

**Our Spire**

**Volume 38 April 2019**

**Number 4**

**He has Risen!!!**

**Reaching Up to God,  
Reaching Out to People**



## Pastor's Corner



### Why would a complete stranger do such a thing?

Here's a trend you may have noticed. TV news stations spotlight positive news. To offset the great amount of negative or heartbreaking news, many stations end their 30-minute segments with something upbeat or affirming. When watching some of these inspiring stories, a great question can arise when good outweighs so much that is not good. "Why would a stranger do such a great thing?"

To understand our Savior more fully, we can ask the same question. Why would Jesus do such a great thing as to die on the cross so that we might live with God eternally?

The answer is clear. Jesus is no stranger. Oh, He may be a stranger to some of us; but we are no stranger to Him. The Son of God knows us intimately, just as He knew the woman caught in adultery (John 8:1-11). This scripture was our sermon text for the third Sunday in our seven-part sermon series, "The Seven Essential Questions."

Jesus doesn't question this 'adulterous' woman on the accusations the teachers of the religious law and the Pharisees bring against her. He is far more content writing in the nearby sand than He is to enter the debate the religious pros want to advance, in regard to the law of Moses, which would mean she should be stoned to death.

Why doesn't Jesus question her? Why doesn't He confront her on her sin? I believe the answer is He knows she is sinner just as He knows we are *all* sinners. His knowledge of this, coupled with His love for us, sent Him to the cross. While He did pray to His Father in the Garden of Gethsemane for another fate, Jesus reveals something in this scene we need to consider. In His prayerful moment with His Father, where He asks for the cup of suffering to be taken away from Him, Jesus shows us our own struggle to accept God's will, not our comfort.

**Jesus is no stranger to us. He understands our aversion to God's will when it competes with what we want in the moment.** He knows what the accused woman has done. He also knows what she needs, and what she needs, like what all of us need, is a pardon from her sins.

As the story continues in the Garden, we remember Jesus returns to His disciples, who have been sleeping. Rousing them, He encourages them to "get up and pray, so that they will not give into temptation (Luke 22:46b)."

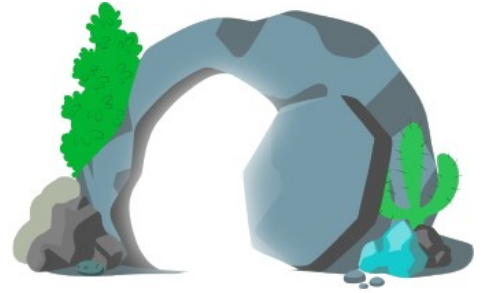
After Jesus is betrayed by Judas and is led to the high priest's home, He had time to think. I imagine He thought of the adulterous woman on His lonely walk. I imagine He understood—yet again—why He taught His disciples the importance of prayer as the means to avoid temptations like those the woman had faced.

I also imagine Jesus understood on the lonesome walk why He had to do what He had to do—which was fulfill the prophesy "that by His stripes we would be healed" (Isaiah 53:5). With each step, He understood He would soon die on a cross. His death and resurrected life would mean the adulterous woman, the disciples, and *all of us* would be forever free from sin that, if kept inside us, would separate us from eternal life with God in heaven.

A stranger didn't do a great thing on the cross for us. The One who knows and loves us did the greatest thing on the cross for us—He set us free from sin. How you show this to others is how you will live Easter.

Never worry that this living is a daunting task. Remember, we have Jesus with us.

## A Wonderful Surprise



It's early on a Sunday morning, you and a friend are walking to a tomb to prepare a beloved friend's body with spices and ointments because you didn't have time to do it before the beginning of the Sabbath. You are doing this to show your love for him and perhaps have some quiet time by yourselves to talk to each other about how you miss him and wish he was there to talk to now. To your surprise you reach the tomb, only to find the stone has been rolled away.

"What's happened? How can this be?"

You look inside but your friend's body is not there. Instead, you see two men in white, shining garments sitting where your friend's body was laid. They tell you "the one you seek is not here, but has risen as he said he would." Shocked, stunned, numb, and amazed, you go outside to look around.

Someone whom you think is the gardener approaches you and asks, "Whom are you looking for?"

You say, "They have taken my Lord's body, if you know where it is, please tell me." His voice has a familiar tone to it, but you can't quite place it. He gently says your name and you realize it is your friend. You bow down and touch His feet.

"Go to my followers, tell them, I will appear to them in Galilee."

You rush to tell His followers, those closest to Him. They do not believe you and go to the tomb themselves only to find it empty.

Wouldn't it have been wonderful to have been there that first Easter when Jesus Christ won victory over Satan and death? Wouldn't it be comforting to know Jesus Christ will be at Heaven's gates to welcome you home for all eternity? Although He is in heaven with His father, Jesus promises to be our Guide, Friend, and Counselor day by day. When fears, doubts, and world situations cause us concern; turn to Jesus with faith and believe He can and does have control over all things.

Christ can make a difference if you let Him have control. So, pause this Easter to remember what this season does and can mean not only for you but also for those near and dear to your heart.

