



Our Spire
Volume 40
October 2020
Number 8

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

Pastor's Page:

Perhaps this is the most exciting time in our lives to be in the body of Christ and to witness to the world because the church in this pandemic is literally everywhere. The concept of the church being a people not a place is absolutely nothing new. Christians have been raised in this liberating belief that wherever two or more are gathered there is Christ.

Rather than talk with people about the pastor or the church, now, with a device in your hand, you can show them. Can't make Sunday morning church? How about Tuesday morning? Wednesday afternoon? "Church" not sacred enough to watch on a computer, iPad, or cell phone? Well, find a quiet spot in your living room, in front of the lake, or near a place where you can watch a tree or actually sit under it and the sacred, via the Holy Spirit, will find you.

When we box God, that is, when we put God in a box, we disservice—or at least shortchange—our God doing what our God does, which is draw His people to Him in bold, refreshing, and exciting ways.

As the pandemic continues to unfold, I continue to see this church making strides to be the church today. Like the people of Israel freed from slavery, which is lectionary scripture slated for us in September, we are on a journey. It is uncomfortable sometimes, uncertain other times. Some long to go back because we've lost the words "comfortable" and "routine" this year. Rather than groan like those wandering and lost, let's continue to step forward not aimlessly but with direction as we consider that maybe this "new norm" is how God wants it.

In closing, let me speak of love. Continue to reach out and love your neighbor. These are uncharted times for us, and we all need to be mindful of those on the margins, or those who simply cannot socialize as they have in the past for any number of reasons. Being mindful that we are blessed by a God "when we show up", let's continue to be the mobile church for today and tomorrow. Love out loud. Amen!

Dear Congregation,

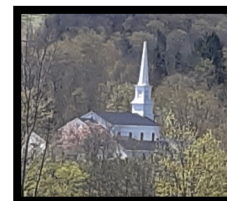
Attention! The worship service will be livestreamed live at 10:00 am each Sunday.

We have been eager to worship together again. Our council met to discuss how we can safely begin this process. We are now able to meet in groups with masks, distance, and additional sanitizing.

We would like to invite those who feel ready to worship in groups to come to the livestreaming of our worship at 10:00 am. Masks are mandatory. We must keep our distance. We will not use the hymnals and Bibles or have bulletins. All needed text will be projected for you. We will enter and exit through the glass double doors.

For those who feel it is best to stay at home and continue online worship, which, at the moment, seems to be the majority of us, please know our council supports and appreciates your participation. Safety first is a key to our wellbeing.

We look forward to worshipping with you online or in person each
Sunday at 10 am.



IT'S TIME TO TELL YOUR STORY

The gift of God in pressing times



Dear Harford Church,

Witness. We have all experienced God firsthand. Our God stories inspire. Our God stories connect us. Our God stories ignite an excitement, especially when we see God at work in others and particularly when we see God at work in the church He has blessed us to serve here in Harford.

It is time to tell your story. This fall, we will open our personal stories (our memories and their meanings) through a series of video clips that will feature you, the congregation. We, the Stewardship Committee, will be asking many of you to share your stories of where or how you've seen God at work in your life, or in the life of the church. These video clips of you will be recorded by members of the committee for all of us to watch, learn from, and be uplifted by.

The greatest gift we have is the gift of God with us. It is time we share this even more than many of us have.

The committee knows this will be challenging for many of us. "What? Me?" some are thinking as they read this. "Speak? And do so in front of a camera? That's crazy!"

What is crazy is Moses hearing from God that when he hits a nearby rock with his staff that water will gush out from it! Before that story, what is crazy is an entire sea parting for an entire group of people to pass through ON DRY LAND. Speaking of seas, what is crazy is a big fish devouring and then delivering Jonah to the place he least wanted to go—Nineveh.

As a team, we can go on *and on* about the "crazy" things God has done in scripture and is doing now in our lives and in the lives of this vital church. But consider Moses. Consider Jonah. God makes us uncomfortable so that, in time, we can be more comfortable—more secure—in our faith.

Some of us are hearing something quiet inside our hearts right now. It sounds like this. "Yes. Yes. I can do this. I can speak of my love for God and how He has led me, taught me, coached me, lifted me or enabled me to press on."

So, prepare. How? Consider your story. Consider a shareable time or two where in about two minutes you are able to record a God moment in front of a cell phone. The Stewardship team will find and record this moment as part of our campaign this year.

Be a part of this blessing. It is a gift that will keep giving.

