

MAY 2022

# Journeys

A PUBLICATION OF CARVERSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



WHEREVER YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, WE WELCOME YOU HERE.

## THOUGHTS FOR THE SOUL

### TWO MEDITATIONS

Most people, including good church-going folks, aren't aware that we celebrate the Easter season for many weeks after Easter Sunday itself. To help us do that, this month's "Thoughts for the Soul" offers two brief meditations by Rev. Bret Myers, pastor of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Waterloo, Iowa.

#### **Easter Encouragement for the Journey**

Remember that resurrection is more than mere resuscitation! It is life transformed!  
It is faith in possibilities, when others are convinced of inevitability.

It is the courage to love others, when they don't love you in return . . .  
to show compassion, when others are heaping judgment . . .  
to live by peace, when others are being violent . . .  
to work for justice, when others are working for wealth . . .  
to respond with gentleness, when others are reacting with rage . . .  
and to trust that life, well-lived, even if short-lived, is preferable to longevity without virtue.

Don't remain caterpillars when you can become butterflies!  
Live beautifully!  
Birth goodness in all you think, say, and do!  
For you are called to life abundant!  
God's blessings be with you.

## Easter Virtue

There are times when the injustice, suffering, disillusionment, and pain of Dark Friday seem to have won the day and we lose hope and faith in the blessing of life. But let us remember even in those bleakest of times that there is always an Easter morning on the horizon that will resurrect our awe, joy, and thankfulness and give us a new lease on life.

Yes, we all will one day die; but not even death can bury the love and peace we have shared. Our acts of kindness, strivings for justice, and practices of compassion are the eternal verities that give our life meaning and purpose, and will put our death in the context of a life that cannot be denied.

We are a resurrection people. Nothing can keep down those who refuse to give up the call to keep on giving.

For our belief and faith is not in what we see or even what we may often experience, but is in goodness itself – that which we can bring to reality in our own lives by refusing to believe, act, and practice anything less . . . that which most assuredly is sacred and divine, and represents all we know of God and the Christ in Jesus . . . that which we are commissioned to go and do likewise – forgiving, loving, and making peace.



## *MODERATOR'S MINUTE*

This was shared by Jan Heebner. It made me think of all the wonderful memories I have of my many years at Carversville Church with my church family. I hope your participation at CUCC has left you with memories that bring you happiness and the peace that God's grace brings!

Sue Wulf

### *I'VE LEARNED ---*

I've learned that, regardless of your relationship with your parents, you'll miss them when they're gone from your life.

I've learned that if you pursue happiness, it will elude you. But, if you focus on your family, your friends, the needs of others, your work and doing the very best you can, happiness will find you.

I've learned that making a 'living' is not the same thing as making a 'life'.

I've learned that building a house is not the same thing as building a home... a house is built of wood, rock, concrete and steel... a home is built of stronger materials.

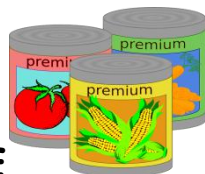
I've learned that unless you take the time to make those pleasant memories with your family, friends, and loved ones... they won't be there to bring you the happiness, pleasure, and that wonderful "replay" of life that only memories can bring over and over again.





## MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

Join us in the sanctuary on **Sunday, May 29**, for our Memorial Day worship service. Following the service congregants will process to the cemetery to the Civil War Monument. There, with members of Boy Scout Troop 64 as honor guard, we will honor those who have served not only in the Civil War, but all those who have served in the United States military. Plan to bring fresh flowers from your garden to be strewn about the base of the monument during the service.



## FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

Times are hard for so many people with soaring food and gas prices. There are many people suffering from food insecurity and visiting a food pantry for the first time. You can help keep the shelves of Doylestown Food Pantry stocked by bringing just several food items to church each month.

Items needed are: spaghetti sauce; pasta; canned meats and tuna; cereal; coffee; sugar; canned and dried potatoes; canned tomatoes and tomato sauce.

Thanks for caring and sharing with our neighbors.



## CHAPLAIN'S APPEAL FOR PRAYER BLANKETS

The Pastoral Care Department of Doylestown Hospital has sent a letter to Pastor Fogal indicating the on-going need for handmade prayer blankets. Hospital Chaplains give the blankets to terminally ill patients during the last days of life to provide comfort, warmth, and peace.

If you knit or crochet, consider making a blanket that can be of any pattern, color, or type of yarn and measures 30" X 54". Fleece blankets having a layer of fleece backed by flannel are also appreciated. Members of our church family have created many blankets over the Winter months, with Jeanne Brown crocheting seven! In the recent letter from the Chaplains' office, gratitude has been expressed to our church family for providing these very meaningful gifts to terminally ill patients. Chaplains have indicated the blankets are kept by family members after the passing of their loved one as a reminder of the kindness and caring of community members who make the blankets.

Cost of yarn and fabric for the blankets will be reimbursed with Mission funds. Please give blankets and receipts for supplies to Barbara Burger who will facilitate reimbursement and deliver blankets to the hospital.

Barbara Burger,  
Missions Coordinator, 215-345-1548



## WHAT'S THE BOOK GROUP DOING?

We enjoyed a great pre-Easter theme gathering.

