

What We've Been Up To...

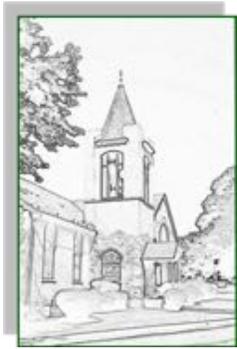


Children's message fun

Mother's Day
Tea fun



Painting, praying, and
pizza fun



As I am writing this, we are approaching Memorial Day, and soon after, in the church, the celebration of the Rite of Confirmation and the end-of-the-year Sunday School Picnic. And, after that, a general lull in activity. With Summer comes vacations and other activities, and a general decrease in attendance and participation at the church, so we usually take a break from such things as Bible studies, choirs, and Sunday School. Our break basically coincides with the Summer break for kids, which I'm sure most of them are looking forward to at this time of the year.

In my family, we never really went to any exotic locations or did anything particularly exciting during Summer break when I was a kid. But I still loved and remember fondly those times of Summer vacation, even though I spent a lot of that time, technically, "doing nothing." I got up early, every morning, to deliver newspapers, and I stayed up late, every night, gathered under the street lamp down the street with my friends, just talking (back when it was safe to do so). In between, we spent a lot of time playing sports, hanging out at the neighborhood pool, collecting bugs to examine with my Microscope Kit, making up games and ways to keep ourselves occupied, and spending every waking hour outside in the sun (again, back when it was considered safe to do so). As singer Bryan Adams sang, "the Summer seemed to last forever."

Over the last few decades, there have been lots of articles written by education experts, suggesting that the school year should be lengthened, and, perhaps, Summer vacation should be eliminated altogether. Some of the reasoning includes the research that kids forget some of what they learned over the Summer, that teachers have to re-educate them, and the kids in our country are not keeping up with international students, who go to school year-round, and are therefore not able to compete in the global economy. I'm sure that a lot of these experts' opinions and research are valid, but I'm not sure doing away with Summer vacation is a good thing.

I was at a recent college visit with my daughter, Julia. The admissions officer giving the presentation assured us that 96% of graduating seniors would find employment in their field within the first year after graduation. He guaranteed that "your kids will be prepared for the rest of their lives" after leaving this particular university. I kind of doubt that. I actually think that there is nothing, really, that will prepare Julia for the rest of her life- she will have to live it and figure things out along the way. Don't get me wrong, I'm all for higher education, and I'm not one of those individuals who believes that everything was better back in the "golden age" of my childhood. I just believe that there are certain things in life that can't be learned in a classroom. And I believe that life is about more than just "achievement".

Jesuit priest, Bill Creed, tells a wonderful story about the Mississippi River. It is a huge body of water. On the surface, it has all of these cross-currents, moving in every possible direction. But, underneath, deep down in the river, is a current that keeps the river moving, down toward the Gulf of Mexico. It is that deep current that gives the river life. In our lives, we have all kinds of cross-currents on the surface- for students, "How will I do on my SAT or ACT tests" "Can I compete in a global economy"...for us older adults, "Can I pay my mortgage?" "Will I ever be able to retire?" "Can I keep up with my neighbors?" The only way to live in the deep current is to hit the pause button, to let your life speak to you, to discover what is real and what is illusory. Sounds like just the kind of activity that Summer vacation is suited for!

Happy Summer,

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. June's food of the month is picnic items and healthy cereal. We are also in need of goodies for kids such as shelf stable jello, pudding snack packs, fruit roll ups, and packs of cookies.

Trinity Soup Kitchen

Our next date to serve lunch is July 14th from 10:30-1:30. We'd love to have you!

Relay for Life

Relay For Life is coming up on Friday, June 8 at 3PM through Saturday, June 9th at 12PM.

We hope you will mark your calendar with the dates and come over to walk a lap with us, spend time getting to know us or catching up in the tent, or just connecting with God and those loved ones in your life who have suffered from cancer.

Nazareth Middle School, 94 Friedenstahl Ave., Nazareth, PA



Creative Worship

We encourage you to wear **RED** on Sunday, June 3rd for our celebration of Pentecost. Also....mark your calendar for Sunday, July 15th as our outdoor worship service in the grove.

Consistory

The reorganizational meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 12th at 7PM. If you are on a committee, please plan to attend.

Stewardship and Finance

Text to Give is now set up. You can text the amount you'd like to donate to the church at any time. Text it to 610-981-1921. Then you will receive a link to register where you can verify the amount you'd like donated. You can receive an email receipt. You will then be set up for future text to give donations. We hope this is an option for some of our visitors and current members.

Christian Education

Sunday School Picnic

Please join us in celebrating the end of the Sunday School year at our picnic after worship on Sunday, June 10th in the grove. We will have games and fun while sharing fellowship. There will be a food sign up sheet in the fellowship hall.

