



JUMC *happenings*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER |
JONESTOWN UNITED METHODIST |
JULY 2021



Church Events

- July 11-17 — Red Bird

God directed that for 3 specific feasts/festivals the people were to worship at the temple in Jerusalem. Groups of people traveled together to Jerusalem singing with joyful voice the Psalms of Ascent (Ps. 120 -134). As they ascended the hill where the temple was, they sang Psalm 134, they viewed the guards who protected the temple day and night as an act of praise to God, done reverently and responsibly.

Some thoughts come to mind as you consider this Psalm and allow the expressions of the Psalm to give you pictures of various persons

doing their jobs or responsibilities.

Am I thankful for their services?

Have I prayed for them?

And praised God for them?

Have I allowed God to direct me in an area(s) of service?

Do I express negative comments about their work?

Can you imagine all the tasks that needed to be done in the temple for everything to be accomplished as God directed? It got done by many persons who worked quality effort and attitude in God's service.

Thank you, each and everyone, who give yourselves to God as He directs you!

JULY MISSION OUTREACH: Align

Align as a ministry of Jesus Christ, seeks to meet the spiritual, emotional and material needs of women and men unprepared for pregnancy. They provide limited medical services, counsel people affected by abortion, pregnancy loss and sexual abuse, educate the community regarding the sanctity of human life and sexual integrity, and motivate the church to compassionate pro-life involvement. Please give generously. Envelopes are on the table in the narthex.

**JONESTOWN
UNITED METHODIST
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Methodist Church**

FACEBOOK AND MINISTRY

I posted on Facebook the following: What if you had to rebuild the church from the ground up? What would you do? I am not talking about a building being destroyed. Insurance can be used to build a new building. Even Notre Dame is being rebuilt after the terrible fire that destroyed much of it, some irreplaceable. This is not what I'm asking. The Church is people who have Jesus as their only hope. I think the question is getting at, how will we minister to the world as it stands moving into 2022? What should we change?



I believe the church wants to make much of Jesus. It's all we can do. We have to look at sin to see the Savior. In other words, we need to see our own needs to get a glimpse of the One who fixes and fills our needs. I don't want to point out your sin, only my own. But that isn't at all a fishing technique. No fish will jump into a boat by pointing out their flaws. We are fishermen, and fish want what they want. A cunning fisher knows that fish must be lured. Fish aren't scolded into submission, they are lured and caught.

Fellowship I believe luring is a thing that must be used again and again. I believe that I am to lure, scatter seed, and allow the Holy Spirit to catch. I'm not that good at throwing a net. I'm not even good at being caught in a net. Jesus is a good fisher. Fellowship allows others to witness that I am caught. I can't get out; Jesus has me. It isn't that I have Him. He has me. Fellowship is the great lure that the Church agrees on. We have fellowship meals to lure even believers. We understand that adult followers of Jesus can be lured by free food. You'd think we were all strict, scholarly, Sanhedrin-like students of Jesus. Nope, it's food. If we gather, eat, and love each other. We witness people (each other) who are caught by Jesus and shaped by love.

Story I love to tell the story. I am a consumer of stories. I love movies, books, jokes, songs, and all variety of storytelling available to humans. I love to create stories. We all love to create stories. It is what we do from sun-up to sundown. We tell someone about a nice restaurant, or how someone cut us off in traffic, or that our granddaughter took her first steps, or that we had to fix a leaking sink. Our lives are stories. We tell them. We are caught in them. But then, the Gospel. That story is different. It is compelling and strangely personal. The story is about me. It seems true in a way that other stories can't match. We need to fellowship and then tell the story of Jesus. We don't have to make it up. We have to read it. Read the book of Mark 10 times. That story does not get old. It is like worms to a fish. I can't get myself out of the story. It has me.

