



Volume 9, Issue 5

June 2009 newsletter of First United Church of Christ, Easton
27 North 3rd St.

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CONGRATULATIONS 
TO OUR GRADUATES!

JUNE 2009

**HAPPY
FATHER'S DAY
TO OUR DADS!**



Weekly Worship Schedule

Join us Sunday
mornings for...

Adult
Bible Study ~
meets in the High
School Room at
9:15 a.m.

Pastor Michael Smith
leads the class & it's a
great way to get into the
Word! Come & check it
out!

Sunday
morning worship
at 10:30 a.m. til...
9:30 a.m.

Summer
Worship in the
Parlor begins
Sun., June 28th

Our Worship &
Kids
Sunday School
Session ENDS
June 7th!

All our children & teens
are invited to our closing
celebration at 10:30 a.m.

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

Graduation Congratulations!



We offer our congratulations to **Meg Dowd** (Rev. Mike & Kathleen's daughter) who graduated from Penn State on May 16th with a B.S. degree in Elementary Education. She's not done yet though! She'll be returning to Penn State in the fall to pursue graduate studies.



Sam Ashton (son of Scott & Sharon Ashton) is graduating from Freedom High School on June 4th.

At Freedom, Sam was in the National Honor Society and a member of the Band for all 4 years. He performed at both the Outback Bowl in Tampa, FL and the St. Patrick's Day parade in Dublin Ireland. Graduation for the FHS Class of 2009 will be at Stable Arena on June 4th.

Sam will be attending college this fall at Penn State - University Park. He plans to double major in broadcast journalism and education.



We pray for future successes for Meg & Sam & that they will be a blessing wherever the Lord leads them.



If there are any other graduates out there in our First Church Family, please let us know! We'd love to know where you are graduating from & what your future plans are.

Upcoming June Events...

ed., June 3rd - **CHRISTIAN WITNESS COMMITTEE** meets
at 7:30 p.m.

Sun., June 7th ~ **MORNING WORSHIP** in the Sanctuary at 10:30 a.m.

FOOD BANK SUNDAY - Everyone is encouraged to bring
some nonperishable food or other household need to
help restock the local Food Pantry.

LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL! All the kids & teens are
invited to the celebration at 10:30 a.m.

Mon., June 8th - **WORSHIP COMMITTEE** meets at 6:45
CONSISTORY meets at 7:30 p.m.

Sat., June 13th ~ **PASTA DINNER** 4-7 p.m.

Sun., June 14th ~ **MORNING WORSHIP** in the Sanctuary at
10:30 a.m.

Mon., June 15th - **STEEPLE NEWS** Deadline (July/Aug. issue)

Sun., June 21st - **FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST** at 9:00 a.m.
MORNING WORSHIP in the Sanctuary at
10:30 a.m. (last til Sept.)

Wed., June 24th ~ **BOOKWORMS** meet



Sun., June 28th - **SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS!**

MORNING WORSHIP at 9:30 a.m. in the Air-Conditioned
Parlor

Sat, July 4th - **INDEPENDENCE DAY!**

Sun., July 5th - **SUMMER WORSHIP** in the Air-Conditioned
Parlor at 9:30 a.m.

Sun., July 12th - **HERITAGE DAY!**

COMMUNITY WORSHIP will be held at Trinity
Episcopal Church at 10:30 a.m.



Help is needed for our Heritage Day event (tours,
refreshments, etc.), please see Denise Cardinali.

Welcome to our Newest Members!

Transfers & New Members...

Sun., May 24th we welcomed 7 new members to our First Church family...

Shirley Galante

Barbara Rizzo

Donald Rush, Jr.

Ross Forsythe

Donald & Linda Rush

Matthew Rush



Our Confirmands...

Sun., May 31st we confirmed three young people into our church family. They are...

Lauren Heller, mentored by Nancy Amore

Matt Ashton, mentored by Doreen Arnold, and

Leslie Kmetz, mentored by Sue Beling.

This group has worked and studied hard this past year, and it was agreed that the mentors may have learned more than the students! Congratulations to this wonderful group of young adults.

