



SOUNDINGS



July and August 2019

THIS SUNDAY, JULY 14th is HERITAGE DAY!
Join us for the
HERITAGE DAY COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE
at 10 a.m. at the Riverside Park Amphitheater!

Mission Outreach

Coordinator for ARK Luncheon, Wanted

Have you been wanting to get involved with the work of the church, but really can't commit to Deacons, Session or a Team? Well, here is an opportunity to "wet your feet" without diving into the water. The total obligation will be maybe 8 hours over 4 weeks. Check it out!

Lunch is provided to people in need at Trinity Episcopal Church in Easton at 10:30 am on **Saturday, August 10th**

Menu is pre-planned.

Church members are notified in the bulletin.
Church members donate food.

Your responsibilities include:

- Confirming volunteers for the luncheon
- Coordinating donations
- Transporting food from church
- Reminding servers to arrive at 10:30am

Please email naomiudut@ymail.com with your name and contact information.

Unable to commit to this position? Please consider assisting with the food donations.

Safe Harbor Meals

FPCE provides dinner the 1st Monday of each month at Safe Harbor. The sign-up sheet is posted on the upstairs Mission Bulletin Board. A Team from our church (or any family or group of people) signs-up to donate supplies, cook and serve a meal to the approximately 30 Safe Harbor patrons.

What is Safe Harbor?

Safe Harbor of Easton is more than a shelter. It is dedicated to empowering and educating homeless men and women, and to helping them to achieve a better way of life.

Safe Harbor provides emergency shelter, a daily meal program and case management for all clients.

Questions? Contact Nancy Udut (610.253.5455)

Support the Troops Collection

Traveling this summer? Please take the small soaps, shampoos, creams, etc. that you do not use and leave at church in Mission Team Mailbox for "Support the Troops." This is another way we are able to help those serving without really taxing our budgets!
Thanks for remembering!

**Pasta For****Project**

"For I was hungry,
and you gave me something to eat." Matthew
25:35

Our thanks go out to all of you who have remained faithful in your giving to the ProJeCt Food Pantry on the first Sunday of each month. Thanks to your generosity, we delivered **102 pounds in June!** Canned pasta is greatly appreciated by those who are homeless. There is also a need for microwaveable pasta for those living in low cost housing with only a microwave for cooking. Please help us meet our goal of at least 75 pounds per month.

"Cover The Piggies"

Once again, we will be helping First UCC on Third Street collect sneakers for school age children in Easton. The sneaker (gently used shoes and new sneakers all sizes) collection will take place until July 29th. The Mission Team will place a collection box in Legacy Hall for donations and will deliver them to First UCC, but you are more than welcome to drop off your donations at First UCC.

If you know of a family that needs sneakers, please see the flyer on the Mission bulletin board for details or go to the UCC website at <https://www.firstuccceaston.org/ministry-a-mission/christian-witness/qcover-the-piggiesq-shoe-drive.html>.

Registration is a must for those who wish to receive shoes. This needs to be done between July 11 and July 19. Once registered, the recipient will be given an appointment time for pick-up. Recipients must be able to pick-up their own sneakers on Saturday, August 17th.



Fellowship**BOOK CLUB**

The Book Club is open to everyone!

The Club will enjoy lunch at the Widow's Tavern in Stockertown on July 15 at 1 PM. Please RSVP to Nancy Pruitt. Bring an unwrapped book that you would like to get rid of, so someone else can enjoy it.

On August 19 the Book Club will be discussing the book **The Stranger in the Woods** by Michael Finkel. You don't have to have read the book to come and be part of the conversation. Our discussions are interesting and lively! Come see what we are all about.

BRUNCH BUNCH

The Brunch Bunch will be going to Longhorn Steakhouse at 3784 Dryland Way, Easton, on Sunday, July 21. All are welcome!

**THANK YOU**

Thank you for all the cards and prayers for Barry following his cancer diagnosis, surgeries, chemo and radiation treatments. We appreciated all the meals from deacons and other church members, the shawl from the Shawl Ministry, and especially for all the hospital visits and home visits from Pastor Stefanie.

