

Our Spire

**Volume 42
September**

**Number 7
2022**

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





Craig Stout lost the fight to pancreatic cancer on Wednesday, August 10th. He died at home. This loss has to be a part of God's ultimate plan. This loss has to be a part of God's ultimate plan because Craig followed His Savior to the pulpit where, as a lay leader, he skillfully brought his faith and its formation to us each week so that we could find and strengthen our own faith formation every day. He was selfless in his service to Christ, his Lord. Craig was visionary and talented. Craig was caring and kind. Craig was loved and loving.

Yes, Craig loved. He loved big. He loved boldly. He loved beautifully. He leaves with us his devoted wife Tammy of not quite twenty years. Craig leaves with us two grown sons, Cory and Chris. The gift is that you can see Craig in each of them.

Craig also gifts us with Tanner and Mikaela. These two aces shine as teens in the prime time of their high school days that are filled with scholastic honors and sport acuity. Craig's children made this father proud beyond measure. He will continue to love and guide them.

Craig leaves with us with his beloved mother, Lois, and his brother Mark, a topnotch physician's assistant who was present ahead of and during Craig's death. Their memories of Craig include his early involvement with the Dalton Fire Company and the Dalton Methodist Church.

Craig was a doting grandfather and an ever-present in-law. His love for all his family and his friends cannot be shaken or moved. It will simply—and always—remain.

Craig's love and care for people was recognized by the Aldi food chain who placed Craig as the rightful manager of a store that, by Craig's example, prided itself on meeting the needs of the people. Craig was a bright spot in the aisles and at the door as the people he earnestly cared for came and went. He was an angel without wings to many, many people who left the store with a very deep and lasting smile after time with him.

Craig had many loves. One was the Boy Scouts of America. He served as a Scout leader, mentor, and Scout/church liaison for many wonderful years. He loved the Seattle Sea Hawks and his iconic Toyota Tundra that hauled whatever people needed at the time when people were in need.

Craig was my pulpit partner. He had a big, strong, definite voice that spoke both plainly and directly the message of the day. He challenged, equipped, and inspired us each Sunday.

Craig was also my wingman. He had my back. He also turned me to see what was in front of me, and, in turn, all of us. No minister has had (or will have) it better than me. He was (and is) this gift from God. His voice and his presence rallied us with what he developed himself, which were video snippets he titled "Under the Spire." His work here inspired today's bulletin cover. Craig wanted us to know. More so, Craig wanted us involved in the mission arm of the church.

During this time with the Stewardship Committee where he was both on the team and its leader, Craig presented us with homegrown, heartfelt, banner-worthy campaigns that led to our church growth, expansion, and outreach. Additionally, he served faithfully on the GAME ON team. His call to kids and his presence with them during our Spirit-filled games, meals, and Christian storytelling was hallmark.

Craig will be remembered for being a sign master. His artisanship brought us so many hand-painted signs that celebrated active and vital seasons in the life of this church he loved. This love of inspiring us eventually brought us to the permanent front yard sign. This sign and its daily messages to the people of the immediate and wider community is the front window our church hadn't had. With Craig's leadership, the life of the church and its call to Christian faith is a legacy we can fulfill each day.

I heard Craig's last sermon. It was breathy and broken. Far more so, it was directional and motivational. From his armchair, he said these words the day before he died. "We are a little church who does big things. We can do big things. We have within us—each of us, all of us—the love we need to follow Christ. Don't be afraid. We need to follow Christ."



All of us can follow God's ultimate plan because that plan always shines through us onto Him. This is the joy we know now in part. This is the joy we will know one day in its fullness with Jesus who says, "Come to me."

As we continue on from this service into God's service, may you hear again (and again!) what Craig now sings which is how God loves you through His Son, our Savior.

God has blessed us with this deeply and dearly loved son, brother, classmate, husband, father, in-law, grandfather, neighbor, Scout Master, Sea Hawks fan, bird- and nature-loving man, and, above all, Bible teaching and Bible living fellow Christian. I thank you for being in Craig's heart. I also thank you for carrying in your heart Craig's unstoppable, unending, always grounding and now always guiding love of Christ into your life and your legacy.

With love to my pulpit partner, to my sound man (and I mean this both literally and metaphorically), and to my friend I now find and listen to in my prayers, I ask God to bless each of you each day forward.

Because Christ lives, we can—and we will—face tomorrow.

Will

Memorial Garden Refresh Project Thank You Dick and Delores Berish



**Our Trustees have been hard at work improving
our church and grounds!**

Lecture Hall Porch Renovation



It Looks Marvelous!!!

