



NEWS OF THE
CLINTON UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

THE CUP

REV. LAURA E.
STRAUSS
MINISTER

Pastor's Page

So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

— Genesis 2:3

In the devotional portion of a recent Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Alumna/e Council meeting, the following quote was read:

"Sabbath is a foretaste of eternity."

If we let it, this quote could be a blessing in our shaping of the Sabbath. For, when we think of Sabbath, I think that many of us carry two thoughts with us. Either, first, the Sabbath is a boring day where no one is allowed to have any fun. Or, second, the Sabbath is a day to do whatever you want – hence many in our church culture's inability to observe it because they're, "too busy."

When we look at the Biblical presentation of the Sabbath, we find that this seventh day is neither a day set aside for boredom, nor a day set aside for laziness. Rather, the Sabbath is a day that's to be kept holy.

To give us a better understanding of what this holiness looks like, let's consider what eternity looks like. Scripture tells us that we will spend our eternity worshipping God. In the restored

heavens and earth, God will dwell among God's people and we will know God face-to-face. We will be able to be a part of God's holy city, to see God in God's full majesty, and to know what an earth without sin looks like. All of this will be so very amazing that our hearts will not be able to do anything except worship. We will, quite literally, be in such awe of the LORD that we will joyfully and happily glorify God throughout our eternal days.

So, if Sabbath is a foretaste of eternity, then Sabbath is our opportunity to WORSHIP and ENJOY God. It's a celebratory day set apart in honor of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Sabbath is what I'm doing while on sabbatical. I'm intentionally and thoughtfully worshipping and enjoying God. This month, I'm enjoying God through worship by attending various congregations. I'll be enjoying God through prayer and Christian study as I join the Rev. Allison Bauer at the Monastery of the Transfiguration for a week of reading with the Orthodox nuns who reside there. This will include worship throughout the day in the monastery chapel. Finally, I'll be enjoying the reflection of God that I see in Ethan, Fritz, and my front yard (Lord, help me and my lack of a green thumb!).

How will you observe the Sabbath? One of the great aims of sabbaticals is to re-train pastors in the practice of Sabbath-keeping. How might you be trained to see Sabbath as a

godly time, as opposed to a boring time or a lazy time? How can we change our perception such that the Sabbath is no longer seen as an indulgence, but seen as one of the Ten Commandments? How, in your own life, can your household take a day apart to ENJOY and WORSHIP God?

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Laura



Preaching on Sunday, June 4

The Rev. Brian Wallace



The Rev. Brian Wallace is an associate minister to Pittsburgh Presbytery. Prior to this, he served at Hampton Presbyterian Church as youth pastor. The Rev. Wallace is deeply involved in the ministry of Crestfield Camp and Conference Center, and is something of an expert in modern technology. He lives in the north hills with his wife, Renee, and their two children.

Preaching on Sunday, June 11

The Rev. Jennifer Haddox



The Rev. Jennifer Haddox is the Director of Global Engagement for the Evangelical Order of Presbyterians. "She is passionate about inviting others into God's global purposes with experience leading short-term mission trips, coordinating and teaching Perspectives classes, and providing mission resources and teaching for congregations."

Preaching on Sunday, June 18

The Rev. Bill Roemer



The Rev. Bill Roemer is the president of Philanthropy Focus, Inc., as well as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Preaching on Sunday, June 25

The Rev. Liddy Barlow



The Rev. Liddy Barlow is the executive minister at Christian Associates of Southwestern Pennsylvania. This is Greater Pittsburgh's regional ecumenical agency, working for the unity of the church and the wholeness of communities.

Summer WORSHIP TIMES

**Worship will begin at 10:00 am
every Sunday starting June 4th!**

What's Pastor Laura Up To?

Pastor Laura is home after a busy month away from home. She is hoping that June will be much quieter as she focuses on some of the things that nourish her spiritual life: resuming piano lessons for the first time since college, and preparing for a week away with the Rev. Allison Bauer at the Monastery of the Transfiguration. This Greek Orthodox monastery is located in Ellwood City, and is run by nuns. Pastor Laura will be residing on monastery property, waking up early in the morning to pray the daily office with the nuns. She and Rev. Bauer will spend their mornings taking prayer walks and reading devotional/theological material. They will then discuss their readings over the course of the afternoon. The days will end with worship with the nuns, and more devotional reading. In addition to the above, Pastor Laura hopes to fit in a substantial amount of yoga (the only form of exercise, other than chasing Fritz, that seems to work for her!). She can't wait to see you at Vacation Bible School on Monday, July 17....so sign-up to volunteer and she'll see you there!

