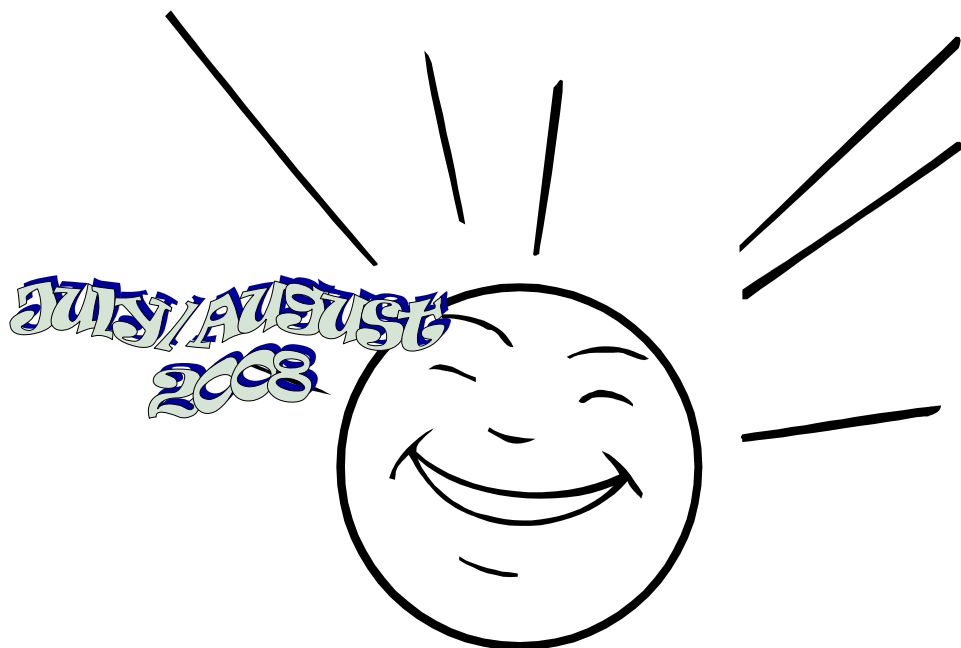




Volume 8, Issue 7

July/Aug. 2008 newsletter of First United Church of Christ, Easton
27 North 3rd St.

(Mailing address: 229 Church St., Easton, PA 18042)
e-mail: firstucc2@verizon.net • www.firstucceaston.org



HAPPY SUMMER!

Weekly Worship Schedule

Join us Sunday
mornings!

SUNDAY SCHOOL
IS NOW IN
SUMMER RECESS!

AS OF JUNE 22nd
we began our
Summer Worship
Schedule. We meet
at 9:30 a.m. in the
Air Conditioned
Parlor

Join us as we host
the HERITAGE
DAY COMMUNITY
WORSHIP
SERVICE HERE on
Sun. July 13th at
9:30 a.m. in the
Sanctuary with a
time of Fellowship
following the
service.

Help is needed as
we host the service
& fellowship! Please
contact Nancy
Amore for info.

**Everyone is invited to
all our worship
services!
(And bring a friend!)**

Happy Birthday America!

We are so blessed here in America. As imperfect as our government seems to be at times, as American citizens we bask in freedoms & privilege that most of the inhabitants of this planet only dream about. Freedoms that our forefathers (& mothers) paid dearly to procure for us.



Undoubtedly there are dark, shameful chapters to our history & many failings in our nations policies but the form of government birthed in our “Declaration of Independence” is a marvelous thing.

Most of us have probably read this document in school & I am certainly no American History or Constitutional scholar, but have you really, really read it? As an adult, with an understanding of the shackles that were upon the Colonists & the dangers & risks associated with it’s inception? How “God centered” it really is?

Probably the most famous line is “ — We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

That is why people from other nations long to come to America. For a chance. A chance at freedom, to be whatever we choose.