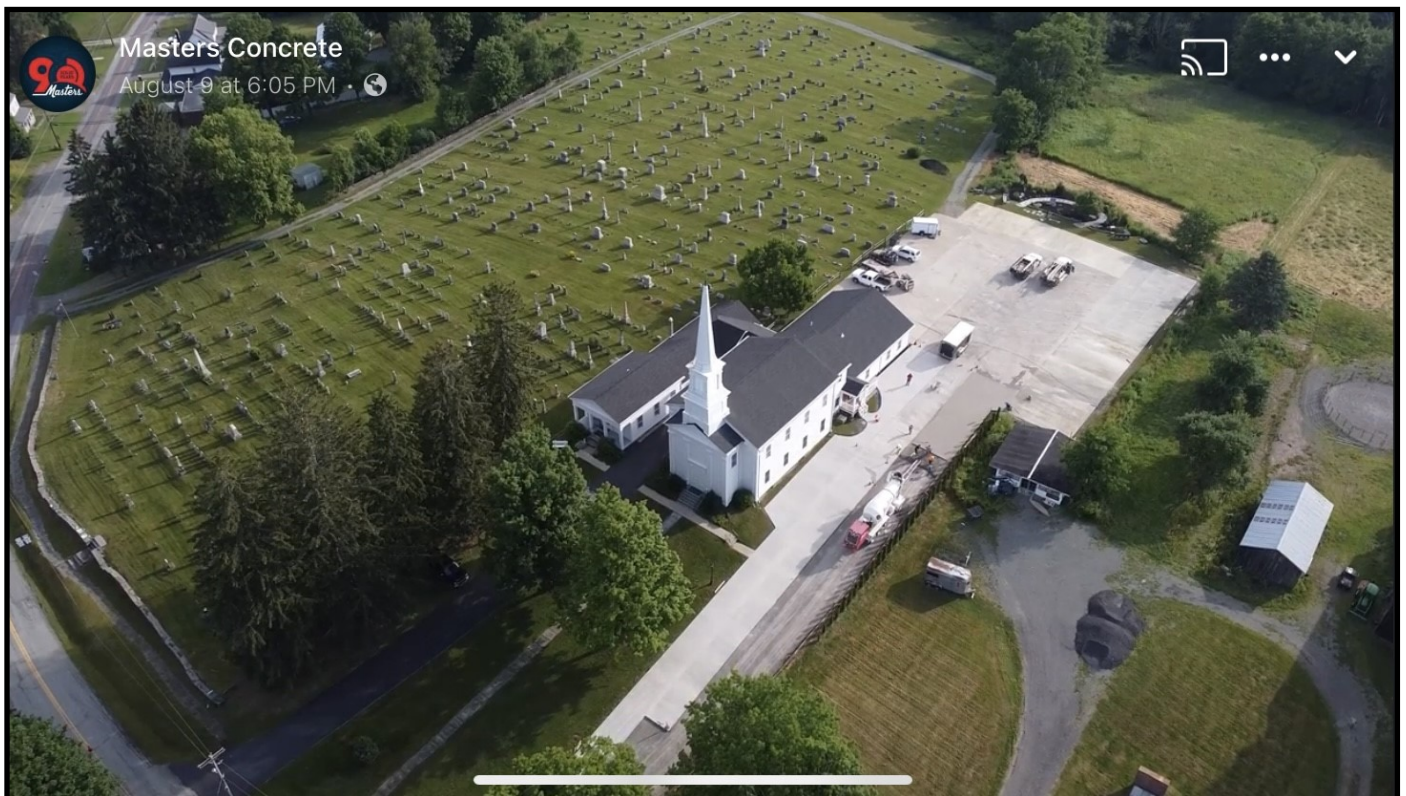
Attention Snow Birds and Travelers!!!

If you have two residences that you inhabit during the year, I have a simple request for you. Would you please let the church office know when you will be moving from one home to the other home?



We are charged \$.78 for having the incorrect address and having to have the mail article returned. The Spire is mailed the end of the month, if you might be returning home or going away around the end of a month it would be very much appreciated if you could let the office be aware of where you will be living. Thanks ever so much, Judy

Trustee's Driveway Renovation Project Well Done!!



Council Minutes - July 28, 2022

Council was called to order by Vice-President Maureen Warren, at 6:00.

Financial Secretary-It was suggested that we should probably have a monthly report from ARC as we don't have any idea where money comes from or goes to. Judy to ask Tammy to leave a monthly report for council regarding ARC. There is a \$925.56 balance as of this month. Julia would like to put Christian Education and Youth together in one account. Judy mentioned that some people give on a regular basis to Christian Ed and Youth. There also was a discussion on Youth and Children should probably be combined. Julia would like to see Technical put into the general fund at the beginning of the year.

Treasurer: Julia shared that the Money Market was relatively quiet this month. Royalties were up some in June. She said that VBS should be put into the general Fund. In June \$65 was donated for the VBS. There will be more listed next month. Kay asked about the money left in the sign fund. A couple of months ago when we were discussion where we could take money from to balance the budget, we decided to leave the sign account with a balance in it in case there were future repairs or other sign expenses.

Julia shared the June Income and Expenses for 2021 and 2022. To make budgeted expense every month in the general (example: electric, payroll, office and programs) we will need to collect \$12,968.75 per month for 2022. In June we were in the minus however, much less than 2021 and we still have a healthy balance for 2022 if we continue to bring in about \$12,000 monthly.

