

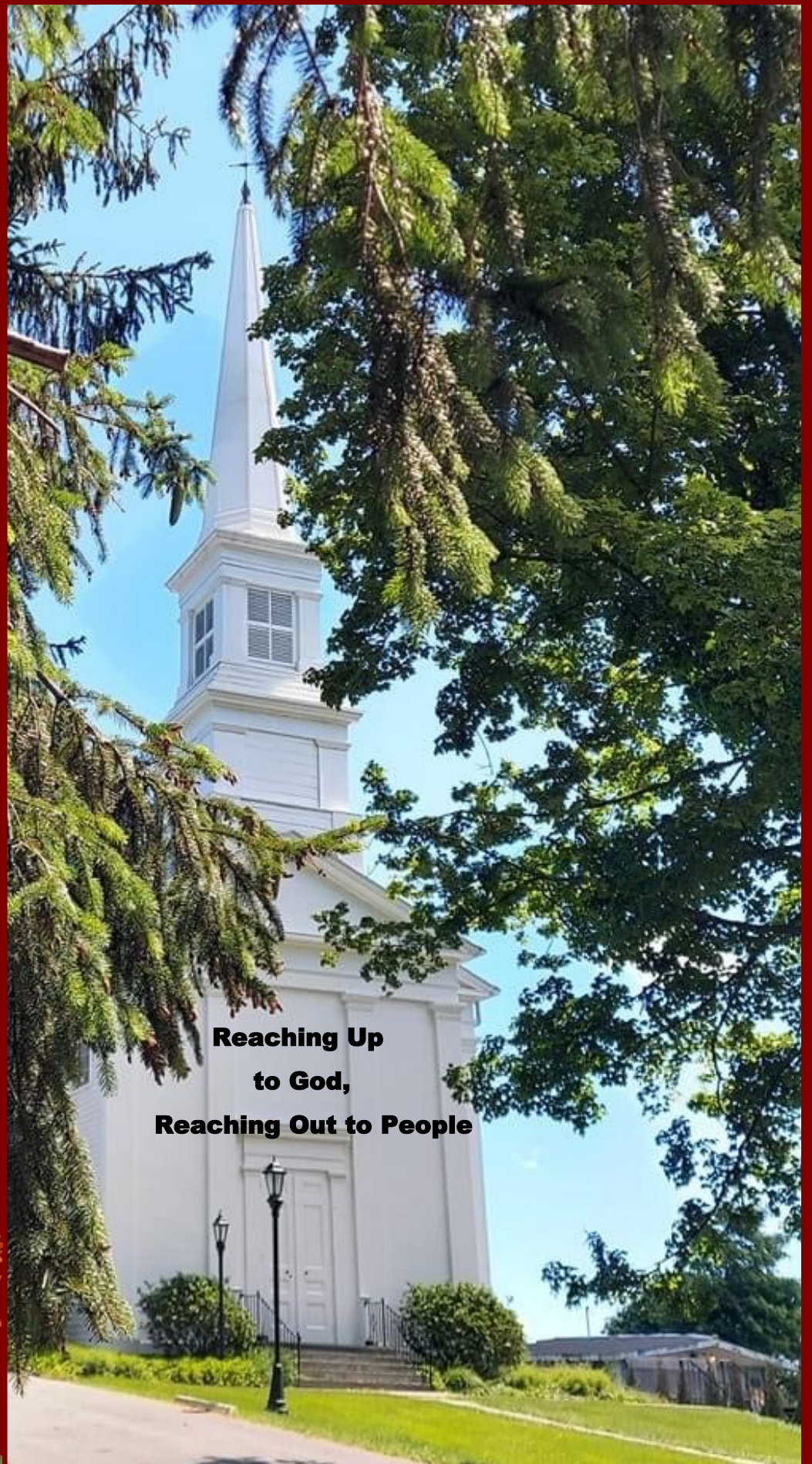
Our Spire

Volume
41

September

2021

Number
7



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

Pastor's Page:

Words we long to hear: "You're okay. You're not in any trouble."

An unexpected guest (a police officer) in an unexpected place (a Christmas tree field) carries an assuring message for us all

Unless I am with my kids who regularly hike with me around the surrounding woods and nearby Christmas tree fields, it is usually just my dogs and me out with what I call God Time. As the pack and I walk through breathtaking nature, our scenes are tranquil. The views are restorative. This connecting time with God is rejuvenating to the spirit.

Until the time the police car follows me into the fields.

Yes, a police car.