Our discussion about radical Islam was lively and we did a lot of comparing world religions' beliefs to ours at CUCC. Despite the heavy topic of jihad we did manage a lot of laughter- must have been because we digressed so many times! We got scientific when talking about what happens to marshmallow peeps in a microwave! Do you know the answer?

After reading about the serious side of jihad we decided to read something light for our next selection. Our next book is *My Third Husband Will Be a Dog* by Lisa Scottolini. (You're smiling already, right?) We'll meet at Barb Gunn's home at 301 Blackberry Circle in Buckingham Springs on **Monday, May 16 at 9:15** to discuss it. Join us for some wonderful fellowship. You'll leave wearing a smile- guaranteed.



## THANK YOU!

Many thanks to Jeanne Brown and her assistants, Sandy Emmett and her daughter, Theresa; Barb and Dave Gunn and Dave DeMaria, for the gorgeous, sweet smelling floral display in the sanctuary on Easter. What a beautiful gift it was!

\*\*\*\*\*

Thanks to the children of J. LeRoy and Eleanor Price for the new palms which decorated the altar on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. They were given in loving memory of John R. and Reba Price; Grace Price; Ruth Price Magill and J. LeRoy and Eleanor Price.



## WITH SYMPATHY

Karen Messick recently passed away. Our heartfelt sympathy to Dean and Karen's family. Longtime members will remember Karen's fantastic storytelling skills at Church School and Women's Fellowship activities. God bless you all.



## PRAISING HANDS

Here is a list of those who would benefit from receiving cards. We encourage you all to reach out to these people as it will mean a lot.

### Card List for May

Catherine Halper- PO Box 564, Lahaska, PA 18931

Pearl Howard - c/o Future Care Chesapeake, Room 208, 305 College Parkway, Arnold, MD 21012

Judy and Frank LeVien-6264 Pt. Pleasant Pike, Doylestown, PA 18902

Jim & Sally Seeton- 1850 Lower Mountain Road West, Furlong, PA 18925

Gordon Keckeissen- 555 N. Broad St., #508A, Doylestown, PA 18901

Jack and Patsy King- 503 Windrush Bay Dr., Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rev. Robert E. Fogal, PhD.  
Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. ~ 1:00 p.m.  
and by appointment.

Email: [pastorfogal@gmail.com](mailto:pastorfogal@gmail.com)

Cell phone: 610-945-4955

Lynn Bullock, Organist  
Email: [lynnbullock8@gmail.com](mailto:lynnbullock8@gmail.com)  
Cell phone: 215-260-1569

Chris Ochadlick, Office Admin.  
Office phone: 215-297-5166  
Email: [carversvilleucc@gmail.com](mailto:carversvilleucc@gmail.com)

Email: [carversvilleucc@gmail.com](mailto:carversvilleucc@gmail.com)  
Website: [CarversvilleUCC.org](http://CarversvilleUCC.org)  
Facebook.com/[carversvilleucc](https://www.facebook.com/carversvilleucc)

3736 Aquetong Road, PO Box 26  
Carversville, PA 18913  
Office phone: 215-297-5166



*Remembering our Mothers*

*Sunday, May 8*



GRADUATES

We would love to know if you have any graduates this year. Please submit your information to Cathy and Sue to share in the June newsletter.



## TREASURER'S TROVE

Submitted by Cheryl Costella

### *Non-Cash Donations*

I want to thank everyone who donates either monetarily or with their time and/or talent. Another way that some people help is with non-cash donations; whether it is paint for the conference room, stamps for checks we pay, or mulch for the flower beds.

The way non-cash donations work is pretty simple. But, just like cash donations, they should be reported to the church so they can be included on your statement for tax purposes. I know that with tax changes in the last few years many benefit from standard instead of itemized deductions and may think that your non-cash donations aren't important for your purposes.

But not tracking non-cash donations make it harder for us to know how much it actually costs to run the church. For instance, I just use my personal postage stamps to mail checks to pay church bills. I never report that as a donation, but I should.

So, I have a solution to make it easier for everyone! I printed up non-cash donation receipts for anyone to use. They are a two-part ticket, like the raffle ones we use for the quilts. You can find them on the table by the collection plate with the generic offering envelopes. Thanks to Chris, there are also some in each pew.

The right side of the ticket you would fill out with your name, what you donated, how much it cost and the date. Then you just drop it in the collection plate and Cathy Price, the financial secretary, will record it on your statement. The left side of the ticket you attach to the receipt for what you purchased and keep for your records. The directions are all on the non-cash donation tickets at church. I'll be showing an example during church as well.

### *A couple of comments:*

1. The church does not need copies of your receipts for items purchased, you need them for your taxes.
2. Any non-cash donations are valued by the donor, not the church. This is an IRS rule. If it is a new item, the receipt cost is the amount of the donation. If it isn't a new item, you can use an appraisal value or thrift store value.
3. The donation of time is not reportable unless it is something you do for a living. It is a little more complicated and you can check the IRS rules.

Should you have any questions on donations, the IRS provides many resources and can be some entertaining reading or if you are trying to sleep. Head to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) and search for donations or look up:

- Pub 526: Charitable Donations
- Pub 561: Determining the Value of Donated Property

