



### Summer Lunch Box Update

The Summer Lunch Box Program has set up in the old Master's Concrete Office on Rt 11 in Hop Bottom thanks to Rick Master's and Bob Housel's generosity. We have cleaned and stripped out the office space and setup new shelving, freezers and refrigerators thanks to the donations of so many. Willing Workers and Missionary have donated enough to buy 2 huge chest freezers. The STELLAR VBS collected food and we are still collecting peanut butter and jelly (collection container is in the gathering room).

### Trustee Meeting Minutes

June 6, 2023

James Batzel, Randy Decker, Harry Gardner, Irv Needham, and Rick Masters were in attendance.

#### Old Business:

Spring Clean-up was completed

Kandy is continuing to work on the indoor maintenance schedule/checklist for the Church and Lecture Hall.

Harry has talked to Connor Freytag about the front doors of the Church as previously mentioned in last month's minutes. Harry suggested Frank Supancik or is looking for suggestions for a woodworker that would be able to make the necessary changes to the front door.

Harry purchased adhesive Fire Extinguisher signage and Emergency Exit signs.

#### New Business:

No new business was discussed.

Motion to adjourn by Randy seconded by Jim.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Masters

Secretary

**Deacon Minutes 6-4-23**

**Attending:** Holli Chichester, Dave Schulte, Dee Archer, Sharon Frantz, Kay Gow, Wendy Phillips, Will Hagenbuch

Meeting Opened in Prayer

**Senior Recognition Sunday:** June 25, 2023 Currently have the names of 19 seniors. These seniors will be featured in the July/August Spire. The senior's names, Pictures and future plans. Invitations have been sent with a RSVP request for the Sunday service. Any seniors present will be recognized and presented with a journal "Prayer Map for Grads". If seniors are present, a short reception will be held in the gathering room following the service. Kandy will make a cake. Kay Gow will read the names; Linda Lindsey will read a prayer.

**Representative to Council:** Linda Lindsey

**Baptisms:**

Jesse Joseph Corbin to be baptized June 11, 2023. Kay Gow will be the Deacon Presiding. Kay will purchase a yellow rose for the baptism.

Gebo baptism will be June 24, 2023. Charlene Batzel will be the Deacon presiding. Kay will purchase 3 roses for this baptism.

Doolittle baptism: June 25. Jackie Phillips may be the deacon presiding. Kay will get a rose.

**VBS:** June 12-15.

**Father's Day:** June 18. All men will receive a chocolate bar. Holli will make a band for the bars. Kay, Dee and Sharon will put the bands on the chocolate bars. At the end of the service, Deacons will hand out the bars to all males. Lisa at the choir door, Sharon at the organ door and Dee at the front door. Dee will also take bars to the HVA for the men there (11).

**Lay readers:** During the responsive readings the lay readers are now reading both parts to make it easier to hear online.

**Tech Issues:** Kevin Radford worked on the sound issues in the sanctuary. A new headset was purchased for the pastor. A wire in the sound box was replaced for one hand held mic. The congregation has been instructed on the proper way to hold the mics. This will be ongoing. The cost of the equipment will be paid out of the tech funds. Kevin will be paid \$150 for his time.

**Bible Study:** Discussed possible books for the fall Bible study. "Why Bad Things Happen to Good People" and "If God is Love, Don't be a Jerk" were two suggestions. We will continue this discussion.

**Welcome Statement:** Copies need to be laminated.

**Will's Vacation:** Dave Schulte will preach August 6 and 27 (he wants pictures of Father Colby in Gettysburg). Bonnie Love-Colwell will preach August 13 and Scott Muller August 20. Dave will preside at the Pease funeral on August 21. Dave will notify Scott and Bonnie about getting the bulletin info to Holli and Judy ahead of time.

**June 11:** Flag Day. Mention flag day (Flags in the balcony)

**July 2:** Recognized July 4 with Star Spangled Bann and America the Beautiful

Meeting ended with prayer.

**Next Meeting: July 9**

## Pastor's Report:

I officiated the June 4<sup>th</sup> wedding of Wayne Wellman (Kandy's stepson) and Lydia Kalina. The Sunday wedding took place in the sanctuary at 2 PM. What a gift and a blessing it was to be a part of this love story and intimate wedding.