We are blessed to have all of these individuals “officially” join our First Church Family & we pledge to cherish them all.



Confirmands at the Soup Kitchen

On Saturday, May 16 our three confirmands and mentors, and members of their families served our friends at the Trinity Episcopal Soup Kitchen. The group made 8 large pans of baked Ziti, loaded with meat and cheeses, Italian rolls and butter, salad, and ice cream sandwiches for a special treat. Not only was the meal a great hit with all attending, but our teens saw a side of life that was new to them, and serving the diners a meal, was humbling for all involved. “Go out and serve the Lord” took on a new meaning that day, and won’t soon be forgotten.

Sunday School Closing Celebration

Sun., June 7th



Our Sunday School program will hold it's closing celebration on Sun., June 7th at 10:30 a.m. All the kids - teens thru toddlers, are welcome to join us for the celebration.

We thank all of our teachers for their continued dedication to the Christian Education program & offer thanks to those who filled in when we needed. Thanks also to the parents for bringing their kids to learn about Jesus!

We will see you in the Fall! Don't forget to keep reading your Bibles & stay in touch with the LORD - He loves to hear from you ANYTIME!!!



Musical Notes

Everyone is invited to join any of our choirs, no experience is necessary. Our Senior Choir has begun their summer schedule & will practice on Sun. mornings before church. Please see Sheila Cooke for more info.



2009 Choir Appreciation Sunday May 31st

Senior Choir

Sopranos

Linda Wright
Denise Cardinali
Mae Rapp
Kathleen Dowd
Wendy Wandersee

Altos

Belva Fuhr
Marjorie Harron
Nancy Amore

Bass

Carl Lunger
Christian Kmetz

Tenor

James Harron

Praise Choir

Belva Fuhr
Linda Wright
Carl Lunger
Nancy Amore
James Harron
Denise Cardinali
Marjorie Harron
Mae Rapp
Wendy Wandersee
Kathleen Dowd
Christian Kmetz

Guitars

Rich Heller
David Kmetz

Adult Hand

Bell Choir

Marjorie Harron
Sue Beling
Wendy Wandersee
Bill Arnold
Kim Kmetz
Carl Wandersee
Barbara Dailey
Warren Corr
Daelyn Corr
Leslie Kmetz
Christian Kmetz

Special Substitute

Vicki Stevens

Youth Hand Bell Choir

Bradley Corr Kelsie Hilsenbeck
Jenna & Lauren Skillinge



Thank you all for sharing your musical gifts to bring glory to the Lord!

A BIG THANK YOU also to
Sheila Cooke, our Music Director, for her dedication in bringing these musicians together to bless our congregation with beautiful music!



Spring Brunch Sat., June 6th

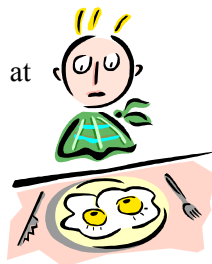
On Saturday, June 6, the First Ladies will meet at the Amore home in Bethlehem Township for a celebration of Spring. Of course, as you might expect, we will be eating! A wonderful menu is planned for all the women, and the fellowship is always wonderful, so I hope you will plan to join us for some good food, good conversation, and a relaxing morning out. We meet at 10 am, and encourage all attending to bring something for the Food Bank.... a canned good or grocery item. All the food and beverages will be provided as a thank you to all our hard working women this past year. Join us!!!!

ALSO - Please don't forget that our Men's Club is holding their famous All You Can Eat Pasta Fiesta on Sat., June 13th. Help is always needed so if you can lend a hand or bake something for the dessert table, please contact Bob Arnold.



Father's Day Breakfast Sun., June 21st, 9:00 a.m.

Doreen Arnold and her band of merry helpers, will be hosting the Father's Day Breakfast on Sunday, June 21 at 9 am. There are no tickets needed, but PLEASE, sign up in Memorial Hall, or let Doreen know if you plan to attend so she can get an adequate count. We wouldn't want to run out of any goodies, you know! Dads or anyone who has had a Dad, are welcome to join us.



