



Volume 8, Issue 8

September 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

# GET READY TO ROLL!

RALLY DAY!

VACATION'S  
OVER ☹️

SCHOOL STARTS!

ADULT BIBLE  
STUDY begins!

Friendship  
Hour!



SUNDAY SCHOOL  
BEGINS!

"End of  
Summer Bash!"

SENIOR CHOIR  
BEGINS!

Back to 10.30  
Worship in the  
Sanctuary!

# SEPTEMBER 2008

## Weekly Worship Schedule

Our Final 9:30 a.m.  
"Summer Worship"  
is Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>

**RALLY DAY &  
"END OF  
SUMMER BASH"  
& Lots of stuff!**  
Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>

**Our Adult Bible Study class  
will resume at 9:30 a.m.  
with Pastor Mike Smith  
leading the class.**

**Beginning Sun., Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>,  
we will return to our  
Sanctuary & our regular  
worship time of 10:30 a.m.  
We will celebrate Holy  
Communion, Food Bank  
Sunday & receive new  
members.**

**ALSO, on Sun., Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>,  
our 2008-2009 Sunday  
School session begins at  
10:30 a.m. with the children  
joining us for the beginning  
of the worship service,  
then dismissing to their  
classes.**

**We will end Rally Day with  
our "End of Summer Bash"  
picnic here in the courtyard  
following the service**

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

## What A Surprise!

*A Poem...* (from the internet)

I was shocked, confused, bewildered  
As I entered Heaven's door,  
Not by the beauty of it all,  
Nor the lights or its decor.

But it was the folks in Heaven  
Who made me sputter and gasp—  
The thieves, the liars, the sinners,  
The alcoholics and the trash.

There stood the kid from seventh grade.  
Who swiped my lunch money twice.  
Next to him was my old neighbor  
Who never said anything nice.

Herb, who I always thought  
Was rotting away in hell,  
Was sitting pretty on cloud nine,  
Looking incredibly well.

I nudged Jesus, 'What's the deal?  
I would love to hear Your take.  
How'd all these sinners get up here?  
God must've made a mistake.

'And why's everyone so quiet,  
So somber - give me a clue.'  
'Hush, child,' He said, 'they're all in  
shock.

No one thought they'd  
be seeing you.'

JUDGE NOT.

Remember...Just going to church doesn't  
make you a Christian any more than  
standing in your garage makes you a car.



## Upcoming September Events...

**Sun., Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> - Labor Day Weekend!**

**LAST 9:30 a.m. SUMMER WORSHIP in the  
Air-Conditioned Parlor**

**Mon., Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> - Labor Day**

**Sun., Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> - RALLY DAY!!! RETURN TO 10:30 a.m.**



**WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY. We will celebrate the  
Sacrament of Holy Communion & receive new members**

**THE 2008-2009 SUNDAY SCHOOL SESSION BEGINS at  
10:30 a.m. with the children joining us for the beginning of  
worship then dismissing to their classes.**

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY at 9:30 a.m.**

**FOOD BANK SUNDAY - everyone is asked to bring a non-  
perishable food item or other household need to help  
restock ProJeCt's food pantry.**

**END OF SUMMER BASH! Following the service. Picnic &  
games in the courtyard. All are invited!**

**Mon., Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> - Consistory meets at 7 p.m.**

**Thurs., Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> - Patriot's Day**



**Fri., Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> - CHURCH WOMEN UNITED Annual Meeting  
at St. John's Lutheran Church, Williams Twsp. 1 p.m.**



**FIRST LADIES BOOK CLUB Party at the  
Amore's 7 p.m.**

**Sun., Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sun. School in the  
Sanctuary.**

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY at 9:30 a.m.**

**Mon., Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> - STEEPLE NEWS deadline (Oct.)**

**Sun., Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> - 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sun. School in the  
Sanctuary.**

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY at 9:30 a.m.**

(Events continue)

**Wed., Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> - See You At The Pole!**

**Sun., Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sun. School in the Sanctuary.**

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY at 9:30 a.m.**

**FRIENDSHIP HOUR immediately following the service**



**Sun., Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> - WORLD-WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY**



**10:30 a.m. Worship & Sun. School in the Sanctuary with Holy Communion.**

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY at 9:30 a.m.**

**Sat., Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> - Men's Group ITALIAN DINNER 4-7 p.m.**



**Sun., Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 a.m. Worship & Sun. School in the Sanctuary.**



**ADULT BIBLE STUDY at 9:30 a.m.**

**FALL FESTIVAL immediately following the service.**

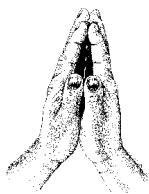


## Prayers of Sympathy go out to...

...the family of **Mildred Reinert** who passed away at her home on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Mildred was a longtime & faithful member of First UCC. Our thoughts & prayers go out to her family - her son Richard, her son Daniel & his wife Pat & their family & all of Mildred's friends.