Income and Expenses for 2021 and 2022

| June 2021 | | June, 2022 | |
|-----------|---------------------|------------|---------------------|
| Income: | \$ 9,672.22 | Income: | \$ 11,342.50 |
| Expenses: | <u>\$ 13,080.79</u> | Expenses: | <u>\$ 12,649.66</u> |
| Loss: | \$ -3,408.57 | Loss: | \$ -1,307.16 |

General Year to Date for 2022

| | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| Income: | \$ 112,347.11 |
| Expenses: | <u>\$ 63,905.45</u> |
| Difference: | \$ 48,441.66 |

Christian Education-Holli reported that they have switched curriculum companies from David C. Cook to Group. On Sunday the children will still meet in the lecture hall for singing. The little ones will see a short video regarding the lesson for the day. Holli explained that there will be three teachers per class with always two teachers in a room. Sunday school will start on September 11. She feels that the new curriculum will be better for the little older kids. They do have a monthly song and other songs that are interchangeable. They will need a larger TV screen in the lecture hall. Julia asked what kind of TV-yes a smart TV. Julia and Harry offered to purchase a screen for the lecture hall. Dorothy Hagenbuch bought a TV stand.

Choir-still meeting and singing in church. It is good. However, some people feel that it is unnecessary to clap after a solo. One could say AMEN instead of clapping.

Church Cupboard-Maureen stated it is the same.

Clerk-Betty Lou shared that Will has baptized his five children on June 18.

GAME ON-Craig has been taken to the hospital with mouth numbness.

Historian-Kay shared the attendance numbers-June 26-108; July 3-52; July 10-59; July 17-50; July 24-48. Average attendance for the last five Sundays is 63.

Missionary-they will be helping with the yard sale, starting the Operation Christmas Child and contributing to the Interfaith shoe program.

Pastoral Relations-Betty Lou shared that the committee met in July and that they won't meet until September.

Deacons-Linda shared the following:

Worship on 9-11-22: This is the week Sunday School starts up. Cindy Beaman is coming to speak during worship. A 9/11 prayer for the nation will be read.

Worship on 9-25-22: The Stewardship Fall campaign will start and the Stewardship Bicentennial celebration will be that day.

Water Supply: Due to the frequent issues with the Harford water supply. Bottled water will be kept on the premise and the gallon jugs of water for the fellowship time will be refilled with water to be used in the bathrooms when the water service is disrupted.

Lay Readers: Kay Gow will find Lay Readers to do the Welcome, Scripture and the Call to Worship. Kay Gow, Wendy Phillips or Holli Chichester will do the announcements. The lay readers will be listed in the bulletin and the Spire. Lisa Hahn and Leanne Colwell volunteered for the first two weeks to get the Lay Reader Program off the ground.

Fair Dinner: The Fair Dinner is Saturday, August 20, 2022 and is being handled by Christian Education. Since this dinner is an Outreach, the Deacons will help with the Outreach part. Will and a Deacon plan to be outside the Dining Hall from 12-5. Several children will also help out. The outreach will include making a colored sand art cross with the passers-by. The table will be flanked by two large posters with pictures of our Children's programs (VBS and Sunday School and Game -On). The table will also have the church's Tri-Fold information pamphlet (Holli is working on the Tri-fold and the placemats) a color book for the children (I am a Child of God). Lisa Hahn and Sharon Frantz have volunteered for an hour each. We still need three more volunteers.

Sanctuary accessibility: The first pew at the bottom of the sanctuary ramp needs to be removed to allow more room for maneuvering walkers and wheelchairs. The two small pews in front of the organ can be removed to allow wheelchair parking. Extra carpet has been located to fill in the spots where the pews are currently.

Communion: July 17, 2022. Next Communion September 18, 2022.

Pastor Vacation: Scott Muller will preach August 14 and September 4

Dave Schulte will preach August 21, 28

Baptisms: Madelyn Rose Ford – August 7, 2022

Elizabeth Jean Schulte—August 27, 2022

Next Meeting: August 7, 2022 at 11:20

After the Deacons' report there was a lengthy discussion regarding moving the pew-pews. Holli made a motion to remove the first pew at the bottom of the ramp in the sanctuary. We will see if this removal helps with people moving in and out before we remove the two little pews. Seconded by Betty Lou. We will put a sign on the new first pew that this is a handicapped pew. Twelve in favor, one against. Motion carried. We will see how this set up works first before removing any more pews.

David and Carly Corbin's baby Emma Rosa will be baptized July 31.

Stewardship-Kay will now be head of the Stewardship committee. Michelle will be secretary. August 4 at 6:30 will be a meeting to finalize the fall festival and bicentennial celebration on September 25. Will would like to recognize Shirley for all the sincere time and work she has been doing to make the Church's Bicentennial celebration a meaningful event. Joe will be working on the new history of the church – he showed us what he has done for 2021 and 2022. Charlene Martens will be doing snippets of video for our history day – and also tying it into our fall campaign.

Technical Committee-all going well.

Willing Workers-There will be a meeting on August 3, 2022, at 7:00. August 8 & 11 there will be sorting happening in the lecture hall for the garage sale. There will be a roast beef take out dinner on October 22, 2022 from 3:00-5:30. They are collecting attic Treasures to be sold at the fair in August. Sherry Decker, Kay Gow and Linda Robinson will be marking the items. Kay shared that there will not be much cleaning required at the new place in the Carriage House.

