

June 25, 2023

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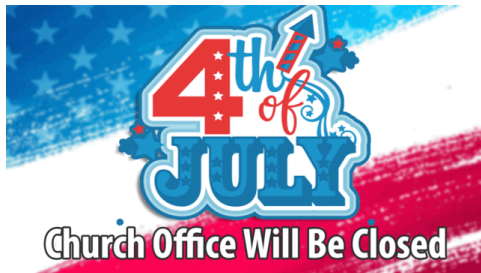
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July Mission Project:

St. Jude Children's Hospital

Supporting St. Jude means giving children with cancer worldwide the chance to live their best lives. It also means celebrating every moment and giving families the greatest gift of all — more time with their loved ones.



In recent months, several people have come to the pastor and asked if we had thought about combining Sunday service due to the declining attendance. The worship committee, council and Pastor Lori discussed this; therefore, the congregation was asked to complete a worship survey. The majority of respondents indicated they were receptive to one worship service at 9:00am with Sunday School following at 10:30am for the months of July and August.

Our worship team supports this initiative and Church Council unanimously approved the change for the months of July and August. This schedule will begin July 2nd and end August 27th. It is a temporary, short-term change that will be evaluated at the end of August. There is no change to the Saturday night service.

We understand this will require adjustments on everyone's part. Change is not easy and sometimes it is not well received. We ask the congregation to consider the possibilities to worship together as one larger body for these two months. A few benefits will be getting to know others who worship at a different time, more enthusiastic congregational music, and helping to fill the media, sound, lay reader, acolyte, greeter/usher roles, just to name a few. Over the last few months, we have had people step down from these ministries and have not had many step up to replace them. One service for the remainder of the summer, while many are on vacation, will help to fill these roles. If you have already been assigned a time to serve during July and August, you will be contacted with updated information.

The Council has been studying a book called Autopsy of a Deceased Church. How appropriate that this month's chapter was called "The Preference-Driven Church." In the chapter, the author, Thom S. Rainier, reminds us that the apostle Paul says in Philippians 2:4, "Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others." He was reminding us that the church is a body of believers who function for the greater good of the entire congregation. Let us try something new for the greater good of the entire congregation.

We believe this experience of worshiping together will be valuable for the unity of our congregation.

We look forward to seeing you all for combined worship at 9:00am on July 2nd.

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

As I write this, I am thinking about our first year together and am so grateful to God and the Bishop and Cabinet for sending me to Saint John's-Newberry. Though there have been trials and tribulations, there have also been joys! I am looking forward to what God has planned for us in the next year.

I found this cute poem that is so pertinent to the life here at Saint John's-Newberry and life in general for the Christian.

Gardening God's Way

Plant three rows of Squash: squash gossip, squash criticism, squash indifference

Plant three rows of Peas: purity, patience, perseverance

Plant four rows of Lettuce: let us be kind, let us be faithful, let us be obedient, let us love one another

No garden is complete without Turnips: turn up for meetings, turn up for service, turn up to lend a helping hand

To conclude our planting, we must have Thyme: thyme for God, thyme for study, thyme for prayer

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden.

Because you reap what you sow. The world is God's Garden. We are here for a short time. Let us be thankful for having the privilege of the visit.

May God continue to bless our time together as we follow His ways and path and not our own.

Blessings ~ Pastor Lori

New Bible Study Opportunity

On Tuesday, August 1, we will begin season 2 of *The Chosen*. Two sessions will be offered: 10:00 a.m. in person at the church and 7:00 p.m. by zoom. Here is a little information about season 2:

***Blessed Are the Chosen* is an eight-lesson interactive Bible study for individuals or small groups based on season 2 of the groundbreaking television show, *The Chosen*.** This study brings both the Old and New Testaments to life in an approachable and conversational way.

This study guide works in tandem with each episode of the show and includes:

- A deeper look at God's character, power, and promises using the framework of Jesus's Sermon on the Mount
- Script excerpts, quotes, and illustrations from each episode
- Scripture to provide lesson context
- Pictures and bios of characters for increased connection
- Conversational features to invite Bible knowledge
- Guiding questions for group or individual discussion or reflection

Once we belong to Him, we're not only given a new identity; we're ushered into a new reality—one that is sure, powerful, and life changing. And so — We have hope no matter our circumstances. We have assurances and resources, even in life's trials. We are *blessed* in all things because we are chosen by Him.

If you are interested in participating in Season 2 of *The Chosen*, please let the office or Pastor Lori know by July 18 so that books can be ordered.

