

# *The Vineyard*

*A publication to encourage and motivate participation in the family of God  
and an aid in ministry for the members of Myerstown United Church of Christ.*



**May 2022**

Volume 41, Issue 5

## *Pastor's Thoughts . . .*

It was so nice to worship Easter morning and have so many members in person to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. The flowers, the music, the fact of being together and celebrating Holy Communion made for a joyful morning.

I was reminded of a quote from someone who said, "Have a blessed Easter, but more importantly, be a blessing this Easter Season." As your Bridge Pastor for less than a month, I need to tell you how impressed I am with so many of you who are being a "Blessing" here in Myerstown.

The real strength of any congregation is the members and you are strong disciples of Jesus. Here are a few of the blessings I see each week. The crew that brings our worship on line; the teachers of our Breakfast with the Bible and the Adult Bible study class; the members of the classes studying what it means to be a Christian today: those who provide the warm greeting to those who worship; the members of the Interim Minister Search Committee; the members of the Church Council; the men and women who are beginning to move the church office from the parsonage to the church so the Interim Minister will have a place to live while in Myerstown; the members who mention in visits that they are praying for the church and its ministries; the crew that cleans the facilities, and those who provide the flowers and the music to make worship more festive.

As I mentioned in my sermon, "Remember the Spirit of God comes and goes as it will. We can't see the Spirit of God but we can see the results of the Spirit. The previous paragraph illuminates some of the results of the Spirit I see each week. Believe me, you all are a blessing to me and to many others in our community. May God richly bless us all during this Eastertide and Always.

*Sincerely,*

*Rev. Keith Tussing*

### *Mark your Calendars!*

**Rev. Bruce Greer** will be the guest preacher (he is the Interim we are considering) for our **Sunday, May 8th (Mother's Day) worship.**

**There will be a time to meet him after worship during Gathering Time. Please plan to attend. Light refreshment will be provided by Carolyn & Charles Williams and Susan & Mark Herr.**

# Mission Moments

## Julius Muthengi ...

Dear Prayer Partners,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who died on the cross and rose again for our redemption. I trust this brief e-mail finds you in good health. Agnes and I together with our family are grateful to God for his goodness and faithfulness. The purpose of this email is to request for your prayers. This week has been difficult because of the problem of water not being pumped to the storage tanks. Thus, we have not been able to provide the much needed commodity to people in our community.

The technicians from the organization with whom we have a contract spent most of today trying to unearth the problem. They discovered that the company which drilled the well several years ago installed the casing halfway rather than all the way to the bottom. For that reason, the pump is not well supported, which makes it keep on tilting, which has made some of the cables to have scratches, caused by improper placement of the casing. This phenomenon may also damage the mortar.

The team has just finished removing all the pipes. We will get a full report on Monday April 4th, 2022 in order to know how much the new casing, damaged pipes, cables etc. The good news, however, is that there is a good amount of water at the well. Please pray with us that God will provide the funds needed to cater for this great need. God bless you.

Your brother and sister in Christ,

Julius and Agnes



# Graduating ?

If you will be graduating from high school or college, we want to know the details! Please email the office a picture and a biography, so we can celebrate your accomplishments and plans for the future! These will be published in the June Vineyard. Any questions, please contact LeeAnn at 717/866-5252 or email myerstowucc@comcast.net. Please have your information in no later than May 15, 2022.

# May

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 am Worship Service  
(unless otherwise noted)



### May 1 – Third Sunday of Easter

**9:00 am Worship** (no Communion)

Rev. Keith Tussing

scripture: Hebrews 12:22-24; 28-29

message: ‘Remember Where You Stand’

guest organist Jason Yanuzzi

Breakfast with the Bible in social hall

**10:00 am Adult Bible Study** (last day before summer break)

### May 8 – Fourth Sunday of Easter/Mother’s Day

**9:00 am Worship**

Rev. Bruce Greer preaching

Breakfast with the Bible in social hall

(last day for this school year)

Gathering Time following worship

Light refreshment provided by Carolyn & Charles Williams and Susan & Mark Herr.

### May 15 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

**9:00 am Worship**

Rev. Keith Tussing

### May 22– Sixth Sunday of Easter

**9:00 am Worship**

Rev. Keith Tussing

### May 29—Seventh Sunday of Easter

**9:00 am Worship**

Rev. Keith Tussing



## Rev. Keith Tussing’s Office Hours

\*\*Office hours are subject to change.\*\*

**Tuesdays**

**starting at 9:00 am**

**Pastor Keith’s cell number 612/940-4005**

May 2022



## MYERSTOWN UCC STAFF

Rev. Keith Tussing, Bridge Pastor  
(cell) 612/940-4005

Emily Frantz, Parish Administrator  
muccparishadmin@comcast.net

Mark Herr, Organist  
muccmusic@comcast.net

Deb Spencer, Financial Administrator  
muccfinance@comcast.net

Lisy Frank, Custodian

Lee Ann Kurash, Office Manager  
myerstownucc@comcast.net  
717/866-5252

## Volunteer at HersheyPark

Are you interested in being a HersheyPark volunteer for our church?