Trustees-Harry shared that our neighbor has had some issues with our lawn people and the concrete people about them being on his property. The neighbor seems to believe that we are walking on his property. The trustees have shown him where the surveyor stake is down by the road. The one in the back of the property has been moved and put back into the ground. Will has left a left a message with the neighbor, but there has been no reply. The survey was completed in 2014. The one pin is missing and someone put a rod there in place of the pin. There was a suggestion that we have the surveyor put in a new pin. Start with the survey and put the pin back in the ground.

Where the concrete ends there is a good six or eight in drop off. Dale Payne would be willing to bring in modified dirt and stone with equipment that would not ruin the concrete. The cost will be between \$1,500 and \$2,000.

The trustees will be getting a contract to do the new parking lines in the parking lot. The cost will be \$1,200. Betty Lou mentioned that she hoped the spaces were a little bit larger, however, if they made them larger, a new map would have to be drawn.

Estimates on the front porch: An estimate received from Connor Freitag, \$8,720-Mark Page. They will replace the whole porch floor with a composite and the framing will be replaced. Yes, they will check the left hand corner where it is rotten. Harry made a motion to go with the \$8,720 estimate where the framing would be replaced and the floor part would be a composite grey board product.

Suggested putting marble stone around the front of the church where the concrete drop off occurred. The drop off will be filled with stone then will be topped with the black mulch that Dick and Delores Berish bought for the memorial garden. Judy will send a thank you note to Dick and Delores. The gardens in front of the church are still in dire need of being weeded. We could ask for people to adopt one or all four of the front gardens.

Pastor's report-I brought the American flag in from the Lecture Hall prior to the Sunday, July 3 service. For that service, I placed the American flag directly behind the pulpit on a slight stand to give it more height yet still be well below the cross that focuses us during worship. I decided to keep the flag in this place for the month of July.

The reason I wanted to flag to remain should be obvious. Our nation needs prayers. I knew that the American flag in the sanctuary would present an opportunity for us to pray for our nation each week during the month of July. In praying for our nation, we are immediately drawn into prayers for all nations.

I was able to help at the Weinberg Food Pantry this month. For those who are unable or who have not yet been able to donate your time to this outreach, I have to tell you what I experience each time I am there to help. Everyone buzzes! This is not a casual, sit around and yap event. This is a work bee! The word is m-o-v-e. There may be a pause for a moment or two, but literally that pause is just for a moment. There is a tremendous energy and commitment with the volunteers who help with the food bank.

It has been delightful and exciting to lead the congregation through the Gospel of Luke this month. From the lectionary text, we have engaged the religious expert, Martha and Mary, and the disciple who asks Jesus how to pray. I added the text from Luke about the blind beggar. These interactions—these Jesus encounters—make the text alive for us. These moments with Jesus that we ourselves experience directly, make our Jesus connections all the better, all the richer. Jesus *is* approachable! Jesus meets us, hears us, loves us, and inspires us to move beyond where we are so that we can connect with—and love—Him all the more. And the more we love Jesus enables us to love others even more.

I have met with Paige Seymour and Zach Feduchak as they have planned their August 6th wedding where I'll officiate at the Montdale Country Club. Blessings are asked for this wonderful couple. Let's pray too for a healthy, strong, Christ-based marriage.

As a congregation, we were blessed to participate in the baptism of Emma Rosa Corbin, daughter of Carly and David Corbin. The baptism took place on July 31, 2022.

The upcoming baptism of Madelyn Rose Ford happens the following Sunday, August 7. Prayers and love to Madelyn and her parents Cassandra Lamberson and Mark Ford!

Pastor's Report cont:

My vacation begins August 8 and runs through Labor Day. During vacation, I will hold these questions:

Where is the gospel of Jesus Christ talking to us as individuals and as a congregation as we close the year 2022?

As we celebrate our significant history this fall (beginning on History Sunday which is September 25), how is our past informing our future? Our history defines us as a church of continual change. (Don't question me on this. Just look at our history books!) With all these changes, what defines us as a church of the past active in the present?

What goal setting will God have for us? Church addition done. Parking lot done. Big and small, or big AND small, where is God calling us next?

I close this report with my favorite part of my job, my visits. How grateful I am to see you out and about casually, in the privacy and comfort of your home, or here at church. Truly I learn so much from you, your faith, and your commit to Christ through this church. You help me think. You help me care for others. You inspire me to serve along with you!

Blessings and Christ's love to each of you.

Addition: when Holli and some other folks collected free furniture for the yard sale there was a beautiful desk that was placed in the office work room for Will's use.

New business: The office computer has been giving us some trouble. We would like to have the current computer be placed on Will's new office desk and to purchase a new computer for the office. The older computer would have a lot of the files that Will wouldn't use taken off the old computer. The cost would be about \$2,000. Holli made a motion to have David Oakley purchase the equipment and pay for the cost of the new equipment from the golf tournament proceeds.

Julia had a question regarding old files which are now in the attic. Gary mentioned the vault, but there would be too many for the vault. Julia keeps the old files for two years. Holli and Kay volunteered to check the old cellar for room to store the older records.

The clock is back in the sanctuary, but running a little bit fast. Gary took it to a clock repair place in Painted Post. Thank you, Gary. The man did not charge Gary for the repair.

