

## **CHURCH HAPPENINGS**

### **CHOIR**

The choir will continue to sing through the month of May and we will have special music most Sundays throughout the summer. We are always looking for new suggestions of singers and musicians to fill these weeks. If you know of anyone that could be asked, please see that Rose Griest gets their name and number to call. Thanks in advance.

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

The One Great Hour of Sharing collection was \$542.00 and \$147.00 of that was from the Fish Boxes. A big thank you to Ken Garver for counting all of that change!

### **DEACONS**

At our April meeting we prepared 10 birthday cards, 16 thinking of you cards and one anniversary card.

### **MEMBER ADDRESS CHANGES**

Lindsey Neiss – 215 Wendover Way, Lancaster, PA 17603

### **MIDDLE OCTORARA PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

#### ***Celebration of Mothers Banquet***

Join us as we celebrate Mothers. Ladies, you either are a Mother, are a Daughter, are someone's Aunt or are someone's Niece or Grand-daughter. No matter how you are connected to the women in your life, we invite you to share a meal and an evening with us on Saturday, May 12, 2018. The meal is cooked and served (by the men of the congregation) at 6 PM. At 7 PM we will be amused, encouraged and blessed by the words we hear from our speaker, Tawn Battiste, of Woohoo Ministries. Cost for the evening is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children under 10. If you would like to attend, please contact the church secretary, Deb Hoover at 717-786-8284 or 717-786-3402.

**Frozen Corn** – The bags of frozen corn in the church freezer are available to anyone who would like to use it for making soup or meals for shut-ins. Please call Shirley Miller with any questions 717-786-3690.

*Clothing Give Away – Make use of those rainy days by sorting through your clothing. We are beginning to collect clothing, shoes and other accessories for our annual Clothing Give Away in August. Please help us out by labeling the bags/boxes you bring to the church as to the gender and size. For example, a bag could be labeled – Mens Large.*

*Many folks in the community look forward to and benefit greatly from this event. Thank you in advance for your donations and help.*

## **SESSION**

*At our April meeting the Session voted to contribute from the Session/ Benevolence Fund to these local Missions: Solanco Post Prom, Solid Rock Youth Ministries, Quarryville Library, North Star Initiatives, Shiloh Presbyterian Church of Oxford, and a local family need. It is because of our church members generosity that we are able to help others. THANK YOU*

*Sunday June 3rd there will be a covered dish luncheon following the worship service and then we will split into small groups to share ideas to help Session complete our Ministry Information Form. This is the first step to proceed in the search for our next Pastor. Please bring a generous covered dish, stay for lunch and share your ideas in relaxed small group settings.*

*Sunday June 10th we will hold a Congregation meeting immediately following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect the Pastor Nominating Committee.*

## **TRUSTEES**

*The Board of Trustees continues to try to take care of the church property. We were recently advised by the company that cleans the furnaces that the oil tanks in the manse and at the Lundy house are badly rusted and should be replaced. We decided to go ahead with this to avoid any leakage of fuel oil in the houses. We also will be painting the pastor's study in preparation for a new pastor. Even if you can't see it, we do things behind the scenes to avoid major problems and to spruce things up and the donations to the building fund are helpful.*

## MISSIONS

### *Peru Mission Update*

*We have received word from Pastor Johel of our sister church in Tamshiyacu, Peru that he has resigned effective April 30th. The reason is his wife Betty is ill and must remain in Iquitos for treatment. This makes it very difficult for Pastor Johel to lead the folks in Tamshiyacu as it is an hour away from Iquitos.*

*Please pray for God's healing touch to be upon Betty.*

*Also pray for our brothers and sisters in Tamshiyacu as they seek God's guidance to provide their next Pastor.*

## MISSION MUSINGS

*As I reflect back on the month of April I am reminded of Easter and a few other events at Middle Octorara. Of course April 1st was Easter and we began the day on the hill across the road at the foot of the crosses. There in the beauty of God's great creation we praised, thanked and worshiped our Risen Saviour. What a great place and time to reflect on what Christ has done and continues to do for each of us.*

*We also hosted the Flowing Oil Cafe in April. This is a multi church ministry to serve, inviting anyone to come for a free meal and to fellowship with one another. The meals are held twice a month from September through May at several churches in the area. Those who organize and support this ministry are heeding the call from Jesus to feed My sheep, both physically and spiritually.*

*Another event held at Middle Octorara this month was our annual yard sale. This event was started as a fundraiser by the youth over 20 years ago. This year we had even more donations than usual and were so thankful for all the folks who donated items. We were also very thankful for the folks who spent many hours sorting and pricing hundreds of items. We also thank the Boy Scouts who made many trips up the steps bringing many things from downstairs.*

*It is truly a blessing to me to see folks working together to make this fundraiser a success.*

*This year the proceeds will once again support our work with our Sister church in Tamshiyacu Peru. Our profit this year from the yard sale is over \$1900.00!!!*

*Although no one from Middle Octorara will be making the trip to Peru this summer, my brother Dave and folks from 1st Presbyterian Church Jefferson City, MO will be going for two weeks in June. Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Tamshiyacu because through our support the work and witness will continue in Tamshiyacu. Dave will be sending updates while they are in Peru and I will be passing those updates along to you.*