Thank you, Your Stewardship Committee

Dear Congregation,

On Sunday, September 20th, Council President David Schulte presented me, the recent graduate, with a handsome clock for all of us to appreciate and enjoy in the days to come. I am grateful to all of you who contributed to this graduation gift. I am very touched. To recognize God at work here in our church is the true gift.



To me (and I hope to you as well), the clock is a tangible memory of our work together over the past three years of my advanced education. It represents us as a community. By saying this I mean that it took all of us to complete this three-year fulltime doctoral degree.

So many for so long have been witnesses and inspiration to me, the church member who became your minister. Your prayers mattered. Your support mattered. Your questions about how it's going mattered. One of you sent gifts along the way that covered the costs of books for a semester or two. A great friend walked my dogs (the Troops) each day I was on campus during what is called Intensive Week.

All of this continues to chime (pun intended), including the scholarship I received twice a year from our Penn Northeast Conference.

Smile when you look at this clock because our God guides. Our God inspires. Our God certainly calls each of us forward in service and in love.

With you, I also experience our God who continues to watch over this mighty workhorse congregation in Harford. You see this, too. The great "I Am" consistently creates for us all new and bold ways to live in the Kingdom each day with clarity, with purpose, with humility and with grace.

Thank you again. God Bless each of you.

"I'll live for Him who died for me; How happy then my life shall be! I'll live for Him who died for me, My Savior and my God!" —lyrics from I'll Live for Him.





On September 19, 2020 from 9:00-4:00 Harford First Congregational Church partnered with our Community and family and friends of the Craig Stout family to hold a Fight Against Cancer Benefit for the Stout family.

This event was a church wide event with participation from the Willing Workers, Missionary and many individuals, friends and family. 100% of all proceeds will go to the Stout Family to aid them in their fight against cancer.

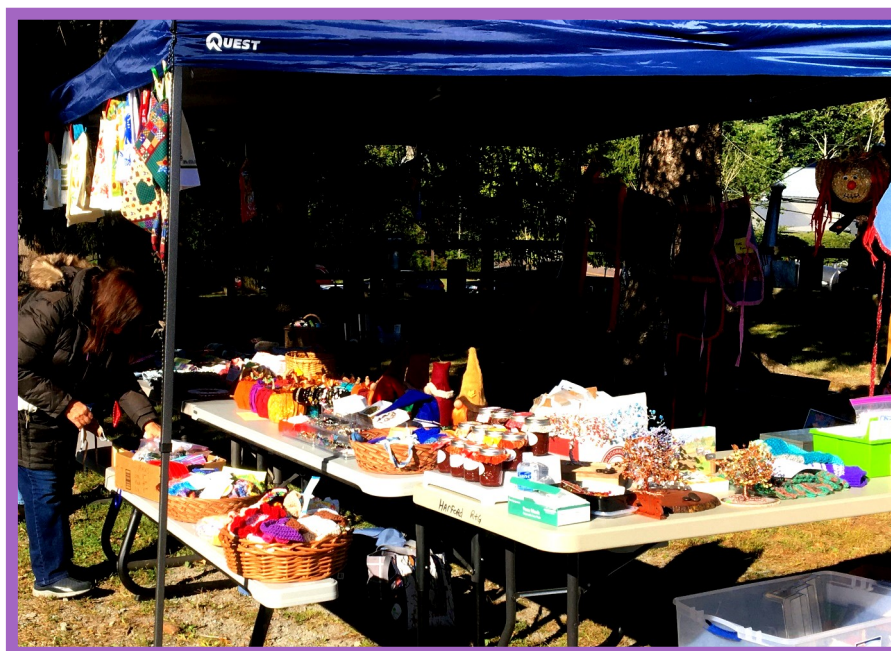
Benefit Meal: The Willing Workers supplied the food and paper products for a take-out meal of Pulled Pork Sandwich on Kaiser Roll, Macaroni Salad, Cole Slaw, and Baked Beans. Eric and Katherine Doolittle cooked all the meat for the pulled pork. Kandy Wellman and Ellen Holdredge made the Macaroni Salad. Bingham's donated the Cole Slaw. Julie Gardner prepared the Baked Beans. Wendy Phillips and Holli Chichester made the BBQ sauce. Tickets were presale and all 400 tickets were sold prior to the event. Peg Empet lead the portioning and packaging of the meal with help from Kay Gow, Ginny Ahern, Linda Bonham, Judy Mitchell, Eric Doolittle, Wendy Phillips, Leanne Colwell and Teresa Lamberson. Many others helped to serve and deliver the meals for take-out.