Kay showed us a picture that fell off the wall in the Gathering Room. It was agreed among the council members to get prices at Michael's and Craigs for repair costs.

Problems or Issues regarding Harford First Congregational Church—UCC?

Pastoral Relations is the group that handles all concerns, issues and difficulties that can not be resolved directly. These meetings are confidential. Contact the office if you find that you need to meet with Pastoral Relations at **570-434-2260**.



Spire Sponsor

Barbara Button

Deacon Minutes

8-7-22

Worship 9/11: Prayer for the nation

Worship 9-25: Bicentennial (Festival has been cancelled)

Fair: A Deacon will help with the Fair Dinner Outreach for our children and youth programs. Sharon Frantz will cover 12-1, Nancy Burris will cover 1-2 (Travis Bridgeman, Kyle. and Sarah Drewett will also help)

Kay will bring her portable table for the sand art project set-up.

Water Supply: The Harford water system occasionally has problems. We will save gallon water containers for saving water for the bathrooms. Nancy Burris will get four cases of water for the church's use during water problems.

Lecture Hall: During the yard sale preparation time, the lecture hall will not be usable. We will contact the Fire Hall to determine if we might use that space in the event of a funeral dinner. Gus Ferrara is our contact.

Pastor Vacation: Scott Muller will preach (August 14 and September 4)

Dave Schulte will preach (August 21 and 28)

Need to determine how substitutes are acquired during vacations or illness.

Lay Readers: Kay Gow is still finding lay readers and will continue as needed.

Next Meeting: September 18, 2022

Trustee Meeting Minutes August 8, 2022

Old Business:

Dave Oakley has been working on getting the security Cameras hooked up in conjunction with Judy's new computer.

Council agreed to remove one pew in the sanctuary.

For the porch replacement on the front of the lecture hall Mark Page and Connor Freytag will use pressure treated for the framework on top of new concrete footings and composite decking for the floor of the porch for \$8,720. Harry is just waiting for a contract.

Parking lot stripping is almost complete.

New concrete driveway was backfilled by Dale Payne.

New Business:

Some type of parking bumpers will be needed for the new parking spaces along the church. There is concern that they will be hit by a snowplow during the winter so the discussion surrounds how to use the parking bumpers and how many are needed. Concrete parking bumpers cost around \$40 each.

Discussion on where to put the dumpster and the boy scout trailer permanently.

Gary contacted a surveyor to determine the property line along the new driveway and was waiting for a proposal.

Holli Chichester volunteered to take care of the flower and bushes in front of the Sanctuary and did a nice job making it look presentable.

A man from Painted Post, NY fixed the clock in the Sanctuary and did it for free. He just asked for a \$100 donation to a homeless shelter in Philadelphia which Gary made. Gary will continue to wind the clock as necessary. ***No one but Gary should wind the clock.***

Shayne Lewis cut down weeds behind the memorial garden.

The metal door frames of the exit doors are rusting and need to be cleaned up and painted.

Irv is requesting some fans for the Willing Workers as they make Fudge for the Fair this week.

**Harford First Congregational Church-UCC
Stewardship Minutes
July 20, 2022**

The Stewardship Committee met on July 2, 2022 at 6:30 in the Lecture Hall.
In attendance were: Judy Mitchell, Julia Gardner, Kay Gow, Michelle Estabrook and Pastor William Hagenbuch.

Pastor Will opened with prayer.

Shirley masters has stepped down as chair of the committee. Kay has agreed to be the chair and Michelle has agreed to be the secretary.

Joe will be working on the new history of the church – he showed us what he has done for 2021 and 2022.

Charleene Martens will be doing snippets of video for our history day – and also tying it into our fall campaign.

On September 25 we will incorporate our Fall Festival with the History Day if it is ok with Shirley. Our committee will provide drinks.

We are also thinking of contacting the Attleboro Church in Massachusetts to see if they would send a letter or video about their church and its ties to ours.

Our fall campaign will be titled “Our Leap Of Faith” .

**September Birthdays and
Anniversaries**



September 3 Brett and Dean (Simons) Dew
Laurie Thorn
September 4 Joe Kulyeshie
Hunter O’Malley
Benjamin Millard
Lydia Herbert
September 5 Kaiden Warren
Bob and Dot Simon’s
September 6 Breanne Simons Hiller
Ron and Jacqueline Phillips
September 7 Ralph and Ivie Simons
September 9 Jack Allen
September 11 Jeffrey Zick
September 13 Leanne Colwell
September 14 Aspen Batzel
September 16 Brad Millard
Alice Archer

September 18 Jason and Jessica Miller
Wayne Wellman
September 20 Don Lindsey
September 21 Rick and Dana Empet
Allan and Kaylee Phelps
September 24 Delaney Heller
Aiden Empet
September 25 Cathy Tracy
September 26 Henry Rush Simons
Griffin Patrick Simons
September 27 Patrick Simons
September 28 Harry Gardner
September 29 Jacob Heller
September 30 Bridget Zick Sherring



Flower Sponsorship

Here’s a new way to serve in your congregation and add beauty to our worship experience!

