

JUNE 2020

# THE BEACON: St. Peter's on the Hill

*"Let your light shine before others"*



## Leaving Room for the Work of the Holy Spirit

"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth;" (John 16:12-13)

We are believers of a living faith that is still unfolding and revealing God to us. God "still has many things to say," but we cannot "bear them now."

For some Christians, this may sound a little too uncertain, and may make us wonder about our faith. However, the God of the covenant with Noah and Abraham and Moses, and the God of the followers of Christ is the same God. What changes is our world and our ability to see God's truth beyond cultural and historical understandings. In this, we are helped by the work of the Holy Spirit.

This coming Sunday is Pentecost Sunday, when we lift up the coming of the Holy Spirit to the followers of Jesus, after Jesus ascended to heaven. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, they carried on the work of sharing the Good News in Jesus Christ.

The Holy Spirit is still at work in and through Christians. That is why we speak of our faith as a living faith. The Holy Spirit is the third part of our Trinitarian God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Theologians speak of the three as "three persons in one substance." In this, we hear both oneness and also distinction.

In times of change, such as this time of the global pandemic, it's important that Christians return to our ancient faith with fresh eyes, so that we may be led to revelations for our time. For this, we humbly trust that the Holy Spirit will help us and guide us. If you would like, you could meditate and pray on the following questions:

- What in the message of our faith will be food for the journey in this time?
- What in your personal faith feels alive and nurturing; that you feel God's living presence in your life?
- Where in your faith can be found the new leaves of growth; that is, deep wishes and longings of your spirit waiting to blossom forth?

As you turn to God in this time, leave room for the work of the Holy Spirit in you; perhaps to lead you to new spiritual discoveries.

God bless,  
Pastor Doug

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

From the Board of Christian Education

JUNE



## VBS 2020



VBS will *virtually* run June 15-19

Come Travel God's World *virtually* with us as we "visit" a different country each day, learning about God's people and lands across the globe!

This year, we will be "traveling" to El Salvador, Tanzania, Spain, Czechia and Fiji.

Because of the virus, we are unable to gather together in person for VBS, so we will be e-mailing short videos each day to anyone registered to receive the VBS emails.

If you wish to take part in this special virtual trip, please contact the church office.



## SPREADING SUNSHINE

Our children at St. Peter's have been busy at home making notes for some of our members to brighten their days! Thank you for helping to make a difference in people's lives!

# Congratulations to the Class of 2020

### High School

Adam Gingrich is graduating from Phoenixville Area High School and will be attending Virginia Tech University

William Danvers Hicks III (Bob and Jane Breisch's grandson) is graduating from Henderson High School and will be attending Coastal Carolina University.

Bennett Nordhoff is graduating from Pequea Valley High School and will be attending Delaware Valley University

### College

Eric Hanson is graduating from Montgomery County Community College, and will start as a junior this fall at West Chester University

Shelby Poston is graduating from Syracuse University with a Bachelor of Arts in History

Conner Harlow is graduating from George Washington University with Honors in Marketing and Business Analytics with a Minor in Sustainability

### Graduate School

Laura Hackman is graduating from Duquesne University with a Doctorate in Physical Therapy



## A Note

Dear Church Family,

We can't thank you enough for the mailed-in contributions you have been continuing to send during these unprecedented times. As I'm sure you are aware, our expenses continue even as attendance has dropped to zero, and your continued support is crucial to our continuing operations.

With our weekly video services, Pastor Doug's mid-week message and our many other outreach efforts I hope you agree that our church community is still very much alive, well and vibrant.

Please continue to send your generous contributions if you can, and if you need any assistance whatsoever please feel free to let us know. We have people ready and willing to help.

We are in this together and we are there to help those in need. As I like to say, we're still together...apart!

Sincerely,

Pete Warner  
Consistory President



This year's Confirmation class will continue its studies from home.

Pastor Doug is now sending weekly study review sheets to the confirmands, to review the subjects studied this year.

When it's safe to hold worship again, a date for Confirmation Sunday will be scheduled.

The three confirmands are Katie Cook, Kyra Dick, and Joey Newell.

## Church Reopening Discussions

Beginning on June 5<sup>th</sup>, Chester County is moving from the red "stay-at-home" phase to the yellow phase, which allows gatherings of 25 or less, along with strong safety measures in place. Some discussion about a cautious reopening has begun. Decisions about reopening will be part of the Consistory discussion on Monday evening, June 8<sup>th</sup>.

There are many considerations to discuss, and many details to work out before the church reopens. Also, the taped services will continue to be emailed out to the congregation, even after opening. Please don't feel that you "should" attend in person, if you feel more comfortable, at least for now, staying at home.

As soon as the details about reopening are finalized, the congregation will be notified.