Easter can be a new beginning for everyone who truly desires a new start in life. So, the next time you think about giving up, look up, kneel down, and ask Jesus to be with you. He will guide your steps. You will be surprised at what happens.





## LENT 2019 - Sermon Series - Seven Essential Questions

Both lifelong Christians and people on the edges of the church have some of the same basic questions about life and faith. Lent is the perfect time to explore these questions, leading up to the big question that is answered with Easter: is there hope for life and life beyond death?

**Week 1: Who Is Jesus? Matthew 16:13-16** Every person needs to grapple with Jesus' question to his disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" Christians believe He is "the Christ, the son of the living God."

**Week 2: What Matters Most? Mark 12:28-34** Relationships, with God & others, matter most.

**Week 3: Am I Accepted? John 8:1-11** Even with our flaws, Jesus loves and accepts us as beloved children of God.

**Week 4: Where Is God? John 1:1-5, 14** Although God is not limited to working through people, God primarily works through human instruments.

**Week 5: What Brings Fulfillment? John 13:1-5, 13-17** True fulfillment comes from serving others.

**Week 6: What about Suffering? Matthew 27:27-31** (Palm/Passion Sunday) Although God does not prevent suffering, the crucified God fully enters human suffering and works to redeem that suffering.

**Week 7: Is There Hope? Matthew 28:1-7** (Easter) Jesus Christ's resurrection gives us hope for life and even hope for death.

### Route 11 Ministerium Lenten Worship 2019

All Services Begin at 7 p.m.

#### Fourth Wednesday in Lent, April 3<sup>rd</sup>:

Host Church: First Universalist, Brooklyn, Special Music: Great Bend Choir, Preacher: Jane Pykus  
Children's Message: Will Hagenbuch, Refreshments by Host Church

#### Fifth Wednesday in Lent, April 10<sup>th</sup>:

Host Church: Gibson UMC, Special Music: South Gibson Choir, Preacher: Jackie Condon  
Children's Message: Jane Pykus, Refreshments provided by Host Church

## Harford First Congregational-UCC, a Purpose-Driven Church



### The Stewardship Committee reports on what is happening so far on our 2019 goals

As it was reported in the Spire last month, we worked together as a congregation and set goals for the next five years. After careful consideration and asking God for his guidance in setting these goals, we met and set these goals. The Stewardship Committee is committed to being the driving force behind reaching these goals, and progress is already being seen.

#### HERE IS YOUR CHURCH IN MOTION:

- **The sign company is being contacted to rebid on the price of the previously designed sign as a good chunk of the cost has been raised in the sign fund**
- **A member of the Stewardship Committee will visit the Trustees meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> to see if it is feasible to finish the parking lot this year**
- **Deacons are working on restarting a Bible study and are asking themselves, “How DO we serve?”**
- **The website is closer to completion**
- **ARC has had more of a presence in church**
- **An excavating company has done some measuring and assessing of the field behind the memorial garden**
- **Bring to the next council meeting a conversation about what external groups use our building (Scouts, Yoga classes, etc.) and ask how we can be most accommodating**

I think it is safe to say we are on the right track to seeing some of these goals come to fruition. Even one of the future goals from 2020 is being planned, as we are reaching out to the HVA to provide transportation to worship.

We are really excited to look forward to the future of this church. We have a congregation that knows how to serve, knows how to pray, reaching up to God and out to the people. We are truly blessed to have such a dedicated group of God’s followers that like to be charged and challenged with new ways to be able to serve our God through our church.

We are achieving these goals because we are listening to AND responding to God. As we have said before, these are goals, not mandates set in stone. If they change, or as they change, they will do so as directed by God who is blessing and guiding us to do HIS ministry.

Thank you, congregation, for your willingness, your responsiveness, your voice and your participation.

Stay tuned to see what progress is made by next month!

## Purpose-Driven Church—continued

### Here is a reminder of our goals for 2019:

- Increase use of existing church facilities
- Complete sign project
- Finish concrete/paving of parking lot, look into possibility of volleyball/basketball options at that time
- Bring back Bible study
- Website up and running
- Study feasibility of a community space or building
- Information about A.R.C.

**“For God is not unjust. He will not forget how hard you have worked for him and how you have shown your love to him by caring for other believers....” Hebrews 6:10**

I am blessed to work with this Stewardship Committee and with you, the congregation.

In Christ we serve and in Christ we love.

Sincerely, Craig Stout, Stewardship chair

## Stewardship Minutes February 21, 2019

There was discussion about CD's, a team will work together on a financial plan. Julie has moved monies from the checking account to Money Market, and we are still looking for the best deal. Kandy suggested that we also check with the financial manager at NBT for their info. Craig will contact Nancy to know what questions to ask. Dottie noted that the money intake for January was slightly below what is needed, but these cold winter months are not a good gauge.

The next order of business was to review a proposed “Goal & Comment sheet” to be used at the “potluck” dinner meeting. Additions and corrections were made to the sheets, and various roles were assigned to Stewardship members for that meeting.

