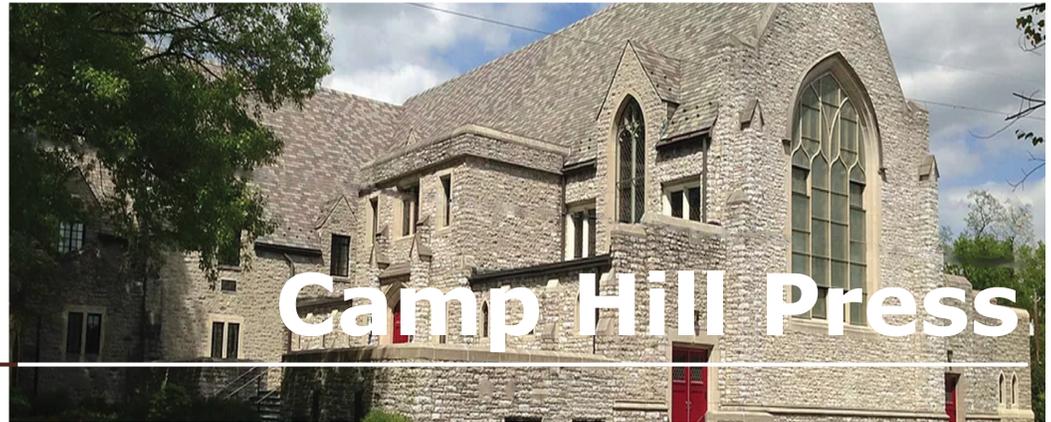


November 2020



Pastor's Note: Continuing Our Traditions

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Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love.

~Hamilton Wright Mabie

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe that the holiday season is upon us, with Thanksgiving just three short weeks away. As with much of life these days, our celebrations of Thanksgiving and Christmas might look a bit different this year for many of us. Hopefully, we will not have to adapt or forgo too many of our deeply treasured family traditions. Those holiday traditions hold great value in our lives. They provide us with a sense of comfort and belonging. They bring family and friends together, deepening relationships while creating lasting memories. In the church, all of our varied traditions reinforce our faith and provide opportunities to "tradition" our faith to the next generation. Thanksgiving offers a chance to say "thank you" and show our

appreciation to those who have impacted our lives. It offers us a moment to pause and reflect upon God's goodness and express our gratitude for the love and grace we have received. As we celebrate the greatest gift of Love we have received in the birth of our Savior, all our Christmas traditions provide us with an opportunity to celebrate the things that really matter in life: those things that bring us hope, peace, joy, and love.

Here at church, though it might not look like years past, we will continue many of our "church family" traditions. Each Sunday, the Advent candles will be lit here in the church. For those worshipping with us online, we invite you to light them at home. If you do not already own an Advent wreath, you might wish to create one using candles that have a meaningful significance to you and your family. As Christmas draws near, the sanctuary will be partially decorated and

poinsettias will be purchased by the Worship, Music, and Fine Arts Ministry. So that we might keep the tradition of remembering our loved ones during the holidays, in lieu of purchasing a poinsettia, you may contribute in their honor or memory to the special mission project, which shall be chosen by our Mission Outreach Ministry. Names of those loved ones will be published in the Christmas Eve bulletin. In this newsletter, you will read about other opportunities for sharing the joy of Jesus' birth with others.

We will celebrate the birth of our Savior on Christmas Eve. There will be an outdoor walk-thru experience providing an opportunity to gather as a church family in a safe way. We will hear the Good News of Great Joy, sing some carols, and sip hot chocolate as we walk together in the Light that

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ABOUT

Nominating Committee Seeking Elders, Deacons

member of the nominating committee to understand what is involved. Better yet, reach out to a member who is serving, or has served, as an elder or deacon to get his or her perspective. Each will tell you the effort involved is far outweighed by the rewards of using your spiritual gifts to strengthen our CHPC congregation.

