

The Presby Post



A PUBLICATION OF THE STATE COLLEGE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENNSYLVANIA



JULY 2020

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Deadline for
August
PresbyPost
Friday, July 17

Planning for Outdoor Worship

Beginning on Sunday, July 5, we are planning to hold a brief, weekly 9.00 AM worship service outside the Tower Entrance to the church on the corner of Fraser and Beaver (weather permitting). As always, our focus will be on the goodness of God whom we seek to praise as we gather. We will continue to offer remote worship via YouTube, and the outdoor service will include similar elements to the pre-recorded service.

If you plan to attend please send this note "Yes, I/we (# of people) will be at the July 5 worship" to

officescpc@gmail.com

no later than Thursday, July 2. That will help us to make adjustments if there is a larger group than anticipated.

Here is what you need to do in order to attend:

- Bring a lawn chair.
- Plan to spread out 6 feet from other worshippers. The space is limited, but shaded, and there should be adequate room for 50 to 60 participants.
- Wear your mask.
- Unfortunately, there will not be congregational singing, but there will be music.
- Perhaps it goes without saying, but we do want anyone who has been ill or has a fever to stay home and get some rest.
- Pray for our gathering that we might glorify God and together find spiritual nourishment.



Outdoor Worship

Adult Education in July

Date of Class: **July 5, 2020** via Zoom

Title: **The Burden of Prophecy: Jeremiah - The Burden of Being Unheard**

Description: Dean Lindsey continues a three-week examination of the prophet Jeremiah. This week, we will look at the prophet's message and how he struggled to communicate with a people who would not listen as the disaster approached. He bore the burden of being unheard and was even accused of being a traitor to his people. He struggled also with God. It is a story of pathos, remorse, and deep and abiding love.

Date of Class: **July 12, 2020** via Zoom

Title: **The Burden of Prophecy: Jeremiah - Struggling with God**

Description: In the final installment of a three-week examination of the prophet Jeremiah, Dean Lindsey will wrap up the discussion of Jeremiah's struggle in the midst of a turbulent time, his struggle to communicate with an unreceptive people, and even his struggle with God.

Date of Class: **July 19, 2020** via YouTube

Title: **Protest Songs**

Description: Protests and demonstrations have been in the news lately and we have heard the demonstrators singing chants and songs. Protest songs are not new, they have a long history. Karen Neff will give an overview of protest songs over the last seventy-five years.

Date of Class: **July 26, 2020** via YouTube

Title: **SCPC Organ Console**

Description: In our recorded worship services you have been able to see more of the organ console than most people ever get to see. Director of Music Ministry, Ned Wetherald will share what some of the 183 keys, 32 pedals, pull stops, toe stops, tabs and buttons do to pull together the abundant resources of our hybrid organ.



Online Resources

If you're having any trouble accessing our online resources, please call the church office and leave a message (814-238-2422).

Likewise, if you, or someone you know, are **not** receiving our emails with access to our worship services, and you/they **do** have an email address, please contact [Martha Trout](mailto:MarthaTrout@marthascpc@gmail.com) at marthascpc@gmail.com so you/they can be added to the email list. We'd love to have cell phone numbers as well for those shut-ins that may not have a landline number - so we can stay in touch!

Hospital Visitation Team

There is a dedicated group of church volunteers who visit church members when they are hospitalized at the Mount Nittany Medical Center. Each volunteer is assigned to at least several days a month. They bring joy with them as they meet with those who are having medical or surgical care. For over twenty years Jack McKinley has coordinated the work of this team. He makes up the schedule and keeps everything running smoothly. It's been a real labor of love and we are all so grateful for his dedicated service to this ministry.

Because of the pandemic, the work of the visitation team has been suspended. During this hiatus, Jack is retiring from his role and turning over the leadership to Rose Calvin. Thank you, Rose, for your willingness to step up when visitation can resume. And a special thank you to Jack for blessing so many folks in their time of need!