## Pastoral Care & Prayer

Please keep in your prayers... The Wrights, The Orsos, Willie Wagner, Carol Fournier, Barbara Wuest (Kim Kmetz's mother), Ann Harrison, the family of Mildred Reinert & 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.



## **AN AWESOME & BUSY HERITAGE DAY 2008**

It was a truly awesome day!!!

The morning dawned sunny and warm, and Wendy and Nancy were busy stringing flag garland on the newly repaired fence outside of the church, while inside, Sheila practiced a rousing patriotic medley. By 8:45, our choir began rehearsing a beautiful anthem called, "Give us a Vision" while straggling singers hurried into the church, grabbing music on the way.

The service itself was wonderful, and even though many of us had trouble winding our way into the city, and getting anywhere near the church to park, when we finally all settled into an attitude of prayer in our historic sanctuary, it turned out to be a special worship experience, which was well worth the frustration.

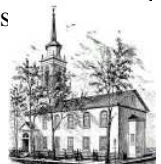
Following the service, a tasty array of goodies was displayed on two long tables in the cool parlor for members and guest to enjoy. Thanks to all of our First UCC bakers for again, turning in a stellar effort. The cakes, cookies and pastries were delectable, as always, and were certainly enjoyed by all. Thanks also to Carl Cooke, for his unending work, setting and tearing down the tables and chairs in the parlor...no easy task.

There are some hard-working members who deserve special thanks for all the effort they put into making his Heritage Day a success. First of all, Sheila Cooke, our music director, who worried and organized the worship despite some pretty steep obstacles, and played some inspirational patriotic songs, and lead the Bell choir and Senior Choir, all of which enhanced our worship experience.

Our event organizer this year, Nancy Amore, comes in a close second in the worrier department, and did a great job rounding up volunteers and food, and sewing and decorating for the day. Her kitchen helpers this year were Kris Skillinge, ice cream dipper extraordinaire, and Denise Cardinalli, whose cheer was contagious. Ya just gotta smile around that lady!

Bob and Doreen Arnold, and Keith and Janice Hilsenbeck were our iced coffee makers, who were not swamped with customers but managed to have a good time anyway, and Bob exhibited some great organizational skills doing set up that made good sense.

(Heritage Day, continued on pg. 6)



(Heritage Day, continued from pg. 5)

Our tour guides this year had the busiest year they have ever had, and special kudos go to Wendy and David Wandersee, Sheila Cooke, Al Kuebler and Mark Cooke, who were tireless in pointing out all the historic features of our beautiful buildings. They lead over 200 visitors in tours during the afternoon! Wow!

Wendy also wrapped 60 acrylic stars after filling them with M&Ms. She then placed labels with the name, address and phone number of our church, which was a nice reminder for visitors of their tour. In her spare time, she decorated the buffet table and strung banners on the staircases, which looked very festive. Thanks Wendy for all you contributed.



The list goes on! Thanks to Jill West for manning the baked goods table in the Narthex, which kept her busy. After some fervent pleading, and some equally fervent refusals, two talented face painters stepped up to the task, and did an awesome job. Mae Rapp and Brynn Hilsenbeck....our hats are off to both of you for a job well done, and with good cheer too! You made a lot of little people, and a few big ones, very happy. These two women painted for HOURS, and never lost their cool, despite some long lines and squirmy little people. Again, thanks to both of you for a job well done!

Now we have to say “Bravo!” to four of our youngest members, who added some inspirational touches, totally spontaneous, to our day. Lauren and Jenna Skillinge, Kelsey Hilsenbeck and Leo Cooke, supplied us all with laughter by doing their “Patriotic Parade”, every half hour or so, complete with marching music and a newly crowned “Miss Easton”, riding on a Little Tykes car. Jenna, your sash and crown adorned with flags, was to die for! They were a hoot, and really added to the spirit of Heritage Day.



For those of you who wouldn't or couldn't join in the fun this day, please mark your calendars for the second Sunday in July next year. We have something for all of you to help with, no matter what your age or ability, and you will not only serve your church ( you remember....the cost and joy of discipleship, which you recite each week in church), but you will also have a good time, and have some laughs in the bargain.

Thank you again to all who helped make Heritage Day 2008 the most successful yet for First UCC. You all really showed your faith and commitment by your actions today.