The 4-part June sermon series "*Your gifts open you*" revealed how our gifts do, in fact, open us to God at work in our lives. Look elsewhere in Our Spire for more on the series, but here I wish to share that Noah, Abram (and then Abraham) and Joseph, Jacob's son, teach us what it means to be blessed by God, especially through challenging times these three experienced. Their blessings are gifts, and the gifts open us to seeing—and learning—more about how much God loves us, hears us, guides us, protects us and provides for us.

I was assigned the role of "parent" during VBS this year. I can do this job 😊! The time to visit with parents and grandparents of the kids involved in this year's 'stellar' program was a joy. I was able to connect with people I may not otherwise have had the time to visit.

I want to personally thank everyone who had a large or small part in this year's golf tournament. To work with a church with such a commitment to its immediate and wider community through fundraisers such as these is truly impressive.

The baptism of Jesse Joseph Corbin took place in worship on June 11<sup>th</sup>. In place of a children's sermon, the children came to the front pews to pray over the water used for the baptism. They also had "front row seats" to view this significant Christian event. At one point before the parents and Godparents came forward with Jessie and his older sister Emma, I said, "You're watching a miracle!" Hearing this, Jaxon (David and Brandy Gebo's son) looked around for a moment, then his eyes just lit up! What a joy to see!

The upcoming baptisms of Trinity Charlotte Gebo, Jaxon David Gebo, and Ryder Emma Gebo will take place this Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>. Ellis Patrick Doolittle's baptism will take place on Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>. Let's continue to hold in prayer all the baptisms that have happened this month.

I am grateful for the time to work with Robert Fisher for the special music for June 25<sup>th</sup>. It is always a privilege to "talk music" and plan with Robert. We have just begun thinking about a sermon series where hymns (or other Christian music) could bring us God's message. Ideas and inspiration are welcome here!

There's a new editor coming to *The Independent*, the weekly Susquehanna County paper. I've been writing the column for 5 and a half years now, and I am regularly approached by people familiar with me, our congregation, and the columns. So far, my column will continue with this new editor. Prayers this continues.

On a personal note, I was invited to be the keynote speaker at the Statewide Adoption Network matching event. This annual event takes place at the Kalahari Resort Center in the Poconos. I was given the opportunity to witness God's guidance and provision to a room full of perspective foster and/or adoptive parents. The kids were invited, and we enjoyed an overnight stay there.

David Schulte will be taking over my pastoral responsibilities while I vacation in August. For any pastoral care needs, please contact David at 570-222-4491.

As our summer continues, I pray God opens for each of you opportunities to share His love, His word, and His blessings with others. Please keep in mind our shut-ins and those going through challenging times. Please listen as God calls you to reach out with care, attention, time, thoughtfulness, gentleness and prayer.

Dorothy Greene  
PO Box 458  
Kulpsville  
PA 19443-0458

Marilyn Light (as of 6/20/2023)  
194 West Lantern Way  
San Tan Valley  
AZ 85143



## Attention, Attention!!

**The Lecture Hall will be unavailable for use:**

**July 22-August 27 (Due to Huge Yard Sale Prep)**

### Correspondence

Dear Church Family,

My sincere thanks for the cards, food, visits and prayers while I was in the hospital and at home.

With love, Maureen Warren



## Yard Sale

We are collecting yard sale items for our huge yard sale fund raiser

August 25-26, 2023.

We take household items, kitchen items, books, craft items, holiday decoration, linens, home décor, electronics and so much more.

We do not take clothes, exercise equipment and large appliances.  
Bring items to the church fellowship hall or call or text  
Holli at 301-643-1775 for pick up.



# Spire Sponsor

## In honor of my dad, Alvin Seamans.

### -Marjorie Tator

JUST GREAT TOURS PRESENTS...



