

THE BRIDGE

SEPT 24 | OCT 24 | NOV 24
CARLISLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



KINDNESS CAMPAIGN AT CUMC THIS FALL

Let me invite you into a thought experiment. What is one word that expresses how you would like to be treated? Keep that word in your mind and take a moment to imagine if this was how everyone in our community was treated and everyone in our world treated each other. How would the world be different?

Finally, imagine that you can help make that a reality.

This fall we are launching out together on a fall kindness campaign. The

church, at its best, is a force for good in our neighborhoods and in the world. We are a community making God's kingdom of love, justice, and mercy real and that makes a real difference. As Jesus said, we are like salt and light.

Our kindness campaign will center on Jesus' Golden Rule, Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. We will consider Kindness, Compassion, Respect, Humility, and Love. And we aren't just going to talk about it, we

are going to put these words into action in our community individually and together as we are led by God and our awesome Serve leaders to serve our neighbors.

Join our campaign! Together we can make a difference. I leave you with this quote from Margaret Mead, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." With God's help, anything is possible! ~ **PASTOR JAKE**

CAMPAIGN FOR KINDNESS - HELP SERVE!

During CUMC'S Campaign for Kindness, we will have lots of opportunities to Serve. We will have pop-up events, prepare/serve meals, and collect donations for those in our community. Please consider supporting our Campaign for Kindness to show kindness in our community. Sign up online at www.carlislepaumc.org/kindness, talk to one of our Serve Leaders, or contact Kathy Charette, kcharette62@comcast.net or 717-386-0558.

AT CUMC

- Oct 6 Domestic Violence Pop-Up after worship
- Oct 6 Kindness Seashell Pop-Up after worship
- Oct 13 Collect Safe Harbour Donations before worship
- Oct 13 Blessing Bag Pop-Up after worship
- Oct 20 Kindness Card Pop-Up after worship
- Oct 20 Collect Safe Harbour Donations before worship
- Oct 26 Trunk or Treat Spice Table Pop-Up 3:15-6:15pm
- Oct 27 Project Share Spice Table Pop-Up after worship
- Oct 27 Collect Safe Harbour Donations before worship
- Oct 27 Prepare dinner for Community Cares, 2-5pm
- Nov 3 Little Lights/Head Start Pop-Up after worship
- Nov 3 Collect Thanksgiving Donations before worship
- Nov 10 Collect Thanksgiving Donations before worship

IN THE COMMUNITY

- Oct 11 Day of Caring, 8am-1pm
- Oct 15 Handout Blessing Bags, 4-5:15pm, Salvation Army
- Oct 19 Choice Distribution, 8am-Noon, Project Share
- Oct 19 Serve Project, 9am-Noon
- Nov 3 Prepare/Serve dinner, 2-5:30pm, Salvation Army



Sign up to SERVE at any of these events at www.carlislepaumc.org/kindness



SEPTEMBER

- 8 - Preteen Color Battle, 5-7pm
- 15 - Preteen, 5-7pm
- 22 - Learning about Prayer event for 1st graders
- 22 - Preteen, 5-7pm
- 29 - Preteen, 5-7pm

OCTOBER

- 6 - Preteen, 5-7pm
- 13 - **NO** Preteen
- 20 - Preteen, 5-7pm
- 26 - Trunk or Treat, 4-6pm
- 27 - Preteen Halloween Bash, 5-7pm

NOVEMBER

- 3 - Preteen, 5-7pm
- 8 - Preteen Late-Nighter, 5-10:30pm
- 10 - Preteen, 5-7pm
- 17 - Preteen, 5-7pm
- 24 - **NO** Preteen

Preteen is for kids in 3rd-5th grades

One memory that has always stuck with me from my childhood was going to vacation bible school. I loved learning the bible stories in a fun way. I also loved playing the games and making the crafts. My favorite part was music. I loved learning all the fun new songs I am amazed at how much our kids love vacation bible school. In June we spent a week under the sea diving into a friendship with God in SCUBA VBS. The children learned Bible stories all week in exciting ways through acting them out or creating different parts of the story. They learned that God was with Elijah through ups and down, that God showed compassion to the people of Ninevah, how God calms the storms, Jesus died and rose again and how Lydia believed in Jesus. They had so much fun playing games

all week with water. They did different experiments in our Imagination station to physically show how God loves them. They also learned fun ways to remember their memory verses at our sticky scripture station. They also learned how to look up their memory verse in their own gospel of John that they got to take home at the end of the week. There were fun moments of learning new songs, seeing Mad Scientist Pastor Jake do experiments, eating snacks, learning about our Bible buddies each day and sharing God moments each day. It was such an awesome week Thank you to everyone who volunteered, prayed for and financially contributed to Vacation Bible School.

COMING UP..

