

Have a Safe and Enjoyable Summer

# Clock Tower Tidings

Huntingdon Presbyterian Church PC(USA)

July-August 2024



Photos by Bill Caufield

## ***Lighting the Night Sky***

*The back-lit faces of the newly restored town clock in HPC's bell tower illumine the night sky over Huntingdon as they show the time. Below, a look at the steeple from Washington Street. Another clock photo, Page 5.*



## **OGHS Contributions Total Over \$6,800**

**O**ne Great Hour of Sharing contributions through Huntingdon Presbyterian Church totaled more than \$6,800 this year, about \$150 higher than last year.

The OGHS auction held in May brought in \$2,178, and monetary contributions raised an additional \$4,660, for a total of \$6,838. Last year, the auction raised \$2,490, and monetary contributions raised \$4,200, for a total of \$6,690.

HPC's consistently strong support for OGHS over the years has placed it among the top congregations in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in per-member OGHS giving.

For more than 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. OGHS supports three programs – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, the programs provide people with safety, sustenance and hope.

Because the auction was held this year in May, OGHS monetary contributions were received through Pentecost, May 19.

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**Pastor Brett's column will resume next issue.**

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### **Sunday Schedule**

Worship is at 10:30 a.m. The service is streamed live and on demand via Facebook. Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m. in the Memorial Family Room.

### **Dates to Remember**

July 1 – PW meeting – 1 p.m.  
July 3 – PW Book Club – 10 a.m.  
July 4 & 5 – Independence Day; office closed  
July 7 – Greg Anderson, guest preacher  
July 14 – Summer Communion  
July 21 – Session planning meeting  
July 25 – Band concert at Blair chapel – 7 p.m.  
August 2 – National Night Out – 5-8 p.m.  
August 7 – PW Book Club – 10 a.m.  
August 11 – Session, 6:30 p.m.

### **Food Pantry Donations**

The Huntingdon Food Pantry is requesting **vegetable soup** for July and **chicken noodle soup** for August. Donations can be dropped off in the south vestibule or in the hallway near the lift on the last Sunday of the month.

### **Worship Attendance**

The average in-person worship attendance for four Sundays in May and June was 38. Online services had an average of 106 Facebook views.

### **Weekly Giving**

Tithes and offerings through May totaled \$77,620.58, or an average of \$3,696 a week. Primary fund giving for 2024 is budgeted at \$195,000, or an average of \$3,750 a week.

### **Per Capita Contributions**

The per capita for 2024 is \$39.24 per member, for a total assessment of \$5,572. As of June 1, contributions totaled \$1,622.52.

### **Newsletter Deadline**

The September deadline is Thursday, **August 15**.

### **Care & Visitation List**

Jeanne Speck

*If you know anyone who would like to be put on this list, please call the church office at 814-643-1302.*



Photos by Bill Caufield

## **Strawberry Bonanza**

*The deacons' annual strawberry social offered strawberries in several forms – whole, halves*

*and no-sugar – as well as ice cream, angel food cake and toppings after the worship service on June 9.*



*Above, Jeff and Jodie Shoemaker prepare strawberries in the*

*Memorial Family Room kitchen. At left, Jane Brown arranges the serving table. Below, folks help themselves to the goodies.*







Photos by Bill Caufield  
*The pulpit was turned into a waterfall.*



*Zach Byers playfully dumps water as the parking lot is awash with water balloons.*

## **Vacation Bible School: A Week at the Beach**

**T**he front of the HPC sanctuary was transformed into a tropical isle for Vacation Bible School the second week of June.

About 15 children attended the five-evening learning and fun event presented jointly by Huntingdon Presbyterian Church and the Abbey Reformed United Church of Christ.

Lessons were taught in the sanctuary, with crafts available in the Memorial Family Room and snacks provided in the Choir Room. Part of the parking lot was roped off to provide space for outdoor games.

The sanctuary was decorated to reflect the Bible school's theme, "Lava Lava Luau." A blue tinsel waterfall streamed from the pulpit and a brown paper volcano rose in front of the baptismal font. Balloons covered the half-wall behind the pulpit and butterfly decorations last seen at Easter reappeared.