New officers for the 2019 year were then nominated and voted upon:

- President—Craig Stout
- Vice-President—Peggy Empet
- Secretary—Sharon Kinney
- Financial Secretary—Dottie Hagenbuch
- Treasurer—Julie Gardner
- Council Rep.—Michelle Estabrook

Meetings will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month

Next, the goal sheets from the annual meeting were passed out, reviewed, and consolidated into a prioritized list for us to move ahead in the coming years. Some items on the lists were already being addressed in some form, and these were noted as such.

Finally, it was suggested that more of the young people be included in the various groups that manage our church. It was suggested that a person from each of the groups meet with them, sharing our function and how we do our job.

Next Stewardship meeting March 21, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

## Christian Education Minutes March 4, 2019

Bonnie brought up that Christian books.com has a series of books which she is going to order as a back-up for lessons to teach the children about stories in the Bible. Also, she is going to bring a Beginners Bible for us to look at this Sunday so we can decide if we want to use it.

The Easter pageant has four speaking parts. It was decided Kay would write a letter and send it to the children to let them know we would like them to participate in the pageant. The rehearsals for the pageant will be on March 31st, April 7th, and April 14th during Sunday School. The pageant will be presented on Easter Sunday, April 21st during the 11:00 AM service. The children will learn about the characters in the pageant. Bonnie and Kandy are also going to ask the children about Easter and what they know about some of the terms associated with this season. Costumes which have been used in the past will be used again.

Bonnie is also going to ask the children what they learned about Lent. Did they choose something to give up?

This past Sunday the children burned the palms from last year to be used for the Ash Wednesday service. It was videoed and Bonnie will post it on the church's Facebook page.

The next meeting is April 9th at 6:15.



## It's Time to Declutter, Again!!!!

The Missionary Group is sponsoring a yard sale May 24-25. The proceeds will go to help sponsors two Nicaraguan Missionaries living in Nicaragua. These native Nicaraguans have dedicated themselves to working to improve the living conditions of their fellow Nicaraguans by helping to develop community leaders and working to improve skills within the community.

We will be collecting anything to be sold in a yard sale: All decorations, lightly used bedding, electrical appliances, lighting, flat screen TVs, furniture (no upholstered items), household items, kitchen items, tools, yard stuff, toys, baby items, bikes, books etc.

Please bring any items to the lecture hall and label them "Yard Sale" now through May 17th. If you would like a pick up, please contact Holli Chichester at 301-643-1775 or 570-851-5109 or hollischichester@gmail.com.



Thank you, Missionary Group

## Spire Sponsor

Dear Friends of the Harford First Congregational Church—United Church of Christ ,  
built on (Solid Ground).

Your out reach is wonderful! I enjoy reading the "Spire" and seeing all my dear friends and the beautiful church.

Love, Paula Adams

## Deacons Minutes March 11, 2019

Kay read a letter asking for Deacon to fill jobs on our committee and passed out the descriptions of the jobs. The following jobs were filled:



**Chairperson:** Kay Gow

**Vice Chairperson:** David Schulte III

**Secretary:** Katherine Doolittle (reports to Spire and Church Office)

**Deacon/Pastoral Care:** David Schulte III

**Music:** Gail Batzel

**Outbound Card Ministry:** Ginny Ahearn

**Senior Care Ministry:** All Deacons

**Special Worship Coordinator:** Tammy Stout

**Aide to our Youth:** Bonnie Love-Colwell

**Welcoming Attendant:** Missy Clarkson

**Communion:** Gail Batzel

**Acolyte Coordinator:** Kay Gow

**Council Representative:** Pastor Will asked Deacon's to pray on this. Continued talk about the whether it should be one or more persons to fill this position. David will represent the Deacons at the March meeting.

**Greeter & Usher Coordinator:** To be filled at a later time & looking for a volunteer. This is completed through April. Deacons will put a memo in the Spire and bulletin to try and fill this position.

The question was raised how can we serve our community? We agree through our jobs as Deacon's. Should we serve communion at the Harford Village Apartments? We all agree it would be nice to be more open to serving the people living there. We also wondered who the contact person at HVA is now so that we could arrange rides to and from church, church functions, and special services.

Bonnie is still waiting to hear back from someone at the Weinberg Mobile Food Bank to see if they would like to use the church as a location for the Mobile Food Bank to help our community.

The Deacons will have Easter cards to sign after church on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Please join us again to reach out to those who are homebound, community members, and those who we have not seen in a while.

How are we as Deacons meeting the Stewardship Goals that were published in the Spire? One 2019 goal we should start thinking about is how can we bring back Bible Study?

Lenten Service will be Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00. The following people volunteered to be Greeters and Ushers: Ginny, Kay, Tammy & Katherine.

Good Friday Service is April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. The following people signed up to be Greeters and Ushers: Bonnie, Kay, David & Jackie.

Our free community Spaghetti Dinner is Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> from 5-7:00pm. We are encouraging all Deacons to be present and take some of their time to welcome and seat our guests. The children and their parents will do most of the serving and kitchen work. Thank you to those people!

