

The Beacon

The Newsletter of
St. Paul's
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
McConnellsburg, PA

Trinity
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
Fort Loudon, PA

June 2023

“Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18kjv

June 18 Happy Father's Day



On this day when we remember what it means to have a father or be a father, we recognize the importance of fathers in our communities. We pledge as a congregation to love and nurture the fathers among us so that they will manifest the love of God in all that they do.

Discipleship Ministries UMC: Rev. Dr. LaGretta Bjorn

The Fort Loudon-McConnellsburg Charge
United Church of Christ
228 North 2nd Street
McConnellsburg, PA 17233

STAMP

Church family,

According to the liturgical calendar, this is the start of “Ordinary Time.” But I like to call it: the start of summer! More than any other season, *this* is the time of year characterized by vacation and relaxation. What a great season to be alive! For me, “summer” means hiking, swimming, concerts, family beach trips, fireflies, warm evenings, and cold ice cream. It’s also the time God feels closest in my life, partially because I’m spending so much time outside in God’s Creation. But even more important than *where* we are is *how* we are when we’re there. So don’t let summer vacation get filled up with chores (or become a chore itself). As they say, “vacation is an attitude, not a latitude.” Whatever summer means to you, I encourage you to take the time—even if only for a moment—to rest, as God did after creating the world. Find your vacation mindset. Relax your shoulders. Breathe. Let’s make this a season to get in touch with God, one another, and ourselves.

In peace,
-Pastor Peter



Saturday Walk in the Park

Join Pastor Peter, Emily, Rosie, and their dog Marcy, for a walk at the Lions Club park walking path on Saturday mornings at 10 am through the summer. We will not meet if it is raining or above 90 degrees. Emily's congregation is invited to join as well. Furry friends welcome!



100 Summer Fun Ideas for Kids and Parents

By [Lauren Miles Brunelli](#)

[100 Fun Summer Ideas for Kids and Parents \(verywellfamily.com\)](#)

www.verywellfamily.com/summer-fun-ideas-kids-and-parents-3542627

God is in Control!

When the Israelites were escaping from slavery with the Egyptians in hot pursuit, they stopped at the Red Sea. It seemed they were now between a rock and a hard place. But Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today” (Exod. 14:13). God then parted the Red Sea so that the Israelites crossed it safely and then it closed on the advancing Egyptians. In essence, Moses’ words to them were: “Don’t worry. We are right where God wants us to be. God is in control. Trust in Him. Just you wait and see.”

Friends, this is a message that needs to resonate well within us today – God is in control. It doesn’t matter what is happening in the economy. It doesn’t matter what the election results are. It doesn’t matter what immoralities are now being allowed by law. God is in control.

As children of God, we need to rest assured that our destiny is secure if we are faithful to Him. God is powerful and very much in control. He will never have a shortage of strength or need a bail out from the government. He will protect His own and guide them properly. Nothing can change that – and nothing else should matter.

And still we fret and worry about our lives. But Jesus said, “Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life” (Matt. 6:25). And still we grumble and complain about things not going to our liking. But Paul said through inspiration, “Do all things without complaining” (Phil. 2:14). And still we waste time and resources trying to rectify matters beyond our control. And God says, “As I have planned, so shall it be, and as I have purposed, so shall it stand” (Isa. 24:14).

Look at it this way. God’s job is to keep control of the situation – and He’s always on the job. Our job is to trust in Him and praise Him all the day long. Someone once noted “Things don’t always go our way, but they always go God’s way – and His way is best.”

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths” (Pro. 3:5-6).

© 2023 Bulletin Digest

“He’s got the whole world in His hand!”

Edd Sterchi
Broadway church of Christ
Campbellsville, KY



Invite “Flat Jesus” to join you as you go about your summer!

In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus tell His disciples,
“I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
Matthew 28:20

Flat Jesus is inspired by a national school project called Flat Stanley, based on a book written by Jeff Brown. Just as flat Stanley has helped children with literacy and geography, Flat Jesus helps children remember that Jesus is always with them.

Flat Jesus is an invitation to keep Him at the front of our mind and in our heart as we move through our days. He is our friend and wants to be with us everywhere we go! When we seek Jesus, we find Him, and we want to share Him with our friends. This is more than a photo opportunity, this is a call to live out our faith no matter where we go in the world... or just in our backyard!

