



News from the Hill...

St. John-Hill U.C.C. 620 Hill Church Road, Boyertown, PA 19512 September 2017

Thoughts from Pastor Mary

Friends Watching and Helping

An angel is a supernatural being or spirit found in various religions and the Christian faith. Other roles of angels include protecting and guiding human beings, and carrying messages from God and doing God's tasks.

According to St Augustine, " 'Angel' is the name of their office, not of their nature. It is 'angel': from what they are, 'spirit', from what they do, 'angel'" Basilian Father Thomas Rosica says, "Angels are very important, because they provide people with an articulation of the conviction that God is intimately involved in human life."

The angels are represented throughout the Holy Bible as spiritual beings intermediate between God and men: "You have made him a little less than the angels ..." (Psalms 8:4-5). The Bible describes the function of angels as "messengers" but does not indicate when the creation of angels occurred.[16] Some Christians believe that angels are created beings, based on (Psalms 148:2-5; Colossians 1:16): "praise ye Him, all His angels: praise ye Him, all His hosts ... for He spoke and they were made. He commanded and they were created ..."

Interaction with angels

Forget not to show love unto strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

—Hebrews 13:2

The New Testament includes many interactions and conversations between angels and humans. For instance, three separate cases of angelic interaction deal with the births of John the Baptist and Jesus Christ. In Luke 1:11, an angel appears to Zechariah to inform him that he will have a child despite his old age, thus proclaiming the birth of John the Baptist. In Luke 1:26 the Archangel Gabriel visits the Virgin Mary in the Annunciation to foretell the birth of Jesus Christ. Angels then proclaim the birth of Jesus in the Adoration of the shepherds in Luke 2:10.

According to Matthew 4:11, after Jesus spent 40 days in the desert, "...the devil left him and, behold, angels came and ministered to him." In Luke 22:43 an angel comforts Jesus Christ during the Agony in the Garden.[22] In Matthew 28:5 an angel speaks at the empty tomb, following the Resurrection of Jesus and the rolling back of the stone by angels.

We experience angels and helpers from God and we call on Him and ask for help. May we always keep an eye open for the possibilities of God's miracles.

Naming a few angels:

- Archangel- translation: the strength of God, performs acts of justice and power*
- Raphael - translation: God Heals, God's healing force
- Uriel - translation: God is my light, leads us to destiny
- Samael - translation: the severity of God, angel of death
- Sandalphon - translation: bringing together, battles Samael and brings mankind together
- Jophiel - translation: Beauty of God, expelled Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden holding a flaming sword and punishes those who transgress against God.

**These are the only two angels mentioned by name in the Hebrew Bible; the rest are from extra-biblical tradition.*

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Mary

Consistory News

The Consistory met on Tuesday, August 8th, 2017 and discussed, reported and voted on the following items:

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

Treasurer's Report: General Operating Fund Income and Expense Summary for July 2017.

Operating Fund	July 2017	2017 YTD	July 2016	2016 YTD
Income	\$10,303.87	\$75,565.92	\$10,550.11	\$69,555.81
Expenses	\$8,644.50	\$74,211.65	\$8,124.86	\$73,790.58
Income vs. Expenses	\$1,659.37	\$1,354.27	\$2,425.25	(\$4,234.77)

- Benevolence received for July was \$255.00 and will be sent to PSEC. Year to date total is \$2,022.00

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

Communion will be celebrated on September 3rd.

We have received several questions recently regarding the exploration of having air conditioning installed in the sanctuary, with the main question pertaining to the cost of installation and where the money would come from. To clarify this, a few years ago we started to receive offering money that was designated specifically for the installation of air conditioning in the sanctuary. At that point an "air conditioning fund" was created, which functions identically to the steeple fund that we had established to complete the steeple renovation a few years ago. As we continue to receive offering money designated solely for this purpose, it gets added to the fund balance. The air conditioning fund has accrued approximately \$25,000 since it was started, and that money cannot be used for any purpose except the installation of air conditioning. Being financially at the point where the fund balance is within the realm of covering the total installation expense, we have contacted a few local companies to provide estimates for the installation. We understand that there are some people who do not feel there is a need to air condition the sanctuary, and we assure you that no actions will be taken to proceed with the installation until a congregational meeting is held.

