

COMMUNIQUE



June

2021

SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

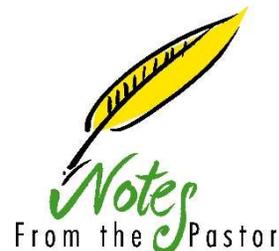
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A GROWING CHURCH
MEETING YOUR GROWING NEEDS



June 6 **Proper 5 (10) Second Sunday after Pentecost**
Genesis 3:8-15
Psalm 138
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1
“Heavenly House”

June 13 **Proper 6 (11) Third Sunday after Pentecost**
Ezekiel 17:22-24
2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17
Mark 4:26-34
“Hope in Unexpected Places”

June 20 **TBA**

June 27 **TBA**

COMING UP IN JULY

(Subject to change)

July 4 Independence Day

July 19-23 ELC Summer Camp

*“By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established;
through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures...
Know also that wisdom is like honey for you: If you find it, there is a future hope for
you, and your hope will not be cut off.”*

(Proverbs 24: 3-4; 14)

Dear Members and Friends of Shiloh UCC,

We have just started our visioning process, and I am so excited to hear all the inspirational ideas. I am excited to find out what God has in store for Shiloh, UCC. I know we will discover many ways we can serve God. God will bless us with creative ways to reach out to our neighbors, and invite them to church. As a congregation, we will prudently discern where God is leading us.

What is wise to do right now? What is wise to accomplish in a year? And what is wise to achieve in the next five years? Where is wisdom leading us?

God has definitely gathered a faithful visioning group. I'm glad to see excited people who get together with open hearts and minds every month to be a part of the process. The excitement lets me know we are in the middle of a rebirth. God is up to something. As we have said before: everyone's invited. You are welcome to join the Visioning Team any time you feel like God is calling you to help us move forward.

One of the ideas that we already would like to implement is having two services Sunday mornings. I know the congregation has tried it before under different leadership. But the need for more space makes it logical and necessary to have two services. Let's stay opened minded, and united on this issue. The two services will begin the second Sunday in September. This will give people more opportunities to worship God at Shiloh UCC.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE (Cont'd)

The two services will be basically identical. The prayers, sermons, and other liturgical parts will be the same. However, the music will be a bit different. The 8:30 AM service will stay a traditional type of service with mostly organ music, and the 11:00 AM service will be a blended service with traditional, gospel, and praise music.

I don't expect our musicians to stay for the whole morning every Sunday, so I will need volunteer musicians who can help support the 11:00 AM service. What instrument did you play when you were younger? It's time to dust off that old trumpet, flute, violin, or bass guitar, and make some music. Please, contact Maira or myself if you are able to help make a joyful noise for the Lord!

Between the two services we would like to restart Sunday School, as well. We will be looking for people who are willing to lead adult Christian Education classes. During that time, I would like to start a Confirmation class for those who are 12 years and older, but are not confirmed yet. Please, contact our office if you are interested in participating in a confirmation class, or teaching Christian Education.

I have been encouraging you to invite people to our worship services. At this point however we are still social distancing and sometimes we don't have enough room for everyone who shows up. With two services we won't have to worry about all our family members showing up at the same time. I will continue to encourage you to invite people as often as possible. We are growing to meet the greater need!

I am glad and grateful for all our members. You are the church! You are a faithful congregation who will continue to do wonderful things. So I am encouraged and hopeful that our lives together will bear lots of fruit. There are great signs on the horizon. With God, everything's possible. So it makes sense to be glad and grateful for our families, our spiritual home, Shiloh UCC, and our ministries together.

*With love in Christ,
Pastor Melinda*



MAY CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

President's Report- Marsha read a letter from Jay Mummert. Following discussion and a motion by Sallie Hagerman and Jane Harrison, Consistory approved including in next month's Communique, the information presented in Jay Mummert's letter about the new building fund for the Dover Heritage Senior Center.