Looking ahead to the fall some dates to know in Preteen: we will kick off our year with our color battle on September 8. We will be playing games with colored powder. We will also celebrate Halloween with a Halloween Bash on Oct. 27 so feel free to wear a costume. We will take time to talk about giving thanks on Nov. 17. On Nov 8 the Preteens will be having a late-nighter at the church from 5-10:30pm. We have some fun family events planned for the fall. On Sept 22 we will have a new prayer event for our first graders and their grownups. First graders will learn some fun ways to pray with their grown-ups and will learn the Lord's prayer. On Oct 26 we will have our Trunk or Treat at the church from 4-6pm. Join us for a fun free evening of games, crafts, food and our trail of trunks. If you would like to help with the trunk or treat or have a trunk, please let Christina know.

If you would be interested in helping in Kids Ministry, please talk to Christina.

STUDENT MINISTRY ADULT LEADERSHIP TEAM

We are blessed here at CUMC to have a wonderful team of adults who volunteer their time to make Student Ministry happen. They are the core of our ministry, reflecting the hands and feet of Jesus in all that they do. Their dedication, compassion, and unwavering support are vital to the spiritual growth and development of our students. Churches simply cannot function without the selfless contributions of volunteers. Their commitment not only strengthens our church but also inspires and nurtures the next generation of believers. Thank you for your invaluable service and for being a shining example of Christ's love in action. Next time you see them please make sure you thank them.

We are beyond excited to have two new team members joining us this fall: Michelle Kearns and Barry Mitchell. Keep all of our team in your prayers.



Dave Sale has been serving for almost 2 decades with Student Ministry. He has taught so many students how to use a drill, impact driver, measuring tape and so much more. Somehow Dave always ends up with the messy jobs on mission trips, often dealing with fixing toilets, sometimes not even on the worksite.



Sara Billman has been serving for 3 years. You often will see her singing at the 9:45am service. She also most recently has become our SPARKS Choir director. When asked what her favorite part about serving is she said "I think getting to experience their growth, both in their relationships with each other, and their individual relationships with God." Sara often gets the kids to sing musical numbers in the van, bringing joy and energy to everyone around her.

Jeff Harpel is another adult who has been helping for a decade. He is always a great wealth of knowledge for students as they ask some pretty serious questions. He can often be found at students' events outside of church, whether it is at an orchestra concert or track meet, you can find him there supporting students as they use the talents God has given them.



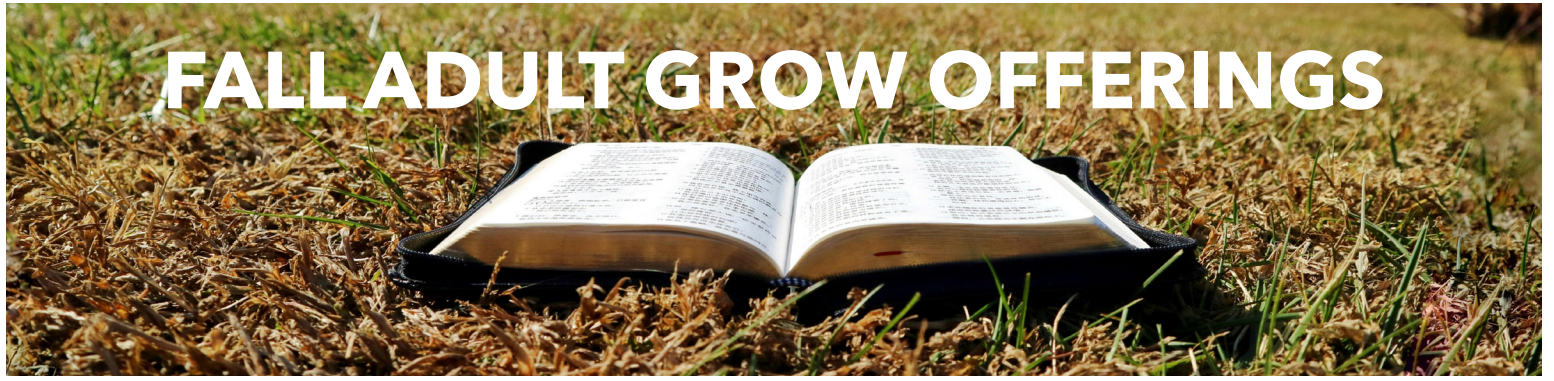
Nick Bergstresser is going into his 3rd year as an Adult Leader. Nick has had the privilege of also serving as a high school leader when he was still in school. He's always willing to dive right into whatever it is the kids want to do: want to go down the big slide? Nick will go with you. Need someone to push you on the merry go round?

Nick will! Often you will find Nick filling the role of big brother to many of our younger guys. Nick says "The thing I like most about Student Ministry is that I get to help the kids grow in their faith while also strengthening my own faith in the process."