## THE ARK ENCOUNTER & CREATION MUSEUM



AUG 9 - 12, 2023

**4 Days & 3 Nights**

**Package Includes:**

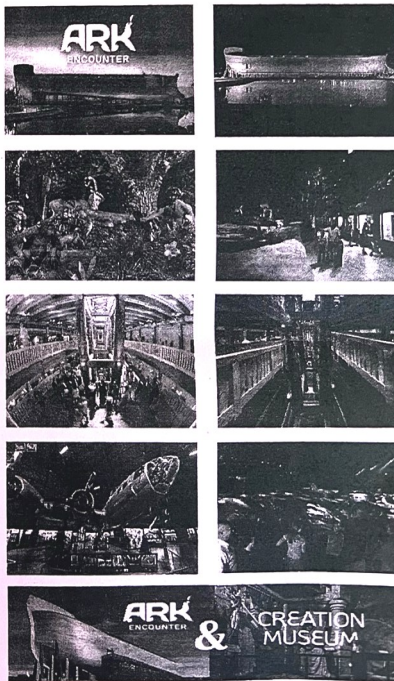
- \*ROUND TRIP MOTORCOACH TRANSPORTATION
  - \*3 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATIONS IN THE CINCINNATI OH AREA
  - \*3 GREAT BREAKFASTS
  - \*2 SUMPTUOUS DINNERS AT FINE LOCAL RESTAURANTS
  - \*FULL DAYS ADMISSION TO THE ARK ENCOUNTER IN KENTUCKY featuring The 40 days & Nights Gospel Celebration
- Ark Encounter is three exhibits in one—the massive Ark structure itself, the incredible craftsmanship, & the beautifully-fabricated teaching exhibits. The combination of all 3 will amaze & inspire you to think differently about the biblical account of Noah's Ark.
- \*VISIT TO THE FLIGHT 93 MEMORIAL
  - \*FULL DAYS ADMISSION TO THE CREATION MUSEUM IN KENTUCKY
- The state-of-the-art Creation Museum allows you to venture through biblical history, stunning exhibits, botanical gardens, planetarium, petting zoo, zip line adventure course, and much more. This 75,000-square-foot facility has welcomed over 2.5 million guests since opening in Petersburg, Kentucky.

\*ALL TAXES, BAGGAGE & MEAL GRATUITIES

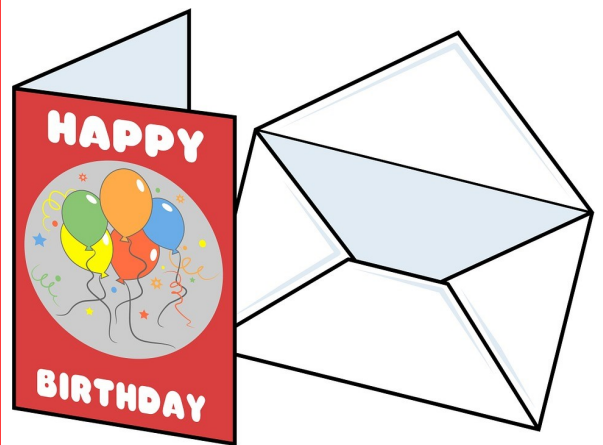
Package Price....\$ **627.00** / pp' dbl  
Singles Add \$ **200.00**

For Information & Reservations  
Call Mike Budzyn @  
570-829-5756

Trip Cancellation Protection is available for only \$49.00



## CARD SHOWER



My father, John Zimmerman, turns 90 on July 11th. A card shower during the month of July would be a wonderful surprise and I know it bring him much joy.

John Zimmerman  
4136 State Route 2002  
Hop Bottom, Pa. 18824

Thank you!!! Lynn Butler

Clifford United  
Methodist Church  
Main Street, Clifford  
Chicken and Biscuit Dinner  
Chicken, Biscuit, Mashed  
Potatoes & Gravy, Green  
Beans, Harvard Beets &  
Dessert

Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

TAKE OUT ONLY - DRIVE  
THRU

FROM 4:00 to 6:00 pm or until  
Sold out

Donation \$12

## **Birthdays and Anniversaries**



### **July**

July 1 Kandy Wellman  
July 2 Pat Gallan  
July 4 Joy Heckman  
Michelle Estabrook  
July 5 Heidi Millard  
Bruce and Eleanor Meyer  
Connie and David Schulte  
July 10 Brandy Lindsey Gebo  
July 11 John Zimmerman  
Susan Green  
July 14 Corinne Chichester  
July 15 Gail Batzel  
July 16 Eli Titus  
July 17 Dale and Peg Empet  
July 18 Patrick Lamberson  
Buddy and Susan Green  
July 20 Jim Batzel  
July 21 Jim and Nicole Bernosky  
July 22 Nancy Burris  
July 24 Elizabeth Masters  
Kara Batzel  
July 27 Scott and Despina Mitchell  
July 28 Bruce Meyer  
July 31 Bill and Holli Chichester

### **August**

August 2 Julia Gardner  
August 4 Nancy Marr  
August 6 Jean Bonham  
Patrick and Kate Simons  
August 7 Ellen Holdredge  
Bristol and Diana Zick  
August 8 Joe Metzler  
August 9 Ilse Lohrey  
Connie Schulte  
Tanner Stout  
August 10 Becky and Brendan Herbert  
August 12 Lynn Butler  
August 13 Caitlin Mitchell  
August 16 Mark Lewis  
August 21 Nancy Tyler  
Shane Toolan, Sr.  
August 22 Ray Frederick  
Sarah Gardner Key  
August 23 Shannon Toolan  
August 25 Charles Ahearn  
August 27 Brandon and Erin Zick  
August 30 Jimi Bernosky



## Home Bound

Martha Jenkins

Norma Carey

Lynola Carey

Dorothy Greene

Vivian Rutherford

Joanne Connolly

John Zimmerman

JoAnn Titus



## 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—All staff and students
- for those with medical issues large and small
- David and Brandy and family
- Those with Alzheimer's and their families
- those experiencing financial pressures
- those fighting addiction or cancer
- all those in nursing homes and their families
- Will's kids
- Evan Clarkson, Andrew Kazmierczak, Robert Schulte, Ainsley Allen and all those serving in the military
- Sandy Zupanovich
- Gregg Symuleski and family
- Nancy Marr
- law enforcement officers & EMS
- hospital workers and fire personnel
- George Lotter
- Truck drivers, farmers & Small businesses
- Patrick Simons
- All earthquake victims
- Bob Simons
- Mark Ezdebski
- Dave Casey
- Earl Gow
- Karen Doolittle
- Sal Armetta and family
- Karen Jones relative
- Lynn Hernandez
- Chris (Paula Smith's brother)
- Charlie Ahearn
- Andy Granick
- Family of Margaret Frederick
- Frank Benedict
- Joanne Zick
- War in Ukraine
- Millie Tingley
- Phil (Schulte's son)
- Abby Toolan's dad (Ben Heckman)
- Norma and Lynola Carey
- Buzz Gulick
- Leanne Colwell and family
- Jennica Drake
- Gracie Palmiter
- Continued health for Charleene Marten's family member
- Ron Phillips
- Farrah Benedict
- Tanner Stout (continued improvement—eye)
- Family of Brett Decker
- Wayne Wellman
- Steve Holtzmaster
- All graduating seniors
- baby Colson— in need of heart surgery
- Lynn—friend of George Lotter
- Werkheiser family—recovery from fire
- Joanne Decker
- Maureen Warren—continued improvement
- Cheryl Augustine
- Family of Barbara Pease



## 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

July 11, 2023 at 7:30am  
August 8, 2023 at 7:30am

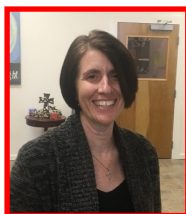
at Bingham's Restaurant.



## 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](mailto:hollischichester@gmail.com) or call 301-643-1775. Please check it out at

[www.firstchurchharford.com](http://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, July 21, 2023 from 4:30-5:30

Friday, August 11, 2023

Any income can apply, complete the form online [firstchurchharford.com](http://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.



## Women's Lunch



3rd Monday of each month

12:00 at Bingham's

All Welcome!

