

Sewickley United Methodist Church

June 2021 Minutes

From The Pastor's Heart

Did you know that June is the most popular month for weddings to happen? The reason is the month of June was named after the goddess Juno. Juno is said to be the protector of women in all things, but especially in marriage and child-bearing. Marriage is a time when one season of our lives end and another one begins. For some the couple moves in together for the first time and fully join and commit their lives to each other. It is an exciting time of the celebration of the love two people have for each other. June is a popular month for a lot of new beginnings. This means June is a popular month for a lot of goodbyes as well. People graduate and move away. People end one season of jobs and start new careers. For the United Methodist Church this is the month many pastors say goodbye to their church and hello to a new one. It was this time last year that you all had a similar celebration to that of a wedding. Sewickley United Methodist Church celebrated the love they have for Pastor Russel Shuluga and welcomed in another. Like weddings, it was a beautiful display of love, but unlike weddings, it was actually a time to say goodbye.

I know this past year has had its challenges, much like the first year of marriage brings. You can think of our relationship like an arranged marriage. Yes, we prayed for each other, and I have no doubt God was the arranger, but all new relationships that are worth anything have to be worked on. Over this past year we have gotten to know a bit more about each other. We have laughed together and cried together. We have seen some odd behaviors from one another and embraced some new ways of doing things. You have no doubt decided there are some things you like and some things you don't. I have done the same. That is a part of any healthy relationship. Marriage is not about fitting perfectly together (not to say we don't 😊), but it's about compromise and commitment.

After a year of being together (I know, July really marks the 1 year mark, but I came in June) I want to offer up these commitments to you:

1. I will continue to listen to you.
 - a. We are not at a stage in our relationship where I am ready to make any big changes. I want to know what your heart beats for. I want to know who you are, not just on the outside but on the inside too.
 - b. Please consider signing up for one of the PORCH PARTY time slots as a way to get to know each other better.
2. I will continue to be a safe place for you.
 - a. So many have come to me with comments, concerns and just to talk. I LOVE that! I am here for you. And I am a safe place for you to bring to me whatever you need to say and to be held in confidence. Even if your concern is with me or something I have done or said or am doing, I am here to 1. Listen!
 - b. My email address is pastor@sewicklyumc.org. My phone number is 412-294-7587 (call or text!) Please don't hesitate to contact me!
3. I will take risks on your behalf and make mistakes graciously.
 - a. You might wonder how making mistakes can be a commitment that benefits you in any way. Mistakes are a great way for us to learn from each other and just to learn overall. If we know how to fail graciously and learn from it, then we will actually never fail!

Continued next page

Pastor Hannah's availability: I am available Tuesday through Friday, 8:45 am to 4:45 pm. On Sundays I am available following the church service till 4 p.m. If I am not in the office, I can be reached via my cell phone. I am available after-hours on my cell phone for emergencies. My email address is open 24 hours a day and, with the exceptions of Mondays, which is my day off, I will respond in a timely manner.


Church Office: (412) 741-9430
Pastor's Office: (412) 741-9433
Cell Phone: (412) 294-7587
E Mail: pastor@sewickleyumc.org
Website: www.sewickleyumc.org

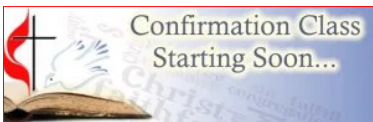
From The Pastor's Heart, continued

4. I will be authentically me.
 - a. Part of saying goodbye to one relationship and starting another is the natural process of comparison. I promise I am not offended by this. Like I said, it's natural! But I cannot be any pastor you had before. I can only be me. After all, this is who God has called me to be, has formed and is always refining me to be, and needs me to be. I am here at this time and place in the history of Sewickley United Methodist Church for a reason. I get the privilege of building upon the beautiful legacy of so many pastors who have gone before. I might not always do it right (see commitment #3) and sometimes I might hit the nail exactly on the head. Either way, if I do it with authenticity and integrity to God's will, then that assures a future that is worth being a part of and leaves a new layer for someone else to come along and build upon.
 - b. My prayer is that through my unique ways, through my own authenticity, I encourage you to also embrace and be who only you can be. You might sometimes feel like you don't fit in, but in reality your uniqueness is needed here. How boring would it be if we were all the same!?

I am sure over the coming year I will make some new commitments and make you wonder if I can even keep these ones. But I value you and how remarkable you have been in making this new "arranged" marriage a beautiful thing and something worth being a part of. When we are healthy together, we are healthy apart, and the community around us will benefit from that. Here's to another year!