Tina Morrison is starting her 9th year serving in Student Ministry at CUMC. Tina always greets you warmly, eager to hear about your life, whether it's how your test went or how your sports event turned out that week. One student put it this way "No matter what kind of day or week Tina has had she always makes us feel welcome, cared for and loved. She puts herself on the back burner and cares for us." Tina is often doing the little tasks that need to be done behind the scenes and somehow making them a good time.

FALL ADULT GROW OFFERINGS



Adults at CUMC cover those ages 18+. We come together for making friends, making a difference in our community and deepening our faith. Register your kids for childcare when you sign up for a class, group, or study.

Sign up on the CUMC app or online at www.carlislepaumc.org/adults.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

NEW BEGINNINGS SUNDAYS, 9:30AM AT CUMC

Led by Nancy Schoeps and Sharon Edwards.

FAITH JOURNEY SUNDAYS, 9:30AM AT CUMC

Led by Ron Chipriano.

KINDRED SPIRITS SUNDAYS, 9:15AM AT CUMC

Led by Iva O'Brien and Charles Reynolds.

PATHWAYS SUNDAYS, 11AM AT CUMC

Led by Greg Williams.

ADULT STUDIES

WOMEN IN FAITH

First Monday of each Month (begins Sept 9), 2:30pm at CUMC. Created for women of all ages and stages of life who seek a deeper relationship with God and other women. Led by Vicki Morley.

MINDFUL WOMEN

Second Monday of each Month, 1 & 6pm at CUMC. Using Max Lucado's video study on, "How Happiness Happens." Dinner meetings, 6pm: Sept 9, Dec 9, Mar 10, & May 12. Small Group, 1 & 6pm: Oct 14, Nov 11, Jan 13, & Feb 10. Led by Sue Baxter, Jacquie Bunt, and Chris Benson.

WoW: WOMEN OF THE WORD

Thursdays (bi-weekly), Sept 12-Nov 21, 1:15pm at CUMC. Dig into the Bible and learn how to worship with your whole life. Led by Sue Baxter, Jacquie Bunt, and Chris Benson.

DISCIPLE I FAST TRACK

Sundays, Sept 15-Feb 23, 5:30pm at CUMC. Study the entire Bible over the course of 9 months. This adaptation of the original, best-selling Disciple Bible Study is for people seeking to engage the whole Bible. Led by Roger Woods & Vicki Morley.

STUDY IN GRATITUDE

Tuesdays, Sept 17-Oct 8, 6pm at CUMC. Learn the benefits of having a gratitude practice and try a few different kinds. Led by Andrea Katz.

FAITHFUL & INCLUSIVE

Tuesdays, Sept 17-Oct 22, 6:30pm at CUMC. Allows you to gain an understanding of how United Methodists can be both obedient to God's Word and fully welcoming to LG-BTQ persons in the church. Led by Pastor Jim VanZandt, Chris Benson, Don Schoeps, and John Seaton.

WHERE AM I? A CHRISTIAN'S JOURNEY

Wednesdays, Oct 2-16, 6:30pm at CUMC. This class will help you identify the four stages of growth that Christians experience and will guide you to help you progress to the next stage. Led by James Baity.

EXAMEN

Thursdays, Oct 29 & Nov 5, 6pm at CUMC. Looking for a better prayer life? Take 2 weeks to try out a powerful practice called the Examen with a simple set of prompts to take your prayer life to a new level. Led by Pastor Jake.

PARENT CHECK-IN

Sundays: Oct 6, Nov 3, and Dec 8, 5pm at CUMC. Build community, connection, and faith with other parents at CUMC. Monthly gathering exploring faith themes from Kid and Student Ministry. Led by parents, Carol Lemon and Tom Kaden, for parents.

LIFE LESSONS FROM A BAD QUAKER

Mondays, Oct 28-Nov 18, 6:30pm at CUMC. In "Life Lessons from a Bad Quaker," J. Brent Bill invites readers on a joyful exploration of the faith journey - reminding folks that perfection is not required. Led by Rev. Jim VanZandt.

HOW TO SUCCEED IN MARRIAGE

Wednesdays, Nov 6-20, 6:30pm at CUMC. In "The Four Laws of Love," Jimmy Evans shares principles ordained by God for a successful marriage. Evans provides practical guidance for intimacy, strengthening marriage, and deepening faith. Led by James Baity.

MEN'S THURSDAY BREAKFAST

Thursdays. Enjoy breakfast at Fay's Diner in Carlisle at 7:30am (optional), followed by study conversation with the larger group at CUMC at 8:45am in the Chapel. Led by Rich Charette.



Since its opening alongside the church building at the Spring Garden campus, the CUMC Softball Field has been the home to CUMC's own softball team in the spring and summer. From April through July you could expect to see our team playing many of the other local churches on the field as a participant in the Carlisle Area Church Softball League (CACSL). CUMC's participation in this league has extended back many years prior to having our own field, but it has been especially nice to build fellowship with our other church partners on our own home field. Also, nearly every church team that played on our field complimented how nice it was compared to our other CACSL locations. Participation in the CACSL is one of the ministries at our church where we directly interact with other churches in our community - we learned of their own missions, successes, and struggles, which brings us closer together instead of seeing each other as "rivals". If you are interested in participating in the CUMC Softball team, please contact Mark Lemon, the current CUMC Coach - we are always looking for more folks interested in playing!

