

# 1st UCC News

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 02- Robert Frederick

April 05- Donald Rynard

April 06- John Shellenberger

April 07- Beth Sheely

April 09- Leona Webb

April 12- Anita Dowd, Caitlin  
Fry, Jane Schmeck, & Kimberly  
Zeigler

April 15- Karen McKibben &  
Karen Schultz

April 17- James Menzter

April 20- Carolyn Carns & Rob-  
ert Myers

April 21- Lee Fischbach

April 24- Donald Rutz

April 26- P. Gary Eckman

April 27- Sandy Frederick

April 29- William Davidson

April 30- Florance Williams

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Roland & Caroline Makibbin- April 4, Married 70 Years

Max & Patricia Bentzel- April 12, Married 54 Years

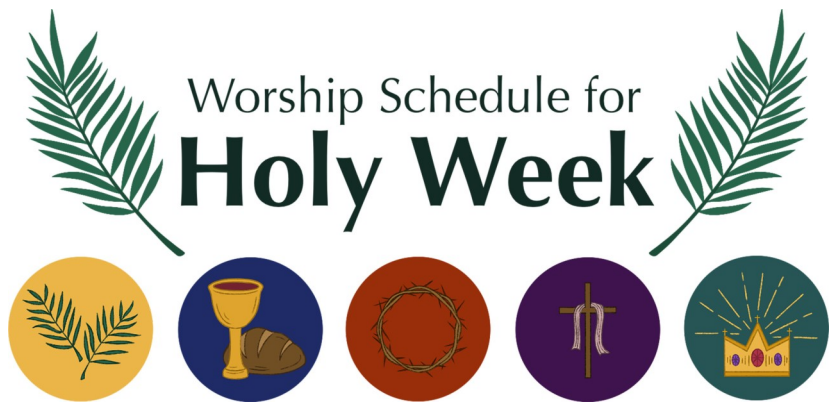
Gary & Candace Hoff- April 13, Married 55 Years

Todd & Joan Dickinson- April 25, Married 36 Years



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**Palm Sunday:** Sunday, April 2nd @ 10:00am

**Maundy Thursday:** Thursday, April 6th @ 7:00pm

**Good Friday:** Friday, April 7th @ 7:00pm

**Easter Sunday:** Sunday, April 9th @ 10:00am

### **Good Friday Cross Walk**

For 14 years Christians in Carlisle have gathered together on Good Friday to reflect on the last hours of Jesus' life while walking to various stations in the downtown area and to pray for international and local concerns. The intentions for 2023 will include the earthquake in Turkey and Syria, the war in Ukraine, the persecution in Nicaragua, etc. The same route will be used from last year.

Good Friday Cross Walk

April 7, 2023

12:00 - 2:00

various locations, downtown Carlisle

**“The Eye of a Needle: A Childhood Recollection”**

[‘Reframed’ from an earlier column.]

“Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” [Matthew 19:24, NIV]

As a child brought up in the church, and whose mother and grandmother were quilters, embroidery and crochet artists; AND, seamstresses who made many of my clothes, I associated the “eye of the needle”—not with the difficulties of “someone who is rich”; (I did not know anyone who was rich.); but, with the frustrations I experienced “first hand” attempting to thread the embroidery needle. And, I confess, I found it difficult to “thread ANY needle” whether it was a quilting, embroidery, or sewing machine needle. I failed completely at the “art of threading a needle.” (My younger sister inherited all the sewing talents (or patience) in my generation. J I was happy for her.)

However, even as a child, I knew a camel could never get through the “eye of a needle.” (It was obvious that the camel was too BIG!) So, I did my very best to learn the “techniques” of threading the small “eye of the needle,” SO I could use the vibrant-colored threads to stitch the embroidery pattern. I actually loved selecting the colors and matching them to the stamped design on the embroidery cloth. Fortunately, I developed the patience to persist and accomplished the “art” of threading the needle. Practice at threading the needle taught me that when the instructions called for more “strands” of thread, I would need to be more patient with MY-SELF when “guiding” the thread through the eye of the needle.

And, yes, “Alice and Dorothy” in our lives, we are going to encounter situations that are difficult to either change or accept. And, sometimes it takes more time to overcome obstacles when we have more threads to navigate through the needle of life. And, yes the Holy Word does use similes, metaphors, and hyperboles to get our attention. Anyone ever see “a camel go through the eye of a needle?”