Confirmation

Please join us on Sunday, June 3, 2018, as our confirmands complete their studies with Pastor Bob and are confirmed. We will wish them the very best in their continued spiritual journey.

Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School this year: July 16th-20th. Please see Amanda Knitter if you'd like to volunteer!



Graduation

Please inform the church office if you know someone who is **graduating from area high schools or an institution of higher learning** so we can inform the congregation of your accomplishment. Call the Church Office, 610.759.5676, with name of individual and name of high school or other.



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:

Rob Grogg from Easton, PA is a Vice President Securities Lending Group at Prudential Financial and has been attending Forks UCC for over a year:

★What’s on your bucket list?

to see a baseball game at every MLB stadium

★Where do you like to vacation?

Las Vegas

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

that there would be no terminal illnesses

★What makes you wildly happy?

playing softball

★What big life changes have you recently experienced?

children getting older, starting to drive and look at colleges



Thank You

The Paint, Pray, Pizza party was a success. We made a donation to Girls on the Run. Many thanks to Amy Knitter for the delicious homemade pizza, Amanda Knitter for refreshing teas, Pastor Bob for his prayer exercises, Anthony Newett for help with the PowerPoint and use of his projector, Alyssa Knitter, Larissa Bernecker and Shawna for all of their help, and finally thanks to all who attended.

Altar Flowers

If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, 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 Guild for June - Verna Bolte

Altar Flower Sponsors for June

June 3 - Karen & Dale Bernecker
June 10 - Betsy & Craig Warner
June 17 - Jeff & Brenda Stoudt
June 24 - Carol Kleinle, Mackenzie

Those Serving

Greeters/Offering Collectors

June 3 - Carol & Dave Young/Cindy Aicher and Amy Knitter
June 10 - Lorna & Bill Driesbach/Rocky Starner and Kim Starner
June 17 - Sandy & Glenn Borger/Dawn & Bob Trimble
June 24 - Barbara Huff and Lois Steward/Brenda DeLong and Jean Cooper



Celebrate with our Church Family

Happy June Birthdays

01 Talon Fry	16 Louise Bruch
05 Lori Avery	16 Alicia Hancik
06 Dale Starner	16 Alice Hornbake
07 Shawna Bernecker	16 Abigail Chesney
08 Bill Cooper Jr.	17 Gloria Francis
09 Amy Richard	18 Rob Grogg
09 Richard Allen	19 Colleen Altieri
09 Chad Wagner	21 Rhonda Herres
10 Charles Kolb	23 Porter Ringhoff
11 Michael Correll	24 Diana Mumaw
12 Kara Hartzell	27 Cindy Aicher
13 Dennis Hahn	27 Alexandria Pump
14 Sandy Perrine	28 Henry Pump Jr.
14 Gavin Gaul	28 Ashley Cressman
15 Jennifer Lively	29 Alice Bartholomew
15 Sandy Fehnel	29 Will Schneebeli



June Anniversaries

Paula & Michael Correll	6/03/1979
Rob & Julie Grogg	6/06/1998
Dolly & Earl Abel	6/07/1947
Catherine & Michael Tirrell	6/11/1993
Alice & Richard Bartholomew	6/12/1956
Tammy & Jeff Uhler	6/12/1999
Brenda & Jeff Stoudt	6/16/1978
Alison & Brett Fleming	6/18/1994
Alice & Will Hornbake	6/18/2005
Terry & Keith Kresge	6/19/1993
Gloria & Walt Francis	6/20/1970
Jean & Bill Cooper	6/22/1968
Kay & Glenn Kromer	6/23/1962
Rose & Mike Smialkowski	6/26/1983
Sarah & Lenny Ringhoff	6/26/2004
Anna & Jim Laudenslager	6/27/1970
Alicia & Jim Hancik	6/30/2001

Confirmands

Ashley Cressman, Gavin Gaul, Hannah Gutekunst, Shanon McCollian, Tanner Riehl, Samantha Shook, Tagan Steward, Riley Williams

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, Dorthy Kortz, Marge Markley, Florence Saylor, Perma Seiple, Irene Tenges, Bonnie Warren

June 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 <i>Communion</i> Confirmation No Sunday School	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 3rd Sunday after Pentecost End of Sunday School picnic	11 7PM Stewardship/ Finance	12 6PM Spiritual Council 6:30PM Consistory Meeting/ Reorganiza tion	13	14	15	16
17 4th Sunday after Pentecost Happy Father's Day!	18 6:30PM Adult Fellowship Doggie Roast/ Meeting	19 6:30PM Evangelism & Outreach	20 Strawberry Festival 5-9:30PM (rain date - 6/21)	21	22	23
24 5th Sunday after Pentecost	25 7PM Christian Ed. 61 st Anniversary of the United Church of Christ Happy Birthday to Us!	26 6:30PM Parish Life	27	28	29	30

Sundays
8AM - Meditative Worship
10AM - Worship

