HOPEWELL HAPPENINGS
May 22, 2020
Hopewell United Methodist Church
852 Hopewell Road, Downingtown, PA 19335
610-269-1545

Stay connected with us at www.hopewellumc.org
and on Facebook at Hopewell UMC, Downingtown PA!

STAY CONNECTED

Weekend Worship: "Walking Through the Wilderness," Pastor Keith
"Jethro Encourages Moses to Ask for Help," Exodus 18
Like the Israelites before us, we are traveling through the wilderness. On Saturday
night (May 23) at 5:25 PM or on Sunday (May 24) at 9:30 AM, log into Facebook
or the Hopewell YouTube page. Sing. Pray. Hear the word. Together, we are
more!

Drop into our new Virtual Coffee Hours on ZOOM. Use the
links and passwords below to join the discussions. Chat
with Pastor Keith and George Robinson on Saturday from
4:45-5:15 PM (password: 138023). Join Pastor Dan and
Becky & Simon Brain on Sunday from 10:15-11:00 AM
(password: 421057).

After nine consecutive weeks of Daily Devotions, we’ve decided to explore new
opportunities for connection and conversation. Stay tuned for more information.

In June and July, we’ll be introducing a new sermon series called Reel Stories.
Real Truth: A Look at Faith Through Film. Each week, we’ll suggest a movie to
watch—and in worship and discussion groups, we’ll use that film to illustrate
biblical truth. If you are interested in joining or leading one of those discussions,
please contact Deb Boyd.

Find strength, hope, and great conversation in these Online
Study opportunities:

Women’s Ministry’s New Rooted Table topical study on HOPE!
Sign up for a small group day and time that works best for
you! Or email Cheri Miller for more information.

Friday Morning Men of Faith on Friday, May 29th at 6:30 AM with Allen Puy
Saturday Morning Men of the Sabbath on Saturday, May 30th at 8:30 AM (Password: 991899)

Sunday Morning Bible Study on May 31st at 10:00 AM with Joe Lisowski (Password: 511221)

The Children’s Ministries Team invites you to check out this week’s Sunday night ZOOM call for kids, hosted by a mystery guest, playing “I Spy/” And don’t forget to tune in to this week’s Wednesday night C.L.I.C.K. on 5/27 at 7:00 PM with Ally Ruch and Mike Banka. Links for this call can be found on the Hopewell UMC Children’s Ministries Facebook page or under “News” on the new blog site.

Sign into this week’s Youth Ministry meetings and hangouts using the links below.
   - NO HYM Youth Group on May 25, 2020. Happy Memorial Day!
   - HYM Tuesday Hangout on May 26, 2020 2:30 PM
   - HYM Thursday Hangout on May 28, 2020 2:30 PM

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CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER AND THE COMMUNITY

This week’s prayer focus: Thank God for those who support and encourage us.

Please remember these folks in your prayers: family of Jill and Troy Ruth; Dan Baldwin; Mandi Benner; Anita Kuhnle; Dan McVay; Donna Oeste; Steve Carr’s dad; Jim Edward’s brother.

We celebrate the births of Emery Kathryn to Lauren and Jeff Aponik, and grandmother Joan Berdich and Sky Adaline to grandmother Cindy Blanton!

Click here to post or receive prayer requests on Hopewell’s e-prayer chain.

Prayer is always the most we can do — not the least we can do. But we can also put our hands and feet and voices to work. Here are some ways to love our neighbors this week:

Contribute to fund-raising efforts of Hopewell, so we can respond to the needs around us. Approximately $32,000 has been received so far! Because of your generous contributions, we’ve been able to provide food and rental assistance to many families. If you would like to make assistance contributions, please include “COVID” as a memo.
From one of our Well families: “Your church has been such a burden lifter and a blessing as always and I’m very thankful and will always remember this.”