Much OLDER now, I am grateful for my youthful attempts learning how to “thread the needle” because my valiant efforts taught me both persistence and gave me the ability to recognize that not everyone has the same talents. My inability to thread the needle led me to realize that there would be frustrations throughout my life requiring me to overcome obstacles in order to be successful. WISER now than when my mother and grandmother endeavored to teach me how to thread the embroidery needle, I now know not to become frustrated with new things I am learning to do in my community chaplaincy ministry; instead to recognize that God gives us all many talents (and colors) to “thread the eye of the needle” to accomplish our numerous tasks. Glory to God.



## SELF CARE WITH PASTOR RACHEL

**As I prepare for the Easter Season, I am reminded of writer Ann Weems reflections on this Holy Time. May your Easter be filled with Halleluahs! –Pastor Rachel**

### **Holy Week” by Ann Weems**

*Holy is the week ...  
Holy, consecrated, belonging to God ...  
We move from hosannas to horror  
with the predictable ease  
of those who know not what they do.  
Our hosannas sung,*

*our palms waved,  
let us go with passion into this week.  
It is a time to curse fig trees that do not yield fruit.  
It is a time to cleanse our temples of any blasphemy.  
It is a time greet Jesus as the Lord's Anointed One,  
to lavishly break our alabaster  
and pour perfume out for him  
without counting the cost.  
It is a time for preparation ...  
The time to give thanks and break bread is upon us.  
The time to give thanks and drink of the cup is imminent.  
Eat, drink, remember:  
On this night of nights, each one must ask,  
as we dip our bread in the wine,  
“Is it I?”  
And on that darkest of days, each of us must stand  
beneath the tree  
and watch the dying  
if we are to be there  
when the stone is rolled away.  
The only road to Easter morning  
is through the unrelenting shadows of that Friday.  
Only then will the alleluias be sung;  
only then will the dancing begin.*

## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Please note the following message that will be seen periodically in the church bulletin, as well as posted on the sanctuary doors:

Good day to you! We are glad that you are choosing to worship with us today. Please note that the time before, during, and after the worship is livestreamed and videotaped. There is the possibility of anything you say may be recorded, and your image may be captured by the video depending on where you are in the sanctuary. By attending or participating in any event in the sanctuary, you are giving your consent to be photographed and/or video recorded, and you are waiving all claims regarding the use of your image and voice by 1st United Church of Christ – Carlisle. We tell you this so that you may be fully informed. Blessings to you.

The leadership of 1st United Church of Christ – Carlisle



## CONSISTORY CANDIDATES FOR 2023-2024

On May 7, 2023, at the beginning of the worship service, a congregational meeting will be convened for the sole purpose of electing candidates to fill the positions of the current Consistory members whose terms are expiring. The Advisory Council nominating committee is proposing the following for new terms:

- ♦ Elder (three year term) – Shari Minnich and Mike Coulson
- ♦ Deacon (two year term) – Gail Havens, Brian Gish, and Stacy Rohrer

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Coulson at 717-574-4595.



## FROM THE EDITOR

This will be my last newsletter to all of you, however; it does not mean the newsletter itself will be coming to an end.

Cindy, our financial administrator, will be taking over the bulletins and newsletters until a replacement is found. Please bear with her as this is a new challenge for her.

If you are looking to contribute to the newsletter going forward, please email Cindy with your articles ([ccomer@1stuccofcarlisle.org](mailto:ccomer@1stuccofcarlisle.org)).

If anyone else would like to volunteer, please contact the office.

## WORSHIP SERVICE UPDATES

### Update on In-Person Services

We will continue to have worship services available in-person and virtually.

Starting Sunday 11/13/22, there will be some modifications to the COVID recommendations as follows:

We continue to recommend that everyone be Fully Vaccinated and Boosted.

Masks continue to be Optional for those who are Fully Vaccinated and Boosted and who attend worship service.

If you have Cold Symptoms such as Runny Nose, Cough, Sore Throat, Fever, or Muscle Aches- it is recommended that you either worship Virtually or do an In-Home COVID Test. If the COVID Test is Negative, you may worship in-person with a mask. If your symptoms persist, please contact your physician for further advice.