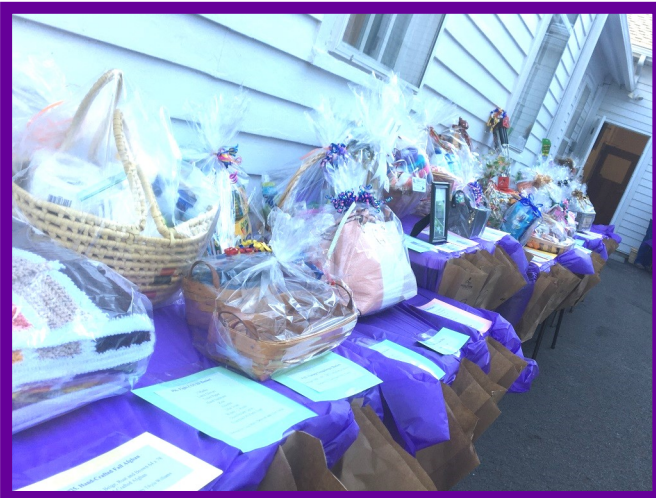
Benefit Bake Sale: The Missionary Group held a bake sale with great participation from our church and the community. Thank you!



Benefit Craft Sale: We also had a craft table of lovely hand-made items donated by our church and community artisans. Thank you!



Benefit Basket Raffle: We had a basket raffle of beautiful donated baskets. We had 120 donated baskets to make this basket raffle the biggest raffle our church has ever seen. Three of the baskets were designated \$5 tickets. Tammy Swetter and Dottie Hagenbuch headed the ticket sales with assistance from Donna Lesniak, Tanner Stout, Ethan Komora, Mia Frankel and others.



Benefit Yard Sale: We held a huge yard sale and unbelievable contributions from our church and community. The entire donation had to be sorted and packed for moving outside and after the sale packed and brought back in. Peg Empet, Gus Ferrara, Shirley Masters, Ellen Holdredge, Ginny Ahearn, Kandy Wellman, Cathi Ferger, Kay Gow, Wendy Phillips, Holli Chichester, Linda Robinson and Deb Strong manned the sorting and packing. The Boy Scouts Troop 98, Eric Doolittle and friend Dave, Bill Chichester, Judd Holdredge, Dale Ferger, Dorothy Matthews two grandsons, Charlie and Delaney Heller, Owen Bewley, Heather Simons, Betty Lou Bennett, Dale Empet, Anne Koes and many others moved all the yard sale items into the yard. Missy Heller and Holli Chichester cashiered with much assistance from Cathy Symulesky, Caroline Symulesky, Debbie Strong, Lauri Demark, Linda Robinson, Wayne Frederici and many others. Judd Holdredge slept in his car to assure that the set up wasn't disturbed overnight.





Here's the NEWS you have all been waiting for.

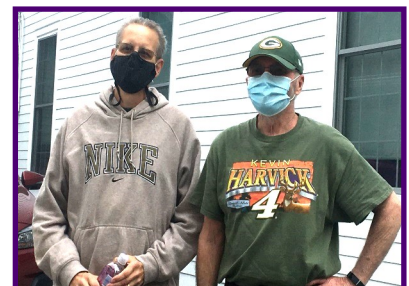
The Benefit results to date 9-24-2020:

Yard Sale:	\$4762
Donations:	\$2200
Craft Sale :	\$ 392
Bake Sale:	\$ 798
Basket Raffle:	\$8455
Meal:	\$5090
Total:	\$21,697

Spotted on or by Harford First Congregational Church!!!!

Two Masked Warriors!!

Love to them and prayers for them!



Note from the Stout Family (After the Benefit September 19, 2020).

God is Good!!

Today was such an emotional rollercoaster ride...We are truly humbled by the amount of love and support that continues to be poured upon our family. When we walked on to the church grounds our hearts were filled with such an overwhelming sense of peace and joy to know that we are part of such an amazing and wonderful church and community as a whole. This benefit has reassured us once again that #TeamCraig does not and will never fight alone.

Your continued gifts of kindness to us...whether it's a meal, a card, a monetary gift, a prayer, a ride, a text, a call or lending a helping hand all mean so much more than we will ever be able to express .

Thank you to each of you who contributed in whatever way...those who spent many tiring hours preparing for the benefit, taking t-shirt orders, selling tickets, making salads, cooking endless amounts of pork, making baskets, sorting and moving yard sale items, baking, advertising ,renting tents, parking and shuttling cars, printing flyers...the list is endless.

We thank each you of for your part ...we will never find a way to repay you enough for all you have done and continue to do for us.

