



News from the Hill...

St. John-Hill U.C.C. 620 Hill Church Road, Boyertown, PA 19512 August 2018

SCRIPTURES AND SERMONS FOR AUGUST

During August our Scriptures and sermons will explore some of the most dramatic stories in the Old Testament:

August 5 - The Multiplication of Sin

(Outdoor Service)

2 Samuel 12:1-14 Psalm 51:1-17
The story of: David and Bathsheba

August 12 - Love never stops

(Knoebels Sunday)

2 Samuel 18:5-33 Psalm 130
The story of: David and Absalom

August 19 - True Wealth

1 Kings 3:3-15 Psalm 111
The story of: Solomon's Dream

August 26 - Guest Preacher: Rev. George Harpel

Joshua 24:1-18 Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20 John 6:56-69

From the Pastor...

A Secret Place

In the movie, *The Education of Little Tree*, the grandfather says to the boy, named Little Tree, "Have you found your secret place? . . . Every Cherokee needs to find a secret place . . . a place where you can go when you need to go there." And so Little Tree found a beautiful, peaceful, spot in the woods, where he could go when he needed to go there.

I think we all need a secret place. It doesn't need to be a secret. But it should be a place where you can be alone, to pray, to think, to be still. It may be in the woods, or in your garden, or on your back porch. It may be a corner of a room, where you keep your Bible and devotional books, or some art that inspires you. In one place where I lived, when I heard melodious gospel music rising from the apartment beneath mine, I knew my neighbor was in his secret place, in front of his piano. He said he was praying.

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When I was going through some difficult transitions in my life, I would go a couple of miles out of town to a nature area, and walk into the woods to a quiet pond. It was called "Chicago Bog," named for a railroad line that no longer passed through. The deer drank quietly from the pond. The geese noisily congregated there on their journeys. I would sit, pray, think, and be still. After one visit, I wrote the following poem:

CHICAGO BOG

9 November 2006

Be still

Be still

Tears and joys

leave them behind!

Fears and hopes

leave them behind!

Nightmares and dreams

leave them behind!

Be still

Inhale,

and let the aroma of the leaves overwhelm you.

See the clouds and the blue sky

reflected on the still waters.

Hear the singing of the birds

echoing from the hillside.

Feel the gently breeze

against your skin

And when you have been still for a while,

Then you are ready to rise,

and return to that make-believe world we call civilization.

But carry with you

that stillness

in your heart.

May you have a secret place, where you can go when you need to go there.

Chuck Maxfield

Consistory News

The Consistory met on Tuesday, July 10th, 2018 and discussed, reported and voted on the following items:

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

Treasurer's Report: General Operating Fund Income and Expense Summary for June 2018.

Operating Fund	June 2018	2018 YTD	June 2017	2017 YTD
Income	\$14,634.03	\$62,059.00	\$8,757.75	\$65,262.05
Expenses	\$10,586.40	\$60,512.06	\$11,860.65	\$65,567.15
Income vs. Expenses	\$4,047.63	\$1,546.94	(\$3,102.90)	(\$305.10)

• Benevolence received for June was \$179.00 and will be sent to PSEC. Year to date total is \$1393.00

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

Since worship service will be an outdoor service on Aug. 5th, communion will be July 29th. Then next communion will be Sept. 2nd.

On August 26th we welcome Rev. Harpel to the pulpit as Rev. Maxfield will be away for the weekend.

On July 8th we had a congregational meeting to discuss the installation of air conditioning in the sanctuary, as well as replacing all of the entry doors to the church and Sunday school. A vote was taken after discussion and we will be moving forward with both projects. Our goal is to have all quotes submitted by our August Consistory meeting, and hopefully begin the projects in the coming months.

A new Carillon will be installed in place of the existing one that is no longer working or repairable. We hope to have the new one by the end of August.

We are in the process of forming a Transition Team, which will be responsible for creating our church profile. Once that is completed we will then form a Search committee, which will use the information gathered by the Transition Team to begin the process of searching for a full time pastor.

Due to some recent inquiries, we found it necessary to review and edit the fee structure for using the church building for weddings, especially in instances where the couples are not members of the church but wish to use the sanctuary, and supply their own minister to perform the ceremony. The new fee structure will be printed in our wedding guidelines information packet, as well as updated on our website.

We would like to remind everyone that if you are in need or know someone in need of pastoral care, please contact the church office so Pastor Chuck is made aware of the need.

There is still an open position on Consistory, and we encourage each of you to prayerfully consider volunteering to join us.

For the last few months we have been announcing that Wendy Shane will be resigning as Treasurer, and we will need to fill this position. We have not received any applications yet, and need to begin exploring any other options. While we would like to see this position filled in-house, it may be necessary to subcontract this job if there is no interest within our church family.

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Consistory Pre-Service set up for August will be provided by Rick Furches and Arlan Schaeffer. The next monthly Consistory Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 14th at 7:00 pm.

In Christ, Your Consistory: Bob Fleming, Dottie Fronheiser, Rick Furches, Bonnie Helmick, Mark Hile, Ray Kochey, David Mutter, Arlan Schaeffer, Terry Shane, Clarence Weller, Matt Weller, and Rev. Charles Maxfield.