All our services will continue to be posted on the below sites:

- ◆ Watch Live at First United Church of Christ-Carlisle Facebook Page
- ◆ Listen Live on Uber Conference: 717-297-0493
- ◆ Watch Recording on YouTube Page of the Church
- ◆ Watch Recording on our website: [www.1ucc.org](http://www.1ucc.org)

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*“Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.”- Colossians 3:12*

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### Update on Locked-Door Procedure

Please know there is only one entrance to the church for office hours and worship days. It is the gray parking lot door.

Once the worship service begins, that door will be locked. If you happen to arrive slightly late to service, you can ring the church office doorbell to be let inside or call the church office. This will be monitored for up to 15 minutes into the worship service.

After 15 minutes, the church office will be empty, so please try to be timely when it comes to attending church services.

COVID Updates Provided by  
Dr. Greg Lewis of 1st UCC.



## COVID-19 UPDATES

There are no COVID-19 updates for April.

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

**Consistory**– 3rd Sunday Every Month

**Church & Ministry**– 1st Sunday Every Month

**Advisory**– Quarterly

**Caring Fellowship**– 2nd Tuesday Every Month

**Christian Ed**– 1st Sunday Every Month

**Church & Community Connections**– 2nd Tuesday Every Month

**Property Management**– 4th Wednesday Every Month

**Stewardship**– 2nd Wednesday Every Other Month

**Special Mission**– Samaritan Fellowship

\*You can find all council reports on the church website ([www.1ucc.org](http://www.1ucc.org)). If you would like a copy, please email Lyndsey ([Lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org](mailto:Lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org)). Check out the “Council News” for highlights!



Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 7 PM

First Lutheran Church (Martin Luther Room)

100 East High Street, Carlisle, PA 17013 (corner of East High and Bedford Streets)



## HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE SERVICE (Yom HaShoah)

Jointly sponsored by Congregation Beth Tikvah and the Carlisle Area Religious Council

"Antisemitism During the Holocaust:  
The Power of Toxic Terminology  
and Weaponized Words"



Guest Speaker: Michael F. Polgar PhD.  
Penn State Hazleton

Professor Polgar is the Co-Editor and Contributing Author of "The Holocaust:  
Remembrance, Respect and Resilience," an open educational resource (OER)  
textbook <https://psu.pb.unizin.org/holocaust3rs>

As the son and grandson of survivors, he will  
also share some of his family's history.



Musical interludes provided by Lori Elliott and Sue Northey,  
flutists for the West Shore Symphony Orchestra

Light refreshments to follow the service

Congregations are encouraged to bring  
a Sunday School class or youth group.



## COMMUNITY CARES AND PROJECT SHARE

On the **1st Wednesday** of every month from **10am – 12pm**, there will be a table at the parking lot door of the church where **Project Share** donations can be dropped off (or handed to a volunteer). This is the day when we will receive packets of **Spaghetti and Spaghetti Sauce** for the organization.

On the **2nd Wednesday** of every month from **10am – 12pm**, there will be a table at the parking lot door of the church where **Community CARES** donations can be dropped off (or handed to a volunteer). This is the day when we will receive packets of **Ramen Noodles** for the organization.





BRING YOUR GOOD, USED CLOTHING, PURSES, AND SHOES TO CHURCH TO  
BENEFIT PROJECT SHARE

## COMMUNITY AID DONATIONS

**First United Church of Christ is still collecting good used clothing, purses, and shoes year-round to benefit the community and our Community Aid Partner, Project Share.**

Remember when you're organizing your closets and drawers, First UCC is accepting year-round donations of good, used or new clothing, coats, boots, shoes, socks, purses, hats and gloves for all ages. Place your items in the bin across from the Church Office during hours the building is open.

First UCC earns a monetary percentage of items donated to Community Aid. More importantly, our donations are made available free or at low cost to people who shop at Community Aid in Mechanicsburg.

When we hear of a specific need from Community CARES, our donations are taken to them directly. This winter First UCC donated numerous coats and cold-weather wear for all ages, which was greatly appreciated by CARES and the people they serve.

**Items needed:** Clothing for all ages and sizes, shoes, and purses. Please put donations in plastic bags, with shoes and purses in separate bags from clothing. Bags are available beside the cart, across from the Church Office.

Home Pick-up of donations is available - call Lyndsey at 717-243-2512 or text/ call Suzy at 717-580-8063.

