

July 2022

Volume 22 No. 2

Chestnut Hill Views

Greetings Chestnut Hill Church Family!

We are all so glad to be able to worship together in the sanctuary once more. COVID guidelines are relaxing, however we are still asking that you maintain social distancing and wear a mask if you so choose. Of course, if you feel ill or are experiencing any symptoms, we ask that you refrain from attending services until your symptoms subside.

Pastor Mark Stryjak joined us in January as our interim supply pastor and it has been a pleasure having him here. Sadly, he was unable to continue conducting our services, and left us on May 29th. We had a luncheon for him that was well attended.

Pastor Teresa Martin from St John's UCC, continues to officiate both funerals and weddings while we go on with the search for a new Pastor to lead us.

Over the summer months we have several guest pastors officiating our church service. Please be advised that our **service will continue at 10:00 am** over the summer instead of changing to 9:00 am.

There are still many volunteer opportunities within the church where you can highlight your talents or put your spare time to beneficial use. See page 4 for details.

Greetings from Pastor Martin	2	Sunday School News	7
Town Hall Meeting	2	Women Working Wonders	7-8
World Communion Sunday	3	Bible Jeopardy	9
Trinity Swamp Vacation Bible School	3	Financial Information	10
Church News	3-4	Jokes of the Day	10
Volunteer Opportunities	4-5	New Vitae Information	11-12
Ways to Get Involved	5-6	Bible Jeopardy Answers	12
Boy Scouts Update	6-7		

Table of Contents

Words from Pastor Teresa Hughes-Martin

I am honored to help Chestnut Hill through their transition. I have been ordained for 19 years as a minister in the United Church of Christ. I have served Saint John's Coopersburg for just over five years. I truly hold to the idea that we are all families of God united by Jesus as a brother and Savior. I am also completing my Gestalt Pastoral Care and Spiritual direction training. I cannot charge a fee because I am not fully certified, but I am willing to meet with people seeking guidance. You can always reach me on my cell phone. The number is 717-654-4044.

Town Hall Meeting Held Following Church Service On May 15, 2022

A brief Town Hall Meeting was held following Church Service on Sunday, May 15, 2022. The congregation was informed that Pastor Mark provided notice that he will be leaving us the end of May. He will serve his last Sunday on May 29, 2022. We are grateful for his graciousness in providing Pastoral leadership every Sunday while we are in the transition process. He will be missed. We wish him, his wife, and their three children well as they carry on their journey, serving our Lord, in other capacities.

This information led into the next order of discussion which centered on the work of the Search Committee. The Penn Northeast Conference asked that a Church Profile be developed which will be given candidates who show an interest in speaking with the Search Committee about serving as part-time Pastor for Chestnut Hill Church. The Church Profile has been completed and was sent to the Penn Northeast Conference for distribution. The Search Committee interviewed their first candidate on Thursday evening, May 19, 2022. Shortly after this meeting, the candidate informed the committee that she would no longer be pursuing the Call process with us. At this time, we have received no other candidate profiles for consideration.

While we continue with this process, Cindy Buchter has been in contact with several supply Pastors willing to assist us with providing Sunday worship through the end of September. As of the writing of this article (on May 23, 2022), we will have Pastoral coverage throughout these several months. We ask that a warm Chestnut Hill Church welcome be given all Pastors as they lead us in worship.

Please stayed tuned for announcements of other "Town Hall Meetings" and/or Breeze announcements so that you can be kept up-to-date on the Search process.

World Communion Sunday On October 2, 2022

Chestnut Hill Church has been invited to participate with both Faith UCC in Center Valley and St. John's in Coopersburg for a joint worship service

(to be held at Faith UCC) on World Communion Sunday, October 2, 2022. Dr. Rev. Bonnie Bates will be leading worship services this day.

Because of this special event, there will be no in-person worship at Chestnut Hill Church on this day as everyone is welcome to attend at Faith UCC. Regarding offering for that Sunday, we were informed that each church's parishioners should make plans to have this special day's offerings either provided to their home church before or after this date. Details on time to follow.

In Partnership with Trinity Great Swamp Church

Vacation Bible School – Week of July $11^{th} - 15^{th}$ from 9 am – 12 noon

Chestnut Hill Church has been invited to participate with Providence UCC and St. Isadore's in Quakertown in providing Vacation Bible School for any/all youth from these congregations and the community. Volunteers are needed! If you can help out for a few hours any or all days, it will be much appreciated. A lunch will be offered the children daily following the ending of the day's activities. This Vacation Bible School will take place at Trinity Great Swamp Church. If you are interested in helping so that children/youth can hear and learn about the Word of God in a fun way, please contact Robin Shedlauskas at <u>rsheds@ptd.net</u> for more information.

