



The Messenger



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

March, April, May 2021

Dear Friends,

No matter how long the winter, spring is sure to follow. (African Proverb)

In some ways, the isolating cold of the bitter winter season began last March with the onset of social distancing. We've had many lonely and dreary days during this past year. However, in spite of the pandemic and the snow covered, landscape, a new season will ultimately arrive! With the arrival of Spring comes new life, restoration, rejuvenation, and time to reflect on Christ's resurrection! Spring is a time of transition between the darkest and coldest days to brightest and warmest days.

Spring may well be the most eagerly awaited season. Wearied from the winter cold, we enthusiastically welcome the arrival of spring. It brings us signs of hope and joyfulness. It lights up the path to a fresh start and a new beginning. It is certainly a time of hope!

Use the cheerful tranquility of the Spring, as a time God has given us to reflect on our world, our faith, and our call. Let us engage in hope filled observance of the beauty found throughout God's creation. Breathe in and enjoy all the wonderful fresh scents of the spring season. Listen for the sounds of the baby birds chirping. See the beautiful flowers blossoms and the fullness of the leaves on the trees that once stood cold and barren. Find yourself relaxing by the soothing and gentle trickling sounds of running water near a brook or a lake.

In all these things, let us consider the wonder of God as we intentionally take notice of His presence in nature. Fully embrace a renewed sense of serenity and joy. Perhaps if we listen closely, then we will hear God whisper in a little small voice saying "I am".

Even in the busyness of each new day, God Is!

*O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder,
consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art. Pastor Vicky*

CELEBRATING EASTER IN 2021

We anticipate celebrating Easter this year back in the sanctuary after a long winter on the zoom webinar. It will be good to see everyone, and hopefully many of you will have been vaccinated...and are safe! Social distancing and masks will still be enforced. But, one vaccinated person talking to another vaccinated person is acceptable. Easter flowers will be back (6" tulips and/or daffodils) are \$6.00 each. *(Just think, last year we had no flowers, no service, nothing)*

We will be working with Montgomery Square and our youth group to fill Easter Baskets for the "Between Friends Outreach Inc." This will take place in the Family Life Center at CUMC on Friday, March 26 at 5:30 pm. Your help is needed!

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

In memory: Our condolences to the family of **Harriet Unrath**, who passed away on Monday, December 28, 2020. Harriet was not a member of CUMC, but attended here for years and continued to support our programs until her passing.

In memory: Our condolences to the family of **Susan Hause**, who passed away on January 2nd. Susan became a member of CUMC in 1954, and had been a member for 67 years. She was the sister-in-law of **Nathalee Darde**.

In memory: Our condolences to the family of **Grace Williams**, who died on January 20th. Grace was an active member of CUMC for many years, and she will be missed by all. Grace was the twin sister of **Gail Schnell**.

New address: **Nathalee Darde** has a new mailing address: P.O. Box 284, Hilltown, PA 18927.

Communications: (1) **Tomi Fay Forbes** wrote to inform us that her parents, **William and Geraldine Campbell** (*previous members of the church*) had both passed away, but had enjoyed our church newsletter for years. (2) **Harvey Clarke** wrote to tell us that he is 91 years old and still working; his wife, **Dorothy Clarke**, died in 2018; he was pleased to recognize names from the past when he received a copy of the newsletter. (3) We received a letter from **Frans and Nelleke Dubois** (*who, of course, are now living in the Netherlands*) They enjoy keeping informed of our activities thanks to our newsletters, think of their many friends at CUMC and “*continue to look back on a beautiful, heartwarming and blessed time in Chalfont.*”

Recovery: **Betty Williams** is recovering from her hip surgery, and has returned to her former apartment at Lakeview Assisted Living in Doylestown. Cards can be sent to her at that address.

THANK YOU

Rev. Green thanks us for our donation to his mission supporting youth and orphanages in Moldova. (*Rev. Green was the pastor here at CUMC prior to pastor Barb Seekford; many members have helped support this mission over the years.*)

“*Dear fellow members of CUMC, Thanks so much for the holiday card that you individually signed. Hopefully when the virus is under control I will be able to make plans to attend service.*” **Pat Dowling**

HOAGIE SALE

The men are getting together for another one of their very enjoyable and successful hoagie sales. Further information will soon be available, but you can “save the date.” **Saturday, April 10th.**

TRUSTEES

The following is a list of projects completed by the Trustees in the fall of 2020 and winter of 2021:

Doorbell repaired

Front door exterior latch

Fire Inspection

Church air conditioner repaired

Air conditioners removed from parsonage windows

Upstairs bathrooms painted – 2020-2021 (*This was a major project that has greatly improved the appearance of both bathrooms - job well done!*)

Gutters cleaned out – church & parsonage

Leaves raked out of window wells

Lines painted in the parking lot– 2021

Helped clean up basement for Youth Group

The following is a list of projects that the Trustees have identified as pending work. (*A lot to do with little money!*)

Stained glass window to be installed in FLC in window above the altar (*Bruce Hippel Stained Glass*)

New carpet in the sanctuary (*see article*)

Church windows (*cleaning, glazing*) – spring/summer project

Parsonage windows (*cleaning, glazing or replacing*) - spring/summer project

New sump pump in the basement

Repair fallen wall with landscaping blocks (*spring/summer*)

Heater in the parsonage to be serviced

Sanctuary interior door locks (*center door and far right door*)

New light fixtures in the ladies room – Jim Reece

Ladies room toilet (*water leak in middle stall*) – handyman

Men’s room toilet (*wobbly/loose, not leaking*) - handyman

Men’s room toilet running (*needs new insides*) - handyman

Water heater leak (*need to hire plumber to assess repairs*)

Library baseboards to be replaced (*due to water leak*)