Hospital  Visitation

State College Presbyterian Church Staff

Pastor - Dean Lindsey
deanscpc@gmail.com

Associate Pastor for Youth and Mission - Michael Ozaki
michaelscpc@gmail.com Ext. 206

Director of Education and Program - Deannine Shipman
deanninescpc@gmail.com Ext. 213

Director of Music Ministry - Ned Wetherald
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marthascpc@gmail.com Ext. 202

Church Secretary - Janet Heasley
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Stay and Play Director - Laura Steager
stayandplayscpc@gmail.com Ext. 221

Child Care Coordinator - Emma Sutterlin
childcarescpc@gmail.com

Kitchen Coordinators - Mike and Amy Gordon

Financial Administrator - Michelle Fortin
finadmscpc@gmail.com Ext. 207

Assistant Financial Administrator - Anne Thomas

Building Manager - Todd Hockenberry
bldgmgrscpc@gmail.com Ext. 210

Evening Custodian - Colett Spicher

Phone (814)238-2422 Fax (814)238-3524
Website - www.scpresby.org



Sympathy of the congregation to family and friends on the death of:

Rod Kirsch's sister, May 19, 2020, in Bismarck, ND

Michele McElhaney's sister, **Susan Berich**, June 18, 2020

Dorothy Ghaner, Jill Hockenberry's aunt, June 21, 2020

Congratulations of the congregation on the birth of:

Marcus Robbe Redford on March 22, 2020 and
Tatum Lynn Shulman on June 5, 2020, both great-children of **Al and Marty Snider**

Senior Recitals

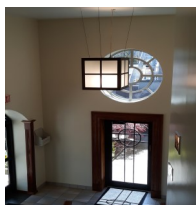
On Saturday, July 18, 2:00 PM, SCPC is hosting the senior recital of Marcus Wheeler and Alex Mullen. Both young men are students of Marjorie Smith, friend of our Music Ministry. Due to safe distancing requirements, the recital audience is limited and not really open to the public. If you would like to attend, please contact Ned Wetherald (nedscpc@gmail or 814-308-3415) to check availability.

Marcus Wheeler, son of Stephen and Denise Wheeler, graduated from the State College Area High School in June 2020. While at State High, he was active in the marching band and a member of the diving team. He also worked as a lifeguard and swim instructor at the SPRA pool. As a member of SCPC, Marcus enjoyed being involved in Chrysalis and FISH. He will be attending Penn State University pursuing a degree in Biobehavioral Health.

Alex Mullen, son of Tracy Mullen, graduated from the Delta Program High School in June 2020. He played tennis for the State College Area High School and was a senior captain of the boys' tennis team. He also competed in downhill skiing and was a member of the Centre County 4-H Robotics team. Named as a National Merit Scholarship Finalist, he will be attending Penn State University pursuing a degree in Engineering Science.

Building and Property

Your Building and Property Committee has been busy this summer maintaining the SCPC buildings and grounds. The slate roofing company has been hard at work installing new copper valleys and flashings. The parking lot entrance stairwell was insulated and painted. The food cabinet in that stairwell was refinished so the whole entrance would look much brighter and cheerier. Martha's new office next to Michael's office was completely repainted. The parking lot lines, speed bumps, and other signs on the asphalt were repainted by Chelsea Hockenberry (Todd's daughter) and her fiancé, Nick. Also, Todd Hockenberry and our evening custodian, Colett Spicher, have been hard at work deep cleaning everything, shampooing carpets, and sanitizing the building daily. Finally, the main office is being repainted as the Presby Post goes to press.



Celebrate! Blessings! Joy! Praise!

In recognition of the 2019-2020 Stay and Play Preschool staff who have completed the 34th year of programming at State College Presbyterian Church. This group of amazing people worked with 78 families and 91 children this year alone. They built relationships with families and children that surpassed the barrier of COVID-19 closures and brought joy, laughter and growth to them all. Each of these women bring their own personal strengths and skills to the Stay and Play team to make the program a strong and distinguished childcare/preschool in this community. The many gifts they have given to the families, and to one another through their service at S&P, are too plentiful to count. We take this opportunity to recognize them and to thank them for all they have done, and continue to do, to serve the children of God. We thank God for each of these woman, for sharing of themselves through their work at Stay and Play and enriching the lives of so many.

Summer Christian Education

During the summer, the Education Ministry Unit will be trying to figure out exactly what Fall will look like for our programs.

The committees and staff will be meeting, talking with others, even ZOOM meeting with other church leaders in other states about what their plans will be. So we ask for your prayers and ideas are welcome too!

So in the meantime, since summer is a time when our programs are scaled back considerably, we are taking this time to think and plan. There is a new children's curriculum that might adapt well to being "in the homes," and Deannine Shipman, Director of Education and Program, is looking into using that!

We are also pleased to have SUMMER READERS who videotape themselves reading a book, and we are sending the link to the video and activity ideas to the homes of pre-school and elementary children/families this summer. It should be about once a week we hope!

Hope everyone is doing as well as can be expected during these stressful times!

What is
Growing in God's Love:
A Story Bible Curriculum
like?
It is...