Any of the committee members listed below are available to answer your questions:

- Sandy McBride (chair)
- Liesl Beckley
- Sharon Fenicle
- Carol Groff
- Gail Mark
- Adrienne Monuteaux
- Steve Smith
- John Zazworsky

We look forward to hearing from you soon!

~John Zazworsky (artwork by Jeff Heiss)

The CHPC Nominating Committee is beginning the process of filling positions for three elders and four deacons for the class of 2024 (serving May 2021 to April 2024). We ask each CHPC member to consider how you

can contribute your time and talents to sustain our faith, fellowship, and mission work activities.

If you have ever thought about serving in one of these roles, or would like to serve again, please contact a

UV Bulbs Installed to Kill Airborne Bacteria

Ultraviolet (UV) lights have been installed in CHPC's air handlers (part of our HVAC system). These lights kill airborne pathogens, including the virus that causes COVID-19 bacteria. Each time air passes through an air handler, 90 percent of pathogens are killed. With multiple passes, 99.9

percent of pathogens will be killed. In a typical business environment, air recirculates six times in an hour. As of Sunday, Nov. 1, all exterior doors in the sanctuary now are closed for our indoor service. This allows for a comfortable inside air temperature for those attending the service. The interior doors that lead

into the sanctuary remain open, as do the small windows at the front of the sanctuary, near the pulpit. The newly installed UV lights impact the flow of air into the sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, and the Gathering Place.

~Carol Helsel

ABOUT

Session Highlights: Worship Schedule Modified

The CHPC Session met virtually via Zoom conferencing for its regular monthly meeting on Monday, Oct. 26, at 7 p.m. Several action items were approved, including:

- By consensus, the Session approved allowing groups to resume meeting indoors at CHPC according to current health and safety protocols. Room use and scheduling of room sanitization will continue to be scheduled through the church office.
- The Session revised plans for Christmas Eve worship for 2020, in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. A walk-thru Christmas Eve service will

be held on the church grounds at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 24. CHPC will also stream a conventional Christmas Eve service online.

- A Blue Christmas service will be held during Advent, on Thursday, Dec. 3, at noon in the sanctuary. Live-streaming this service is under consideration.
- The Session authorized an expenditure of up to \$2,000 from the Memorial Fund for the purchase of computer hardware and software needed for live-streaming worship services.
- The Session approved a request from the Church

Administration Ministry to offer church employees the opportunity to elect to participate in the 403(b) Retirement Savings Plan and to purchase benefits under the Dental and Vision Eyewear Plan offered by the PC(USA) Board of Pensions.

- The Session authorized paying organist Caleb Flick for additional duties beyond providing music for worship services, not to exceed 10 hours per week.
- The Session approved 12 paid holidays for CHPC staff for 2021, on which the church office will be closed.

~Beth Fine, Clerk of Session

The Session has called a special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, Nov. 15, at 11:30 a.m. for the purpose of receiving a report from the church officer Nominating Committee.

Walk With Us: An Interactive Christmas Service

Join us for an outdoor interactive gathering for all ages Thursday, Dec. 24, starting at 4:30 p.m. During “Walk With Us: Experience the Love and Joy of Jesus’ Birth,” small, socially distanced groups will encounter the story of Jesus’ birth through a series of outdoor stations employing interactive storytelling and familiar carols.

The church parking lot will function as a gathering space for holiday fellowship. Participants of all ages can

warm themselves at fire pits and a hot chocolate station and pick up glow sticks or electronic candles to light the way. The gathering will use social distancing protocols and require masks (when participants are not sipping hot chocolate!).

Please tell your friends and neighbors about this opportunity for community and Christmas cheer. We’re looking forward to a unique and meaningful Christmas Eve!

~Lindsay Gottwald

Christmas Eve Wish List

If you have any of the following items we could borrow for “Walk With Us,” please contact Pastor Nancy (nconklin@thechpc.com), Lindsay Gottwald (lgottwald@thechpc.com), or Sandy McBride (duhmacbees2000@yahoo.com):

- Firepits
- Tents
- Handwarmers
- Standing heaters

Or, reach out to them if you would like to participate in the fun as a:

- Storyteller
- Shepherd
- Host/hostess

ABOUT

"(God) is your best friend and will listen when you need someone to talk to. Keep and grow in your faith."