This chance comes with big responsibilities though. To take part in our government by voting & serving, to act responsibly & respectfully toward others, to not just claim your rights but be mindful of others rights. It demands we act justly, conscientiously & right regardless of what others may do. We have the right (pro-

(continued on pg. 4)

Upcoming June Events...

Fri., July 4th - INDEPENDENCE DAY!



Sun., July 6th - SUMMER WORSHIP in the Air-Conditioned Parlor at 9:30 a.m.

Sun., July 13th - HERITAGE DAY! COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE HELD HERE at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary



A time of Fellowship & Friendship to be held in the Parlor following the service.

Sun., July 20th - SUMMER WORSHIP in the Air-Conditioned Parlor at 9:30 a.m.

Sun., July 27th - SUMMER WORSHIP in the Air-Conditioned Parlor at 9:30 a.m.

Sun., Aug. 3rd - FOOD BANK SUNDAY & SUMMER WORSHIP in the Air-Conditioned Parlor at 9:30 a.m.

Everyone is invited to bring along some nonperishable food or other household need to help restock ProJeCt's Food Pantry.

Sun., Aug. 10th - SUMMER WORSHIP in the Air-Conditioned Parlor at 9:30 a.m.

Fri., Aug. 15th - Sept. Steeple News articles due

Sun., Aug. 17th - SUMMER WORSHIP in the Air-Conditioned Parlor at 9:30 a.m.

Sun., Aug. 24th - SUMMER WORSHIP in the Air-Conditioned Parlor at 9:30 a.m.

Sun., Aug. 31st - (Labor Day Weekend) Our FINAL SUMMER WORSHIP in the Air-Conditioned Parlor at 9:30 a.m.

Sun., Sept. 7th - WE RETURN TO OUR REGULAR 10:30 a.m. worship time & we'll meet in the Sanctuary.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS the 2008-2009 Session at 10:30 a.m.

(continued from pg. 2)

tected by our Constitution) to vote, to protest & complain about our government, to worship (or not) as we wish, to go wherever we want within our country without travel documents & freedom to speak, read, believe, do & be as we choose. Freedom. We take it for granted much of the time but look at the rest of the world & be so very thankful for it.

Whatever your political ideology, this Declaration & our Constitution are among the greatest documents in history. Though we have twisted & tweaked them (sometimes for the better, sometimes not) they remain the basic guideline for democracy.

The newspaper article appearing in "The Pennsylvania Evening Post" on July 11th, 1776 reads..." Easton, PA, Northampton County, July 8th, 1776 ~ THIS DAY THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCY WAS RECEIVED HERE AND PROCLAIMED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER: The Colonel and all other Officers of the First Infantry Battalion repaired to the Courthouse, the Light Infantry Company marching there with drums beating, fifes playing, and the Standard-- (THE DEVICE FOR WHICH IS THE THIRTEEN UNITED COLONIES) which was ordered to be displayed and after that the DECLARATION was read aloud to a great number of Spectators, who gave their hearty assent with three loud huzzas, and cried out: -- "MAY GOD LONG PRESERVE AND UNITE THE FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES OF AMERICA".

Amen!

Christian Witness News

Keeping with the 'theme' of America & the blessings that this nation has received, let's not forget that we are called to share our blessings & help those in need.

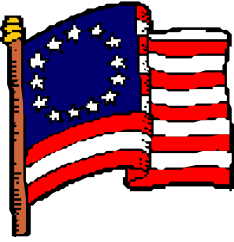


RELIEF COLLECTION UPDATE –

We will continue collecting funds to assist the UCC in their relief efforts in Myanmar (Burma) from the cyclone & China from the earthquakes.

Now, with the flooding in our own Midwest, additional relief funds are needed. These events have left complete devastation. The UCC is appealing for \$100,000 for the OGHS Int'l Emergency Fund. (please mark your check or envelope for Disaster Relief) or you can donate on-line at UCC.org.

Please give with generous hearts & keep these people in your prayers.



HERITAGE DAY 2008 UPDATE!

Hello everyone!