Pastor's Report- *Worship

- Since our last Consistory meeting, we have been having in-person worship services. I have received a lot of positive feedback about our services and the hard work of our Consistory. Thank you for all of your hard work!
- Live-streaming is wonderful and "well attended" (thank you, Jaron!). People can also watch the services at a later time. Great work!
- April 24th Smeal wedding
- April 28th Harry Jacoby Memorial Service
- May 2nd Music Sunday - Thank you for a beautiful experience!
- May 9th Mother's Day - Tank was our guest preacher.
- Suggestion has been made for September to go back to two worship services. Volunteer musicians would be needed for the second service (at least for "Prelude" and "Postlude.") The second service would be a "blended" worship service (NOT contemporary!) with both traditional hymns/music and "praise" music. (There are many reasons for (re)starting a second service; one of them is to offer a later worship service for younger families (with kids); also, "social distancing" will not allow our "whole" congregation to return and worship at the same time.)
 - Sunday School would meet between the two services
 - I would like to start a Confirmation class in September that would meet between the two services (or possibly at a different time, depending on suggestions and requests.)

***Administration**

- I attended the scheduled meetings when possible.
- April 21st – First Visioning Team meeting was held
- I suggest continued research on updating "wedding" numbers.
- Suggested giving the opportunity to on-line viewers for monetary donations with a donation button included on our videos. Jaron will research any newer possibilities.

***Pastoral Care**

- Restarted in-person visits – mostly by requests.
- 1 hospital visit
- 1 home visit
- 3 nursing home visits
- I have been meeting with our members in my office, as well.

***Contact with the larger UCC**

I receive their newsletters and other communication. I will be attending the Penn Central Conference's Annual Meeting on June 12.

MAY CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

New business-

- A. Sign-up sheet for Consistory Sunday duties will be completed through August. Maira is contacting ushers using the schedule on the Team sheets created for 2021.
- B. Stratix Proposal needs to be reviewed - Pastor Melinda and Maira are brainstorming how to make bulletins better or more modern - not sure if a new printer is necessary but we have an idea of cost. Jaron offered to help.
- C. Mother's Day offering designation went to the Lehman Center, as suggested by the Stewardship Committee
- D. COVID contact process – Maira will check the attendance list if informed by someone in the congregation of a positive test result.
- E. Beginning Sunday, May 31, most Covid restrictions will be lifted for Shiloh UCC. The only restriction remaining in place will be the wearing of masks by anyone in the church.
 - We will return to singing hymns June 6. Bibles and hymnals will be returned to the pews.
 - We will start to utilize the greeters' schedule for greeters to continue at the Welcome Center through the summer. A new sign-in sheet will be prepared for use in the fall.
 - We will continue the same method of distribution of Communion, at least through the summer, with Communion being made available in the narthex, and participants taking it with them to their seats.
 - We will continue to keep all doors locked throughout the service, with the exception of the doors at the Welcome Center.
 - Childcare will be provided for both services. It is mandatory that there be two qualified caretakers per service.
 - Marsha will announce at services that a few pews in the front of the church will remain as “social distancing” pews, for those who wish to continue to social distance. It was also requested that everyone continue to use the outer aisles to enter the sanctuary, since video equipment is placed in the center aisle. There will be no formal dismissal after June 1 and any and all aisles may be used when leaving. There will be no streaming after June 1.
 - Offering plates will continue to be placed in the back of the church.
- F. **Health and Safety** -Maira will be given the information needed to purchase new pediatric and adult pads for the AED machines. It was also noted there are a few lights not working. Jeff will confirm that the work is done.
- G. Marsha will have Maira make information available for the Strengthen The Church offering on May 23.

MAY CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

- H. In response to a request to use Room 100 for a funeral luncheon while still under Covid restrictions, Consistory approved its use, with the following requirements: The family will provide the food; the family will set up the tables and bring their own paper products, etc.
- I. Jeff has received a Cleaning proposal from Coverall for \$3,812 monthly and will procure one more proposal.
- J. Following a Jane Harrison/Norina Bentzel motion, Consistory approved Maira's vacation requests for July 19-23 (Monday-Friday), Tuesday Sept 7, Friday Nov. 26 & Monday Dec. 27, with the stipulation that there be replacement office coverage.
- K. Jane Harrison is researching other companies to contract for bulletins, since we have no more pre-printed bulletins and the subscription was cancelled. In the meantime, Maira can design the front, being mindful of copyright limitations because of videotaping.

Unfinished Business - Reconsidering committee structure/By-Laws Review.