From One Light to Another,


 Pastor Hannah Loughman



If you are 11 years of age (or soon to be) or older, you are invited to come and learn about why church...why Jesus? How

can you be a Christian while walking the halls of your school, sitting in science class or playing your trombone? What value is there to faith when you're just trying to get through middle/high school? Our time together will be structured as a time of learning and a time of fun, with snacks of course! We will meet every Wednesday evening from 6-8 pm beginning June 16th. At the end of 6 weeks, you will then be given the opportunity to make a commitment to living out your faith, while being cared for by the Sewickley United Methodist church through Confirmation. We often times say our youth are the future, but the truth is our youth are right now. We are here to help you faithfully make the most of right now! Contact Pastor Hannah to sign up or to learn more at pastor@sewickleyumc.org.



Porch Parties with the Pastor and Family

Todd and I want to get to know you better and for you to get to know us better. In order to do that, this summer we will be hosting you at our house on our porch. We have a lovely, large front porch that can safely accommodate a family or two. [Please sign up here](#) or contact the office to join us on a Friday evening from 7—9 pm for light refreshments and good conversation! You can sign up with another family if that would make you more comfortable. I will guide our time together so as to avoid any of those potentially awkward silent moments that most of us fear (though I can't promise they won't happen.) If you have allergies or mobility concerns please let me know when you sign up. We are excited to share our beautiful porch with you, show off our energetic family and get to know your hearts!

CALLING ALL WANNABE GROWTH GROUP LEADERS (even if you've never done it before)

We want you to help launch us into a deep and vibrant faith. In order to strive for that type of faith, it takes intentional growth. Will you invest in the Spirit's work in our church by being a part of our growth group program? Beginning Sunday July 11th at 1 pm Pastor Hannah is leading a 4-week training in partnership with the education team called "Small Groups Training" with Greg Egli and Dwight Marable. The goal of this time is to help get us on the same page and get back to the small group life in which the Holy Spirit was first revealed and set fire to the church. If you are interested in being a Growth group leader, or just in learning a bit more, contact Pastor Hannah at pastor@sewickleyumc.org.



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Worship Opportunities - June 2021



COVID protocols are in place for in-person worship
 Contemporary Worship Service: 9 am
 Traditional Worship Service: 11 am
 Our Worship Services are live streamed on sewickleyumc.org and youtube.com.
 The recorded services are also available later on Sunday afternoon.

June 6, 2021

**Second Sunday after Pentecost
 Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Liturgist: Martha Boward

Message: "We Think We Know..."

Scripture Lessons: Genesis 3:8-15 1 Samuel 8:4-20

Have you ever been so sure of what you wanted, arranged your whole life to aim at that one thing? Maybe what you wanted was certain job, a new location, a new car, that rather eye catching someone. Then out of nowhere something comes along to throw you totally off course and all of a sudden you realize you didn't know what you wanted after all. We think we know best but the truth is we only see a small piece of the picture. God sees all, therefore God knows best. But we can be a stubborn people and trusting in that truth can be hard to do. Join us as we discover how to lean into the good provisions God promises to us.

June 13, 2021

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgist: Travis Sollinger

Message: "What is Freedom Really?"

Scripture Lessons: Exodus 15:1-18 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

Just because a person cannot legally be owned as property by another does not mean that they are free. Just because it is no longer legal to whip and beat persons of color does not mean it doesn't happen anymore. Just because we are told to not judge by outward appearance and that God only judges according to the heart does not mean we always succeed at this. If we believe freedom is a God given human right than we must fight for it and it is a fight we must not stop. Join us as we remember how we can be a part of this worthy battle.

June 20, 2021

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgist: Otis McAliley

Message: "Go Take a Nap"

Bible Readings: Job 38:1-11 Mark 4:35-41

Life is crazy. There is so much work to be done. For most of us that work never ends. We might punch out at the end of a day and leave some work behind but then a different type of work picks up. We have relationships to nurture and households to care for. Maybe what we are caring for is ourselves. I like Jesus answer to a busy day; go take a nap. Today we are going to act like we are all watching the service from the comfort of our couches again. Wear your pajamas, bring a snack or your favorite stuffed animal. Today, we are going to rest.

June 27, 2021

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgist: Bob Jordan

Message: "Desperation Led Healing"

Scripture Lessons: Psalm 30:1-12 Mark 5:21-43

June 27th is National PTSD awareness day. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is a very real and a very serious problem. The good news is that there has been a breakthrough. According to the work done by Research and Recognition Project and the Global Patient Access Firm there is a new successful therapy called Reconsolidation of Traumatic Memories. RTM is said to have a 90% success rate. But here is the truth, unless you take that step to get help you don't stand a chance at healing. It is often times that first step that is hardest to make. In our scripture today we see people break through the stigmas and desperately reach toward Jesus and get the help that they need. Join us as we encourage others to do the same.

Remember our Shut-ins

Please write to our shut-ins and keep them in your prayers. The church office can provide you with contact information.