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## Amazon Smile

1/2% of all of your Amazon.com purchases can be donated directly to the church, at no cost to you! We have enrolled St. Peter's in Amazon Smile.

Here is how it works:

Whenever you make a purchase through Amazon, type "Amazon Smile" or "smile.amazon.com" in your browser and enter the Amazon site through that link.

Select *St Peters Pikeland United Church of Christ* from the drop down menu that lists *Charities*.

(Or use this link to go directly to our page)  
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-1608263>

You can then shop exactly as you would through the regular Amazon.com site, with no hidden fees or costs. Amazon will send the church a quarterly check. It's that simple!

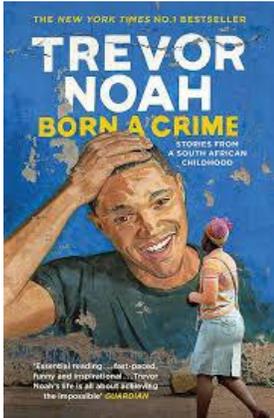


## Book Club



The St Peter's Book Club met on Wednesday, May 13 via Zoom to discuss *An Invisible Thread* by Laura Schroff.

**Our next meeting is Wednesday, July 15 via Zoom .**  
We will be discussing *Born a Crime*, by Trevor Noah.



If you would like to host, join, or have a question, please email Diane Dunn at Highmeadow00@gmail.com

## Bible Study Online with Zoom

Pastor Doug will begin a weekly Bible study online using Zoom, starting on Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm.

The Meeting ID will always be the following:

797-269-4815. The Password will always be "bible." An email reminder will be sent out to the church before Tuesday evening.

Have your Bibles ready, or just listen along. The first session will begin with a quick review of the layout of the Bible; that is, how the table of contents is ordered. Then we will look at some of the most important passages in the New Testament that help us know what Christians are to be about as disciples.

## Communion



Pastor Doug will have "Holy Communion" on Sunday, June 7. Make sure you have wine, water or juice as well as bread in your home if you'd like to "commune" together.

# Sewing Circle

Due to the C19 virus the Sewing Circle has not been able to hold our monthly meetings. Because of this we will not be able to meet the needs of the agencies we help support at the Ingathering held in November. We realize that this has been a very stressful time for many of us and don't want anyone to feel obligated to help. We love and appreciate all of you. If you want to help, here's a list of the agencies and the items needed.

Chester County Intermediate Unit – Baby clothes (newborn to 3T)

Genesis Pregnancy Care Center – Baby clothes (newborn to 3T)

Phoenixville Area Learning Center – Underwear, pants, tops, socks, hats and gloves, sweatshirts and coats (6 months to 6T)

Silver Springs-Martin Luther School – Underwear, pants, shirts, blouses, pajamas, hats, gloves and coats. Childrens sizes 6T to 14.

Pocopson Home – socks (men and women's), robes, colorful throws for on their bed (5X6), Baseball caps, added this year.

Chester County Prison Chaplain – Clothes (all children's sizes)

DIAPERS DIAPERS DIAPERS  
ALL SIZES

Please help us bring much needed help to the people in our community.

If you have any questions call Kathy Krasley 484-716-8965 or email kkrasley@ptd.net



## June Birthdays

Raymond Merryman	6/1
Gary Cornog	6/2
Alyson Bierer	6/5
Nick Warner	6/5
Kathy Krasley	6/9
Bill Latta	6/8
Jim Kelly	6/10
Dan Hennig	6/10
Tim Maguire	6/10
Ellie Stein	6/10
Isabella Griffetts	6/11
Scott Maguire	6/11
Jesse Green	6/11
Samuel Wachsmuth	6/11
Gail Dewees	6/14
Gail Wetzel	6/14
Kathryn Kelly	6/15
John Gingrich	6/16
Nancy Norris	6/17
John Stewart	6/17
Laura Dick	6/22
Dan Raichle	6/24
Kendall Johnson	6/25
Jonathan Booraem	6/25
Julia Barry	6/27
Mitchell Warner	6/27
Caroline Booraem	6/27
Leila Page	6/28
Sally Gale	6/28
Diane Yeakle	6/29
Fred Wookey III	6/30

# Anniversaries

Douglas and Julia Beatty	Richard and Jan Mest
Ken and Barbara Emery	McKendred and Reka Nance
David and Sally Gale	Geoff and Janene Osborne
Jim and Evelyn Hall	Dale and Susan Reichenbach
Sean and Denise Harlow	George and Nancy Smith
Paul and Alexis McCarthy	Peter and Cindy Warner
	Jennifer and Andrew Basile

## Flag Day

In the United States, **Flag Day** is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress.