Worship It is all we do. We sing the praises of our favorite Netflix show, singer, restaurant, friend, car, team, shoes, ice cream shop. Every single thing is either lifted up as worthy or torn down as a false idol. The Eagles!?! They must be destroyed by the Steelers! They are not worthy. Only the Steelers rule. Yes, that is worship. It is low level attention to something that is nice, but not anywhere near Who God is. But we forget and get distracted. Instantly. Always. So we should gather with bait to attract us, we should tell the story, read Mark, then we should do some right worship. We will notice that the Son shines brighter than the sun, and give Him well deserved praise. Do this to remember.

Prayer If we get to really know each other, we will know how to pray. We will understand the needs that can only be mentioned when trust is established. When we have gathered often enough and witnessed often enough to open up a tiny bit, maybe someone will pray for the tiny need that was revealed. And if sharing a sensitive piece of our life didn't lead to total destruction and betrayal, maybe we try again. Maybe others witness that revealing our weakness didn't destroy but healed. Oh my lanta. It's a church healing miracle.

Service We start serving each other. We will cook. We will clean. We will hear needs and pray. We will so love what Jesus has accomplished that it will spread locally, regionally, and around the world. This is the Gospel in practice. It has never failed. The gates of hell cannot stand against it.

TomR, @unatheist, facebook, Instagram, Tiktok too. Tell the story



Rev. Alan Smith begins serving as our new pastor July 1, 2021. He is married to Mary, who will continue to serve as the Coordinator of Contemporary Worship at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Lebanon. They have five married children and nine grandchildren. His children serve in various levels of management in regional public energy utilities, the banking industry, construction, and ministry to the deaf community.

Alan began his walk of faith as a teen during a revival at his home church north of Allentown outside the small town of Bath, PA on an Easter morning, and soon began discerning God's call to some type of ministry while still in high school. He explored ministry in the local church. Having had experience as a heavy equipment operator and truck driver/mechanic in a family business since his mid-teens, he also explored the possibility of world missions assisting churches around the world building churches, missions, or hospitals and community centers. He explored opportunities in ministry to prisons and those in rehabilitation for drugs and alcohol. He served with his wife in ministry to local churches in evangelism and revival/retreat ministries, and finally discerned that it was in the local church that God was leading at the time, a ministry he has remained in throughout the last 44 years.

After graduating from high school he earned a degree in Sociology/Criminology at East Stroudsburg University. During his senior year in college he married Mary, and began ministry in the summer of 1977 as a chaplain in three family campgrounds, and as a youth leader in a small Lutheran Church in eastern PA. In the fall of that year, he began serving three small United Methodist Churches above East Stroudsburg where he continued to serve while working on his Master of Divinity at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary (now Palmer Seminary). Upon graduation, he began serving at Haws Ave. UMC in Norristown, PA from 1982 to 1986. In 1986, he was appointed to serve a circuit of three churches in the Lehigh Valley, PA area. While there, as the churches grew, a fourth church was added along with an additional pastor, and then three of the churches merged to form a new combined mission to reach the area for Christ, the Faith Alive United Methodist Church where former Jonestown Pastor Rob Timlin currently serves. In 1999, he was appointed to serve Tabor UMC in Montgomery County where he served until being sent to Good Shepherd Church in Lebanon in 2011. Although Pastor Al begins retirement June 30, he begins as the full-time pastor at Jonestown UMC July 1.

In addition to serving local churches for the last 44 years, Pastor Al has served as the chairperson of the District Committee on Ministry and also as the Chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry of the Eastern PA Conference of the UMC. He has also served as Spiritual Director in the Emmaus Walk of Eastern PA and Community Spiritual Director for the Mountaintop Walk to Emmaus Community in the past.

Pastor's Pen

Dear Family of God
of Jonestown United Methodist Church,

It seems like such a long time since I met with some of your leaders and was appointed to serve God at the church. Now the day is finally approaching. I am looking forward to discern with you where God is leading. I have known most of the pastors that have served at the church, and am humbled that God should tap me to serve with you now as well.

