

"August" courtesy of
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A publication of
Myerstown United
Church of Christ

Paul's Epistle

As the summer begins to wind down, and we hit the "dog days" of August, we begin thinking of the end of summer. Perhaps we approach this time with sadness, thinking about waves and sand and lakes and family time. Perhaps we anticipate with joy the beginning of school, seeing friends, cooler weather, and the brilliant colors of Fall. People approach things differently according to their history, likes, personality, and other cultural and experiential differences.

I suppose the same can be said of how we approach the church. I

know that when I am called into partnership with a congregation, I come with a quite different perspective. Take us, for instance. The members of this congregation, as well as the members of this community, have seen Myerstown UCC go from an active, vibrant community and through conflict, struggle and lots of hurt, ending up at where we are now. I come in and my beginning is where we are now. Since I have also worked with many congregations that have been through tough times and decline, I may be more hopeful since I have seen them, with the help and grace of God, become reinvigorated and find now mission, meaning and joy.

In the same way that I come with a different perspective, so do people who are walking through our doors for the first time. Some of them come with expectations from previous experiences in Church settings that can be quite diverse. Almost half of the "new" members of Churches I have served came from Roman Catholic traditions that no longer fit within their understanding of God as well as their own theological perspective.

Pastoral Emergencies

In the event of an
emergency requiring
pastoral support, please
contact Pastor Paul
directly

by phone [610.217.9717]

or email
[muccpastor@comcast.net]

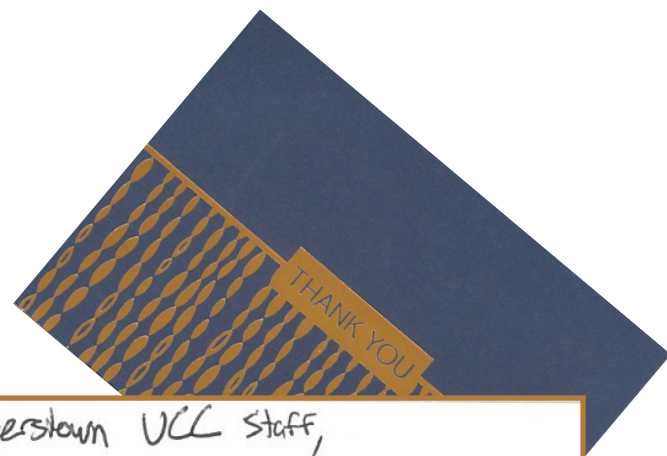
Some come with little or no Church experiences other than what they have seen on television and other media. For most of these folks, walking into the Church building and Sanctuary can be quite intimidating, even frightening. It is important that we understand our role as "the Body of Christ". Our welcome is the incarnation of God's welcome. Our treatment of newcomers and each other speaks volumes to them about how God wishes to treat them, and the kind of community God has created.

I say these things not to intimidate you as members and keep you on your toes. Rather, I invite you to think about how it must feel for someone walking into the sacred space that contains our community in Worship and being a loving Family of Faith. Think about how we can welcome, affirm and embrace these seekers, and how to integrate them into our family as smoothly and lovingly as we can.

God has placed us here, together, to share the Good News of a God who loves and IS love. How do we incarnate that reality in our welcoming and greeting, in our conversation with them and each other that creates the affirming, caring, and inviting atmosphere that all of us desire? As we begin to reconnect, how can we represent the loving God who formed, forms, and defines us?

Richest Blessings,

Pastor Paul



Myerstown UCC Staff,
Thank you for the graduation card and gift card. I am blessed to have grown up in such an amazing church. I am thankful for the support I have gotten from many people from the church. I always enjoy attending and seeing the church family every Sunday. One thing that I was really disappointed about from the pandemic was not being able to attend in person church services. I love being part of Myerstown UCC and wanted to thank you for being a big part of my life.
God BLESS,
Braden Robinson

Office Hours

Monday: 9:00 am to noon

Tuesday: noon to 3:00 pm

Wednesday: By appointment

Thursday: By appointment

Friday: 9:00 am to noon



Attendance & Giving



Attendance

LiveStream InPerson

6 Jun	20	31
13 Jun	17	24
20 Jun	14	36
27 Jun	16	24

LiveStream is the number of households viewing the service.

Giving

General Fund	\$ 15,546.00
Church Improvement	\$ 1,495.00
OCWM	\$ 780.00
Food Bank	\$ 100.00
HOPE Fund	\$ 10.00
Julius M Ministry	\$ 245.00
Memorial	\$ 1,025.00
Strengthen the Church	\$ 175.00

Gift Card Orders

due Monday,
9 August 21,
because the
Office Manager
is on vacation!

Church Office Closed

The Office Manager will be out of the office from Monday, 2 Aug 21 through Friday, 6 Aug 21. Voice mail will be checked on Monday and Friday mornings and Tuesday afternoon. Email will be checked on Monday, 9 Aug 21.

"August" courtesy of Shutterstock.com.

AUGUST

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 3 David Behm
- 6 Jean Wartluft
- 7 Sally Kulp
- Dena Boltz
- Jane Derr
- 9 Edward Hibshman
- Loretta Firestine
- 11 Wyatt Houtz
- 12 Alan Zeller
- 15 Norman Miller
- Darryl Brown
- 18 Kenneth Patrick
- Melanie Bennetch
- Sharon Diem
- 19 Suzanne Wartluft
- 22 Abigail Frantz
- 23 Marie Heffelfinger
- 24 John Diem
- Glenn Derr

NOTE: If your name is missing, please contact the church office and provide the month, day and year.

