

The Heavenly Herald

“We will share the love of our Lord, building on our past, reaching in faith toward our future.”

A letter from the Pastor...

JUNE, 2023

Psalm 92:1-2

*"It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night."*

Dear Friends,

I have an odd question for all of you. When was the last time you gave thanks to God for your Garbage Collector...Your once full but now empty garbage can...The Dumpster in the church parking lot?

I said it was going to be an odd question. All too often we go about our busy lives, and we forget about all of the people and things that keep our lives functioning without interruption. It may not sound like much but offering a kind word of encouragement to the garbage collector, postal worker, cashier, utility repair person can go a long way in building up the kingdom of God in our community.

We are called to give thanks to the Lord in all situations and at all times. This Summer, as you find yourselves at picnics, barbecues, and graduation parties galore, try to carry that same joyful spirit with you for the times in between. Let us not just be thankful during times of great feasting and fellowship, but also during those times when we find ourselves in need of a helping hand.

The next time your garbage gets picked up don't be frustrated over a world that makes so much garbage. The next time you have to call a plumber to fix that leaky faucet don't yell at the puddle on your floor. The next time your air conditioner needs to be serviced, don't sweat over the heated temperature in your home. Instead, make sure that you share a thankful spirit with those who keep our world humming along.

In all things and at all times, remember that it is good to give thanks to the Lord!

In Christ,
Pastor Ben

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June 1st	Ralph Patsch Jr.	June 2nd	Missy Paxton
June 3rd	Douglas Cushey	June 3rd	Robert Cushey
June 3rd	Matthew Neely	June 3rd	Austin Comer
June 3rd	Kamden Jeffers	June 4th	Renee Poland
June 4th	Mary Skirpan	June 5th	Jennifer Neely
June 5th	Alexis Zendt	June 8th	Jeff Paxton
June 8th	Tim Surich	June 8th	Ron Weber
June 11th	Kevin Wittik	June 11th	Melanie Donahoo
June 11th	Tyler Cochran	June 13th	Joe Wiszczor
June 14th	Terri Weber	June 14th	Nathan Anestis
June 17th	Abigail McCarty	June 17th	Cara Tonarelli
June 19th	Dave Jardini	June 19th	Alison Speakman
June 19th	Haiden Shober	June 20th	Jason Neely
June 21st	Rachel Myers	June 22nd	Eden Jeffers
June 23rd	Kayleigh Valley	June 24th	George Mondik
June 24th	Dodie Hanna	June 24th	Jerry Williams
June 26th	Karen Zeiler	June 27th	Zach Young
June 30th	Artie Jeffers	June 30th	Debra Jeffers



June 3rd - Chad & Ruth Johnston Sr.
 June 7th - Daniel & Tina Sapienza
 June 7th - Jerry & Dina Williams
 June 11th - Ryan & Haley Steere
 June 12th - Kevin & Tamra Stevens
 June 14th - Kevin & Jamie Scears
 June 19th - Wayne & Mary Ann Clark
 June 24th - Alex & Janice Nakoneczny
 June 30th - Al & Patti Nagy Jr.

June 7th - Larry & Linda Baker
 June 7th - Brad & Lori Patsch
 June 11th - George & Lois White
 June 12th - Rodney & Kara Petras
 June 14 - Tracy & Denise Spinnenweber
 June 14th - Gary & Jonnie Swarow
 June 23rd - Adam & Virginia Johnston
 June 28th - Mark & Stacey Simpson

PRAYER LIST

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS:

Mindy Kelley, Brandon Craig, Darren Spiker, Cat Morgan, Rev. Don Austin, Millie Romeo, Tim Lynch, Melanie Donahoo, William Young, Patti Nagy, Ronnie Casper, JoAnn Pitcock, Amanda, Matthew Scears, Brad Pitcock, Brian Baumgardner, Bill Brown, Sophia Desmond, and Bill Ensley.



JUNE PRAYER REQUEST:

Diane Adamson, Howard Lovell, Jeff Brown, Rev. Peggy Shannon, Nancy Hofrichter, Inez Patsch, John Orlando, Daralyn Campbell, Susan Stonebraker, Jill & Rich Harshman, Joey Dudam, Jeff Van Fozmire, Darlene Dunn, Michael Kanotz, Frank Zaccone, Jacob Braun, Cory Clark, and Carole Borda.



