

First Christian Church
Disciples of Christ
442 Hummel Ave,
Lemoyne, PA 17043



The Messenger SEPTEMBER 2011

Minister: Diana Hodges-Batzka

Organist: Mary E. Snyder

Church Secretary: Sara Zettlemyer

A New Season

Over the past few weeks, as my husband, John, and I have been setting up our home, we have been bombarded by “Back to School” signs, posters, specials and deals. It is that season – a new school year. There even seems to be a hint of cool to the air. (Although, I will admit, being from Florida originally, I find it strange that it can get into the 50s during the month of August.) As a person who liked school, the beginning of the new school year was a time to excitement, anticipation and some nervousness. Would I like my classes? Who would I be seated next to? Would I be wearing the right kind of clothes? Would my friends have changed? Would my school still be the place where I felt at home?

I felt the same emotions – excitement, anticipation, and nervousness – as I went through my first week and my first Sunday in the pulpit on August 21, and I would not be surprised if these emotions showed! I was blessed by the hospitality of a wonderful welcoming congregation. Thank you all so much for the corsage to wear my first Sunday, the planter filled with beautiful plant to grace my office, a wonderful cake, hugs and kind words of welcome, and most importantly, your prayers. You have made me feel very welcome and I am excited to begin this journey with you.

As a church family, it is a new season for us, the beginning of a new relationship. A time of excitement, anticipation and some nervousness. I pray that as we get to know each other and as we begin to explore where God is leading FCC Lemoyne, we will continue to greet the wonderful future that God has in store for us with excitement, anticipation and hope.

Peace,
Pastor Diana

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~~ Out of the Blue ~~

With all the health issues and "adventures" that have plagued me the last nine months, I sometimes sit down and feel so frustrated that I have been sidelined. Then, I realize how fortunate I have been, because it does not matter what type of situation you are in and wonder why it has happened to you, there are so many people so much worse off. I always bring that to mind. There are many people in this world who are really hurting and dealing with the tough things in life.

I had a heart attack and some other heart issues, but I walked out of the hospital in four days. Others have not been so lucky or they have walked out but their quality of life will never be the same as it was before. Pneumonia kills. I survived. I was delusional with an inner ear infection at the same time and had a minor accident (Ask me and I will tell you that story. It is rather quite humorous.) Hundreds died from the heat wave. I am thankful. I was only severely dehydrated and ended up with a baldy sprained ankle.

My summer has not been very pleasant or enjoyable because of all that has happened in my life recently. But I am alive and there is always next summer. Life will be better then. There are many, many people who cannot make that statement.

The other day I met a sonographer. She was doing a sonogram on me, but I truly believe there is a reason that the two of us connected. She is 43 years old, a tall, large boned woman with a very pretty face and warm smile. She walks with a cane. As she performed her task on me, she proceeded to tell me why she had a cane and why her right hand was nothing but a fist. Her left hand was crippled, but she was able to type.

Four years ago, she was involved in an auto accident and was paralyzed from her neck down. She was not too specific, but she did spend a good amount of time at Hershey Med. She had many obstacles to overcome, but with determination and God's love and compassion and healing hand, she is leading a normal life working in her field and raising two teenagers.

She could have easily given up and said, "Woe is me," but she knew there was more to life than being disabled at a relatively young age. My eyes began to tear as she told me her story. She wasn't looking for sympathy, she was proud of how a bad situation turned good! She knew it did not happen just because she had good doctors or was filled with determination. She had the GREATEST doctor taking care of her. She is alive and productive. God is good! All the time!

Too many times we slip into that "woe is me" rut. That really doesn't get us anywhere, but may simply be a band-aid for the moment. We need to know that God never gives us more than we can handle. When we are down, we need to put our life in His hands and follow wherever He leads us.

Life is too short not to make the best of what has been handed to us. And life is not just about us, but it is about all of God's creatures. Life is good because we have a loving and compassionate giver of the life guiding us in our daily lives.

Yes, God is good! All the time!