Multiage
exploratory
relational
stillness seeking
wonder filled
curiosity driven

**Growing in God's Love:
A Story Bible Curriculum**

intergenerational
growth encouraging
collaborative
community oriented
compassionate
fun
imaginative



Request for Nominations

This request comes from the SCPC Nominating Committee. We are charged with preparing a slate of candidates to serve as Elders, Deacons, Visiting Deacons, and members of the Nominating Committee. (See a description of these positions and desired qualifications below.) A list of candidates will be presented to the congregation in November for election.

Members of the Nominating Committee welcome your suggestions as we prepare our list of candidates. Please identify individuals you believe would make a valuable contribution to any of the Boards or Committees. Self-nominations are welcome.

Send nominations to Scott Kretchmar, Chair, Nominating Committee at rsk1@psu.edu. Please provide names of nominees, the office for which they are being recommended and, if you wish, any comments in support of the nominee. We look forward to hearing from you!

2020 Nominating Committee Members: Linda Giles, Scott Kretchmar, Brian Ladrido, Sharon Manno, John Marsden, Richard Page, Jamey Perry, Mimi St. Clair, Susan Sanders, and Dean Lindsey (ex officio).

Job Descriptions

Elders working together as a Session form the ruling body of a Presbyterian church. They are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life.

The ministry of **Deacons** is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lonely, or anyone in distress.

Weekly Prayer Meeting

The Spiritual Life Team is continuing to offer weekly congregational prayer meetings via zoom. This short gathering is a time for checking in, sharing congregational joys and concerns, as well as being in prayer together.

Every Tuesday at noon we will open up the time with shared joys and concerns of the congregation and a little introduction, followed by a time for group sharing of prayer concerns, and then a space to share our prayers facilitated by the Spiritual Life team. This is a time to share prayers and connect with people, but you can also participate silently. You can find the info for the meetings in the Thursday email updates or get on our prayer meeting email list by contacting Allison (allisconscpc@gmail.com). We hope you will join us as we pray for our congregation, community, and the world.



Virtual Centering Prayer

The regular weekly Centering Prayer group offering has changed to a Zoom gathering. It will continue to be offered on Mondays from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. If you would like to be added to the email invitation list and receive an access code, please contact [Mary Boutselis](mailto:Mary.Boutselis@psu.edu) or [Mary Jane Kistler](mailto:Mary.Jane.Kistler@psu.edu).



From the Financial Affairs Committee

As Pennsylvania begins to open back up and we explore ways to worship together, the Finance Committee continues to meet regularly to make sure that we stay ahead of cash flow needs and remain good financial stewards of the Church's accounts.

As the second fiscal quarter draws to a close, we are fortunate to find ourselves at approximately 50% of our budgeted yearly financial goal. For this, we are extremely grateful and want to thank everyone. We continue to be grateful for the generosity of church members and others, many of whom have continued to give towards their pledges and/or increased their support. We also continue to receive from those who have donated to special causes (families in need, OGHS, PCUSA/Syria, etc.). We are blessed and fortunate to have such a caring and supportive church family as we work to support our staff, meet the needs of our church, and maintain our mission in the community. We are passing along your generosity and using it to show the blessing of God and the goodwill of the SCPC church family.

As a reminder, we have set up multiple methods for making it easier to contribute financially to the church. For those who are able, you can now make your offering in any of the following ways:

1. By check mailed to the church
2. By direct bank e-check/bill pay (you set this up through your own bank)
3. Through our online giving option: QR code below with your smart phone or on our website at scpresby.org (click the GIVE NOW button)
4. **NEW:** through our ACH/direct debit option: again, visit our website for instructions or contact Michelle at finadmscpc@gmail.com for the form and more information.
 - a. Processing occurs on the 1st and 15th of each month; you may choose either (or both) days and one-time, monthly, or quarterly processing.
 - b. ACH processing occurs at no fee to SCPC.



We look forward to the time when we can all be together again, worshipping and participating in the many wonderful programs that SCPC offers. Until then, we hope everyone stays safe and healthy.

3 Questions: Seeing God In Each Other's Stories

One of the things we miss out on most in this time is the chance to hear God speaking to us through each others' stories. Those spontaneous moments when another's experiences help us understand more about our own. That is why we are trying something new...

In July, "3 Questions" will be starting a weekly video series on YouTube in which members of the SCPC church family of all different types will sit down to share some of their stories with us. In what we are calling "contemplative conversations," we will invite you to not only hear how others are experiencing God right now, but also reflect on what God might be saying to you through them.

In the spirit of sharing, connection and (let's be honest) experimentation, join us for "3 Questions" Wednesdays starting in July.