Our Church Family is invited to celebrate the graduation of Kayla Wade by attending her party on Saturday, June 17th at 3 PM. The party will be held at our home at
78 Collins Dr. Clinton, PA 15026
We hope to see you there. Thank you!
~The Wade's



Baccalaureate Service is on Sunday, June 4 at St. Columbkille Roman Catholic Church at 7:00 pm. There will be a cookie reception to follow in the social hall.

Graduation Sunday is Sunday, June 4 at 10:00 a.m. Come worship with us as we celebrate God's work in the life of high school senior, Kayla Wade! A dessert reception will follow worship on that Sunday.



Flag Day,
June 14, 2017



The sacrament of communion will be observed next on **Sunday, June 4 during the 10:00 a.m. worship service** in honor of Pentecost. Please be reconciled to one another in preparation for this sacrament.

Wear Red for Pentecost!

Pentecost is on Sunday, June 4. Remember to wear red for our 10:00 a.m. worship service. Red symbolizes the fire that danced upon the disciples' heads on that Pentecost day.



"Summer Flowers"

Behold the flowers of June!
How fair and bright their buds appear,
as, opening to the summer air,
our eyes and hearts they cheer!

Who would have thought there could abound
such beauty and delight
beneath the cold and wintry ground
that hid those flowers from sight?

That power which made and governs all —
the mighty power of God —
alone could life and beauty call
out of the lifeless sod.

And he, who from the winter's gloom
can summer thus disclose,
shall one day make the desert bloom,
and blossom as the rose.

—Anonymous

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL
BE CLOSED JUNE 5 – 8.**

**THE CHURCH OFFICE
SUMMER HOURS WILL BE:
MONDAY: 9:30 - 1:30
THURSDAY: 10:00 - 12:00
SATURDAY: 10:00 - 12:00**

1001 New Worshipping Communities

June is the month that we celebrate the Presbyterian Mission Agency's 1001 New Worshipping Communities initiative. Pittsburgh is at the forefront of this work, with new church developments being founded regularly in our city. To celebrate the way that the PC(USA) is moving forward in founding new churches, here is an article celebrating baptism in a new church in Florida.

Meeting space—or lack thereof—is key to 'Missing Peace'

Worshipping Communities January 24, 2017

New worshipping community in Central Florida is always on the move

by *Katy Steinberg* | *Special to Presbyterian News Service*
In this reflection by Katy Steinberg, pastor of the new worshipping community *Missing Peace*, we meet a young woman ready to go deeper in her relationship with Christ.

November 2016 will always and forever be a special month in the life of [Missing Peace](#), a 1001 New Worshipping Community in Ormond Beach, Florida.

It was over coffee earlier in the year, that one of our regular attenders told me she had never been baptized, although she had thought she had been until she learned differently in high school.



Missing Peace might meet in a park, at the beach or in a primitive church building all in the same month. Wherever they go, they carry their Missing Peace sign

Her family regularly attended a Presbyterian Church at the time, but as a child they had not been active in any congregation. It just hadn't come up until a Mormon friend asking about her baptism approached her. On the verge of entering adulthood, she now felt that it was a decision she should think through carefully, and that she would not participate in this ancient ritual until she felt confident it was right for her and her faith.

She floated in and out of various congregations through her college years and after, often sitting in the back, never fully committed, and certainly not ready to take the big step into the water. Over time, attending church at all became less of a priority.

Then came the day of our coffee and conversation last year.

"Have you been baptized?" I asked.

"Well, I thought I had for a while," she said, "but no, I now know I haven't. However, I've been thinking about it for over 20 years."

"Wow! What's kept you from moving forward?" I asked.

After explaining she said, "It's something I take very seriously, and just didn't find the right church, pastor and my own faith that all came together at the same time. But I think I'm ready."

