



# THE UNION PRESS

“To know Him and make Him known”

September 2020

## SESSION HAPPENINGS

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**Newsletter  
submissions for  
the Oct. issue  
are due  
Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>**

The session met on Wednesday, July 8, 2020 in the cafe to allow Covid-19 social distancing. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by acting moderator, Rev. Tom Milligan of LBPC. After reviewing and approving the minutes of the previous meeting, the session met with two candidates for enrollment with Union EPC church by transfer of letter. Per EPC requirements, they were questioned as to their relationship with God and how this agreed with the “Essentials of the Faith” of the EPC. After their testimonies, the session voted unanimously to add them to the roll of Union Church. They will be formally accepted at the August 2nd church service.

It was noted that due to Covid-19, both the National General Assembly and the local Presbytery of the East meeting had been postponed until fall and the meetings will be held “virtually”. Ray Wallace agreed to represent Union through “Zoom” virtual meeting platform. It is unfortunate that it will not be held as it was scheduled for Upper Octoraro Church and would have been one of the few close ones to attend as the POTE covers an area from Virginia to Maine.

Per EPC guidelines we have been trying to update our rolls. It should be done yearly and the last accurate update was 2013. We have sent letters to all people listed on the roll as members but who do not actively participate. We have asked them to tell us whether they would like to stay on the active roll, or inactive roll or be removed from the roll. We also updated the roll to reflect people who had died or moved away. The session will review the responses from the letters and update the roll accordingly.

The treasurers report was presented and approved. Fuel oil was purchased for \$1.29 per gallon for next heating season. We have purchased a forehead thermometer if the situation with Covid-19 forces us to monitor people attending church functions. A new window air conditioner was purchased for the manse as one of the 2 used there belonged to the departing residents. The new resident, Rev. John Hartman of CLPC will be moving in July 15th. Some funds were moved from the checking account to a money market account where they would accrue interest.

It was discussed that our resumption of Sunday services was going well and that people had seemed to accept the shortened service and the other changes we instituted to try and be compliant with government health recommendations. We are glad our large sanctuary and congregation assistance has allowed us to successfully resume service while many churches only held services online or outside. Even by mid-July many area churches were not having regular services. The session thanks our congregation for being so cooperative in a less than desirable situation.

The trustees reported doing normal maintenance around the church building and grounds and also doing painting and repairing to get the manse ready for a new resident.

Rev. Milligan closed the meeting with prayer for the Union congregation.

## UPC ADDS NEW MEMBERS

Sunday, August 2nd was a wonderful and blessed day for Union Church. We welcomed two new members, Ruth Barker and Jane Walker. They joined by confession of faith and transferred their letters from another Presbyterian Church. They met with the Union session and expressed a desire to join because they felt Union's Biblical approach was more aligned to theirs. They made their public confession and were welcomed by the congregation. They had visited Union several times and loved the organ music and felt very welcomed.





2020

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday                                    | Wednesday            | Thursday                                | Friday                          | Saturday                        |
|---|---|--|----------------------|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Middle Octorara<br/>Yard Sale</b><br>Aug 28th 7 to 5 &<br>Aug 29th 7 to 1                                      |   | 1  | 2<br>9:00 Art Class  | 3                                       | 4<br><br>7:00-1:00<br>Yard Sale | 5<br><br>7:00-1:00<br>Yard Sale |
|   | 6<br>9:00 Sunday School<br>9:45 Fellowship<br>10:00 Worship<br>– Mick Chase | 7<br>7:00 Trustees<br><br><i>Labor Day</i> | 8                    | 9<br>9:00 Art Class<br><br>7:00 Session | 10                              | 11<br><br><i>Patriot Day</i>    |
| 13<br>9:00 Sunday School<br>9:45 Fellowship<br>10:00 Worship<br>– Elaine Swinehart<br><br><i>Grandparents Day</i> | 14  | 15   | 16<br>9:00 Art Class | 17                                      | 18                              | 19                              |
| 20<br><b>NEWSLETTER<br/>DEADLINE</b><br>9:00 Sunday School<br>9:45 Fellowship<br>10:00 Worship<br>– Mick Chase    | 21  | 22<br><br><i>Autumn Begins</i>             | 23<br>9:00 Art Class | 24                                      | 25                              | 26                              |
| 27<br>9:00 Sunday School<br>9:45 Fellowship<br>10:00 Worship<br>– Elaine Swinehart                                | 28  | 29   | 30<br>9:00 Art Class |   |                                 |                                 |

**JULY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Giving for June: \$8,792 June Expenses: \$6,266

Keep in mind that a full-time minister will add about \$6000 per month.

Sunday School Collection for Glovers: \$100

# Jim & Helen Layman

## Bridges International-Northeast

April 2, 2020

### Prayer Points

—Please continue praying for **Jonathan** and **Andrew**. Especially pray for Andrew's protection from corona virus.

—Pray for our ability to present Easter to students online.

—Please pray for our Wednesday evening Discovery Bible Study as we proclaim Jesus.

—Pray for "Mick" as he continues to seek truth back in China.

—Pray for Jim as coaching others in online ministry is more difficult. Pray God would use them to reach many international students.