In 2024, CUMC has been developing

new relationships with community organizations and programs using that very same field. In the spring, CUMC opened the field for the South Middleton Youth Softball Association (SMYSA) to use for practices and games. One of the SMYSA youth teams held practices and games on the field a couple of days a week and were very pleased to not just have a field to use, but one that was very well-maintained. This new mutually beneficial partnership with SMYSA created a great opportunity for people to come to the Spring Garden campus who may otherwise just drive past without realizing we are here. There was at least one family involved with SMYSA who sent their children to our VBS event because of this new connection to both our facilities and our people. We hope to continue developing this partnership with SMYSA to potentially permit additional field use in the fall or perhaps have more teams utilize the field in the spring. The Starlights program held regular softball activities on the field on Saturdays earlier this year. Having an outdoor venue for teens and adults with special needs to play, exercise, and just have fun is something very few churches can pro-

vide. Being able to manage and coordinate our own field use instead of going through an outside venue can make it simpler to get programs like Starlights involved. The CUMC field also provides an outdoor location for our youth programs, Little Lights, and other camps that occur in the summer. We continue to work on developing connections to see the field utilized to its maximum potential. It would be fantastic to reach a point where any of us could drive in to the church on most days or evenings for a class or event and see the field in use by others. It is a mutually beneficial arrangement in many ways if we can achieve this. If you have additional ideas to utilize the field for groups or fellowship, please contact Pastor Jake or the Facilities Team! Maintenance and care of the field can be a large effort during the busier seasons, but CUMC is fortunate to have dedicated volunteers and staff who assist in making it such a great place to play. However, with its growing use, CUMC is always looking for additional help. If you are interested, please contact our Facilities team to see where you can assist.

~ MARK LEMON

ASSOCIATE PASTOR UPDATE

The visa process for our new Associate of Pastoral Ministry began in July. During the months of July and August CUMC Leadership Council and our candidate have been working to gather and submit the documentation needed for the visa process. The process of obtaining the necessary visas

even with an expedited process can take 4 - 6 months. Our timeline for the candidate and family members to join CUMC is October - December 2024. During this transition time while we wait for the family to arrive, the staff, Leadership Council, and many volunteers have stepped up to assist with all

the activities at CUMC. Please continue to pray for our future Associate Pastor and his family, the staff, Leadership Council, and volunteers who are helping to make the transition as seamless as possible.



CARLISLE4KIDS BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The beginning of the school year is always a momentous occasion for kids, with the excitement of and joy of seeing their friends and teachers and challenges of learning “new” things and meeting new people. Carlisle4Kids helps to prepare kids in our community by inviting those who could use a helping hand to come and pick up school supplies for the coming year.

Project SHARE and United Way coordinate this community outreach

event. The United Way collects a bus load of needed supplies for our kids through the “Fill the Bus” campaign. There is a great collaboration of churches, individuals, and businesses who support this program by providing volunteers, supplies and monetary donations. Carlisle Events makes the Expo Center available for the event.

On August 6th, Project Share, United Way, and many partners showed up to support the event. There were 1,359

kids registered to pick up school supplies. CUMC made a monetary donation of \$2,718 to Project Share to help with purchasing school supplies for this event. Fourteen CUMC volunteers served to check in all the kids. THANK YOU for your generous donations and volunteer time to help support this community outreach event that supports kids from Head Start to 12th grade.



WHY SERVE?

This past week I served at the United Way/Project Share 2024 Carlisle4Kids event with many volunteers from CUMC, other churches and other community partners. Over 1,350 kids were registered to attend the event and pick up their school supplies in 3.5 hours.

I arrived early and set up the check in stations, where CUMC volunteers would serve for the event. I finished setting up and walked to the back area to let them know we were set up. If you can imagine school supplies neatly laid out for 1,350 kids on tables, it was amazing. I could only be thankful for all the people, churches and businesses that donated the items and their time to make this event happen.

Families started arriving and lining up outside the doors about an hour prior to the event’s start time. Thirty minutes prior to the start time it began to rain

and some of the families lined up re standing in the rain. So, I opened doors, and moved in as many peo-

ple as I could in the entryway. We still had thirty minutes until the start time and our volunteers were not scheduled to arrive for another fifteen minutes.

Within five minutes, two of the four nicely laid out tables I had set up were a mess, one of the tablecloths looked like someone chewed on it, every highlighter I had was in the hands of a kid, and I was being asked about fifty questions. As I took a deep breath, I began listening to the conversations of the kids. The kids were so excited to be there and get new school supplies. They were discussing which backpack they would pick: dinosaurs, Inside Out, Monster Jam and more. They quickly noticed the ice pops they were going to get after getting their school supplies and could hardly wait to enter and exit.