- Joann Fissel

Member Q&A: Always at the Call for CHPC

This month, longtime member and active volunteer Joann Fissel reminds us that a strong faith guides us in good and bad times.

Q: When did you join CHPC?

A: Bob, my late husband, and I began attending CHPC in October 1991 and joined the church in March 1992.

Q: What brought you to CHPC?

A: Our church, St. John's UCC in Harrisburg, closed in August 1991. Bob was a 50-year-plus member and I was a 32-year member. Our two children were baptized there and we were all very active in that church.

Q: What activities have you been involved in at CHPC?

A: I have been involved in Presbyterian Women, Dorcas Circle, Praise Singers, and VBS. I have helped out

with welcoming, too. Bob and I were table leaders for CIS (Christians in Service). We helped with Lenten Family Nights, the nursery, Prayer Fellowship, Downtown Daily Bread, Ecumenical Food Pantry, and retreats (in-house and away). The Rev. Bill Murphey asked me to chair TLC (The Liturgical Committee), which fell under Property and Maintenance Commission and was started for small jobs around the church. I was chairperson of the nursery school board and also participated on Property and Maintenance, and did rummage sales and shepherding and mentoring for confirmation classes. I continue to organize funeral receptions and work in the church office.

Q: Please tell us about your family.

A: I was born and raised in the Juniata neighborhood of Altoona. I married the love of my life, Bob Fissel, on July 11, 1959, and we settled in this area. We started a family, and our daughter, Cindy, was born June 20, 1960, followed by our son, Dale, who was born Aug. 4, 1961. We suddenly lost Cindy on July 25, 1973, due to a left heart ventricle burst. We were lead by our faith.

Dale graduated from East Pennsboro High School and College Misericordia. On April 21, 1990, Dale married his wife, Leigh. They have a son, Marcus, and have been the life of our family.

I went to work at IBM when both children went to school. I retired in 1993 with 27 years of service. I went back to work for IBM through contractors and finally retired in 2009 after supporting IBM for 43 years. I enjoyed my retirement with Bob, reading, and following Marcus' soccer and college. I am now just busy being me and helping others.

Q: Do you have any hobbies?

A: I like to cook and bake and share with friends and neighbors. I enjoy reading and helping out others who can no longer drive. Bob and I spent 30 years camping and boating at Raystown Lake and I enjoy the water. I like to water walk at Bethany Village (which has stopped since the pandemic) and catching up with friends. I also enjoy college sports, especially March Madness and Duke basketball.

Q: What is your favorite memory of CHPC?

A: Some of my favorite memories of CHPC are

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Joann Fissel and husband Bob joined CHPC in 1992.

ABOUT

Preschool Corner: Exploring the Changing Seasons

The preschool has been busy enjoying the changing of the season by exploring outside and learning all about fall.

Instead of going on a field trip to a pumpkin patch this year, we had our very own CHPC Preschool pumpkin patch, where each student enjoyed finding a pumpkin with his or her name on it. We celebrated Halloween with a parade and a trunk-or-treat. The children had a fantastic time dressing up in their costumes and collecting treats. We are sad to say that we won't be having the Fall Harvest Festival this year, however, we are working on other exciting ways to celebrate the season safely with our families.

The preschool will be having a Spirit Night at Chipotle in Camp Hill on

Wednesday, Nov. 18, from 4 to 8 p.m. Anyone who orders food from there between those hours and shows our flyer (please find one in this newsletter mailing) will be contributing to our fundraiser.

Believe it or not, Christmas is right around the corner and our little ones would be so happy to see Santa roaming our halls and peeking into our classrooms in December. (We plan on having Santa socially

distance, waving and saying hello at our classroom doors.) If you are interested in being Santa's "stand-in" or know him, please contact me at (717) 761-6003 or dtarnoci@thechpc.com.

