



News from the Hill...

St. John-Hill U.C.C. 620 Hill Church Road, Boyertown, PA 19512 May 2020

This newsletter has worship and events scheduled, but due to the changing circumstances with the Coronavirus, please check the church answering machine, website and Facebook page for the most up to date information.



• FROM THE • Pastor's Desk

Were you ever waiting for paint to dry? You think "Maybe it's dry now." You go and touch it in an inconspicuous spot. No. Now I need to wash off that finger. A little while later, you think "I wonder if it is dry now?" You go to check; it's still sticky. You know if you sit on it or rub against it your clothes will be ruined. No, I need to wait a littler longer.

That's the way it is with us now with this corona virus. We want it to be over. We want to hug our grandchildren again. We want to go back to work. We want to go back to church. But we can't rush things; we have to wait until it is safe.

As I write this in April I have some tomato plants in my basement I want to plant. I keep checking the weather reports - no, not this week, maybe next week.

The prophet Habakkuk was impatient with God. He wrote, "I will climb my watchtower and wait to see what the Lord will tell me . . ." The answer he received: "The righteous live by their faith."

This is a time for patience, waiting for God's time, which is not our time. And that time will come.

Charles Maxfield

SCRIPTURES FOR MAY

First Peter is the basis of our sermons in May. It is a letter addressed to a church suffering severe persecutions. It's words of encouragement and identity are of value any time.

May 3

In His Steps

1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

May 10

God's People

1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

May 17

Gentle witnesses

1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

May 24

Strength in Temptation

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

May 31

Pentecost

The Spirit's Freedom

Numbers 11:24-30; Acts 2:1-21

We do not have any service designated as communion at this time. You may celebrate communion, using the service on our web site, any time.

CONSISTORY NEWS

The April Consistory meeting was cancelled, but we have remained in contact by email and phone.

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

Treasurer's Report: General Operating Fund Income and Expense Summary for March 2020.

Operating Fund	March 2020	2020 YTD	March 2019	2019 YTD
Income	\$7,938.01	\$26,250.00	\$12,431.99	\$32,935.80
Expenses	\$11,519.35	\$27,304.71	\$7,887.19	\$26,861.94
Income vs. Expenses	(\$3,581.34)	(\$1,054.71)	\$4,544.80	\$6,073.86

• Benevolence received for March was \$174.00 and will be sent to PSEC. Year to date total is \$711.00

We are hopeful that conditions will improve and we might be able to gather for worship in May, however we continue to monitor the situation and follow the recommendations of public health officials.

While church activities were cancelled for the month of April, we have been blessed by the work of our staff and the support of our church family to continue ministry during this time.

The consistory agreed to offer full salary to our staff during this time, however some of the staff has requested that we either reduce their pay or discontinue pay until church activities resume. We also voted to not accept April rent payment for the sexton house.

We received a recommendation from PSEC to apply for the Paycheck Protection Program, which would provide a forgivable loan to help pay our staff. We have contacted Truist Bank, and they informed us that currently there is not enough funding available in this program to provide us with any assistance. Our understanding is that this may change in the next few weeks and they will keep us posted on any updates.

Pre-Service set up for May will be provided by Bonnie Helmick and Matt Weller. The next monthly meeting has not been scheduled at this time.

In Christ, Your Consistory: Dottie Fronheiser, Rosalie Fronheiser, Bonnie Helmick, David Mutter, Mayetta Shane, Sally Shirk, Clarence Weller, Nikki Weller, Matt Weller, and Rev. Charles Maxfield.



Choir Rehearsal Schedule



The Sr. Choir will rehearse Wednesday evenings at 7 pm starting the week before worship services resume.

Elmer Miller
elmerhm@dejazzd.com

Giving & Donations to the Church

There have been some questions about how to give during this time we are not together for worship. While we know your situation may not permit you to give, and that is ok, but if you would like to, please utilize the following ways:

1. Mail a check or your offering envelope to the church address
2. Set up automatic payments with your bank (this can be done online through your bank or by going into your bank branch office)
3. Use Tithly online giving via the church website or app you can download on your phone

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Nikki in the church office or Matt Weller, consistory president.

Cancellations

The following events have been cancelled due to safety and health concerns around Covid-19.

- Scrapbook Saturday
- Annual Ham Supper
- Vacation Bible School
- June Summer Concert featuring The Celtic Martins

Boyertown Multi-Service

The multi-service is in need of monetary or food donations. Monetary donations can be made on their website or by mailing a check to them. They can use this money to purchase food at a greatly discounted price from the food bank. Food donations can be dropped off at the back of the building in the crates (no contact) or by contacting Nikki in the church office to arrange drop off at the church.

Prayer Requests

Do you have a prayer request? E-mail it to nikki@stjohnhillucc.org or call the church office (610-367-8114) by Wednesday evenings. If requested, prayers will be included in the Sunday Worship video.

Get Connected

We are online and trying to keep you informed...

YouTube

search "St John Hill UCC Boyertown"
(<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCojKfDHhEROC126j587MLIQ>)

Website

www.stjohnhillucc.org

Facebook

www.facebook.com/stjohnhillucc

E-mail

office@stjohnhillucc.org

Phone

610-367-8114

*The Lord himself goes before
you and will be with you;
he will never leave you nor
forsake you. Do not be afraid;
do not be discouraged.
~Deuteronomy 31:8~*

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

2nd Sunday of the month after church

Consistory

2nd Sunday of the month after church

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

Ham Supper

-Cancelled-

Celtic Martins Summer Concert

-Cancelled-

Ringgold Band Picnic & Concert

1st Saturday in August

Crow Hill Bluegrass Summer Concert

September 13, 2020

Buckwheat & Sausage Supper

1st Saturday in October

Turkey Supper

1st Saturday in November

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 - Elmer Miller

Church Secretary - Nikki Weller

Sexton - Charles Anhalt

Consistory President - Matt Weller

Consistory Vice President - Dottie Fronheiser

Church Treasurer - Wendy Shane

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