After several conversations about the meaning of baptism in the Reformed tradition, the logistics of the worship service, and educating our new worshipping community on these pieces too, it was time.



The Rev. Katy Steinberg (left), pastor of Missing Peace, a 1001 New Worshipping Community in Florida, celebrates with a regular attender who decided to be baptized.

Along with the rest of our community, and two young children who were also to be baptized, we headed down to the ocean shore. Nerves about rough water and cool temperatures melted away as we approached the shoreline.

"Do you desire to be baptized?"
"I do."

"Do you, as gathered people, drawn together by the desire to seek and know truth, promise to guide and nurture her, with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow the way, the truth and the life, and to be a faithful member of her community living out who she is called to be?"

"We do."

And after praying thanksgiving over the ocean, fully clothed and eyes wide open, we entered the cool waters of the Atlantic.

"Are you ready," I asked. With tears streaming down her face, she nodded yes. With that, we leaned back into the waves, imitating the death and rising of our Lord. "I baptize you in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

I have no words that can adequately describe the next few moments. But slowly, we emerged from the water, knowing the moment was meant to be fleeting. We had the less-than-traditional laying on of towels and hugs. The community then scoured the beach for a small memento of the occasion and presented them to each of the baptized with a few words. And with a few more words of prayer and benediction, it was over. People lingered. It was as if each of us wanted to hold on to the experience, wanted to continue to be in the presence of a God so obviously present that day, wanted to be together.

Most days at Missing Peace do not even come close to that day. But it reminded me what is possible. Remembering that day reminds me that God is powerfully at work in this beautiful and broken world, and constantly beckoning to us to join in that work.



Russ Adams.....4	Pastor Laura.....13
Sandi Cogis.....5	Bill Emling.....12
Ashley McConnell.....5	Sharon Emling.....15
Jenn Rossman.....5	Tom McCullough....19
Dane Thomas.....5	Matthew Messner..21
Connor Welsh.....6	Jessica McFadden....22
Keith Hughes.....7	Rick Hamil.....22
Olivia Adams.....9	Ava Ervin.....23
	Tori Hart.....27
	Harrietta Rejniak.....30

The Youth Group Mission Trip is Coming!

Our junior and senior high school youth are traveling to **Charleston, West Virginia** from July 30 – August 4.



The cost of the trip comes directly from our congregation's mission budget.

So, when you give to missions, you're also giving to this mission opportunity for our teenagers.

Thank you for your support and encouragement of our youth as they grow in the likeness of Jesus Christ!

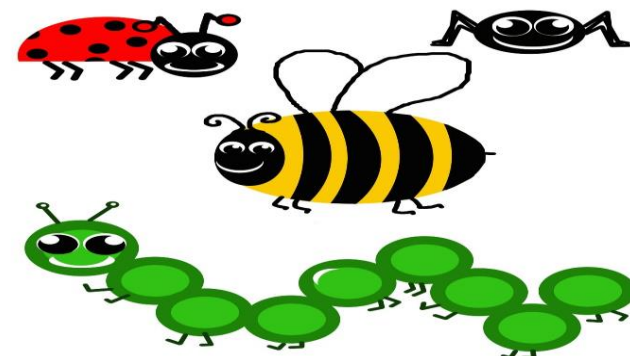
BUG SAFARI!!!!

Clinton U.P. Church
Vacation Bible School!

When: July 17-21st

9:00 am – noon

Contact: (724) 695-7993

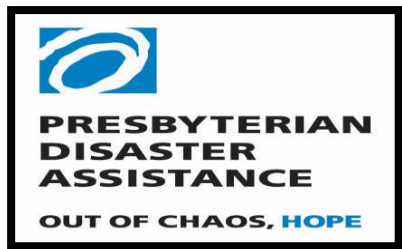


BIBLE QUIZ

The "Trinitarian formula" occurs only once in the Bible. In which New Testament book do we read "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," and who said these words?

- A. Romans; Paul
- B. 1 Peter; Simon Peter
- C. The Acts of the Apostles; Luke
- D. Matthew; Jesus

Answer: D (See Matthew 28:19.)