Heritage Day is being held in downtown Easton on Sunday, July 13. **Our church has been chosen to host the worship service**, and we are not only asking you to be there to show support for the church, but also to participate in the Friendship hour which will follow the patriotic service. Bakers are needed to show Easton what exceptional bakers we have at First UCC, so break out your best cookies, brownies, cupcakes and muffins, and lets give their tastebuds a real treat!

Then, following the reception, we will be welcoming visitors to our sanctuary for tours, and encouraging them to relax in our air conditioned parlor and enjoy a cool drink or an ice cream cone. Face painting will be available for children....IF we get some volunteers to show off those artistic talents. **We need tour leaders, face painters, bakers and ice cream dippers & our men are encouraged to help out!**

PLEASE, plan on joining us at worship, and stay for a day of fun and fellowship. This is our chance to shine, and show the Easton community what a great group of Christian people we are. There is a sign up sheet in Memorial Hall, or contact Nancy Amore, and we will find a way that you can help.

God bless,
Nancy Amore





First Ladies Picnic “in the works”

First Ladies will be hosting a picnic sometime in August. The planning is “in the works” but the details have not yet been ironed out so please watch the Sunday bulletins or check our website (www.firststuceaston.org) for more info.

First Ladies Book Club News

The First Ladies Book Club is now reading “**The Art of Mending**” by **Elizabeth Berg**. It is available at most book stores & on-line at Amazon.com. We are planning to gather on Sept. 12th to discuss the book & for a time of “sisterhood”. All our ladies are invited - even if you haven’t read the book. Please watch for more details & take some time over the summer to relax & read!



Kids Versions of Famous Hymns

Sometimes kids get things a little.....well, maybe these came from kids:

Give us this day our deli bread!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Whole East Coast.

We shall come to Joyce’s, bringing in the cheese.

Gladly, the consecrated, cross-eyed bear.

He carrots for you.

Bringing in the Sheets.

Yield Not to Penn Station.

Dust Around the Throne.

Praise God From whom all blessings flow,

Praise Him all creatures, here we go.

While shepherds washed their socks by night He socked me and boxed me with His redeeming glove.



- Selected from Pastor Tim’s Clean Laugh List.

Men's Group Plans

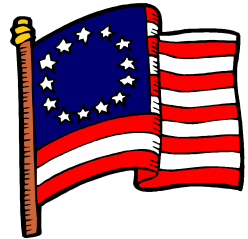
Our Men's Club is in the process of planning an Italiano Dinner & also a bus trip to a Philly's game. Details are coming shortly so please watch the Sunday bulletins or check our website for info as it become available.



Heritage Day Community Worship Service HERE on July 13th

Sunday, July 13th we will celebrate Heritage Day here in Easton. The day will begin with a Community Worship Service which will be held here at First UCC beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. We will follow the service with a time of fellowship in our cool air-conditioned Parlor.

We want to have a warm First UCC greeting ready for our visitors! If you can help bake or serve that day, please see Barbara Dailey, Denise Cardinalli or [redacted]. Men, this is open to you too, so how about you lend us a hand to make this day a memorable community?



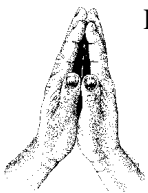
Heritage Day is a wonderful & historic day for Easton & commemorates the first public reading of the newly adopted Declaration of Independence. There are revolutionary war reenactments & camps near Riverside Park, tours of our historic sites, lots of food vendors, games, music & many other interesting happenings & it all ends with an awesome fireworks display at dusk. Come, bring the family & spend the day!



Pastoral Care & Prayer

Please keep in your prayers... The Wrights, The Orsos, Willie Wagner, Carol Fournier, Barbara Wuest (Kim Kmetz's mother) & all those in your hearts.

If you or someone you know is in need of Pastoral Care, please call Rev. William Wightman at 610-252-8316.



July Bulletins

6th - Keith & Janice
Hilsenbeck in memory of
loved ones.

13th - *Heritage Day*
Warren & Daelyn Corr in
memory of loved ones.