For each shift you work (usually 3 to 5 hours long), you get a 1 day pass, including free parking, to HersheyPark. Occasionally, 2 or 3 passes are offered for a shift. This is great to use for yourself or to give to family members.



In addition, our church gets \$8 for every hour you work.

The areas we volunteer are Food and Beverage in HersheyPark and in the Giant Center, Games, Ushering at Giant Center and HersheyPark Stadium, and Attractions and Rides.

If you are interested in being on the volunteer list, please email Candy Hibshman at: ehibshman1@comcast.net with your name, phone number and email address. She will email you whenever she gets a request from Hershey for volunteers. If you are available and interested, call her at 717/468-3563. She will contact Hershey. You may not contact them yourself. Candy will get back to you and let you know if you are scheduled.



## Lebanon County Christian Ministries



Wish List for May remains the same as April's:

- Toilet Paper
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Laundry Detergent
- Paper Towels

Thank you for your ongoing support!

In the first 8 months of our fiscal year 2021-22, LCCM has served just as many households as we did in all of 2020-21. The reason for the increase this year is because a lot of government assistance provided during the pandemic has ended.

So far, LCCM has served 788 households in our pantry—that breaks down to 734 children, 1,144 adults and 168 people over the age of 60.



We received a very generous \$200 donation from Timothy and Nelda Hibshman of Myerstown. I spoke with Nelda and she said they like to send monthly donations (to a different church each month) to all the churches of Myerstown! What a blessing they are for our community!

New Horizons (fellowship for single adults) May 28th at 2:00 pm Miniature golf, games and dinner at Kauffman's Bar-B-Q, Bethel. Bring along your favorite games to enjoy. (There will be no gathering in June.)

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 8th

A Celebration of Life for Bud Mitstifer will be held in the social hall on Saturday, May 14th from 1:00—4:00 pm.

Ascension Day is Thursday, May 26th.

Memorial Day is Monday, May 30th. It is a day to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice of their lives for this country.

# Thank YOU!!

Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$1,490 to Lebanon County Christian Ministries!  
We are so blessed to have a kind supporter like you. Your financial support will make it possible for us to continue providing for the basic needs of Lebanon County.

We strive for excellence in serving our community. Thank you for making it possible.

Sincerely,  
Bryan Smith  
Executive Director, LCCM

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Dear Friends,

My warmest greetings from Africa Inland Mission International in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

I would like to express my deep appreciation to you for your recent contribution toward the ministries of AIM International, and welcome you to the AIM family. I know that this gift will be an encouragement to those who are involved in ministry.

The Lord continues to do a mighty work in Africa, and AIM has had the privilege of being part of that work for over 130 years.

Your partner in outreach,  
Colin McDougall  
U.S. Director

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Dear Myerstown UCC Members,

We thank you for your gift of \$175 in support of the ministry of UCC Homes. Without people like you, so many people would not be able to receive the assistance they need.

UCC Homes greatest area of need continues to be the securing of sufficient funding to meet the growing financial need of residents who are unable to pay for their costs of care and who are not eligible for governmental assistance programs. The Benevolent Fund helps to meet this need.

On behalf of the residents and staff, thank you for your thoughtful gift. Helping people, reaching out a helping hand to someone who needs our concern is what UCC Homes is all about. Because of your continued support in this effort, it is what you are about also.

Sincerely,  
Victoria Velez  
Dir. of Public Relations/Fund Dev.

# Thank YOU!! (cont'd)

Care Team—

Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Wishing all of you a blessed Easter and a beautiful springtime!

Sincerely  
Rita M. Lentz



## May Birthdays

- 2 - Carl Gettle
- 3 - Stephen Wagner
- 9- Gifford Krause
- 11 - Brenda Baum, Andrew Fields.  
Suzie Schott
- 13 - Jeremy Zimmerman
- 14 Mark Wartluft
- 15 - Priscilla Kahl, Beckett Zimmerman
- 20 - Matthew Berger, Dawn Hassler  
Larry W. Hibshman
- 23 - Bohdan Adams, Cathy Ryland
- 24—David Wuori,
- 27 - Delaney Houtz, Sheree Nordall,  
David Risser
- 28 - Emma Behm, Warren Bennetch

### \*\*Amended office hours for the following dates:

- Thursday, May 5th—9:00 am to 1:00 pm
- Friday, May 6th—No office hours
- Thursday, May 26th—9:00 am to 1:00 pm
- Friday, May 27th—No office Hours
- Monday, May 30th—No office hours
- Tuesday, May 31st—9:00 am to 1:00 pm