# Rally Day & End of Summer Bash



On Sun., Sept. 7th we will return to our 10:30 a.m. worship in the Sanctuary with the celebration of Holy Communion & Food Bank Sunday. We will also begin our 2008-2009 Sunday School session at 10:30 with Rally Day. Following our service we will hold our "End of Summer Bash" with a picnic of hot dogs & covered dishes in the courtyard. There will be games for all ages & loads of food & fun so please join us for this great Church Family event! Volunteers are needed too!



## Choir News

Our Choir will begin practicing again on Thursday evenings beginning on **Thurs., Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 p.m.**

Everyone is invited to join the choir! No experience is necessary. Please see Sheila Cooke for more info or if you have any questions.



## First Ladies Book Club Meeting & Picnic



The First Ladies Book Club will gather on **Fri., Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. at the home of Nancy Amore** to discuss the book "The Art of Mending" & for a time of "sisterhood".

Please bring along a covered dish to share. Meat & dessert will be provided. **All our ladies are invited** - even if you haven't read the book, please come & enjoy a fun evening!

## Pasta Fiesta

Our Men's Club will host another of their special Pasta Fiesta dinners on **Sat., Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 p.m.** The menu will include Pasta, Meat Balls, Sausage, Salad, Rolls, Beverage & Dessert.

Tickets are \$7/adult & \$3/children. Tickets will be on sale in early Sept. so invite your family & friends!



## September Bulletins

7<sup>th</sup>- Mrs. Helen Stotz in loving memory of her husband, Vincent.

14<sup>th</sup> - Mrs. Ruth Dalrymple in loving memory of her husband, Robert, for his September birthday.

21<sup>st</sup> - David, Wendy & Carl Wandersee to commemorate the day they first came to First Church.

28<sup>th</sup> - Kristen Skillinge & Jeff Amore in loving memory of their grandparents, Walter A. & Mary Jo Stem.

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

## September Flowers

7<sup>th</sup>-Bette Walker in memory of her husband Rev. Lionel T. Walker.

14<sup>th</sup> - Janet Caka in loving memory of her husband Richard C. Caka.

21<sup>st</sup> - Ruth Miller in memory of sister Helen Stem & friend Bill Dickes.

28<sup>th</sup> - Albert Kuebler in memory of loved ones.

**A flower sponsor is needed for Sun., Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>** (the Sun. after Thanksgiving).

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

## Are You On Line?

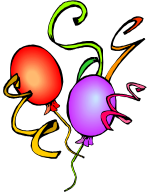
If you are on line we would like to encourage you to share your e-mail address with us so we can send you the latest news relative to our church, plans, and many activities.

Please shoot an e-mail to us at **firstucc2@verizon.net**. & ask to be included in our church e-mail list.

Please don't forget to check out our church website [www.firstucceaston.org](http://www.firstucceaston.org)!

## September Birthdays

- 1 - Sue Roseberry
- 6 - Frederick Hay
- 10 - Shara Heller
- 11 - Melissa Woodland
- 17 - Janet P. Miller  
Irene Stotz
- 19 - Megan McGinley
- 20 - Keith Hilsenbeck
- 21 - Anna Litzenberger
- 24 - Regina Stauffer



## Church Women United News

**C.W.U. will hold their Annual Meeting on Fri., Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> at St. John's Lutheran Church (New Wms.) at 2745 Morgan Hill Rd., Williams Twsp.**

Registration begins at 1 p.m. & the program begins at 1:30 p.m.

Guest speaker, Deb McIntyre will talk about Habitat For Humanity. Installation of officers will be conducted.

**C.W.U. World Community Day will be celebrated on Fri., Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> at St. Jane Frances De Chantel Church.**

Please see Irene Stotz for more info or with any questions about C.W.U.

## Let's Lend A Hand!



Many of our First Church Family members

are finding themselves in need of assistance. Maybe it's a ride to the doctor, meal preparation after a hospital stay or other need.

We are forming a group of folks who would be able & willing to offer such help to others within our congregation. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex if you would be able to help. You can be a real angel to someone!



## Kids Off To College?

## Family Members in the Service?

Please see that our church office has addresses so we can send them the monthly Steeple News & help them keep in touch with what's going on back home with their church family.

Please e-mail (firstucc2@verizon.net) or call (610-258-3361) with their info.

# Troop News

Please remember these brave, young men who keep us safe, and are far away from home.



**CPL Joshua Dailey**  
**LCPL Charles (Rod) Donaldson**  
**LCPL Thomas Parry**

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

*We are waiting for updated address information on our soldiers & it will be published as soon as it is available.*

## Don't Forget...

Our next issue of The Steeple News will be for October. Please get any info about October & early Nov. events to the secretary by Mon., Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>. *Thanks!*

# CROP WALK

This year the CROP Walk will be held on **Sun., Oct. 12th** & will start at St. John's Lutheran Church on Ferry St. Registration begins at 12:30 & the walk at 1:30.