Lastly, the preschool is now a member of the Weis4School program. If you would like to help support us, please consider signing up with the directions on the insert in this newsletter. Our school code is 87788.

~Dana Tarnoci



Special pumpkins with each preschooler's name were hidden around the "pumpkin patch" outside the building.

Member Q&A, continued from Page 4

participating in retreats, both in the church and away, and Kathy Kuhn's book reviews. I like the music, especially the Music, Arts and Drama programs. Bob and I both enjoyed Tony Leach and Essence of Joy concerts, the wonderful people, Prayer Fellowship, and fun at the rummage sales.

Q: Advice to younger members?

A: Remember you are a child of God and he always walks beside you, in good times and also in not-so-good times. He is your best friend and will listen when you need someone to talk to. Keep and grow in your faith.

Q: Favorite Scripture Verse?

A: John 11:35, "Jesus wept."

Jesus, the Son of God, was sent to us as a human and like us wept. My Grandma told me when I was young that when it rains, it is his tears showering us.

~Joann Fissel, as told to Ellen Smith

CARE

Pumpkin Contest Raises Funds for New Hope



Sharon Fenicle's pumpkin, third from left, won the deacons' pumpkin contest. The new outdoor event was held in lieu of the annual chili cook-off.

The Board of Deacons held a pumpkin contest following worship on Sunday, Oct. 25. The pumpkins included football, Sesame Street, and Disney movie themes, spiritual motifs, social awareness messages, and more.

Although voting was fast and furious, the Golden Pumpkin for most money raised was for Sharon Fenicle's depiction of the PCUSA symbol from our

website. Her pumpkin highlighted her intricate carving skills. An honorable Golden Pumpkin went to Team Harner for their rendition of Cookie Monster, which included actual cookies!

A big thank you to all who carved pumpkins, donated money, and helped with the event. Our pumpkins raised \$347, which will be given to New Hope Ministries.

~Tom Beckley

CHPC Shares Goodies with Trick-or-Treaters

Our wonderful pumpkin carvers, Ellen Smith and Karen Taylor, were at it again this fall season and created beautiful pumpkins to display on Trick-or-Treat Night in Camp Hill. The words this year were "love" and "hope."

We gave out many treat bags to neighborhood children

and had a fun time visiting with each other while spreading love to our neighbors.

Thank you to Linda Zimmerman and Lisa Love for purchasing and assembling all the treat bags!

~Sandy McBride



Pastor's Note, continued from Page 1

Shines in the Darkness: the Light of Christ, which no amount of darkness or despair will ever overcome. There will be an online traditional Christmas Eve candlelight service at 7 p.m. You will be invited to light your own candle as we end singing "Silent Night."

As a way of staying connected, we would like to hear one of your favorite holiday traditions — maybe even one that has been passed down through many generations. We will compile them into a booklet and mail one out to each family. Please send

your contribution to the church office by Monday, Nov. 30.

May the Lord continue to watch over as we are absent one from another.

A blessed Thanksgiving to you and yours,

~Nancy

GIVE

Notes From the CHPC Treasurer

■ During this difficult time, we are asking those of you who normally place your contributions in the offering plate but are not attending the Sunday service in person to mail your contributions to the CHPC office, 101 N. 23rd Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011.

■ July 1 now begins our fiscal year, and accordingly we have now completed three months of the new fiscal year. Current contributions for September were \$29,282.90. This compares to \$30,836.70 in current contributions for September 2019. Year-to-date receipts as of the end of September 2020 were \$105,518.71. With year-to-date expenses at \$110,370.02, year-to-date

expenses exceed year-to-date receipts by \$4,851.31. Please help us to balance the budget by bringing your commitments up to date.

■ Contribution statements were mailed on Wednesday, Oct. 21. If you have not received a statement, or if you find errors in your statement, please contact me at the email address or cell phone number below.