Serving provides me the opportunity to know more about how I was created, and God equips me and fills in the rest. I discover more about myself and how He is growing in me while He uses me

to meet the needs of others. Serving at this event was not about the nicely laid out check-in tables that I set up, it was about showing patience, kindness and love to the kids and parents.

Jesus who has not only modeled to us how to serve others through stories, but he has also made it clear that we are to serve in all seasons. Whether there is one person or five hundred in need, we have been called to serve so that we can share the love of Christ.

As I grow, as stages of my life change, as I meet new people and participate in new activities, new ways to serve others have become clear. Every day I am given the opportunity to practice putting my attention less on myself and more on others. Whether we serve inside the church, in the community or beyond, serving others changes our hearts and we change lives!

~ KATHY CHARETTE



AN UPDATE ON OUR MINISTRY IN HAITI

“BONJOU SE PASPO OU” - “HELLO IS YOUR PASSPORT”

Bonjou!

The Haitian Proverb “Bonjou se paspo ou,” translated means “Good Morning is your passport.” In Haiti if one does not say “hello” when passing someone on the street or before beginning a conversation it is considered poor behavior. A greeting in Haiti is not just a gesture of politeness but is a deliberate act of kindness.

In a word, it is “KINDNESS” that has sustained our ministry beside the people of Mellier, Haiti.

The Situation in Haiti: In “Assignment Haiti: Descent Into Anarchy” Jason Bellini, Scripps News’ international correspondent reports: “Gangs terrorize the population into submission. They recruit vulnerable children to fill their ranks. They use sexual violence as a means of instilling fear. They kidnap people and hold them for ransom to bankroll their arms

purchases.”

Gangs control 80% of Port-au-Prince. In recent months, violence has spread to communities within a few miles of Mellier.

Fortunately, communication with Principal Patrick and Living Water Missions has not been interrupted. The Mellier School remained open through the end of the school year and Living Water Missions has continued to provide meals for kids through their Summer Feeding Program. Caz, our interpreter, and his family have immigrated to the US, but he has continued to keep us informed about the situation in Haiti.

The Impact of Your Kindness: Financial contributions sent to Haiti in 2024: \$21,200 as of 8/30/2024. (\$19,200 from CUMC. \$2,000 from Richwood UMC, Richwood, NJ, who contribute \$250 each month for teacher salaries

at the Mellier School.)

- \$10,000 to support teacher salaries at the Mellier School.
- \$3,000 for kids’ meals at the Mellier School.
- \$1,000 to paint the Mellier School buildings.
- \$2,000 in support of Living Water Missions Summer Feeding Program.
- \$600 to cover Wire Transfer Fees.
- \$4,600 in support of Caz Immigration to the US

Please prayerfully consider how you can support CUMC ministries in Haiti. Our next donation will be sent in January 2025.

Thank you for your kindness and all the Christian values that it exemplifies. Bondye Beni Nou! God Bless You! Rich Charette

~ RICH CHARETTE



HOMELESS TO HOME PROGRAM

Homelessness can adversely affect every aspect of a person’s life, from one’s sense of safety and social support to overall health and life expectancy. For children and families, homelessness can lead to devastating consequences including developmental delays, disruptions in education, and family separation.

CUMC volunteers support these families through our Homeless to Home Program by collaborating with our partners that address homelessness in our community. With funds received from a Cumberland County grant - CUMC volunteers shop, stock, and assemble supplies to serve individuals and families through New Life Community Church’s referral process.

From May - July, five CUMC volunteers delivered personal care items and cleaning supplies to twenty-six households of thirty-eight adults and twenty-four children moving into housing. Providing this support for individuals and families helps to set the families up for success and gives them hope for a better future!



MOVING CIRCLES FRIENDSHIP DINNER

On August 13, CUMC was the site for a Moving Circles Friendship Dinner. Believers in Action served as host for the quarterly potluck event, which drew more than 50 people from across the community for an evening of conversation and reflection.

Moving Circles is a grassroots group in Carlisle whose intention with these dinners is for participants to (continued on page 8)

STARLIGHTS SPORTS PROGRAM

The CUMC baseball diamond is a well-known feature of our Spring Garden Campus that attracts many people for the Carlisle area church softball league during the season. But did you know that the diamond is used by the Starlights Sports Team on Saturdays in the spring and summer?

Starlights allows people twelve and older to participate in various sports throughout the year that are adapted to fit physical and intellectual disabilities. The goal of the program is to allow players to socialize, build friendships, develop skills like teamwork, supporting others and most of all to have fun.

A little background. Some forty years ago a group of parents with children society classifies as "special needs" wanted to give their kids some exposure to sports and fellowship. Over the years these families formed friendships and regularly got together so their children could participate in sports they would otherwise not be able to do in school. They began with bowling and softball.