Worship and Music-

- We need a new acolyte mentor/coordinator
- Sunday May 16 service will recognize Penny Hombach for her faithful work with acolytes
- Sunday May 23 (Pentecost Sunday) -The Annual Church Picnic will be held outside at Cousler Park beginning at 10:00 a.m., followed by lunch and then a sing-a-long. Attendees will wear red and bring their own lunch)
- ELC Sunday will be May 30. The data projector will be needed.
- Graduates will be recognized in June.
- Following a Sallie Hagerman/Steve Sechriest motion, Consistory approved starting to hold a second worship service on Sunday mornings, generally following the criteria listed under Pastor's report.
- Member anniversaries will be recognized in the fall.

Church Life- Sallie Hagerman has been touching base with Church Life committees to ascertain future plans.

Outreach/Evangelism-

- The Visioning Committee will be asked to proceed with plans to provide nametags.
- Advertisements for church functions will be considered.
- An outreach for current members needs to be conducted.

Christian Ed- Marsha Reiber and Sallie Hagerman reported they are starting to plan for Sunday School and Youth activities. Pastor Melinda will work with them to find new materials.

ELC-Classes are almost completely full, though some openings in the 3's classes still exist.

- Teachers will have Back to School videos for families to view before coming to “Drop in” day in August.

MAY CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

- First week of school is slated for week of September 7, 2021
- ELC Sunday is May 30. Videos of students are being prepared.
- Registration for summer camps is being conducted now. There seems to be a lot of interest.
- Teacher Appreciation gifts were given to the ELC Preschool staff and on May 20 in-service, Sarah's Creamery truck will provide ice cream to the staff. Donations were secured from parents of preschoolers.
- Next meeting is August 2, 2021 at 5 pm in Room 100.

Communication and Technology –Phone line in Pastor's office simply does not work. Jeff will talk to Lew Wallace.

- Needs:
 - New computers
 - Phones
 - Office/Pastor printer/copier
 - Pastor's monitor
 - Electrical rewiring
 - New soundboard - Lew got a new soundboard donated. He is working on configuring it.
 - Computer/laptop for the back of the church
 - Smart TV (65")

*We have 3 people being trained to stream video

*Jaron will delete all audio recordings of services and keep the last 20 video recordings of services.

Stewardship-

- The Stewardship committee recommended designating the Mother's Day offering for the Lehman Center.
- Love offering envelopes will be made available to collect for ELC Bibles as a special offering and the information will be Included in the Communique and bulletins.
- The Stewardship Challenge will be used to help build up the Parish Fund for use by the pastor for people in need.
- Thank you notes are being sent to Soup Kitchen volunteers and Pastor Melinda.

Property Committee-

- The parsonage tenant moved in on April 24
- Work crew re-laid pavers and placed mulch in the parsonage flower beds
- Repairs were made to exit lighting at the ELC entry doors, elevator lighting fixtures and gallery fixture. The re-lamping has been completed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Marsha Reiber, Consistory President*

MISSIONARY NEWS

Greetings to everyone from Limon where the weather forecast is rain sun or sun rain almost every day! I guess you can't expect much else since we live in the rain forest. Just want to update you on what is happening here in Costa Rica. We are currently in a second big wave of Covid cases. Our hospitals and ICU beds are filled to capacity. Tents have been set up at most hospitals to handle overflow. The government had to reinstate driving restrictions and reduce capacity in restaurants, stores, etc. The public schools will be closed for two months. Most students ride public buses to schools and parents or guardians travel back and forth with them so this reduces on number of people commuting on buses. About 6% of our population has been vaccinated and the government is seeking to acquire more vaccines. Crosby and I both have been vaccinated and are encouraging others to do so. Our borders remain open and the government is trying to prevent a full shutdown. We are still holding our church services Sunday morning, Bible Study and pray on Tuesday, and Street meeting on Friday following guidelines.



The women of our church have been holding prayer and fasting once a month with other church sisters from the community. When I went to pick up Sister Elizabeth, who is our oldest member at 102, I wasn't sure she would be there. It rained the night before and the path that she walks is muddy and up a hill to reach to the road. I told her I was surprised to see her and she said, "Nothing will stop me or hold me back from worshipping my God."

The message that morning was that **God is Looking for a church with Character and Determination.** Throughout the years Sister Elizabeth has been determined to bring her children, grandchildren, great, great great, and great great great grandchildren to the Lord. Her faithfulness and commitment has been an example not only to them but to others in the community and church. She continues to pray for her family, those who are lost, laying hands on the sick and believing that they will come to Christ. Sister Elizabeth stands with character and determination as she shares the Gospel, nothing is holding her back!