The United States Army also celebrates its birthday on this date; Congress adopted "the American Continental Army" after reaching a consensus position in the Committee of the Whole on June 14, 1775.

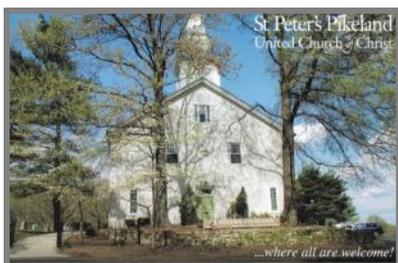
People across the United States celebrate Flag Day on June 14 each year to honor the United States flag and to commemorate the flag's adoption.

## Father's Day History



According to some accounts, the first **Father's Day** was celebrated in Washington state on June 19, 1910. A woman by the name of Sonora Smart Dodd came up with the idea of honoring and celebrating her father while listening to a Mother's Day sermon at church in 1909.

However, it was not until 1972–58 years after President Woodrow Wilson made Mother's Day official—that the day honoring fathers became a nationwide holiday in the United States. Father's Day 2020 occurs on Sunday, June 21.



## Church Staff

**Rev. Douglas Hanson,**

*Pastor*

**Annamae Moore,**

*Worship Coordinator*

**Kat Bowman,**

*Director of Music and Organist*

**Jill Cook,**

*Church Secretary*

**Deborah Wetty,**

*Nursery Attendant*

**Debbie Wolk,**

*Bookkeeper*

**Wayne Freese**

*Cemetery Manager*

## **Church Officers 2020**

President of Congregation –  
Jim Phillips

Secretary of Congregation –  
Kathleen Wachsmuth

President of Consistory –  
Peter Warner

Secretary of Consistory –  
Michelle Case

Treasurer – Ken Whitlatch

## **Elders**

Michelle Case- Chair

Ben Campbell, Wayne Freese,

Judy Shupe, Deb Wetty, Dave Zinn

## **Deacons**

Bill Latta, Alexis McCarthy,

Pete Warner, Doug Yeakle, Chris

Zaro

## **Trustees**

Fred Wookey III-Chair

Mark Myers, John Pandjak

Scott Raichle, Peter Wilson,

Drew Zummo

## Our Prayer List

*Please keep the following members and friends in your prayers:*

Andrea Lafleur

Andy Phillips, friend of the Steins

Anthony Didesidero, friend of Anne Breiling

Barbara Broyles, friend of the Wachsmuths

Bob Dewilde

Brandy Rhodes, Gail Phillips' nephew

Caitie Blazic and baby Nicholas, friend of Judy Smythe

Carol Meyer

Charlie Sproule, Jr.

Christopher Saunders, friend of Micki Menkins

Chris Webb, son of a friend of Lynn Mailey

Clarice Bowman

Claude Grubbs, friend of Doug Fink

Doris Ingham, Joyce Rosen's mother

Donna Rhodes, Gail Phillips' sister

Friends and family of Aryl Whitlatch, Ken Whitlatch's brother

Friends and family of Charles Paul Michener, Paul Michener's father

Friends and family of Diane DeForrest, Kathleen Wachsmuth's niece

Friends and family of Donald DeRosa, brother of Dawna DeRosa

Greg Francis, Lee Ann Michener's brother

Hunter Firment, Nancy Smith's Grandson

Ian Charles Harmon, the Booraem's newborn grandson

Jashown Banner, former student of Jackie Warner

Jennifer Newell, Beth Newell's Sister-in-law

Jennifer Osborne

Joan Fink

John Edwards, friend of Linda Johnson

Justin, friend of Judy Smythe

Katie MacPherson, Nancy Smith's Granddaughter

Kerri Haseman, Jane and Bob Breisch's niece

Kevin Snyder, CEO of Bethany Children's Home

Linda Halpern, Joyce Rosen's Sister in Law

Margaret Breiling

Mary Andersen, friend of the McCarthys

Mike Melnich

Mike Solerno, friend of the Micheners

Nora Frank, friend of Nancy Smith

Pamela (Miller) Murphy

Pat Cline, Cindy Warner's mother

Peter Lenichek, Anne Breiling's cousin

Peter Mahler, friend of Smythes

Reagan Basile

Rick Cassidy, friend of the Davidsons

Sally Kramer, Cherri Romano's sister

Sally Mehrens, sister of Lynn Mailey

Sharon Divis, daughter of Judy Smythe

Stephanie Tyree, friend of Nancy Smith

Sue McVay, friend of Mary Jo Pandjak

Sydney Cagle

Sylvia Houff, Kathleen Wachsmuth's sister

Sylvia Lawson

Tom B., friend of Nancy Smith

Vicki Johnson, friend of the Micheners