Church News

Supporting CHC:

<u>Church Logo T-Shirts:</u> We are looking to place a new order for church T-shirts. Currently, there is a small selection of sizes from our last order. If you are interested in ordering a t-shirt, please contact Debbie 610-390-9026 with the size S M L XL XXL and if you want a round neck or a V neck T-shirt. Cost will be determined based upon the number of shirts ordered.

<u>Thrivent Choice Program</u>: If you are a member of Thrivent Financial, make sure you select Chestnut Hill Church as a recipient of your Choice dollars.

3



<u>Amazon Smile</u>: If you shop through Amazon, make sure you are always going through smile.amazon.com and that Chestnut Hill Church is your chosen charity. Nearly every purchase earns us a contribution!

Volunteer Opportunities

There are many opportunities within the church to use your time and talents to help the church with its mission in this world. We are looking for folks to serve on the Board of Trustees (building and maintenance team) and the Missions Team. If you are interested in helping, see the following individuals: Trustees – Debbie Koder and Missions – Joan Slota. Many other committees are also looking for additional volunteers. Please see any Board Member for information on the different committees.

Samaritans Fund:



Dear Partners in Ministry,

It is hard to believe that it has been seven years since we launched the Samaritans Fund. Due to the generous support of our local churches and donors from the Southern Lehigh Area, we have been able to help our neighbors experiencing difficult times by providing meals, diapers and formula, rental assistance emergency housing, utility bill payments, auto repairs and more.

As the number of people in need increases in our area, so do the calls for help. When a call is received, we do a simple screening over the phone to try to meet the caller's immediate need(s). When the needs require spending more than a few hundred dollars, our procedure requires that we complete a more in-depth intake interview.

We are looking for volunteers to complete these screenings and intake interviews with clients. The purpose of the interview is to gather enough history to determine if the client will be able to sustain themselves after the financial assistance is given and to gather some sense of how much financial investment is needed to get the client back on their feet. Training will be provided an no experience in human services or social work is necessary.

With that said, I am asking you to consider the gifts of your church members and see who might be a good fit for this ministry. Please email your suggested names and contact

information to <u>SLA.samaritansfund@gmail.com</u> and we will then establish a meeting time to share more and answer questions.

We thank you for your continued support of the Samaritans Fund.

Peace in Christ, Rev. Dr. Bruce C. Stevenson

Ways to Get Involved

Prayer Warrior Chain: Some of you know, others may not, Chestnut Hill Church has a prayer chain through email. The prayer chain began when our previous Pastor was with us, so in the absence of a full-time Pastor, we would like to keep the chain connected.

When a member of our congregation or friends/family need prayers during a difficult time, whether it be illness, injury, surgery, loss, etc, the prayer warriors take action through prayer. We do not meet physically, you pray in your own way in the privacy of your home.

If you would like to be a part of the prayer warriors, please contact Becca Bogert at 610-730-0147 or email <u>becca.10@netzero.net</u>. I will need your email address and whenever there is a request, I will send out an email to the group for prayers. As we all know prayers can produce miracles!

For anyone needing our prayers, you can contact me at the above email or phone, and I will send out information you wish to share. All other information is kept confidential with me alone.

Thank you.

Becca Bogert

Grief Support Group: The Grief Support Group, led by Craig Adams, continues to meet every month, on the last Saturday of the month. The group has been doing book studies and discovering how their grief helps them to live in this world and acknowledges that not everyone grieves in the same way. If you are interested in learning more, please call Craig Adams for more information 610-554-4967.

After Service Fellowship: We have successfully re-established fellowship after the Sunday services. Fellowship Hall has been bustling with people after church to share some refreshments and camaraderie. There is always something good to sample along with fresh coffee and beverages. Please join us and don't forget to sign up for your turn to provide refreshments. The Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the lower Narthex.

Altar Flower Sponsorships:

Do you enjoy seeing bright, fresh, flowers? Well, you can sponsor fresh altar flower arrangements in the following way. Sign up on the sheet posted in the lower Narthex for the date you wish to bring flowers. This is important because we do not want duplicate flowers in the same week. After you sign up, on that date, bring fresh flowers to church and place them on the altar. You may also contact the church secretary who will provide the flowers for you. The cost for all altar flowers is \$10.00. Remember to take your flowers with you after the service.

Memorial Garden Maintenance:

Summer is here and along with the sunshine and nice days come the weeds! Please help us to keep the weeds under control...any spare time you have is greatly appreciated. The evenings are beautiful on the hill, even when pulling weeds! Thank you in advance from Diane Gehman and Garden Committee.

Boy Scouts at the Church

Update on BSA – Troop 334

As many of you know, the BSA – Boy Scouts of America, filed Bankruptcy in 2021. This would affect any organization that supported a BSA troop via a Charter Membership.