MISSIONARY NEWS (Cont'd)

Acts 4:18-20

“Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

Praying that you and those we serve may have character and determination as Sister Elizabeth has shown us, that nothing will hold us back from sharing the Love of Christ during these difficult times.

*Kingdom building in Costa Rica,
Crosby and Sally Johnson*



We continue to seek prayer for:

Safety and physical well-being for us, those we serve, family, and friends

God's favor through Monthly financial support and prayer to meet the needs of our mission

Hearing God's voice clearly and being led by the Spirit as we minister to our community

Specific needs are replacement of window frames at mission house, repair of sensors in van, rewiring for the church and fixing foundation issues

Sharing God's love and being a witness by accepting people where they are on their life journey

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2020/2021 GRADUATES!



Jackson Miller – Proud Parents, Mark and Jen Miller

2020 graduate of West York Area High School

Jackson is currently attending Frostburg State University majoring in Wildlife and Fisheries Management. He had a great first college swim season.

Madison Miller – Proud Parents, Mark and Jen Miller

2020 graduate of Juniata College

Madison has been working at Keybridge Communications firm in Washington, DC since June 2020. She writes op-ed and opinion pieces for clients.

Ethan Ness – Proud Parents, Kenneth and Karen Ness

2021 graduate of Central York High School

Ethan has been accepted to attend Penn State York.



Women's Fellowship



The Women's Guild will meet on **Monday June 7 at 1 p.m. in room 100**. Please be advised we will social distance and wear masks. The program will be from our study book **Bad Girls of the Bible**. Chapter Five: The First Cut Is the Deepest – *Delilah: Bad to the Bone*. Carolyn Poff will be leading this chapter. *We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.*

Casting Crowns with special guests Cain will perform on Thursday, July 29th at 8pm at the York State Fair. ALL Grandstand show tickets include admission to the Fair when presented at the entrance gates to the Fair on the date of the Grandstand Show. Ticket sales range from \$20-\$35. Please call or email Linda Little to reserve your ticket! 717-309-4523 or Lslcmt@yahoo.com



Hoffman Homes for Youth provides comprehensive psychiatric care, treatment, and education to emotionally and behaviorally troubled children and their families. The children placed at Hoffman are considered very high risk. Last year 99 children were helped, with 92% of them meeting their treatment goals. The therapy programs at Hoffman offer help for the children to express and build self-confidence. The purpose of the **Friends of Hoffman Homes** has been to acquaint supporters within the churches with the mission of Hoffman Homes for Youth, and also to educate supporters of the unique programs that HHY offers to the children in care. The Friends group has membership drives each year to help with the extras for the children. You can help to support them with a donation of \$5.00 or more. Funds will be collected during the **month of June** and can be given to Carolyn Poff. Any checks should be made out to **Hoffman Homes for Youth**. **Thank you for your support.**



On Sunday, May 16, **Penny Hombach** was recognized for her role as the Acolyte Coordinator. She served in this role for **43 years**, making certain the candles were lit and the acolytes were in place. This recognition marks her retirement from this job.

We are now looking for someone to replace her. If you are interested, please contact the office.

*Thank you,
Jane Harrison*

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift of \$265 given to the Salvation Army of York. York County is blessed with caring, giving people that willingly offer what they can to help others. With your support, we continue to keep hope alive in those who are going through tough times.

*Sincerely,
Bessie Babbitt, Major*

Dear Shiloh UCC,

I am so grateful and beyond humbled to be able to call 2255 Willow Road my home. It's a dream of mine to provide a dwelling such as this, to my daughters. I know society pushes homeownership as a platform of success. However, God's favor is way more important and awarding. This house is my home and who better to have as neighbors than the body of Christ! Not only do I feel safe. I feel at peace! This house is beautiful inside and out! I am thankful for the support and welcome you've given me. Thank you so much for not only affording me the opportunity to live in a dream home but for the generous gift card! I look forward to many years in this house. My daughters and I thank you.

*God Bless you!
Melissa, Ciara and Carina*



OUR SYMPATHY to the family and friends of **Helen M. Luckenbaugh** who passed away on May 8, 2021. Pastor Melinda officiated her service on May 29, 2021.