Pastor Linda



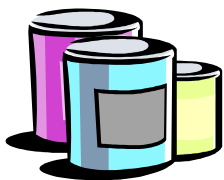
Our Change Jars and Blessing Box offerings will go to the Disciples Reconciliation Ministry There will also be a special offering on Sep 25 and Oct 2nd

Purpose

“Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) celebrates the Gospel teaching that God’s children come from all places and that the power of love at God’s table is able to bring together all races, languages, cultures and traditions. (Revelation 5: 9 -10) We recognize that there have been forces within our Church and society that have misshapen our self-understanding and promoted division. Acknowledging God’s call to be faithful to the witness of unity and justice, we confess that we are sinful and that racism is a result of our sinfulness. Yet, God heals us and calls us to be reconciled one to another and all to God.”

Mission:

“Reconciliation Ministry advances the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ's journey toward wholeness by empowering each expression of the Church to implement structural change to address historic fractures caused by racism and the systems that perpetuate it. It is the goal of our shared work to foster life-giving community within our church and in relationship with the whole family of God. We accomplish this mission through intentional dialogue, inclusive worship and experiential education.” *Quotes taken from Disciples.org website*



PANTRY SUNDAY

The first Sunday of each month we will receive **NON-PERISHABLE** goods to be delivered to Five Loaves Food Bank servicing Wormleysburg and Lemoyne. Please be generous!
Next opportunity to give is Sept 4th.

Income and Expenses

Month of July

Congregational Offerings Received	\$5,666.07
Donation for use of Church	500.00
Miscellaneous Income	70.28
Fundraising Income	<u>100.00</u>
Total	\$6,336.35
 Bills received and paid	 \$6,639.31

Thank you for your generosity!



First Sunday of the Month Pot Luck

We will have our final outdoor (weather permitting) picnic on Sep 4th!
Please bring a picnic type dish to share!

Ken, our faithful cook, will be making BBQ Ribs as well as our
traditional hamburger and hotdogs!

Join us immediately following worship for a great fellowship time!

Sunday School

Losing Your Religion by Andy Stanley

September 4: The Eight Commandments

Sept 11: Unfair and Uncomfortable

We will begin a new series on Sept 18th. If you would like
to make a suggestion on a series topic please contact Tom
Runkle or Diana Onstott



Girl Scouts began meeting for the new year on Aug 29th. Please
drop by and get to know some of the girls! Tues night will again
be the biggest meeting night with several age levels, from Daisy
Girl Scouts (K and 1st grade) to high school girls working on their
Gold and Silver Awards!

We had our opening leader meeting which was very exciting be-
cause Girl Scouts is continuing to update and change! This year,
most of our recourses are electronic. It is an interesting adjustment, but one that will
save recourses, time and keep us in contact with the youth of today!! Thank you for
all your past years of support and we look forward to another great year!

Harrisburg CROP Walk;

Oct 9th City Island

Registration at 1pm; walk begins at 1:30

We will have pizza for all our walkers prior to going to City
Island after church in Fellowship Hall.

Packets will be available for donations on Sep 11th!





September 11th Commemoration

**Sunday, September 11 at 2 P.M.
St. Stephen's Episcopal Cathedral
221 N. Front Street, Harrisburg, PA**

The Interfaith Alliance of Pennsylvania is sponsoring the annual 9/11 Commemoration. This marks the 10th anniversary of the event, so it is an especially important occasion. The Commemoration will be held Sunday, September 11, 2011 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Cathedral, 221 N. Front Street, Harrisburg, PA, between 2 and 4 P.M. It will begin with a keynote presentation by Imam Yahya Hendi, who is the Islamic Chaplain at Georgetown University.

Following Imam Hendi's address, we will proceed to the Cathedral undercroft for light refreshments and a panel discussion. The panel will be comprised of representatives from Christian, Eastern, Jewish and Islamic traditions, who will address what we can all do as an interfaith community to build our future together. There will be an opportunity for those in attendance to meet the panel members and ask questions.

