News & Views

Brownback’s United Church of Christ July/August 2019

Spring City, Pennsylvania

# Backpack Mission

Through the month of July, you will find our children and youth handing out backpacks in the lobby at church. We are asking that 24 families at Brownback's take home a backpack, fill it with school supplies, and return it by the last Sunday in July. The backpacks and supplies will be given to children in our local area whose families cannot afford to purchase them on their own.

**Suggested Items**: crayons, pencils, colored pencils, pens, highlighters, markers, glue sticks, scissors, rulers, lined notebook paper, 3-ring binders, post-it notes, pencil boxes, erasers, or pocket folders.

Please help us help every child start the school year with many of the tools needed for success!



## Calendar of Events

| Date | Time | Event |
| --- | --- | --- |
| July |
| 8 | 8:30 AM | Men’s Breakfast at Ridge Restaurant |
| 28 |  | Backpack donation deadline |
| August |
| 6 | 7 PM | Consistory Meeting |
| 12 | 8:30 AM | Men’s Breakfast at Ridge Restaurant |
| 17 | 9 AM | Flea Market |
| 22 |  | *News & Views* deadline |
| 25 | 11 AM | Music and Worship Meeting |

## Recurring Events

### Sunday Worship:

8:45 AM – Adult Sunday School (resumes in September)

10:00 AM –Worship Service, Worship Time for Children, Kids JAM

### Fellowship/Missions:

Community Garden – 6:00 PM, Wednesday

### Faith Formation:

Women’s Bible Study – 10:00 AM, Tuesday (resumes in September)

Men’s Breakfast – 8:30 AM, 2nd Monday

Theology on Tap (resumes in September)

### Music:

Chancel Choir (resumes in September)

Worship Ensemble Rehearsal (resumes in September)

Good News Singers Rehearsal (resumes in September)

Chancel Handbells – 6:45 PM, Wednesday

### Fellowship:

Fitness Classes – Monday/Wednesday at 8:45 AM

## Pastor’s Ponderings

With Vacation Bible School ending last week, followed by celebrating Addyson’s first birthday on Saturday and then service yesterday, June 23rd, I feel like I need a couple of days to catch up but that isn’t in the cards. The outlook I have for July and August is as follows:

I will have a few days off in the first week of July as friends from Illinois are coming to visit. Right around that time, our congregation will be celebrating the birth of two babies from moms Kaitlin Iezzi and Jennifer Wysocki. So be on the lookout for a couple of baptisms soon after! Please don’t forget to keep the dads in your prayers as they face diaper changing and lack of sleep! With the addition of a couple more babies, our nursery is expanding its number of children and we need two volunteers every Sunday. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Kris Houck, our Administrative Assistant.

During August, Brownback’s will be hosting a Flea Market on August 10th for the community. We are hoping for good weather, at the very least, no rain! Also in August, my family will be gathering for a vacation in South Carolina and then all children will be preparing to begin another school year. I can’t believe that is fast approaching and that Kim and I will have 2 in school!!

On the preaching front, we have just begun hearing from Luke’s Gospel on June 23rd and will be continuing with that for the next 20+ Sundays. There are certainly some challenging texts, and I encourage all of you to read and re-read this Gospel to be as familiar with it as possible.

And to end this article, I want to wish everyone a very happy and safe and summer with family and friends and wherever the Spirit accompanies you.

Sincerely,

*Rev. Mark Stryjak*

## Flea Market

On Saturday, **August 17** at 9 AM, Brownback's will host a Flea Market open to Brownback's members and the public. You may sign up to sell your belongings at a table, donate some baked goods for our "Brownback's Table," or come to shop. It costs $10 to sell at a table. The cost will be waived if you opt to donate your table proceeds to Brownback's Missions.

Please contact Barbara Guy or the church office to sign up for a table or to donate baked goods!

## Garden Club

The Garden Club will be meeting at the community garden **every Wednesday** at 6:00 this summer. We will pull weeds, pick vegetables, and try to solve any and all world problems.