**Jim & Helen Layman**

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See our giving page at

[give.cru.org/0257272](http://give.cru.org/0257272)



## On-line and Ongoing!

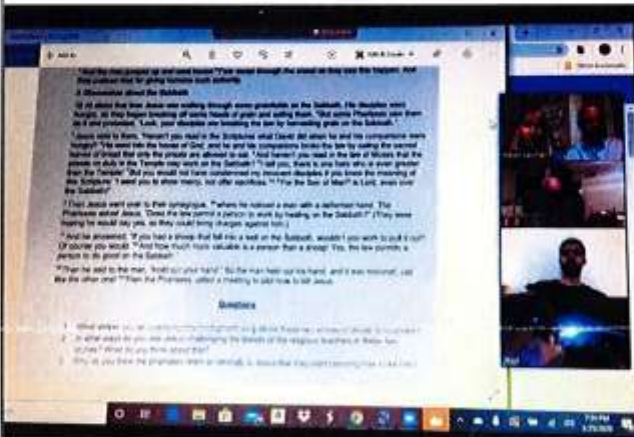
Dear Teammates,

Wow, what a different life we're all living since our last letter! *We've been praying for you and wondering how each of you are faring* in this uncertain time. Cru recently posted an article about finding hope in the midst of Covid-19 (see link below). We think you may find it helpful.

<https://www.hope-rises.com/blog/lockdowngrief>

We are staying in except for groceries and exercise. Helen is sewing masks for local hospitals. Daily, we plan, pray, and adjust our ministry to email, calls, texts, and online meetings with students. While we mourn the loss of personal contact with them, we are seeing that **God is still at work!**

—"Mick", a seeking student now returned to China, has been reading the Bible and chatting with Jim (12 hr. time difference). We are pleased that he's willing to get up and join our Wednesday Bible Discussion Group (7a.m.his time).



—This Northeastern U. Wednesday Bible group continues. We have 4-5 students joining us online for Bible reading and discussion . It's a joy to help them process a series of scriptures about Jesus. Most have never read it.

—We are trying creative online game nights, painting classes, and movie nights to engage our student friends. They know we care about them.

Because He Lives, we proclaim Him!

In Christ our King,

*Jim & Helen*

P.S. : **Please** use our address or phone to text/write us how we may pray for you and your family at this time!

# FOOD BANK

Tomato & chicken noodle soup, canned fruit, canned tomato sauce, small peanut butter, sugar, canned vegetables, syrup

## SWEEP

Applesauce cups, Cereal (single serve), Granola bars, Individual jelly packs, Individual pancake syrup, Jello cups, Juice Boxes (not pouches- they break), Mac-n-cheese singles (packets), Mashed potato pouches, Micro Meals, Oatmeal boxes (single packets), Pancake (pouches), Peanut butter, Pop tarts, Popcorn (microwave), Pork-n-beans (11 oz)

Also, we are looking for someone to help us on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10AM-12PM. Must be able to drive to Giant to pick up donations. Must be able to lift the items. Please give us a call at 717-786-4308 if interested and willing.

# LECTIONARY PASSAGES

### September 6th

#### **23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149:1-9;  
Romans 13:8-14;  
Matthew 18:15-20

### September 13th

#### **24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Exodus 14:19-31; Psalm 114:1-8;  
Romans 14:1-12;  
Matthew 18:21-35

### September 20th

#### **25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Exodus 16:2-15;  
Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45;  
Philippians 1:21-30;  
Matthew 20:1-16

### September 27th

#### **26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

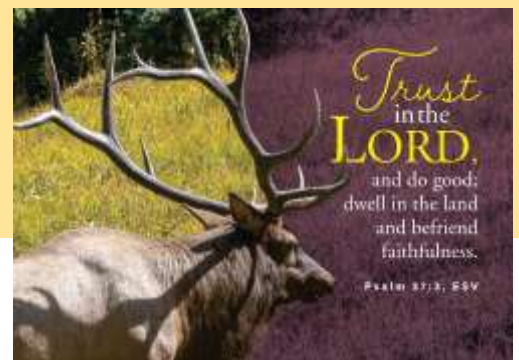
Exodus 17:1-7;  
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16;  
Philippians 2:1-13;  
Matthew 21:23-32



- 1 James Parmer  
Jason Parmer
- 2 Richard Harvey Sr.  
Arienne Wrigley
- 3 Jim Nickle
- 4 Una Todd
- 5 Tyler McCardell
- 8 Jordan Reyburn Jr.  
Robert Slodki
- 9 Jean Williams
- 11 Gayle Graziano
- 12 Jesse Holmes
- 13 Anna Marie Violet Rineer
- 14 Ken Beiler
- 16 Jimmie Ann Graver
- 17 Ethan Whiteside
- 18 Arlene Swinehart  
Vicki Jackson
- 19 Beatrice Hurt
- 20 Holly Reyburn  
Anna Reyburn
- 21 Carl Weicksel
- 23 Jared Kent Scotten
- 24 Sabrina Miller  
Pauline Ray
- 25 Jeffrey Jackson Jr.  
Andrea Dougherty
- 26 Judy Phillips
- 29 Justin Nickle
- 30 Julia Wade  
Dylan Graziano

# SEPT. FLOWERS

- 6 – Dwight & Cheryl Wallace
- 13 – Larry & Barbara Whyte
- 20 - (Still Available)
- 27 – Dwight & Cheryl Wallace



Union Presbyterian Church  
5637 Street Road,  
Kirkwood, PA 17536

THE UNION PRESS

SEPTEMBER 2020

## Middle Octorara Yard Sale

Aug 28th 7 to 5 & Aug 29th 7 to 1



Hello Friends,

Time for the Eclectic Extravaganza is getting closer, so we hope your boxes are overflowing. You may start to bring things to the church on Aug. 25, 27 & Sept. 1 from 9am to 11am. If these times are not suitable or if you need evening hours call Betty Vasco 717-529-2528. If there are any other problems or questions call this number also. Looking forward to a wonderful time of fun.

Anchored in Christ, The Eclectic Extravaganza Gang

**SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> & 5<sup>TH</sup> 7AM-1PM**