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JULY 2021 Newsletter
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Changing Seasons
September 1, 2021

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.”
Ecclesiastes 3:1

What a year 2021 has already been! I think most of us hoped (and prayed!) that with the changing of our calendars from 2020 to 2021 our lives would also change for the better – that the season of distancing would allow for a season of togetherness, that a season of discord would make way for a season of harmony, that the season of sorrow would be replaced by a season of joy.

As the trees exchange their summer green wardrobe for multi-colored patchwork, we are reminded that change is a natural part of life, that God designed the world with change in mind. Change occurs with trial and error, with growth and upheaval, with movement from comfort to discomfort and then back to comfort as the “new” becomes familiar and “normal”.

While things are changing around us, we can sometimes feel like we are wandering lost and alone, in a wilderness not of our making. Take heart, folks, Jesus who is Emmanuel, “*God with us*”, knows about wandering in a wilderness – alone. For right after his baptism, Jesus was driven out into the wilderness for forty days and nights, after which he was offered the things most people would be swayed by – food, wealth and power, and the chance to see how much you really mean to God by testing God. Jesus conquered these temptations with words from the Bible. We can conquer our fear of change with words from the Bible as well – I have read that some form of the phrase, “Fear not,” appears in the Bible 365 times. That is hope and encouragement for every single day of the year (for Leap Year, it is okay to reread one of the others – the meaning still rings true!)

So as we embark on a new school year, on a season of being asked to serve God in a different role, on new décor, on new ways of doing things; as we embark on yet another season of change, “*Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you.*” (Deuteronomy 31:6)

God’s Blessings,
Pastor Laura

PS. Please take the time to complete the “Leadership Intent/Interest” form and return it by September 12!

PPS. To read more about Jesus’s time of temptation, look up Matthew 4:1-11.

CAMP ORCHARD HILL

THEY HAD THE BEST WEEK EVER!

JAYDEN KINLEY
PAISLEY
CALI
PATRICK ANNIE

We received many notes of thanks from the children that your donations and contributions helped in sending them to a week of Christian Camp!!

CELEBRATIONS

September:

- 2 - Megan Deschiavo
- 2 - David Eddy Sr.
- 3 - Kristin Summa
- 6 - Deb Cave
- 6 - Phyllis Sorber
- 10 - Beverly Ide
- 13 - Christina & Chuck Finn Anniversary
- 14 - Don Ide
- 14 - John Kovaly
- 15 - Cora Finn
- 17 - Bill & Colleen Reynolds
- 18 - Darleen Tomayko
- 20 - Jeff Kioske
- 20 - Stevie Kioske
- 26 - Willis Ide
- 27 - Jim and Ginny Rogers Anniversary
- 27 - Cali Morris



October:

- 3—John Whitehead
- 4- Mandy and Brendan Newman
- 4—Bob Williams
- 6- Kristi and Jason Lyons Anniversary
- 8—Don & Jennie Ide
- 13—Alberta Steltz
- 22—Jeanne Barrall
- 25—Corrine Anderson
- 25—Ray & Sarah Pryor
- 27—Audrey Ide
- 27—Kevin Tomayko
- 28- Chuck Finn

CHURCH BASEMENT SPRUCE UP

Throughout this project I will be looking for assistance as the project progresses. Please contact me if you'd like to help or even just offer advice. Thank you. Mandy 570-690-2022

DONATIONS



September Shoe Collection - During the month of September, Dallas UMC is collecting new and gently used shoes. These shoes will be given to MISSION CENTRAL who work with a partner organization (Funds2Orgs) that distributes the shoes internationally. They help individuals in developing countries start a business with the shoes, so they can learn business skills and sustain their families ... and also put money back into their community. If your congregation(s) would like to collect shoes and can bring them (with your church's name on the bag/container) to Dallas UMC by Tuesday, October 5th, we will gladly take them with us on our next trip to Mission Central.

Please be sure to put each pair of shoes in a bag or box, or at the very least a sturdy rubber band, so they don't get separated from their mate.

If you have any questions, please contact Dave Walker. Pastor Dallas UMC.