As their community grew, many others made significant contributions to purchase sports equipment and opened doors to venues. As the years



passed and the kids grew, their abilities to play other sports increased and their numbers grew. Today the Starlights Sports Program includes year-round activities to include pickleball, softball, basketball, bocce ball, and bowling. Many of the team members, now adults, have known each other since early childhood. The basketball season boasts up to forty-two team members, and 'coaches.' One of the coaches,

Denise, has been the softball pitcher for an entire career. She will never make it in the minors, but she is an MVP to this team.

Norma Frame and Darlene Sheaffer are the CUMC Volunteer Leaders. They organize the activities, do the administration, and attend every event to meet, greet and cheer on all the players and parents attending. The goal of each activity is for the players to have fun!

I attended their last two softball games in June. It was so refreshing and reassuring to watch them play. Everyone got to hit the ball, to run (or walk) the bases, and to drive in a run or two. And the cheering would match any crowd. If you wanted a good definition of sportsmanship, you could not do better than Starlights Sports.

All are welcome to participate! Spread the word about this program in our community. For information contact Norma Frame at 717-706-0824.

~ **CHARLES L. REYNOLDS**



(Moving Circles... con't from page 7)

get to know each other, break bread together, and build relationships. These conversations allow us to widen our circles, to have more diverse friends, and to build what the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King called the "Beloved Community." By getting to know one another we break down the human-made barriers that keep us apart, and create more welcoming and sustainable communities.

In small groups participants enjoyed their meals, and discussed what it means to be a "community". Many shared positive comments about how Carlisle residents have helped them in specific ways, and especially how people in need are assisted through charitable organizations. The importance for all people to feel safe and secure, and to be treated with dignity and respect to be able to thrive, was noted. Many attendees had been to 3 or more dinners, which began in May of 2023. The next dinner will be held November 14th at St Paul Lutheran Church on Louther St.

COMING UP...

Food & Friends Luncheon

2 Seatings: 11am-12pm OR 12-1pm in the Gathering. Homemade food served to you "restaurant style." Cost is \$10/person. Sept 18, Nov 12, & Dec 18. Sign up at Info Central, the CUMC App or online.

Lunch Bunch

Meets the third Friday of each month at 11:30am. Sept 20 - Olive Garden on the Carlisle Pike Oct 18 - Applebees in Carlisle Nov 15 - Yet to be determined. For more info, contact Jane Lerch, 717.258.6864.



CARLISLE AREA HEAD START

Carlisle Head Start is proud to be a part of this exciting collaboration with Carlisle United Methodist Church. Carlisle Head Start has been in the Carlisle community for over 30 years. This expansion will allow us to serve 15 new children, bringing us to a total of 42 children and families.

Head Start provides services to children of low-income families. Children attend our program Monday - Friday 8:15-2:00. August-June. There are many components to our preschool that make us a comprehensive program.

Our Health and Nutrition component ensures that all children have their up-to-date immunizations, physicals and dentals. Children receive a free breakfast and lunch each day. Health,

safety, dental and nutrition activities are a regular part of learning.

Our Special Service component helps identify children with extra needs. We collaborate with the Intermediate Unit to provide services such as speech or occupational therapy at the school to children that have a need. Head Start also provides their own inclusion services to children with developmental delays.

Our Social Service component assists families with becoming self-sufficient. Aside from parent teacher conferences that we have twice a year, we also meet with the parents in their homes. We discuss family goals such as goals for parent education, employment, housing and basic needs. Our team

of Social Service Coordinators and Family Support Specialists provides community resources to assist families with their goals and needs.

Our Education component ensures that we are meeting state standards and federal Head Start guidelines. We individualize lesson plans for each child by setting goals for every child based on their developmental level with their parents. We believe that children learn best through hands-on teacher facilitated play, and that parents are their child's first and most important teacher. Our Behavioral Health component supports in teaching social emotional learning. Behavior staff help support children and teachers in the class as well as working with parents on behaviors at home. We believe in a positive guidance approach to behavior management. We focus on the children's strengths and teach children about emotions and problem solving with their friends.

We are so happy for our children to have a beautiful and safe new space to learn. Collaborating with Little Lights will allow our parents to use before and after childcare to find full time work.

Thank you so much for welcoming us into your church building.

We are excited about our new start with Carlisle UMC!

CHANGES AT LITTLE LIGHTS



As previously announced during the spring, the nationally acclaimed Head Start Program will now be leasing spaces in the Little Lights Learning Center - three classrooms and two offices. The three classrooms were previously used by Little Lights and due to enrollment figures - both present and projected - it was determined that Little Lights

could still operate effectively in the five classrooms which they will be using. Head Start's offices include a former storage room and an office among CUMC's office suite where we have had an extra office since opening in 2020. Financially, Little Lights will be paying less to CUMC through its Memorandum of Understanding and the additional income from Head Start will provide CUMC with an extra \$12,000+ yearly. During this period of transition this summer, Little Lights has discontinued using the previous names associated with each age group's classrooms.