Bring a Friend

## June Greeters and Ushers

### July Greeters and Ushers

July 2 - Sue Needham  
Irv Needham

July 9 - Missy Clarkson  
Alyssa Clarkson

July 16- Bill Chichester  
Karen Jones

July 23- Bill Chichester  
Chris Manley



### August Greeters and Ushers

August 6- Linda Robinson  
Loren Robinson

August 13- BettyLou Bennett  
Ken Bennett

August 20- Shirley Masters  
Karen Jones

August 27- Sherry Decker  
Kay Gow

## July and August Lay Readers

July 2 - Kandy Wellman  
9 - Gary Phillips  
16 - Peg Empet  
23 - Nancy Burris  
30 - Lisa Hahn

August 6 - Abby Toolan  
13 - Karen Jones  
20 - Wendy Phillips  
27 - Alice Archer



## 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.





Happy  
75th  
Birthday  
-Connie Schulte

Happy Belated  
Birthday!



wondercliparts.com

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

**by the 15th of August 2023!**

**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.

### 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**.

**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.





# July 2023

July 2023

August 2023

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
30	31					

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jun 25	26	27	28	29	30	Jul 1
2 9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship (Sanctuary)	3 9:30am Quarterback mtg (PO) 7:00pm Trustees (PO)	4 No Choir	5	6 10:00am Pastor in office (Office)	7	8
9 9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship service (Sanctuary) 11:20am Deacons (PO)	10 9:30am Quarterback mtg (PO)	11 NO Choir 7:30am Men's Breakfast (Bingham's)	12	13 10:00am Pastor in office (Office)	14 8:00am LH rented	15 8:00am LH rented
16 9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship service (Sanctuary)	17 9:30am Quarterback mtg (PO) 12:00pm Ladies Lunch (Binghams)	18 NO choir NO Missionary mtg	19 6:00pm Stewardship (LH)	20 10:00am Pastor in office (Office)	21 10:00am Weinberg (LH) 4:30pm Weinberg Distribution (Outside)	22 LH unavailable 8:00am Help needed 9:00am Yard sale items moved to LH
23 9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship service (Sanctuary)	24 9:30am Quarterback mtg (PO) 12:00pm Sort and clean	25 NO choir	26 LH unavailable 12:00pm Yard sale items sort and clean	27	28	29
30 9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship service (Sanctuary)	31 LH unavailable 9:30am Quarterback mtg (PO)	Aug 1	2	3 10:00am Pastor in office (Office) 6:00pm Council mtg	4	5



# August 2023

August 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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		

September 2023

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jul 30	31	Aug 1	2	3	4	5
		12:00pm Yard sale sort and clean	6:30pm WW qtrly mtg	LH unavailable 9:00am Yard sale sort and clean	LH unavailable	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship service (Sanctuary) 11:20am Deacons (PO)	9:00am Harford group 9:30am Quarterback 12:00pm Yard sale-sort 7:00pm Trustees (PO)	7:30am Men's Breakfast (Bingham's)	LH unavailable 9:00am Yard sale sort and clean	LH unavailable 9:00am Weinberg sort and bag 4:30pm Weinberg-distributio		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8:00am 9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship service (Sanctuary)	NO Quarterback mtg	No Missionary mtg	LH unavailable HARFORD FAIR (Fair grounds) NO Stewardship			10:00am Dinner in the dining hall - First Church
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		9:00am Yard sale sorting & cleaning	LH unavailable 9:00am Yard sale set up			
9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship service (Sanctuary)	NO Quarterback mtg 12:00pm Ladies Lunch (Binghams)	9:00am Yard sale clean and set up 6:00pm Council mtg (LH)	9:00am Yard Sale	8:00am Yard Sale		8:00am Yard Sale 2:00pm Pack up yard sale-help and vehicles needed
27	28	29	30	31	Sep 1	2
9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship service (Sanctuary)	9:30am Quarterback mtg (PO)					

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  
Live Worship:https://www.youtube.com/  
channel/UCmQ-Xr0IE5xwdZS0yVs7dtg



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

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

Isaiah 9:2

*Join Us Each Sunday!!*

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Permit—#20  
Montrose, PA 18801

**DATED MAIL**

**PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**