PLEASE ALSO PRAY FOR:

**Pastor Ben and our Houston Church Leaders,
Our Nation and our Nation's Leaders, and
all unspoken requests of our church family.**

**July Newsletter Articles
due by Friday, June 23, 2023.**

SERVING THE CHURCH IN JUNE 2023

GREETERS

Deacon Greeters:

June 4th -

Linda Young (MV)
Pastor Ben (GV)
Jonnie Swarow (GH)

June 11th -

Pastor Ben (MV)
Gloria Schmalz (GV)
Sandy Wallace (GH)

June 18th -

Bob Blough (MV)
Pastor Ben (GV)
Harlan Shober (GH)

June 25th -

Gloria Schmalz (MV)
Pastor Ben (GV)
Bob Blough (GH)

Elder Greeters:

June 4th -

Virginia Bayne (MV)
Janice Bloesel (GV)
Libby Young (GH)

June 11th -

Janice Bloesel (MV)
Nancy Isiminger (GV)
Libby Young (GH)

June 18th -

Lala Patsch (MV)
Inez Patsch (GV)
Libby Young (GH)

June 25th -

Virginia Rockwell (MV)
Haley Steere (GV)
Janice Bloesel (GH)

Music: Karen Jones

Audiovisual: Leon Young

Liturgist: Jonnie Swarow

Money Counters:

May - Gloria Schmalz & Bob Blough
June - Karen Jones & Jonnie Swarow
July - Bob Blough & Gloria Schmalz
August - Bob Blough & Karen Jones

June Acolytes:

June 4th - Eden Jeffers
June 11th - Gary Swarow
June 18th - Mako Morgan
June 25th - Julia Swarow

Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, June 4, 2023.

NURSERY SCHEDULE:

June 4th - Jackie Orbich
June 18th - Haley Steere

June 11th - Sandy Wallace
June 25th - TBA

EASTER EGG HUNT - APRIL 8TH

The day was beautiful and bright for our Easter Eggstravaganza. We had 38 children show up for a story from Pastor Ben, crafts, games, snacks, and an egg hunt. Much thanks to all who donated candy and helped with the activities. Again, special thanks to Karen Jones for filling 60 (?) dozen eggs. Oh, and, the bunny ears are a good look on you, Pastor Ben!!



DEACONS NEWS

Ascension Thursday & Pot Luck Dinner



Before our Ascension service on Thursday, May 18th we served a pot luck dinner for about 35 people. Wonderful fellowship and of course lots of food to celebrate our Lord!

With summer approaching, we know everyone is busy, but we are making plans for another get together with our church family. If anyone has an idea, such as a game night or movie, please let a Deacon know!

SAVE THE DATE

August 20th-our Annual Church Picnic at Arnold Park!

Blessings - Virginia Bayne - Moderator



Yes, we are still collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Containers are in the fellowship hall! Thanks you.

Anyone need RADA - please see Nancy Isiminger!



We wish to thank the Deacons for honoring us at the Spring Luncheon for our 50th year membership of the First United Presbyterian Church of Houston.

Thanks to those who worked tirelessly preparing the food, serving the meal and cleaning up afterward.

Thanks to Jackie Shober who was instrumental in organizing the day including using the theme of the 50th Anniversary of Disney World for the very enjoyable program. Her creative ideas and work were tremendous and we can't thank her enough or say enough about her work.

Thanks to Karen Jones and the members of the Choir who wore their Mickey Mouse ears and sang Disney songs from the original Mickey Mouse Club to current Disney movies including little Julia who sang a solo and danced like a "Mouseketeer". It was wonderful and brought back lots of memories.

Jackie then had games including Mickey Trivia Questions as well as guessing costs of some items in 1973 compared to now. Amazing!

Thanks also for the gifts of beautiful travel mugs with scripture and inspirational quotes on them, the bouquet of roses and the certificates of recognition for 50 years. We also appreciate receiving the flowers that were on the Altar on Sunday morning.

We'd also like to thank Pastor Ben for his kind words and prayers and even his "corny" jokes!

It was a very special day and meant so much to us. It was certainly proven that 50 years ago we joined the right church!