"The Book Worms" Meet Wed., June 24th

The First Ladies' Bookworms will be meeting on Wednesday, June 24, to discuss the book "Friendship Cake" by Lynn Hinton. While we have a date set, we are still up in the air about the meeting time & place so please watch the Sunday bulletins for more info or contact Jeannette Orso or Nancy Amore.



Pasta Dinner Sat., June 13th

The Men's Club is planning on a Pasta Night on Saturday, June 13th from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Bring your family and friends to this popular feast! Tickets are \$7/ adult & \$3/children & are available before or after worship from Bob Arnold of Gary Rapp, or call the church office 610-258-3361.



Shop-Rite Rocks!

Unless you are involved in the activities that go on in our kitchen at First UCC, you may not know that ShopRite in Lopatcong Twsp, NJ, has been extremely generous to us as a church both in the past, and presently. Bob Arnold began several years ago, contacting them for a donation for our breakfasts, and they have donated between \$200 to \$400. to our food oriented fundraiser mission activities, and the only thing they request, is that the money be designated to a local charity, which we always do.

Please, if you are over that way, say a thank you to the manager on behalf of the church, and give them some of your business when you can. They really open their hearts and wallets to us every year, and we are so thankful for their support.



Thanks Guys!

We want to thank some of church family men who came out to help me with the installation of a fence around our yard to keep Leo safe. Thanks to Carl Cooke, Gary Rapp & Bob Arnold for their able & willing assistance.

~ Mark, Tara, Leo & Erin

[FYI - Mark, as Property Chairman, had been spending all his spare time here at the church to finish up projects before baby Erin's arrival & surgery on his wrist required him to focus on other things. There were a few attempts to get the fence up but the weather thwarted the plans but finally some work was done for someone who often puts First Church first. Thanks for all you do for us Mark!]



Christian Witness News

BETHANY CHILDREN'S HOME - On Father's Day Sunday, June 21st, we will collect a free will offering for Bethany Children's Home.

Bethany Children's Home provides a loving & Christian home environment to children who have no family support. Please give generously. Envelopes will be provided at the breakfast & at worship for your special Bethany offerings.

Nothing But Nets! Another Successful Sunday School Outreach Program!

The Sunday School kids have wrapped up their latest fundraising effort and, thanks to all of you, it was a resounding success!! Our students and teachers created paper mache' mosquitoes which adorned the Narthex, baked pies, and held a 3-point tournament all in an effort to raise money for Nothing But Nets, an organization which purchases bed netting for children in Africa to prevent the spread of Malaria. Each \$10 raised will buy one net and we are very pleased to announce that our Sunday School raised \$500.



Even more exciting is the fact that the funds are being matched for a grand total of \$1000! We may be small in numbers, but when we all work toward a common goal we can do great things! Thank you to all of you who donated to this worthy cause.



Pastoral Care & Prayer

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



Please pray for all of our young people as they attend proms, graduations & parties that they will make wise choices & decisions about their behavior & their driving & for the Lord to keep watch over them all.



Consistory Notes

Consistory Report for May, 2009.

Your Consistory has been hard at work this spring, & here are a few highlights of our May meeting.

- Our facility is being used by various members and organizations who enjoy meeting in our Parlor, among them, LANTA, David Wandersee's scout troop, and the Men's Group, who will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner there on June 13. The more community activity there is at First UCC, the more interest in us it generates, which is always good.
- Our committee chairs are looking for members. Would you like to serve on Membership, Christian Witness, Christian Education, Worship, Property, Stewardship, or Church Life and Program? See any Consistory member, and they will guide you to the right person. Don't forget, being a member is more than sitting in a pew for an hour each Sunday! Come on out...get active, and serve the Lord!
- Carl Cooke's committee, Christian Witness, has given over \$865. in food to the Food Bank, and \$55. in cash. In these tough times, that helps many families to have food on their tables. Please, bring canned goods and grocery items to church, and place them in the food barrel in Memorial Hall. Every little bit helps. On Mother's Day, Carl had a speaker from Phoebe Home talk to us before the service, and thanks to that effort, \$156. was collected to support their work. On Father's Day, a speaker from Bethany Home for Children will be joining us, and we know you will all support his work. Carl thanked Richard Blaker for his generous donations to our mission activities.
- Jill West will now be our new "Support our Troops" coordinator, and she has placed a green cloth box in the Narthex for your donated items. We have two soldiers in transition right now, but we will have new addresses for them in the near future. If you have a serviceman or woman in your family, please contact Jill so we can get a current address for them, and mail off a goody package to let them know that they are in our thoughts and prayers.