"Huh," I think as I turn around and realize an officer of the law has been following me in his police car. "Now this has never happened before."

Let me set this up even more. At this point in what is a loop around the woods and the Christmas tree fields, I am on a road to access harvestable Christmas trees. Farmworkers use this road to get to the fields where they occasionally work. (FYI: Christmas trees do not need 24/7 care.) There is rarely any action or traffic on this road.

So, as desired, I'm in that heavenly zone.

It's the sound of the dogs getting excited behind me that makes me turn back. Immediately, I think this approaching vehicle is a potential Christmas tree buyer. Now and again, a prospective buyer will come to see the growing trees for sale in the fields.

Then I see the police insignia on the driver's side door. The police.

Now I like to hike. This is actually an understatement. I am addicted to moving. Endorphins are my best friends. I don't want to stop and turn around. Yes. It's the police. I realize I should stop and turn around. Wisely, this is what I do. Now, it takes about 40-seconds to get to the police car at the pace that I was doing a moment ago.

As I am walking briskly toward the police car, I suddenly understood why some want to run from the law. I'm thinking, "I can bolt from this!" This is the next thought I have. "You're the pastor of the church 3-miles away. You should not run from the law." All of this is true, by the way.

I get close enough to the car. It has been raining a bit. (This is the Tuesday morning of the Harford Fair). The officer lowers his window. I receive no greeting. The very first thing he says is, "You're not in trouble or anything." Trust me, with that fear of fleeing that I had just had, these are the very words I need to hear in the moment! It turns out the very friendly officer had seen the dogs on the farm road and just wanted to check out the scene.

After we politely parted and I continued on the journey, I thought about the very first thing he said to me. "You're not in trouble. You're okay." As Christians, we want to hear this from God. We long to hear this from God. We dedicate our lives to knowing that we are okay with God. The work we are doing for the Lord out of love and service to Jesus is no burden. It's the opposite. It's delight.

Still, we wonder. *Are we okay?* Is what we're doing all right? Is there something we are missing, doing incorrectly, or blinded to for some selfish reason? Are we okay?

Pastor's Page Continued:

This is why we love scripture. The stories we read of God's people continually have messages for us. They constantly offer guidance at the moments in our lives when guidance isn't optional. It's necessary. Sometimes we learn from their mistakes. Sometimes we receive information and inspiration from their fear to their faithfulness. Their connection to our ever-loving, always wonderful, forever present three-in-one God becomes our connection, too.

As we move into this fall and a thoughtfully homegrown, God-inspired stewardship campaign that I am excited about for us as a church congregation, I want you to think about this: we can approach God like I approached that police car. We don't have to think about running. We don't have to meander, either. We make our way to God at the same good clip that I did that morning. Yes, there may be that flash of fear in our hearts as we come to God. This is the Great I Am, after all. The Maker of the ever-expanding universe has the power. The One who knows you better than you know yourself has the authority.

Yet God, like that police officer, is watching out for us. God is present to us. God doesn't just follow us. God leads us. This is the great news for those who are in the community of believers, which is the theme of the fall stewardship campaign.

As we gather together in the upcoming months as a community of believers, we will hear through scripture what we need to hear from God. "You're okay. I'm just watching you. I'm checking to see that you are safe. I'm making sure you, my beloved ones, are well."

Coming Soon!

Holy Grounds Cafe

September 12th @ 9:30 - 10:00 am

A time to Gather,

Enjoy some light refreshments
& choice of Beverage.

Everyone is Welcome!



Come join us for a time of Fellowship complete with Coffee, juice and light snacks.

The children join us after Sunday School and this is a great opportunity to chat with old friends and meet our young families and welcome them to their new church home!



Treasurer's report-

To make expense every month in the general (example: electric, payroll, office and programs), we will need \$12,895.83 a month to meet our Budget for 2021.

Here is the Income and Expenses for June 2020 and 2021

June	2020	June	2021
Income	\$10,247.70	Income:	\$ 9,672.22
Expenses	\$10,365.12	Expenses	\$12,876.42
Total:	-\$ 117.42	Total	-\$3,204.20

Here is the Income and Expenses for July 2020 and 2021

July	2020	July	2021
Income	\$ 5,630.90	Income:	\$ 5,799.70
Expenses	\$ 8,252.31	Expenses	\$ 7,377.95
Total:	-\$ 2,631.41	Total	-\$ 1,578.25

General year to Date for 2021

Income	\$70,729.75
Expense	\$74,206.05
Total	-\$ 3,476.30

Finance Committee Report:

- *Julia Hudson Trust*-The money of this trust \$16,052.14 is now in a CD. The minimum investment in Equitrust needs to be \$10,000. We will put \$10,000 into a separate Equitrust account 2.5% fixed annuity with Equitrust. The other part of the CD will go into a combined Equitrust fund.

