficulty speaking and is working hard on lung function/breathing.

Maddy Kershner, daughter of co-recipient Dana is having another procedure for seizures at Boston Children's Hospital end of May.

Please hold Stacie and Maddy in your thoughts and prayers as well as out other recipients as well. They struggle daily and are thankful to know so many people care about them.

ONLINE GIVING

This just in! 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. The site is secure.

An email receipt of your giving will be sent to you.



CLEAN UP DAY— MAY 11

Church clean-up day, inside and out! Saturday, May 11, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

We need YOUR help!



**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**

**St. John's United Church of Christ
538 Thomas Street
Coopersburg, PA 18036**

www.stjohnsuccoop.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OUR MISSION:

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

May