And to add to today's gifts and blessings Boy Scout Troops 98 (and friends) spent hours cutting splitting and stacking firewood for our family for the winter!

The ongoing love and support from our friends, family, church and community continues to overwhelm us..

THANK YOU will never be enough for what you all have done and continue to do!



The Church and the Community gather and give love and hope

Church and community are never apart
No matter what people say
No matter what people see

Church and community are never apart
Because God calls His people
And God knows His people
No matter where they are

And so it was on one day
A day that was incredibly unlike any other
God called, and we listened
We all listened

See, what Church and community
Need to relive and rejoice happened under two tents
With what must have been a million pounds of donated items,
With over 100 baskets nearby
An army of happy, gracious and godly volunteers and helpers
A large, loving and inviting bake sale
And a meal whose memory still makes mouths water

Yet again the lesson is learned
And the message to the world is sent
The power of a church is known
Because the power of the church through the community
is always care
It is always care

So we who were there can all shed a tear
Because we know yet again
Just how good our God is
And just how much He provides—through us.

May this day, and its unfathomable rally, never be forgotten
Just shared again tomorrow
In different ways

Harford First Congregational-UCC
Keep listening to—and responding with—
Our endless and loving
Generous and abiding
Faithful and wonderful God.

And the people of love and hope say, "Amen."

Harford First Congregational Church-UCC
August Council Minutes (pieces missing from last months Spire)
August 27, 2020

The secretary minutes were presented. There were no corrections or additions. They were accepted as printed.

The Financial Secretary's report was reviewed, with no questions.

The Treasurer's report was next. Julia patiently explained the Money Market where the weekly money is deposited and where the transfers to the checking account are made. There is \$5,620.90 in the General Fund account for July. We didn't quite receive enough to cover the amount that we paid out for July. We are doing okay. The alarm system payment came out of the Capital account. The new sanctuary shades payment came out of the Building Fund account. There was a payment of money received for the Summer Lunch Program of \$300. This check was written in August. We still have a balance in the sign account, however, there is still some landscaping work to be finished around the sign. Bill Chichester, Harry Gardner, and Gary Housel raked three loads of rocks from where the soil had been dug up around the sign. They smoothed the dirt and then mowed with hand mowers. They told the lawn mower man, Shane Lewis, that he could finish the grading. Craig shared about how the sign was to be finished. Guess the trustees and Craig need to discuss what was originally planned. Julia won't remove any money from the Sign Fund until the sign is completely finished.

To pay for regular expenses every month per budget numbers we would need to received \$12,597.92 a month. The regular expenses are electric, payroll, office and programs)

Below is the Income and Expenses for July 2019 and July 2020.

<u>July</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>2020</u>
Income	\$ 8,685.25	Income	\$ 5,620.90
Expenses	<u>(7,542.73)</u>	Expense	<u>(8,252.31)</u>
Difference	\$ 1,142.52	Difference	\$ (2,631.41)

General Year to Date for 2020

Income	\$ 81,579.61
Expenses	<u>(70,344.30)</u>
Difference	\$ 11,235.51

Will asked if we cut back on expenses are we still well. Yes, we are still well. Electric is down, we have a \$610 credit on oil for 2021, and we have been keeping watch of our expenses. Julia shared that the pension is now paid monthly instead of quarterly which helps with not having such big end of the year payments as it had been before the change to monthly. This payment method is very helpful. A motion was made by Kay, seconded by Betty Lou to accept the fine monetary reports. All in favor.

Choir-Ellen shared that there are no plans for future practice with small groups. There were comments how wonderful the music has been this summer. Thank you to all who have volunteered to keep the church music alive.

Church Cupboard-Maureen shared that they are helping only one family at the present time.

Clerk-Betty Lou has clerk news tonight-Linda Knell passed away in July. There is a wedding-Jesse/Corbin on Saturday August 29 here at the church. Judy is transferring to full membership instead of associate. Judy mentioned that she has been trying to find information on Barbara Webster and has been unsuccessful. Michelle volunteered to check some nursing home lists that recently arrived at her office in Montrose. She will let Judy know if she finds a new address.

Cradle Roll-Holli has added two names to the cradle roll.

Historian-Kay shared the following attendance numbers: July 5-16; July 12-26; July 19-31; July 26-26; August 2-22; August 9-20; August 16-23; August 23-27; still have one more week in August. July average was 25. Many people seem to be listening to the service over u-Tube.

Nominating Committee-Wendy reported that the Nominating Committee usually start working on their report in September.

