



News from the Hill...

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

• FROM THE • *Pastor's Desk*

Are you angry? You have a perfect right to be angry. This Covid-19 pandemic has turned our world upside down. School! Work! Our “normal” relations with family and friends! Everything is unfamiliar and uncomfortable. You have a right to be angry!

Not all anger is bad. God gets angry. Jesus got angry with the money-changers in the Temple. The prophets shared the anger of God over injustice, oppression, and faithlessness. Sometimes anger over something we have done can cause us to repent. But that is not what we are talking about now.

The dangerous thing about anger is that it can build up in us, and explode, and we can end up hurting people we love. We don't want to do that. So what can we do with anger toward this invisible enemy? It is possible to direct our anger toward leaders who have not shone leadership, and people who throw precaution to the wind. But let our anger be mingled with compassion.

If you are angry with God, let God know. People have been getting angry with God for thousands of years. God is used to it, and will have no hard feelings toward us. When we pray, we need to be honest with God and share how we feel. Only then can God begin to show us a way out of this,

Anger is only one of many emotions. We don't want to be angry all the time. Our faith gives us the antidote of love. Our source of love is God. It is God who has given God's self for us in Jesus Christ. It is God who gives us life in fullness and joy. It is God who has planted in our hearts a love for others, near and far. It is God who can still the troubled waters of our soul.

Are you angry? You have a perfect right to be angry. You also have a perfect right to be grateful for all of the blessings we too often take for granted. One of these feelings should not drive out the other. Walk with them both in your heart, and you will find our Lord walking with you.

Charles Maxfield

SCRIPTURES FOR SEPTEMBER

Pastor Maxfield will continue to lead worship and preach for the remainder of the month. He will be exploring some of Jesus' best known parables from the Gospel of Matthew.

September 6

Special service with a candidate for the position of pastor of our church, to be followed by a congregational meeting.

September 13

Scripture: Parable of the unforgiving servant
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35
Sermon: “Grace as a Way of Life”

September 20

Scripture: Parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16
Sermon: “The Injustice of Mercy”

September 27

Scripture: Parable of Two Sons
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32
Sermon: “Words and Deeds”

CONSISTORY NEWS

The Consistory met on Wednesday, August 12th, 2020 and discussed, reported and voted on the following items:

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

Operating Fund	July 2020	2020 YTD	July 2019	2019 YTD
Income	\$8,627.51	\$68,706.12	\$8,816.60	\$74,365.71
Expenses	\$5,841.44	\$51,921.52	\$7,880.19	\$70,969.78
Income vs. Expenses	\$2,786.07	\$16,784.60	\$936.41	\$3,395.93

• Benevolence received for July was \$140.00 and will be sent to PSEC. Year to date total is \$1,546.00

Heating oil prepay has been approved at \$2.039/gallon.

Church – 2500 gallons

Sexton House – 1200 gallons

Parsonage – 600 gallons

The Pastor Search Committee has informed us that they have chosen a candidate for consideration. There will be two opportunities to meet with the pastor and his family. On Saturday, September 5th from 6-8pm we will have a meet and greet in the picnic grove, then on Sunday, September 6th he will lead us in worship. Following the worship service, we will have a Congregational Meeting to discuss and vote on the candidate. We hope that you will join us for this very exciting time!

We are in need of new Consistory members for 2021. Please see any current Consistory member if you would like to join, or have any questions about it.

We give thanks that we have been able to resume worship services at Hill Church, and are hopeful that conditions allow this to continue. We will monitor conditions and keep you posted on any necessary adjustments.

Altar flower delivery has been postponed for now, and we anticipate that will resume sometime in the fall. In the meantime, if you would like to provide flowers, please contact Nikki in the office to make arrangements.

Pre-Service set up for September will be provided by Bonnie Helmick and Sally Shirk. The next monthly meeting will be September 13th after worship service.

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.

Christian Education News

We have decided to cancel a few late summer events to help keep everyone safe:
-Crow Hill Bluegrass Summer Concert

Starting September 13th kids will be invited to leave the worship service to watch a bible video in the Sunday school rooms during the service. We will ask kids to continue to wear their masks while watching the movie.

Our Annual Buckwheat & Sausage Supper will continue with some modifications. This years supper will be take out only and only have buckwheat pancakes available. As much as all the homemade desserts will be missed, the only dessert provided will be ice cream. More details will be in the next newsletter and online soon!

Choir News

Due to Covid-19 restriction guidelines there will be no scheduled choir rehearsals. I will be sending emails to do a few songs together as a virtual choir. If you are interested in helping out, please let me know - you do not need to be tech savy to help out.

Elmer Miller
610-367-5613 elmerhm11@gmail.com

Search Committee & Congregational Meeting

The SearchCommittee is excited and pleased to announce they have a recommendation for our new pastor. We have scheduled an informal meet & greet with him and his family on Sat., Sept 5 from 6-8 pm in the picnic grove. A trial sermon outside in the bandshell followed by a congregational meeting to vote on the candidate will be Sun, Sept 6 at 9:30 am. If you have any questions please see any member of theSearchCommittee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blood Drive

St. Joseph's will hold a Miller-Keystone Blood Drive September 26 from 9 am to 2 pm. If you are interested in donating blood, please call Kathee Rhode at 484-300-2300 to make an appointment.

2021 Consistory Members

We are in need of new members to join the consistory for 2021. There will be 3 members whose terms are ending. If you are interested in joining please see any consistory member.

Altar Flowers

We will resume altar flower delivery and sponsorship in the fall. If you have flowers you would like to place in the front of the church from your flower garden, please call Nikki in the church office (610-367-8114) to schedule a Sunday to bring them.

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.

Bible Study

The Monday morning Bible study group continues to meet at 9:00 a.m. Right now we are using the Upper Room as our guide. Each week is a different Bible passage and story, so anyone can participate, even if you can't attend every week. Please let Elmer or Mayetta know if you would like to join in on the lively conversations!

Back to College

As our college students start to move back to school we would love to keep in touch. Please give their address to Nikki (nikki@stjohnhillucc.org or 610-367-8114) in the church office.

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

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

-Cancelled-

Crow Hill Bluegrass Summer Concert

-Cancelled-

Buckwheat & Sausage Supper

1st Saturday in October - Takeout Only

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