Most of these names had originated when the daycare center was housed at the former Grace campus. The new classrooms are named: Chipmunks (infants); Under the Sea (1's); Hummingbirds (2's); Penguins (3's); and Butterflies (4's & 5's). The Head Start classrooms are simply Classrooms 1, 2 & 3.

If you would like to serve as a volunteer at the Daycare Center and become a Shining Light, contact Kerm Leitner (kermleitner@comcast.net).

~ KERM LEITNER



SERVING LETORT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Picture the following: colorful bulletin boards that display mathematical rules, acceptable behavior for students, children's art work, or vocabulary words; shelves filled with an array of books; mailboxes holding papers and important notices; sets of plastic drawers filled with marker, crayons, and scissors; individual desks and chairs arranged in an orderly fashion; and a large Smart-board that dominates the front of the space.

You have just visualized a typical classroom at Letort Elementary School which is one of CUMC's Serve projects. The only things missing in the above scenario are the happy faces and the joyful sounds of the students and the teachers. As a partner of Letort Elementary School since 2015, CUMC has provided support to help make the

lives of the children and adults at the school a little more comfortable so that they can always have smiles on their faces. The church has provided monetary support for an after-school program that helped students struggling in reading and writing. Also, volunteers from the church served a snack each week to the students who took part in the program. The teachers have received gift cards each year to help purchase classroom supplies, and CUMC has provided lunches and breakfast items for the teachers and staff many times in the partnership. Gift cards from local businesses were purchased using Alternative Gift Money and were distributed to Letort families who were struggling. Two picnic tables were purchased during the pandemic so teachers could eat their lunch outside, and a maple

tree was given and planted to replace an older dying tree in the front yard of the school. CUMC's monetary donations purchased \$1,700 in gift cards for teachers to buy school supplies for the start of this school year. THANK YOU! With the after-school program no longer a part of the school day, we decided to use volunteers in the classroom during the regular school day. Twelve congregational members were blessed beyond measure this past school year as they gave up an hour or two a week to be with the students at Letort and help in any way that was needed by the teacher. They accumulated 437 hours in the classrooms, which translates into 62 seven hour school days. It was a definite win-win situation.

CUMC will continue this partnership in the coming school year. You can contribute monetarily by donating to the teachers for gift cards to use on classroom supplies, or by contributing your time- just an hour or two a week- as a volunteer in the classrooms. Either way, your contributions will be twice blessed - you, the giver, along with the students and staff at Letort Elementary School. Contact Jane Boley (jaboley@comcast.net) for further details.

~ JANE BOLEY

SUPPORTIVE PARTNERSHIPS FOR YOUTH (SPY)

The goal of SPY is to help kids learn and grow academically, socially, and emotionally by providing them with the resources and support they need to succeed. Whether through academic activities, nurturing relationships, or unique experiences to expand their horizons and spark joy, SPY is dedicated to promoting a child's well-being and the future of their dreams. SPY was founded in 1986 as an outreach mission of St. John's Episcopal Church. Since then, with the support of the United Way and community partnerships, and in response to growing needs, what was once just a summer camp, has evolved and expanded into a year-round



experience. SPY is a network of supportive partnerships working together to help ensure all children have the chance to grow and thrive. In June, 166 elementary-aged students, referred to the program by their school counselor, started their SPY experience. For six weeks over the summer and on various days throughout the school year, these children are engaged in academic activities and thrive under the care and encouragement of supportive adults. Weekly visits to the pool, library and other fields trips add excitement to the schedule. A healthy breakfast, lunch

and an afternoon snack are included. CUMC played a big role in the SPY Summer Camp with all lunches and snacks coming out of our kitchen. Chef Bill along with many volunteers working in CUMC's kitchen made almost 3,500 meals for the campers! Eighteen volunteers from CUMC helped regularly to make things run smoothly in the kitchen and at the SPY sites at St. John's Episcopal Church, First Presbyterian, First United Church of Christ in Carlisle, and First Presbyterian Church in Newville. Thank you CUMC volunteers! If you would like to volunteer or need more information on the SPY program, contact Art Kunst at artkunst@comcast.net.



CUMC GARDENING TEAM

The CUMC Gardening Team and Mowers have been busy this spring and summer keeping our property looking good. We asked Gary Ankabrandt for answers to the most frequently asked questions about the flower gardens and trees:

Q: It seems like there is always something blooming near the main entrance doors. Was that planned?

A: Actually it was. When I was asked to add flowers and plants to the entrance door areas, I created designs featuring perennials (bloom every year) and took into consideration color, height, location and bloom time. Then I published a request to the congregation for specific flowers - irises, coneflowers, daisies, daylilies, mums and others - all of which bloom at different times of the year.

Q: Where did all the plants come from?