Chestnut Hill Church held a Charter for the BSA Troop 334 for many years. We could have continued to be a Charter to BSA 334, but CHC would be opening up ourselves to past and future lawsuits. We spoke with our lawyer and in agreement with our lawyer, council decided that to protect CHC, we would no longer be a Charter to Troop 334. Troop 334 reached out the Lower Milford Fire Co as a possible Charter, but their lawyer/insurance also advised against it. Troop 334 was able to obtain a Charter thru the Minsi Trail Council. Council agreed to allow Troop 334 to sign an agreement with CHC to use our facility for their meetings. (A Facility Use Agreement was signed) Minsi Trail Council listed CHC on their Insurance policy and we have COI (certificate of insurance). At this time, Troop 334 is using our church for meetings once a week and they are using the cemetery for overnight camping. Previously, the cemetery had an agreement with Troop 334 that they purchase the building materials to build a shed on the

cemetery property for the storage of their camping gear. Cemetery committee agreed to continue to allow Troop 334 to use the shed for their gear. Troop 334 is most appreciative of Chestnut Hill Church for allowing them to continue their program at our church

Sunday School News

We are saddened to report that there is no in-person Sunday School happening at the present time. We are looking for individuals who would be willing to serve a lead role in organizing or teaching Sunday School classes. The lead role would require you to compile a list of individuals to lead classes on an alternating basis, or to lead yourself. Please contact either Robin Shedlauskas or Cindy Buchter if you are interested in spearheading or participating in this most important activity of the church.

Women Working Wonders!

WWW! meetings are held the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00 pm in the Sunday School Room. We discuss different fundraising projects and how we can best help the community in need around us. If you are aware of an organization in need, please share the info with us. Everyone is invited to join us whenever you can (you don't need to attend EVERY meeting whenever you can, would be great). Our goal is to reach out and help those less fortunate than ourselves in our own backyard.

Women Working Wonders! Exciting Upcoming Events:

On April 30, we held our second **Hoagie sale**. In addition, we had baked goods and raffle prizes. We made over \$1,500 profit this time. We plan another hoagie sale on **October 22**--\$8 each for either Italian or Turkey. There will also be the beloved baked sale and raffle prizes.

Dan Schantz Monthly Madness cards are still available to purchase. They are \$20 and we make \$10 on each card sold. With this card you can visit Dan Schantz on Lehigh St, Allentown each month and receive the "FREE" item for that month by presenting your card. These cards never expire, so if you don't get there one month you can use it the following year and they will honor it. There is also a \$5 off coupon on a purchase of \$39.99 or more; and \$10 off coupon on a purchase of \$79.99 or more.

In September we will be holding a **Jewelry Collection Fundraiser**. If you've retired and no longer wear much of the jewelry you used to wear, or just want to clean out your jewelry box, now is the time. Watch for more information forthcoming. WWW of Chestnut Hill Church will make a profit on the different values of the jewelry. Please notify your friends as well.

Over the summer we will be collecting **School Supplies** for Betty Lou's Pantry. There will be a special bin in the Fellowship Hall for these donations: spiral-bound notebooks, pencils, pens, erasers, crayons, kid's scissors, washable markers, construction paper, etc. Anything you can think of kids might need to take with them to school. Gone are the days when all these items are provided by the schools.

Remember to mark your calendars: there will be a **Yard Sale** again this year, **October 1**, at the Lower Milford Limeport Fire House. We will be collecting items the last week of September times to be announced. We hope to have some daytime hours for collection as well this year. This has continued to be the largest fundraiser CHC holds each year, and we didn't want to see it go away so WWW will be hosting it. There will continue to be the baked sale and concession food as well; many delicious soups have been provided and enjoyed in the past.

The Lehigh Conference of Churches provide **Weather Alert Boxes** to the homeless in the area. WWW wants to help provide items to help this organization. So, starting at the yard sale, we will be pulling sweatpants, sweatshirts, hoodies, backpacks, tents, sleeping bags, warm blankets, etc., from donations to add to these Weather Alert Boxes. We will provide a list of shelf-stable foods in a later newsletter that will also be added to these boxes for the homeless.

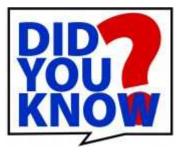
WWW also hopes to continue the **Holiday Shoebox Project** that the Sunday School used to do. More info on that at a later date.

> There will not be a WWW meeting in June, our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 25, 6 pm in the Sunday School Room. All are welcome to join us.



<u>Bible Jeopardy</u> – See how many questions you can answer correctly. Total up your winnings and compare with your friends and family.