DUE DATES

- Reminder the **newsletter articles** are due to Aimee or Pastor Laura by the 4th Monday of each month (next due date is 9/27).
- Bulletin **announcements** are due to Aimee or Pastor Laura by the Wednesday prior to the Sunday announcement is to be made, thank you!

MEETINGS

- Our Bishops' visit to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre District - On **September 26, 3:00 TO 5:30 PM**: Bishop Sandra Steiner-Ball and Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi will be visiting each of the Districts in the Susquehanna Conference. Please save the date for their visit to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre District on **September 26 from 3:00 to 5:30 PM at Countryside Community UMC**. Clergy and Laity are invited to attend. **Registration is essential to make sure there is adequate space. To register please go to: <https://susumc.org/bishops-district-gatherings/>**
- SWB DISTRICT Information Session with Rev. Dr. Tom Salsgiver – UMC - HOW DID WE GET HERE, WHERE ARE WE NOW, AND WHAT MIGHT THE FUTURE HOLD? Our Scranton/Wilkes-Barre District Laity and Clergy are invited to a ZOOM information session on **Saturday, September 11th at 10:00 AM** with Assistant to the Bishops, Rev. Dr. Tom Salsgiver. Rev. Salsgiver will give a summary of the most recent information regarding the UMC, General, Jurisdictional and our Annual Conference and will offer an opportunity for questions. Please sign up below and include any specific questions you would like to see addressed during this time: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/UMCupdate>
- **UMW** will meet on Tuesday, September 28, at 6:30 pm. No program or refreshments.
- The **Why Team** will continue to meet on Mondays at 6:30pm.

MISSION & OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

We are continually collecting items for Operation Christmas Child.



WILLIAMSPORT DISTRICT VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION MINISTRY

Greetings Everyone,

As many of you might know, the United Methodist Church has closed most if not all of its disaster response centers on the east coast due to COVID. We have finally been able to connect with a Pastor in the Tri-Villages area of Hatteras Island, NC who is running an outreach organization through his churches that is called "Dare to Mission".

We are very excited about this opportunity and believe that our week will be extremely rewarding. We are planning to travel to NC on Saturday so that we will be able to worship in our host church on Sunday morning and then enjoy some beach time during the afternoon.

If you are interested in joining us, please let us know within the next two weeks. We are excited about being able to get back into the VIM ministry we love, and hope you all can join us. To Request an application packet or for more information, please contact **JOHN BEST AT jmbest2@gmail.com**

In Christ and Many Blessings,
John and Sue

WHEN: Saturday, September 18 through Saturday, September 25, 2021

- **WHERE:** The Tri-Villages area of Hatteras Island, NC. We will be working in the towns of Rodanthe, Waves and Salvo, NC
- **WHY:** To share the love and hope offered by Jesus Christ with those whose homes and lives were destroyed by Hurricane Dorian in September 2019. Even though some time has passed, many people are still out of their homes and waiting for help. Unfortunately, this has only been exaggerated through the Coronavirus. Our projects will be focused on helping those who have worked tirelessly to help others, those who are desperately in need and have not asked for help with their own homes. Join us as we seek to make a Christian difference in this community.
- **COST:** \$200
- **MAXIMUM TEAM SIZE:** 25



The stage is set for another RECORD breaking year,
Thanks to YOU!

In Six Months, *over 2.4 million people were assisted with \$7.6 million in resources!*

A Few Mission Central Highlights:

Medical Equipment and Supplies
\$907,042 in resources
Assisting 264,813 people

Pet Food
\$452,294 in resources
Assisting 144,902 animals

Kits/Kit Supplies
\$419,020 in resources
Assisting 102,012 people

Hygiene/Cleaning Supplies
\$102,595 in resources
Assisting 33,675 people

School Supplies/Books
\$86,846 in resources
Assisting 28,692 people

Our church's fun presence in the **Parade of Trees at Grotto Pizza**—an annual event where patrons vote for Christmas trees decorated by area businesses to raise money for charity—began over four years ago. Pastor



Lori Robinson got the call she had been hoping for when a spot finally opened. She was so excited for the opportunity to have a CHURCH be represented at a popular eating spot! She envisioned showing familiar bible stories stirring up messages of hope and remembrance. Shoemaker Hub under Mission Central was our selected non-profit that year in 2017. A large bible was crafted at the foot of our tree and congregants brought and made ornaments of Bible stories from Genesis through Revelations, telling the Story of Love. We also showed school kits and flood buckets that were made by the Hub. We saw many stop and talk about the messages our tree inspired.