Pastoral Relations – they did have a meeting. They discussed how to honor Will’s doctorate degree. They discussed Will’s remaining vacation time of eight weeks. The committee is willing to let him carry over two weeks. He still needs to use four more weeks after the two weeks to be used in September. These are to be used by the end of December, 2020 however, not to be used at Christmas time. If Will carry’s over the two weeks until 2021, he will have six weeks in 2021 and then four weeks in 2022.

Stewardship-Michelle explained that they did not have a meeting in August, but have a meeting planned for September when **they will start the fall campaign.**

Pastor’s Report: We’ve had a fulfilling August. Those who have wanted—or feel the need to return to the church physically—continue to do so. It’s completely understandable when some say, “There is no place like home.” Masks are worn and social distancing is respected.

August brought on planning for the Stout benefit in mid-September, the intro to the fall Stewardship Campaign and I was blessed to officiate the wedding of Carly Jesse and David Corbin on August 29th, the day my two-week vacation started. The wedding was beautiful and social distancing was practiced for the safety and wellness of all who gathered Saturday and then for worship Sunday. Kudos to Kay Gow for keeping our church clean for all.

With the deacons, we also discussed safety and how to do communion. A video with the deacons that leads the congregation through the sanctity of communion at home has been discussed and re-discussed. This video will be posted to our website. The video can be watched at any time, and it is the hope of those who have prepared it that the peace of Christ through the Holy Meal enrich our lives with love.

Speaking of love (or capital-L Love), we were blessed to have Bonnie Love-Colwell take the pulpit for us for two weeks during my vacation. (David Schulte II covered pastoral care in my absence.) Bonnie actually preached three times, the third being the first Sunday I returned to do the rest of the service. Bonnie asked to do this third sermon (and the sermon only) because her two-week plan from the pulpit stretched to three. God does this to us, and Bonnie boldly listened! Watch those sermons if you have not already done so. Bonnie has a true gift, and she shares this gift of God and from God SO well.

New business- Regarding allowing groups to be meeting in the lecture hall such as the boy scouts-who would assume the expense of fogging. David to check on the cost of a fogger to clean the rooms after a meeting.

Kay suggested that we keep the services at 10:00 until we are able to start Sunday school. That would also allow more time for roads to be cleaned in the winter. A motion was made by Kay to keep the services at 10:00 until we are able to fully open the church. Once we are able to fully open the church, services will go to 11:00 and Sunday school at 9:30.

Holli suggested that perhaps we open Facebook instead of having a closed group. Pictures would be on Facebook. Is it time to consider opening it and not having a closed group? Facebook- maybe just have an event page that is open. Will does three Facebook groups now, he could post to four groups. Please think on this subject so that we can consider how we should proceed. Holli had wished to share basket raffle items on the Facebook, but can’t do that on our closed Facebook site. Will just advertise on the community page for now. We will table this subject for now. Betty Lou complimented Holli on the great job that she has been doing on the Spire. Thank you Holli.

David had a question about why we didn’t notify the golf players that there was to be no tournament this year. Answer: Everything was cancelled in August. No one had signed up to play yet and we had asked for no sponsors.

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

Firstchurchspire@gmail.com

by the 15th of October 2020!

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Spire Sponsor

This Spire is sponsored in Loving Memory of Barbara Wescott Rydzenski
(Mother of Susan, Sandra and Stephen Major and Billie Kay Kraus)
in honor of her friendship of almost 85 years with her
Best Friend: Margaret Ann Maza.

Susan Major-Conklin



Isaiah 43:19- "For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun..."

We are beginning a Sunday School using the Zoom platform. You can help by submitting the email address of your favorite Sunday School aged children to bjlcolwell@gmail.com

Council Minutes

September 24, 2020

Financial: To make expense every month in general (payroll, electric etc.) we will need \$12,597.92 a month to meet our Budget for 2020.

Here is the income and expenses for August 2019 and 2020.

August	2019	August	2020
Income:	\$9,532.22	Income:	\$11,847.05
Expenses:	\$11,965.35	Expenses:	\$9,490.17
Total:	-\$2,433.13	Total:	\$2356.88

General Year to Date for 2020

Income:	\$93,426.66
Expense:	\$79,834.47
Total:	\$13,592.19

Choir: Wonderful Music

Church Cupboard: 1 Family

Cradle Roll: One Birth – Blanket and letter sent

Deacons Minutes: A Communion Service was recorded for the congregation and put on YouTube for them to watch at their convenience. Also, we discussed World Wide Communion and how to make the elements available for those attending church on that day. It was decided we would have individually wrapped cracker packages, an antiseptic wipe and a box of either grape or apple juice. The liturgy will be printed out and be available. World Wide Communion is on October 4th. The elements and liturgy will be placed in a plastic bag and will be on a table available for those attending.