Please sign up to walk or sponsor a walker. This event supports ProJeCt of Easton's Food Pantry locally & Church World Service globally.

# youth See You At The Pole

**Gather, Unite, Pray**  
**7 a.m.,**  
**Wed., Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**at the Flag Pole at**  
**Your School!**



**A student initiated, student led event**  
(adult advisors are ok too but student leaders are needed)

"See You At The Pole" isn't about groups, grades, clothes, or churches. It's about praying. It's about all of us coming together & laying aside all the labels for one day, simply to call out to God, just as Jesus did in John 17 saying, "Lord, may we be one in you—whether jocks, preps, geeks, Pentecostals, Baptists, Catholics, freshmen, or seniors—may the world believe that You are real and have sent us to touch others through You, regardless of the dividing lines drawn by a broken world!"

Join your generation of faith on Wed., Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 a.m., **GATHER** at your school flagpole, **UNITE** in the name of the One Who died to save you, and **PRAY** for your school, friends, & families. **COME TOGETHER**, just as Jesus prayed we would!

**SEE YOU AT THE POLE!**

**For more info & ideas,**  
**check out the website,**  
**www.syatp.com**

## September Anniversaries

**Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2001**

Mark & Tara Cooke

**Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, 1946**

Fred & Gretchen Finken

**Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, 1973**

Edward & Beverly Lambert

**Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>, 1950**

Lester & Helen Litzenberger

**Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, 1994**

David & Kristen Skillinge

**Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>, 1990**

Walter & Elizabeth Conrad

**Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>, 1998**

Steven & Samantha  
Protyniak

**Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1967**

George & Sue Beling

**Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>, 1960**

Carl & Theresa Geiger



## Sept. Greeters, Readers & Ushers

**Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 a.m. in the  
Sanctuary**

**Greeters** - Gary & Mae Rapp

**Ushers** - Gary & Mae Rapp  
& others to be announced

**Reader** - Michael Smith

**Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> -**

**Greeters** - Elaine Hrymack &  
Al Kuebler

**Ushers** - Elaine Hrymack,  
Ruth Miller & others to be  
announced

**Reader** - MaryAnn Barrett

**Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> -**

**Greeters** - Carol & Barrie  
Fournier

**Ushers** - Carol & Barrie  
Fournier and David & Kim  
Kmetz

**Reader** - David Kmetz

**Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> -**

**Greeters** - David & Wendy  
Wandersee

**Ushers** - David, Wendy &  
Carl Wandersee and Jill West

**Reader** - David Wandersee

## Greeters, Ushers, Readers, Acolytes

We need folks who are willing to serve as Greeters, Ushers, Readers & Acolytes. As you see from the list above, there are still openings. There will be a sign up sheet for anyone wishing to serve. Please pick a date to assist with the service.

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

The **Sept. menu** is available in our narthex, in the office or on-line at:

[www.stjohnsmorganhill.org](http://www.stjohnsmorganhill.org).

There is a **NEW item: Senior Box for \$25** which consists of 10 nutritionally balanced individual heat & serve meals with **NO ADDED SODIUM**. Each contains 3 oz. of protein, two vegetables or fruit & a starch.

AFM has also added more special packages so, check it out!

---

**Sept.** order dates are:

**Wed., Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> - 4-6 p.m.**

**Sat., Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> - 9 a.m. til  
noon**

**Sun., Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 a.m.  
til 12:30 p.m.**

**Sept. distribution date is  
Fri., Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> - 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 or e-mail [stjohnsafm@aol.com](mailto:stjohnsafm@aol.com).

# First UCC Upcoming October Events...

Fall will be a busy time here at First UCC!

**Coming up in October we look forward to...**

**World Wide Communion Sunday  
~ Sun., Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> at our 10:30 a.m.  
service**

**First Ladies Nut Sale ~**  
featuring chocolate covered cranberries which were a huge hit along with out 'no peanut' mixed nuts!

**Men's Group Pasta Fiesta ~  
Sat., Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 p.m.**

**C.R.O.P. Walk ~ Sun., Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Walkers & Sponsors are needed to raise funds for & awareness of hunger in the Lehigh Valley & throughout the world.

**Fall Festival ~ Sun., Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Annual Fall Rummage Sale ~  
Fri., Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> & Sat., Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Drop-Off** - from 9 a.m. til noon  
Sat., Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>, Sun., Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>  
Thurs., Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>, Fri., Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>  
Sat., Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>

**Set-Up Sunday** - Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> after church

**Set-Up Week** - Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup>  
**Sale** - Fri., Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> from 9am.til 4p.m.

& Sat., Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> from 9am.til 1p.m.

**Clean-up** - Sat., Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> immediately following sale

**HELP IS NEEDED!!!!**