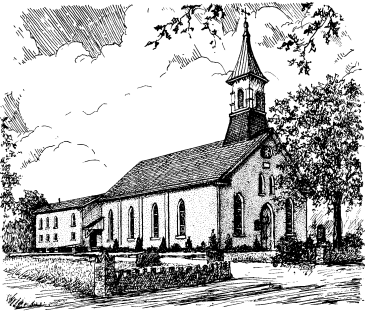


Saint Luke's

United Church of Christ of Trappe

July 2020 Newsletter



Rev. John Hogue
Office – 610-489-4933

Office email - administrator@stlukestrappe.org

www.stlukesucc.org

Worship Schedule

pastorjohn@stlukestrappe.org

© 610-291-7497

Blended Service 9:30 AM

3rd Sunday of Mo. Healing Service 9:30 AM

Sunday school 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month.

REV. JOHN'S MUSINGS

Let me go back in time. Not too long, but only six months ago when the virus outbreak hadn't occurred yet. I was complaining about the 422 traffic, and upset that the supermarket next to my house did not have my favorite deodorant.

Soon after, due to the pandemic, America was under lockdown like many others. When I was indoors, I realized how beautiful and blessed I was to have the life which I otherwise assumed was regular and usual. Little did I know that I was taking things for granted and complaining about the most trivial problems.

When I look back now, I notice many special areas of life whose importance I failed to understand earlier.

1. Freedom

I had the choice to go wherever I wished and do whatever I wanted.

I had the freedom to live life like I wanted to. No holds barred, and no questions asked. It was my life and my choice.

Staying indoors has taught me losing control of the fundamental aspects of your life makes you uncomfortable. These are the things we consider usual and expected. We only realize the value of them when they vanish.

2. Comfort

Life and technology have evolved by leaps and bounds over the years. In fact, life today is drastically different from what it was a decade ago. Back then, you needed to carry a digital camera for photos, self-driving cars hadn't hit the road yet, and group messages were not even a thing.

Now, we enjoy so many benefits from the comfort of our couch. You can order food, get your car washed, or send a package to your friend without stepping outside your front door.

(CONTINUED ON PAGES 4 AND 5)

July Scripture Readings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
July 5	Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49	Psalm 45:10-17	Romans 7:15-25a	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
July 12	Genesis 25:19-34	Psalm 119:105-112	Romans 8:1-11	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
July 19	Genesis 28:10-19a	Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24	Romans 8:12-25	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
July 26	Genesis 29:15-28	Psalm 119:129-136	Romans 8:26-39	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
Aug. 2	Genesis 32:22-31	Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21	Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 14:13-21

SERMON SERIES

July 5	“Any Means...”	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
July 12	“What Are You Hearing?”	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
July 19	“Warning!”	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
July 26	“All In A Day’s Work”	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



ATTENTION

Our Annual Congregational Meeting was on Sunday June 14, 2020 via Zoom.



WOMEN’S BREAKFAST

Due to the Corona Virus there will be no Women’s Breakfast this month

MEN’S BREAKFAST

Due to the Corona Virus there will be no Men’s Breakfast this month



A BLESSINGS BOX

We will be initiating a Blessings Box where you can donate a monetary gift for a Blessing you have had in your life. It could be a blessing that you have each week or a blessing that came to you all of a sudden and you would like to be thankful for the event. The monies will be placed in an account that at the end of the year the Council will designate where the funds will go; someone needy or to an organization that is doing good for the community. This will appear again when we reconvene.

CHURCH LIFE IS STILL PLANNING

Hopefully the Virus will be over by this time.

We are planning a bus trip on **Saturday, September 19th**. It will be a trip to Hummelstown, a boat ride, a train ride and after all this excitement there will be dinner, cost to be forth coming closer to the date.

THINK ABOUT IT

BE AN ORGAN DONOR. GIVE YOUR HEART TO JESUS.



July 3 Ashley Salerno
July 5 Janet Kimmich
Roy Linkenhoker, Jr.
Mike Duncan

July 7 Jacob Conrad
July 19 Gordon MacElhenny
July 23 Anne White
Becci Richardson
Lauren Brand

KEEPING IN TOUCH!!