Following the Commemoration, we plan to take the next step in building our future together with a dinner-dialogue on Thursday, September 22, also at St. Stephen's. This multi-faith gathering will focus on the themes of Scriptures, Holidays and the Good Society as a means of moving together towards a shared future. If we learn more about each other's authoritative scriptures and worship services, become more aware of each other's holidays, and gain a greater understanding of what we expect a just and compassionate society to look like, we will be better prepared to build that Good Society together. Everyone is welcome, so please share this invitation with your family and friends.



*** DR. JACK SULLIVAN, JR. CALLED AS REGIONAL MINISTER.**

At a specially-called meeting on August 20, 2011 at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Lemoyne, PA, the Regional Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Pennsylvania elected the Rev. Dr. Jack Sullivan, Jr. of Cleveland, OH, to serve as Regional Minister and President.

An ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Dr. Sullivan currently serves as Senior Pastor of Fifth Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Cleveland. His prior service includes pastorates of congregations in Mercer Island, WA, Detroit, MI, Jefferson City, MO and Louisville, KY. He has also served in the Division of Homeland Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) as Associate for African American Educational Ministries. He has served as Associate Regional Minister of the Mid-America Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and for eight years was Regional Minister of the Northwest Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Dr. Sullivan holds a B. S. degree from Ohio University, an M. Div. from Lexington Theological Seminary, and a D. Min. from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH. He has also undertaken advanced studies at Gonzaga University in Spokane, WA.

Dr. Sullivan, who receives the enthusiastic support of the Search Committee and the Regional Board, expresses his eagerness to become the Regional Minister of Pennsylvania and looks forward to meeting our members and leading the Region in the days ahead.

The probable starting date of Dr. Sullivan's regional ministry in Pennsylvania is October 1, 2011. His service of installation will be announced when the plans are complete. Continue your prayers for the region and our regional minister-elect even as you have been supportive throughout this interim and search process.



Dear Friends,

I would like to thank the congregation for all their love and understanding of all the crazy things that were happening in my life for the last nine months. Your support and care meant so much. I think we ALL did well in making it through that interim period in the life of our church. It was a real team effort. Need I say that I was overwhelmed with the litany of thanks on August 20? Also, I would like to thank the congregation and the search committee for the beautiful rose corsage and the awesome planter given to me as a thank you. I THANK YOU for a wonderful year!

Linda

Dear Members of First Christian Church,

Thank you so much for sending me to Church Camp. I really liked it because it was fun. Every day we had Sunday school and we talked what would it be like to have Jesus walking with you around camp and what would you talk about? One night all the girls went to the boy's cabin to sing a song and the boys went to the girl's cabin to sing us a song. One night we had a dance and I got to dance with a boy named CJ he was very nice and all my friends helped me to dance with CJ. Then we had a slip and slide and we all went down together and it was fun and the councilors went to. We went to three different lakes and it was cold and fun and we got some Ice Cream and that was so good. Thank you so much again for letting me go to camp.

LOVE DORIA!!!!

SEPTEMBER 2011 SERVERS

ELDERS

- 4 Harold Turner
- 11 Keith Aubel
- 18 Rhoda Aubel
- 25 Coralyn Campbell



DIACONATE

- Sept 4-** Ken Holler, Debbie Holler, Ted Willoughby, Jack Wagner, Jane Welsh
- Sept 11-** Lisa Yerger, Stuart Knickerbocker, Willie Colon, Donna Colon, Debbie Holler
- Sept 18-** Kelly Manning, Russ Miller, Ted Willoughby, Lois Haagen, Dick Shatzer
- Sept 25-** Lisa Yerger, Stuart Knickerbocker, Linda Runkle, Glenn Haagen, Jack Wagner

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP & COMMUNION PREPARATION

Month of September- Kelly Manning & Loyetta Quinn

GREETERS

- Sept 4 -** Robert Lambert, Henry Miller, Bert Levarto
- Sept 11 -** Joan Kain, Harold Turner, Dottie Michels
- Sept 18 -** Lois Miller, Russ Miller, Velma Hughes
- Sept 25—**Lois Hagen, Glenn Haagen, Jean Trout

Thank you for your service!

From Your Church Secretary.....

Dear Friends of FCC,

Just a reminder that when you pick up your flowers on Sunday, please leave the inside filler at the church with the vase. There are coffee can available for your use to transport the flowers home.