On behalf of El Buen Smaritano UMC, I express my sincere and deep gratitude for the great generosity of Hopewell UMC. The Giant grocery cards have helped bring food to the immigrant community. Dios les bendigo (God bless you), Pastor Evodia Villalva

Due to COVID-19, Safe Harbor clients have been staying at the Hampton Inn in Exton to maximize health and safety. Though county funding for this was just cut, Safe Harbor is unable to house clients while still in the red phase. Thanks to your generosity, Hopewell will be covering the cost of a one week stay for 20 Safe Harbor clients.

Well done, Hopewell! We’ve made and donated over 1,500 masks for health care workers and community organizations. To get involved, contact Kim Schywstell. If you are in need of a mask, please call the church office.

Help address food insecurity in our community by growing produce for the Chester County Food Bank. Even if you don’t have land, try growing in a pot! For more information and a list of suggested produce, click here. Check out some tutorials here. Hopewell will have produce bags available and stay tuned for the food agencies that will be prepared to receive your fresh produce.

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**GIVE TO THE MISSION**

When you give to the movement of Hopewell Church, you are changing lives. Thank you for your faithful commitment toward resourcing God’s ministry and mission through Hopewell Church.

Give electronically here.

Give by Venmo at @Hopewell-UMC
Please include your full name in the comments section.

Tithes and offerings can be mailed to Hopewell United Methodist Church, 852 Hopewell Road, Downingtown, PA 19335.
In this time of physical distance, we are blessed to gather online for virtual worship ... to stream songs, prayers, and messages that encourage and uplift ... to share the hope and Word of Jesus Christ in new ways to new people. We are blessed. Unfortunately, because of the expectations and guidelines of **Pastor Dan**’s primary employer, he is not able to record and stream messages. As always, he continues to support our worship plans, teach, encourage discipleship, and strengthen volunteers. We are grateful for his ongoing leadership, prayerfulness, and commitment to Hopewell Church.

We offer our prayers and blessings to **Joel Bielefeldt**, Director of Youth Ministry, as he accepts a position at Grace Presbyterian Church in Jenkintown. While Joel loves Hopewell and our youth, he prayerfully made this decision in order to lessen his work-home distance and spend more time with family. Students and leaders will have an opportunity to thank Joel on Sunday, June 14, 2020 at 1:00 PM during a celebratory drive-through in Hopewell’s parking lot. Please plan to arrive at 12:45 PM, so we can line up for the celebration. Feel free to decorate your cars, make signs, bring cards, honk your horns, and whatever else you can think of to thank Joel for his creative ministry among us. In the meantime, please join us in prayer for Joel, Laura, Austin and Micah as they make this transition.

After recommendation by the South District Committee on Ministry, and then final approval by the Conference Committee on Christ Servant Ministry, **Becky Bennington** has been officially approved for Certification as a Certified Lay Ministry in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church. We are so blessed by Becky’s giftedness and leadership, and we look forward to celebrating with her at the Service of Recognition scheduled in October.
A PRAYER FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Eternal God,
from whom all life comes, to whom all life returns,
we remember all who served our country in the military.
We remember and we give thanks.
We give thanks for sacrifices made and losses endured.
We give thanks for acts of courage, grace and hope.
We give thanks for our brothers and sisters who gave the full measure of devotion.

We give thanks for those we knew well and those we never met.
For the life, goodness, faith, courage, and love that was in each one, we give thanks.

We pray for our brothers and sisters who are recovering from wounds in body, mind, spirit, or soul.
Work healing in them in all the forms that healing takes.
We pray for those who provide care to them.
Show us ways that we can extend care and support.

We pray for families and friends and all who grieve for loved ones who have died.
Meet them in the valley of death's shadow.
Embrace them in the healing warmth of your comfort, grace and love.
Grant them and all of us the assurance that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whose name we pray.

May the day soon come when swords are beaten into plowshares, war is studied no more, and all peoples and your world will know peace.
May we work for that day.
We pray through Jesus Christ.
Amen.

--Written by Mark Koenig