In 2018 we raised funds for Habitat for Humanity ReStore in Nanticoke. Our message: Make LIUMC your home. We adorned our tree from ReStore-borrowed measuring tape and doorknobs, colorful

dripping paint brushes and our Sunday schoolers' handprints, and made glitter houses and our own church mini replica and stuffed a mailbox full of invites to our church!

The following year we raised awareness and funds for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library through the local United Way, a book gifting program that mails free books to children from birth through five years of age. Our tree had book characters and ornaments that said, Read to me, I will learn more, Care more, Be more. A book of the Christmas story was open under the tree. More IL books were bundled there and were later gifted to an elementary school.

A wonderful thing happened this year. Our 2020 tree at Grotto benefitted the Graniteville House of Recovery in Sweet Valley, a transition home for women recovering from drugs and alcohol. As requested by the residents there, we showed the many talents, titles and everyday faces of those coping with addiction within. Residents also made ornaments themselves. We collected many needed items for the women, and gifted them with stockings and hand-made masks. But this year, many of our church members **continued** the relationship the following 2021 with monthly gifts for the women.

Who are we being called to lift up this year with our Grotto tree? How can we continue the relationship throughout the year(s) to come? If you have any suggestions (must be a 501c3) or want to help, contact lehman.idetownumc@gmail.com, subject: Mission & Outreach Grotto tree.



OFFERING

The total offering for the month of August was **\$9,121.00**. Thank you all for continuing to give what you can in an economically difficult time. To continue the work God is doing through LIUMC, tithing can be sent to: LIUMC, PO Box 12, Lehman, PA, 18627 or place in Joash chest in the back of the sanctuary.

PRAYERS

08/29/21 - God Moment - at Olive Garden - older couple, man helped her out of car with umbrella, woman's appreciation. **Joys:** Linda to be able to play for Hymn Sing; Jayne's son-in-law shoulder surgery success; Bev's cousin Tim bone marrow transplant success; Bev's new great granddaughter healthy & went home next day; Cory's wedding yesterday; Jeanne's granddaughter Olivia birthday. **Concerns:** All children returning to school; Travelers; Jeff; School Bus Drivers; Aimee healing; Jeanne's cousin Anne & husband healing from COVID & no hospital; Madrey family (father died of COVID); Dave lost job; Matthew job decisions to make; Teachers; Lois' son Tom Hip surgery; Afghan refugees awaiting ride or someplace safe; Service members; Friends & family of Frank Lattice, brother Michael needs guidance; Kendra's cousin Greg & family; Janet Eddy; Jeanne's grandson Greg moving to VA; Sandy hand post-surgery healing; Haiti victims (tornadoes, earthquakes, hurricanes); New Orleans and those in path of hurricane Ida

8/22/2021 - God Moment: Cali bonding with a lady over Bible trivia. **Joys:** Lorraine made many prayer shawls for the Meadows; Time spent with family; the Kyler's had a good vacation. **Concerns:** Those affected by the hurricanes; Janet; Travelers; Afghanistan; Wildfires and those who fight them; For understanding regarding different views of masks and vaccines; Ann and Bud; School children, youth, college sports, and all those involved in returning to school; Norm; Mary, her brother, and their family; Dan.

Ongoing: Ann Whitmore; Brooklyn; those battling depression; Juliette and other non-believers; Korri & Family; Tim Nulton; Travelers; Shut ins and those who are isolated; Peace and understanding; For Protection of Communities; An end to systemic racism; Families who've been economically affected; Peace in Turbulent times; + Unspokens.