Also, we have picked beets, strawberries, and cherries. The club will sell strawberry jam and cherry jam with proceeds going to missions.

## Men’s Breakfast

The men of the church are invited to breakfast at The Ridge Restaurant on **July 8** and **August 12** at 8:30 AM.

Breakfast is BYOB – Bring Your Own Bible. We will discuss Luke 10:25-37 in July and Luke 12:49-56 in August.



## Daily Walk With God

**9. Movement**

We have been on a journey together for the past 8 months. We have been intentional about our prayer lives, participating in different prayer practices and perhaps learning new ones. Spirituality is a journey and I don’t believe there is a destination. It is something that is always growing and changing. There are times when we feel more connected to God and times where we struggle to feel God’s presence. This is a journey that is always present in our lives if we choose to continue to develop our relationship with God. So this month we are going to continue this journey through movement. Our bodies are God’s temple and should be holy offerings to God, yet in prayer we often forget about our bodies. So this month I invite you to bring your bodies into your prayer through movement.

This can be through simple gestures as you pray (opening your arms up, lifting them up above your head, moving them out from your body). Or you can use more of your body – a combination of movements, standing, bending, kneeling, arms over your head, arms stretched out or coming together in prayer. You can also go walking or running, yoga, exercise or other motions that allow you to open up your spirit to God. As you begin your movement, focus on what is in your heart, where has God been speaking to you? Reflect on your movement – why did you choose it, what does it mean to you? How do you know God is with you through the way you live and the movements you make?

May God speak to you in new ways this month!

*--Chaplain Rev. Kimberly Stryjak*

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Brian and Kaitlin Iezzi on the birth of their son, Samuel Jacob Iezzi on July 3 at 11:59 am. Samuel weighed 6 lb 12 oz and was 19” long. Mama and baby are doing well.

## Kudos

Kudos to our following members:

### Kathryn Sweitzer

Congratulations to Kathryn and her Odyssey of the Mind (OM) team, which took second place in the world. Kathryn competed as a 5th grader at French Creek Elementary in the Spring. OM is a creative club where kids learn how to problem solve as a team, work to their strengths, and support each other as they work through complex situations. The French Creek team solved a technical problem, so they incorporated robotics and engineering into their solution. Competitions began in March at the regional level, then the state level in April, and the world level competition in May.

### Brooke Radel

Congratulations to Brooke and her teammate who took part in the K’nex Stem Challenge. They placed first out of about 20 teams. Their task was to create a (literal and figurative) support system using K’Nex and 1-2 motors. Their K’Nex system had to pick up people who are down (Lego people) and move them gently and safely to a better place. Projects were judged using the following criteria: Creativity, Teamwork, Design, Narrative, and Presentation.

## Cemetery Reminder

A friendly reminder from our Cemetery Board… Any items which are deemed a safety hazard to the lawn service or are not allowed will be removed. Thank you.

## News & Views Deadline

The deadline for the **September** issue of the
*News & Views* newsletter is **August 22**. To include information in the newsletter, you can leave information in the *News & Views* mailbox in the church lobby or email information to Penny Sallade at pennysallade@yahoo.com.

## Paper and Plastic Grocery Bags

The Spring City Food Pantry is in critical need of paper and plastic grocery bags (particularly paper bags). Please consider donating your used bags at church to be delivered to the pantry. Boxes are labeled and located under the table at the back of Fellowship Hall.