A: The majority of the plants, bulbs and rhizomes were provided by church members from their home gardens, which, for me, makes the display so special. Some mountain mint plants and wildflower seeds for the basins were provided by PPL through a public relations program.

Q: Do you do all the gardening work yourself? If so, you need some help.

A: No, I don't do all the work myself. I work with a great team of like-minded gardeners who appreciate beautiful flowers and getting their hands dirty, all in service to God. We've added a few new members to the team this year that has reduced my workload. We've also received help from the Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study.

Q: What kind of work has the team done this year so far?

A: Early in the spring, we prepared the beds by removing old growth and weeds and adding mulch to the bases of CUMC's trees. We celebrated Earth Day by planting 40 new saplings of swamp oak, red maple and walnut. One member spent an afternoon at CUMC's Stonehedge parsonage pruning and weeding. For the summer we have weekly watering assignments. We are populating the steep banks along the entrance road with groundcover to eliminate problem spots for our mowers.

Q: Why don't you mow those weeds and tall grass in the front basins and near the entrance sign?

A: The storm water basins and the restorative areas can only be mowed twice a year. We are trying to create native plant, pollinator areas in the basin and have been somewhat successful. Each year we see more beneficial wildflowers and grasses including milkweed, boneset and goldenrod. Most of the plants you see are not weeds.

Q: How does the team see God in its service to the beautification of the property?

A: God gives us the skills to cultivate and manage the land God has created for us to enjoy. It reminds me of the verses in 1 Corinthians 3:6-8: "I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor." The team has been blessed, as has many in the congregation, by the beautiful flowers, visiting pollinators and birds which have found nesting places. Many in the congregation have expressed their appreciation to me and the team, but we give God all the glory for his beautiful handiwork.

Q: I enjoy gardening. Can I join your group?

A: Sure. Email me at gfabrandt@embarqmail.com or contact Jason Weeber.

CORN ROAST 2024



Summer wouldn't be the same without CUMC's Annual Corn Roast. On August 12th, friends gathered for fun and fellowship at the CUMC pavilion to enjoy delicious roasted corn, hot dogs and drinks. Jeff and



Tracy Horgan organize this event each year in memory of Tracy's dad Bruce Long, who for many years organized this event. The proceeds from this year's corn roast will be donated to Mission Central.



HOSTING GUESTS OF CUMC

sitting with someone. The last few months about half the people, especially those worshipping alone, want to sit with an established attender. I believe people want to connect with others. Chad Hunt of the Unstuck Group, a church consulting firm, said "Genuinely loving others is powerful. I have seen first-hand how the love of Jesus can literally change the way a person feels about God, church and even their own life. Experiencing love is the main reason the unchurched will come back to your church."

We are looking for people to be available to sit with these guests. Looking for people to share kindness and connection and love. Now I simply grab someone near me. CUMC members and attenders always say yes when I ask but am looking to make it a smoother process for the guest. I thank all the people who have hosted guests because wonderful connections have been made. If the guest doesn't return,

that is okay, a seed has been planted, we have provided the person with a glimpse of what loving Jesus and others looks like at CUMC.

The CUMC member only needs to make themselves available to sit with a person, myself or a greeter will find you and connect you with a guest. We are looking for people of every age and family size and from each of our services. All that is needed, is a brief discussion before and after worship if time allows. If you are available you can even ask them to join you for a cup of coffee.

If you are interested in hosting guests please reach out to Andrea Katz, CUMC Welcome Director, akatz@carlislepaumc.org

We are blessed that the Holy Spirit continues to nudge people to join us in worship. It is a rare Sunday that we do not have visitors. A recent trend has me asking for assistance on Sundays. If we identify someone as a guest prior to the beginning of worship we ask if they would like someone to sit with them. Until recently most people declined



UNDERGROUND RAILROAD IN SOUTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

Tuesday, Nov 12, 7pm, Worship Center
Join Moving Circles and Believers in Action for a special viewing and discussion of Keystones Oral Histories' documentary on the Underground Railroad in South Central Pennsylvania. Bryan Wade, CEO and founder of Keystones Oral Histories, is a native of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, a former York educator, government official, and television talk show host with 20 years of radio, television, and

documentary production experience. This documentary, part of a series of 15 documentaries, provides an overview of the collaboration between abolitionists and Underground Railroad Station masters in York, Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin and Lancaster counties. It highlights the path to freedom and the perils for abolitionists and station masters who provided refuge and safe passage for freedom seekers.

WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAY MORNINGS

8:00am - Traditional

Worship in the Worship Center with traditional hymns and traditional UMC liturgy.

9:45am - Contemporary

Worship in the Worship Center led by our Praise Band using contemporary music.

11:15am - Relaxed Traditional

Worship in the Worship Center with a variety of traditional hymns, songs from "The Faith We Sing."

*8am & 9:45am services are live streamed to carlislepaumc.org/worshipexperience



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