**Next Meeting will be April 8, 2019 at 7:00pm in the Pastor's Office.**



# Missionary Group

3-19-19

**Least Coin:** There are 722 references to water mentioned in the Bible.

Water is linked to blessing and God's work.

70% of the Earth is covered in water.

For every \$1 invested in clean water, over \$8 of economic improvement.

10 countries have 60% of the Earth's water.

1.8 billion people don't have enough clean water.

**Correspondence:** From: Japan – Radiation continues to poison the people in Japan.

## Old Business:

**Red Cross:** Fire Hall is having a Blood Drive June 1<sup>st</sup> and October 19<sup>th</sup>.

We will help promote the Blood Drives and check again if more drives are required.

**Clean Water:** Our Nicaraguan missionaries explained to us that some communities don't even have water to be filtered. The CHE program in Nicaragua researches which communities are most in need and then drills wells so that these communities have a water supply. We voted to send the May 21st Bake Sale on Election Day money in support of this well drilling project.

We will put up a baked goods sign-up sheet for the congregation at the beginning of May.

**Women's Resource Center:** We voted to send \$100 to support the work of the WCC now and reevaluate their needs in a few months.

**Disaster Kits:** The Binghamton Center is collecting April 22-23. Our kits will be taken to that site.

**Yard Sale:** The Bi-annual yard sale will be held May 24-25. We will transport the items on Wed., May 22 and hope to have the youth or boy scouts assisting us. We will set up on Thurs., May 23. The yard sale will run Fri. May 24 from 8-4 and Sat., May 25 from 8 – 2.

## New Business:

**Operation Christmas Child:** When our missionaries from Nicaragua were visiting, they spoke of the enormous impact of Operation Christmas Child (a program to bring a shoe box of Christmas and personal care items to needy children world-wide). Children sign up for the boxes and 30 out of every 100 children are selected to go to a 3-month discipleship program. The children learn about God and His love for them and about Jesus' ultimate gift of salvation. When the children finish the program, they have a big graduation ceremony and all the Christmas boxes are distributed to all the children. The children that attend the discipleship program then share what they have learned with all the children that were not able to go to the classes. Many children have come to Christ through this program. We will purchase 50 boxes to fill for this program and invite the congregation to participate October 15 -November 15.

**Next meeting:** April 16<sup>th</sup>. May's meeting will be May 28<sup>th</sup> because of the Bake Sale.

**All are Welcome!!**

## Pastor's Report

Completed the second sermon series of the year, A TIME TO LOVE where we learned that love of self, neighbor, enemy, those who persecute and those who hate us can only be achieved when we first listen to and love God.

Worked with Kay Gow on Spire writings and Deacon job descriptions

Worked with Pastor Jane Pykus to create the 2019 Wednesday evening Lenten Series, "The Gifts"

Attended GAME ON's PLANET 3 Jumping Event in Vestal, NY

Counseling a mom and grand mom

Counseling a high school teenager

Met with doctoral classmate Mark Reisinger to discuss our dissertation projects

Met with Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates to discuss the UCC and the Penn Northeast Conference

Created the worship liturgy that went with our GO FOR THE GOALS presentation

Created our brand new, 6-part Lenten Sermon Series called SEVEN ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

With Gail Batzel, I created our Ash Wednesday order of worship

Continue vlogging, blogging, Sermon Intros, Hump Day Help, and contributing columns to the local newspaper

Maintaining our online prayer request form

Keeping up the visits with our neighbors and our local shut ins, including a visit to someone in need

Working with ARC chairperson Laurie DeMark on ARC projects

Working with the Girl Scouts on their upcoming Girl Scout Sunday

## Bell Choir Rebirth!!!!!!

Bob DeLuca has graciously volunteered to conduct a bell choir.  
Please call or email Bob if you would be interested in participating.

570-498-7090 [gepetto@nep.net](mailto:gepetto@nep.net)



# Girl Scout Sunday



The benches are a gift from girl scouts Briane Boswell and Genevieve Larkin.

They wished to give back to the community.

Thank you ,  
the benches are beautiful!!!!



Thank you ladies for your dedication and service with the girl scouts.

The girls answered questions, ushered and lit the candles.



## Blessing for Success!



We prayed that the right family would meet the right pet. An adoptable dog from True Friends Animal Shelter joined us, Storm. We hope to bring adoptable pets from other local rescues in the future.

The following is a post by Laurie Demark from this past Sunday..

So this really cool thing happened today!! Cute little Storm was rescued from death row this week at a high kill shelter in Alabama and spent 22 hours travelling to Pennsylvania. God was sure looking over her. Upon her arrival, Storm was chosen by Dory of True Friends Animal Welfare to be the first ever dog to attend Sunday's service at Harford's First Congregational Church with a first ever Blessed for Success pet blessing.

We wish this sweet little lady all the best and pray she finds her FURever home soon! Thank you everyone for being so open to this! How many dogs get a certificate on their kennel to say they attended church with a special blessing just for them? It truly was awesome!

Update: Our sweet little Storm also found her forever home today!! Thank you for giving our girl a loving home !