Sylvia Bajsec
 Mignon Emmert
 Renee Gittins
 Atleah Grubb
 Virginia Harriger
 Brad and Jan Jones
 B.J. (Elizabeth) Manzinger
 Pat Rudy
 Patricia Smith
 Shirley Sye

SAVE THE DATE
Vacation Bible School

Monday—Thursday
August 9—12
5:30—8 pm

NURTURE, OUTREACH & WITNESS ACTIVITIES AND NEWS



SHOES – LAST CALL! Your new or gently used clean shoes (pairs only) must be at the church by Wednesday, June 16th . EUMA (Erie United Methodist Alliance) and All God's Children Ministries/Ramps

of Hope is holding its Annual Shoe Drive to raise funds for its missions. Ask your friends, family, and neighbors to help collect shoes. It's a win, win, win situation! EUMA raises much needed funds for outreach ministries, shoes are kept out of landfills, and we support micro-enterprise in developing countries. Simply make sure the pair is connected, whether by the shoelaces or use of rubber bands. A collection box will be outside of the Simpson Room. The more unwanted shoes cleared from closets, the more mission support is generated!

FOURTH SUNDAY FOOD

PANTRY – Cleaning supplies are the targeted items for June – dish soap, hand soap, laundry detergent, floor cleaners, all purpose cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, etc. Due to the nature of those items, be sure to secure all lids and wrap items in plastic bags.



KIDS SUMMER MEAL NETWORK –

Children’s nutritional needs will be addressed in many areas over the summer by the Kids Summer Meal Network. These sites serve all children through age 18; as sites are still being finalized, anyone wanting to access these meals can use the Locator Tool through the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank - pittsburghfoodbank.org/what-we-do/food-for-kids/summer-food. In past years, meals (and sometimes activities) have been available in Leetsdale, Coraopolis and Mooncrest (Moon Township). If interested in volunteering with the meal network, reach out to the individual sites shown on the locator. As of the end of May, the Locator Tool was still showing the grab and go meal locations through schools; check back in June for updates that should include summer meal locations.



LET US SING!! Did you hear the news? Those who are vaccinated are now welcome to sing during worship! Let us know your favorite hymns. We will be using the list of nominated hymns to select music to sing during the traditional services this summer. Nominate your favorite hymns by [clicking here](#), completing the form outside the office, or by calling the church.

UMCOR DISASTER RELIEF CONTINUES

While the world continues to struggle with the COVID-19 crisis, UMCOR continues to respond to natural disasters in the USA and around the world. UMCOR is also working through ministry partners in Brazil and India to address extraordinary needs in those countries. Join UMCOR in supporting those impacted with your prayers and financial support – on your gift, either with your regular offering or on EasyTithe, indicate UMCOR, including whether you wish your gift to be directed to USA or International relief.



SEWICKLEY COMMUNITY CENTER CHILDCARE SUMMER SUPPLIES –

About 12 children age 6-12 who are part of a Wednesday and afterschool program during the school year will spend each day at the Community Center during the summer. To offer some variety to their day, we are accepting donations of items such as sidewalk chalk, bubbles, jump ropes, and other summer activity items. Easy individual summer themed craft kits (enough for 12 children) would also be welcome. The Outreach Committee would be happy to shop for you, mark your financial gift “Summer Fun.”



THE GOOD SAMARITAN THRIFT STORE – Faith Community

Christian Church at 100 Church Drive in Moon Township operates this free store on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays from 10 am to 1 pm. Gently used clothing, housewares and toys are



available to those in need. If you have items that you wish to donate, call that church at (412) 459-0033 (most likely you will need to leave a message and someone will return your call within a few days). If you know a family in need, please share this thrift store information with them.

BLESSING OF THE BICYCLES (and skateboards, scooters, etc.) This Community-wide event is being held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (616 Washington St., Sewickley) in partnership with Child Health

Association of Sewickley and Communcycle on Saturday, June 5, 10 am to 1 pm. Everyone is welcome! Free helmets available! (while supplies last) Free hot dogs and chips! Safety tips! Bicycle inspections! All ages welcome!



The United Methodist Women thank everyone who made our May Rummage Sales for Missions successful. We thank all those who donated items, bought items, helped to set up (inside and outside), price and sell the items and cleanup after the Sales. With your work, we raised over \$1300 toward our UMW mission pledge. Thank you again and we look forward to the next sale in September.



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous donation of delicious food to Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh (WC&S) which has benefited residents staying in the Emergency Shelter. We are especially

grateful for your support during these uncertain times.

Access to safety and basic necessities is proving to be more of a challenge for survivors of domestic violence and their children during this pandemic. However, WC&S remains committed to delivering our programs and services and providing necessities to those who need them. We are able to continue this work because of the community's incredible generosity. Our gratitude extends past the WC&S staff and is felt by those we serve, as expressed by Samantha:

"I have been so appreciative of the support I have received from the center in the past, and I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy in these difficult times. Sincerest thanks for the work that you do to keep women safe, myself included."