*During this time of transition at M O. we have been blessed by our members using the gifts God has given them to step up even more and serve. We are also thankful for Rev. Andrew Wirt sharing with us and leading us in worship.*

*Continue to pray for our church (God's church) and ask God what He wants you to do with the gifts you have been given. Our responsibility, privilege and mission is to spread the message of love and salvation offered through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. There is no greater commandment than to love God with your heart, soul, mind and strength and to love your neighbor as yourself. For as God has richly blessed us may we continue to bless others.*

*John 21: 15-17*

*Dan Henry*

## REFLECTIONS

by Barry Girvin

*“History is about people and time” David McCullough*

*Time can be our enemy or our friend. As we make history at this critical period of transition at Middle Octorara, we must use time efficiently.*

*In regard to planning our summer Bible School (June 17-21) – curriculum, public relations, volunteers, facilities – it is enough to rattle your brain. However, we must act fast or time will surely be our enemy. The Christian Education Committee will meet on Sunday, May 13, after church in the Welcome Center. I can guarantee the planning for the meeting will be well organized and no time will be wasted. Please, all who see value in moving Christian Education forward, come and help keep ahead of time.*

*On the other hand, efficient use of time in selecting a new minister means turning a blind eye to the passing of time. Moving step by step through the process, we need to use as much time as it takes to do it right. Retired pastors Richard and Mary Brondyke have been hired to do visiting and we have been able to supply the pulpit. So, no panic!*

*As the process moves forward you will understand what needs to be done, and you will need to give serious consideration to your level of involvement. The first step – the Congregation will be asked to complete a survey. Do not regard this as needless paperwork. Put your heart and soul into answering the questions. We all pray that God will bring the pastor that we desire. The surveys will help develop a consensus on what we desire. Stay involved, and pray for a bright future at Middle Octorara.*

## THIS- N-THAT

MAY 15TH IS CHOCOLATE CHIP DAY



### *An Accidental Invention*

*Also sometimes called chocolate morsels, rumor has it that chocolate chips were invented by Ruth Wakefield at the Toll House Inn in Whitman, Massachusetts. According to the legend, the creation of the chips was an accident – out of chocolate powder while making cookies for guests, Ruth chopped up some chocolate and added it to the cookie dough. She found that the chocolate did not melt as she had expected, and the chocolate chip and the chocolate chip cookie was born.*

### *Named After the Inn*

*After chocolate chip cookies became popular and successful, Nestlé made an agreement with Ruth to add her chocolate chip cookie recipe to the packaging of their chocolate bars. Nestlé's brand, Toll House Cookies, is named after Toll House Inn.*

*Today, chocolate chips are a popular ingredient in a baker's pantry and they are used extensively in cookies, cakes, ice creams and a variety of other desserts.*

### *How to Celebrate?*

*Make a batch of chocolate chip cookies!*

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### May birthdays starting with the 6th

- 7 – Julia Reinhart, Wes Girvin
- 9 – Sam Reinhart, Sharon Wallace
- 10 – Andrew Dalmas
- 17 – Cathy (Lamparter) Snyder
- 25 – Barry Girvin
- 27 – Rose Griest, Alyssa (Girvin) Armstrong
- 30 – Ernest Girvin, Christy (Frackman) Heidinger
- 31 – Madison Deming

### May anniversaries starting with the 6th

- 10 – Herb & Carol Girvin
- 21 – Amanda & Tom Evans, Sue & Mike Herr



# TREASURER'S REPORT

## GENERAL FUND & BENEVOLENCE FINANCES

*April 2018*

The following is the individual weekly breakdown of offerings:

April 1 -	General Fund	1,455.00	Benevolence	82.00
April 8 -	General Fund	1,979.00	Benevolence	182.00
April 15 -	General Fund	1,776.10	Benevolence	143.00
April 22 -	General Fund	1,911.00	Benevolence	275.00
April 29 -	General Fund	1,446.00	Benevolence	103.00

An additional \$2,247.64 General Fund money, including manse rental was also received.

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In April we started to pay the groundskeeper and we also had local taxes to pay on the manse. Even though we had 5 Sunday's we ended the month with a smaller than normal balance. This balance isn't enough to start the month of May with, so I requested \$5,000.00 from the Cemetery Fund which will be received in the first week. That fund pays a portion of the yearly mowing bill.

### YTD GENERAL FUND & BENEVOLENCE FINANCES

	Monthly Budget	YTD Budget	Monthly Received	YTD Received	YTD Expenses
General Fund	13,812.85	46,963.69	10,814.74	42,303.31	46,419.45
Benevolence	615.40	2,092.36	785.00	2,690.00	

Debbie Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer





## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Subject to change)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 6	May 7	May 8 ROMEO Club 9:00 a.m. Trustee Mtg. 7:00 p.m.	May 9	May 10 Session mtg. 7:00 p.m.	May 11	May 12 Mother's banquet 6:00 p.m.
May 13 	May 14	May 15 ROMEO Club 9:00 a.m.	May 16	May 17	May 18	May 19
May 20	May 21	May 22 ROMEO Club 9:00 a.m.	May 23	May 24	May 25	May 26
May 27	May 28 	May 29 ROMEO Club 9:00 a.m.	May 30	May 31	June 1	June 2