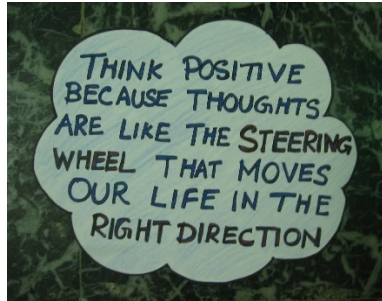


THE LAMP

A Newsletter of The Juniata Valley Shared Ministry

JULY 2021

www.jvsm.org and www.facebook.com/jvsm2016



I had the strangest thing happen this morning. I brought in a new candle for my office at Highland and it has totally melted! It was like a blob in the jar! I can't even find the wick! It's totally changed and I'm not even sure it's useful anymore.

Over the last week, while I was on study leave, some of the reading I did concerned the post-COVID church. Whether we all realize it or not, like my poor candle, we have been changed by the last 18 months. Some things will go back to 'normal,' others will become a new normal. (Still not sure what the new normal will be for my candle!)

One of the most important things we may have learned in this time is the reminder that THE CHURCH is not the physical building where we gather for worship and other church activities. THE CHURCH IS THE PEOPLE. We were as much the church during the height of this pandemic as always. In fact, in some ways I believe we may have been more like the church than ever. In being given the opportunity to slow down we had a chance to re-center. Our focus shifted to others. We called, sent cards, dropped gifts on door steps. We were filled with gratitude for those that we often overlook or take for granted. In each and every one of those acts WE WERE THE CHURCH even if we weren't in the building.

How has our attitude toward our church buildings changed in light of this? Our buildings are special, valuable and important to us. We are grateful for them – but they are not the church! WE ARE THE CHURCH.

THINK ABOUT THIS: Our church buildings are a tool, that God has provided for us to use in the proclamation of God's love and compassion. Our buildings are the opportunity God has given us to be a place where people gather, not just for worship, Sunday School, meetings. Our buildings can be places where kids gather to hear stories read, where neighborhood kids can come for some summer fun. They are places where exercise classes meet, where folks gather for breakfast or come play on the playground or eat turkey.

HOW CAN OUR BUILDINGS CONTINUE TO BE USED to be a blessing to our community? When people look at our buildings will they comment on the love, the fellowship, the caring that the building represents? Or will they have not even noticed us?

We have learned that we can be the church even when we're not in our building. But our buildings can help us be the church for our communities. I'm not sure where this will lead us, just like I'm not sure what to do with my candle. But this I do know, God is working through our churches – I see exciting things happening as our churches reach out into the community and into the world.

What's next for my candle? I have no clue. What's next for our churches? God knows. Thanks be to God.

Pastor Nancy

HIGHLAND

11 Church Road
Newport, PA 17074

E-mail:

hupcsecretary@embarqmail.com

Phone #: (717) 567-9577

Pastor

Rev. Nancy McClure

Clerk of Session

Patricia Shutt

Church Secretary

Linda Bitting

Church Treasurer

Kathy Smith

Financial Secretary

Dennis Tressler

ELDERS ON SESSION

Donald Barlup

Cindy McHenry

Nancy Campbell

Janice Zaring

Kathy Smith

Joyce Heintzelman

James Turner

Patricia Shutt

Cecile Willet

DEACONS

Darlene Adams

Linda Bitting

Jessica Bryson

Becky Wudtke

Kim Drum

Austin Neidigh

Elaine Buffington

Courtney Archibald

Karen Turner

HIGHLAND UNITED

July			Anniversaries
3	Crea Clark		
5	Jessica Bryson		
6	Brenda Cook	July 16	Adam and Adrienne Smith
14	Abigail Worthy	20	Joseph and Gail Frank
15	Joseph Frank		William and Melissa Neidigh
	Joan Brodisch		
18	William Brodisch		
22	Jeniffer Bates		
	Bethany Comp		
24	Jimmy Heisey		
25	William Baker		
	Allen Hall		
29	Cash Bryson		

**AT HIGHLAND**

*Our little library hosted its first story time on June 28th. Laurie Zaring was our guest reader. The children shared snacks and had a wonderful time!

*Our new roof is now set to go on in Mid July if the weather cooperates.

*We'd like to say a huge **thank you** to all our out-going officers who have served our church family over the last years! Thank you and we love you!

*Also many **thanks** to Janice and Marvin Zaring for all their wonderful work on our little library! You Rock!

***THE SESSION HAS CALLED OUR ANNUAL MEETING FOR JULY 11TH FOLLOWING WORSHIP FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING NEW OFFICERS AND RECEIVING REPORTS FROM OUR CHURCH COMMITTEES.**

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

After 18 months of social distancing, masks and staying apart we invite you to come together with your church family for a morning of worship, fun and food. Our lunch is being catered by Laura Mae's Smokehouse and Barbeque Pit. **MARK THE DATE AUGUST 22ND**. More details coming!