20th - Bessie Earnhart in loving
memory of her husband
Gerald, who would have
observed his 102nd birth-
day July 23rd.

27th - Tim & Pam McGinley in
loving memory of Tim's
parents, Mr. & Mrs.
Harry McGinley.

If you would like to sponsor the
bulletins for one of our services,
please contact the church office
at 610-258-3361.

August Bulletins

3rd - Phyllis & Neil Gordon in
loving memory of Phyllis'
parents, Marie W. & Philip
G. Baty, who were wed on
August 5th, 1936.

10th - Albert Kuebler in loving
memory of his wife,
Janice and her mother,
Mrs. Gladys Kehler.

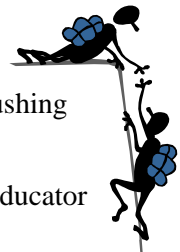
17th - Tim & Sharon
Richardson in loving
memory of Sharon's
parents, Bessie & Robert
Siegel and her sister,
Sandra Siegel.

24th - Gordon & Carolee
Lowe in loving memory of
Carolee's father,
Gerald Earnhart.

31st - Mrs. Bette Walker in
loving memory of her
husband, The Reverend
Lionel T. Walker.

“There are two ways of exerting one's strength; one is pushing
down, the other is pulling up.”

— *Booker T. Washington* (1856-1915) Educator



July Greeters, Readers & Ushers

July 6th - *Food Bank Sunday*

Greeters - Bill & Ferne
Turner

Ushers - Bill & Ferne
Turner

Reader - Janet Caka

July 13th - *Heritage Day*

Greeters - Molly Parry &
Irene Stotz

Ushers - Molly Parry, Irene
Stotz, Carl Cooke &
Wendy Wandersee

Reader - Kathleen Dowd

Acolyte - Megan McGinley

July 20th -

Greeters - Jill West &
Dolores Thomas

Ushers - Jill West &
Dolores Thomas

Reader - Bill Turner

July 27th -

Greeters - Mark & Tara
Cooke

Ushers - Mark & Tara
Cooke

Reader - Mark Cooke

August Greeters, Readers & Ushers

Aug. 3rd - *Food Bank Sunday*

Greeters - David & Wendy
Wandersee

Ushers - Carl & Wendy
Wandersee

Reader - David Wandersee

Aug. 10th -

Greeters - Scott & Sharon
Ashton

Ushers - Scott & Sharon
Ashton

Reader - Sharon Ashton

Aug. 17th -

Greeters - Mike & Vikki
Cowell

Ushers - Mike & Vikki
Cowell

Reader - Dan Redington

Aug. 24th -

Greeters - Tom & Barb Dailey

Ushers - Tom & Barb Dailey

Reader - Barb Dailey

Aug. 31st -

Greeters - Molly Parry &
Irene Stotz

Ushers - Molly Parry &
Irene Stotz

Reader - Carl Wandersee

July Flowers

6th - Molly Parry in loving memory of Sean Cameron.

13th - *Heritage Day*

Sid & Doris Flower in memory of parents, Mr. & Mrs. Earl Fowler and Mr. & Mrs. Fred Baty.

20th - Brian, Jackie & Melissa Lunger in memory of Grandparents John & Goldie Lunger and Rodney & Evelyn Rush.

Single Arrangement -

Richard Gearing in memory of his beloved wife, Jane.

27th - Sue & George Beling in memory of loved ones.

August Flowers

3rd - Mrs. Irene Stotz in memory of loved ones.

10th - Ray & Sue Roseberry in memory of Sue's father Richard McNamee.

17th - Linda & James Wright in memory of loved ones.

24th - Sheila & Carl Cooke in memory of loved ones.

31st - No Sponsor



If you would like to sponsor altar flowers for one of our Sunday services, please contact the church office at 610-258-3361.

Love

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

Don't Forget...

Our next issue of The Steeple News will be for September. A new "season" will begin. We'll be starting a new Sunday School session & getting back to our regular church programs, preparing for our fall Rummage Sale & many other activities. Please get any info about these events to the secretary by Fri., Aug. 15th.