- *Tingley Lake property sale*- The \$34,000 from the sale of the land will be taken out of the Capital account and it will be part of the variable Equitrust account.

- The *Memorial fund* has \$25,250.07. \$15,000 will be put in an investment with variable Equitrust group.

- *Community Building*—there is money in a CD for a community building, \$21,177.85 will be invested in the variable Equitrust account.

- *Building Fund Account* --that is currently in the Money Market of \$4,274.78, will be included in the variable Equitrust Fund.

- We will receive statements once a year. The accounts will be shown separately on the statement. We can remove only 10% plus interest once a year on the anniversary date. We can never lose the principal that we invest with Equitrust. The total amount that will be in this new variable Equitrust Fund account will be \$80,504.77.

- The first investment with Equitrust was the Anson and Marie Tiffany building money donation which was \$40,000. This was set up in 2019. As of tonight, it is worth \$46,427.40.

-Golf Tournament money was placed in the Tech Fund to fund the technical upgrades we are currently enjoying and those in the future.

Willing Workers Minutes: The big group of Willing Workers met on Wednesday, August 4 at 7PM in the Lecture Hall.

Thirteen members were present.

Items discussed:

\$660 paid to Harford Agricultural Society for space, including rent and electricity.

A team of women has transformed the new space in the Carriage Barn into a faux log cabin. It took many hours by a number of women to clean up, fix, and display items. We bought Gibson Methodist Church's remaining knives and display case for \$850. Groups have made Welsh cookies and much fudge.

Storage of knives at the fair was decided on. Purchase of fudge bags and kinds of fudge to sell was also decided. Price of fudge has risen to \$8-a pound, \$4-half pound, \$2-quarter pound.

Yard sale was next on the agenda. It will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 3 & 4. Missionary group and Willing Workers are hosting this event together. Dates were set for sorting and cleaning items. A pulled pork take out lunch with macaroni salad, coleslaw, and a cookie will be available for presale only. Macaroni salad and coleslaw will be purchased. Members will donate cookies. Sign up list is posted for bar cookies.

Friday, Sept 3 will be packaging of lunch items.

Change of date for annual roast beef dinner. It will be April 9, 2022.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, November 3 at 7PM in the Lecture Hall.

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 and a time of fellowship will be starting September 12, 2021.



Our Sunday School will open September 12, 2021 with four classes: Birth to 3 years, Pre-K to Kindergarten, 1-2-3 grades and 4-5-6 grades. A confirmation class for grades 7-8 and a youth membership class for 9-12 grades will also be held this year (more information to come),

Hymnals and Bibles may be utilized but all text will 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>

Harford Fair-time Preparations

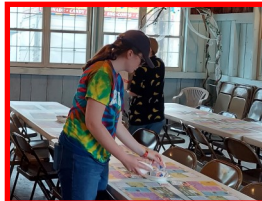
Fudge Making—Willing Workers



2021 Fair—Carriage House Faux Log Cabin



Dinner at the 2021 Harford Fair



All Proceeds
went to
Youth
Programs



Game On is Back!!

Beautiful weather and a night of smiles and laughter.....

Thank You Craig, Tammy, Mikaela and Kay



Christian Education Minutes

June 30, 2021

Christian Education presence at the past GAME ON was appreciated. A representative from Christian Education will be present at all GAME ON meetings to tell a story to the children. Holli will be representative for July 9th. She will tell the story of the lost sheep. Kandy will attend the July 23 meeting. Charlene will attend the August 6 meeting.

All teachers who will be teaching will have clearance. Holli will check on what clearances they will need. We will need two teachers for all classes.

During the fellowship time kids will have their own corner.

July 21st we will have a meeting with those who may be interested in helping with Sunday School and what the children might like. They all felt a theme-based curriculum would catch the children's interest.

Next Game On will be September 3, 2021 5:00-6:15.

Christian Education— 7-21-2021

Attending: Adele Bennett, Susan Green, Kay Gow, Charlene Martens, Judy Mitchell, Holli Chichester, Aubrey Daniels, Paige Seymour, Paula Millard, Ashley Parsons, Kandy Wellman, Shirley Masters, Will Hagenbuch

Opening Prayer – Will Hagenbuch

Introduction: Will Hagenbuch

Introduction to Christian Education Present and Past: Holli Chichester

Parent Introduction

The Plan – are you interested in helping us develop a new Christian Education Program?