OUR SYMPATHY to the family and friends of **Philip T. Myers** who passed away on May 16, 2021. His service will be held private.



Memorial Gifts were received in memory of **Gordon R. "Skip" Heath Jr.** from Christian Hoover, Charlie and Norma Hull, Roberta Lighty, Gerald and Carmen Richards, Oscar and Karen Bupp, Rosabel Bentzel, Brad and Sue Jacobs, Romaine Walton, Ralph Winter and Stanley and Janet Reiber.

Memorial Gifts were received in memory of **Harry E. Jacoby** from Dale Hamme, Marlyn and Julia Hahn, Charlie and Norma Hull, Shirley Lohmann, Deb and Dave Althoff and family, Judy Feeser, Keith and Elaine Krout, Nelson and Pat Roth, Maxine Sunday and Paula March, Ray and Sandy Fox, Gloria Melhorn, Jeffrey and Colleen Loser, Beverly Sunday, Wayne and Theda Jacoby, Joan Hamme, Robert and Barbara Lookingbill, Gail Chronister, Sally Reiber, Milton and Beverly Hoak, Gladys Seigman, David and MaryAlice Green, Donald and Jeanie Bentzel, Sandra and Donald Clark, John and Janice Herrold, Oscar and Karen Bupp, James and Rosemary Bentzel, Gary and Sandra Aughenbaugh, John Cori and Jean Treber, Dale and Sonia Rohrbaugh, Mark and Bonnie Bentzel, Jan and Ross Hopple, Barbara Baumgardner, Brad and Sue Jacobs, Romaine Walton, Julene Bechtel, Donna and Mark Myers and Stanley and Janet Reiber.

Memorial Gifts were received in memory of **Philip T. Myers** from Sara Jacoby, Stanley and Janet Reiber, Sally Reiber, Gloria Melhorn and Julene Bechtel.

JUNE BIRTHDAY'S



- June 1 Dominic Faiola
Stella Faiola
Briana Hagerman
- June 2 Leslie Spangler
Elaine Werner
- June 4 Lori Riccardi
- June 5 Sandra Barnes
- June 9 Margie Behler
- June 11 Joan Hamme
Courtney Stough
- June 13 Chanda Sayres
Stewart Wagner
- June 14 Ryan Myers
Donovan Reiber
- June 15 Donald Slenker
Shelley Stewart
- June 18 Virginia Heath
Larson Hull
Karen Melhorn
- June 20 Susan Claytor
Phyllis Myers
- June 21 Robert E. Myers

JUNE BIRTHDAY'S (Cont'd)

- June 22 James Bentzel Sr.
- June 23 Connie Copenhaver
Brady Kessler
Cindy Repman
- June 24 Courtney Bilodeau
Jessica Cramer
Eva Leezer
Olivia Pituch
- June 25 Dan Burns
Jennifer Myers
Mayson Schmidt
Nancy Sipe
- June 26 Caroline Bollinger
Claudia Bollinger
Saybein Cramer
Jaron Flickinger
Sharon Geltz
Jane Harrison
- June 27 Roberta Lighty
Alicia Baker
John Eugene Ness
- June 29 Zain Fuhrman
Paxton Pizza
- June 30 Brad Ness



“Shiloh United Church of Christ is called to show Christ’s love for all through witness, word, and worship.”

CONSISTORY

Elders

- Marsha Reiber, President
- Norina Bentzel, V. Pres.
- Jaron Flickinger
- Sallie Hagerman
- Jane Harrison
- Jeff Hershey

Deacons

- Sally Curren, Secretary
- Janene Beck
- Dani Bentzel
- Nathan Limbert
- Stephen Sechriest

- Natalie Fuhrman – Treasurer
- Stephanie Berkheimer – Financial Secretary
- Jeanie Bentzel – Church School Superintendent

THE CHURCH STAFF

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Pastor | Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.
pastormelinda@shilohucc.com |
| Director of Music | Stephanie Limbert |
| Organist | Sandy Bamberger |
| Missionaries in Costa Rica | Crosby and Sally Jane Johnson |
| Administrative Assistant | Maira Rivera |
| Early Learning Center | Allison Hartnett |
| Church Office Phone Number | 717-764-3569 |
| Church Email Address | office@shilohucc.com |
| Website | www.shilohuccyorkpa.org |



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