HIGHLAND UNITED CONTINUED

HIGHLAND UNITED FINANCES:



<u>Date</u>	<u>G. Fund</u>	<u>B. Fund</u>	<u>Mission</u>	<u>Adult SS</u>	<u>K. Ministry</u>	<u>Per Capita</u>	<u>Totals</u>
05/02/21	\$ 2,358.42	\$ 448.98	\$ 120.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 26.00	\$ 2,953.40
05/09/21	\$ 1,819.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,959.00
05/16/21	\$ 1,640.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 170.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,135.00
05/23/21	\$ 556.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 19.00	\$ 1,096.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,696.00
05/30/21	<u>\$ 1,270.00</u>	<u>\$ 240.00</u>	<u>\$ 125.00</u>	<u>\$ 11.00</u>	<u>\$ 42.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,688.00</u>
TOTALS	\$ 7,643.42	\$ 1,073.98	\$ 520.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 1,138.00	\$ 26.00	\$10,431.40

Per Capita Assessment for 2021 is for 116 members @ \$27.26/member-\$3,162.16.
 Total given to date for 2021—\$1,200.72.

MAY MISSIONS Newport Ambulance League—\$520.00
APRIL MISSIONS Linda’s House —\$390.00



We all have them. Even though we have faith in God and celebrate all God has done for us we still have questions. This summer we are spending time looking at some of those questions during our Bible study on Saturday morning. We’ve talked about how we can believe in a loving God with all the pain and suffering in the world, we’ve talked about miracles and science and the journey continues as we talk about how life began (Genesis or science), the difficult issue of the passing of children, the existence of hell and the list goes on. Here is our link and schedule:

Time: 08:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada) Every week on Sat, until Dec 4, 2021, 27 occurrence (s)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/96734419425?pwd=SVIJVXBDSEVST3o0SWdZd2JlOdk9odz09>

Meeting ID: 967 3441 9425 Passcode: 288147

With phone +1 646 876 9923 US (New York) Meeting ID: 967 3441 9425 Passcode: 288147

- 7/10 At Newport Family Restaurant
- 7/17 At Harlings
- 7/24 At Newport Family Restaurant
- 7/31 At Harlings

HIGHLAND UNITED CONTINUED

FREE LENDING LIBRARY: Highlands's Free Lending Library is now officially registered. What does that mean? We are on a map of the United States showing where our library is and that it is available to anyone. What a wonderful mission project. Making books available to children and adults, for free. Pick a book and/or donate a book. We hope to have books for all ages. Please, if you have any books in good condition, please consider donating them. We hope to have enough books to rotate them out. Every week on Mondays, during the summer we are offering story time open to the public. Our reader can choose any 3/4 books to read and we (mission) will be offering a small bagged snack. If anyone would be interested in reading a day or two please contact Janice Zaring. I already have one of our youths volunteer and a woman from another church. We need help. Can't you read a few books to children?

GLOSSY MAGAZINES ARE BACK: Recycling of glossy magazines is now continued. Mission is collecting glossy magazines again which will be recycled into new magazines. A portion of the proceeds from each ton of paper goes directly to Ronald McDonald Houses. Since this program started in 2004 over \$371,000 had been raised. Let's keep it going.

JULY MISSION MOMENT: PERRY COUNTY ANIMAL RESCUE:

The kennel is temporarily located on Sugar Run Road in Millerstown. With our financial help and the help of many projects that can also help you find your new best friend.

THANK YOU: To Highland Church Family: Thank you for the Amazon card, and for all the prayers since my first diagnosis. I really appreciate it. Colton Cook

Dear Members of Highland, Thank you for the gift card. I really appreciate it. I think I'm going to use the gift card toward college supplies. Thank you for being such a welcoming family. Thanks again for everything. Matthew Bates

MISSION MEETING: There will be a mission meeting Thursday July 8 at 6:30 p.m.. Anyone may come and see what Highland's mission team is doing. Who knows, maybe you'll have fun or have new ideas for us.

WESTMINSTER UNITED

WESTMINSTER

3rd and Lemon Streets
Mifflintown, PA 17059

E-mail:

westmin-sterupc@gmail.com

Clerk of Session

Gabe Book

Church Secretary

Judy Armstrong

Church Treasurer

Sunday School

Superintendent

John Shirk

Sunday School Treasurer

Diane Marshall

ELDERS ON

SESSION

Aaron Geede

Shelly Horning

Deb Heisey

Diane Marshall

Jan Manbeck

Gabe Book

Kathy Brown

DEACONS

BJ Doray

Chris Fisher

Barbara Koppenhaver

Marie McNaight

Michelle Parks

Beth Stoner

TRUSTEES

JR Bair

Dick Crozier

Jane Shirk

Mike Stoner

Petey Swab

Rich Swab

July Birthdays: 5 Bret Satzler 9 Jan Manbeck 10 BJ Doray 13 Jessica Fisher 20 Tristan Digon 21 Minna Digon 25 Emily Book 26 Jackie Wilt, Drew Geede

July Anniversaries: NONE



AT WESTMINSTER

WOW had another great session as we worked together to make gift bags for the residents of North St. Manor. The children made paper flowers and filled bags with little gifts and then personally delivered them to North St. Manor. The residents were so grateful.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO MADE DONATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT.