Suggestions: Advertising, Flyers, Special Events, Themes for Classes, Curriculum

Registration of students, Age of groups

Next Meeting: 7-28-2021 7:00-8:00

Christian Education – 7-28-2021

Attending: Susan Green, Kandy Wellman, Karen Jones, Tatianna MacDowell, Cassandra Lamberson, Judy Mitchell, Holli Chichester, Shirley Masters, Kay Gow, Paige Seymour, Aubrey Daniels, Charlene Martens

Curriculum: Discussed, Group, Gospel Light, Heart Sharpeners, Bible in Life and Grow

The Group decided on David C. Cook Gospel Light because the teacher manual was easy to read, lots of activity choices, clear lesson.

Curriculum will be purchased one quarter at a time covering Fall, Winter and Spring. We will discuss VBS vs summer curriculum at a later date.

Themes: Themes were discussed and it was decided that:

PreK- Kindergarten class would be a Water Theme. (Noah/Jesus calming the sea are possible). Aubrey and Paige will decorate this room.

1,2,3 grades will be a garden theme (Trees/ Garden of Eden). Cassandra and Tatianna will decorate this room

4, 5, 6 grades will be a Lion's Den Theme (Cave). Karen Jones and Susan Green will decorate this room.

Teachers: PreK- K Cassandra Lamberson and Tatiana MacDowell

1, 2, 3 Aubrey Daniels and Ashley Parsons

4, 5, 6 Charlene Martens and Kay Gow

Music Director: Kandy Wellman Art Director: Karen Jones

Next Meeting: 8-10-2021

Christian Education— 8-10-2021

Attending: Aubrey Daniels, Paige Seymour, Kay Gow, Holli Chichester, Karen Jones

Open in Prayer

Handed out the Gospel Light Curriculum. Each teacher will have a teacher's guide. Each classroom will have a set of posters that link with the curriculum. When purchasing \$50/class the classroom teachers gain access to a full line of online curriculum and add-ons.

Discussed putting the 3-year-olds with the PreK and the Kindergarten children. It was decided to add a class. Birth thru 3-year-old class was added in the current nursery.

Abby Toolan and Becci Warren have committed to decorate and teach this class. Curriculum was purchased for this class. The toys in the nursery will be placed away for class but available if parents take their children out of worship, along with the Online Worship access in the room..

Current Staff: Birth – age 3 Abby Toolan and Becci Warren
PreK- K Cassandra Lamberson and Tatianna MacDowell
1, 2, 3 Aubrey Daniels and Ashley Parsons
4, 5, 6 Charleene Martens and Kay Gow
Substitutes: Adele Bennett (possible), Paige Seymour (possible)

Music Director: Kandy Wellman

Art Director: Karen Jones

Gofer, Substitute and Stuff: Holli Chichester

*****All Staff must have Child Abuse Clearance and Criminal Background Check***

Room Renovation will begin now.

Next Meeting August 25, 2021 at 7-8 Big group 15 minutes then break out with class groups.



SPIRE
SPONSOR
LOIS GIBSON

Harford First Congregational Church—UCC

Children's Ministry

Fall Sunday School

September 12, 2021

9:00 - 9:45

Fellowship and Refreshment 9:30-10:00

Worship 10:00-11:00

All Welcome!!!



Birth thru age 3
*Let the Children
Come to Me*

Pre-K thru
Kindergarten
God's Promise

1st thru 3rd Grade
*The Beauty
of
God's Creation*

4th thru 6th Grade
*Into the
Lion's Den*





Harford First Congregational Church - UCC
Sunday School Registration Form
2021-2022

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)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teach Sunday School | <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Pageant Helper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Substitute for Sunday School | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Events Helper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Bible School Helper | <input type="checkbox"/> 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: _____

Deacons—7-11-2021

Will is going on vacation the month of August.

Baptisms: Benjamin Doolittle in June (Jackie Phillips – Deacon)

Braxton MacDonnell September – Teresa (Deacon)

Phelps and Feduchak dates TBD

Ushers and Greeter: We plan to have ushers and a greeter begin again September 12, 2021.

Karen Jones will be asked if she is still willing to get volunteers for this endeavor.

We will start passing the collection plate at that date also.

