

TIDINGS

The Monthly Newsletter of Forks United Church of Christ
No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey...

you are welcome here!

What We've Been Up To...

Confirmation



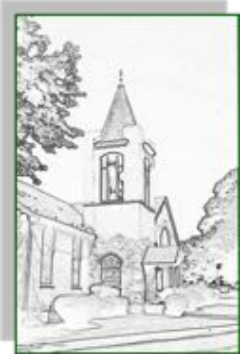
Memorial Day

End of Sunday School Picnic



Giving Back





On June 25th, we will be celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the United Church of Christ, and, from June 30-July 4, our denomination will be engaging in its General Synod in Baltimore, MD. Perhaps coinciding with these two important events, our denomination recently unveiled a new logo, which I've included below:



You'll notice that the comma, with its theme of "God is Still Speaking", is still an important part of the logo. What's new is the blue color, which is meant to symbolize Creation elements of water and earth, and emphasize our denomination's priority of working for environmental concerns.

Along with the new logo, the UCC has also released some new language around its foundational values, new purpose, vision, and mission statements. They are:

Purpose:

To love our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength; and our neighbor as ourselves.

Vision:

United in Christ's love, a just world for all.

Mission:

United in Spirit, inspired by God's grace we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.

On the UCC. website, our General Minister and President, John Dorhauer, included some stories that align with these foundational statements:

- In a communion service held at the wall separating the US from Mexico where over 85 UCC members gathered from all across the country;
- On the Dakota lands where tribal leaders and pastors led young activists to the front lines at the Standing Rock reservation on horseback and gave them a sense of pride, purpose, and identity;
- At the Samoan Church of Hawaii on the west shore of Oahu where every Sunday the faithful gather to sing their praises to the Creator;

Here at Forks United Church of Christ, we have our own stories to tell:

- YOU sponsoring a missionary, Eric Hanlein, to travel to Guatemala to work on constructing a medical clinic there;

- One of our youngest members, Eleanore Hornbake, raising nearly one thousand dollars for Project Child at the Tortoise and Hare 5K Run/Walk in Wind Gap;
- VBS (Yes, Vacation Bible School) where most of the kids attending are not members of our church, and, for some of them, our free meal is a real blessing;
- A bulletin board full of thank-you notes, responding to the work we are doing to help bring about “A Just World for All”

What are some other stories that we might share with one another? I would love to hear your story. Send me an email, share with me after worship on Sunday, or even write me a letter (people still do that, right?).

I, for one, am proud, now more than ever, to be a member of this wonderful faith community we call the United Church of Christ.

Blessings,

Pastor Bob

Evangelism and Outreach

Food Bank

Thank you for continuing to remember the urgent needs which our food banks seek to address. Canned goods and other non-perishables are always in demand. Please bring **anything** you think would be appreciated.

Please keep your cans coming and place them in the pantry shelf. July’s food of the month is picnic items/condiments and August’s item is non-perishable lunchbox items.

Stand Up for Homelessness

The next Stand Up is **August 12th** from 9AM-2PM. If you would like to volunteer or are willing to cut hair, please let Gary Barraco know.

Colalillo Family ShopRite

ShopRite of Bethlehem Township has again helped in making it possible for us to feed the hungry. They donated mayonnaise, three types of beans, hamburger rolls, dressing, and macaroni that was used to make the meal that was served at Trinity Soup Kitchen on 6/24.

Making ConneXions

We are eager to know more about the people who worship with us. If you would like to share yourself and “make a connection”, please email Alice Hornbake (wmhornbake@yahoo.com) for the form. Thank you!

Featuring:

Ronda Gutekunst from Nazareth, PA is an associate teacher and has been attending Forks UCC all of her life:

★If you had to describe yourself in five words, what would they be?

If I had to describe myself I would say I am friendly, talkative, easygoing, hardworking and outgoing.

★Where do you like to vacation?

I like to take vacations throughout this beautiful country that we live in. During my lifetime I'd like to see most of the country if I can.

★What's on your bucket list?

If I had to say what's on my bucket list I could go on forever, but I've always wanted to visit New Zealand, Australia and Costa Rica to see the rainforest. I also always wanted to go on a hot air balloon ride. I'd have to find someone to do this with because my husband already informed me he would never go. :)

★If you could change something in the world, what would it be?

I feel our country would be a better place if everyone were truly treated equally.

★Which of your parents are you most like and why?