Fred and Marilyn Lese

* * * * *

VBS



Vacation Bible School is coming up fast. June 26 - June 30 at 6:00pm. We will be traveling to Babylon to learn about "Daniel's Courage and steadfast faith in Captivity".

Please pass this on to your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, neighbors. Look for the registration form on page 7, or on-line on our website, houstonpresbyterian.org.

We can always use help as crew leaders, site helpers, or decorating. It's a fun week for all. Please consider joining us! See Sandy Wallace to register or volunteer to help.

GRADUATES

Calling all graduates! Let the church office know of any graduates from High School, College, or Technical School so we may recognize and congratulate them during Worship on June 11.





The week will be filled with stories, songs, crafts, science, and snacks.
Volunteers are always welcome and needed to lead and guide children.
 Station Leaders/Desert Guides will lead groups of children to each station.

**VBS is open to children 4 yrs of age through sixth grade. To register:
 Please complete the information below and submit.**

You can also register online at houstonpresbyterian.org (VBS Tab)

Questions? 724-746-3040 or email: secretary@houstonpresbyterian.org

**First United Presbyterian Church, 102 North Main Street,
 Houston, PA 15342**

Join us for VBS June 26-June 30, 2023 - 6:00pm - 8:30pm

REGISTRATION FORM

Student's Name: _____ Age: ____ Grade _____

Address: _____

Allergies/Medical Conditions: _____

Special Friend wishes to be with: _____

Father's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Phone: _____

In case of an Emergency and neither parent can be reached:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Photo Release: *First United Presbyterian Church/VBS has my permission to use my child's photograph publicly in VBS materials. I understand the images may be used in print publications, online publications, presentations, websites, and social media. I also understand that I will not receive any compensation for publication of photo use.*

Parent/Guardian/Volunteer's Signature: _____ Date: _____

I do not permit photos of my child to be shared:

Parent/Guardian/Volunteer's Signature: _____ Date: _____

I would like to volunteer as: _____ Crew Helper _____ Site Helper

I am available to volunteer on: _____ Mon _____ Tue _____ Wed _____ Thu _____ Fri

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

*Must have PA State Mandated Clearances to Volunteer. Clearances are FREE for volunteers.

Obtain at: <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>

or <https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp>

Point Pleasant Mission Trip

The Upper Ten Mile Presbyterian Church is inviting our congregation to join them in the mission trip this year as we have done in the past. The week is the 26th -30th of June 2023, we will be going to Point Pleasant, WV. The work is called “Poverty Recovery & Mitigation”, thru WMAW.

We will travel three and half hours to our host church, Point Pleasant Presbyterian Church, in Point Pleasant, WV, who graciously welcomes us. Representatives from the WV Ministry of Advocacy & Workcamps, Inc., will explain the jobs that are needed to be completed during the week and divide us into work groups, and provide the materials needed for the job. It is our job to do the physical labor, but the most important job is to provide spiritual support to the families we came to help.

The Point Pleasant Presbyterian Church is greatly involved in outreach in the community; food bank and clothing bank opened once a week, a blessing box outside the church, AA a couple nights a week, they make sure the children in the area have the necessary items to start school with (backpacks and school supplies), and hosting groups that come to help with the needs of the community.

Please ask us questions about the trip, you cannot believe the feeling of Christ filling your heart and boost of faith you receive by going on one of these trips.

If you are interested, please contact one of the following:

Leon Young – 724-255-1842

Linda Young - 724-825-1198



2023 Barnabas Award

It is time to apply for our church's Barnabas Award! Students who are pursuing post-high school education are invited to apply, this includes student continuing in their post-high school programs (upper classmen).

Two scholarships will be awarded, one to a first year student and one to a continuing student. Each scholarship is \$1000.00 per year, payable in two installments.



philipmartin.com

**The deadline to submit your information is
1:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 9, 2023.**

Instruction packets are available by calling the Church Office at 724-746-3040 and will be mailed to you.

**The awards will be presented at the Sunday service on
August 6, 2023.**

Barnabas was a missionary whose name means “son of encouragement.” We want to encourage our students to continue their education.



thank you

On behalf of the Canonsburg-Houston Ministerial Association I want to say thank you to the hard working folks at Waste Management. In order to support the many needs of Meals on Wheels, Waste Management has offered us a discounted rate for our dumpster and trash removal. It may not seem like that big of a deal, but trust me, when it comes to making sure warm meals can be delivered to those in need in our community, every penny counts!

