



News from the Hill...

St. John-Hill U.C.C. 620 Hill Church Road, Boyertown, PA 19512 November 2018

• FROM THE • Pastor's Desk

One hundred years ago this month, the guns on the Western Front became silent, and an Armistice was signed, to what people at the time hoped was “the war to end all wars.” How do we celebrate, or remember, this day?

I have two memories that shape my feelings for this day. No, I wasn't there. Perhaps you could call them second-hand memories.

In my first parish I made a visit that touched me so deeply I had to write it down:

I called on Mrs. C. the day after her fiftieth anniversary. One might expect a person to be basking in the afterglow of a special day. But that was not the case with Mrs. C.

In 1917 her sweetheart went off to war in France. When he came home after the war he was in the hospital for a while. There was nothing wrong with him physically. They called it “shell shock.”

After a while he appeared to recover, left the hospital, and they were married. They had the same dreams of home and family as any newlyweds. But it was not to be. It soon became evident that he was not all right. He would never be right again. He became violent. He was soon back in the hospital. Mrs. C. went to see him every day-then every week. Sometimes he knew her, sometimes not. After a while, not at all.

For their fiftieth anniversary the staff at the V. A. hospital brought in a cake, and sang, and were all cheerful-and he had no idea what it was all for. Mrs. C. drove back to her empty house.

An anniversary is a time to look back and to reflect. Mrs. C. remembered the young man she had loved, who went off to France, and the broken man who came home. She remembered the dreams and the hopes that young people have, that never came to be.

The history books say that World War I ended in 1918. That's not true. War isn't over when it's over. In 1972 the United States was fighting a war in Viet Nam. But in one house in my town one lonely woman still felt the heavy burden of a war the rest of us had long forgotten.

War isn't over when it's over. A war lives on in each survivor for the rest of their lives.

My second memory goes back to when I was writing a history of the United Church of Christ and the groups that preceded it. I became aware of the strong anti-German feeling that swept this country. Streets and towns had their names changed. German language was dropped from the curriculum of High Schools. The German Evangelical Synod (which later united with the Reformed Church to form the Evangelical and Reformed Church, and still later the United

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Church of Christ), composed of recent immigrants, was severely tested. I visited Pomeroy, Iowa, where our church was burned down by local “patriotic” citizens. The pastor, in hiding for several months to avoid the mob, was indicted and convicted of violating the Espionage Act. I read the transcript of the trial and found nothing that sounded like a crime. He was German, and not ashamed of it, that was all. After serving time at Fort Leavenworth, he returned to his ministry in Pomeroy. I visited two elderly members of the congregation, who received Confirmation instruction under him. They remembered him as kindly but strict (they remembered his *stick*). Other pastors, churches and members faced legal and extra-legal harassment because of their ethnicity.

So, how can we meaningfully remember this day?

1. We honor and care for our veterans, who have placed themselves in harms way out of love for country. As in the case of Mrs. C’s husband, not all wounds are visible, they effect the whole family, and they last a lifetime. In 1954 the name of this day was changed from Armistice Day to Veterans Day to honor veterans of all wars.
2. We can encourage our leaders to think twice before entering a war, to count the cost, and to seek peaceful resolutions of conflict before turning to the last resort.
3. Never again can we become divided among ourselves, harassing people as “anti-American” solely because of their ethnicity.

One hundred years ago, a deeply wounded world found respite from war. May we learn the lessons of history and not repeat them.

Chuck Maxfield

CONSISTORY NEWS

The Consistory met on Tuesday, October 10th, 2018 and discussed, reported and voted on the following items:

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the September Consistory meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: General Operating Fund Income and Expense Summary for September 2018.

Operating Fund	September 2018	2018 YTD	September 2017	2017 YTD
Income	\$11,329.69	\$91,294.16	\$10,145.55	\$94,152.34
Expenses	\$10,411.74	\$103,359.50	\$21,345.20	\$112,674.04
Income vs. Expenses	\$917.95	(\$12,065.34)	(\$11,199.65)	(\$18,521.70)

• Benevolence received for September was \$282.00 and will be sent to PSEC. Year to date total is \$2323.00

Reports from the various committees were reviewed. Their activities can be seen elsewhere in this newsletter.

Communion will be celebrated on November 4th.

We reviewed all of the quotes received for the sanctuary air conditioning, and have decided to contact P&K Heating and Cooling to complete the installation. We hope to have this project completed in a timely manner.

After reviewing the quotes for the exterior door replacements, we feel that we need to meet with some of the contractors to see some samples and have any specific questions answered. We will keep you posted on our progress

Clarence Gabel will be working in the church this month to replace the carpet in the pastor study, replace the door mats at the entry points to the building, and also attempting to stretch the carpet in the sanctuary to remove some of the wrinkles.