I'd have to say I'm more like my mother in many ways. We are both easygoing, sentimental, hardworking and we do not like shopping (although this usually can't be avoided and we have to do it anyway!).

★What makes you wildly happy?

It makes me wildly happy to belong to Forks U.C.C. I have many fond memories from my youth and have met many interesting, caring, wonderful people through the church, which makes me happy to be a member of a wonderful church family.

Brandon Cressman from Tatamy, PA who is an incoming sophomore at Nazareth High School and has been attending Forks UCC for 15 years:

★If you had to describe yourself in five words, what would they be?

Nice, helpful, smart, lazy, indecisive

★Where do you like to vacation?

I like to going to the beach.

★What's on your bucket list?

I want to travel to another country.

★What makes you wildly happy?

Receiving money.

★What big life changes have you recently experienced?

Starting high school last year.

Jean Nellie Wills Cooper from Nazareth, PA who is a retired office worker for Sussex Wire and has been attending Forks UCC for over 50 years:

★If you had to describe yourself in five words, what would they be?

generous, caring, non judgmental, patient

★What accomplishment are you most proud of and why?

I gave 28 gallons of blood and platelets.

★Where do you like to vacation?

Anywhere with family

★What's on your bucket list?

No bucket list!

★If you could change something in the world, what would it be?

The end of violence

★What is the most valuable life lesson you've ever learned?

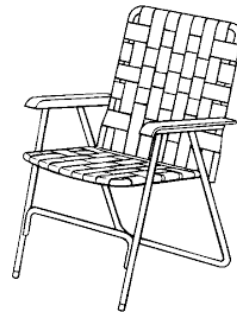
Don't care what people think of you. Keep loving them!

★What will be your legacy?

The candy lady is good enough for me.

Creative Worship

Our annual outdoor worship service will be held on Sunday, July 16th in the grove. Please bring your lawn chairs!



Christian Education

Vacation Bible School

Kingdom of the Son will take place from 6-8PM on July 17-21 this year. Dinner will be served at 5:15 each evening. We will close VBS during worship on 7/23. We hope you will join us!

Altar Flowers

There are a few Sundays remaining in 2017 to sponsor altar flowers. Please check the flower chart on the tripod in the Social Room adjacent the Sanctuary. Select your Sunday and affix your name and intention (“In honor of” or “In memory of” or “To the Glory of God”). The arrangements are \$30. Another way of showing your love is to opt out of having flowers, rather choosing to have a single candle on the altar and your flower money will be donated to a charity of your choice. This is a powerful way to honor the day but make a difference in our world. Please make checks payable to “Forks UCC” with the notation “Altar Flowers”. Simply drop your payment in the offering plate. Thank you.



Altar Flower Sponsors for July and August

July 2 - Will, Alice, & Eleanore Hornbake	August 6 - Joan & Dave Phillips
July 9 - Tammy Uhler	August 13 - Lorna & Bill Dreisbach
July 16 - Rocky Starner	August 20 - Tootsie Ortiz
July 23 - Betty Stocker	August 27 - Barbara Huff
July 30 - Lois Steward	

Those Serving

Ushers/Coin Collectors

July 2 - Steve Dewalt	August 6 - Bob Zabe
July 9 - Joan Mumaw	August 13 - Jean Cooper
July 16 - Glenn Borger	August 20 - Margaret Zabe
July 23 - Sandy Borger	August 27 - Jean Cooper
July 30 - Jean Cooper	

Greeters/Offering Collectors

July 2 - Linda and Dick Armbrust/Debbie and Steve Chesney
July 9 - Jean Cooper & Louise Bruch/Bob and Margaret Zabe
July 16 - Joan Jud & Betty Stocker/Dawn and Burt Ackerman
July 23 - Mike and Kathy Boushell/Ron and Joan Mumaw
July 30 - Lori Avery & Rocky Starner/Carol and Dave Young

August 6 - Vic and Anna Zeeman/Bill and Lorna Dreisbach
August 13 - Carole Steckel & Brenda DeLong/Bob and Dawn Trimble
August 20 - Joan and Dave Phillips/Barbara Huff & Jean Cooper
August 27 - Sandy and Glenn Borger/Alice Bartholomew & Sally Dewalt

UCC ROOTS

Remembering our History

June 2017

Our Past Shapes the Present

Today historic relationships are being renewed. On May 4, 2017 the worshipping communities of the New York Collegiate Reformed Church became part of the NY Conference of the United Church of Christ, embracing dual standing in the UCC and the Reformed Church in America.