Communion: There was a question about including the online viewers in Communion. The week before Communion week we will announce that communion will be the following Sunday. Online viewers can come to the church to pick up the Elements or they can use items from their own home. The day of communion we will display a notice for online viewers that communion will take place during the service so that they can get prepared. The next Communion is July 25, 2021.

Fellowship Time: Linda Lindsey will head this committee. Sandy Tingley and Susan Greene have volunteered to help. Linda will ask for hosts for this 15-minute time frame. The Fellowship Time will be 9:45-10:00 before the service. The Sunday School children will be brought up by their teachers to partake. There will be a seated area for the children while they are snacking. Linda and her committee will purchase items to make the Fellowship area (Gathering Room) inviting. Outreach Funds will be used. Fellowship Time will start September 12, 2021.

New Member Class: There was some discussion regarding an adult confirmation class and it was determined that our new member class both confirms a new members faith and allows them to become a member. The new member class use the book “What Matters to You? Matters to Us” book and also cover:

History of UCC , History of Harford First Congregational Church, Structure and Operation of our Church, Sacraments and Rituals, Embracing the Differences and Coming Together in Love, Personal Faith Journey.

Maureen Warren and Dave Schulte will be asked to help with the historical information. The Classes will be held September 12, 19, 26 and October 3 and 10 from 9:00-9:45 Sunday mornings before church. Classes will be recorded for those requesting absences. Representatives from Stewardship, Deacons, Trustees, Missionary, Christian Education, Council and others will be asked to co-teach one class with the Pastor. Mentors will be found for each new member.

Holli, Teresa and any other person interested in helping put together a Syllabus will meet July 27 at 9:00 at the church.

Youth New Member Classes will be structured based on the Adult Syllabus but tailored for youth.

Bible Study: We have selected a Bible Study from the Life Guide Bible Studies “Meeting the Spirit”. This is a 10-week study of the Holy Spirit. We will offer two classes. One via Zoom and one in-person. We will see if someone steps up to facilitate or the Deacons will take turns facilitating the class. The Class will be 9:00-9:45 Sunday mornings before church beginning October 10, 2021 and go for 10 weeks. Each person will purchase the book \$7-10. Help is available if the cost is prohibitive.

Next meeting August 1, 2021 at 11:15 after church.

Deacons—8-1-2021

New Membership Class: Using “What Matters to You, Matters to Us”.

Lead by Will Hagenbuch

**Have three persons interested. Lunch will be provided.*

**Deacons must contact persons to determine allergies and to welcome them to classes.*

**Can ask each person if they have a desired sponsor*

Class 1: Welcome by Council President – Dave Schulte

History of Harford Church (Handout)

History of UCC (Handout)

Statement of Faith - page 9

6 Vital Themes – page 9

Why this church?

Class 2: Church Organization (Handout)

Review Committees (Who they are and what they do)

Christian Education Rep (Sunday School, Confirmation, VBS)

Church Secretary – Welcome

Class 3: Sacraments and Rituals – Chapter 4

Weddings, Baptism, Funerals, Communion

Deacon Representative – Welcome (Member Care, Bible Study, Worship)

Services (in-house and online)

Easter, Lent, Christmas

Class 4: Embracing the Differences, Coming Together in Love – Chapter 1, 5

Outreach – Missionary Rep and Stewardship Rep

Fellowship (Men’s Breakfast, Women’s Lunch, Fellowship Group)

Class 5: Personal Faith Journey – Chapter 2, 6

Sponsors present

Fellowship Time: 9:30-10:00 in the Gathering Room – Holy Grounds Café

Coffee, tea, juice and assorted snacks

Bistro Tables have been purchased for standing and talking and chairs available for those that want them with folding picnic tables are to be purchased for the children

Linda Lindsey heads this committee (Susan Green and Sandi Tingley)

A Sign-up sheet will be placed in the gathering room for fellowship time sponsors. An announcement will be made starting in September inviting the congregation to mingle.

The children will be brought up from Sunday School by their teachers at 9:45 for snack and fellowship

Ushers and Greeter will start September 12, 2021: one usher, one greeter

The collection plate and communion will be discussed August 29, 2021.

Sunday School: Suggested to CE that parents decide about mask use

Bible Study: Will begin October 17, 2021. Still need a facilitator. Teresa has offered to lead the online class.

1st Communion: Were looking at ideas to make this time special. Maybe have 1st Communion as a rite of passage in 2nd or 3rd grade. More discussion is needed.

Next Meeting: August 29, 2021 at 11:15



New Members Class

A New Members Class is starting September 12, 2021 and will go for five Sundays after the service.