I am sure this has been a most difficult year as you and all the rest of the Christian Church have sought to be faithful to our congregations, their ministries, and the communities we serve. At the same time, we now have great opportunities to reset our ministries for the years ahead. I believe the coming year for Jonestown and all the other churches will be an opportunity to reset now for the years of ministry ahead. Looking at the fallout from all the isolation, all the lack of fellowship, discipleship, and face-to-face, elbow-to-elbow ministry, I believe the coming year for churches will be an opportunity for God's healing grace to draw us back together in the oneness, mercy, and love of Christ. It will also be a great opportunity for our children, youth, family, adult and community ministries to seek a renewed vision and fresh passion for where God is leading.

I was recently reading Jesus' prayer in John 17 and invite you to join Him and me in adapting and praying the "other" Lord's prayer for our church: Dear God...

(vs.11) protect us by Your authority and power and keep us safe, safe from all



Rev. Al Smith

the damaging influences seeking to tear the church of Jesus apart...make us one – one with You and one with each other, restore our unity in Your love and mercy;
(vs. 15) protect us from the accusing spirit of the god of this world in his evil, destructive, and divisive ways; may God's peace, joy, patience, kindness and love rise in victory over this evil force;
(vs. 17) help us grow in Your Word; disciple us, teach us, mold and shape us after Your image and in Your Spirit; set us apart as Your beloved through Your Word working in us;
(vs. 21) unify us through Yourself as You live in us and we live in You. Heal our brokenness, forgive the things we have said or done that separate us.

Jesus had great plans for His church then...and now. Pray for me as I pray for you as we pray for our ministry together that through His love and grace He may move in strong and powerful ways in us, between us, and through us.

I am truly looking forward to meeting you in the coming weeks and month as we serve and grow together.

Sincerely, Pastor Al



On July 4 citizens of the USA celebrate freedom as a nation. For on that date a choice was made to declare independence from England.

Throughout Scripture there is reference to freedom from slavery or bondage situations.

In Genesis 2:15-17 God told His creation (man), you are free to eat any of the fruit of the Garden except

from the tree of conscience. Man had a choice to make: follow God's directions and live, or eat the forbidden fruit and be doomed to bondage and death. We know the story, and sin entered the world and God destroyed all with the Flood except for Noah and his family.

Then God directed Abraham to the Promised Land and He established a people

30 gives directions to the Israelites which would determine what life would be like if they followed God's direction, a life and land of milk and honey.

Throughout the Old Testament we find faithfulness and lack of faithfulness, freedom and bondage, for the Israelites. Then in Isaiah 61:1-2 an announcement: good news, announce liberty to the captives. God's favor is coming. Jesus in Luke 4:16-21 quoted these words in the synagogue and applied them to Himself. To know God is to know truth, and John 8:32 says, "The truth will set you free."

However, Jesus was rejected and bondage continued down through the ages for multitudes. Only those who knew Jesus were set free from the

penalty of sin.

Slavery was a serious bondage for many even in the United States of America. Songs were used by these individuals down through the years, "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," "Rock My Soul in the Bosom of Abraham," and "Go Down Moses." There were six verses to "Go Down Moses with a chorus. Chorus: "Go down Moses, way down in Egypt's land. Tell old Pharaoh, Let me people go." The 6th verse: "O, let us all from bondage, free, let my people go, and let us all in Christ be free, let my people go."

What may cause bondage today? A lifestyle, a job, an addition, shame from the past, a mountain of debt, demands from others,

of his own, the Israelites. Abraham's grandson, Jacob, became "Israel" and during the great drought and famine accepted the invitation offered by his son, Joseph, to come to Egypt. After 430 years, about 2,500,000 people were in bondage in Egypt, and God used Moses to lead His people to freedom.

The Israelites were free from bondage in Egypt but because of choices made were forced by God for a 40-year wilderness trek. Deuteronomy 29 and

Galatians 5:1

"At last we have freedom, for Christ has set us free!

We must always cherish this truth and firmly refuse to go back into the bondage of our past."

depression or anxiety, or whatever you may want to add. Freedom of some sort is something that many desire.