Another topic of discussion was the Christmas Tree Lighting happening on November 29th @ 6:00 P.M. This will be discussed more at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be October 11th @ 1:00 via Zoom.

Historian: Average of 27 people/service

Missionary Minutes: Maureen will send in the Least Coin this month. Daily Bread will receive a \$75 donation this month.

Benefit: Missionary will head up the Bake Sale portion of the Stout Family Benefit on September 19, 2020. Priscilla Allen has scheduled work shifts and will price the baked goods if they are not already priced.

New Mission: Operation Christmas Child will begin September 27 – the end of October. Peg Empet will announce the program September 27, 2020 in church. Samaritan's Purse will be contacted to order 50 Christmas Child boxes. Cathy Feger has some small stuffed animals. Wendy Phillips has small National Geographic stuffed animal for the boxes. Children are grouped by boy or girl, ages 2-4, 5-9, 10-14. Our 2019 Christmas boxes went to Malawi in East Africa.

Next Meeting: October 20, 2020

Pastor's Report: not given

Pastor Relations: Will is taking 2 weeks of vacation at the end of October and the last week of November and the first week of December to get caught up. David Schulte will cover in the pulpit.

Stewardship: The Stewardship Committee met on September 17, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary. The meeting was opened at 6:40 p.m. by prayer from Pastor Will.

Julia gave out the financial reports – Dottie did not have a report.

Old Business: We discussed the yearly goals. Some will need to be postponed but we feel we should keep going with them. The trustees are looking into paving costs for the parking lot which was one of our goals.

New Business: Fall Campaign Our theme song for the month will be “I Love to Tell the Story”. We would like to do live interviews with the congregation about how the church had led them to be more spirit led or how they have felt the spirit to be alive in the church. The group True Heart will be doing the worship service on October 4, 2020 at 10:00 am. It will be an outdoor service and will kick off our campaign. We have a list of people to approach about doing a short video but we are hoping to have others volunteer also.

Our next meeting will be Thursday October 15, 2020. Respectfully submitted Michelle Estabrook

Trustee: Harry caulked some of the windows on the top. Terry Kavetski said the windows were flashed on the top and didn't need to get caulked. Terry did caulk one window on the north side and it seems to not leak now. Harry will continue caulking windows.

Pricing to pave/reseal asphalt of main driveway by Pro Seal

1. Remove approx. 2950sq. ft. of parking area and install 2.5” of binder and 1.5” of wearing. (\$8,800)
2. Remove approx. 3550sq. ft. of parking area and replace with 2.5” binder and overlay approx. 7580sq. ft. of parking area with 1.5” wearing and 190 feet of curb. (\$12,000)
3. Apply asphalt sealer to 3950 sq. ft. of parking area. (\$1,100)

Shades for the windows in the Sanctuary have been installed.

Take the base of the light pole to match for two new complete lamp posts.

Wireless repeater setup needs to be complete to finish wireless camera set-up

Gary reviewed the phone bill to confirm if we were being charged extra for the new security system and we are not.

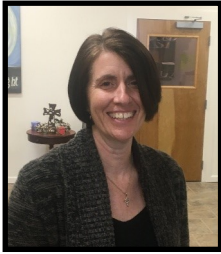
Willing Workers: Next Meeting October 7 at 1:00.

New Business:

Interfaith is suggesting sending money as an alternative to collecting food this Christmas. Council voted to continuing the Cocoa Collection.

The Scouts and yoga and the Fair Board meet at the church and are wanting to resume meetings. The Council voted to purchase an antiseptic fogger and chemical to sanitize after meetings. The cost of this cleaning is being reviewed to adjust the room rental costs. New guidelines are being reviewed to assure safety. These new costs and guidelines will be reviewed vis email for adjustment and approval. The groups will be notified via Judy that we are working on these new standards so that they can resume.

Weinberg Food Bank is coming to Harford First Congregational Church



The 4th Friday of each month
Next distribution October 23, 2020
3:30-5:30



Any income can apply
Preregistration is required:
See attached application or
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



Weinberg Distribution



RADA Cutlery



If anyone is interested in purchasing Rada Cutlery, there will be a Rada Catalog available in the church office for viewing. The office is open on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Please contact Kandy for purchasing at 570-561-8835.

Welcome!!!