Chrysalis in July

A socially distant gathering is being planned for Tuesday, July 21 from 7:00 - 8:00 PM (location TBD). We ask that each youth **bring your mask** and wear clothes you'll be comfortable sitting on the ground in (you could also bring a chair or blanket if you'd like). We'll be sitting 6' apart, but that won't keep us from playing some sitting games and catching up with one another. Parents are invited to drop youth off and return an hour later for pickup or enjoy walking around the area on their own. Questions? Contact Diana (814-574-8712 or dianascpc@gmail.com).

Calling All Singers!

The Choir has been working with a new choral music program and we would like to invite all interested singers to join us. If you are interested send an email to Ned Wetherald (nedscpc@gmail.com) and let Ned know of your interest. Ned will send you an invitation to sign up for "MY CHORAL COACH." After you reply to the invitation, Ned will send you "assignments." You will be able to listen to the piece of music in a variety of combinations and practice while listening - as many times as you want and whenever you want. When you think you are ready, you record the piece by listening to the accompaniment through headphones/earbuds and singing to your computer/tablet. "Submit" your track to Ned and he (no one else) will listen to it and either 1.) send you notes about improving your track and the chance to record it again or 2.) accept your track and blend it in with all the others that are submitted. Then we will share the "virtual choir" piece in our recorded worship service. As with any new computer program there may be some hiccups getting started, but once you get it, the program is fun. One singer recently said *"This was the coolest thing I have ever done with music via the internet!"* Try it and join the fun!



224th General Assembly PCUSA

Like many other events recently, the 224th General Assembly of the PCUSA was totally online this year. From June 19 through June 27 there were a variety of sessions.

As this PresbyPost is being prepared, we can report that a pair was elected Co-Moderators of the 224th General Assembly (2020) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). **Elona Street-Stewart**, a ruling elder and synod executive with the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, and **Gregory J. Bentley**, pastor of Fellowship Presbyterian Church in Huntsville, Alabama, were elected as a team saying they want to emphasize inclusivity and diversity across the church.

Street-Stewart is a descendant of the Delaware Nanticoke tribe and is the first Native American to serve as a moderator as well as a synod executive in the PC(USA). She says it is time to send the message that the church is here for good.

"Native people understand that about bringing the good news, the good medicine through Jesus Christ to the world. Other people will know that this is also a message of hope," she said. "It's important that we not only look at times of transition but look at our resilience to remain and survive and I think that's an important thing to emphasize."

Bentley is an African American, and like Street-Stewart believes that being inclusive will move the church forward.

"I felt like, given our particular backgrounds and the history of this country, that not only do we represent the pain of our past, but the possibilities of the future in our own person and experience. I feel very strongly about that and decided to wade out into the deep water," he said.

Street-Stewart says building relationships across various cultures is one of the biggest challenges facing the church, along with making the governing body and resources more adaptive.

"And not just financial resources, but also human. Our relationships should be seen as an asset. We are in communities that are doing some incredible things," she said. "Our biggest challenge is spreading the Matthew 25 [invitation]. What an incredible time for this to be the direction of the church."

Bentley says the future of the church and social justice are important issues for him.

"The church needs to stretch out and implant itself in the community. We don't have any choice. If we are just obsessed with preserving the institution, we're toast. That won't cut it," he said. "The church has a historical commitment to social justice, and we've got to fan the flame again, give it more oxygen so it can burn like an inferno."

Street-Stewart is endorsed by the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area and Bentley is endorsed by the Presbytery of North Alabama.



The symbol selected by the Co-Moderators of the 224th General Assembly (2020) is the Sankofa bird standing in the Mississippi River.



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Number 5

Ministry Assignments of Session Members - 2020

Clerk of Session - Ginny Rainey
Nominating Committee Chair - Scott Kretchmar

Building

*Carolyn Bryant
John DiNunzio
Don Hartzell
Clark Moose, chair
Pete Moyer*

Christian Education

*Mary D'Ambrosia
Ryan Gilmore, chair
Clark Moose*

Adult Education

*Jane Butler
Jenny Van Hook, chair*

Worship

*Beth Farmer
Joan Hartman
Bill Lukens
Susan Sanders, chair*

Membership

*Karen Christman
John DiNunzio
John Graham, chair
Joan Hartman*

Social Justice and Mission

*Beth Farmer
Mitch Kirsch, chair
Scott Kretchmar*

Personnel

*Karen Christman
Barbara Cox
Pete Moyer
Cam Richardson, chair*

Financial Affairs

*Dennis Calvin
Bob Igo
Jason Stimmel, chair*

Spiritual Life

*Jane Butler
Linda Edvar, chair
Rob Huffard*