Last month we received notice that Hill Church had been listed as a beneficiary in the will of Ralph D. Groff. We have now received a distribution check in the amount of \$25,000, which is to be used for the preservation, maintenance, and improvement of church property. This money has been placed in a separate fund, and when the time comes to utilize this money we will commemorate Mr. Groff and his family according to his wishes.

On September 17th the Breakthrough Bike Challenge will once again be utilizing a portion of our parking lot as a rest stop as they peddle through the Oley Valley to raise funds for cancer research. Please be especially cautious as you travel to and from church on this day as there may be heavier bicycle traffic than normal.

Consistory Pre-Service set up for September will be provided by Anita Brady and Dottie Fronheiser. The next monthly Consistory Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 12th at 7:00 pm.

In Christ, Your Consistory: Anita Brady, Bob Fleming, Dottie Fronheiser, Rick Furches, Bonnie Helmick, Mark Hile, Ray Kochey, David Mutter, Arlan Schaeffer, Terry Shane, Matt Weller, and Pastor Mary Lake-Dillensnyder.

Choir Notes

Choir season is upon us. Join us for singing, fellowship and fun. Thanks to all the volunteers that help provide music for our Summer services.



Wed. Sept. 13----- Sr. Choir 7:00 PM
Wed. Sept. 20-----Sr. Choir 7:00 PM
Wed. Sept. 27----- Sr. Choir 7:00 PM



Cantata rehearsal will start Wed. Oct. 4th at 8:00 PM. Mark your Calendars! Join us if able.

Elmer Miller
Organist/Music Director
610-367-5613 or e-mail elmerhm@dejazzd.com

Sunday School News

Regular Sunday School classes for kids and adults will begin September 3rd at 8:30 am - We have a class for you, be sure to join us!

The kids went shopping with the Joyful Noise offering collected and purchased over 20 backpacks for the Boyertown Multi-Service to hand out to kids and over \$250 in food for operation backpack. Thank you for your support. The kids had a great time picking out all the items...check out the Facebook page to see a photo!

Our next leadership meeting will be on September 11 at 7:00 pm.



Park Committee News

Workday & Men's Breakfast: Saturday, September 9, 2017

We'll start with the men's breakfast about 7:00 am at Creek Side Diner. Afterwards (around 8 am) meet at church to tackle our to do list!

Everyone is welcome. Thanks and see you there.

News from the Women's Guild

What a fun night we all had at the Annual Guild Grab Bag Auction! We raised \$1,116.00 for our church doors! Thank you to everyone that donated bags to auction and also to everyone that came out to bid on the awesome bags! If you couldn't make it this year, place the 2018 date on your calendar for August 7th, 2018. Our auctions are always filled with fun and surprises!

SCOUTING NEWS



Is your family ready for adventure? St. John-Hill UCC's Cub Scout Pack is back and ready for fun! There's no better way to spend time with your son and your whole family than Scouting. Boys develop respect for others, self-esteem, and reverence all while having fun! We are open to boys from Kindergarten through 4th grade. Come to our signup nights at Boyertown Sr. High on September 7th OR Oley Valley Elementary on September 27th – both nights start at 7 PM. Questions? Call or text Steve Gehris at 610-705-2405.

Be Prepared for Fun and Adventure!

Celtic Martins Summer Concert



Sunday, September 10, 2017

Music 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Food Available at 4:00 p.m.



Help needed to set up starting around 1 pm and food servers by 4 p.m.

Baked goods are not needed for this concert

Refreshments and concert rain or shine.

Free will offering will be taken.

Weekly Community Outreach Collection - Bethany Children's Home

We will continue to support our local community through Bethany Children's home. For the month of September we will collect a few needed items for their kids. Please do not feel like you have to contribute but if you can, know it is greatly appreciated by those who are in need in Bethany!

Items needed are:

- Bed pillows
- Tooth brush covers
- Alarm clocks – electric, no radio
- Fidget toys/stress balls
- Card games (ie: uno, skipbo, etc)
- Combination locks

ANNUAL BUCKWHEAT PANCAKE & SAUSAGE SUPPER



Saturday, October 7, 2017

Dinner served 3:00 -7:30 p.m.