- Thanks go out to Pastor Mike for ordering the Mother's Day flowers, and also to David Wandersee, who has taken over the flower coordinator job temporarily. Good job men!
- Helpers are needed for the Father's Day breakfast on June 21. See Doreen if you can lend a hand, or if you would like to come and eat.
- Worship will be moving to the Parlor on June 28, unless we are roasting before that, in which case, it may be sooner!
- Your Consistory President, George Beling continues to discuss Consistory reorganization, and hopefully, by the end of the summer, a new and improved organization will be on the way to being in place. Our Constitution is being reviewed and revamped to reflect the times and membership, and you will all be informed of the changes in the Fall.
- Julie Ashton has asked permission to host a Vacation Bible School at the church in July, and will be sending out information in the near future. Our church teens will be helping her with this activity, and all children, not just members, are welcome to attend. See Julie for more details, and watch your bulletin for more information.

That's all for this month. We don't meet in July or August, but your June report will be in the Fall issue of the Steeple News, so watch for that. Don't forget, any member is welcome to attend our meetings the second Monday of the month.

Nancy Amore, Consistory Secretary



Heritage Day Help is Needed ~ July 12th No Experience Necessary!



Heritage Day in downtown Easton will be held on Sunday, July 12, and we need LOTS of helpers. Tour guides, beverage servers, face painters, ice cream servers, and baked goods bakers are all needed to make the day a success. We are trying to open our doors to many visitors, and Heritage Day is a wonderful opportunity to do just that, so bring along a huge smile, and a hearty handshake, and help us make this day a huge success. See Denise Cardinalli, Pastor Mike or any Consistory member if you can help.

Spring Rummage Wrap-Up

We made it! The 2009 Spring Rummage Sale is finished. And what a time it was! The grand total for the two days was \$2,595.39 at last count. A VERY respectable amount, which could only be collected thanks to the hard work of all my helpers who gave of their time and energy all week long.

We started after Worship on Sunday, April 26th, with Pre-Set-Up. So many blessed people helped to move all those tables, racks, and bags and boxes of rummage that it seemed to be over in a flash! We settled down to relax and lunch on pizza afterwards. Thank you, everyone!

A special Thanks to Mark Cooke who, with a new baby and with hand surgery scheduled for the next day, took the time to set up the new slacks and sweaters racks so they would be ready for us. That is called dedication above and beyond the call of duty. Thank you, Mark.

Set-Up Days were, as always, fun, busy and full of surprises. We all adore opening the bags and boxes to see what treasures people have brought us. Thank you to the many who donated things and THANK YOU to the few who worked so hard to hang and place and price those things. You are very special.

The days of the sale may have been gloomy outside, but inside was brightness and happiness as we greeted our old friends and made new ones! It's funny how much joy you can have greeting someone you see only twice a year. It's like a huge, extended family coming together.

But not all was sweetness and light—oh, no! We had high drama when two ladies each wanted the same stuffed animal and came to blows over it! (Thank you, Nancy, for breaking that one up!) And Carl had to evict one gentleman who became abusive over the high cost of the bag of things his companion wished to buy...which cost \$1.

Never a dull moment at OUR rummage sales!

And at the end of it all, we were joined by some extra help who came to help pack up what was left and get it ready for pick up. Seeing those fresh faces puts new life into us... 'cause after the sale, we are all TIRED! It is wonderful to think of how many of my First Church family came to help during the week this Sale. Thank you to all who gave of their time, muscles and love. I look forward to working with you (and MORE of you) in the fall.