■ We spent \$137,587 on building renovations in 2019. The endowment has loaned CHPC \$100,000 to help pay for these costs. So far, we have raised more than \$91,000 of the \$100,000 needed to repay the loan, and we still need \$9,000 to complete payment. If you are interested in making a

contribution to help CHPC repay the endowment loan or to reimburse CHPC for the monies it spent on these projects, you can mail a check marked “Building Fund” to the CHPC office. Many thanks to all who have already made gifts to help pay for these projects!

■ Have you thought about including CHPC in your will or as a partial beneficiary of your retirement plan or life insurance policy? Help CHPC thrive for generations! Various generous bequest have helped make CHPC what it is today. If you have questions, contact me at dwatts@mwn.com or (717) 503-6518.

~David Watts, Treasurer

Christmas Giving Tree Helps Families in Need

This holiday season, the Board of Deacons is again partnering with New Hope Ministries to provide gifts to central Pennsylvania families struggling during the holidays. Though we will not be able to have our traditional Gathering Place tree this year, there is a list of suggested items or gifts frequently requested by families in need, which is available at the website:

<https://nhm-pa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Christmas-Wish-List-2020.pdf>.

Unwrapped gifts will be accepted by the deacons through Tuesday, Dec. 8, and may be placed in the red plastic tote outside of the church office. Monetary donations (cash or checks payable to “New Hope Ministries”) also will be accepted and can be sent to

the church office. Please consider how your generosity can have a meaningful impact on the lives of those less fortunate this holiday season.

~Michele Tate



CHILDREN & YOUTH

November News for Children and Youth

■ During family worship on Sundays at 9 a.m. via Zoom, infants through students in Grade 5 will watch short videos, listen to books illuminating the message of the day, and learn new songs. Youth in middle school and high school start a new series on the first five books as the Bible, focusing on understanding the story of the Bible as a whole. Youth meet at 7 p.m. on Sundays via Zoom. Check “CHPCConnections” for links and passwords.

■ We hope to gather high school students interested

in initiating socially distanced mission projects. I have a few ideas of how we might serve God and each other during this time, but think our youth would be best served using a peer leadership model. Send me an email to get involved!

■ Are you receiving all our news for families with children? Just email me and I’ll add you to my biweekly email list. Also, youth and their parents can receive reminders about Sunday school, events, and upcoming deadlines by subscribing to our Remind

updates. Text “@chpc101” to the number 81010 from your smartphone (Verizon users must download the corresponding app.)

■ Nurture Ministry plans to connect young adults (college-aged) with each other and assess whether CHPC can better serve them or offer support. Parents of young adults, please their email addresses to me in order to facilitate this “in-reach” initiative.

~Lindsay Gottwald
lgottwald@thechpc.com

Free Advent Wreaths Available for Kids



Christian Education and Nurture Ministry is offering free Advent wreath kits to kids in Grades 5 and under at CHPC and in the surrounding community. Kits include craft instructions and materials, prayers for each week, a printable Advent

devotional for the household and invitations to participate in CHPC’s Christmas Eve experience.

We are making a kit for each child under 12 in our congregation. Share this opportunity with your friends and neighbors to help us reach out to community members!

They can reserve Advent wreath kits by emailing lgottwald@thechpc.com by Thursday, Nov. 12.

Kits can be picked up outside CHPC in late November during dates and times to be determined.

~Lindsay Gottwald

Camp Hill Presbyterian Church
101 N. 23rd Street
Camp Hill, PA 17011
(717) 737-0488
www.camphillpres.org
Submissions:
aebeling@thechpc.com

November Dates to Remember:

- Office Closed for Veterans Day — Wednesday, Nov. 11
- Board of Deacons Meeting, via Zoom — Monday, Nov. 16, 7 p.m.
- Session Meeting, via Zoom — Monday, Nov. 23, 7 p.m.
- Office Closed for Thanksgiving Break — Thursday, Nov. 26, & Friday, Nov. 27