

THE GOOD NEWS
Carversville Christian Church

"Large enough to share; small enough to care"

**SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER
2025**

***** From the Pulpit *****

Greetings Carversville UCC Family and Friends,

I'm Rev. Elaine Ely. I was ordained in the United Methodist Church in 1991 and transferred to the UCC in 1999. I have five children scattered from Nashville to near Boston. Most of my years of ministry were in hospice chaplaincy and bereavement work. I retired from that in 2012 and for the past ten years have been in various roles of interim and supply ministry. At this time, I am also considered "on staff" at New Goshenhoppen UCC where I am their Minister of Grief Support. Within the larger church, I am currently the Chair of the North Penn Association Committee on Ministry, which also makes me part of the NP Association Executive Committee.

I'm looking forward to being your Stated Supply Pastor going forward. Rev. Austin Chenault and I have a close working relationship. He is also retired and loves to preach occasionally so about once a month he will be here while I visit family or meet obligations elsewhere.

As "Stated Supply", technically my only "hours" are on Sunday morning but I really want to know more about the congregation – who you are and where you are. To those who watch on-line, I hope you'll let me know you are there. I'm excited that we have some baptisms coming up in October and look forward to meeting some young families that have grown up as part of Carversville.

You are all welcome to be in touch with me through email at pastor_elaine@yahoo.com or by phone at 215-915-4370 which is my cell. Call or text me. I look forward to my time in ministry with you.

Blessings,

Pastor Elaine

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

by Dave Gunn

Wow! September and October are already here. In my humble opinion, next to Spring, this is the best time of the year. Less heat, beautiful Fall colors, crisp autumn smells and of course the Oyster & Pork Supper. I remember working my first OP Supper. Boy, was I gob smacked with all that went into it. That would have been in 1992. My back was much stronger then and I didn't hesitate to do the heavy lifting and standing for hours in the kitchen doing mashed potatoes or corn or anything else that came along.

Fall has so many things to be thankful for. Too many to mention here. Mainly, though, we tend to see people returning to Church after Labor Day when work and school schedules start back up. For that I am very grateful. We have a beautiful Church and I love seeing it shared with the community. I hope your Summer was enjoyable. Here's to a happy, healthy and joyous Fall.



GOOD OLE FASHION SUNDAY SOCIAL

hosted by Dave & Barb Gunn

On September 21st after service, we will have grills & tables set up in the grove for an ole fashioned Sunday Social. The menu will include hamburgers, hot dogs, salads, desserts, and lemonade.

Help with salads and desserts will be appreciated. Please see Barb for more details and the sign up sheet.

This is going to be fun so don't miss it!



DEACONS REPORT

by Barb Gunn

They say the older we get the faster time goes by. I'm finding that to be true because I can't believe it's September already and the kids are back in school.

The Deacons have been pretty low-key for the past couple months. We are always trying to think of fundraisers or occasions to gather together. Due to extreme heat, our church social has been postponed until September 21st. This will be followed closely by the Oyster and Pork Supper in October. The supper is a lot of work but so worth it because it reunites families, brings back members we haven't seen and is our major fund raiser. Last year we were successful in bringing the supper back after an absence of several years. Although it was half the size of past suppers, we still made a nice profit and had fun doing it. This year is our 150th Supper and we will be preparing for the full crowd. Advertising and word-of-mouth are essential so spread the word to friends and neighbors.

One of the Deacon's jobs is to be aware of the vibe in church. We are seeing people pull together, there is more laughter, and the outlook for the future is positive. We love our little country church and it shows. God is with us and He is smiling.

We are pleased to announce and welcome Pastors Elaine Ely and Austin Chenault to our church. Elaine and Austin will be rotating pulpit coverage on our pulpit for the remainder of the year. And we can't forget Susan Whitenack, Vera Ewing and Maggie Really for providing joyful music every Sunday. We are so very fortunate to have these dedicated people with us. Thank You!

The Deacons also sincerely thank Jim Hale, Bob Kling, and Dick Thomas for taking the pulpit these past months. A call went out looking for help when coverage wasn't available and these three men responded. THANK YOU! It's always a pleasure to hear each of you.

OYSTER/PORK ANYONE?

Can you believe we've been doing this dinner for 149 years with this being our 150th time? KUDOS to us! This dinner is the most important social event of our year and our biggest fund raiser. Many people who have left or moved out of the area come back to help. It's a wonderful "old home" event. Neighbors and friends look forward to seeing each other and we are known for how good it is. This year we want to make it the most special OP dinner ever celebrating 150 years. A planning committee met on June 29th to make preliminary plans as coordination, cooperation, and time are needed to pull this off.

Once again None Such has donated all the corn for the supper. We are extremely grateful to the Yerkes Family (None Such owners) for providing the corn year after year. We met twice to get the corn in the freezer That involved picking it up (thank you Brad), shucking it, desilking it, blanching it, taking it off the cob, bagging it and freezing it and it's done! Many hands made light work and it's a job well done.

If you haven't been involved in the past, consider being part of this exciting day. There are many jobs to choose from such as breeding oysters 3 times, cooking, baking, serving, waitressing, crafting, setting up and cleaning up. And it's all fun working together. Join us! You'll be glad you did! So, bring your thoughts and ideas to the planning meeting about what we can do to make this the 150th dinner better than ever. If you have a friend who would like to help out, have them come too. The more the merrier.

Your help will be appreciated

The Deacons have taken on the roles of coffee hour, greeter, and usher. If you would like to be a more active part of our church, please let a Deacon know. It will surely be appreciated!

Also, check the flower chart on the bulletin board in the hall. There are still empty dates for October, November and December.

