

# SHEHAWKEN UMC NEWSLETTER



**JULY 2017**



**Welcome Pastor Mike and Jenelle Fotta**

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## **CHURCH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- **Welcome Pastor Mike and Jenelle! We are blessed to have you in our fellowship!**
- **Thank you to Tom Nardone for replacing the carpet area that was stained in the Fellowship Hall. In order to minimize spills on the carpet in the future we are asking everyone who empties the wastebasket to move it to the kitchen before removing the bag. Thanks for your help.**
- **Don't forget the Spiritual Growth Book case in the church narthex. There are all kinds of books, including Christian fiction for adults and books for children. Feel free to help yourself and it's not necessary to return the books.**
- **There is still some fine tuning taking place with the new air conditioning system. Please let Rick or Paul know of any changes you would like to have made to the settings to make you more comfortable.**
- **Please make note of two changes of address in the church directory:**

**Len Terrell: 246 Czapnik Road, Lakewood, PA 18430**

**Richard Sanford: 2424 N. Corona Street Colorado Springs, CO 80907**

## PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAISES:

- **Continue to pray for Joyce Nyberg from the Lake Como Church. She has had two mini strokes.**
- **Eleanor Hempstead, also from the Lake Como Church, lost her brother Gaylord Doyle July 7.**
- **Joan Brown is recovering at home.**

### GREETERS AND READERS

July 16: Greeter-Alan                      Reader-Becky  
July 23   Greeter- Still Open      Reader- Still Open  
July 30   Greeter-Rick                      Reader-Mary

### AFTER CHURCH FELLOWSHIP REFRESHMENTS

July 16   Desi and Sue  
July 23   Beth Glover  
July 30   Ruth

### TRUSTEES FACILITY PREPARATION OVERSIGHT

July       Paul

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

8   Beth Glover  
10   Laura Philips  
15   Sue Knopp  
15   Mike Milko  
16   Jolene Cassidy  
19   Beth Lange

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1   Margot Stanton  
2   Ryan Dubas  
15   Judy Banks  
16   Colin Green  
21   John Kurzenberger  
29   Belkis glover  
29   Jenelle Fotta  
30   Rachel Serfilippi

*“The Lord has done  
great things for us, and  
we are filled with joy.”  
Psalm 126:3*

## CHURCH CALENDAR

- **Saturday, July 15 and every Saturday except July 22 summer choir has rehearsal at 10:00 a.m. We also meet each Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m. Come join us!**
- **Friday, July 21 from 9-Noon there will be a presort for Coats for Kids. It will be held at Stor-Mor across from the Fire Hall on Route 370. We have more than 110 bins full of clean clothes. About 70 of those are not yet sorted. Come for all or part of the morning. Coats for Kids could also use cash donations to help to pay for laundry, storage and storage bins. There will also be another presort on Saturday, July 29 from 9-Noon. Please call Rick Hoff at 570/798-2618 if you have any questions. Thank you for your support.**
- **Sunday, July 23 the Shehawken and Lake Como MANNA will meet at the Lake Como Church after the worship service.**
- **Sunday, July 30 at 5:50 p.m. is the Youth MANNA Summer Concert at the Lakewood Fireman’s Field.**
- **Saturday, August 26 from 4-6:30 p.m. is the Chicken and Biscuit Supper. Take outs will be available.**
- **September 3 at 8:00 a.m. there will be a Shehawken Trustees meeting.**

Shehawken UMC,

We are so happy to be serving our Lord at the Lake Como and Shehawken United Methodist churches! For those reading this that were not at the July 2<sup>nd</sup> service, I stated that when Jenelle and I received this appointment we were struck with a little trepidation – you want us to go where? Immediately after our meeting with the district superintendent, we were on our phones, not calling loved ones, but figuring out where on earth Shehawken was! As many of you know, each church has a profile complete with average attendance, ministry shares, mission statement, etc. When we got to the 'Ministries of the Congregation' section we were blown away. How is it that two small congregations can do so much? We are quickly finding that out each day as we get to know all of you. Knowing that we were going into community where God's word is proclaimed to northern Wayne county by mission, dedication, and faith washed away all fears of going into a provincial hinterland and filled us with joy in going to a hinterland filled with providence.

The very next day after meeting with Reverend Hartmann we took the hour drive from Moscow to Shehawken to see for ourselves what lay in store for us. We were awed by the beauty of both churches and thrilled with the appearance of the parsonage; it was a week later that we toured the interior of all three buildings and we were not disappointed. I have commented to many of you of how impressed we are by the upkeep of the church facilities and how proud this community must be of what they built.

Of course the mark of a Christian is not tucked away in an amazing building, nor is it earned by the earnest missions to the community; a Christian is set apart from this world by a relationship with Christ that forms a mindset and transformed heart. Here there are no capital building projects that can be completed nor are there yearly ministries that have finished; building a God-centered community is created by each of us – one by one. It is our neighbors seeing our transformed lives, seeing how we love, and knowing where we put God in our busy lives. The church and its outreach are expressions of our converted lives and not the lives themselves.

We all have a job to do. The list of congregational ministries will be completed this year, the grass will be cut, the audio system will be better, there will be plenty of coats for kids, and our ministry shares will be achieved. There will be pies to bake, pews to paint, and fellowship to be had. In the midst of yearly church life these will get done. But there is something greater than these – that is you. Will God, this summer, see you commit yourself to Bible reading? Will you decide to make prayer a daily part of you? Are you going to resist sin in your life and serve righteousness? These are individual choices that can change a life, a life can change a family, a family can change a circle of friends, a circle of friends can change a community, a community can change a world.

It begins with us. If we think that what we are doing now is amazing – imagine what we can do if each one of us decides to become committed followers of Christ Jesus by truly offering our lives to Him. What can we achieve for Him in northern Wayne County when we invite our neighbors into our homes to explain what Christ did for us, or take them to our church to hear the word proclaimed?

I encourage all of you this summer: 'Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds.' (Romans 12:2) Make time to pray, to read, to memorize scripture, to talk with your family and neighbors. He is ready to start that relationship with you. We can build something great together.

Yours in Christ,  
Mike