



The Messenger



Chalfont United Methodist Church * 11 Meadowbrook Lane, Chalfont, PA 18914-2810
Phone: (215) 822-2807 * e mail: office@chalfontumc.org

September/October/November 2020

“you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” 1 Peter 2:5

Dear Members and Friends,

This Fall we must begin to move forward with a plan for church growth! What is the plan you may ask? Needless to say, let us begin by starting with, “The Man in the Mirror”. We can only grow from the inside out. Our hope is that we can keep moving to become the church God needs, so we can reach and serve the community God calls.

Our spiritual journey as individuals and as the whole body of Christ, beckons us to strive to continually grow into the image of Christ. Our common prayer is that God will teach his ways, so that we can faithfully accept His will. God please help us to willingly engage with dedication and commitment to the process of growth through your Holy Spirit.

As pastor, I will offer many opportunities for us to come together for the purpose of studying Gods Word, lifting up our hearts in praise and worship, and engaging in fervent prayer and meditation! Time will be appropriated for fun and fellowship in order that we build a community bound together in love and concern for each other in Christ. Here at CUMC we are not alone! We are a family, walking together in faith and not by sight! Let us continually, *“press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”* *Philippians 3:14*

I look forward to working with our new Lay Leader, our resident Deacon, our leadership and committees, our Church Administrator and all of you as we increasingly become engaged in the process of growth! I praise God for you! Love, Pastor Vicky

REACHING UP - OUR #1 GOAL... Growing together in Christ

PASTOR’S WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY BEGINS -Thursday, September 24 (7:00pm - FLC)

In order to be effective in the roll of pastor, I need to be in Bible study. Not in isolation but within the community. Please come out to support my effort to experience spiritual growth. No prior knowledge of the Bible is required. Study is for everyone at all levels. You will not be required to read aloud. We will study straight from the Bible. At times our exploration will be based on a specific book of the Bible. Other times we will read an entire book. We will start this study searching to understand what we mean by “Salvation in Christ”. The class will be in person and online *(if possible)*. This class is encouraged for everyone but required for those who desire to join our church. I am excited! Can’t wait to see you there! *I LOVE studying God’s word!*

MEN’S BIBLE STUDY starting soon! Details TBA

PASTOR’S PRAYER REQUEST BOX

A prayer box will be available in the sanctuary for those who do not want to share joys and concerns openly during service. Prayers may be shared anonymously or you may leave your name. I will collect the concerns at the end of Sunday service, then pray in private for each concern on your behalf. Please note **that you may also contact me directly for prayer concerns at anytime!**

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

New Address: John and Emily Paynter's new address is: 235 North Washington Street, Apt. T-18, Telford, PA 18969.

New Address: Patricia Dowling's new address is: 23404 Ann's Choice Way, Warminster, PA 18974.

New Address: Don and Eileen Reese's new address is: 341 Edgemont Avenue, Quakertown, PA 18951. Their phone number remains the same.

New Address: Neil and Janet Boylan's new address is: 719 South Settlers Circle, Warrington, PA 18976. Their phone number remains the same.

Congratulations: Since the last newsletter the baptism of Dalton Warren was celebrated by the entire Warren family. Dalton is the grandson of Jeff and Laurie Warren.

For your info: This year Betty Gendall has been a member of CUMC for 69 years. She is followed by Barbara Morris, Dawn's mother, who has been a member for 68 years. Congratulations!

THANK YOU

Red Bird Mission thanks CUMC for our donation of \$165.00. "It will help us towards our goal of building sustainable communities in the mountains of Kentucky."

The New Britain Food Larder thanks us for our gifts of \$215.00, \$100.00 and \$100.00. We also donated 388 pounds of fresh produce from our garden in 2019. The total for 2020 is still ongoing. (And we need to thank the members who have continued this work during the pandemic.)

Thank you from Habitat for Humanity for our gifts of \$150:00 and \$120.00. Your contributions will help build more homes.

Rev Green thanks CUMC for gifts of \$30.00 and \$65.00 that will go towards helping children in the Republic of Moldova.

Thank you to all of the people who have worked this summer to get the church ready for reopening on September 13. Special thanks to the men who have spent hours and days working in the hot sanctuary doing wiring, setting up cameras and testing equipment.

ENTERING THE 21ST CENTURY

Chalfont UMC is going to enter the 21st century (after a great deal of work, time, money and prayers) with a newly developed sound system, and the capability to send out our service on Zoom (live). Jim Weikert, Jim Reece, Bill Kokemor and others have worked on this throughout August and are still learning. There will be glitches, but in the end we will be technically really up-to-date. Hopefully things will be up and running correctly on September 13 as we open.

A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY...

Chalfont United Methodist Church was founded in 1896 (124 years ago) by Rev. Purdy B. Moyer. Soon after the small congregation purchased a church building on Main Street in Chalfont for \$1000. This building has housed many different denominations over the years and is still being used as a church.

"For a number of years one pastor was shared by the Chalfont-Montgomery Square Charge ... The pastor traveled to the Montgomery Square Church in Montgomeryville each Sunday morning to conduct their worship service starting at 9:30 am, and then returned to Chalfont for our morning worship at 11:00 am. Often these two congregations attended the others evening services and both choirs combined to sing cantatas or present special music at each church."