In the 1720s when Reformed German-Swiss colonists migrated to North America and settled in Pennsylvania, they turned to New York City Dutch Reformed settlers for help.

The earliest Pennsylvania German Reformed settlers had no pastors. By 1725 church members in Falkner Swamp, Skip-pack and Whitmarsh, Pennsylvania convinced a much beloved schoolteacher, named John Philip Boehm, to preach and lead their worship. Boehm, the son of a pastor, was initially reluctant. He was not ordained. Finally he consented to serve them if the churches organized themselves, developed constitutions and voted as confirmed members. With that grass roots “congregational authorization” he began to lead communion services. It was not long, however, before later arriving German Reformed pastors attacked Boehm and refused to support his ministry.



Boehm’s congregations did not give up. They asked the Collegiate Dutch Reformed ministers in New York to seek authorization from the Classis of Amsterdam to ordain Boehm. The Dutch Reformed leaders saw that the people “earnestly and unanimously desired” Boehm’s services, and in 1729 Boehm traveled to the very same Collegiate Dutch Reformed church that is now dually affiliated with the UCC and was ordained.

For a time Dutch churches in New York and German churches in Pennsylvania worked together to organize Dutch Reformed and German Reformed churches into two regional Coetuses (what we call Conferences). Later geographic, language, cultural, and economic differences separated the two groups. The Dutch Collegiate churches became part of the Reformed Church in America. The German churches evolved into the German Reformed Church in the United States, and eventually the United Church of Christ.

History sometimes yields delightful surprises.

Contributor: Richard H. Taylor

Sign up at www.ucc.org/ucc_roots_sign_up

Celebrate with our Church Family

Happy July Birthdays

01 Debra Roth	14 Sean McCollian
01 Debbie Chesney	17 Emma Dugan
02 Casey Polkowski	18 Wayne Dewalt
02 Zachariah Wagner	20 Louise Hoy
03 Kayla Flyte	21 Lew Parker
04 Jim Martin	21 Bill Setzler
04 Barbara Huff	21 Alicia Fehnel
08 Sandy Borger	21 Abbey Fehnel
09 Fred Bolling	22 Emalie Hughes
09 Melvin Kresge	23 Betty Stocker *
09 Dallas Labar	27 Floyce Metzgar
11 Paul Keller *	27 Amanda Hendricks
11 Brenda Egolf	27 Austin Whitmore
11 Cheryl Johnson	28 Marge Markley
12 Frank Mengel Jr.	28 Kelly Berger
13 Rocky Starner	28 Jon Herres
13 Mary Jo Audenried	29 Shirley Snyder

* Paul Keller celebrates his 92nd birthday and Betty Stocker celebrates her 93rd birthday. Happy, Happy Birthday to both of you! Contact the church office for addresses.

July Anniversaries

Brenda & Bob Egolf	7/01/1961
Laraine & Melvin Kresge	7/02/1960
Diane & Lew Parker	7/15/1967
Amy & Will Knitter Jr.	7/15/1989
Sandy & Bob Perrine	7/21/1973
Denise & Paul Polkowski	7/23/1983
Dawn & Chad Wagner	7/24/2004
Kate & Brian Jones	7/25/2003
Bobbi & Ritchey Ricci	7/30/1966

Teen Prayer List

Abbie Buck, Tyler Avery, Larissa Bernecker, Sakura Bolte, Takumi Bolte, Masaki Bolte, Abbey Chesney, Brandon Cressman, Olivia DiPierdomenico, Sophia DiPierdomenico, Makayla Fleming, Christopher Flyte, Karlee Flyte, Ashleigh Gaul, Emily Gutekunst, Julia Gutekunst, Tommy Gutekunst, Derek Hammerstone, Diana Hammerstone, Emilee Hendricks, Abbi Hoke, Kyle Hoke, Michael Lopresti, Jayson Mitch, Rebecca Mitch, Tyler Mitch, Julia Ortiz, Georgia Pump, Hailey Quier, Ethan Riehl, Breanna Schneebeli, Cayden Shook, Alexandria Wood, Emma Wood

Confirmands

Evan Dugan, Shanon McCollian, Katelyn Raymond, Tanner Riehl, Tagan Steward, Landon Uhler