Sponsor Altar flowers!! All you need to do is take a pew envelope, place cash or check for \$20, put your name on the envelope with the date you wish to sponsor and who/what the flowers honor or commemorate. The Deacons will then purchase and arrange the flowers for you. You may also sponsor a week yourself by signing up on the purple altar flower sheet in the hallway. If you have your own flowers at home. No money involved, just bring the flowers and sign the sheet.

Harford Fair 2022

The Willing Workers took in
\$10,583.20



Crafts
Fudge
Welsh Cookies
Attic Treasures
Rada Knives



Benefits Youth and Children's Ministries at Harford First Congregational Church-UCC

Profit: \$484 Basket Raffle

\$2340.49 Chicken Dinner

Total: \$2,824.49

Pastor Will, Deacons and crew met fair goers and invited them to make free Sand Art Cross Necklaces. The church Tri-fold was also distributed.

Fair Dinner



Lydia Jaye Zeshonski

Parents: Michael and Kari Zeshonski
Godparents: Paige Seymour and Maria Savio



Madelyn Ross Ford

Parents: Kassandra Lamberson and Mark Ford
Godparents:
Tatiana McDowell, Patrick Lamberson,
Michael Lamberson and Amanda Ford

Emma Rosa Corbin

Parents: David and Carly Corbin
Godparents: John and Courtney Corbin



Willing Workers Big Group Quarterly Meeting

August 3, 2022

Treasurer Sharon Kinney went over the report. The \$37.93 to Kandance Wellman was for the new craft stamp. Also, Sharon received a bill from Judy Mitchell for \$90 for Danny Duzit's. This report was accepted as printed.

New Business – October 22nd will be our Roast Beef dinner. This will be like last year, served as in the past, same time 3-5:30. Last year tickets were \$14 and \$6 for children. It was suggested that the children tickets go up \$1.00 because these dinners are just a little smaller portion, but they receive a full dinner. All agreed. Tickets – **Adults \$14 and children \$7.00**

Fair – Sharon Decker, Kay Gow and Linda Robinson are pricing Attic Treasures. Maureen mentioned she has hens and chicks and jewelry for the fair. These will need to be picked up. Kay mentioned that there will be no electric in the carriage barn until maybe Wednesday next week. Security doesn't start until Thursday. Kay will try to get up next week and clean the space.

Sharon Kinney dropped a copy of our liability insurance to the fair. It was asked if this needed to be posted. Only the sales tax collection paper needs to be. Connie will make sure a copy of this is in the cash register for opening.

Going back to the roast beef dinner. The presidents will receive the tickets, give Holli a listing of who have what numbers and collect the money. The money and unsold tickets will then be turned over to Holli. As of now we will plan on 350. That will require each group to make **15** 10-inch pumpkin pies. Holli will buy the 10inch pie pans and distribute them to the Presidents. Advertising will start in the September Spire. The cut off for selling tickets will be **October 16th**. All monies and unsold tickets should be turned into the Presidents, and they will give to Holli. There will be an organization meeting for the dinner on **October 5th at 7:00 p.m.**

Kandy mentioned something she saw on Facebook. The school students can buy books from Scholastic. Some students never have the money to do this. A motion by Sharon Decker and seconded by Maureen Warren for the Willing Workers to give Mountain View students \$100.00 to make sure all students at some time can buy a book. This project might be able to be handled by the school guidance counselor. Ivie Simons will contact the school to see if this can be done and let Kay know.

Next meeting is November 2nd at 1:00 p.m.

Group reports: Harford 4 present Helped with Helen Foster's memorial serve, paid pledge, made donation to Interfaith Back to School project and renovation project. Getting ready for fair. Monday will be making fudge.

Kingsley 2 present Made Welch cookies, crafts, and helped with Helen Foster's memorial service.

North Harford 4 present Helped with Helen Foster's memorial service. Will be paying their pledge tonight.

Celebrate the joys in life!

Celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, weddings,
births, graduations and let us celebrate with you!

Contact Tammy at 570-396-7081



Correspondence

Cemetery information:

My husband, Willard Carpenter, a descendant of the original 9 partners is buried in the center of the plots that I own along with his older daughter Lois Snyder of Factoryville. When we lived in PA and returned every summer while our children were young, we mapped out your cemetery and gave you the books to make finding your loved ones in an organized fashion. I now reside in Florida and I understand that other people in your region might like to rest near their homestead. I placed this add in Facebook in the Harford area. I'm not a good sales person but I still understand that your cemetery is a beautiful place to rest.

Cemetery Plots in Historic Harford Cemetery prime location near the front of the church as shown in this first picture. The sites are north of the Oakley monument. 10 plots are available. Each plot is 4 feet by 12 feet to accommodate one coffin or two cremations. \$1500. each.

Please make this information available to any and all people who may require or seek this information. I have seen many changes in your church and still read your bulletin. It always brings back memories.... Thank-you for helping people who need help.

Deanne Carpenter Shannon
25 Carol Rd

Ormond Beach, Fl 32176 deannec2002@yahoo.com 386 503 1500

With a grateful and thankful heart , I was blessed with many cards, phone messages and emails for my birthday. They sit lined up on the bookcase, so I can see them when I walk by.