All are welcome to attend and become more knowledgeable about

**Harford First Congregational Church
and our beliefs.**

Please contact Judy in the office to sign-up for the classes and let us know that you are interested.

Pastor William Hagenbuch will lead the classes with representatives from many of our groups and committees. There will be five classes September 12, 19, 26 and October 3 and 10. Lunch will be provided.

Topics: History of UCC, History of Harford First Congregational
Structure and Operation of our church, Sacraments and Rituals
Embracing the Differences and Coming together in Love
Personal Faith Journey

Tel.570-434-2260

Email: firstch@nep.net

Bible Study

Coming October 10th!

If you are interested in studying God's word and having fellowship with other Christians, please call or email the office so that we can add you to our Bible Study list. We plan to have:

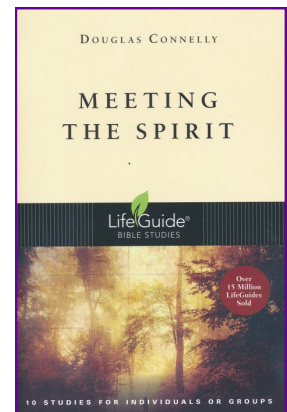
In-person study, facilitated by TBD

Zoom Bible Study, facilitate by Teresa Lamberson.

If you are interested in facilitating a Bible study, please indicate your willingness.

Tel.570-434-2260

Email: firstch@nep.net



Stewardship Meeting Minutes - July 15, 2021

Stewardship met on July 15 at 6:30.

Present were: Nancy Burris, Peg Empet, Julia Gardner, Kay Gow, Shirley Masters, Wendy Phillips.

Topics discussed were the following; Grief support, Maza Fund money, Golf tournament proceeds, Money to be put in new equity fund, HVA Ice Cream Social, and Fall Pledge Campaign.

Shirley thought perhaps the Rt 81/11 Ministerium might want to talk to those who may be grieving. Nancy brought up the fact that there is a lot of literature online about grief and how to deal with it. Also mentioned that the funeral director at Tuttle/Yeisley is good at working with people who are grieving. We also discussed about maybe having a breakfast for widows and widowers. We also thought perhaps Will could talk to ministers who do grief counselling.

The Maza Fund money is going to be taken out of the CD that it is currently in and put in the money market where it will make more money so the fund will be built back up.

Golf Tournament money was put into Outreach.

June income was \$9,672.22, expenses were \$12,876.42. In the general fund year to date our income is \$64,930.05 while expenses were \$66,828.10 leaving us with a deficit of \$1,898.05.

The following money will be put in a new Equifax account:

- \$9,000 from Julia Hudson Trust Fund,
- \$34,000 from sale of Tingley Lake property
- \$15,000 from Memorial Fund
- \$20,500 from a CD
- \$3,904.78 from the building fund

This makes a total of \$82,400 to go into the new equity account.

The Ice Cream Social at the HVA is July 16 at 2:00. Peg informed us that there would be two Dairy Ambassadors and one Dairy Maid to serve the ice cream and tell the people what they do in the dairy program. Peg will then let the congregation know how this event went on July 25th.

We next discussed the Fall Pledge Campaign and a suggestion had been given as to the focus of this and it was "Fellowship of Believers". Kay is going to write something up and present it at the next meeting. Peg also is going to talk to Craig and see if he has any other ideas for the campaign.

There will be no meeting in August because of the fair. The next meeting is September 16th at 6:30.

Trustee Meeting Minutes - July 12, 2021

Attending: Gary Housel, Rich Masters, Bill Chichester, Irv Needham, and Rick Masters

Old Business:

No Old Business to report.

New Business:

We are looking at the motion light in the stairwell. At the time of the meeting the light was functioning properly

Gary will call Shane Lewis to take care of some weed trimming along the side of the gravel parking area.

Ice Cream Social at Harford Village Apartments

July is National Ice Cream Month!

What better way to celebrate this observance than with an ice cream social? The Stewardship Committee partnered with 3 members of the Susquehanna County Dairy Promotion team to provide ice cream for the residents of the Harford Village Apartments on July 16.

Chelsea, Ava, and Charlotte (all 3 experienced ice cream dippers!) introduced themselves to the residents and shared their individual scrapbooks which contain photos and newspaper articles of events they have participated in throughout the year.



Several members of the Stewardship Committee joined in the occasion visiting with the appreciative residents who welcomed us warmly as we all celebrated National Ice Cream Month enjoying ice cream with toppings and fresh blueberries.