God Bless and Keep You,
Wendy Wandersee

June Bulletins

7th - Mildred Firth in loving memory of her sister, Florence Firth.

14th - Bev & Ed Lambert in loving memory of Bev's father, William B. Leamon & her brother, William C. Leamon.

21st - **Father's Day**
Bulletins are sponsored by Ray, Sue, Dan & Tyler Roseberry in loving memory of Ray's father, Raymond T. Roseberry, Jr., his grandfather, Raymond T. Roseberry, and Sue's father, Richard McNamee.

28th - Naomi Protyniak in loving memory of her husband, Theodore Protyniak.

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

June Flowers

7th- Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Ritter in loving memory of Rae Lee Foose, to commemorate her June 13th birthday.

14th - Jacqueline Wogotz in memory of loved ones and in celebration of life, Leo & Erin!

21st - **Father's Day**
Bev & Ed Lambert in memory of our fathers, William B. Leamon & George M. Lambert.

Single Arrangement ~
Mrs. Carol Ann Stem in memory of her father George S. Stem.

28th - Shirley Krock in memory of loved ones.

If you would like to sponsor our Altar Flowers, please contact the church office at 610-258-3361.

From A Kid's View...



DJ (age 4) stepped onto the bathroom scale and asked: 'How much do I cost?'

JAMES (age 4) was listening to a Bible story. His dad read: 'The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city but his wife looked back and was turned to salt.' Concerned, James asked: 'What happened to the flea?'

Troop Boxes to be Sent



Jill West has graciously accepted the job of sending goodie boxes to our troops overseas. You will see a box in the Narthex for items that they request.

Among the items needed are...

Snack items ~ Pringles, pretzels, nonmelting candy, lollipops, microwaveable popcorn, Ramen Noodles,

Time passers ~ puzzle books, paperback books & magazines for men, Nerf footballs

Personal care items ~ chapstick, sun screen, shave cream in a tube only, disposable razors, and anything else you think a guy far from home would be interested in.

Thanks Jill for volunteering to make life a bit more bearable for these brave young men.



Service Moms

We need current addresses for all troops serving overseas. Please email or send them to Margaret at the church office so we can see that they get their gift boxes soon.

Thanks for your help.

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

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

June order dates are:

Wed., June 10th
from 4-6 p.m.

Sat., June 13th
from 9 a.m. til noon

Sun., June 14th -
10:30 a.m. til 12:30
p.m.

June distribution
date is Fri., June
19th - 7-8 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 by Fri.,
June 12th, or call
her with any ques-
tions.

Readers, please note: If we have your e-mail address, we will send the Scripture readings electronically to you so please watch your e-mail. If not, we will send them via the U.S. Mail. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

On a personal note, Ferne Turner has agreed to enlist readers, greeters, and ushers for the summer months and September. I know that you will help her in filling this roster as much as you have helped me all year! It's a pleasure for me to be able to contact you and to have you say a hearty "yes!!!" when I call. Thanks to everyone who has helped to enrich our services!!!

~ Sue Beling

June Greeters, Readers & Ushers

June 7th -

Greeters - Brenda Guffy & Brenda Lisinichia

Ushers - Brenda Guffy, Brenda Lisinichia and others

Reader - Carl Wandersee

Acolyte - Lauren Skillinge

June 14th -

Greeters - Maxine Mathisen & Jill West

Ushers - Maxine Mathisen, Jill West and Tim & Meghan McGinley

Reader - Gary Rapp

Acolyte - Kelsie Hilsenbeck

June 21st - *Father's Day*

Greeters - Carol & Barrie Fournier

Ushers - Carol & Barrie Fournier and Barbara & Tom Dailey

Reader - Bill Arnold

Acolyte - Henry Rothermel

**June 28th - 9:30 a.m. *Summer
Worship in the Parlor***

Greeters - Gary & Mae Rapp

Reader - Mary Ann Barrett