Paul, in Galatians 5:1 proclaims, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free, stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery" Jesus in Matthew 11:28-30 said, "Come to Me and I will give you rest, all you who work so hard beneath a heavy yoke, wear My yoke for it will fit perfectly, and let Me teach you, for I am gentle, and you shall find rest for your souls, for I give you light burdens."

Jesus frees people from all burdens and gives rest but not the end of all effort. Following His directions found in Scripture gives joy in our efforts. On our own, doing it "my" way adds to the burdens.

Remember the lyrics of "Go Down, Moses." Let us all in Christ be free.

What does it mean to you to take Jesus up on this beautiful offer and take His yoke???

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free." (Galatians 5:1)

Write out a prayer to help you do that!



JULY CARE TEAM

Week of July 4 Blanche Wonderly 717-865-1018

Week of July 11 Nancy Rautzhan 717-865-3061

Week of July 18 Pam Gray 717-865-3997

Week of July 25 Lauren Deiter 717-639-8068



During the past several years we have celebrated Christmas in July by contributing items to fill shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. We hope to continue this project again this year.

You can contribute items or money for this project. Items accepted are: washcloths, Ivory soap, combs, toothbrushes, tee-shirts, socks, school supplies, balls or any toy which fits into a shoebox. No liquids, food items, or items that represent violence or war are accepted. Shoeboxes are for children ages 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14.

If you want to contribute items, please bring them to church on any Sunday in July and August and place them in the designated box. If you prefer to contribute money, please use the designated envelope and drop it in the offering box at church.

Please contact Norma Artz (717-865-3447) with any questions.



1 Arina Zanke
2 Claudia Clark
3 Gino Ingram
4 Pam Gray
5 Amelia Tinder
6 Bernie Showers, Jr.
7 Marilyn Kohr
7 Bryce Davis
8 Nancy Rhen
8 Camila Showers
10 Tom Robinson
13 Amy Sell
14 Braydon Unger
15 Elaine Shuey

18 Linda Fake
18 Natalie Hocker
20 Tina Yeagley
21 Nancy Lengle
21 Julian Zargoza
22 Carol Martin
24 Ron Brewer
25 Lori Jackson
25 Rick Light



1 Dan & Debbie Adams
11 Travis and Janelle (Adams) Storm
24 Jeff & Judy Reichl
24 George & Nancy Rautzhan
25 Phil & Karen Boltz



You may consider electronic giving or mailing a check to the church with your offering. (See address on first page.) Interested in simplifying how you give to the church? In the past many people have been hesitant to use the latest E-Giving sight due to its generic look. We have updated E-Giving so when you click in the E-Giving button at top right you will see several tutorials in the box in the center of the page that you can check before proceeding to the E-Giving page. After you have watched them click on DONATE and you will go to the E-Giving page which should have the church's name and picture of our stained glass window. Follow the instructions in the tutorials from Pat Sheehan (717-865-5403) or Carvel Keiser (carvelkeiser@comcast.net) know.



GOING TO CAMP?

Dear Parents,
We have a sign up

sheet in the narthex for our campers. Please fill out this sheet with the information requested. We want to know where and when each student is going. Please contact Ralph Major (717-383-9554) for details about camping scholarships.

AUGUST NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Sunday, July 18

Read the July newsletter on our website, www.jonestownumc.org. It looks better in color! If you have a favorite recipe for the newsletter, please send it to secretary@jonestownumc.org



We are returning to our normal distribution format on Thursday, July 8th. Clients can come inside to shop for their food. We will follow up with registrations, and return to Thursday night, 5:30-7:00pm, and Friday, 12:30-2:00pm distribution times. We appreciate your continuing food donations during this pandemic. Please mail monetary donations to: JOY Food Pantry, P.O. Box 121, Jonestown, PA 17038. Thank you for your continuing dedication to this ministry and for your support.



Find us on:
facebook®

We can stay in touch is through the Jonestown United Methodist Church Facebook page. It is a way to keep in touch with our church. Search for "Jonestown United Methodist Church." Don't forget to "like" us.