While we don't know how long this crisis will last, we do know that we will get through it together as a community. We are so humbled to call you a member of the Advisory Council WC&S family and thank you for thinking of those we serve in such a great time of need. From the bottom of our hearts...a sincere thank you!

Warmly,
Nicole Molinaro
President/CEO

On behalf of our residents at the Union Aid Apartments Bldg. at 511 Centennial Ave.....THANK YOU! Pam Mayo and Fellowship of the Cross youth for planting flowers in our entrance and patio containers on Saturday, May 15th. Robin Craig Clark wrote "All the flowers of all tomorrows are in the seeds of today." As the flowers bloom and flourish, they feed our souls with their quiet beauty and fragrance from spring - to summer - to fall. Like the flowers you dress our gardens with.....you bring sunshine to shady places with the worthy service and work that you do. We thank God for you and the gift you give with such enthusiasm and caring hearts.

Have a Blessed summer!
Dorothy Jadowiec

Dear Lunch Ladies,

Thank you so much for providing me with a monthly tasty lunch. I have never been able to attend the salad luncheons due to my work schedule, but I do have time to run down and pick up lunch. Thank you Pam for my monthly reminder call. I like to volunteer to make a dessert for a meal or two.

Laura G.

SHOP ON AMAZON SMILE AND AMAZON WILL DONATE TO SEWICKLEY UMC

AmazonSmile is a way for customers to support their favorite charitable organization every time they shop with Amazon. Shoppers who shop through smile.amazon.com will find the same Amazon they know and love, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the price of eligible purchases to the charity of your choice. Signing up is easy!

Here's how to sign up for AmazonSmile:

1. Visit smile.amazon.com
2. Sign in with your Amazon.com credentials
3. Choose a charitable organization to receive donations, or search for the charity of your choice (Sewickley UMC is listed among the charitable organizations as "Sewickley Methodist Church")
4. Select your charity
5. Start shopping!
6. Add a bookmark for smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile



Turn on AmazonSmile in the Amazon Shopping app

1. Make sure you're signed up for AmazonSmile (use your web browser to visit smile.amazon.com)
2. Download or update to the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app for iOS or Android
3. Open the app and find "Settings" in the main menu (☰)
4. Tap on "AmazonSmile" and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile in the app.



The below test was read at the celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the incorporation of the Sewickley Methodist Episcopal Church, Sewickley, PA., and the 75th Anniversary of its organization on Sunday, November 17, 1912

Prepared and read by S.C. Ritchey and J.C. Venning

Ten years ago we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the incorporation of our church and the 65th anniversary of its organization. We took for our text that day the words of David as recorded in the 16th Psalm: "The lines are fallen unto us in pleasant places; yea, we have a goodly heritage." It seems particularly fitting that we should take these same words for our text this morning.

Three score years ago, on the 26th of July, the Methodists in the Sewickley valley adopted articles of association and instructed J.W.F. White, then a young lawyer, to present the same to Court and become regularly incorporated.

Accordingly on November 13, 1852, the charter was granted to the "Methodist Episcopal Church of Sewickleyville," and is recorded in the Recorder's office in Deed Book volume 105 page 25.

For the benefit of the members of our church who have come in during the past ten years, or since the semi-centennial was held in November 1902, it might be well to briefly review the early history of the church.

Methodism has been preached in the Sewickley valley for 110 years, and from this very spot for 75 years. The earliest preaching was done in the log house of Jessie Fisher, on Little Sewickley Creek in 1801-1802. In 1809 the first class was organized by Thomas McClelland, a native of Ireland, who received his license to preach from John Wesley. Sometime later the preaching was done at the home of Thomas Hamilton and the class was called the Hamilton's class. From an old class book dated 1829 we find names which are still on our church membership – the Linns, the Ritcheys, the Glaneys (Mrs. J.A. Rosensteel) the Grimes and the Stuckes. – 83 years of membership.

In 1815 the first trustees were appointed for the little society on Sewickley Creek. In 1826 the members worshipped in the little brick school house on Mr. Shield's place, which, by the way, is still standing.

Then in 1837 the Methodist families on the Sewickley Creek and in what is now Sewickley, formed a society and called themselves the Methodist Episcopal Church of Sewickleyville. That was 75 years ago. There were 28 members all told.

Two years later, or 1839, they built a church of their own on this very spot. In those days the men sat on one side of the aisle and the women on the other. The church was lighted by candles, the candle-sticks being fastened on the walls and posts at the ends of the pews. The evening service was announced to commence "at early candle light."

13 years later, or 1852, the Society became incorporated and two years later, or 1854, the old frame church was moved to the rear

of the lot, and a new brick building was erected. The membership at this time was 139 and the pastor was paid \$310 a year.