**Our cart is ONLY for clothing, shoes, and purses.** If you wish to donate other items, you may take them to the local Community Aid Thrift Store - 4833 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg. Please let them know that you are a member of First UCC's Project Share partnership. Ask them to credit **Project Share Partner Number # 10166**, so those donations will count, too. Receipts are available upon request.



**Questions? Contact Susan Coulson 717-580-8063 or [sccoulson@comcast.net](mailto:sccoulson@comcast.net); or Lyndsey Hendricks in the Church Office 717-243-2512 or [lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org](mailto:lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org).**

For more information about Community Aid go to the website at <https://communityaid.org>.

This is a project of the Church & Community Connections Council of First United Church of Christ. We appreciate your support!

## BOOK DONATIONS

### Bosler Bookery Donations

Are you interested in donating books? Our local Bosler Bookery at 158 W High Street - inside the East Wing of The Bosler Library - accepts a variety of donations year-round. The Bookery sells gently-used or new books, puzzles, games, music, greeting cards, artwork, and many other items that have been donated by the community. Proceeds help the Bosler Library. Bookery guidelines are printed on flyers available in the hallway across from the Church Office. If you are unable to come to the church for a flyer, you may call to request one from the Church Office to be sent to you by mail. Or go to the Bosler Friends website ([www.boslerfriends.com](http://www.boslerfriends.com)) on your computer and click on The Bookery section or call The Bookery at 717-243-3313.

**THE BOOKERY'S DONATION POLICY**

**WE ACCEPT DONATIONS OF:**

- Books** – hardback and paperback books in good, salable condition.
- Artwork** – All types – for the ongoing art sale
- Audiobooks**
- Books** – hardback & paperback
- Comics**
- Games** – board games and computer games
- The Great Courses** – on CD or DVD
- Greeting cards with envelopes**
- Magazines** – current 3 months
- Movies/TV on DVD**
- Music on CD/DVD**
- Puzzles**
- Records, Vinyl** – up to 25-30, no more at one time without prior approval from Bookery mgr.
- Textbooks** – published since 2016
- Unusual items** – contact The Bookery's manager if you have something else that you would like to donate. From time to time we have sold donated needlepoint pillows, antique teacups, etc.

**WE DO NOT ACCEPT:**

- Cassette tapes.**
- Condensed Books.**
- Damaged Books** - that are very dirty, smell, or have been wet. Rule of thumb - If you would not give us \$1 for the book you are donating, no one else will either!
- Encyclopedias** – we do not accept encyclopedias.
- Ex-Library Books.**
- Magazines** – older than the last 3 months. Including old Life, Look, National Geographic, etc.
- Old sheet music**
- Records in bulk** – to donate more than 25-30 talk to the Bookery Mgr. first.
- Textbooks** – with a copyright date older than 2016.
- VHS tapes**

**What you can do with some of the things we don't accept:**

- Books** - Chambersburg Waste Paper will recycle books 2047 Loop Rd, Chambersburg, PA 17202, 717-264-4890
- Magazines** – you can recycle any type of glossy paper in the Ronald McDonald dumpster generally located in the parking lot of one of the local McDonald's.

12/2021

## SPY UPDATE

Did you know SPY was not just a summer program anymore? During the school year, on select days the children have off school, SPY holds "Fun Days" at UCC. This means so much to our single parents! On these days, many are faced with the choice of taking an unpaid day off or leaving their child home alone. Thanks to UCC, SPY has a spot during the school year to keep these children safe and fed and the parents can continue to work.

Monday, January 16th was our most recent SPY Fun Day and we had approximately 45 children in attendance. Dr. Martin Luther King and his accomplishments and contributions to our society were the focus of our morning activities. In the afternoon we had a special visit from the Chinese Cultural & Arts Institute. The children learned about the Chinese New Year, which began January 22nd, and watched live traditional performances. Check out the photos of the fun below! (attached).

We are so grateful to UCC for your hospitality and opening your doors for our children. Together we are making a difference!





#### WANT TO INCLUDE HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR COUNCIL?

If you would like to include any highlights of your council, please email Lyndsey (Lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org) within the last week of each month. Your highlights will be included in the next month's newsletter.

## PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

We have completed the HVAC air conditioning replacement. First UCC now has two separate HVAC systems to cool/heat the Fellowship Hall and to cool the Church Sanctuary.