One of the good things that has come from COVID-19 is our live streaming. Several folks have expressed interest in continuing this vital service. We will have to figure out music for licensing over the internet so we do not get ourselves into a legal situation. Also we would have to use two different computers - one for the live stream and another one for the power point projection. This will be an ongoing progress to find a solution.

Also for those who do not have internet capabilities and cannot be in touch with this service, we have come up with a solution where you can call in on a free conference call and listen to the worship service.

This is how it works: Participant instructions - (that's you)
You dial this number - **(701) 802-5032** and you will be prompted by a message to enter the St. Luke's Access Code which you enter in the numbers of the access code **7820699#**.

Thanks! Keeping you connected! Pastor John

A THANK YOU

GEIGER MEMORIAL

Brethren Church

REV. ANTHONY DIBENEDETTO, JR., *Pastor*

2543 West Lehigh Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19132-3207
Telephone (215) 229-2967 Fax (215) 228-9940

April 6, 2020

Ms. Melanie Prudom
St Luke's United Church of Christ
200 West Main Street
Trappe, PA 19403

Dear Ms. Prudom and the missions team at St Luke's,

Thank you so much for your generous gift in the amount of \$138.00. As I write, we are preparing to bless our neighbors with free good the week of April 13. We work with the SHARE food program, and they requested help in distributing food, so we are going to do our best to serve as the Lord enables.

We are always looking for ways to share the love of Jesus Christ in our community through meeting tangible needs, and you can be sure that your donation will go to good use. We know that these are trying times for all of us, especially churches, and we are so grateful for your generosity, despite our present circumstances.

May the Lord sustain you and your congregation, and may you continue to serve in the strength that only he can supply (1 Peter 4:11).

With gratitude and hope,



Marco Silva, on behalf of the Geiger congregation

3. The fun outside

No matter which city you live in, you have umpteen opportunities to have fun and relax. I had the option to watch any movie I like, go bowling no matter how bad I was at it, or enjoy the adrenaline of a kart race.

Even though I had very many ways to have fun, I compared my city with others. I complained, "My city has no options to enjoy nature. I have to go miles away for a trek." When I was locked in and resorting to board games, I realize how fun-filled my city actually is.

4. The human interaction

Both introverts or extroverts need at least some form of interaction to feel connected with the rest of the world.

5. The power of teams

Before, whenever we had to solve a problem at work, we would gather in a room and exchange ideas. Many complex issues found a solution because human beings can improve on each other's thoughts to reach the desired outcome.

Today, facilitating such a conversation is a nightmare. Video conferencing tools provide a viable workaround for one on one discussions and team meetings where everyone shares updates. But they cannot replace a bunch of smart people sitting in a real room discussing ideas at tandem.

Moreover, teams who see each other every day, gel along better. The physical presence creates a bond beyond just work relationships. It is the strength of such bonds that facilitates organizations to achieve massive goals.

I realize the power of teams, even more today when they cannot operate like they used to.

6. The giant web of economy

The economy is like a huge castle constructed of many individual Lego blocks. When you take one out, you feel no difference. Take another out, still not too big of a pinch. Take a few more out, and the entire structure collapses into mayhem.

Different parts of the economy are interdependent, even if they do not seem apparent. Shutting down public transport left many people unemployed and unable to earn their daily wages. A lack of transportation implied goods couldn't flow freely. As a result, we did not have all the supplies in your supermarket.

Every contributor to the economy helps it remain steady. When everything runs well, you do not notice their contribution. When a few portions break, you understand their role in keeping the whole structure stable together.

So what have been the spiritual insights I have learned from lockdown?

The past weeks of the lockdown have taught me some invaluable lessons I will remember for the rest of my life.

(continued page 5)

REV. JOHN'S MUSINGS (CON'T)

1. Enjoy the present.

I will continue pursuing goals like before, and so should you. But while you are on this journey, don't forget to pause and experience the happiness around you.

Do not lose the sense of the present by solely focusing on the future.