By the will of Rev. Charles Thorn, \$15,000 was bequeathed toward a new church, provided the congregation raised another \$15,000, and in 1882 the present church was built.

Going back 130 years we find the land north and west of the Ohio and Allegheny Rivers was still in possession of the Indians. In 1784 the State bought the lands and sold them to the settlers. The first white settler in the present limits of Sewickley borough was Henry Ullery, a German sea captain, who bought the land now occupied by Mr. Campbell at the foot of Chestnut St., and taking in the Park Place Hotel lot and up as far as our present lot.

In 1810 Ullery sold his farm to Thomas Hoey, great grandfather of Doctor Fletcher K. and Doctor Collord White, and Mrs. John Loor Locke.

The lot on which the church stands was, as stated, a part of the old Hoey Homestead, and descended to Hoey's children, by whom it was given in 1852 to the Church.

We read that in 1862 the pastor's salary was \$500.

In 1868 the lot adjoining was purchased for a parsonage for \$1500.

From 1839, when the first church was built, to 1912, 46 different pastors have served the congregation.

The oldest living member of the church is Jacob Ringley, who dates his membership back to 1851, or a year before the charter was granted – record unbroken, of 61 years.

The historical paper read at the celebration ten years ago closed with these words:

"The members are loyal and giving harmonious and hearty support to various enterprises of the Church: and while we study the history of the past, we look forward to the future with hopes that its field of influence may be broader, that its work may be as conscientiously done, and that the efforts put forth for its advancement may have the Divine direction and blessing."

And I am glad to say that our hopes have not been disappointed: we have shown a steady increase until we now have 900 members. The various societies are all doing good work, the members are loyal to the Church, and we feel that this influence will continue to be broader and that the efforts which have been put forth during the past ten years have had the Divine direction and blessing. "Surely, the lines are fallen unto us in pleasant places: surely, we have a goodly heritage."



Happy LGBTQIA+ Pride Month! From balloons to banners and everything in between, it is very easy to lose sight of why we commemorate LGBTQIA+ Pride Month. This month is not only about honoring our past (the first pride parade was celebrated on June 28, 1970, one year following the events at the Stonewall Inn in New York), but it is about celebrating the present and fighting for a more inclusive future. This month is about the LGBTQIA+ community and its allies being visible and belonging to our churches, neighborhoods, towns, cities, and world.

I remember attending my first pride parade during the summer of 2011. I had the honor and privilege of marching with the Butler, Greensburg, and Pittsburgh chapters of PFLAG. It was a memorable experience for me on a multitude of levels. I was able to stand with an entire community and feel like I mattered and that I belonged somewhere.

That feeling of belonging is important, isn't it? In a world that tells us that we are less than, not good enough, and discarded, it can be hard to feel like we matter or have self-worth. However, God tells us through the prophet Jeremiah that God "knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb. Before you were born I set you apart..." God has set each of us apart and called us his child. God made us special and unique for a reason. We are fearfully and wonderfully made.

Pride is about celebrating who we are as children of God. It is about celebrating the rich tapestry of cultures, identities, and uniqueness of all God's children.

I would challenge each of you to think about what it means to celebrate diversity and inclusion for the month of June — it can be in simple and small ways like telling someone that they matter, and they are loved, or it could be putting an inclusive bumper sticker on your car. Our world will not be changed by huge actions, but by small actions with great love. Remember, God knew you before God formed you in your mother's womb and before you were born. God set you apart and called you his child. Amen.

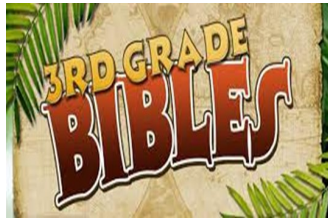
The Fellowship of the Cross has learned that the 112 Operation Christmas Child boxes prepared in 2020 have been delivered to children in Ecuador.