Barry and Lorraine Fugere

Birthdays**JULY**

- 3 Noralee Manzek
- 8 Shirley Van Norman
- 12 Chris Gulotta
- 13 Gary Evans, Alexa Hughes
- 22 Anna Marie Fehr
- 26 Richard Ellis
- 29 Darcel Bridges, Michael Muthoka
- 30 Art Charlton

AUGUST

- 3 John Charlton
- 10 Mercy Mbevi
- 15 Joshua Charlton
- 16 Pat Koefoed, Joseph Manzel
- 19 Diane Meyers
- 22 Carl McGloughlin
- 25 Michael Udut
- 27 Rodney Bridges
- 31 Naomi Smith



LEADERSHIP

Membership Team Chair

After many years of dedicated service our Membership Team Leader, Nancy Pruitt, has rotated off Session. Our thanks to her and her dedicated team. Now this new members as well as a new leader are needed in this important ministry.

The ministry of this team could be summed up with the words welcome, hospitality and fellowship. There are specific tasks this team performs: noting new visitors who have come to worship, for example. At this time there are opportunities to explore new ways to help our congregational members, long time and new, feel connected in this blessed community. A leader is needed who can call regular (quarterly) meetings, communicate with the team members between meetings, and work with Rev. Muntzel and a Session liaison to focus the team on this church's congregational life. If you have a heart for building community and have some organizational skills, maybe God is calling you to this position. The leader does NOT need to be an elder or deacon. Please e-mail our office or speak with Rev. Muntzel if you are interested in learning more.



Seeking Interim Office Administrator

Our office administrator, Nancy Penman, is going on long term medical disability. She will not be able to return to work with us in the near future. The good news is that Nancy is making progress, slow but steady. We continue to pray for her during this time of recovery and she has said that she appreciates all the cards and support from our church.

Our personnel team, with the approval of Session, has authorized the creation of an interim, part-time (under 30 hours) church administrator's position. This has the potential to grow into a full-time, long term position. We will begin the search mid-July working through contacts within Lehigh Presbytery. And while we hope to find someone familiar with church life in general, we will not be accepting applications from church members (due to the many conflict of interest situations which would arise, the amount of personal information this position involves handling, etc.). Our advertisement will be posted on our website.

Please offer your prayers as we search for the right person to support our ministry.

Pastor's Page

I like to make jokes about what they don't teach pastors in seminary. In many ways my job is so multi-faceted there is no school ("life experience!") that can prepare you to be a writer, a counselor, a non-for-profit manager, a preacher, a teacher, etc. But pest extermination is definitely not something covered in Pastor training 101. But here we are, our building has a flea infestation! Three Sunday's ago, we became aware of insects in our sanctuary. (Our choir director Elizabeth Campbell and head usher Jay Koch can tell you what an understatement that is!)

The Church is not a building.
It's the people.



Immediately we began to work with the commercial pest control company who does maintenance in our building (as part of what is required for our kitchen). But we quickly learned that for this situation we needed a smaller company who could offer us more timely customer service and a more comprehensive approach. We now have that support through a local exterminator who is partnering with us to address this huge inconvenience. Our **entire** building is being treated. We are working to determine the source of our problem. Our experts tell us that it takes time for treatments to take full effect and under their advice we are limiting access to our building for as long as we can. Our sister church, Genesis, and others who use our building have been very understanding. I appreciate their patience.

We have every hope of being back in our sanctuary by July 21st. But if we have any doubt that we have not tackled our pest issue, we will make arrangements to worship elsewhere until we do. Our joint worship with Pilgrim Presbyterian Church in Philipsburg last Sunday was such a joy. (My husband is pastor there and it was a treat for us to lead worship together.) This Sunday, July 14th, we were already scheduled to join other downtown churches to worship at the river as we jointly celebrate Easton Heritage Day. I will email an update regarding worship for the rest of the month by July 19th and will post an update on our Facebook page. (We will work on establishing a formal telephone chain for the future unforeseen events in warmer seasons.)

My thanks to our property team co-chairs, Shirley Keller and Rich Linnell, for all the extra time they have put in—as well as others who have rallied to help during this frustrating adventure.

This church is truly blessed by God. I say this not because of a charmed existence we lead, not one of us individually nor collectively is free of problems and challenges. But in the face of difficulty you come together and offer support; you offer jokes and a warm embrace; you lift up prayers and remain focused on God's goodness. This is the gift of knowing God's grace. I look forward to worshipping with you again in our beautiful sanctuary, to offering God all our thanks and praise.

Rev. Stefanie Muntzel