There are some commitments available for members who would like to volunteer.

*There is a Conference meeting coming up on November 10th from 10 am - 3:30 pm at Church of the Good Shepherd in Boyertown. We are hoping to send two delegates to this meeting.

*We also have several positions open on Consistory that need to be filled in accordance with our Constitution. Please see any consistory member if you feel called to serve in either capacity.

Consistory Pre-Service set up for November will be provided by Rick Furches and Arlan Schaeffer. The next monthly Consistory Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 13th at 7:00 pm.

In Christ, Your Consistory: Dottie Fronheiser, Rick Furches, Bonnie Helmick, Mark Hile, Ray Kochey, David Mutter, Arlan Schaeffer, Terry Shane, Clarence Weller, Matt Weller, and Rev. Charles Maxfield.

Women's Guild News

At our Oct. meeting we donated \$50 towards sponsoring a tree for Boyertown Festival of Trees for Hill Church. We are again purchasing Christmas gifts for the residents of Wernersville up to \$300.

Please note that we are changing our meeting time. With the exception of our special events, starting November 4th we will hold our meetings right after church on the 1st Sunday of the month.

Apple sauce and chow-chow are made. Thank you to all that came out to help! The many hands that helped made the job easy and fun!

Join us on Sunday, November 25th for some fun and crafting!!! We are hosting a "fun" fundraiser through Susie Camm from Make and Take and will be making a wooden pallet "BELIEVE" sign. The sign can be used as either an inside or outside decoration or used as a gift. (they will all have an outside finish placed on them). No worries - Signs will be stenciled in. All you need do is to paint within the lines and have fun!! Price is \$35.00. We will lunch at church before we craft. Crafting will begin at noon and end around 1:30. All church members, family or guests are invited. Register with Nancy by November 11. Below is a sample of our craft.



Women's Guild Christmas luncheon will be held on Sunday December 2nd, 12:00 Noon at Giovanni's on Route 12. All Church women, husband/or guest are welcome to come. Reservations need to be made with Mary Jane no later than November 25.

Christian Education News

Sunday School has started...and we have a seat for you! Join us at 8:30 am!

The Angel Tree for a local family will be up in the Narthex soon. Please take an angel and purchase the item and bring it back to the church (unwrapped). More details will be available in the bulletin soon. The joyful noise offering the kids collect will also be used to purchase some items off the tree.

The next meeting is November 5 at 7 pm.



Wed. November 7 - Sr. Choir 7:00 PM, Cantata 8:00 PM

Wed. November 14 - Sr. Choir 7:00 PM, Cantata 8:00 PM

Joint Choir Reh. at St. Joseph's for Thanksgiving Eve Service 7:30 PM

Wed. November 21 - No Choir Rehearsal

Joint Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. Joseph's at 7 PM

Sun. November 25 - Cantata 7:00 PM

Wed. November 28 - Sr. Choir 7:00 PM, Cantata 8:00 PM

Like to sing? Please consider joining us for choir! Help is needed especially for the cantata. Presentation of the cantata will be December 16 during the 9:30 am worship service.

Hope to see you!

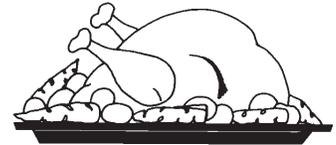
Thanks and God Bless.

Elmer Miller

Organist/Music Director

610-367-5613 or e-mail elmerhm@dejazzd.com

ANNUAL TURKEY SUPPER



Saturday, November 3, 2018

Dinner served 3:00 – 7:30 p.m. Tickets sold until 7:00 p.m.

Cost: Adults \$12.00 Children 3-10 years \$6.50

Take out \$1.00 extra

Dinner includes: Traditional Turkey Dinner with all of the trimmings, dessert & beverage

Wednesday, October 31 @ 6:00 p.m. – Move supplies from church to dining hall, general prep work

Thursday, November 1 @ 7:00 a.m. – Roast Turkeys, wash dishes, clean dining hall

Friday, November 2 @ 6:00 p.m. – Peel potatoes, prepare pepper cabbage, slice meat

Saturday, November 3 @ 7:00 a.m. – Prepare Potato filling, Hill Church beans and take outs

Monday November 5 @ 6:00 p.m. – Move supplies from dining hall to church attic and winterize the dining hall.

Donations of baked goods are needed and greatly appreciated.

Proceeds from the Turkey Supper are used to maintain our properties and do the work of the church. Do not miss this opportunity to join in the fun and be a part of this tradition!