Hurricane Matthew:

By Rick Jones, PC(USA) Communications

For the first time in nine years, a powerful, Category 5 hurricane made its presence known in 2016. Hurricane Matthew wreaked havoc as it journeyed across the western Atlantic, pounding parts of Haiti, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, the southeastern United States and the Canadian Maritimes. More than 1,600 people were killed in the path of the hurricane, which was the deadliest since Hurricane Stan in 2005. Matthew also caused more than \$10.5 billion in damage, making it the costliest hurricane since Sandy in 2012.

Haiti took the brunt of the storm, with hundreds of thousands of people left in need of help.

"The southern part of Haiti suffered the most," said Luke Asikoye, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance associate for international disaster response. "The homes were not very good to begin with, mostly shacks, which just compounded the situation. Most of the crops that people depended on for their livelihood were washed away." Haiti was still recovering from an earthquake in 2010 and from Hurricane Sandy two years later.

"The government warned people to move, but where could they go?" asked Asikoye. "Floods washed away the bridge that provided the main connection with the island, so they were cut off. Many were killed by debris from the houses, trees and surge of water."

In addition to dealing with the loss of homes, food and clean water, authorities have been trying to contain outbreaks of cholera and other diseases.

PDA, which has been working with its partners in long-term recovery from the earthquake and Sandy, is continuing its work in connection with Matthew's devastation.

While the storm's impact along the eastern US seaboard was not as severe as originally feared, it has

caused other problems due to flooding. PDA engaged with presbyteries along the East Coast several days prior to Matthew's arrival, offering help and support to nine presbyteries in the storm's path.

"In early October, nearly two dozen National Response Teams were deployed to seven presbyteries from North Carolina to Central Florida," said Jim Kirk, PDA associate for US disaster response. "The teams offered ministry of presence, helped presbytery leadership assess damage and need, connected presbyteries to the larger disaster response and worshiped in impacted churches."

In North Carolina, damage was widespread in eastern parts of the state. Thousands were left homeless and numerous roads and bridges were washed out, which impacted travel, school bus routes and more. It took weeks for many people to return to their homes to assess the damage.

"We had two church buildings suffer significant water damage," said Bill Reinhold, general presbyter and stated clerk for Coastal Carolina Presbytery. "Other churches had roof leaks because of high wind and missing shingles."

Reinhold said he's worked closely with PDA, FEMA, the Red Cross and other agencies to meet the emergency needs and believes the state was better prepared for this disaster. "The lessons we have learned in disaster response over the last 10 years are paying off. We are seeing better local, state and federal coordination."

Charleston, South Carolina, had spent the greater part of the year recovering from flooding in 2015 when Matthew came ashore. Donnie Woods, executive presbyter for Charleston- Atlantic Presbytery, reached out to all 48 churches that are part of the 12 counties of lower South Carolina. He said the mass evacuation of people up and down the coastline was the right thing to do and likely saved numerous lives.

Florida's emergency response teams were thankful the damage wasn't as severe as expected.

"There were a lot of people who lost everything. The storm surge made a total mess of neighborhoods," said Kathy Broyard, executive director of the Florida

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network. "Long-term recovery will take months if not years."



HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Designate your gift to DR000193. Visit pcusa.org/PDA for information on how to donate
- Make Gift of the Heart kits; flood buckets, hygiene kits and school kits are always needed. See the PDA website for more information.
- Volunteer to rebuild in the United States. Contact the PDA Call Center at [866-732-6121](tel:866-732-6121)/pda.callcenter@pcusa.org



3 M's Class News

What a great time we have had over the last month or so of hosting guest leaders for our 3 M's Class! Our thanks to Rev. Dr. Sheldon Sorge, Rev. Dr. Don Dawson, Rev. Dr. Angela Hancock, Rev. Dr. David Esterline, and Sarah Robbins for bringing the good news of Jesus Christ and sharing their faith with our class! We had such a well spring of information and knowledge brought to us from some of the most outstanding leaders of our Church! THANKS!

As our class stops meeting for the summer we also want to thank Pastor Laura and all of our leaders over the past year who have brought the Word of God to us so that we can try to be better at following God's Will for each of us individually as well as collectively. We will start to meet again as a class in the fall, but don't forget to keep your heart and mind open for the chance to learn more through reading the Bible and other related information. If you read a book or learn of some new material to study,

make someone in the class aware of the possibility for group study within our class.