\$100	How old was Joash when he became king of Judah?
\$200	For how many days did Peter remain blind?
\$300	How many times did Elisha instruct Naaman the leper to wash?
\$400	Where did Abram go in times of famine?
\$500	In what city was Paul's spirit disturbed because 'the city was wholly given to idolatry'?
\$600	What king of Israel took Jezebel to be his wife?
\$700	Where did Jesus meet Zacchaeus?
\$800	When David died where was he buried?
\$900	How many parables did Jesus tell in the book of Luke?
\$1000	who was carried out in the Spirit of the Lord and placed 'in the midst of a valley full of bones?'



<u>This Photo</u> by Unknown Author is licensed under <u>CC</u> <u>BY-SA-NC</u>

Financial Information

Chacking (Savings Assount		
Checking/Savings Account	.5.	
QNB checking	\$23,549.10	
Improvement Fund	\$5,174.67	
Special Savings	\$27,822.66	(as of April 30, 2022)
Investment Portfolio:		
Miller Endowment	\$394,461.44	
Hoff Endowment	\$182,546.20	(as of April 30, 2022)
Cemetery Portfolio:		
QNB Checking	\$32 <i>,</i> 891.49	
QNB Savings	\$6.713.75	
Ameriprise	\$70,696.18	(as of March 31, 2022)

Jokes of the Day			
Knock knock:		Knock knock:	
Who's there?		Who's there?	
Heaven!		Noah!	
Heaven who?		Noah, who?	
Heaven seen you in ages!!		I Noah a guy if you need an ark!	

New Vitae Rental Information

		Number of		
		days x	Rental	
Payment	Rent Week of	\$40.00	Income	Check
1	9/8,9,10	0	0	
2	9/13,14,16,17 sick 1 day	4	\$160.00	26855
3	9/20,23,22,23,24	5	\$200.00	26855
4	9/27,28,29,30,10/1	5	\$200.00	26883
5	10/4, and 10/8 pipe break 3 days	2	\$80.00	26911
6	10/11,12,13,14,15,	5	\$200.00	26949
7	10/18,20,21,22,19-clinic	4	\$160.00	26949
8	10/255,26,27,28,29	5	\$200.00	26972
9	11/1,2,3,4,5	5	\$200.00	27015
10	11/8,9,10,1,12	5	\$200.00	27030
11	11/15,16,17,18,19	5	\$200.00	27054
12	11/22,23,24,26	4	\$160.00	27091
13	11/29,20,12/1,2,3	5	\$200.00	27091
14	12/6,7,8,9,10	5	\$200.00	27108
15	12/10,11,12,13,14	2	\$80.00	27170
16	12/13, one day - Covid	1	\$40.00	27137
17	12/20 1 Day, Covid, heat, holiday	1	\$40.00	27137
18	12/27/2021 Covid	2		
19	Plumbing repair clogged toilet	pd 12/22		27074
20	1/3,4,5,6,7 Covid	0	0	
21	1/17, covid, 18,19,20,21	3	\$120.00	27192
22	1/24,25,26,27,28	5	\$200.00	27230
23	1/31,2/1,2,3,4 no	4	\$160.00	27252
24	January Dumpster Fee			27375
25	2/7,8,9,10,11	2	\$80.00	27269
26	2/14,15,16,17,18	0	\$0.00	
27	2/21,22/23/24/25	4	\$160.00	27362
28	2/28/2022	5	\$200.00	28362
29	February Dumpster fee			27375
30	1/2 fuel bill for January			27291
31	plumbing repair clogged toilet 2/8			27375
32	1/2 fuel bill for February			27375
33	Schmick septic tank 2/8			27375
34	March dumpster fee			27375
35	3/1-3/4			
36	3/7-3/11	2	\$80.00	27362
37	3/14-3/18	5	\$200.00	27439

38	3/21	1	\$40.00	27439
39	3/24	1	\$40.00	27439
40	Coopersburg Plumbing toilet 2nd			27439
41	Schmick septic 2nd time			27439
	Total Profit		\$3,800.00	

Answers to Bible Trivia questions



\$100	7 years – Joash was seven years old when he began to reign. 2 Kings 11:21
\$200	3 days - For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Acts 9:9
	7 times – Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." 2 Kings 5:10
	Egypt – Now there was a famine in the land. So, Abram went down to Egypt to reside there as an alien. Genesis 12:10
	Athens – While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols.
	Ahab - Ahab, son of Omri did evil in the sight of the Lord more than all who were before him. And as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, he took as his wife Jezebel daughter of King Ethbaal of the Sidonians and went and served Baal and worshipped him. 1 Kings 16;30-31
	Jerico - He entered Jericho and was there named Zaccheus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was but on account of the crowd he could not because he was short in stature, so he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, Zaccheus hurry and come down for I must stay at your house today. SO he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. Luke 19:1-6
\$800	Bethlehem – Then David slept with his ancestors and was buried in the city of David. 1 Kings 2:10
\$900	28 – Luke 1
	Ezekiel – The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley: it was full of bones. Ezekiel 37:1