# Game On



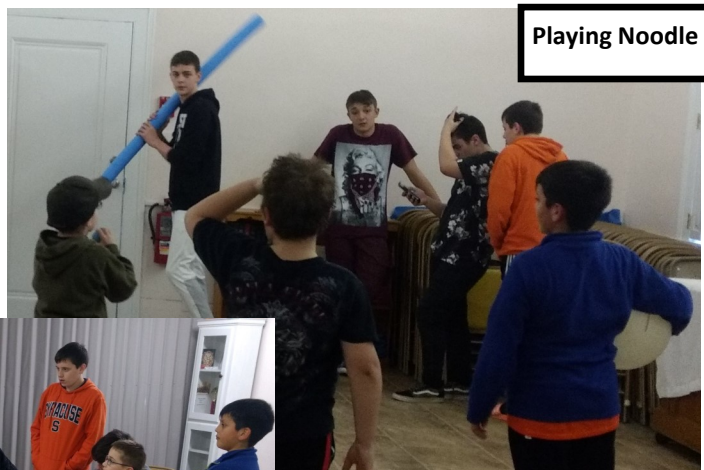
Nancy Burris brought "Hank", her service dog in to visit the kids. Hank is in training and the kids helped out.



Scavenger Hunt



Brain Games



Playing Noodle Ball



Closing Moment with Pastor Will

## Golf Tournament Time!!!

Hi Everyone,

The Harford First Congregational Church –UCC has one fund raiser every year, our Golf Tournament at Conklin Players Club. This year it is on June 30, 2019. In the past the money raised by this tournament has gone to fund special projects, however, last year we needed to use this money to pay our December bills.



Our Golf Tournament fund raiser needs the participation of every person to be successful. The efforts of a few people won't give us the results that we need.

If every person would select something from the list below, the tournament will be the success we all hope for. Please consider selecting one or more from the list below:

- Sponsor a hole in memory or honor of a loved one
- Sponsor a hole to advertise your business
- Give the Sponsorship form to someone you know that has a business and ask them to Sponsor a hole
- Donate items/item to be used as a prize
- Bake cookies for the goodie bags
- Donate a Basket for the Basket Raffle
- Work at the Golf Tournament, June 30th
- Get a team of golfers together and play at the tournament
- Donate water, nuts, crackers, pretzels, jerky or other for the goodie bags

Our congregation has always worked together to accomplish so much. Please consider how you can help.

The sign-up sheets are in the Lecture Hall or call Holli at 570-851-5109, 301-643-1775 or email at [hollischichester@gmail.com](mailto:hollischichester@gmail.com)

Thank you!





# 10th Annual Harford Congregational Church Golf Tournament

Sunday June 30, 2019 1pm shotgun start



Conklin Players Club



## Hole Sponsor Level:

GOLD-\$100

SILVER-\$50

BRONZE-\$25

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Information for the Sign \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Make checks payable to First Congregational UCC

Contact/Mail to: Holli Chichester  
1814 Tingley Lake Rd  
New Milford, PA 18834  
570-851-5109 or 301-643-1775 or hollischichester@gmail.com

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU ENTER A TEAM AND  
JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN

.....  
To Enter a Team in the Tournament - Enter Team Name  
And/or Captain's name \_\_\_\_\_

\$85 per Golfer = \$340 per Team

Payable in Advance or at the course day of the Tournament

# 10th Annual Harford Congregational Church Golf Tournament

Sunday June 30, 2019 1pm shotgun start



Conklin Players Club

## Hole Memorial/Honorarium Level:

GOLD-\$100

SILVER-\$50

BRONZE-\$25

Honor or remember a loved one and support the Golf Tournament.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Information for the Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Make checks payable to First Congregational UCC

Contact / Mail to: Holli Chichester  
1814 Tingley Lake Rd  
New Milford, PA 18834  
570-851-5109 or 301-643-1775  
hollischichester@gmail.com

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU ENTER A TEAM AND  
JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN

Any questions, please call or email anytime. Thanks





The mission of the Trehab Community Resource Center is to provide support to families and individuals in Susquehanna County affected by Substance Use conditions. Our facility promotes health and wellness through a variety of programs including Peer Recovery Support Services, Workforce Development, volunteering and more. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our program, functioning in roles such as administrative assistants, resource assistants, greeters, group leaders, mentors and much more. If you are interested in more information about volunteering, please call us at 570 647 4907. Thank you!

Jasmine Goodman  
Trehab: A Community Action Agency  
Volunteer & Project Coordinator  
Trehab Community Resource Center  
[jgoodman@trehab.org](mailto:jgoodman@trehab.org)

### The Susquehanna County Library

We have received a request from Linda Whitney. The Susquehanna County Library has an American Girl program. One may check out an American Girl doll. The small tops from spray bottles are included in the supplies that travel with the American Girl. The American Girl uses them for drinking glasses.

Would you please save any small tops from spray bottles that you may have. Leave them in the office and Judy will deliver them to Linda.

If you have any American Girl size doll ideas I would love to hear from you.

