

The Heavenly Herald

“We will share the love of our Lord, building on our past, reaching in faith toward our future.”

A letter from the Pastor...

JULY, 2023

“For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.” – Galatians 5:1

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As a Pastor, a lot of people are surprised to find out that my favorite holiday of the year is the 4th of July. I love the chance to cookout with family, play lawn games, see incredible fireworks displays, and of course the celebration of our Freedom. But if I’m honest, none of those is the #1 reason why it’s my favorite holiday. If you want to know why it’s my favorite holiday you’ll have to stop in and ask me!

This month of July we are going to take a closer look at what is really means to be free in Christ. Free from sin, free from death, free to new life, free to forgive others as we have been forgiven. I hope you will take time each day this month to give thanks to God for the freedoms that you have. But, I especially hope you take advantage of the freedom to worship without fear of persecution.

Whether you are home all summer and can join together each week in person for worship, or you find yourself travelling throughout the country or across the globe and join us for online worship, don’t take your freedom to worship for granted!

Wherever you may find yourself this July I hope you have a wonderful STAYcation!

STAY Tuned In!
STAY In Touch!
STAY Involved!

In Christ,
Pastor Ben

**First United
Presbyterian Church**
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Ben Libert**
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Clerk of Session
Sandy Wallace

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Robin Spiker

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BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

July 1st	Stacey Simpson	July 1st	Jonnie Swarow
July 2nd	Meghan Cline	July 3rd	Tony Putorti
July 3rd	Marsha Mason	July 3rd	Adalyne Brown
July 4th	Elaine Bigler	July 5th	Derek McIlvaine
July 7th	Brian Bayne	July 7th	Keegan Decker
July 8th	Sami Bell	July 9th	Stephanie Wylie
July 9th	Miles Greely	July 11th	Bob Blough Sr.
July 11th	Ethan Shober	July 11th	Dexter Demian
July 12th	Kara Petras	July 12th	Dean Shober
July 12th	Patrick Zeni	July 13th	Kristin McCarty
July 13th	Gary Thomas Swarow	July 15th	Brad Patsch
July 15th	JJ Williams	July 15th	Connor Washabaugh
July 16th	Terry Craig	July 16th	Vicky Lesjak
July 17th	Heather Bogart	July 17th	Austin Schoppe
July 18th	Susan Gervasio	July 19th	Debbie McFarland
July 19th	Betty Wylie	July 20th	Dan Browning
July 20th	Shana Brown	July 21st	Joanie Bish
July 21st	Dustin Westcott	July 21st	Haley Steere
July 23rd	Jill Vintorini	July 25th	Tricia Fee
July 25th	Austin Wittik	July 26th	Pat Goldbach
July 30th	Ben Brown	July 30th	Shannon Rungo
July 30th	Addison Durkacs	July 31st	Virginia Bayne



July 6th - Mark & Jayme Marshall
 July 22nd - Duane & Christy Valley
 July 25th - Bob & Audrey Washabaugh
 July 25th - Rich & Diane Puskarich
 July 26th - Ben & Shana Brown
 July 28th - Rich & Jill Harshman

July 16th - Ron & Emily Anestis
 July 24th - Grier & Diane Adamson
 July 25th - Bill & Ruth Plunkett
 July 26th - Chuck & Emily Homitz
 July 27th - Matthew & Carly Campbell
 July 29th - Ralph & Mary Lou Patsch Jr.

PRAYER LIST

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS:

Mindy Kelley, Brandon Craig, Darren Spiker, Cat Morgan, Rev. Don Austin, Millie Romeo, Tim Lynch, Melanie Donahoo, William Young, Patti Nagy, Ronnie Casper, JoAnn Pitcock, Amanda, Matthew Scears, Brad Pitcock, Brian Baumgardner, Bill Brown, Sophia Desmond, and Bill Ensley.



JULY PRAYER REQUEST:

Baby Emilia Lemon, Marion Marcase, Bo Lesjak, Jeannie Volkar, MaryAnn Clark, Curtis Marcase, Diane Adamson, Howard Lovell, Jeff Brown, Rev. Peggy Shannon, Nancy Hofrichter, Inez Patsch, John Orlando, Daralyn Campbell, Susan Stonebraker, Jill & Rich Harshman, Joey Dudam, Jeff Van Fozmire, Darlene Dunn, Michael Kanotz, Frank Zaccone, Jacob Braun, Cory Clark, and Carole Borda.



PLEASE ALSO PRAY FOR:

**Pastor Ben and our Houston Church Leaders,
Our Nation and our Nation's Leaders, and
all unspoken requests of our church family.**

**August Newsletter Articles
due by Friday, July 21, 2023.**

SERVING THE CHURCH IN JULY 2023

Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, July 2, 2023.