Cost: Adults \$9.00 Children 3-10 yrs. \$5.00 Take out \$1.00 extra

Dinner includes: Sausage, Buckwheat Pancakes, Regular Pancakes, Homefries, Vegetables, Dessert & Beverage

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, October 4 at 6:00 p.m.

Clean-up of grounds and wash dishes in the dining hall. Your help is needed!
(Please bring your own lawn equipment).

Saturday, October 7 at 7:00 a.m.

Morning food preparations start at 7 am.

(peel & slice potatoes, set up tables, prepare take out sides, cut & stack sausages)

Meals are served starting at 3 p.m.

(1 pm help with mixing pancake mix, frying sausage and potatoes)

(2:30 pm waitresses & kitchen help needed)

Donations of baked goods are needed and are greatly appreciated!

Monday, October 9 at 6:00 p.m.

Trash removal and returning items from dining hall to church attic.

Again your help is needed. Please do not wait to be asked, we do not know your schedule, but we need your help for clean up on Wednesday evening and also for the Saturday events! We don't know who you are - so contact Eileen, Dennis or Nancy with what you can help with any day or time for above activities. Your time is so appreciated.

Proceeds of this event help sponsor our Sunday School and Youth Group curriculum along with helping families with camp fees, Vacation Bible School, Sponsorship of an Elder person, \$10.00 pack of tickets per student for Knoebels Grove Sunday, sponsorship of our Creation Festival; chaperones for our Youth. What a wonderful gift we can all help to nurture our Youth!

Announcements from the Hill



Oley Fair

Saturday, September 23rd Hill Church will be joining forces with the Lutheran church and volunteering at the Oley Fair in the hot dog/hamburger stand from 4 pm to close. Please contact Eileen Fisher if are able to help out for more details. A free parking pass for the night is available if you help out. It is a great night of laughter, fun and work all while helping the community!



BACK TO COLLEGE

We need your help in getting a list together of names, addresses, and e-mail addresses of our new college students, returning students, and military personnel. Once completed, we will post the list in the Narthex so that anyone who would like to keep in touch with them can do so. Please give your information ASAP to the church secretary at 610-367-8114 or nikki@stjohnhillucc.org. Thanks!

Fundraiser

Contact our sexton, Charles Anhalt, for discounted in-house tile and carpet cleaning. 20% of all proceeds received will be donated to our church in honor of you. Contact Charles at 484-333-1424.

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!

Aluminum Can Collection

The youth group continues to collect and recycle aluminum cans. You can put your bags of cans through the side window of the barn at the church that is facing the road any time you have a full bag. We use the money to support our many activities and also to help sponsor a child in the Philippines.



Church Office Hours

Please note that beginning the week of August 28 Nikki will be changing her church office hours. The new hours will be Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 12:15 pm – 4 pm.

2nd Sunday Coffee Hour

There are still a few open dates available if you would like to host a coffee hour after church. Sign up in the Sunday School hallway.

Church Contact Information

Rev. Mary Lake-Dillensnyder - Pastor

Rev. Jim Rogers – Pastor Emeritus

Mr. Elmer Miller – Musical Director/
Organist

Mrs. Nikki Weller – Church Secretary



Mr. Charles Anhalt - Sexton

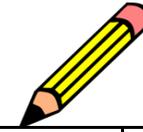
Mrs. Wendy Shane - Church Treasurer

Church Telephone: 610-367-8114

Church Website: www.stjohnhillucc.org



SEPTEMBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Service w/ Holy Communion	4 9 am Prayer Group 9:30 am Bible Study	5 7 pm Women's Guild Meeting	6	7	8	9 7 am Men's Breakfast 8 am Work Day
10 8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Service Outdoor in the Bandshell 5 pm Celtic Martins Summer Concert	11 9 am Prayer Group 9:30 am Bible Study 7 pm Sunday School Meeting	12 7 pm Consistory Meeting	13 7 pm Sr. Choir	14	15	16
17 8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Service w/ Joyful Noise Offering NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	18 9 am Prayer Group 9:30 am Bible Study	19	20 7 pm Sr. Choir	21	22	23 4 pm - Close Work in Hamburger Stand at Oley Fair
24 8:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Service 3 pm Youth Event	25 9 am Prayer Group 9:30 am Bible Study	26	27 7 pm Sr. Choir	28	29	30