To Charles David Nice

Born 9/22/2020

Mom and Dad: Andy and Natalie Nice

Sister: Molly

Address: 1891 Tingley Lake Road

New Milford, PA 18834



Home Bound

The Carey Family

Barbara Pease

Dorothy Greene

Joan Benson



Prayer Concerns

-We pray for lives to be preserved—saved—because we, Your people witness to You, we, Your children, speak of you through our hearts and in our actions
-We pray for our nation to be blessed and that our nation seeks its blessings
-We pray our national and local leaders
-All school districts—this includes school board members, administration, faculty, staff, parents and students
-We pray for Cathi Ferger's niece Stacy with stage 3 breast cancer
-Craig Stout and Family
-Ellen Holdredge's Daughter –in-law and all teachers
-We pray for Connie and David Schulte's son (Phil)
-for those with medical issues large and small
-for those affected in anyway by the COVID virus
-Bud Miller
-David and Brandy
-Shannon N. and her family
-the Biesecker family
-Ivie Simons on her journey with cancer
-JoAnn Titus
-Gary and Wendy Phillips
-the Carey family

-Scott Klenk
-John Zimmerman
-Shani Vietri
-Marlene Dean
-those experiencing financial pressures
-the family of Bill Estabrook
-Susan Conklin on the recent loss of her mother
-Uncle Manny
- Barb for prayers for her neighbor
-the Shea Family
-Joan Benson & Lois Gibson and all those in nursing homes along with their families
-Fred Williams
-Rock Estabrook
-Barbie Parsons and her family
-upcoming weddings
-Will's five foster kids
-Evan Clarkson and all those faithfully serving in the military
-Kari and Michael's Wedding
-MaryJane Genneken
-Sandy Zupanovich
-Future of the Supreme Court



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



Directory Update



Alice Archer

#303 Harford Village Apartments
School Street
Harford, PA 18823

Mr. & Mrs. David*/Donna*, Karl, Joseph,
Adam McDonald
2 Columbine Drive
Elmer, NJ 08318-4569

Mrs. Margaret Ann Maza
2052 Wyntre Brooke Drive
York, PA 17402-4545

Lisa*Jerauld/Brent Van Teger & Family
430 Norton Road
New Milford, PA 18834-7507

Rev. Lamar & Daisy Handwerk
9608 Indigo Creek Blvd
Murrela Inlet, SC 29576

Mr. & Mrs. Jeff/Ellen Zick
Elliot, Wyatt, Murphee
5380 County Route 129
Woodhull, NY 14898

Mr. & Mrs. Joe/Nadine DeCavage
6571 Yarmouth Run
Williamsburg, VA 23188-2053

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.



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

Harford, PA 18823

Correspondence



Online giving through our church website

I want to stay anonymous here, yet also want to share what online giving does for me, which is always connect me through the busyness of life to the godly call of tithing. God wants our riches and I get too pulled sometimes, too forgetful other times! So this works. My money is where my mouth is. My money is where ministry is.

I want to be present all the time with my gifts, not worry about it, but just do it, like the Nike commercial a few years ago challenged us. So I give online. That new thing that can weird us out at first because it is just that, new. And I invite you to do the same, whether you are in or near Harford, or read this from what is home which is now far from Harford and the church that makes us whole.

God speaks to me like he does through you, I imagine. Listen to him. Give not from duress, but abundance, the abundance our Father gives and also blesses. Thank you.

The church wishes to thank Jean Bonham for the many beautiful floral arrangements she designed herself that graced the altar table this summer. Often Jean presented these flowers to honor someone celebrating a birthday here in the church.

Thank you, Jean, for allowing us to see God's beauty in nature!

Thank you Bonnie Love-Colwell for professionally and passionately leading our worship services during Will's vacation in August. Your conviction to Christ is contagious, and your sermon preparations and delivery not only uplifted but also caused us to think—think deeply. Thinking leads to action, which is what God called us to do through you.

You show us what it means to step into the role of being a Christian beautifully. We all serve Christ differently with the skillsets we have been given. It was GREAT to see (and hear!) some of your blessed skills behind the pulpit. We pray God continues to inspire you to inspire others. Amen.

Dear Harford First Congregational,

Thank you so much for giving us a baby shower!

The items donated will really help us fill our Baby Boutique. Thank you for standing with us to show compassionate hope and help.

In Christ's love, Nancy

Care Net of NEPA

Correspondence Continued

Friends,

Thank you so much for your continued support of The Summer Lunch Box Program. We appreciate so very much the many jars of peanut butter given as well as the recently received gift of \$335.00.

The summer of 2020 provided our all-volunteer group with many challenges and lots of hungry kids as well as some food shortages. We were able to persevere and completed our 9th summer of operation.