GREETERS

Deacon Greeters:

July 2nd -

Dodie Hanna (MV)
Marianne Blough (GV)
Libby Young (GH)

July 9th -

Janice Bloesel (MV)
Emily Homitz (GV)
Libby Young (GH)

July 16th -

Mary Skirpan (MV)
Haley Steere (GV)
Libby Young (GH)

July 23rd -

Virginia Bayne (MV)
Nancy Isiminger (GV)
Libby young (GH)

July 30th -

Lala Patsch (MV)
Inez Patsch (GV)
Libby young (GH)

Elder Greeters:

July 2nd -

Sandy Wallace (MV)
Pastor Ben (GV)
Jonnie Swarow (GH)

July 9th -

Pastor Ben (MV)
Linda Young (GV)
Stacey Simpson (GH)

July 16th -

Gloria Schmalz (MV)
Sandy Wallace (GV)
Pastor Ben (GH)

July 23rd -

Pastor Ben (MV)
Linda Young (GV)
Bob Blough (GH)

July 30th -

Harlan Shober (MV)
Pastor Ben (GV)
Sandy Wallace (GH)

Music: Karen Jones

Audiovisual: Leon Young

Liturgist: Kayleigh Valley

Money Counters:

July - Bob Blough & Gloria Schmalz
August - Bob Blough & Karen Jones

July Acolytes:

July 2nd - Mako Morgan
July 9th - Mako Morgan
July 16th - Eden Jeffers
July 23rd - Gary Swarow
July 30th - Julia Swarow

NURSERY SCHEDULE:

July 2nd - Sarah Wallace July 9th - Marianne Blough
July 16th - Sandy Wallace July 23rd - Sandy Wallace
July 30th - Jonnie Swarow

DEACONS NEWS



ANNUAL CHURCH SERVICE/PICNIC

**Join us for a Special Service and the Annual Picnic
August 20, at Arnold Park Pavilion.**

The Worship Service will begin at 10:00am

Picnic 11:30am, right after the Worship Service.

Hope you can come for one or both events.

Deacons will be supplying Chicken, Hot Dogs and Drinks.

Covered dishes are welcome!



**The Deacons continue to support the food pantry, our numerous
Mission Projects, and keeping in touch with the Shut-Ins
and College Students.**

Blessings - Virginia Bayne - Moderator

**Yes, we are still collecting pop tabs for the Ronald
McDonald House. Containers are in the fellowship hall!
Thanks you.**



**Remember, August 26th - Rise Against Hunger,
West Alexander Fair Grounds.**

Anyone need RADA - please see Nancy Isiminger!

2023 Barnabas Award

It is time to apply for our church's Barnabas Award! Students who are pursuing post-high school education are invited to apply, this includes student continuing in their post-high school programs (upper classmen).

Two scholarships will be awarded, one to a first year student and one to a continuing student. Each scholarship is \$1000.00 per year, payable in two installments.



philipmartin.com

**The deadline to submit your information is
1:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 9, 2023.**

Instruction packets are available by calling the Church Office at 724-746-3040 and will be mailed to you.

**The awards will be presented at the Sunday service on
August 6, 2023.**

Barnabas was a missionary whose name means “son of encouragement.” We want to encourage our students to continue their education.

Washington Presbytery Picnic

-JULY 11-

**Thompson Hill Park - Shelter #4
West Middletown, PA**

Enjoy fellowship, music, games, and great food! Guests and children are welcome.
[Click Here to RSVP Online](#) by July 5th.

4:00 Fellowship – 4:30 Meal – 5:30 Program

Hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks will be provided. Please bring a covered dish to share (Last Name A-O: Side Dish, Last Name P-Z: Dessert)



Vacation Bible School

Look for more pictures in the August Newsletter!



PASTOR BEN'S JULY READINGS

VBS CELEBRATION!

JULY 2, 2022

5th Sunday after Pentecost
Communion Sunday

Psalm 13:1-6

Romans 6:12-23

"A Free Advantage"

JULY 9, 2022

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Romans 7:15-25a

Matthew 11:16-30

"That Thing You Do!"

JULY 16, 2022

7th Sunday After Pentecost

Psalm 119:105-112

Romans 8:1-11

"On the Right Track"

JULY 23, 2022

8th Sunday After Pentecost

Psalm 139:-12, 23-24

Romans 8:12-25

"The Freedom of Hope"

JULY 30, 2022

9th Sunday After Pentecost
Healing and Anointing Sunday

Romans 8:26-39

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52


"To Tell the Truth"



JULY 2023

July Committee
Meetings as needed

Regular Eventss
Worship -10:00am

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1-
2- Communion Sunday	3	4- Office Closed 	5-	6-	7-	8-
9-	10-	11- Washington Presbytery Picnic 4pm	12-	13-	14-	15-
16-	17-	18-	19-	20-	21-	22-
23-	24-	25-	26-	27-	28-	29-
30-	31-					



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 102 North Main Street
 Houston, PA 15342

Address Service Requested

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 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Houston, PA 15342

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 724-746-3040

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 1379pbl@gmail.com

Secretary Ext: 310
 secretary@houstonpresbyterian.org

Meals on Wheels Ext: 314
Open Door Nursery Ext: 311

Website
 houstonpresbyterian.org

Sunday School
 Sunday School Begins
 Sept. 18th at 10:00am

Sunday Worship Service
September — May at 11:00 a.m.
 Nursery Available
 June-July-August at 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study
 Tuesdays
 10:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

Gifts and Offerings

First United Presbyterian Church
 102 North Main Street
 Houston, PA 15342



Member Visitor

Name _____ No. _____

Please apply my offering as follows:

Regular Offering	\$ _____
Deacons Fund	\$ _____
Building Fund	\$ _____
Special Project	\$ _____

Memorial Fund \$ _____

In Memory of _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Thank you for your generous gift.