
News from St. Peter's Lischey's U.C.C.
This is the third edition of a bi-weekly news update.
Thursday, May 28, 2020

Church Council and Staff are endeavoring to send out this bi-weekly update because, due to the current circumstances resulting from the quarantine, and not knowing what safety standards will be in place when we may be able to gather again, long term planning is not possible. Committees will be meeting via Zoom to consider options and how to implement social distancing for future events and worship.



Message from the Pastor:

*"For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope.
For who hopes for what is seen?
But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."
Romans 8:24-25*

These are challenging times we are living. Plans have been altered or are uncertain in all facets of our lives, including our church life. Beginning at vs. 18, the apostle Paul focuses on the troubled state of contemporary life (in Paul's time.) His recommendation: Hope – Wait – Patience. Easier said than done, Paul!

Living with hope means we live with the confidence that nothing lies beyond God's purview. Living with hope means we trust in God's never-ending love and promises for all the world proven in Jesus Christ. Living with hope means we believe God's purposes and plans will ultimately prevail.

Hope I can do. On the other hand, I have never been good at waiting with patience. I prefer plans with an end in sight but there are constructive things to do while we wait.

As Paul writes in Thessalonians, "let us pray without ceasing and holdfast to what is good." Let us look for God's hand at work around us. Let us use this time to imbibe the words of scripture to sustain us. Let us pray for God's guidance and strength to make the changes needed and the capacity to adapt.

*In the peace of Christ,
Pastor Cathy*

The Serenity Prayer

by the American theologian Reinhold Niebuhr

*God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
courage to change the things I can,
and wisdom to know the difference.*



This section is intended to update the congregation and respond to questions that have been raised during these times. Please email the church office at: lischeys@gmail.com with your questions and concerns.

❖ **Sacrament of Holy Communion – Sunday, May 31st**

Just a reminder to have juice and bread available to share this sacrament during worship.

❖ **New Bible Study – “Unraveled”...**

This 4 week session was just written! It is about what happens when the world becomes “unraveled” and not as planned. Pastor Cathy is inviting all interested to join her for coffee conversation related to this Bible study, via Zoom, on Wednesday, June 3rd at 9:30 AM. A Zoom invite along with information regarding the study will be sent via e-mail.

❖ **Calling all Graduates ...**

We would like to acknowledge those graduating from high school, college, technical school, etc. during worship on June 14th. Please send the grad's name, school, activities, degree/plans to the email address above by June 10th.

❖ **Election Day – Tuesday, June 2, 2020**

Lishey's has been a polling place for many years and will be again for the primaries on June 2nd. Acting on the recommendation of the Task Force, Council has decided the church will be locked down for seven days following the election, the time recommended for the virus to dissipate. This means no one, including staff, is to enter the building beginning Wednesday, June 3rd through Tuesday, June 9th. Reminder: Due to COVID-19 restrictions there will be no food sale associated with this event.

❖ **Congratulations and best wishes to...**

Janet and Marley Hay who became grandparents again, to Kamdyn Oliver Hay, born May 22, 2020.

❖ **Task Force Update**

The Task Force consisting of Pastor Sherry, Council President Larry Spangler, Jean Weidler and Bud Hamme met May 19th to consider transition to the “yellow” phase of reopening. We are looking at guidelines provided by Penn Central Conference, the CDC and PA Council of Churches. These guidelines during the “yellow” phase include limiting inside gatherings to 25, social distancing and the use of masks. The recommendations of the Task Force will be presented to Council on June 8th.

❖ **What's happening around the church?**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the surprise “Graduation Drive By” for Cole McKowen. It was a new experience for most of us and great fun!

Thank you to Jim Messinger, who placed flags around the church for Memorial Day.
Thank you to everyone for pitching in during these times!

Christian Education and Youth will evaluate Messy Church via Zoom. At this time there is no definite date or plans for VBS.

The Profile Committee met May 26th and will meet again on June 15th.



Keep God's Music in Your Heart - a Message from the Music Director:

O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is Your name in all the earth!
Psalm 8:1

We have so many reasons to praise and worship God: His Holiness, His Power and His love. The very regal majesty of Christ deserves our praise as well! Christ has regal dominion over the whole world. His power and majesty in heaven benefit all of us who trust and follow him here on earth.

The song Majesty was written by the Rev. Jack Hayford, senior pastor of the Church of the Way in Van Nuys, California. Pastor Hayford wrote the words and music after he and his wife Anna enjoyed a vacation in Great Britain in 1977 when Queen Elizabeth and the country were celebrating the 25th anniversary of her coronation. Symbols of royalty were displayed everywhere. Their visit reminded Pastor Hayford "of what it meant to be His - to be raised to a partnership with Him in His throne."

Pastor Hayford explained:

"Majesty" describes the kingly, lordly, gloriously regal nature of our Savior - but not simply as an objective statement in worship of which He is fully worthy. "Majesty" is also a statement of the fact that our worship, when begotten in spirit and in truth, can align us with His throne in such a way that His Kingdom authority flows to us - to overflow us, to free us and channel through us. We are rescued from death, restored to the inheritance of sons and daughters, qualified for victory in battle against the adversary, and destined for the Throne forever in His presence.

Majesty, worship His majesty,
Jesus, who dies, now glorified,
King of all Kings.

Peace, Nancy

a **LOOK** at What's **Happening**

Upcoming Dates and Meetings:

All classes, worship and meetings
are held via Zoom unless noted otherwise.

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| Friday, May 29 | Messy Church – 7 PM |
| Sunday, May 31 | Sunday School – 9:15 AM Worship – 10:30 AM & Communion P, B, & J – 11:15 AM |
| Wednesday, June 3 – June 9 | CHURCH CLOSED |
| Sunday, June 7 | Sunday School – 9:15 AM Worship – 10:30 AM – Trinity Sunday P, B, & J – 11:15 AM |
| Monday, June 8 | Council Meeting – 7 PM |



What is P, B & J?
In addition to regular
Sunday services on
Zoom, we have
Sunday School at
9:15 AM and a
children's time at
11:15 AM called P, B
& J! Not the favorite
sandwich, but
Prayer, Bible and
Jesus time!

Thank You

Dear Members of St. Peter's Lischey's,

Thank you so much for making my graduation special! The drive-by honk with so many of you really made this year's graduation something I will never forget. I was SO surprised when I walked out the door to a long line of cars on our street. I then saw one with my name on the car and I instantly realized what was happening. I also appreciate all the cards and well wishes I am receiving. I'm so thankful to have such a tight-knit church family in my life. The support shown by our church community is truly amazing!

Sincerely,
Cole McKowen