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT JUNE 2023

The monthly meeting of the Church Council was held June 21, 2023. This report is submitted to communicate to our congregation the work of the Council. By way of background, the Council serves as the Administrative Board, Trustees, Finance and Staff Parish Relations Committees in a governance and oversight role over all ministries. Church Council meetings are open meetings except when the Council deals with Staff Parish Relations matters.

The following are the major items from the Council's agenda discussed at the June meeting:

- For our spiritual development we discussed chapter seven in the book "Autopsy of a Deceased Church – 12 Ways to Keep Yours Alive" by Thom Rainer. We will identify those ways to stay healthy and alive. The prayer commitment for Chapter Seven, The Preference Driven Church, was the following: *Lord, open my eyes to the needs of others. Show me how to live more like Your Son, who always put others' interests first. And especially show me that attitude as I serve in my church.* We encourage the congregation to also consider this prayer and the challenge it poses for us.
- We welcomed three SOTA Executive Committee members to our meeting. We discussed the status of the formation of the 501.c.3 non-profit organization, the Facility Use Agreement needed between SOTA and the church, building use fees as part of the agreement, and some miscellaneous items.
- Approved May Council meeting minutes
- Reviewed May Council newsletter report.
- Reviewed annual conference report.
- As we do every meeting, we reviewed the monthly financial report and balance sheet. After five months of the year we are running a deficit of \$10,513.08. The deficit would be larger were it not for the fact we take income from our investment account. We will continue to monitor this as it may impact ministries. We encourage the congregation to consider our response to the membership vow to support the ministries of the congregation through our prayers, presence, witness, service and gifts.
- We updated the Media Shout program used for worship graphics to Version 7, the latest. As a matter of information all the technology in the sanctuary has been updated in the past three years including projector, streaming system and computer, graphics computer and software and sound system. All of this equipment has been donated.
- We accepted the resignation of Becky Ciabatarri as Director of SOTA. Becky was a church employee while SOTA was a program of the congregation. Now that they are independent, the SOTA Board will hire a director. We thank Becky for her three years of service as Director.
- We accepted the resignation of Steve Martin as sexton. We thank Steve for three plus years of service. We will advertise for a replacement.
- We reviewed the results of the recent worship survey. The majority of respondents support one worship service at 9:00am and Sunday School at 10:30am. Due to that response and with the support of the Worship Team, Council unanimously approved for the months of July and August moving to this schedule.
- The Congregational Care Team continues the greeting card ministry, visitations, home communions, and monthly activities. July's activity is Vacation Bible School.



- Our July meeting will be moved from July 19 to July 26 to avoid conflict with Vacation Bible School.
- Moving forward, we will continue the practice at the beginning of our meeting to provide time for any member of the congregation to address Council with any comments or concerns. Time will be limited to five minutes. This will permit input without the need to stay for our entire meeting.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please talk to me or to any member of the Council (Pastor Lori, Bob Burns, Mark Ertel, Scott Hall, Elaine Hinston, Nancy Jacobs, Erin Kuriga, Cathy Pro-want, Ed Souter Sr., Jan Walters).

Sexton Job Opening

Steve Martin has offered a letter of resignation as our sexton. We thank him for three plus years of service to the church. If anyone has interest, or knows of an interested party, please contact Bob Weaver or the office. A job description and application is on our website.

Donations Needed for The Clothes Closet

The WECCC (West End Christian Community Center) Clothes Closet is in need of gently used girls' clothing sizes 6 - 18. Donations may be dropped off at the Center during their business hours. Please share the word!



The Shoe Express is in Need of a Coordinator

Is there anyone looking for a great ministry to take over? The Shoe Express is a ministry that provides children with new sneakers and socks. Rick and Nancy Jacobs have been co-coordinators for the past 10 years, since it began. They are willing to still help, and will gladly do any mentoring if that is desired. There is a wonderful group of volunteers that faithfully come and together make this ministry work.

The Shoe Express events are the first and third Saturdays of the month from 10-12. Volunteers should come at 9:30 to help set up the room. We do not have events when the center is closed or the month of July.

Many children and their families have been blessed through this ministry. At the end of this year the program will have provided around 5000 sneakers to needy children from our community. That's a lot of hopping, skipping and jumping !

If interested or you would like more information contact Cal Phillips at the WECCC or Rick and Nancy Jacobs at 570-323-4627.



MAJOR: Biology with a minor in Chemistry

Julianna Cruz

Parents: AC and Justine Cruz

Siblings: Jocelyn and Dante

Grandparents: Frank & Lynne Girardi

Activities: Soccer

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Student Athletic Advisory Committee

Awards: Summa Cum Laude

College Sports Communicator Award

Academic All-District Team

PSAC All Academic Team

Hobbies: hiking, horseback riding, swimming, and pickleball



Julianna plans to attend dental school.