Choir Notes

Summertime is winding down and choir time is quickly approaching! Choir rehearsal will start September 12th. Mark your calendars. Tune-up those voices! Hope to see you there.

Thanks and God Bless.

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

Christian Education News

Regular Sunday School classes for kids and adults will begin September 2nd at 8:30 am!

During VBS our kids collected an offering for the Mission Team to purchase Home Depot gifts cards. The kids collected \$200 during the week and that turned into gift cards to pay for supplies the mission team needed to help repair houses in the community.

Mark your calendars for the Annual Ringgold Band Picnic on Saturday, August 4. More details are in this newsletter.

Our annual family day at Knoebels in Elysburg will be on Sunday, August 12. We will meet at 10:30 am for a brief worship service followed by a fun filled day of rides, shows and fun. But, don't forget we need to test your driving skills at 1 pm on the bumper cars! Each Sunday School student will also receive \$10 in ride tickets.

The next meeting is August 6 at 7 pm.

Park Committee News



Summer has almost past and the Birdsboro Mission Trip is over. You're probably looking for something new to do now. How about coming out and giving us a hand on Saturday, August 11th, for work day. We normally meet at the Creek Side Diner for breakfast about 6:30 AM or at the church parking lot about 8:00 AM.

Any questions call Mark Hile 610-367-6572 or Terry Shane 610-367-7938

**CHURCH
WORKDAY**

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. ~ 1 Peter 4:10 NIV

Announcements from the Hill

Community Outreach

Community Outreach Collection – We will be collecting for Operation Backpack during the months of August and September. Below is a list of items needed to fill the backpacks each week. They request that each item be “single serve” if it is within a multi or larger pack. Thank you in advance for your support of this project! If you have any questions, please see Nikki Weller. note: items with (*) are in most need

- *Tuna To-Go
- *Complete Meals (like Hormel)
- *Ready to eat Soup (with a “pop-top”)
- *Mac and Cheese
- Spaghettios/Beef Ravioli
- Fruit Cups / Applesauce
- Granola / Fruit Bars
- Pop-Tarts
- Cereal
- Non-refrigerated Milk
- Variety Snack Packs
- Fruit Snacks
- Water
- Juice Boxes
- Pudding (pre-made cups)

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!

Church Office Hours



Monday 11 am - 3:30 pm
Tuesday 8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Thursday 8:30 am - 3:30 pm



Remington Ryde Summer Concert

Sunday, September 16, 2018

Music 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Food Available at 3:30 p.m.

Refreshments and concert rain or shine.
Free will offering will be taken.



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.

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.



Ringgold Band Picnic

Saturday, August 4th



We need lots of help. If you have never helped before now is the time to volunteer and have fun! Donations of baked goods are needed and greatly appreciated. Donations of intermission raffle items are also being accepted; please see Elmer Miller. Advertisement posters & signs are available in the Narthex. Please help distribute them throughout the community.

Please note that help IS needed to clean up grounds and set up and serve food the day of this event.. If you are available to help with clean up or the day of the event, please let Elmer, Eileen, Terry, Dennis or Nancy know. Come when you can, leave when you must!

The following dates are the schedule of events for the Ringgold Band Picnic:

Monday, July 30 @ 6:00 p.m.

Clean-Up (clean up dining hall and wash dishes, mow grass and trim weeds.)
Please bring lawn equipment for grounds work.



Wednesday, August 1 @ 6:00 p.m.

Rain date for clean up



Saturday, August 4 @ 1:00 p.m.

Food Preparation

(peel potatoes for french fries, complete grounds work, wiping down serving stand).

Saturday, August 4 @ 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Help with picnic and food sales.

Refreshments available at 3:00 p.m. Music from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.



Monday, August 6 @ 6:00 p.m.

Close up buildings and trash removal.



Church Contact Information

Rev. Charles Maxfield - Interim Pastor

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

Church E-mail: office@stjohnhillucc.org

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 day of the month at 7 pm

Women's Guild

1st Tuesday of the month at 7 pm

Consistory

2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm

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

Ringgold Band Picnic & Concert

1st Saturday in August

Remington Ryde Concert

September 16, 2018

Buckwheat & Sausage Supper

1st Saturday in October

Turkey Supper

1st Saturday in November

--2019--

Ham Supper

3rd Saturday in May

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 - Mr. Elmer Miller

Church Secretary - Mrs. Nikki Weller

Sexton - Mr. Charles Anhalt

Consistory President - Matt Weller

Consistory Vice President - Arlan Schaeffer

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Upcoming Events September 16 - Remington Ryde Concert October 6 - Buckwheat & Sausage Supper November 3 - Turkey Supper			1	2	3	4 Ringgold Band Picnic
5 9:30 am Worship Service	6 9 am Small Group Bible Study	7	8	9	10	11 6:30 am Breakfast @ Creekside Diner 8 am Work Day
12 9:30 am Worship Service Family Day at Knoebels 	13 9 am Small Group Bible Study	14 7 pm Consistory Meeting 7 pm Women's Guild Grab Bag Auction	15	16	17	18
19 9:30 am Worship Service Joyful Noise Offering NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	20 9 am Small Group Bible Study	21	22	23	24	25
26 9:30 am Worship Service Guest Pastor: Rev. Harpel	27 9 am Small Group Bible Study	28	29	30	31	