A special thank you to all of the volunteers who sacrifice their time and talent and to everyone who supports this important mission and ministry in the name of Jesus Christ!

- Pastor Ben



June 4th - 10am Summer Worship begins.

June 26th - 30th - 6pm Vacation Bible School begins.

June 26th - 30th - Mission Trip to Point Pleasant, WV.

**August 26th - Rise Against Hunger,
West Alexander Fair Grounds.**

PASTOR BEN'S JUNE READINGS

Summer Worship at 10am Begins June 4!

JUNE 4, 2022

Trinity Sunday and
Communion Sunday

Psalm 8

Matthew 28:16-20

"Mortal Mindfulness"

JUNE 11, 2022

Graduate Sunday
2nd Sunday After Pentecost
Pulpit Supply
Rev. Dr. Bill Youmans

Happy Father's Day!

JUNE 18, 2022

3rd Sunday After Pentecost
Psalm 100
Matthew 9:35-10:23
"Shake Off the Dust"

JUNE 25, 2022


4th Sunday After Pentecost
Genesis 21:8-21
Matthew 10:24-39
"The Reason We Sing"

Vacation Bible School Begins Tomorrow, June 26!

JUNE 2023

Regular Eventss

Worship -10:00am

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
May 28 -	May 29 - Memorial Day Office Closed	May 30 -	May 31 -	1 -	2 -	3 -
4 - Communion Sunday Summer Worship begins today at 10am	5 - Ministry Mtg. 6:30 pm Pastor Ben Away thru June 11	6 - Deacons Mtg. 6:300 pm	7 - AED Training 6:00 pm Social Hall	8 -	9 -	10 -
11 - Graduation Sunday Rev. Dr. Bill Youmans	12 - Admin. Mtg. 6:30 pm	13 - Presby. Mtg. 4:00 pm Faith UP	14 -	15 -	16 -	17 -
18 - 	19 - Session Mtg. 6:30 pm	20 -	21 -	22 -	23 -	24 -
25 -	26 - VBS 6:00 - 8:30 pm	27 - VBS 6:00 - 8:30 pm	28 - VBS 6:00 - 8:30 pm	29 - VBS 6:00 - 8:30 pm	30 - VBS 6:00 - 8:30 pm	

Address Service Requested

Nonprofit organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Houston, PA 15342

Church Office
724-746-3040

Pastor Ext: 313
1379pbl@gmail.com

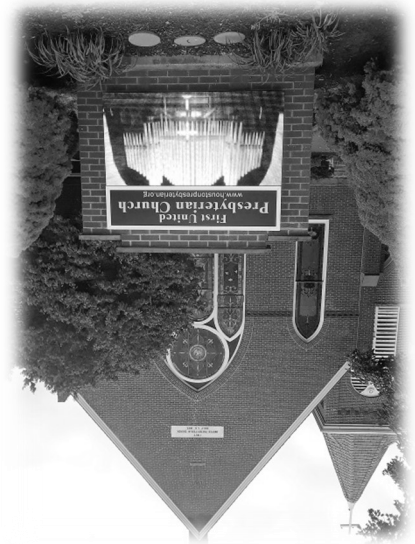
Secretary Ext: 310
secretary@houstonpresbyterian.org

Meals on Wheels Ext: 314
Open Door Nursery Ext: 311

Website
houstonpresbyterian.org

Sunday School
Sunday School Begins
Sept. 18th at 10:00am
Sunday Worship Service
September — May at 11:00 a.m.
Nursery Available
June-July-August at 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study
Tuesdays
10:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.



First United Presbyterian Church
102 North Main Street
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Gifts and Offerings

First United Presbyterian Church
102 North Main Street
Houston, PA 15342



Member Visitor

Name _____ No. _____

Please apply my offering as follows:

Regular Offering \$ _____
Deacons Fund \$ _____
Building Fund \$ _____
Special Project \$ _____

Memorial Fund \$ _____

In Memory of _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Thank you for your generous gift.