"As our congregation grew, it was felt that we would be able to support a fulltime pastor" In 1956 permission was granted that each congregation would be served by their own pastor. Rev. Robert L Linthicum was appointed to Chalfont and Rev. Hans Schroeder became the pastor at Montgomery Square.

Land was purchased for our current church in 1960 at the cost of \$14,000; the completed building cost \$175,000 including the land. The first service was held in our current sanctuary on September 23, 1962.

Much has happened since our founding, but nothing has been more unique than what has occurred in 2020. We are still living through the greatest pandemic that our country has faced since its founding, which means that church services have been coming to us via our cell phones, tablets, laptops and televisions. And while this has been going on our 33rd pastor, Rev. Barb Seekford, was transferred to another church.

We now welcome our 34th pastor, Rev. Victoria Allen (who has never had the opportunity to see our congregation in the sanctuary). And Pastor Vicky has another challenge, because the circle has closed, and she has inherited both Chalfont and Montgomery Square United Methodist Churches.

The challenges are great. The opportunities are vast. The future years are up to us!

The Sunday School is looking into having live classes in the near future. Kids! keep in touch!

REACHING OUT - CONNECTING TO THE LARGER COMMUNITY

MEET & GREET - Saturday, September 19 (10:00 am to 2:00 pm)

Chalfont UMC will introduce the community to their new neighbor at 51 Meadowbrook Lane. Pastor Vicky moved in on July 1st and is excited for the opportunity to connect with the community. Her heart for ministry extends beyond the walls of the church and into the community. Church members also encouraged to come and meet the new pastor!

CHARGE CONFERENCE - Saturday, September 26 (10:00 am)

Charge Conference is how the Local church connects to the larger body of the United Methodist Church. We attend to our basic process of decision making in coordination with the District Superintendent. Everyone is welcome to attend! Voting is by the Administrative Council members only. SPRC will meet at 9AM

INSTALLATION SERVICE - Sunday September 27 (4:00 pm)

Montgomery Square has been honored with the privilege to host the Installation service for the newly appointed District Superintendent to the East District: Rev. Dr. Andrew Foster! Join us in person or online. Social distancing guidelines will be in effect.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - Sunday, October 4 (4:00 pm)

A special service in honor of the Patron Saint of Animals, Saint Francis. Bring your pets to get a special blessing! Animals must be on a leash or in a cage. A short service will be followed by a blessing for each animal.

HALLOWEEN ACTIVITY for CHILDREN - Saturday, October 31 (TBD)

REACHING IN - Connecting with each other to Bond & Build Christian Relationships

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT - Saturday, October 17 (6:00 pm at Montgomery Square UMC)

Tired of sitting alone in the house? Join us to watch the inspirational film: "The Overcomer." A moving film about overcoming past hurt and feelings of disappointment. Social distancing guidelines will be in place. The sale of popcorn and candy TBD.

COMING SOON! We will be looking into a zoom game night competition between Chalfont and MSQ. Stay tuned for details in the next newsletter.

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ALL SAINTS DAY - Sunday, November 1

This year we will celebrate communion with the saints of all time, as we specifically remember those from our own flock : **Cassel Hale Williams** (November 12, 2019), **Robert Emerson Jack** (April 3, 2020).

A CALL TO FAST AND PRAY - Saturday, November 7, 14 and 21

Fasting is a spiritual discipline often overlooked by many churches. Together let us engage in fasting and praying for three Saturdays in November. If your health does not permit you to fast for the entire day stick strictly to three light meals then ... fast from 7pm Friday through 7am Saturday and 7pm Saturday through 7am Sunday. During Fast you may drink water and other beverages that do not contain sugar of any kind (*diet or otherwise*) You may also eat raw veggies or fruit if necessary. The ideal is a total fast with the only intake being water.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Sunday, November 29

Join us as we prepare to Celebrate Christ's Birth in anticipation of His return!

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CHALFONT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

11 Meadowbrook Lane

Chalfont, Pennsylvania 18914-2810

(215) 822-2807

Web Page: www.chalfontumc.org

STAFF DIRECTORY

REV. VICTORIA ALLEN	Pastor
REV. DEBRA NEILD	Deacon
CRIS FRISCO	Director of Music
LORRAINE DANIELS	Church Administrator

Pastor Vicky will be in the church office:

Wednesday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Thursday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

(other hours available by appointment)

IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, September 13

(First Service in Sanctuary; Zoom for those at home)

Saturday, September 19

*(Meet and Greet community and members -
9:00 am - 2:00 pm)*

Sunday, September 20

(Morning Worship Sanctuary and Zoom)

Saturday, September 26

(Charge Conference - 10:00 am)

Sunday, September 27

*(Morning Worship Sanctuary and Zoom;
Installation Service of District Superintendent, Rev.
Dr. Andrew Foster at Montgomery Square - 4:00 pm)*

Sunday, October 4

*(Morning Worship Sanctuary and Zoom;
Blessing of the Animals - 4:00 pm)*

Sunday, October 11

(Morning Worship Sanctuary and Zoom)

Saturday, October 17

(Family Movie Night - Mont. Square UMC 6:00 pm)

Sunday, October 18

*(Morning Worship Sanctuary and Zoom;
Laity Sunday)*

Sunday, October 25

(Morning Worship Sanctuary and Zoom)

Sunday, November 1

*(Morning Worship Sanctuary and Zoom;
All Saints Sunday - Remembrance Service)*