These two systems run independently of each other and should allow for better performance, efficiency, and comfort in our beautiful 100 year-old facility. Over the next several weeks we will be monitoring and adjusting temperatures (if needed) to find a comfortable temperature for all. This may require a slight learning curve during this time.

The Property Management Council appreciates your patience during this process. Please feel free to contact Dallas for any questions.

## EARTH STEWARDS

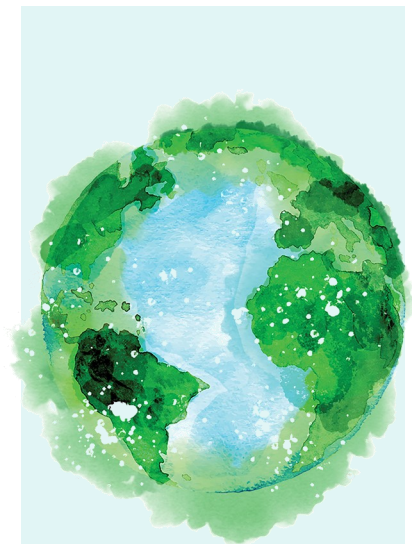
### **April Tip of the Month**

Our faith teaches us that we were put on this earth with the responsibility to be Creation Stewards. During this season of Lent, consider what you and your family can do to help the planet.

Take a walk outdoors and take a bag along to pick up trash. Make it a regular practice. This action demonstrates your acceptance of God's plan that we share responsibility in the Web of Life. It may not be "your" trash, but it's "your" Earth!

This Spring, consider stopping the use of pesticides and herbicides on lawns and gardens. Many of the commercial plants we buy at garden centers come with these invisible ingredients already in and on them. They are toxic to bees and other pollinators. Ask your garden center to offer "clean & green" alternatives. Insects, caterpillars, plant nectar and seeds are food for pollinators, birds and other animals with whom we share this fragile planet. Let's feed them, not poison them!

2023 Earth Day is April 22!



## CHURCH GROUP UPDATES

### FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Mission:** First United Church of Christ is a Christian community of faith united through worship, study, prayer, fellowship, and service by:

Seeking to create opportunities that empower members to grow spiritually and to serve the community.

Live a life of stewardship of God's gifts to us.

Proclaiming God's love as told in the Gospels of Jesus Christ.

**Vision:** First United Church of Christ strives to:

Foster an environment of intellectual openness.

Encourage members to grow spiritually through study and inspiring worship.

Provide opportunities for the church family to serve the community.

Encourage fellowship of members through activities and service bringing everyone together as one body.

30 N Pitt Street  
Carlisle, PA 17013

Phone: 717-243-2512  
E-mail: [oneucc@1stuccofcarlisle.org](mailto:oneucc@1stuccofcarlisle.org)



### Book Chat Update:

Book Chat meets in the Church Parlor at 11:00 AM after the worship service, on the first and third Sundays of each month. Participants engage in devotions, discussion, and fellowship. In March, the group will be reading The Maid, by Nita Prose.

This fictional novel involves readers in the lives of many diverse and colorful characters in the drama surrounding a crime committed at a posh hotel. The story keeps the reader wondering about the details of the mystery, along with a most-memorable main character - The Maid, herself.

The complete (and ambitious) Book Chat Book List for 2023 is posted beside the Church Office Door. Recommendations for great books and new members are always welcome!



### Color, Craft & Fellowship Update:

Yearning for some fun and fellowship? Well, come join us on **Wednesdays** from **2:00pm to 4:00pm** to **Color, Craft & Fellowship!** Bring your coloring books, markers, paints, crochet hooks, knitting needles, or whatever craft you feel like doing that day! If you are interested in joining, please contact **Lyndsey** at **[Lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org](mailto:Lyndsey@1stuccofcarlisle.org)** or **717-243-2512**.



### Lunch Bunch Update:

The Lunch Bunch Ladies will be meeting the following dates at **12pm**:

April 27th– Hamilton Restaurant

May 25th– South Side Deli

June 22nd– Pizza Grille

July 27th– Hickory Ridge

August 24th– Leo's Ice Cream (time change @ 1:00pm)



If you are interested in joining, please call **Barb Simonton** at **(717) 258-3250** for reservations.