Troop News



Please remember these brave, young men who keep us safe, and are far away from home. Let them know you care. They welcome letters and cards from their friends & church family...

CPL. Dailey, Joshua J.
HHC PSD 1-68 AR
UNIT #6065
APO AE
09378

(Rod)LCPL Donaldson, Charles R.
2/8 Echo Co. 2nd PLT
Unit 73230
FPOAE 09509-3230
Iraq

Tom Parry is back in the states, stationed now at Camp LeJeune. His new address is:

LCPL Thomas Parry
2AA BN2 Marine Div.
A Co. 2 PLT BB260
Camp LeJeune, NC 28542

Please keep all of our soldiers & their families in your prayers & continue to pray for peace.

Thank You!

“Greater love has no man than this, that a man **lay down his life** for his friends.” John 15:13

Iraq Weather

Just think about wearing body armor, heavy boots, carrying backpacks & weapons in this heat...

Extended Forecast Baghdad July 1st, 2008

Tuesday - Clear.
High: 109° F. Wind W. 11 mph.
Tuesday Night - Clear.
Low: 87° F. Wind WNW 6 mph.

Wednesday - Clear.
High: 111° F. Wind W8 mph.
Wednesday Night - Clear.
Low: 84° F. Wind NNW 4 mph.

Thursday - Clear.
High: 111° F. Wind WNW 8 mph.
Thursday Night - Clear.
Low: 84° F. Wind N. 4 mph.

Friday - Clear.
High: 113° F. Wind NW 8 mph.
Friday Night - Clear.
Low: 87° F. Wind NNE 8 mph.

Saturday - Clear.
High: 113° F. Wind NW 11 mph.
Saturday Night - Clear.
Low: 87° F. Wind NNE 6 mph.

Sunday - Clear.
High: 113° F. Wind NNW 15 mph.
Sunday Night - Clear.
Low: 91° F. Wind N. 8 mph.

Monday - Clear.
High: 113° F. Wind NW 17 mph
Monday Night - Clear.
Low: 89° F. Wind NW 17 mph.

Angel Food Ministries at St. John's on Morgan Hill

The **July menu** is available in our narthex, in the office or on-line at: www.stjohnsmorganhill.org.

If you have been financially blessed & don't have to watch your pennies, perhaps you know of a family that could use a food box? With additional costs for gas now, AFM can be a special blessing. Buy a box & give it away or donate a box to AFM & it will be given to a family in need!

July order dates are:

Wed., July 9th - 4-6 p.m.

Sat., July 12th - 9 a.m. til noon

**Sun., July 13th - 10:30 a.m.
til 12:30 p.m.**

July distribution date is

Fri., July 25th - 7p.m.-8 p.m.

Aug. order dates are:

Wed., Aug. 6th - 4-6 p.m.

Sat., Aug. 9th - 9 a.m. til noon

**Sun., Aug. 10th - 10:30 a.m.
til 12:30 p.m.**

Aug. distribution date is

Fri., Aug. 22nd - 7p.m.-8 p.m.

**Cash, Money Orders or
Food Stamps are accepted.**

(Food Stamp orders must be placed in person at St. John's.)

Cash orders can be taken by Margaret in the church office anytime before order close dates or call her with any questions.

Making Decisions

William McKinley, the 25th U.S. President, once had to choose between two equally qualified men for a key job. He puzzled over the choice until he remembered a long-ago incident.

On a rainy night, McKinley had boarded a crowded streetcar. One of the men he was now considering



had also been aboard, though he didn't see McKinley. Then an old woman carrying a basket of laundry struggled into the car, looking in vain for a seat. The job candidate pretended not to see her and kept his seat. McKinley gave up his seat to help her.

Remembering the episode, which he called "this little omission of kindness," McKinley decided against the man on the streetcar. Our decisions—even the small, fleeting ones—tell a lot about us.

– Adapted from
Presidential Anecdotes
Paul F. Boller, Jr.
Penguin Books