Visitation List

Please see the Church Directory or contact the Church office or a member of the visitation team for addresses. Earl & Dolly Abel, Fred Bolling, Mary Correll, Corinne Eberts, Tony Jiorle, Dorothy Kortz, Marge Markley, Winnie Mengle, Patti O'Donnell, Jane Rader, Florence Saylor, Irene Tenges, Marge (Koch) Ziegenfuss

July 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 4th Sunday after Pentecost 10AM Communion NO 8AM service	3	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5	6	7	8
9 5th Sunday after Pentecost 10AM Installation of New Committee Members	10 7PM Stewardship & Finance 7PM Christian Ed.	11	12	13	14	15
16 6th Sunday after Pentecost 10AM Outdoor Worship <i>Bring your lawn chair</i>	17 Vacation Bible School 5:15PM Dinner 6PM VBS Program	18 Vacation Bible School 5:15PM Dinner 6PM VBS Program	19 Vacation Bible School 5:15PM Dinner 6PM VBS Program	20 Vacation Bible School 5:15PM Dinner 6PM VBS Program	21 Vacation Bible School 5:15PM Dinner 6PM VBS Program	22
23 7th Sunday after Pentecost 10AM Closing of VBS during worship	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 8th Sunday after Pentecost	31	Notes:				

Sundays
8AM - Meditative Worship
10AM - Worship



August 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Ice Cream Festival 5-9:30PM	3	4	5
6 9th Sunday after Pentecost 10AM Communion	7	8 6PM Spiritual Council 7PM Consistory	9	10	11	12 Stand Up for Homelessness 9AM-2PM
13 10th Sunday after Pentecost	14 7PM Stewardship/ Finance	15 6PM Spiritual Council 7PM Consistory	16	17	18	19
20 11th Sunday after Pentecost	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 12th Sunday after Pentecost	28	29	30	31	Notes:	

Sundays
 8AM - Meditative Worship
 10AM - Worship

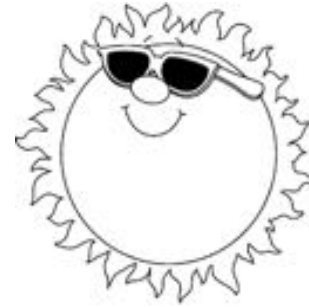


Celebrate with our Church Family

Happy August Birthdays

02 Kathy Boushell	16 Kalyn Kolb
02 Adam Audenried	16 Emma Wood
02 Alyvia Fry	17 Vickie Frace
04 Elizabeth Durie	19 Jim Schaadt
04 Michael Smialkowski	20 Breanna Schneebeli
04 Randy Fry	20 Ian Nuss
05 Dorothy Kortz	22 Lorna Dreisbach
05 Karen Werner	23 Sandy Schaadt
05 Jean Cooper	24 Adam Polkowski
06 Darin Steward	25 Sally Dewalt
06 Donald Riehl	25 Mary Correll
07 Emily Aicher	25 Jeff Uhler
08 Florence Saylor*	27 Carter Duarte
08 Travis Woolverton	28 Bob Trimble
09 Alick Killian	28 Beth Butz
11 Noelle Smialkowski	29 Michael Prentice
12 Rose Smialkowski	29 James Hancik
12 Diane Flick	30 Mindy Hahn
12 Sariena Alfinito	30 Cody Allen
13 Dawn Pump	31 Laura Butz
16 Pat Myers	31 Michael Rinaldi

* Florence will be celebrating her 96th birthday on August 8th. Contact the church office for her address. Happy birthday, Florence!



August Anniversaries

Joan & Dave Phillips	8/07/1956
Tammy & Irv Angstadt	8/09/1980
Margaret & Bob Zabe	8/14/1965
Joanne & J.R. Mitch	8/14/1992
Karen & Dale Bernecker	8/15/1987
Louise & Art Bruch	8/27/1994

Congratulations!

Our best wishes for continued success to the following graduates:

Justin Chesney	Hofstra University
Laura Dewalt	University of Kentucky Medical School
Karlee Flyte	Bangor Area High School
Emily Gutekunst	Easton Area High School

Arabella LeeAnn Brown was baptized on June 11, 2017. Arabella's parents are Heather and Stephen Brown.

Olivia Grace Fuente was baptized on June 18, 2017. She is the daughter of Jennifer and Christopher Fuente.

We wish Arabella and Olivia and their families God's blessings as they all grow in their faith.