Thanks so much. Linda Whitney

[Lwhitney7678@yahoo.com](mailto:Lwhitney7678@yahoo.com) 570-434-2918



## Spire Sponsor

In Honor of  
Ram D.R. Butler  
1945-2018





## Direct Avenue

A man came to us looking for assistance with his fuel. He was very worried about not being able to continue to heat his home. During that meeting we discussed our Direct Avenue Program (Direct Avenue is the personal one-on-one counseling any person can receive from Interfaith through our Pathways Education Programming). During the first session, we discussed his income and attempted to develop a budget. We discussed ways he could split his money up to pay for things like fuel. It was discovered that he qualified for assistance from another agency and we completed paperwork for that other agency. In the end, he was able to apply for a free cell phone to use and he qualified for the Food Stamp Program. We also discussed how he could get a free hot meal at Open Door Café every Wednesday. We helped him complete a job application for a local business and create his resume. He was also able to get a job for the summer mowing a neighbors lawn. At the end of the program he was confident that he would be able to heat his home this winter and would have enough money to buy groceries when he needed them.

Currently, we have heads of households, students from local schools and students in transition involved with this program. If you know someone who would benefit from this program, send them our way! We love to help!

**STEAM**  
SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING  
ARTS MATHEMATICS

When? - July 29 - August 2, 2019  
Where? Susquehanna County Interfaith Store  
Time? 9:00-4 Pm Each Day  
Learn about Science, technology, engineering, arts and math in a business environment.  
15 Student Limit  
Call to reserve your spot

*Summer*  
**CAMP**

for kids ages 6-12  
Held at Camp Ladore,  
Waymart Pa.

Sponsored by  
Salvation Army

June 24-29, 2019  
Call Interfaith to reserve your spot!

## **Attention, Attention!!!!**

The Deacons are looking for a volunteer coordinator to find volunteers to be Ushers and Greeters on Sundays and any special services we may host. You will send the list to the Church Secretary and to the Editor of the Spire in order to be published weekly and monthly. This also includes mailing a letter to the volunteer with the date that they are volunteering for and explaining the job duties. Please contact Kay Gow or Pastor Will if you are interested in this position. The Deacon's appreciate your continued support.

## **Church Clean-Up**

**April 6, Saturday from 8-12**

**Rain Date: April 20**



## **Boy Scout Aluminum Can Collection**

**April 6, Saturday from 8-12**

**Rain Date: April 20**



## Correspondence

March 14, 2019

Harford Congregation,

Yes, I was hospitalized for bleeding ulcers in my food pipe. With good care by doctors, nurses, and your prayers, I am recovering well. A number of you had sent me get well prayer cards. I am GRATEFULL to you all.

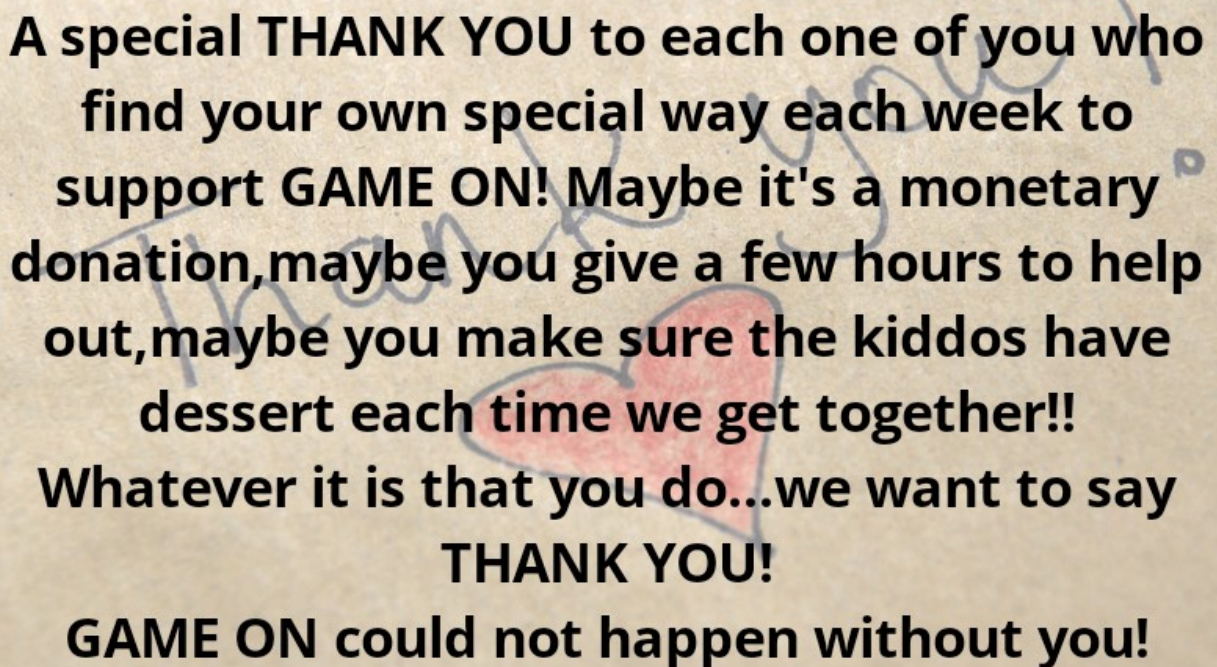
Harford Congregation is a very special people. With your cooperation, we were able to bring healing, new members and a great Youth Fellowship. I am also very thankful to you for remembering my 50<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary.