MAJOR: Computer Science with a minor in Spanish

Jake Lusk

Parents: Chris & Christy Lusk

Siblings: Lane, Tadd & Cade

Activities: Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity

Lycoming College Choir

Interfraternity Council

Awards: Dean's List

Hobbies: music, movies, disc golf, video games



Jake will be working at Greene Hills again this summer, while pursuing job opportunities in Information Technologies.



Class of 2023

Jordan Downey

Parents: Daun Williamson

Siblings: Shaye and Tessa Duffey (Minnesota),
Kyrsten Maiolo

Activities: Scouts

Football

Grange

Church Youth Group

Awards: Varsity Letter-Football 4yrs

Eagle Scout

CTE OSHA Certified

Advanced on NOCTI

Engineering-Skills USA 2023, 3rd Place



Hobbies: Reading, Football, Scouting, camping, origami

Grange



Major: Electrical & Aerospace Engineering



PennState
University Park



Class of 2023

Ben Manetta

Parents: Liz Manetta

Dan Manetta

Siblings: Gabe & Anna

Activities: Tennis

Strolling Strings

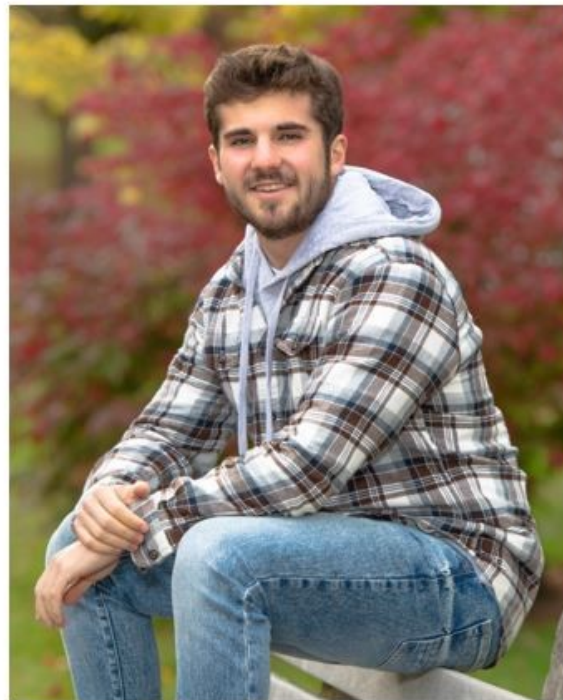
Jazz Band

Awards: Valedictorian 2023

National Merit Scholar

National Honor Society

Hobbies: travel, piano, working out in the gym



MAJOR: Biology



HARVARD
UNIVERSITY



Gianna Rupert

Parents: Jason and Katrina Rupert

Siblings: Jayden, Makenna, Angelo and Francesca

Grandparents: Steve and Deb Martin

Activities: Musical

Drama Club

History Club

Class Officer (V.P)

Band

Choir

SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving)

Powderpuff

WECCC volunteer

Knight Choir (selected choir)

Awards: Salutatorian 2023

National Honor Society

Student of the Month

Model UN Superior Delegate

Model UN Superior Delegation

Best Delegation 2023 Model United Nations

Con Con Superior Delegate

1st place Republican Committee Scholarship

Hobbies: Writing, reading, watching TV and movies, and trivia



Major: English Literature with a minor in Film Studies with plans to be a screenwriter

Hero Hotline Vacation Bible School

July 16 to July 20, 2023

6:00 – 8:30 p.m. each evening

Designed for ages 4 – 12 and special abilities adults

To be held here at Saint John's-Newberry U. M. Church, along with 8 other participating churches. Registrations are needed by Sunday, July 9th. Registration forms may be found on the information table in the lounge or by contacting the church office (secretary@stjnumc.com or 570 326-5569).

Looking for many children to attend; adults and youth to volunteer; and lots of prayers. Questions? Ask Irenay Weaver, Doreen Mileto, Pastor Lori



Thank You

Saint John's-Newberry Church,

Happy Summer! I'm sorry for the late thank you letter for all my care packages that I have received during the spring semester. School got the best of me and with all my school work I kept forgetting to write one. Anyway, thank you for all the care packages that were sent to me this past semester. I appreciate the time and effort that is put into creating the care packages and sending them to me. A little update for you guys is this past semester I got my highest GPA yet and it was 3.66. I'm now a senior in college about to finish my last year. Thank you again for all that you do for me during the semesters.