Thank you for helping to beautify our worship service.

Sara Zettlemoyer
Secretary

ADDRESS UPDATE

Melissa Ford
206 E. Locust St Floor 2
Mechanicsburg, PA 10755



Congratulations to Andrew Campbell, son of Coralyn Campbell, and Michelle Matrice who were married in our church on July 9.

Also exchanging wedding vows in our beautiful sanctuary on July 30 were, Robin Ritter and Bill Goudy.

We pray for God to truly bless these two families.



*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers*



Frank Hughes, Linda Leiser, Carl Haubert, Henry Miller, Coralyn Campbell, Dot Atkinson, Sally Smith, Susan Blough (FCC Family) Hannah Onstott (D. Onstott) Jimmy, Reginald, (Joan Kain) Deanna Whitcomb (D. Michels) Root Family in Ohio (Aubel's) Harvey Boltz (S. Boltz) Scott Leiser, Ron Leiser (L. Leiser) Ronnie Shaner, Sherrie Galentinem (L. Runkle) Dave Kurtz, Gracie Willoughby (S. Willoughby) Kay & Paul Chambers, Betty Rainwater (D, Wolff) Megan Gossard (L. Miller) Joann Young, Bryan Rammel, Jessica & Family (D. Reed) Micheal Danzas, Janet P., Marie H., Terri S., Tom & Carol F., Joe Acri, Dan Keating, Suzie Eply, Kris Wagner, Janet Preble, Jen M., Chris Haubert (M. Snyder) Anna Harris, Noah Funk (S. Blough)

September 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Cabinet Meeting at 6PM. Committee Meeting at 6:30PM.	2	3
4 "Pantry Day" Pot Luck Lunch- After Worship.	5 <i>Office Closed in honor of Labor Day</i>	6 Girl Scouts Using DOWNSTAIRS 5:30-8PM.	7 Girl Scouts Using Girl Scout Room 5:30-8PM.	8 Girl Scouts Using Girl Scout Room 5:30-8PM.	9	10
11 Finance Meeting- After Worship	12 Girl Scouts Using Girl Scout Room 5:30-8PM.	13 Girl Scouts Using DOWNSTAIRS 5:30-8PM.	14 Girl Scouts Using Girl Scout Room 5:30-8PM.	15 Girl Scouts Using Girl Scout Room 5:30-8PM.	16	17
18 "Blessing Box" Board Meeting- After worship.	19 Girl Scouts Using Girl Scout Room 5:30-8PM.	20 Girl Scouts Using DOWNSTAIRS 5:30-8PM. Finance Budget Meeting at 6PM	21 Girl Scouts Using Girl Scout Room 5:30-8PM.	22 Girl Scouts Using Girl Scout Room 5:30-8PM.	23	24
25 Elder's Meeting- After Worship. Property Meeting- After worship.	26 Girl Scouts Using GS Room 5:30-8PM. --> --> Pastor	27 Girl Scouts Using DOWNSTAIRS 5:30-8PM. Diana will be out	28 Girl Scouts Using GS Room 5:30-8PM. of the office on	29 Girl Scouts Using GS Room 5:30-8PM. Bethany Fellows	30 Retreat <--<--	

Birthdays



Jonathan Roesner - Sept 7 Linda Leiser - Sept 16
Jack Wagner—Sept 17 Crystal Roesner Sept 18

Anniversaries



Ted & Sue Willoughby— Sept 4



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442 Hummel Ave,
Lemoyne, PA 17043
717-763-4537**



UPCOMING EVENTS!!

September 1 - Cabinet meeting at 6:00P.M.

September 1 - Christian Growth, Worship & Outreach meeting at 6:30P.M.

September 4 - "Pantry Day"

September 4 - Pot Luck Lunch- After worship.

September 11 - Stewardship/Finance Meeting- After worship.

September 18 - "Blessing Box Sunday"

September 18 - Board Meeting- After Worship.

September 20 - Finance Budget Meeting- 6:00P.M.

September 25 - Property Meeting- After Worship.

September 25 - Elder's Meeting- After Worship.