Under the guidance of your pastor Will, keep up the good work. God Bless Us All!

With my prayers and best wishes for your continued Witness and Work for Jesus, our Lord.

Rev. Ghulam M. Nasrani

\*\*\*\*\*



**A special THANK YOU to each one of you who  
find your own special way each week to  
support GAME ON! Maybe it's a monetary  
donation, maybe you give a few hours to help  
out, maybe you make sure the kiddos have  
dessert each time we get together!!  
Whatever it is that you do...we want to say  
THANK YOU!  
GAME ON could not happen without you!**

## April Birthdays



April 03	Jenny (Simons) Frantz	April 12	Elissa Muller
April 04	Alex Empet		Lou Zimmerman
April 07	Will Hagenbuch		Travis Bridgeman
	Lynnette Millard	April 15	Grace Ann Graf
	Dot Simons	April 17	Brooke Zupanovich
April 08	Shirley Masters	April 19	Ron Phillips
April 10	Carol Oakley	April 21	Jackie Schulte
	Ryan Higgins	April 22	Katie Brown
	Dale Empet	April 23	Irv Needham
April 11	Edward James Zick	April 25	Lauren Abigail Mitchell
	Kaitlyn Beach	April 30	Wyatt Zick

## Susquehanna County Library Help



Do you every shop at ShurSave Supermarket?

One may register their ShurSave Gold Card at the store's customer service counter or online ([www.shursavemarkets.com-programs/Gold Card Program](http://www.shursavemarkets.com-programs/Gold Card Program))

The Susquehanna County Library will receive \$.03 for each can or package of these brands: Best Yet, Nature's Finest, Top Care, Domestix, Academix and others not mentioned in the newspaper article. Hopefully you will be able to sign up on your next shopping trip or from your computer.

## Spire Sponsors

We need Sponsors to help us cover the cost of printing and mailing the Spire. Please let us know if you can help. The sponsorship can be in Memory or in Honor of someone or just a donation. Mailing costs approximately \$75/month.

# Worship Assistants

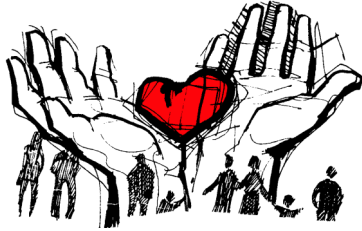
## Greeters

April 07 Peg Empet  
April 14 Dorothy Hagenbuch  
April 21 Twila Williams  
April 28 Jean Bonham

## Ushers

April 07 Gary Phillips/Kay Gow  
April 14 The Stout Family  
April 21 Leanne Colwell/Kay Gow  
April 28 Ken & Betty Lou Bennett

## Readers



April 07 Jackie Schulte  
April 14 Michelle Estabrook  
April 21 Barbara Weideman  
April 28 Shirley Masters

### Memorial Plaque Information

Are you interested in having a plaque attached to the memorial stone in the memorial garden?  
One may have a plaque ordered by doing the following: Cost---\$25.00

Send check (made out to First Congregational-UCC) along with name of person and the year of birth and the year they passed away to the office.

The office will then proceed to order the plaque and have it placed on the stone.  
Thank you.

\*\*\*\*\*



**Notice: Please send all material for the Spire to  
Firstchurchspire@gmail.com  
by the 15th of each month**



## Prayer Concerns

Nicholas (Great Grandson of the Weidemans)  
 Patrick Simons  
 Scott Klenk  
 Nancy Marr  
 Heather Warren  
 Sandy Zupanovich  
 Alice Watkins' Family  
 Dorothy Greene  
 Sandy Paolucci  
 Chad Washburn  
 Debra Valvano  
 Jen Long & mother Judy

Pastor Lynn Wilcox  
 Rev. Ghulan Nasrani  
 Terri Belcher Taugher  
 Sammy  
 Gail Batzel's mom  
 Paula Millard's grandmother, June  
 Kandy Wellman's Uncle Jim  
 Mary Jane Genneken  
 Brandi & Dave  
 Larry Decker's Family  
 Steven and Sharon Decker  
 the grieving group  
 our military and their families  
 our nation under God  
 our government  
 Sydney Ann (Gamble) Mead  
 Danielle Urda  
 Bonnie Brainard (Ivan Brainard's wife)  
 Lois Franklin  
 Christian Kuhar  
 baby Colden  
 Carla Benedict  
 Ethan getting his passport