An added delight was having Will and his 5 energetic, enthusiastic 5 kiddoes join us in the festivities.



Stewardship and our dairy promoters look forward to future outreach opportunities with HVA residents.



Spire Sponsor

In Memory of Steven Carl Oakley

Trustee Meeting Minutes - August 9, 2021

Gary Housel, Kandy Wellman, and Rick Masters were in attendance.

Old Business:

Bill, Irv, and Gary took care of a lot of the weeds and trimming along the side of the gravel parking lot

Benedict construction still needs to complete the new concrete parking lot before winter. They have not yet confirmed a date to complete the project.

New Business:

There is a wasp nest that needs to be taken care of

Drainage from the downspout in the alley way needs to be fixed. It's affecting the paint on the lecture hall.

Trustees is looking for someone to take care of the memorial garden and flower beds in front of the church. A request will be put on the Facebook page for help. Kandy will ask Judy to put the request out as an email and ask Holli to put it in the spire.

Carpets in the hallway of the new building need to be cleaned. Kandy will contact All-Clean Services who has done it in the past. Trustees will target having the cleaning done in the Fall.

Choir-Wendy shared that they take a week or two at a time. We all agreed the people involved are doing an excellent job of Special Music on Sundays. Don't forget to thank Robert for all his good ideas and talent.

Church Cupboard-Maureen said they are serving the one family.

Clerk-Betty Lou reported no activity.

Cradle Roll-Holli reported one child received a book for his first birthday in July and 3 in August.

Historian-Kay shared the following: June 27-55; July 4-42; July 11-43; July 18-35—average 44. Everyone shared that they are thankful that the service is being broadcast.

Missionary-Holli shared that they have no meeting in July or August, Next meeting is September 21, 2021 at 1:00 in the lecture Hall. All are Welcome!

Nominating-Wendy shared no activity.

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 \$.75 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 appreciated if you could let the office be aware of where you will be living.

Thanks ever so much, Judy

Correspondence:

Dear First Church,

This thank you is long overdue, but still sincere. I want to say thank you for remembering me at Easter. The Lily was beautiful. I appreciated it very much.

Thanks for keeping me in your thoughts and prayers. My mom, Jay Estabrook, taught me many years ago that when it comes to writing thank you notes—IT'S BETTER TO BE LATE THAN TO NEVER WRITE ONE! Thank you!

Love, Sandy Zupanovich

Dear First Church Friends,

On behalf of the board of directors of EMTC and everyone who was a part of EdCamp 2021, we thank you for the use of the church's facilities for our camp last week.

We are grateful for your generosity and hope that the Condition in which we left it was to your satisfaction.

Please accept the enclosed check with our appreciation.

Sincerely, Bob DeLuca

Treasurer, EMTC Director of EdCamp 2021

Endless Mountains Theatre Co. Inc.

PO Box 654



Celebrate the joys in life!

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

Contact Tammy at 570-396-7081

for more information or to request your celebration sign.

Problems or Issues regarding First Congregational Church?

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**.

Home Bound



The Carey Family

Barbara Pease

Martha Jenkins

Dorothy Greene

Joan Benson

Helen Foster

Joanne Connolly

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

-Craig Stout and Family

-for those with medical issues large and small
-for those affected in anyway by the COVID virus

-David and Brandy and family

-Those with Alzheimer's and their families

-Lynola and Norma Carey family

-those experiencing financial pressures

-those fighting addiction

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

-Will's five foster kids

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

-MaryJane Genneken

-Sandy Zupanovich

-Mark Gregory

- health or loss of family pets

- Connie Schulte's son Phil and her father

- Makel Silfee

- people of Haiti

- congregation of South Montrose

- friend of George Lotter, Laura C.

-Gregg Symuleski and family

-Nancy Marr

-Walter Poxon and his sister Angelika

-Lois Terrace

-Kandy's friend Mary Keihl (ALS)

-Small businesses struggling

-Patrick Simons

-Harry Gardner

- Katherine Masters Doolittle 's mother-in-law, Karen Doolittle

-Sal Armetta and family

-Steve Holtsmaster

-Teresa Lamberson's brother Anthony

-Sammy

-Karen Jones relative

-Earl Gow

-Jason Miller's cousin (Mike and Kyna) Lost a young son

-Kristin Potter

-Christy Komora's friend's son Cael

-Lola Zimmerman

-Lynn Hernandez

-Braxton MacDowell

-Pastor Tim and his church

-The upcoming Sunday School and staff (Abby Toolan, Becci Warren, Ashley Parsons, Aubrey Daniels, Tatiana MacDowell, Kassandra Lamberson, Charleene Martens, Kay Gow, Kandy Wellman, Karen Jones, Holli Chichester)





Weinberg Food Bank

Harford First Congregational Church
The 4th Friday of each month



Please contact Tammy if you have registered but do not plan to pick up.