Thank you so much for the thoughts and prayers that came with them. Jean Bonham

Dear Congregation, July 2022

Once again you've proven the meaning of caring and love. Cancer is tough and my inclination is to hide. You haven't let me. I've received an incredible number of cards, meals, prayers, calls, visits, medical aids, books, flowers and treats.

Thank you and may God bless you all. Ginny and Charlie Ahearn

Norma Carey
Turnpike Terrace
600 Turnpike Street
Susquehanna
PA 18847

Blade** Bernosky
2743 River Road
Wysox
PA 18854

Jim, Nicole, Jimi Bernosky
300 Exeter Avenue
West Pittston
PA 18643

Ridge** Bernosky
1709 Valhalla Lane Unit B
Bellingham
WA 98226

Shaynna** Mack
Apt C1
218 Idlewood Blvd
Baldwinsville
NY 13027

Lisa Hahn
3610 State Route 547
Harford
PA 18823



You may access the Harford First Congregational Church—UCC 2021

Annual Report using this link:

<https://firstchurchharford.com/newsletter-our-spire-and-annual-report>

Attention!

We are fully open for worship at 10:00 am each Sunday!

We have been eager to worship together again. We are now open!!! Our ushers and greeters will be present during the service.

Hymnals and Bibles may be utilized but all text will be available via our new monitors in the sanctuary. We would like to invite those who do not feel ready to worship in groups to watch our livestreaming worship at 10:00 am.



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmQ-Xr0lE5xwdZS0yVs7dtg>



Men's Breakfast

September 13, 2022 at 7:30am

at Bingham's Restaurant.
The second Tuesday of each month.



The Website is up and running.

We have worked hard, but we realize that important things may not have been included. We are still adding and changing things so if you have suggestions, please email Holli Chichester at hollischichester@gmail.com or call 301-643-1775. Please check it out at

www.firstchurchharford.com



Weinberg Food Bank

Harford First Congregational Church
Please contact Tammy if you have registered but do not plan to pick up.

Next distributions Friday, September 23, 2022 from 4:30-5:30

Any income can apply, complete the form online firstchurchharford.com or call Tammy @ 570-396-7081.

Day of Distribution please bring with you a photo ID and a current household bill with your current Susquehanna County address.

Home Bound



Lynola Carey
Joanne Connolly

Martha Jenkins
Dorothy Greene
Lou and John Zimmerman

Norma Carey
Barbara Pease

Prayer Concerns

-We pray for our nation to be blessed and that our nation seeks its blessings

-We pray for our national and local leaders

-All school districts—this includes school board members, administration, faculty, staff, parents and students

-the Craig Stout Family

-for those with medical issues large and small

-Missy Clarkson

-David and Brandy and family

-Those with Alzheimer's and their families

-those experiencing financial pressures

-those fighting addiction

-Lois Gibson and all those in nursing homes along with their families

-Will's five kids

-Evan Clarkson, Andrew Kazmierczak, Robert Schulte and all those serving in the military

-Sandy Zupanovich

-Connie Schulte's son Phil

-Gregg Symuleski and family

-Nancy Marr

-law enforcement officers

-emergency volunteers

-hospital workers and fire personnel

-Linda and Mike Berol

-Richard Frederick (Ray's brother)

-George Lotter

-Lori Masters Yashino

-Rita

-Carol Lyman Biondo

-Ken Walsh

-Braxton McDowell

-Small businesses struggling

-Patrick Simons

-Linda Lindsey

-Ruth Ann Batzel

-Sal Armetta and family

-Steve Holtsmaster

-Karen Jones relative

-Lola and John Zimmerman

-Lynn Hernandez

-Karen Doolittle

-Family of Art Doolittle

-Earl Gow

-Paula Adams

-Chris (Paula Smith's brother)

-Ginny and Charlie Ahearn

-Gift of Life Program (Organ Donation)

-Andy Granick

-Mark Gregory

-Bob Zupanovich

-Judy Strohl

-Margaret Frederick

-Robert Hagenbuch

-JoAnn Titus

-Lynn Butler

-Sue Mc Bride

-War in Ukraine

-Dorothy Greene

-Tricia Deacon

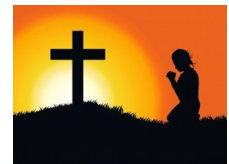
-Millie Tingley

-Tim Gardner

-Mr. and Mrs. Yushinsky

-Amy Kittle

-Don (Alpaca Farm owner)





Emails: It has come to our attention that some of you may not be receiving our email prayer lists. This is an oversight that we would like to correct. Please call or email Judy and let her know that you are not receiving the emails.

Tel.570-434-2260 Email: firstch@nep.net

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. Please send to:

Harford First Congregational Church—UCC
PO Box 217

Notice: Please send all material for September to be included in the Spire to:

Firstchurchspire@gmail.com

by the 15th of September 2022!

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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 Harford First Congregational Church - 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.



Spire Sponsor

Anita Millard

Women's Lunch

3rd Monday of each month

12:00 at Bingham's

All Welcome!