2. You feel the pain only when something is missing.

Some of the things of your day to day life seem normal and expected. For example:

You expect to find all you need in a supermarket. You expect the pizza to arrive within thirty minutes

Over time, such expectations make you lose the value of little things in life. Don't take such things for granted. You never know why and how they can be snatched away from you. You only feel the pain when you lose the privilege altogether.

3. Your emotions are defined by what you choose to see.

No matter who you are, what you do, and which part of the world you belong to, you always see what you want to see. If you want to complain, you will find a ton of things around you which aren't right. If you seek happiness, you will notice so many parts of your life which are a reason to rejoice.

Everyone shows a common reaction when things go well. Someone gives a toast, people clink their glasses, and everyone dances to the music. But you cannot always control the world around you to work in your favor. The market can collapse, a natural calamity can occur, or a virus outbreak can happen. What you can control is how you respond to such calamities to stay strong. Your reaction to such events is what defines you.

The global pandemic due to COVID -19 made our lives harder. But, on the positive side, it has made us stronger.

Pastor John

QUOTES BY RICHARD PAUL EVANS

Read the Bible, it will scare the Hell out of you.

Yes, our A/C is out. But there's no A/C in hell either!

Free coffee, Everlasting life. Membership has its privileges.

Life is a puzzle. Look here for the missing PEACE.

God is the TIDE soap. He gets the stains out others left behind.

Why pay for GPS? Jesus gives direction for free.

Honk if you love Jesus. Text while driving if you want to meet him.

What is missing from CH**CH? U R

There are some questions that can't be answered by Google.

Sign broke. Message inside.



July Sunday Leader Schedule



Church Access Volunteers - Volunteers are needed to open and close the church on Sundays. Please see **Beverly Spaid** to schedule and review tasks. If you wish to be an usher/greeter please see **Brenda Kurtz** or sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

9:30 Blended Service

	<u>Lay Leader</u>	<u>Children's Time</u>	<u>Nursery</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
July 5	Tom Lloyd	Pastor John	Carrie Krentz	
July 12	Jim Narrigan	Pastor John	Leah Keyser	
July 19	Corie Bowers	Becci Richardson	Nancy Leneweaver	
July 26	Veronica Hogue	Pastor John	Carrie Krentz	
Aug. 2	Sue Linkenhoker		Leah Keyser	

Sunday Leader Scheduling Note

If you are unable to serve on your assigned day, **please find a replacement** by switching dates with someone on the schedule and contact the church office as soon as possible so we may make note of the change. **If you are unable to find a replacement, please contact the church office and we will be happy to do so.**

Articles for the Sunday bulletin are due in the church office by Wednesday. Newsletter deadline for the August Newsletter is July 22nd and mailing is July 27th.

PRAYER LIST


People in need of prayers: Linda Miller, Nick Iacorinno,

People with on-going conditions and prayer needs: Barbara and Mark Nieweg, Betty Murphy, Casey S., Debbie Parker, Eli and Ella Vivian, Elsa Thomas, Greg Kimmich, Jack Murphy, Mike Richardson, Mitzie Oxenham, Nancy Lewis, Rod Bowers, Tim Heiser and Tricia White Heiser.

DO YOU LIKE TO SHOP?

St. Luke's UCC is now registered for [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com). Go to www.smile.amazon.com and type in "St. Luke's United Church of Christ Trappe" for all your future Amazon orders and St. Luke's will receive .5% of the proceeds. Have fun shopping and THANK YOU!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 
5 9:30 Live Streaming Service 5th Sunday Pentecost	6	7 ZOOM Mtg. 6:30 Elders 7:30 Council	8	9	10	11
12 9:30 Live Streaming Service 6th Sunday Pentecost	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 9:30 Live Streaming Service 7th Sunday Pentecost Communion	20	21	22 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	23	24	25
26 9:30 Live Streaming Service 8th Sunday Pentecost Pastor John's last Sermon with St. Luke's	27 NEWSLETTER MAILING	28	29	30	31	

**ST. LUKE'S U.C.C. OF TRAPPE
200 WEST MAIN STREET
COLLEGEVILLE PA 19426-2007**

July Newsletter

**Dated Material-
Deliver Promptly**



St. Luke's Mission Statement

**Centered in God,
guided by His Word,
we share Christ's love with all.**