LCCM NOON MEAL Fridays, 10:00am

JUMC is responsible for preparing the noon meal every first Friday of each month. This is possible through volunteers from our congregation, adults in the winter, fall, and spring, and with help from our Youth Ministry over the summer. Currently we make about 180-200 lunches distributed to those in need noon-1pm. If you are interested in helping, contact Howard Lee (717-228-7249), Bob Hillegas (717-865-7478) or Tom Robinson (717-903-9299).

MISSIONS AROUND THE WORLD

Remember to check out our missions bulletin board for updates on the ministries we support throughout the year.



Thanks for helping us keep in touch with loved ones, and members of our church family. We have missed being together, but are now back together again. Phone calls or cards mean a lot, especially to those who are homebound. Think of those who you don't see in your service, and give them a call just to check up on them! In our upstairs freezer we have a variety of freezer meals for you to take out for our freezer ministry. See Pam Gray (717-865-3997) if you need help getting the meals.

fellowship GROUPS



We had a fun picnic in June with ladies from our church and friends. Our next Friends Together meeting will be on the first Tuesday in September, the 7th.

There is no membership and anyone can come whenever they can. We hope to do some projects and have supportive, fun times together.



Our scrapbooking /craft group will return again in September. Karen Bene is our leader. This is open to all women. You can bring your own project, game, or just sit and visit. We meet at

6:00pm in the area downstairs by the kitchen on the first Friday in September, the 3rd. Pizza is usually ordered. Look in future bulletins for more details. We hope you can attend one group or the other. We are stronger together and need to support each other. If you have ideas about some smaller groups, please let Pam (717-865-3997) know. We can always start other groups. We want to include everyone.

REDNER'S SAVE-A-TAPE

To redeem the tapes, you must use your Save-a-Tape or gas card at the time of purchase. We need the entire tape with the portion showing the price-based points for that day at the bottom. The tape will display either "Today's Contribution" or "Today's total price-based points" or "Today's Save-a-Tape Total." If the tape doesn't have one of these lines at the bottom, we cannot redeem them.

PICTURES/INFORMATION for CHURCH WEBSITE

If you would like to provide information or digital pictures, please submit items to Jeff Reichl (rike110@msn.com). Jeff, our webmaster, oversees changes and updates the website: www.jonestownumc.org



Friends and members of our church may activate the prayer chain by calling the pastor or one of the team leaders indicated by a star (*).

Team 1: *Lewis & Eleanor Artz
(717-865-3447)

John & Nancy Rhen (717-865-4317)
Teri Light (717-813-8347)
Annie Grant (717-462-9100)

Team 2: *Larry Major (717-865-3442)
Jeff & Diana Waltermeyer (717-865-5675)
Rick & Wendy Kline (865-4363)
Ernestine Fahler (717-865-4381)



Team 3: *Doris Crouse (717-865-5554)
Judy Mowry (717-279-0809)
Kay Horner (717-865-5538)
George/Nancy Rautzhan (717-865-3061)
Lewis Artz (717-865-3447)
Larry Major (717-865-3442)
Doris Crouse (717-865-5554)

VERY IMPORTANT!

Start by calling one of the following people:
Pastor Susan Sliker (717-865-4369; 302-858-6830)
Lewis Artz (717-865-3447)
Larry Major (717-865-3442);
Doris Crouse (717-865-5554)

July 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4  Worship 9, 11 Reception 10 Youth 6:30	5	6	7 Praise Team 7	8	9	10
11 Red Bird Mission Worship 9, 11 Sunday School 10 Youth 6:30	12 Red Bird Mission Church Council 7	13 Red Bird Mission	14 Red Bird Mission Praise Team 7	15 Red Bird Mission	16 Red Bird Mission	17 Red Bird Mission
18 Worship 9, 11 Sunday School 10 Youth 6:30	19 Worship Meeting 7	20	21 Praise Team 7	22	23	24
25  Worship 9, 11 Sunday School 10 Youth 6:30	26	27	28 Praise Team 7	29	30	31