Next distributions September 24, 2021 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.



Council Extra Minutes

Council is considering offering a “Stop the Bleed” Class to the congregation and Sunday School Teachers.

Choir is practicing every other week. See choir member for schedule.

Tech Committee: Currently working on audio issues.

Willing Workers: Made over \$9000 at the fair this year!!

Fair Dinner: Made just over \$1700. All proceeds go to the Youth.

Directory Update

Rev. Ghulam Nasrani
31 Federal Hill Road
Oxford, MA 01540-1301



Mr. & Mrs. Edward*/Jennifer Morrison
310 Lauer Avenue
Scranton, PA 18504-9670

Fall Meeting of PNEC

November 6, 2021 9:00-4:00

In Allentown, PA

Theme: Grief: Let Go to Move Forward

Register online: <https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/4175536>



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.



Men's Breakfast

September 14, 2021

at 7:30am



at Bingham's Restaurant.

The second Tuesday of each month.



Spire Sponsor
Loving Memory of
Barbara Wescott Rydzewski

-Susan



Calling All Gardener's

The Memorial Garden needs some loving!
Please call the office if you are willing to
help beautify our Memorial Garden.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



September Birthdays & Anniversaries

September 3	Brett & Dena (Simons) Dew		
September 4	Lydia Herbert Joe Kulyeshie Benjamin Millard Hunter O'Malley	September 21	Rick & Dana Empet Allan & Kaylee Phelps
September 5	Bob and Dot Simons Kaiden Warren	September 24	Aiden Empet Delaney Heller
September 6	Breanne (Simons) Hiller Ron & Jacqueline Phillips	September 25	Cathy Tracy
September 7	Ralph & Ivie Simons	September 26	Griffin Patrick Simons Henry Rush Simons
September 10	Jack Allen	September 27	Patrick Simons
September 11	Jeff Zick	September 28	Harry Gardner
September 13	Leanne Colwell	September 29	Jacob Heller
September 14	Aspen Batzel	September 30	Bridget (Zick) Sherring
September 16	Alice Archer Brad Millard		
September 18	Jason & Jessica Miller Wayne Wellman		
September 20	Payton Colwell Don Lindsey		

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





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

Harford, PA 18823

Notice: Please send all material for October to be included in the Spire to:
Firstchurchspire@gmail.com

by the 15th of September 2021!

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 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.



September 2021

September 2021

October 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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		

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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
31						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Aug 29	30	31	Sep 1	2	3	4
10:00am Service (sanctuary) 7:00pm Boy Scouts (LH)	NO Quarterback mtg			10:00am Pastor in office	8:00am Yard Sale	8:00am Yard Sale 11:00am Take out Pulled Pork dinner (Presale only)
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10:00am Service (sanctuary) 7:00pm Boy Scouts (LH)	NO Quarterback mtg			10:00am Pastor in office		9:00am Book Sale (Orphan School)
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00am SS (LH) 10:00am Service 10:30am Fellowship time 11:15am Deacons (LH) 7:00pm Boy Scouts (LH)	9:30am Quarterback mtg (PO) 7:00pm Trustees (PO)	7:00am Pastoral Relations mtg 7:30am Men's Breakfast (Binghams) 9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH)	1:00pm KWW mtg (Ellen's) 4:00pm Clifford Meth. Chic/biscuit take out	10:00am Pastor in office 6:30pm Stewardship (LH)		8:00am LH busy
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00am Membership 9:00am SS (LH) 10:00am Service 10:30am Fellowship time 7:00pm Boy Scouts (LH)	9:30am Quarterback mtg (PO) 12:00pm Ladies lunch (Binghams)	9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH) 1:00pm Missionary (LH)		10:00am Pastor in office 6:00pm Council (LH)	4:30pm Weinberg-pick up	
26	27	28	29	30	Oct 1	2
9:00am Membership 9:00am SS (LH) 10:00am Service 10:30am Fellowship time 7:00pm Boy Scouts (LH)	9:30am Quarterback mtg (PO)	9:30am Ugly Quilts (LH)		10:00am Pastor in office		



Non-Profit Organization

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Montrose, PA 18801

Harford First Congregational Church—UCC
5016 Creek Road
PO Box 217
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