Fix globe over light outside the kitchen

Parsonage auto garage door (*needs repaired or replaced*)

SANCTUARY CARPET

The carpet in the sanctuary has become one of the most important projects sponsored by the Trustees. It is buckled and cannot be repaired. There is a considerable concern that someone could trip and fall while walking in the sanctuary. Thus it is necessary to replace the carpet (*not including the altar area*) as soon as possible

As most of you now know, CUMC has created a Carpet Replacement Fund to raise the money for the carpet. \$7000.00 is needed - and in true CUMC form we have already received **\$4,370,00** from the congregation. A big thank you for this successful response to our need.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28 - OUR YOUTH MINISTRY HAS BEGUN

We call our group **SLY** (*Spirit Led Youth*) and we meet at the **Cafe Connection** (*which is the basement at Chalfont UMC*) on Sunday evenings at **6:30 pm until 8:00 pm** (*doors open at 6:00 pm*). All children in both congregations and in the local community are invited (*if they are in 6th through 12th grades*).

The leaders of our new youth ministry program are: Dave and Sue Cody, Greg Ehrenzeller, Louise Peardon, Colleen Lester (Montgomery Square) and of course, Pastor Vicky. This group has gotten together and transformed the basement at CUMC into a youth friendly place. In addition they have made plans to keep the kids busy every Sunday evening with diverse and kid-friendly programs - until the summer break. (*Easter Sunday - no meeting.*) And, don't forget there is a Biblical part to the evening (*The book of Proverbs will be discussed during spring 2021.*)

Parenting during this current era of technology is a tough job under normal circumstances! The Methodist Youth Fellowship (*as it was called back in the day*) has always been a ministry to assist parents in guiding youth to the right path. The wrong choices during the young impressionable teen years can be devastating. Teenagers today are dealing with more stress and in danger of engaging in riskier behaviors than ever before. Technology makes them more vulnerable to being misled or finding themselves dealing with so much duress. An active M.Y.F. can be very helpful to parents.

"It attracted me to the church as a teen, and in many ways, it saved my life. Back in the early 1970's, as a teen I had two sets of friends. Those I met in church, and those who influenced me in the wrong direction (you do remember the wild 70's?). Fifty years later, I look back and realize that today I am still in touch with many of the youth I met in the church. Our lives all seem to be going well. Later this year, I will preside over the ceremony of matrimony for two from our old youth group, Jeff and Tricia (Trish is my 1st cousin). The lives of the group of youth I hung with on the outside of the church however had much different outcomes. Unfortunately, many did not survive the paths they mistakenly pursued in life. PV"

Please keep all of us, our youth, their parents and this ministry in prayer!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Game Night - Friday, March 12 (*7:00 pm via zoom*) Who can correctly guess the name of the hidden classical movie star? Join Chalfont and Montgomery Square for another social night playing games. This time it's men versus women!

Tools For Ministry - Saturday, March 13 (*8:30 am to 12:30 pm via zoom*) Sign up for two of the 35 workshops offered to help with our church ministry. The cost is \$5,00. Register online at <https://na.eventscloud.com/2021tools>

Fill the eggs for March 27 - Sunday, March 21 (*3:00 pm Montgomery Square*)

Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, March 27 (*10:00 am to 12:00 noon at Montgomery Square UMC*) Chalfont and Montgomery Square are getting together (*think Halloween*) to host a community Easter Egg Hunt for children up to 12 years of age. (*Historically CUMC has held an egg hunt on Easter Sunday after service, but that now changes to the joint hunt on March 27.*) As usual, we need candy or small toys and lots of plastic eggs. We have some eggs here at church, but need more since we hope to have 2000 eggs scattered around the property. Then... they need to be filled. And the last thing we need is lots of kids filling their baskets.

Confirmation Classes - Saturdays, April 3 to May 15 (*10:00 am to 12:00 noon - Montgomery Square*) Confirmation classes are open to all youth from 6th grade to 12th grade. Lunch will be served at noon. Youth will join the church on Pentecost Sunday, May 23.

Adult Membership Classes - Thursday, April 1; Friday, April 2; Saturday, April 3 (*6:30 pm to 8:00 pm - Chalfont*) Classes for adults will be offered three evenings before Easter Sunday. They will take place in the Sanctuary at CUMC. Everyone who has not a member is encouraged to come. *"We are offering the right hand of fellowship to all interested persons on Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd. PV"*

Bible Study - Thursdays (*7:00 pm*) Pastor Vicky's Bible Study has been a very successful addition to our church schedule. There is always room for more attendees. Just sign in on zoom at 7:00 pm.

Men's Bible Study - every other Saturday (*10:00 am*) Pastor Max Jouen has an in person Bible Study that also alternates between Chalfont and Montgomery Square. (*March 6 at MSUMC*)

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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, March 14

*(Morning worship via zoom webinar;
daylight savings time begins;
4th Sunday in Lent)*

Saturday, March 27

*(Easter Egg Hunt at Montgomery Square UMC -
10:00 am to 12:00 noon)*

Sunday March 28

(Palm Sunday; morning worship via zoom)

Thursday, April 1

(Maundy Thursday; membership class - 6:30 to 8:00 pm)

Friday, April 2

(Good Friday; 2nd membership class - 6:30-8:00 pm)

Saturday April 3

(3rd membership class - 6:30 - 8:00 pm)

Sunday, April 4

(EASTER SUNDAY;

1st SUNDAY BACK IN THE SANCTUARY)

Sunday, May 9

(Mother's Day Sunday)

Tuesday, May 11

(CUMC Blood Drive - 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm)

Sunday, May 23

*(Pentecost Sunday; confirmation class
and adult members join the church)*

**CUMC is sponsoring a
Blood Drive**

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

2:00 pm to 7:00 pm

(save the date)