BE THE CHURCH

Let's Spruce Things Up

Fall colors are especially vibrant. We could use some extra color in the front of our Church. Particularly around the Church sign, things are kind of sparse. We're looking for a few volunteers to plant some mums and bulbs to give the front a fresher look now and then for the spring when things reawaken from dormancy. Please step up and reach out to Dave Gunn to participate. Thank you

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER SCRIPTURE

The Beatitudes were taught by Jesus in his Service on the Mount found in the book of Matthew. They tell us what it means to live as a child of God's kingdom.

May it be so.

They are:

Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

Blessed are they who mourn; for they shall be comforted

Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth

Blessed are they that hunger and thirst for righteousness for they shall be satisfied

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

It is with sadness we were informed that Dr. Chuck Maxfield passed away in mid-August. Please keep his family in your prayers. There will be a memorial service at St. John's UCC in Lansdale on September 19th. Time is to be decided.

**Pastor's Chuck & Connie's address is :
724 Derstine Avenue
Lansdale, PA 19446**

OYSTER & PORK SUPPER CRAFT ROOM

By Jeannie Brown

This is the last newsletter before the Oyster and Pork Supper on October 11th. If you have any questions, please see me on a Sunday morning or call me at 213-348-3614.

The conference room will be transformed into a wonderful store. People shop while they are waiting to be called to supper. They often come back after their meal. The customers like hand-made and home-made items. We always have a large crowd.

There is still time for you to make items to be sold. We also sell home-made baked goods. Be sure to list what kind of nuts, if any, are included in the product. No pies or cakes please, as they are needed for the desserts downstairs at the supper. Please let me know what you are planning to donate so I can add it to my list.

You may bring your craft items to church on Sunday, September 28th or on Sunday, October 5th. Bring your baked goods on Friday, October 10th or on Saturday morning. At this writing I do not know what day during week I will be at church to set up.



So far this year we have donated over 300 pounds of food to the Doylestown Food Pantry. We hold the collection the first Sunday of every month. In addition to canned goods and non-perishable foods, they welcome the following items:

Cleaning Supplies: all-purpose spray cleaners, floor cleaners, sanitizing wipes, mops, buckets, brooms, dustpans, or sponges

Laundry Supplies: dryer sheets or detergent

Household Supplies: dish detergent, bottled hand soap, paper towels, tissues, toilet paper, garbage bags

Personal Care Items: feminine products or personal hygiene products and kits

Baby Supplies: diapers, wipes, baby wash, or shampoo/lotion

Gift Cards: gas, grocery, Uber, Walmart, Target, or Visa

Other Household Items: light bulbs, batteries, flashlights

HOLY HUMOR



A little boy came home from Sunday School and told his dad he learned that radio started in the Garden of Eden. Do you believe that?, he asked. Well, said his father, whoever told you that radio started in the Garden of Eden was probably referring to the time they took a rib out of Adam and created the first loudspeaker.

RECIPE

This recipe is from Jan Heebner

GINGERBREAD

1-1/2 c sifted flour
¾ baking soda
½ t salt
1-1/2 t pumpkin pie spice
½ c softened butter
½ c sugar
1 large egg
½ c molasses
2/3 c boiling water

Preheat oven to 375. Grease an 8x8 pan

Beat sugar and butter with a wooden spoon until light. Add egg. Stir in molasses. Add flour and spices a little at a time alternating with the flour mixture. The batter will be thin.

Bake for 30 minutes.

Serve warm or reheat.

Sharing Thoughts

By Barb Gunn

In preparation for our 150th Annual OP Supper, I brought home the OP folder from the files in the office. What a treasure trove of memories! Did you know Walt Livezey had 8 ovens in his basement? There has been a Livezey, or several, in the kitchen for five generations. The supper was started in 1871. I found recipes that have been used for years – pickled cabbage, homemade salad dressing, Gert's pork roast rub, oyster coating, stewed tomatoes. I learned the progression from 800 ears of corn to 1,500 (and that's only since Dave and I have been members). But the best reading, by far, is seeing the names of past, beloved members: Nina McKissick, Jane Chun, Glenn Burd, Peg Mays, Gert Gojeski, Dick Magill, Joe Magill, Eleanor Price, Betty Quinby, Laura Tompkins, Betty and Ned Harrington, Dottie Brown, and of course Clea Flack stirring the tomatoes.

What a warm feeling of fond memories, hard work, and lots of fun.

This year is a big one – our 150th supper! We are starting to advertise as much as possible with flyers and word of mouth. As the supper gets closer there will be announcements in newspapers and, hopefully, a visit from Fox 29 news.

Come out and be part of this memorable event that is a cornerstone of our church. You might even get your name on the distinguished list of names in the file folder!

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP			
7TH	14th	21st	28 th
Pastor Elaine	Pastor Elaine	Pastor Chenault	Pastor Elaine
Vera Ewing	Susan Whitenack	Maggie Realley	Susan Whitenack
COMMUNION FOOD COLLECTION	DEACONS MTG. TRUSTEES MTG.	CHURCH SOCIAL	
Deacon of the Month is Barbara Gunn			

Contact Information

Church Office 215-297-5366

Chris Ochadlick, Admin 215-297-5366

Email carversvilleucc@gmail.com

Office Hours: Wednesdays and Thursdays 8:00AM – 1:00PM

Website: www.carversvilleucc.org

Address: 3736 Aquetong Rd. P.O. Box 26
Carversville, PA 18913

OYSTER AND PORK SUPPER
OCTOBER 11TH
TELL YOUR FRIENDS
TELL YOUR NEIGHBORS
VOLUNTEER TO HELP
DON'T MISS BEING PART OF OUR
BIGGEST, OLDEST FUNDRAISER
SEE YOU THEN!