Thanks,
Hannah Freezer

Dear Saint John's-Newberry,

Thank you so much for all the boxes you sent over the months. College can be daunting at times and it really means a lot to know people here are thinking of me. Faith helped me a lot throughout my first year, and you all helped me keep that connection to Christ.

Thanks again!
Lane Lusk

Saint John's-Newberry Congregation,

Thank you so much for both the emotional and spiritual support as well as the gift boxes full of snacks and goodies. Whether I was doing homework or studying, or relaxing and playing games with my friends, they were a great boost of energy.

Sincerely,
Jake Lusk

Dear Church Family,

My heart is full of thankfulness! Between my mother's passing and my abdominal surgery, it has been a tough Spring! You all showed me so much compassion and caring. Thank you for all the sympathy cards, get well cards and meals you sent. You are a wonderful church family and I appreciate you so much! Having you be so kind made things easier.

Your sister in Christ,
Wendy Decker

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your concern, prayers, cards and meals while I was healing from two serious illnesses in March and the passing of my sister in April. I know everything went well because of your effort. I will be forever grateful to you and God for my healing.

Sincerely,
Suzanne Richard

Prayer Chain Report

Please pray for: Beth Ziegler, Cheryl Kontz, Patty Wehr, Vicki Schneider, Dan Walmer, Denny & Kim Davis, Danielle Fantaskey, Barb, Riley O'Connell, Nancy Sanders, Dorothy Douty, Beth, Cody Michael, Art & Patty DeParlos, Merle Campbell, Bernie Helminiak, Frank Connor, Cindy Cybulski, Sierra, Grant Fausey, Mark Lauchle, Barb Breining, Nancy Hembree, Frounchetta Keller, Mike Jacobs, Bob & Faye Thomas, Frank & Robin Sanders, Heather Council, Wendy Keller, Robert & Nancy Eiswert, Rob, Max Ameigh, Eric Barr, Norma Lockwood, Paul Cohen, Jim Bufford, Debbie Helm, Stan Jacobs, Rick Jacobs, Nancy Gair, Carol Rogers, Doris Hunsinger, Lew Litz, Jerre Paulhamus, Wendy Decker, Hallie Luppert, Roberta Kupel, Doreen Brumbach, Maggie Stack

Our love, prayers and sympathies to the families and friends of:

Harriet Luhta, Pat Jenkins, John Gummo, Jane Sperow

upon their recent passing.

The Prayer Chain contacts are Shirley Morris (570 323-4310). If unable to contact her, please call Ann Allison (570 326-4671).

Prayer is an important part of being a Christian. It is important that we pray for each other daily. The prayer list is equally as important. When people are going through difficult times they need extra prayers. **The prayer chain team is asking that when you have someone added to the list that you keep them up to date on the situation. Prayer requests will remain on the prayer list for 2 months. If after that 2 month time period they need to remain on, please notify either Shirley Morris or Ann Allison. Thank you for your willingness to pray for others!**

Prayer for Others

Our Bishops

Cynthia Moore Koikoi &
Sandra Steiner Ball

Our Superintendent

Rev. Dr. Paul C. Amara

Our Local United Methodist Churches

East Canton

†Those serving in the Military...

John Affield, Jeffrey Bache, Joel Barr, Kaeden Barr, Josalyn Bradley, Nathan Byer, Chase Bower, Richard Campbell, Brian Clarkson, Joey Cummings, Robert Daugherty, Joe DeArment, Cameron Dickey, Aaron Fillman, Joe Fioreth, Ron Furman, Andrei Helminiak, Randy Hosier, Jeremy Johnson, Eric Miller, Andrew Pepperman, Taylor Prosba, Matthew Ricci, Jeffrey Richard, Sarah Sanner, Col. David Smith, Brett Snauffer Jr., Jason Starr, Charlie Wolf, Jason Work.

† Our College Students...

Jocelyn Cruz, Juliana Cruz, Jordan Downey, Hannah Freezer, Maria Davis Johnson, Spencer Karasek, Makenzie Karasek, Kylie Kirkendall, Lydia Kirkendall, Ethan Kuriga, Sam Litz, Lane Lusk, Ben Manetta, Gabe Manetta, Katie Penman, Jordan Phillips, Gianna Rupert



JULY CELEBRATIONS...