Well it is almost time for the annual Attic Treasure and Bake Sale to be held at the church in August. Please see the attached schedule so that you can plan a time to come and be a part of our mission project to serve others. There will be posters available to take to a local restaurant, business, or place of employment to display, with permission our Sale. We have been blessed with the congregations support for many years and we want to thank you all for everything that you do to make this project a huge success. If you have never helped out before, take a look at the schedule and see where you may want to help. All are welcome!

Trustee Thanks!

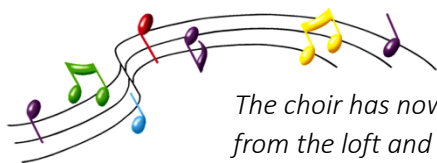
Thanks to everyone who came out to help with the spring yard clean-up on Saturday May 20th. It was a great time of hard work and good fellowship. The yard looks great!

Thanks to Bill and Brenda Metz for their donation of the geraniums for the yard! Beautiful!

Thanks to Janoski's for donating a beautiful Alberta Spruce to replace one of the older scrubs that was dying!



Thank you to all those that made our Ladies Tea on Saturday May 13th a huge success. We had wonderful food and wonderful entertainment and our princess parade was filled with lovely little girls, growing in Gods glory every day. Thank you to all who came and enjoyed this joyous afternoon. Please mark your calendars for September 7th for our first meeting of the new season.



Choir Notes

The choir has now stepped down from the loft and will enjoy some rest time. We will be filling our offertory music time with special music selections from of our talented members. If you play an instrument or have a favorite song you would like to sing, just let me know and I will help you find a Sunday date. We will once again be gathering in the choir loft in the fall for another year of music ministry. Search you hearts this summer and see if God is leading you to participate in this wonderful group of folks that like to sing God's praises. **We will be meeting on Tuesday evening at 7:00 starting September 5th.** Hope to see you then.

Golfing Shot

The golf league is going strong on Friday evenings with a tee off time around 5:00. Please come and join us for this fun activity.



Down The Bowling Alley

The bowling league is finished for this season and we are looking forward to a new season of fun and fellowship. We meet at Center lanes in Center Township on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. We have lots of fun and enjoy several "goody days". **Come and join us next season starting August 30.**

HELD IN
YOUR



Make this heartwarming handprint gift to give your dad or another special man on Father's Day.

What you need:

- Tempura paint (any two colors besides white)
- A paper plate
- Two paintbrushes
- Your dad's hand
- White cardstock
- Paper towels
- A pen

What you do:

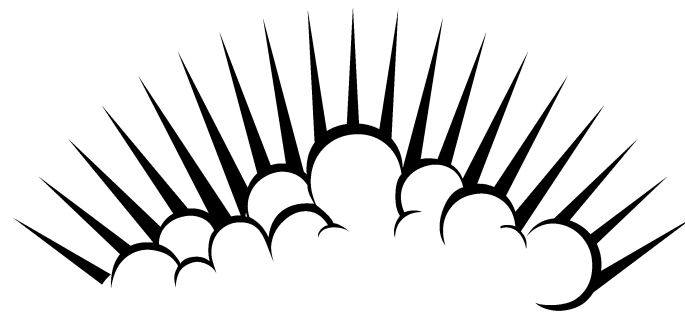
1. Place paint on the paper plate.
2. Paint your dad's palm and the insides of his fingers with one color of paint. Set his hand in the center of the cardstock and press down. Let dry.
3. Paint your palm and fingers with the other color. Place your hand in the center of your dad's. Let dry.
4. Write a loving message to your dad on the blank sections of the cardstock.
5. Give your dad the gift — and a hug!



Our heavenly Father

Father's Day is the perfect time to remember God, our heavenly Father. What does the psalmist say about him?

Directions: Complete Psalm 89:26 by placing the correct vowels in the blanks.



"H_ w_ll c_ll _ _t t_ m_,

'Y_ _ _r_ m_ F_th_r, m_

G_d, th_ R_ck m_ S_v_r.'" "

Ps_lm 89:26, N_V

Answer: "He will call out to me, 'You are my Father, my God, the Rock my Savior.'" Psalm 89:26, NIV