

THE CONNECTION

August 2021



**Connecting God's People
Through Love**

A Note From Janet

The Times of Our Life

Has anyone noticed? Time is something we do not seem to have control over. We set our clocks, we post our calendars, we add dates to our cell phones, and then we try to remember all that needs to be done in-between the times we have noted.

The Bible says that to God a thousand years is like one day. To us a thousand years is impossible to imagine since we barely live to see a hundred years. Time is a difficult thing to try to understand, yet we live life through time.

A riddle of time goes like this: What animal walks on four legs in the morning, two legs at noon, and three legs in the evening? The answer is a human: a person crawls on all fours when a baby, walks upright in the middle period of their life, and uses a walking stick when they are elderly.

Time for all of us marks all that we have done and all that we have failed to do. Our achievements our failures are all marked within the time we lived. Yet we are given a responsibility with the time that we have. Psalm 90:12 tells us: “So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.” Time for all of us is to gain wisdom...not in the academic sense but in the spiritual sense. Proverbs 16:9 also advises us: “The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.” Our life is measured in the time of God, not in the time of our years.

For some it takes a long time to reach the wisdom that we of God and that we do not own God in our time. The time of our life is to gain understanding of the love of the God that is always with us and that our time is to live in this wisdom.

“And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.” 1 John 2:17

Pastor Janet

The month of August: Back in the days of the Anglo-Saxons, the month was called Weod Monath. Its translation of “weed month” is quite literal – in this month weeds and other plants grow the fastest in the northern hemisphere. August is the time to reap what you’ve sown, quite literally even, as most summer vegetables are ready to be harvested. It goes without saying, that August then is a time to celebrate a good harvest and a good summer!



If you would like someone on the prayer list, please contact Mary Carroll at 607-865-6442. If an address is provided, a card will be sent.

MODERATORS MESSAGE

This month I was going to write about something else.

Then this week happened! My thoughts were turned upside down by having 2 of our church family members go through difficult situations. One through hospitalization, the other by means of an accident. Unfortunately it takes something like these unexpected events to remind me that unforeseen things happen all the time and they happen very quickly.

I have taken these last few days taking a long look at myself, my interactions, and my relations and to reminding myself that kindness matters. We should all try to live, love, hope, and dream like there is no tomorrow.

Remember that family and friends are so, so important matter more than you can express. They are a built-in support system that will always be there for you. Don't take anything for granted. Even if it's cringe-worthy (I'm sure we can all recall one of these) or annoying moment they are still beautiful, moments.

Start appreciating the little things in life. Try not to complain about small things. Be grateful for each new and start appreciating the little things in life.

Forgive easily, spend time listening to them and if there problem, talk it out, don't let it fester.

Lastly, say I Love You whenever you can. You will be glad you did.



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Church in Society

Church in Society (CIS) held a meeting on Tuesday, July 13, 2021.

- Plans are being made to transport many boxes of older items from Elijah's Closet to Salvation Army, within the next week or so.
- It was felt a table was needed for lower cost items. It was decided that the table in the hall that had been used for baskets will be used for this purpose.
- Janet Brienza, RoseMarie Tiesler and Nancy Grotevant have been working together to fulfill requests for Medical Equipment Closet. An ad, letting more people know about this church mission, will be looked into – Walton Reporter, Co. Shopper, and any other venues.
- When the use of the Fellowship Hall opens up, the committee will be looking into hosing a Quilt Show and Antiques Road Show type events. It was also brought to the committees attention that reinstating the knitting group and music group would be nice.
- **Next CIS meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 23, 6:30 pm at the church.**

It was a very hot Sunday, June 27, 2021. Pastor Janet, Maureen, Janet's sister and nephew had arrived. The Dignitaries from the UCC had arrived as well as the organist, soloist, congregation, visitors. The church had been spiffed up and all the cookies and cakes overflowed on the trays. It was time for the Ordination of Rev. Dr. Janet R. Schwengber. What a blessed event to witness. It would have been a difficult task without the help of everyone. The Deacons would like to thank everyone for all the cooperation and help we provided each other as well as to Pastor Janet. We are a small congregation, but we are mighty with the Lord's help.

We are looking forward to the time when Pastor Janet can take some much needed time off. With that in mind, if you know of any one who would be a possible candidate to preach a Sunday for us, please tell one of the Deacons.