Kate Penman	2
Linda Daugherty	3
John Springman	4
Missy Mitteer-Bradley	7
Connie Paulhamus	7
Dick Carothers	8
Joyce Shaffer	8
Marie Fye	9
Adam Kuriga	9
Lori Mahaffey	9
Carl Bower	10
Susan Mahaffey	10
Hannah Freezer	11
Ron Frymire	11

Melissa Lyon	12
Amanda Mahaffey	12
Ryan Martin	13
Lila Lauchle	15
Frank Girardi	16
Tom Hirschle	16
Al Hoffman	16
Amber Lindauer	17
Michele Hall	18
Jenna Kriner	18
Shelly Kerschner	19
Saundra Blackburn	20
Linda Gresh	20
David Kirkendall	20

Happy Birthday

Rebecka Krebs	20
Althea McBride	21
Ruth Smith	21
Irenay Weaver	21
Rantz Mahaffey	23
Luke DePasqua	24
Brynn Conklin	25
Karen Ertel	25
Thomas Baker	26
Dave Bower	29
Linda Cowden	29
Jaiden Mitteer-Bradley	30
Patti Eichensehr	31
Bernie Helminiak	31

Happy Anniversary

Rick & Linda Cowden	July 3, 1971	Roger & Cathy Prowant	July 16, 1983
Tony & Doreen Mileto	July 9, 1977	J. Ralph Jr. & Sandra Hoyt	July 21, 1959
Larry & Nancy Sanders	July 9, 1966	Mark & Stella Stroble	July 24, 1982
AC & Justine Cruz	July 11, 1998	Lester & Ann Yeagle	July 26, 1969
Art & Patty DeParlos	July 12, 1983	Robb & Suzie Curry	July 29, 1972
Mark & Sharon Lindauer	July 14, 1990	Steele & Hannah Britton	July 30, 2010

Memorials and Honors

The following have made contributions to the Memorial and Honor Fund to the Glory of God and in Memory of **Betty Cramer**: Saint John's-Newberry UMC; in Memory of **Bob Smith**: Dolly Eiswerth; Dennis & Janice Pepperman; James & Nancy Smith; Ed & Sally Souter; Barry & Brenda Rake; in Memory of **Pat Jenkins**: Lori Mahaffey; Barry & Brenda Rake; Mary Ruth Barner; Saint John's-Newberry UMC; Bob & Ann Burns; Staggered Starters SS Class; in Memory of **Vern Rhone**: Ed & Sally Souter; in Memory of **Peggy Elder**: Anonymous; in Memory of **Rose Spriggle**: Mary Ruth Barner; in Memory of **Ron Barner on their Anniversary**: Mary Ruth Barner; in Honor of **Barry & Brenda Rake**: Barbara Johnson; in Memory of **Ray Mahaffey**: Lori Mahaffey; in Honor of **All Mothers**: Susan Toti; in Honor of **Mama Arlene**: Tracy Fox; in Memory of **Robert Probst**: Lynn Sickler & Dureen Probst; in Honor of **Pastor Lori & Brian Betsworth**: Tracy Fox; in Memory of **Ron Barner**: Mary Ruth Barner; in Honor of **Dorothy Douty's 100th Birthday**: Ed & Sally Souter; Larry & Nancy Sanders



Saint John's-Newberry, UMC

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Williamsport, PA 17701

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E-mail: secretary@stjnumc.com

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<http://stjnumc.com>

Reminders

The **JULY/AUGUST UPPER ROOM** daily devotionals are now available on the literature rack located in the Lounge area. The cost is \$1.00 for the regular print, \$1.50 for the large print.

Church Office Hours are Monday - Thursday 9am to 3pm, **Closed Friday**

During lunch breaks, staff meetings and after office hours you may leave messages on the voice mail answering system (570 326-5569).

All general information and questions may be sent to: secretary@stjnumc.com

DUE DATE FOR MAILED COMMUNICATOR ARTICLES

JULY 20, 2023

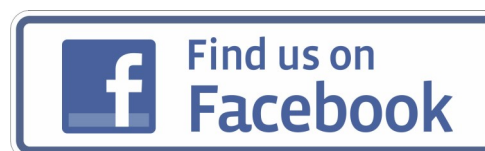
COMMUNICATOR MAILED:

JULY 27, 2023

Articles may be submitted via e-mail to:

Take a look at our website at:

<http://stjnumc.com>



<https://www.facebook.com/saintjnumc/>

• Rev. Dr. Lori Betsworth, *Pastor* •

- Joyce Paulhamus, *Church Administrator* • Kristine Michael, *Secretary/Treasurer* •
- Steve Martin, *Sexton* • Jennifer Jacobs & Vanessa Bennett *Child Care Providers* •
- Becky Ciabattari, *Director of the School of the Arts* • Cal Phillips, *Director of WECCC* •
- Church Office, 570/326-5569 • WECCC, 570/323-6297 • Saint John's School Of The Arts, 570/327-5575 •
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