## Home Bound

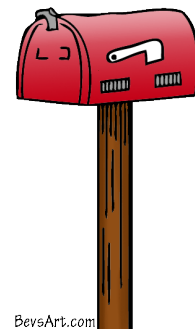
The Carey Family  
 Dorothy Greene

Catherine Escandel  
 Barbara Pease



## Address and Directory Change/Additions

Susan Rikkola  
 33 47th Street  
 Weehawken, NJ  
 07086



BevsArt.com

# April 2019

April 2019

May 2019

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Mar 31</b>	<b>Apr 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
	NO 9:30 Mtg Pastor Away at college 7:00pm 9:30pm Fair mtg (LH)	9:15am 1:00pm Ugly Quilts (LH) 9:30am 10:30am 9:30 mtg (PO) 6:00pm 8:00pm Karate 7:00pm 8:00pm Choir (	5:15pm 6:45pm Armettas 6:00pm 8:00pm Scouts (LH) 7:00pm 8:30pm Lenten Service (Brooklyn)	Pastor day off 9:30am 10:30am Yoga (LH) 6:00pm 8:00pm GAME ON (LH)	Pastor day off 9:30am 10:30am Yoga (LH)	
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
7:30am 11:00am Fire Co Brkfst 9:30am 10:30am SS 11:00am 12:00pm Service (Sanctuary) 7:00pm 9:00pm Scouts	9:30am 10:30am 9:30 mtg (PO) 4:00pm 5:30pm Pastor i 6:00pm 7:30pm Girl Sc 7:00pm 8:30pm Deaco 7:00pm 8:30pm Trustee	7:30am 9:00am Men's brkfst (Binghams) 9:15am 1:00pm Ugly Q 6:00pm 8:00pm Karate 6:15pm 7:00pm Ch Ed 7:00pm 8:00pm Choir (	5:15pm 6:45pm Armettas 6:00pm 8:00pm Scouts (LH) 7:00pm 8:30pm Lenten Service (Gibson)	Pastor day off 9:30am 10:30am Yoga (LH)	Pastor day off 9:30am 10:30am Yoga (LH)	
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
9:30am 10:30am SS 11:00am 12:00pm Service (Sanctuary) 7:00pm 9:00pm Scouts (LH)	9:30am 10:30am 9:30 mtg (PO) 12:00pm 1:00pm Ladies Lunch (Bingh 4:00pm 5:30pm Pastor in office	9:15am 1:00pm Ugly Quilts (LH) 1:00pm 3:00pm Missionary (LH) 6:00pm 8:00pm Karate 7:00pm 8:00pm Choir (	SPIRE DEADLINE 5:15pm 6:45pm Armettas 6:00pm 8:00pm Scouts (LH)	7:00pm 9:00pm Stewardship	Pastor day off 9:30am 10:30am Yoga (LH) 7:00pm 8:00pm Good Friday service (Sanctuary)	
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
7:00am 7:30am Sunrise service 9:30am 10:30am SS 11:00am 12:00pm Service (Sanctuary) 7:00pm 9:00pm Scouts	9:30am 10:30am 9:30 mtg (PO) 4:00pm 5:30pm Pastor in office	9:15am 1:00pm Ugly Quilts (LH) 6:00pm 8:00pm Karate (LH) 7:00pm 8:00pm Choir (MR)	5:15pm 6:45pm Armettas 6:00pm 8:00pm Scouts (LH)	6:30pm 8:00pm Council (LH)	Pastor day off 9:30am 10:30am Yoga (LH) 6:00pm 8:00pm GAME ON (LH)	
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>May 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
9:30am 10:30am SS 11:00am 12:00pm Service (Sanctuary) 7:00pm 9:00pm Scouts (LH)	9:30am 10:30am 9:30 mtg (PO) 4:00pm 5:30pm Pastor in office 6:00pm 7:30pm Girl Scouts (LH)	9:15am 1:00pm Ugly Quilts (LH) 6:00pm 8:00pm Karate (LH) 7:00pm 8:00pm Choir (MR)	May 1			

Mar 31 - Apr 6

Apr 7 - 13

Apr 14 - 20

Apr 21 - 27

Apr 28 - May 4



2019  
**LILY ORDER FORM**

Please order:

\_\_\_\_\_ lily plants at \$ 6.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (total price)

Given By:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

**“DEADLINE April 07, 2019”**

---

In Loving Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Mail order and payment to:

First Congregational-UCC

P. O. Box 217

Harford, PA 18823

\*\*\*\*\*

2019  
**LILY ORDER FORM**

Please order:

\_\_\_\_\_ lily plants at \$ 6.50=\$ \_\_\_\_\_ (total price)

Given By:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

**“DEADLINE April 07, 2019”**

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In Loving Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Mail order and payment to:

First Congregational-UCC

P. O. Box 217

Harford, PA 18823



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Montrose, PA 18801

First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
5016 Creek Road  
PO Box217  
Harford, PA 18823  
Tel.570-434-2260  
Email: firstch@nep.net  
Spire email: firstchurchspire@gmail.com  
Web URL: <http://www2.nep.net/~firstch/>

.....the people in darkness have seen a great light

Isaiah 9:2

*Join Us Each Sunday!!*



Rev. William Hagenbuch –Pastor  
Home Phone: 570-434-7729  
Email: wrh@nep.net  
Office Hours: Mon. 4-5:30 pm

Judy Mitchell –Sec  
Hours: Tues. 1-5 pm  
Thurs or Fri 11am -