Bring a Friend



Greeters and Ushers

September Greeters/Ushers

September 4, 2022

Leanne Colwell (greeter/usher)
Karen Jones (usher)

September 11, 2022

Missy Clarkson (greeter/usher)
Alyssa Nolan (usher)

September 18, 2022

Judy Mitchell and Emma Hagenbuch (greeters/usher)
Laurie Thorn (usher)

September 25, 2022

Linda Robinson (greeter/usher)
Loren Robinson (usher)



Lay Readers

September 4, 2022

Kay gow

September 11, 2022

Kandy Wellman

September 18, 2022

Peg Empet

September 25, 2022

Nancy Burris



Soup Ministry



Know someone that is shut-in or feeling down or sick? Take them a quart of home-made soup. It's in the large freezer by the church mailboxes. Just sign the paper on the door to let us know who received the soup.

Harford First Congregational Church—UCC

Children's Ministry

Fall Sunday School

September 11, 2022

9:00 - 9:45

Fellowship and Refreshment 9:30-10:00

Worship 10:00-11:00 All Welcome!!!

Ages Two thru Pre-K

Let the Children

Come to Me



Kindergarten—grade 2

God's Promise



3rd Grade— 6th grade

*The Beauty
of
God's Creation*



Middle-High School

With Pastor Will



Harford First Congregational Church - UCC
Sunday School Registration Form
2022-2023

Please Use one Form per Child

Child's Name: _____

Name of Parent (s) or Guardian (s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email: _____

(Most Communication will be via email)

Grade: _____ Age of Child: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Allergies: _____

Information Regarding Your Child We Should Know: _____

Child's Interests: _____

Parent/Guardian Volunteer Information

(Check if Willing to Help)

____ Teach Sunday School ____ Christmas Pageant Helper

____ Substitute for Sunday School ____ Youth Events Helper

____ Vacation Bible School Helper ____ Special Events Helper

Harford First Congregational Church's Sunday School periodically uses photographs of students to publicize this church and events. Please sign below to indicate that you agree that a photo of your child may be utilized in this manner (Closed Facebook, Website, Flyers).

I agree to allow Harford First Congregational Church to use my child _____'s photograph for publicity purposes as described above.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Harford First Congregational Church

Willing Workers

Harford, PA

ROAST BEEF DINNER

October 22, 2022



Roast Beef and Gravy

Green Beans

Mashed Potatoes

Cole Slaw

Roll

Pumpkin Pie



Presale/Take out only

Order by October 16, 2022

Drive by pick up from 3-5:30 pm

**Call Holli at 570-851-5109 or
text 301-643-1775 to order tickets.**

Make checks payable to "Willing Workers"

Adults: \$14.00

Children under 12: \$7.00

September 2022

September 2022

October 2022

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 | 31 |

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|--|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Aug 28 Pastor-vacation 9:30am Fellowship Time (GR) 10:00am Service (sanctuary) | 29 Labor Day NO Quarterback mtg | 30 | 31 | Sep 1 Pastor-vacation | 2 Pastor-vacation 8:00am YARD SALE | 3 Pastor-vacation 8:00am YARD SALE |
| 4 Pastor-vacation 9:30am Fellowship Time (GR) 10:00am Service (sanctuary) | 5 Labor Day NO Quarterback mtg | 6 | 7 | 8 10:00am Pastor in office 6:30pm Harford Historical mtg (Log Cabin.) | 9 | 10 9:00am Book 'Sale-Orphan School |
| 11 9:00am SS (LH) 9:30am Fellowship Time (GR) 10:00am Service 11:20am Deacons (LH) | 12 9:30am Quarterback mtg (PO) 7:00pm Trustees (PO) | 13 7:30am Men's Breakfast (Binghams) 9:00am Pastoral Relations mtg (PO) 9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH) | 14 | 15 10:00am Pastor in office | 16 | 17 |
| 18 9:00am SS (LH) 9:30am Fellowship Time (GR) 10:00am Service (sanctuary) | 19 9:30am Quarterback mtg (PO) 12:00pm Ladies lunch (Binghams) | 20 9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH) 1:00pm Missionary (LH) | 21 6:30pm Stewardship (LH) | 22 10:00am Pastor in office 6:00pm Council (LH) | 23 4:30pm Weinberg-pick up | 24 |
| 25 9:00am SS (LH) 9:30am Fellowship Time (GR) 10:00am Service 11:00am Bicentennial | 26 9:30am Quarterback mtg (PO) | 27 9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH) | 28 | 29 10:00am Pastor in office | 30 | Oct 1 |



Non-Profit Organization

US Postage Paid

Permit—#20

Montrose, PA 18801

Harford First Congregational Church –UCC
5016 Creek Road
PO Box217
Harford, PA 18823
Tel.570-434-2260
Email: firstch@nep.net
Spire email: firstchurchspire@gmail.com
Web URL: www.firstchurchharford.com

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

Isaiah 9:2

Join Us Each Sunday!!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MAIL

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY



Harford First Congregational Church—UCC

Rev. Dr. William Hagenbuch –Pastor
Home Phone: 570-434-7729
Email: wrh@nep.net
Office Hours: Thurs. 10-12:00

Judy Mitchell –Sec
Hours: Monday 1:00-5:00
Friday 1:00-5:00