Announcements from the Hill

Community Outreach

For November, we will be helping out Reading Berks Council of Churches. Their chaplains provide services at Berks County Jail and over Christmas they provide a chocolate treat for each inmate. They need to collect 1300 individually wrapped 1.55 oz. Hershey bars. Next trip out, pick up a bar or more and place it in the bin in the Narthex. Note: ALL bars must be the same (see photo below). *If you are looking to buy lots, Amazon and Sam's have packs of 36 bars for \$20.*



ST. JOE'S BLOOD DRIVE

The November 2018 Miller Keystone Blood Drive will be held on Monday, November 19 in order to accommodate the St. Joseph's Daycare Thanksgiving program. This is a change from the typical third Tuesday schedule.

GROCERY CARDS

Don't forget grocery cards for Giant, Redner's and Weis Markets are available for purchase. They may be used towards groceries, gas and pharmacy purchases and make terrific gifts! We receive 5% for every card you purchase which will be used to support our Church Missions program. See Connie Hile to purchase your cards today!

All Saints Sunday

November 4, 2018
9:30 am Worship Service
Holy Communion
*Honoring the late
Rev. James W. Rogers*



Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday,
November 21, 2018
7 pm

Joint Service at
St. Joseph's Hill Lutheran Church



Acolytes

Acolytes Needed

We are in need of acolytes...young or young at heart are welcome to help out. If you would like to assist with this ministry, please contact Nikki in the church office.



The worship team and consistory are working to plan the services for Christmas Eve and would like your input on service times. Please see any consistory member or contact Nikki in the office.

Scriptures and Sermons for November

In November we celebrate a couple of special days:

November 4 - Rejoice and Be Glad

All Saints Day - Remembrance Day for Rev. James W. Rogers

Holy Communion

Isaiah 25:6-9

John 11:32-44

November 11 - Why We Give

I Kings 17:8-16

Mark 12:38-44

November 18 - Seek First the Kingdom

Thanksgiving Sunday

Psalm 126

Matthew 6:25-33

November 25

In the Pulpit: Peter Detterline



Church Contact Information

Rev. Charles Maxfield - Interim Pastor

Mr. Elmer Miller – Musical Director/
Organist

Mrs. Nikki Weller – Church Secretary



Mr. Charles Anhalt - Sexton

Mrs. Wendy Shane - Church Treasurer

Church Telephone: 610-367-8114

Church Website: www.stjohnhillucc.org

Church E-mail: office@stjohnhillucc.org

Hill Church Events

Holy Communion

1st Sunday of the Month

Park Committee Work Days

2nd Saturday of the month at 8 am

Joyful Noise Offering

3rd Sunday of the Month

Children's Message

3rd Sunday of the Month

Newsletter Deadline

3rd Sunday of the Month

Choir Rehearsal

Every Wednesday September thru May

(see newsletter for times)

Here is a list of ongoing committee meetings. These meetings are open for anyone who wishes to attend. Most meetings are held in the Christian Education building.

Christian Education

1st Monday of the month at 7 pm

Women's Guild

1st Tuesday of the month at 7 pm

Consistory

2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm

Want to get involved? These are our upcoming community events.

Turkey Supper

1st Saturday in November

--2019--

Ham Supper

3rd Saturday in May

Ringgold Band Picnic & Concert

1st Saturday in August

Buckwheat & Sausage Supper

1st Saturday in October

Mission Opportunities - Whether you are in need of help or you want to help others, our Hill Church Mission team is here for you.

For more information on any of these items, contact the church office at 610-367-8114

Church Contact Info

Church Phone # 610-367-8114

Church Website: www.stjohnhillucc.org

Church E-mail: office@stjohnhillucc.org

Interim Pastor - Rev. Charles Maxfield

Musical Director/Organist - Mr. Elmer Miller

Church Secretary - Mrs. Nikki Weller

Sexton - Mr. Charles Anhalt

Consistory President - Matt Weller

Consistory Vice President - Arlan Schaeffer

Trustees - Mark Hile, Bill Moyer, Terry Shane

Christian Education Superintendent - Elmer Miller

Cemetery Board President - Elmer Miller

Park Committee President - Mark Hile

Women's Guild President - Megyn Weller

Mission Team - Mark Hile



NOVEMBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				7 am Cook Turkeys & Prep for Supper	6 pm Food Prep for Turkey Supper	Turkey Supper
8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Honoring the late Rev. James W. Rogers	9 am Small Group Bible Study 6 pm Supper Clean Up		7 pm Sr. Choir 8 pm Cantata			6:30 am Breakfast @ Creekside Diner 8 am Work Day
8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Service	9 am Small Group Bible Study	7 pm Consistory Meeting	7 pm Sr. Choir 8 pm Cantata			
8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Service Joyful Noise Offering NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	9 am Small Group Bible Study		7 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship at St. Joe's			
8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Service 7 pm Cantata Rehearsal	9 am Small Group Bible Study		7 pm Sr. Choir 8 pm Cantata			