****Please alert our prayer team of new requests: Kendra Cosgrove (570) 675-2024****

Churches for the week of September 5 - 11

Paxton UMC, Harrisburg
East End UMC, Altoona
Heilman UMC, Montoursville
*St Andrews UMC, Milton
**Zimmi UMC, Zimmi - Sierra Leone*
Palestine UMC, Morrisdale
Pinecroft UMC, Altoona
Watsontown UMC, Watsontown
Fort Loudon UMC, Fort Loudon
Waggoners UMC, Carlisle
Dimock Community UMC, Dimock
Wesley Forest Camp & Retreat Center, Weikert

Churches for the week of September 12 - 18

State Line UMC, State Line
Lenoxville UMC, Nicholson
Saint John's-Newberry UMC, Williamsport
Kerr Addition UMC, Clearfield
Yeagertown UMC, Yeagertown
Hop Bottom UMC, Hop Bottom
First UMC, Greencastle
*Emmanuel UMC, Enola
**Warner Memorial UMC, Mano - Sierra Leone*
Mount Zion UMC, Richfield
Newelltown UMC, Roaring Branch
Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Center, Windsor, NY

Churches for the week of September 19 - 25

Ennisville UMC, Huntingdon
*Mount Gilead UMC, Shermans Dale
**Rogers Memorial UMC, Bo - Sierra Leone*
Adamsville UMC, Red Lion
Kulp UMC, Catawissa
Tatesville UMC, Everett
Sweden Valley Faith UMC, Coudersport
Thornhurst UMC, Thornhurst
Trinity UMC, Middleburg
Lake Park UMC, Lewistown
Hill UMC, Duncannon
Camp Penn Camp & Retreat Center, Waynesboro

Churches for the week of September 26 - October 2

Albright UMC, Wilkes Barre
Burlington UMC, Burlington
First UMC, Huntingdon
Caldwell UMC, Lock Haven
Idaville UMC, Idaville
*Messiah UMC, Shippensburg
**Grace UMC, Kailahun - Sierra Leone*
Mount Pleasant UMC, Morris
McKee UMC, East Freedom
Bethel UMC, Brogue
Benton UMC, Benton

ROOF PROJECT

Thank
you!

The new roof has been completed at the church. Through generous donations and time, we have raised more than \$7,800 from hoagie sales, items donated and monetary tithing for the roof!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Based on the recommendations and endorsements from Bishop Park the following are effective immediately at LIUMC:

- *Our worshipers, including the vaccinated, are **strongly encouraged to wear masks** at all of our worship services, meetings, and gatherings.*
- *In our times together, please continue to **practice social distancing**.*
- *Those who are **vulnerable**: please, for your health and safety, do not attend in-person worship at this time, please choose our Zoom option.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult and Children Sunday school starts on 9/26 from 10:30-11:15 am.

We are looking for **Sunday School teachers** (children's classes) to either act as substitutes or possibly lead a class full-time (if needed). Anyone who is interested in joining our Sunday School teacher team, please reach out to Laura at 570-561-6744. Parents will receive information about special weeks and mission activities as we get closer to the start date.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School was held July 6-10 from 6-8 pm and great fun was had by children and adults! Thank you to all the volunteers and donations received.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Meadows Nursing Home is looking for volunteers. The duties may include activities, transporting residents to activities, and one on one visits. Please prayerfully consider if their next volunteer could be you! Please contact Rachel at 570-575-8600 if interested.

Leadership Intent / Interest

Please take the time to complete the "Leadership Intent/Interest" form and return to Pastor Laura or Aimee by **September 12th**.

Currently, I serve _____

_____ Yes, I wish to continue in my present position.

_____ No, I do NOT wish to continue in my present position.

_____ No, I do NOT wish to continue in my present position, but I am willing to serve as: _____

I would like to recommend __ (Name) _____ to serve as __ (Position) _____ because of their (Gifts & Talents) _____.

Your Name _____



Mandy Groce '10

ministry-to-children.com



Lehman Idetown United Methodist Church
Pastor—Laura Kyler

Scranton/Wilkes-Barre District
Superintendent--Rev. Judy Walker

Susquehanna Conference
Bishop --Sandra Steiner Ball (West Virginia Conference)
Bishop--Cynthia Moore-Koikoi (Western PA Conference)