<p>Prayer Requests</p>	<p>Pat Fulton (Scott Matthew's mom)</p> <p>Jean Gionfriddo</p> <p>Dan Gittins</p> <p>June Graham (Carole Ford's sister-in-law)</p> <p>Bob and Sal H.</p> <p>Doris Harris</p> <p>Angela Helms</p> <p>Pam Honeychurch</p> <p>Baby Julian (Carole Ford's great-grandnephew)</p> <p>Ceel Janosik</p> <p>Wayne Johnson</p> <p>Brenda Kinney</p> <p>Joe L.</p> <p>Daniel Lewis (Susie Moffett's dad)</p> <p>Vic M.</p>	<p>J.R. McFadden</p> <p>Michelle Malito</p> <p>Mary Maminski</p> <p>Marian Martin (Liz Brown's sister)</p> <p>Tony Morgan (Dominic Odom's cousin)</p> <p>Bola Nicholson</p> <p>Karen Nickell</p> <p>Ashley Noble</p> <p>Rich Ochman</p> <p>Paula Odom (Dominic Odom's sister)</p> <p>Lorraine Offner</p> <p>Jim Rogansky</p> <p>Linda Rummens</p> <p>Blake S.</p> <p>Karen Shong</p>	<p>C.R. & Lorraine Simpson</p> <p>Brenda Smith</p> <p>Ron Smith</p> <p>Ronli Smith (Ron Smith's son)</p> <p>Linda Sollinger (Travis Sollinger's mom)</p> <p>Pam Squires</p> <p>Bill Utterback</p> <p>Charles Wilson</p> <p>Family of Barry Yant (husband of Karen Yant, son of Dana Yant, sister of Lou Ann Scott and Dawn Cannister)</p> <p>Rich Z.</p> <p>Dennis Zeveny</p>
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Sewickley United Methodist Church—Financial Summary through April 2021



	2021 Budget	Budgeted to Date	Through April	Over or (Under) Budget
TOTAL EXPENSES	268,982.53	102,846.28	102,124.52	(721.76)
TOTAL RECEIPTS	244,090.00	75,885.00	78,854.10	2,969.10
OVERAGE (DEFICIT)	(24,892.53)	(26,961.28)	(23,270.42)	



The Sewickley United Methodist Church will have the honor to present our Third Graders with their Bible during the worship services on September 12. The 2021/22 third graders are unknown to the Library Committee due to all of the changes and restrictions of the last 15 months. If your student is entering the third grade this coming school year, please contact the church office, Sandra Lane or Warren Kinneer with their name. Parents are invited and encouraged to be there for the presentation.

WESTERN PA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, JUNE 18 & 19

When you hear the term “annual conference,” it could be referring to any one of three things. The annual conference is a regional body, an organizational unit AND a yearly meeting.

Regional body

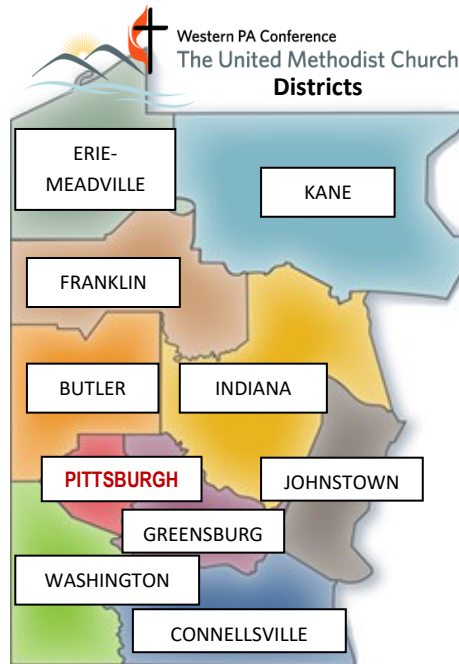
The annual (sometimes referred to as ‘regional’) conference is described by the church’s Constitution and (other parts of the) Book of Discipline as the “basic unit” of the church.

In the United States, an annual conference may cover an entire state, only part of the state, or even parts of two or more states. There are also three missionary conferences in the United States, which rely upon the denomination as a whole for funding.

The United States has 54 annual conferences, supervised by 46 bishops. There are 75 annual conferences in Africa, Europe, and the Philippines, which are supervised by 20 bishops.

Organizational body

In the U.S., the annual conference has a central office and professional staff that coordinate and conduct ministry and the business of the conference. It likely has a director of connectional ministries, treasurer, directors of program areas (such as camping), communications director, and other staff as deemed appropriate for the annual conference and as required by the Book of Discipline. Clergy and laypersons may also serve on conference boards, commissions and committees.



Annual Conference sessions

Each typical year an equal number of clergy members and lay members attend their conference's Annual Conference session for worship, fellowship, and to conduct the business of the conference, which may last 3-5 days. During these sessions, members of the conference hear reports of past and ongoing work; adopt future goals, programs and budgets; ordain clergy members as deacons and elders; and elect delegates to Jurisdictional and General Conferences (every 4 years). The bishop presides over these meetings.

Sewickley United Methodist Church is part of the Northeastern Jurisdiction, which includes all of the UMCs of Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and West Virginia. Within the Jurisdiction, we are part of The Western

Pennsylvania Conference, which is made up of nearly 800 local churches in 23 western Pennsylvania counties. The Western Pennsylvania Conference is further broken down into 10 districts, Sewickley UMC being part of the Pittsburgh District.

This year’s Annual Conference of the Western Pennsylvania Conference is taking place June 18 & 19 via Zoom and with a limited number of clergy and laity meeting in person in Erie. We will be represented by Pastor Hannah and our Lay Member to Annual Conference, Donna Sawhill. Lay Equalization Members from our congregation are Martha Boward and Wilma Hamilton. Lay Equalization members help balance out the number of laity with clergy.