August

Worship

August 1: Communion Sunday
In Person Worship & Live stream 9:00 am
Sacrament of Holy Communion
Sermon: The Bread of Life
Scripture: John 6:24-35
Jesus speaks to the yearnings of our heart and Jesus' spiritus by offering love, nurture, and Jesus' very self to feed our souls and provide sustenance throughout our days.

August 8: Koinonia Sunday
In Person Worship & Live stream 9:00 am
Sermon: Koinonia: Christian Community
Scripture: Ephesians 4:25-5:2
Koinonia is the Greek term used to describe the kind of community the Spirit calls us to create. Ephesians describes the steps to attaining this goal.

August 15: Quest Sunday
In Person Worship & Live stream 9:00 am
Sermon: Wisdom Quest
Scripture: 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14
Son of the great King David, Solomon will forever be known as having great wisdom. This is the story of how that happens, and what we can learn about our own character.

August 22: Psalter Sunday
In Person Worship & Live stream 9:00 am
Sermon: The Sparrow and the Swallow
Scripture: Psalm 84
The Psalter was/is the prayer book, songbook, poetry and much more for the people of Israel and for we who follow Christ as well. Psalm 84 describes the blessings of a close relationship with God.

August 29: Thanks for Summer Sunday
In Person Worship & Live stream 9:00 am
Sermon: Thanks for Summer
Scripture: James 1:17-27
Please wear the clothes tht speak to your best experiences this summer ... vacation, working n the garden, time with family, and be ready to share what gave you the richest blessings during the summer of '21!!!

Photo by Brian Taylor on Unsplash.com

grab

&

go

Photo by Emma Bauso on Pexels.com



Come! Visit the Social Hall.

A collection of electronics and other items have been gathered together to take to the Lebanon Recycling Center. In the interest of "one person's trash is another person's treasure," you are invited to browse through the items and take what you want. This is **NOT** part of "take one-leave one!"



New Horizons

The Lebanon Association Parish Life New Horizons group will gather on August 21st at the Jonestown Community Park, 295 S Mill ST, Jonestown PA. The pot luck lunch begins at noon with Bingo and games to follow. Please bring a "prize" to donate for the games.

Address Change

Helen Rabold has moved to Spang Crest Manor. Her mailing address is Spang Crest Manor, 945 Duke St, Rm, 124, Lebanon PA 17042-7216

Staff Vacations

Office Manager: 31 Jul through 8 Aug
Finance Manager: 10 Aug through 17 Aug; 26 Aug through 29 Aug
Parish Administrator: 16 Aug through 29 Aug

Wood Crafts

Still available in
"Ellen's" Classroom.
Check 'em out!

1	Romans 8	1	Samuel 17:1-54		Psalm 62
2	2 Corinthians 1:1-2:4		2 Kings 14		Micah 4:1-5:1
3	2 Corinthians 2:5-3:18		2 Kings 15-16		Micah 5:2-15
4	2 Corinthians 4:1-5:10		2 Kings 17		Micah 6
5	2 Corinthians 5:11-6:13		2 Kings 18		Micah 7
6	2 Corinthians 6:14-7:16		2 Kings 19		Nahum 1
7	2 Corinthians 8		2 Kings 20-21		Nahum 2
8	2 Corinthians 9		2 Kings 22:1-23:35		Nahum 3
9	2 Corinthians 10		2 Kings 23:36-24:20		Habakkuk 1
10	2 Corinthians 11		2 Kings 25		Habakkuk 2
11	2 Corinthians 12		1 Chronicles 1-2		Habakkuk 31
12	2 Corinthians 13		1 Chronicles 3-4		Zephaniah 1
13	John 1:1-18		1 Chronicles 5-6		Zephaniah 2
14	John 1:19-34		1 Chronicles 7-8		Zephaniah 3
15	John 1:35-51		1 Chronicles 9		Haggai 1:1-2:23
16	John 2		1 Chronicles 10-11		Zechariah1
17	John 3:1-21		1 Chronicles 12		Zechariah2
18	John 3:22-36		1 Chronicles 13-14		Zechariah3
19	John 4:1-26		1 Chronicles 15:1-16:6		Zechariah4
20	John 4:27-42		1 Chronicles 16:7-43		Zechariah5
21	John 4:43-54		1 Chronicles 17		Zechariah6
22	John 5:1-18		1 Chronicles 18-19		Zechariah7
23	John 5:19-47		1 Chronicles 20:1-22:1		Zechariah8
24	John 6:1-21		1 Chronicles 22:2-23:32		Zechariah9
25	John 6:22-59		1 Chronicles 24		Zechariah10
26	John 6:60-71		1 Chronicles 25-26		Zechariah11
27	John 7:1-24		1 Chronicles 27-28		Zechariah12
28	John 7:25-52		1 Chronicles 29		Zechariah13
29	John 8:1-20		2 Chronicles 1:1-2:16		Zechariah14
30	John 8:21-47		2 Chronicles 2:17-5:1		
					Malachi 1:1-2:9
31	John 8:48-59		2 Chronicles 5:2-14		Malachi 2:10-4:7

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR
August
2021
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