With sincere thanks from all of us. Lorraine A. Stanton for the Summer Lunch Box Program

Hi, just wanted to send an updated prayer request. Scott is in Albany med receiving chemo. He will be there for the unforeseeable future or at Jeff's house .

If one wants to send cards.

C/o Jeff Klenk
2744 Rosendale Rd.
Niskayuna
NY 12309.

Between his counts and COVID policy at hospital. Visitors are strictly limited.
Thanks Kathy Brown

October Birthdays

October 02 Ken and Betty Lou Bennet
Brandon Zick

October 04 Wayne and Kandy Wellman
Gary Phillips
Wendy and Gary Phillips

October 07 Matt and Elissa Mitchell

October 10 Ben and Bridget (Zick) Sherring

October 11 Paula Millard
Kurt and Titiana(Lamberson)
MacDowall

October 12 Craig and Tammy Stout

October 13 Laura jane Moser

October 20 Michelle Allen
Kelly Feduchak

Sharon Kinney
Rev. Ghulam Nasrani
(92 this year)

October 23 Rebecca Gardner

October 24 Rupert Carey (91 this year)

October 27 Laurie Grant

October 28 Joyce Berish

October 30 Maureen Warren



*True
Heart* MUSIC
presents...

True Heart



Come worship with us!

In Concert

Sunday, October 4th at 10AM

First Congregational Church

5016 Creek Road

Harford, PA 18823

Service will be out doors!

Communion will be served

www.trueheartmusic.net

Chicken BBQ

The Harford Vol Fire Company

October 18, 2020

\$10.00

½ chicken, roll, coleslaw, baked beans & dessert

Pick-up or eat in 12:00-2:00

142 Fair Hill Road

Harford, PA

Tickets available in the church office

see Judy Mitchell

Office-570-434-2260

Home -570-434-2716

firstch@nep.net

jmm@nep.net

(These tickets usually sell out, call or email to get yours before they are all gone)

Ugly Quilts

We will begin to meet for Ugly Quilts in the lecture hall on
October 6 at 9:30.



We will sit far apart.

Bring your mask and lunch if you can stay until 12:00 so that we may dine together. Ellen has some tops completed and I have been working on making stuffing during the summer.

Bring a friend.

Come at 9:30 and stay until after lunch or come at 10:30 and leave whenever.

Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Thank you



All Saints Day

We will be remembering the special Saints in our lives.

Please submit names to the office to have your special person remembered.

The names will be read on Sunday, November 01, 2020,
during the service at 10:00.

Thank you very much.

The Gideons of Susquehanna County warmly invite you to be our guest at a

Banquet to be held in honor of our area Pastors.

October 13, 2020/6PM/Montrose Bible Conference

R.S.V.P. by calling Ken Yeisley at 570-879-4086

Or emailing keyeisley@gmail.com

By October 1, 2020

(Include the count of how many will be attending)

This evening is totally free for Pastors and a guest. If a Pastor cannot attend, they are encouraged to send a representative from their church in their place.

October 2020

October 2020							November 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
							29	30					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sep 27	28	29	30	Oct 1	2	3
10:00am Services (outdoors) 10:00am True Heart (Outdoors)	9:30am AM mtg (LH)	9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH)	1:00pm WW mtg (LH)	10:00am Pastor in office	9:30am Yoga	Pastor Day Off
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10:00am Services (sanctuary) 12:15pm Deacons (LH)	9:30am AM mtg (LH) 7:00pm Trustees	9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH)	1:00pm KWW (Ellen Holdredge's)	10:00am Pastor in office	9:30am Yoga	Pastor Day Off
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10:00am Services (sanctuary) 12:15pm stewardship (LH)	9:30am AM mtg (LH)	9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH) 1:00pm Missionary (LH)	1:00pm KWW (Ellen Holdredge's)	NOV. SPIRE INFO DUE 10:00am Pastor in office	9:30am Yoga	Pastor Day Off
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10:00am Services (sanctuary) 12:15pm stewardship (LH)	9:30am AM mtg (LH)	9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH) 1:00pm Missionary (LH)		10:00am Pastor in office 6:30pm Council (LH)	9:30am Yoga 3:30pm Weinberg distribution	Pastor Day Off
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
10:00am Services (sanctuary)	9:30am AM mtg (LH)	9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH)		10:00am Pastor in office	9:30am Yoga	Pastor Day Off



Non-Profit Organization

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Montrose, PA 18801

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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: Tuesday 1:00-5:00
Friday 1:00-5:00