Please be in prayer for our Annual Conference and all those attending.

CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES



The Sewickley United Methodist Church will celebrate the Class of 2021 during the worship services on June 6. This has been a very tough year for all our students not knowing if they are in class or online. God is so GOOD that educators found ways to teach and reach out to our young people. Best wishes to the Class of 2021.



Congratulations to Quaker Valley High School seniors Beccah, Hadley, Paige, Genevieve, Allison, Cameron and Alexander. The graduation ceremony is June 10 at Chuck Knox Stadium on the QVHS campus. Here are their post high school plans:

Beccah Bischak will study communications at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh beginning in the fall.

Hadley Boyle will be attending Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York this fall and is undecided on a major.

Alexander Clifford will begin the Honors Program at Allegheny College in Meadville, PA this fall. He plans to study Environmental Science and Sustainability and/or Political Science.

Paige Geason will attend the Edinboro University Honors College in Edinboro, PA, and pursue a degree in Psychology this fall.

Cameron Hortert is enlisting in the US Air Force and plans to attend Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas in August. Afterwards, he will attend the Air Force Security Forces Academy, also at Lackland AFB, and become a member of the USAF Security Forces.

Genevieve Moffett plans to attend Shenandoah University in Winchester, VA beginning in August where she will study Music Therapy.

Allison Zeanchock will attend Robert Morris University, in Moon Township, where she plans to major in Information Systems.

Three Cheers for Our College Graduates:

Roberta Davis will graduate in December with a BS in Criminal Justice from Point Park University. Roberta is completing her degree completely online and is considering pursuing a position as a probation officer.

Zoe Fishter graduated summa cum laude from the University of Pittsburgh on May 4th with a BA in Spanish, minor in Education, and certificates in Sustainability and Latin American Studies. In the fall, Zoe returns to Pitt to pursue a Masters of Arts in Teaching of a Foreign Language.

Grant Lane will graduate in December with a degree in Industrial Engineering from the University of Dayton.

Felicity Moffett will graduate in December from Chatham University with a B.A. in Sustainability and a minor in Botany. After college, she plans to work at a greenhouse while looking at graduate school options.

Grace Rogansky graduated on May 20th from the University of Lynchburg in Virginia with a BS in Environmental Science and minors in Environmental Studies and Museum Studies. She will be taking a gap year to look for a job and think about grad school.

If a name is misspelled or we missed listing your graduate, please let the church office or Sandra Lane know so we can make the correction.

PUMPKINS 2021

It's **not** too early to plan for this year's pumpkin patch. We are looking for volunteers to help make this year's the best one ever as we celebrate our 20th year.

We would like to fill the following chairperson positions in order to alleviate numerous duties of our current chairs: Lou Ann Scott and Diane Bartley.

- **Pallet** – Someone to organize pick up and return of the pallets as needed
- **Rotten Pumpkins** – Someone to chair the disposal of the rotten pumpkins during the month and dispose of the remaining pumpkins at the end of the month. We have some contacts!
- **Scheduling** – Someone to schedule volunteers and call them daily to remind them of their shifts. Pam, our wonderful secretary, puts a sign up calendar online, but you will need a list of volunteers to call if there is an opening
- **Layout** – Someone to organize the layout of the patch the day of the pumpkin arrival

Calling ALL Creative Minds: Plans are in the making for a **Pumpkin Festival** to be held on **October 9th**. We will need many volunteers to make this a success. Please contact Lou Ann or Diane if you can help or have any ideas. **In order to proceed with planning, we need to know we will have the help on that date.**

A Christmas ornament is in the process of being designed at Wendell August Forge to mark our 20th year anniversary. Get your Christmas lists ready. This will be an additional fundraiser for the church. We know you are going to love it!



Jessica Moore	6/1
Nancy Wiggins	6/1
Genevieve Moffett	6/5
Amie McCombs	6/6
Elise Powell Biolsi	6/6
Katie Napierkowski	6/7
Jade Burnett	6/8
Jan Jones	6/8
Pam Dotterer	6/9
Clara Herman	6/10
Willa Herman	6/10
Zoe Fishter	6/11



Margie Fiscus	6/12
Johnathan Burnett	6/14
Luna Dotterer	6/15
Grant Lane	6/18
Pamela Mayo	6/18
Scott Spencer	6/19
Lindsay Merryman	6/20
Emma Miller	6/20
Sylvia Bajsec	6/25
Pete Hiles	6/26
Emmelia Gaebel	6/29
Brenda Smith	6/29

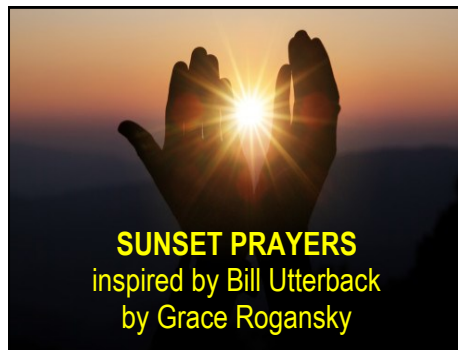
If you or a family member is missing from our birthday or anniversary list, please let the office know. We don't want to leave anyone out of special wishes.