What to do:

1. Print a *Flat Jesus* for each person in your family, then have each of them color and cut Him out. (if you are unable to print ... just draw your own!)
2. For the summer take a picture of you and *Flat Jesus* enjoying time together.

We see the “Flat Jesus” project as a way to keep our church family connected as we enter into the summer traveling season. Take a picture of him doing lots of different things: going out to dinner, having fun at the beach or the mountains, hanging out with friends or cousins, or whatever you are doing! It will be an amazing adventure! It is a great way to remember that Jesus is always with us, wherever we go. And it just might start up a conversation with someone about what you are doing...and why! It will be so exciting to see where our church family members go this summer! And remember, Jesus is with you ALWAYS!

Bring Flat Jesus with you to church!

Send your pictures and stories to the church office and you may see them in the Fall newsletter



Friends in Christ, Bernice Crouse is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Thursday afternoons a new book study online. It will be on the book *One Simple Act* by Debbie Macomber. Linda Best will lead this discussion series.

It is on discovering simple things done in love for others. Macomber shares short anecdotes about other people's simple acts of kindness and thinking on these things as believers. Hopefully, most of you who want to participate already have a copy of the book. Please come even if you don't. There will still be thoughts to discuss and prayers to lift up.

The invitation with link follows.

Topic: Study & Prayer

Time: Thursday 03:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85047187716?pwd=Sk5yckZmN2l1OXpEbFp1UDlwV3pVdz09>

Meeting ID: 850 4718 7716

Passcode: 298563



St. Paul's Church Finances

ACCOUNT SUMMARY: *General Fund*

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Total Income April, 2023 | \$6,752.00 |
| Total Expenses April, 2023 | \$4,269.95 |
| Interest Earned GF April, 2023 | <u>\$43.62</u> |
| Net GAIN | \$2,525.67 |





- 6 Lory Mester
Tony Shives
15 Ross Weller
16 Sharyn Zeis
19 Justin and Blaze Hege
20 Roy Hornbaker
23 Blaire Shives
28 Jody Buterbaugh
Amy Headley



Please send additions and corrections to the church office>>>mcbucc@embarqmail.com

Prayer Request

The healing of our nation + world
Kathy and Bill Kendall
Glenn Crouse
Betty Burns
Amanda Mitchell
Linda Sowers
Lana Pine
Kylene McLucas Arwood
Elizabeth Kerlin
Chase Andrews
Korbyn Rotz
Skip and Betty Daniels
Nicole Hummel
Carl and Carol Mellott
Dennis Hess
Robert Door
Nancy Barmont
Ann Hays
Military and families
Emily Rotz
Leah Hamil
Loy and Linda Garber
Kathleen Pappas
Patrick McCarthy
Daniel Harper, grandson of Linda Best.
The Duffey family
Our Church & ministries, Sunday school classes
teachers and students



JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION!

@NETWORK MINISTRIES

ALL EVENTS
FREE

JUNE
17TH
SAT

11AM
TO
2PM

OPEN
TO PUBLIC

NETWORK MINISTRIES GARDEN IS LOCATED AT 10 REDWOOD STREET IN CHAMBERSBURG

FOOD

Sarah's Creamery Ice Cream Truck,
CUL•TURED Soul Food, & Dabo-Rye
Meal Vouchers Available for First 200 Attendees

ENTERTAINMENT

Singing, Stepping, Drumming, Urban Poetry

FUN FOR ALL AGES

Bouncy House, Double Dutch, Face-Painting,
Hoola-Hoops, Dominoes Table, & Spades Table

GIVEAWAYS

Children's Books & Prizes

SILENT AUCTION

PHOTO BOOTH

FOR MORE INFO VISIT
RACIALRECONCILIATIONFC.ORG/JUNETEENTH

Remember CCT's Production of
"Ruby" during Juneteenth Weekend!
Info & Tickets at CCTOnline.org



VENDORS

Community Uniting
Cumberland Valley School of Music
Franklin Co. Democratic Committee
Franklin Votes / Fix Harrisburg
Friends of Stevens PTO
Fulton Mortgage Company
PFLAG
South Central Community
Action Programs (SCCAP)
St. John's United Church of Christ
Women In Need

RACIAL RECONCILIATION
FRANKLIN COUNTY, PA

— GOLD SPONSORS —



LAW OFFICE OF
THERESA M. YAUKEY, LLC

— SILVER SPONSOR —



— BRONZE SPONSOR —

St. John's United Church of Christ

NURTURING, EQUIPPING and **MOBILIZING** people to work for racial justice in Franklin County & beyond.