The reopening of our church has gone according to plan thus far. The Deacons would like to thank every one for their cooperation in this matter. Currently masks are not required for those who are vaccinated. We pray that we will be able to continue to move forward in our plans and that we will not be held up by new variants of the disease.

Nadene Kopetz

Here is a little something extra for this month's newsletter. August is no time for heating up the kitchen baking brownies. But that doesn't mean you shouldn't make some...

No-Bake Brownies

From North Country Cabin Cooking by Mary Brubacher and Margie Knoblauch

Makes 32 bars

1 cup chopped walnuts
4 cups graham cracker crumbs
½ cup sifted powdered sugar
2 Tbsp. dry instant coffee
12 oz. semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 cup evaporated milk
1 tsp. Vanilla

Combine walnuts, graham cracker crumbs, and powdered sugar in large bowl. Heat the coffee, chocolate chips, and milk over low heat. Stir constantly until smoothly blended. Remove from heat. Add vanilla. Reserve ½ cup of chocolate mixture. Mix remaining chocolate with crumb mixture. Spread evenly in well-buttered 9-by-9-inch pan. Spread reserved chocolate mixture over top for glaze. Chill until ready to serve. Keep refrigerated.

Dana

From The Treasurer

June Offering Information

Monthly amount needed to meet the yearly budget of \$85,325: \$7,110

June Offering: **\$4,023**

Many thanks to all of you for not only your money but your time and talents.

Revised Common Lectionary

The readings used at our weekly worship service and in most Mainline Protestant Churches and in Roman Catholic Churches are from a list of assigned readings known as The New Revised Common Lectionary. In our Congregational tradition, pastors are encouraged to use the assigned readings but it is not mandatory.

I personally prefer to follow the readings and I mainly focus on the Gospel lessons for my meditation. It gives me and you a structure through which we can study and learn from the teachings of the scripture of the Word (Logos) of God in our midst.

The readings for August: (You are encouraged to read them as well)

Date	1 st reading and Psalm	Alternate 1 st Reading and Psalm	2 nd Reading	Gospel
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost August 1, 2021	2 Samuel 11:26 - 12:13a Psalm 51:1-12	Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 Psalm 78:23-29	Ephesians 4:1-16	John 6:24-35
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost August 8, 2021	2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33 Psalm 130	1 Kings 19:4-8 Psalm 34:1-8	Ephesians 4:25-5:2	John 6:35, 41-51
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 15, 2021	1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14 Psalm 111	Proverbs 9:1-6 Psalm 34:9-14	Ephesians 5:15-20	John 6:51-58
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 22, 2021	1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43 Psalm 84	Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18 Psalm 34:15-22	Ephesians 6:10-20	John 6:56-69
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 29, 2021	Song of Solomon 2:8-13 Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9	Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 Psalm 15	James 1:17-27	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Thanks to the Vanderbilt Divinity Library

August 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</i> Worship and Communion 10:00 am	2	3	4	5	6 Elijah's Closet 10:00-2:00	7 Elijah's Closet 10:00-2:00
8 <i>Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost</i> Worship 10:00 am	9	10	11	12	13 Elijah's Closet 10:00-2:00	14 Elijah's Closet 10:00-2:00
15 <i>Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</i> Worship 10:00 am <i>Deacons Mtg after service</i>	16	17	18	19 <i>Trustees Mtg. 4:00 pm</i>	20 Elijah's Closet 10:00-2:00 <i>Prudential Board Mtg. 3:30 pm Zoom</i>	21 Elijah's Closet 10:00-2:00
22 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:00 am	23 <i>Church in Society Mtg. 6:30 pm At Church</i>	24	25	26	27 Elijah's Closet 10:00-2:00	28 Elijah's Closet 10:00-2:00
29– Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:00 am	30	31				

Celebrations

These are the Birthdays and Anniversaries of members and friends of our church family. If you know someone on the list who's having a birthday or anniversary, feel free to send that person a card. Even if you don't know anyone on the list, feel free to send any celebrant a card. More importantly, strive to hold each of these people up in prayer on the anniversary of their birth. Please call the Church Office with additions or corrections 607-865-4066.

Birthdays

4th Maureen Kennedy 23rd Charlene Gregory
 8th Jenny Clark 29th Roy Tiesler
 22nd Gayle Allen 30th Janet Schwengber

Anniversaries

2nd Ann & Glen LePinnet
 23rd Sue & Gerry Ruestow
 26th John Litz & Ken Schrider