Congratulations to Hurst and Diane Bartley on the birth of their granddaughter, Sofia Carson Bartley. Sofia arrived on May 6, weighing 8 pounds, 14 ounces, and was 21" long. Sofia is the daughter of Chris and Ariana Bartley and little sister of 2 year old Weston.



As a recent college graduate, there is only one thing that scares me about the future. For the last 21 years of my life, I have lived in Sewickley (or Lynchburg for college) and had a pretty consistent schedule. My job was to go to school and swim practice during the week, and then church on Sundays. I am a very organized kid, and I like planning for things in advance, naturally deviating from my usual patterns makes me a little anxious. So, what scares me? Change. And uncertainty. Change and uncertainty for the future. My future, the future of our church, the future of our country... the list is truly endless.

Over the last year there has been a lot of change in our lives. Most changes I can handle because they are often gradual and not noticeable at first. With the pandemic, our world suddenly shut down, and the change happened almost overnight. One day I was in my college apartment laughing with my housemates and watching movies, and the next morning I was taking my posters off the walls and locking the front door for the last time. Change can be scary and filled with uncertainty. Our world is still in the process of changing. With the country



opening up again, many people are looking ahead to a "new normal."

In Malachi 3:6, God declares "I, the Lord, never change..." The Bible shows us time and time again that God never changes. His kindness, love, mercy, and wisdom are perfect and everlasting. Many things in life change, but our faith is something we can always count on. Change for its own sake is neither good nor bad. It depends on the

direction you let it take you. Lean on your faith in God to help you get through the changes and uncertainties in life.

On Sunday, June 6, at 8:49 pm, from wherever you are, and whomever you are with, consider lifting a prayer for the changes in our country, in our church, and in your own life. Are there decisions and changes you need to make that are causing you anxiety? Are you worried about the future? Ask God for his continued wisdom and remember that he will be with you through all the changes in life.

The sun will set and rise again, and that is something that will never change.

JUNE 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 8 PM AA	2 6:30 PM Leap of Faith	3 11 AM - 12:30 PM Takeout Meals	4 6:30 PM AA 7 PM AA	5
6 9 AM Contemporary Service 11 AM Traditional Service 1 PM New & Curious Members Class	7 7 PM AA	8 8 PM AA	9 6:30 PM Leap of Faith	10	11 6:30 PM AA 7 PM AA	12
13 9 AM Contemporary Service 11 AM Traditional Service	14 6:30 PM Finance Committee 6:30 PM Trustees 7 PM AA 8 PM Council Meeting	15 8 PM AA	16 11 AM - 1:30 PM Edgeworth Garden Club 6 - 8 PM Confirmation Class 6:30 PM Leap of Faith	17	18 6:30 PM AA 7 PM AA	19
20 9 AM Contemporary Service 11 AM Traditional Service	21 7 PM AA	22 8 PM AA	23 6 - 8 PM Confirmation Class 6:30 PM Leap of Faith	24	25 6:30 PM AA 7 PM AA	26
27 9 AM Contemporary Service 11 AM Traditional Service	28 7 PM AA	29 8 PM AA	30 6 - 8 PM Confirmation Class 6:30 PM Leap of Faith			

Aimee & Scott Thornton 6/10
 Jason & Jennifer Frye 6/15
 Michelle & Jason Garofalo 6/16
 Gordon & Debbie Chesney 6/18
 Don & Pam Dotterer 6/18
 Jenine Furry & Paul Clifford 6/24



Laura & Steven Powell 6/25
 Doug & Belinda Resler 6/25
 Bill & Lindsay Merryman 6/26
 Brad & Jan Jones 6/29
 Jill & Scott Matthews 6/30



We use "easyTithe" to offer online giving to our church family. Those who choose to give in this way can create a secure account via easyTithe and set up recurring giving with selected funds, frequency, and amount.

easyTithe allows you to securely give via your bank account or credit/debit card. You can give online by visiting the giving page on our [website](#). SUMC pays a monthly service fee to easyTithe, plus easyTithe charges us 3% for each donation made. **When giving via easyTithe, please considering covering the 3% transaction fee.**

You can also give via the easyTithe Mobile App. It is a simple as downloading the app to your smartphone and setting up your profile information in just a couple of steps. Once setup, you can choose to make a one-time donation or set up recurring giving.