A Lake Huron from Arch Rock on Mackinac Island, Michigan

B Caribbean rainbow, near Antigua

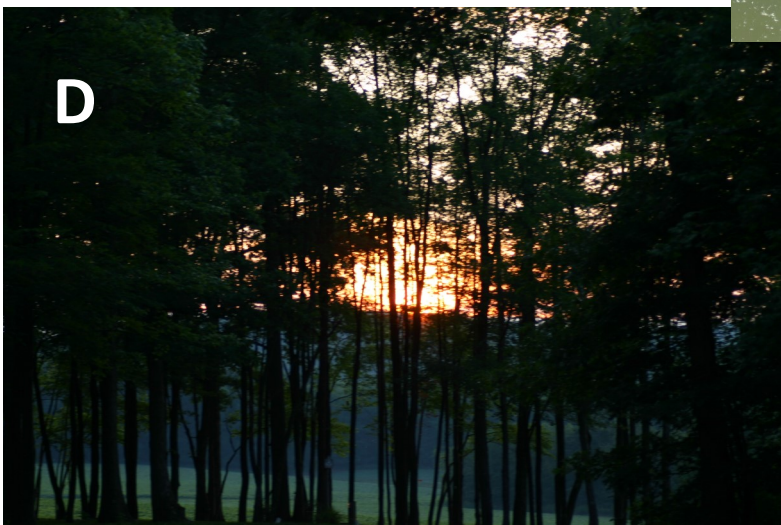
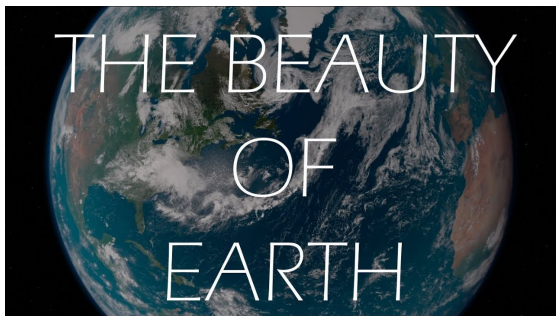
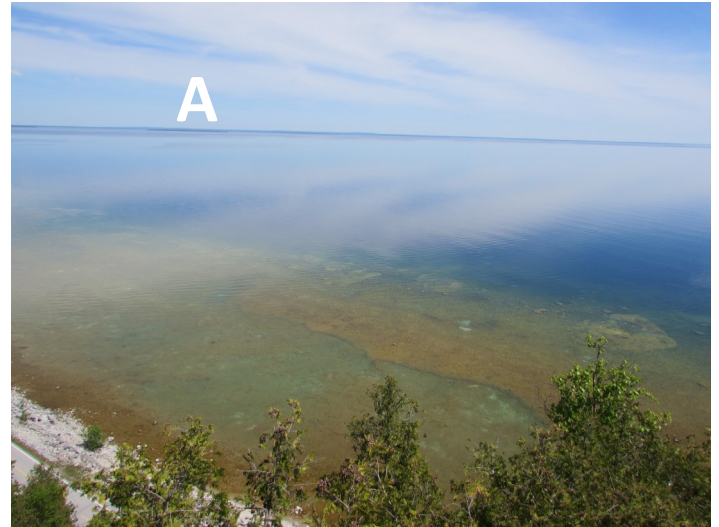
C Turtle in Arboretum at James Madison University, Virginia

D Smoky Mountain sunrise, pigeon Forge, Tennessee

E Gulls on Mount Desert Island coastline, Maine



Thanks, Bernice!



2023 June

Third Sunday each month: Trinity's Building Fund Offering

Sunday, June 4 **Joint Service and Picnic at Cowan's Gap
Worship at 11:00 a.m. Picnic to follow**

Wednesday, June 14 **Trinity's Consistory meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Flag Day**

Sunday, June 18 ***Happy Father's Day!***

Monday, June 19 **Juneteenth (USA)**

Tuesday, June 20 **St. Paul's Consistory meeting, 6:30 p.m.**

Wednesday, June 21 ***Summer Begins!***

St. Paul's Church Women United NO meetings this summer.



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