## Prayer Concerns

“And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.” –Matthew 21:22

For those who serve:

* Reed Bauer, West Point, The United States Military Academy
* Derrick Boaman, Army Reserves
* Nathaniel Cherubini, Chief Warrant Officer 3.,
United States Marine Corp. Nephew of Rick and Jeanette Francesco
* Brock Fasnacht, nephew of Doug and Sue Kandler, Army National Guard
* Paige Juliette Freeman, Trooper First Class, Delaware State Police
* Andrea Shade, second year cadet at West Point Military Academy
* Thomas Shade, 1st Lt in the 130th Engineers Brigade based in Hawaii

**Members**: Joe Kandler, Sr., Bob Keeley, Sr., Bob Miller, Thelma Nelson, Marie Painter, Diane Weaver.

**Friends of Brownback’s**: Gary Conover, Eva Diener, Grace Flynn, Alison Hughes, Sean Mahoney, Mike Sands, Craig Warwood.



## July Birthdays

We rejoice with those of our church family who are celebrating birthdays in July.

7/1 Sydney Kurtz

7/4 George Kullen

7/6 Doran Shade

7/6 George DiMarco

7/8 Jack Clark

7/8 Andrew Garson

7/9 Trent Francesco

7/10 Nancy Ryan-Idler

7/11 Mike Gdowik

7/14 Paige Freeman

7/16 Rob Keeley

7/18 Colin Clark

7/18 Casey Rau

7/20 Phyllis Prizer

7/23 Thelma Nelson

7/29 Vicky Thompson

7/30 Velma Valbert

## July Anniversaries

We congratulate the following in our church family who are celebrating wedding anniversaries in July.

7/3 Scott and Melissa Rau

7/3 Randal and Alicia Ruilova

7/13 John and Amy Stone

7/17 Mike and Anne Behe

7/21 Randy and Lorey Wiand

7/28 Bob and Eileen Jacob

7/30 Ken and Doran Shade

## August Birthdays

We rejoice with those of our church family who are celebrating birthdays in August.

8/1 Yvonne Bauer, James Schmoyer

8/2 Zack Bradley

8/3 Jill Keeley

8/4 Connie Megay

8/6 Ed Clark

8/12 Barbara Balmer, Penny Sallade,
Andrea Shade

8/13 Chadd Bauer

8/14 Rod Bauer, Trevor Ford,
Matthew Marvel

8/17 Nora Idler, Matt McCollum

8/18 Jennifer Garson

8/18 Emily Stoner

8/22 Earl Brungess

8/26 Kaitlin Iezzi

8/27 Nancy Peiffer

8/28 John Cassady, Jr., Les Schwartz

8/29 Eileen Jacob

8/30 Anna May Schrack

8/30 Josh Wiand

## August Anniversaries

We congratulate the following in our church family who are celebrating wedding anniversaries in August.

8/4 Doug and Sue Kandler

8/25 Paul and Donna Brady

8/25 Charles and JoAnn McFarland

8/26 Thomas and Kathleen Schmidt

8/27 James and Assunta Schmoyer

8/31 Rich and Linda Bauer

## Our Church Leaders

Rev. Mark Stryak, Pastor and Teacher

Barry Vining, President

Linda Raifsnider, Vice President

Amy Stone, Secretary

Anne Behe, Financial Secretary

Holly Vining, Current Treasurer

Kaitlin Iezzi, Benevolence Treasurer

Calvin Idler, Major Improvements Treasurer

#### Elders

2019 Pat Diener Linda Raifsnider

2020 Earl Brungess Barry Vining

2021 Randall Ruilova Mark Sweitzer

#### Deacons

2019 Amy Stone Judy White

2020 Derrick Boaman Kaitlin Iezzi

2021 Calvin Idler Anne Behe

#### Cemetery Board

2019 Calvin Idler Bob Jacob

2020 Rick Francesco

2021 Brian Iezzi Greg Siwik

#### Endowment Board

2019 Rich Bauer John Stone

2020 Mike Houck

2021 Bob Keeley Barry Vining

#### Our Church Staff

Kris Houck, Parish Administrator

Penny Sallade, Choir Director

Patricia Kandler, Organist

Larry Simmers, Sexton

Kaitlin Iezzi, Christian Education Chair

Greg Siwik, Cemetery Superintendent

Brownback United Church of Christ

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Address Service Requested