THANKS ALSO TO THE DEACONS WHO ARE PROVIDING SNACKS FOR US.

A section of the rubber roof and the flashing are being worked on as they have been found to need repair.

We now have 6 teams who will rotate to provide child care for our children. CHILD CARE WILL BEGIN JULY 11TH. In the fall we hope to also provide a Sunday School lesson during this time for the older children. THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS.

Plans are being made for a Sunday to be set aside to re-gather and celebrate after 18 months of social distancing, masks and staying apart. It will be a morning of worship, fun and food! Keep your eyes peeled for details.



MISSION FOR JULY/AUGUST: Tammy Hockenberry Family



ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, CLEANING SUPPLIES AND PERSONAL CARE ITEMS, BACKPACK PROGRAM, SINGLE SERVE JELLO CUPS, FRUIT CUPS, DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

OUTREACH TO OUR COMMUNITY: ANYONE NEEDING MEALS FOR SHUT-INS, PLEASE CALL ONE OF THE DEACONS.

WESTMINSTER UNITED CONTINUED



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ALL BOARD MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES: These meetings and activities are happening within the walls of Westminster now. They need to be posted on the "big calendar" in the Sunday School Room — date, time and location in the building. This will better help our sexton to know what's happening where, when and place. Thank you.

THANK YOU: I would like to thank the Deacons and all of my good friends at Westminster for the lovely bouquet of flowers I received to help me celebrate my 94th birthday. They were beautiful and very much appreciated. A special thank you to Jill and Neil for delivering them to me.

With Warmest Regards,
Thelma Patton

DEAR FRIENDS OF WESTMINSTER: Thank you so much for sharing your beautiful church, and the caring people inside the church, with us during the last 6 months. You made us feel welcomed and we so enjoyed the services. Our church is reopening on July 4 and we will look forward to that day, but will certainly miss the warmth of your church and also the great sermons.

The Hutchinson Family

JUNIATA VALLEY SHARED MINISTRY



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Please keep in prayer our church members and our friends:

Colton Cook, Peg Tressler, Sherry Rolston, Jason Barlup, Robbie Lauver, Barry Cornell, Eddi Kay Gill, Eleanor Stallman, George Yohn, Bob Mikesell, Glenda Dillman, Jane Fogleman, Jane Shirk, Joe Benner, Rich Brunner, Bob Gill, Lori Leach, Allen Hall, Molly Ulsh (granddaughter of Tom and Gayle Ulsh), Steve and Gail Campbell, Newborn Archer Killian Prutz, Cindy McHenry's Father, Charles Wentz, Amy Kenavan and Steve Adams.

PASTOR NANCY'S OFFICE HOURS

1st and 3rd week	(Tuesday and Thursday)	at Highland United
2nd and 4th week	(Thursday only)	at Highland United
1st and 3rd week	(Wednesday only)	at Westminster
2nd and 4th week	(Tuesday and Wednesday)	at Westminster

SECRETARY'S HOURS:

Highland United:	Tuesday 8:00-12:00	Thursday 8:00-2:00	Friday 8:00-12:00
Westminster:	Wednesday 8:00-5:00	Friday 7:30-12:30	

JVSM JULY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Bible Study @ Harlings @ 8:30 a.m.
4 HUPC Adult SS 8:30 HUPC Worship 9:30 and Zoom WUPC Worship 11:00 9:30 SS (W)	5 Reading 10:00	6 Arthritis Ex. Program 10-11	7 Worship/ Music in Clark Hall at 6:00	8	9 Arthritis Ex. Program 10-11	10 Bible Study @ Newport Family Rest. @ 8:30 a.m.
11 HUPC Adult SS 8:30 HUPC Worship 9:30 and Zoom WUPC Worship 11:00 9:30 SS (W) CONTREGATIONAL MEETING (H) FOL- LOWING WORSHIP	12 Read- ing 10:00	13 Arthritis Ex. Program 10-11 Trustees (W) 2:00	14	15	16 Arthritis Ex. Program 10-11	17 Bible Study @ Harlings @ 8:30 a.m.
18 HUPC Adult SS 8:30 HUPC Worship 9:30 and Zoom WUPC Worship 11:00 9:30 SS (W) ORDINATION/ INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS	19 Read- ing 10:00	20 Arthritis Ex. Program 10-11	21	22	23 Arthritis Ex. Program 10-11	24 Bible Study @ Newport Family Rest. @ 8:30 a.m.
25 HUPC Adult SS 8:30 HUPC Worship 9:30 and Zoom WUPC Sunday School 9:30 WUPC Worship 11:00 9:30 SS (W)	26 Read- ing 10:00	27 Arthritis Ex. Program 10-11	28 Session (W) 6:30	29	30 Arthritis Ex. Program 10-11	31 Bible Study @ Harlings @ 8:30 a.m.

Highland United Presbyterian Church

11 Church Road

Newport, PA 17074