Pastors Brett Hoover of HPC and Will Robbins were on hand, as were some 20 volunteers from both churches. Outdoor games concluded each evening's activities. A spirited game of hot potato using water-filled balloons and more allowed the children – and some of the adults – to cool off on a warm June evening.



*Sylvia Byers teaches a Bible school lesson.*



*The children craft rain stick noisemakers, above.*

*A brown paper volcano rises, at right.*





## Pipe Dream Again Aids Backpack Program

The Presbyterian Women Pipe Dream Project for August, September and October? Well, it's the Standing Stone Elementary School Backpack Program, one of PW's two permanent projects.

PW wants to kick off the school year with a shower of quarters! Please fill the pipes which can be found in the sanctuary and the Memorial Family Room hallway. The backpack program provides weekend food for students who might otherwise go hungry.

Since this newsletter covers July-August, please remember to give to Hometown Hearts in July. Thank you so much for the continued support of PW's Pipe Dreams.

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## PW Book Club Offers 2 Summertime Reads

The lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer are perfect for book lovers! Presbyterian Women's Book Club has Lynne Gentry's novel, *Walking Shoes* on tap for Wednesday, **July 3**, at 10 a.m. in the Memorial Family Room. How does Leona Harper's life change now that she's lost her husband and the small-town church he pastored for 18 years? Join PW to find out!

The last novel for Summer '24 is *For the Love of Quilts* by Gini Athey. HPC has many quilters, but the appeal of this short novel is for everyone. Meet Emily Crawford, who returns to her small Wisconsin hometown after the death of her aunt to complete a stipulation in Aunt Sara's will. This is a quick read for the busy back-to-school month of August. Please join PW on Wednesday, **August 7**, at 10 a.m. in the Memorial Family Room for another lively "book lovers" discussion. Happy Reading!

## PW NOTES

### Support for Birthday Offering

Presbyterian Women send a heartfelt "thank you" to our church family for supporting the Birthday Offering, one of PW's oldest mission programs. The final total is \$103.84. This national Presbyterian Women springtime mission benefits five national projects, and PW is thrilled to send our Birthday Offering to national headquarters.

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### Prayer Chain Requests

Prayer chain requests for Presbyterian Women may be made by contacting Deb Hetrick at 814-643-5424 (home) or 814-644-1653 (cell). All prayer chain requests will be kept confidential.



Photo by Bill Caufield

### Praising God in Song

*GloryWay*, comprising from left, Philip Kolb, founder Justin Crank and Bryan Langley, entertained with a gospel music concert in the HPC sanctuary the evening of May 26 during the Memorial Day weekend.



### How to Get a Paper Newsletter

*Clock Tower Tidings* is being sent by email to members and friends and is posted on the church website. If you would like to receive a paper copy by first-class mail and are not now receiving one, please inform the office. You may also pick up a paper copy of the newsletter in the rear of the sanctuary.



## General Assembly to Elect New PC(USA) Stated Clerk

Commissioners and advisory delegates to the 226th PC(USA) General Assembly meeting in Salt Lake City are to elect a new stated clerk this summer.

The Rev. Jihyun Oh, who currently serves as director of Mid Council Ministries in the Office of the General Assembly, has been nominated by the Stated Clerk Nominating Committee and was to be presented when the assembly meets in late June and early July.

Rev. Oh, whose first name is pronounced “Jee-hun.” was born in South Korea and raised in Kansas. If elected, she would be the first Korean American to serve in the PC(USA)’s highest ecclesial office

Pastor Brett is one of two commissioners from Huntingdon Presbytery. In addition to electing a new stated clerk, commissioners will vote on moderators for the next two years and a number of overtures from presbyteries.

Prior to the General Assembly’s in-person plenary meetings beginning June 30, several committees were to meet online. Pastor Brett is serving on the Ecumenical and Interfaith Partnerships Committee.



## Krislund Seeks Donations For Bottle Cap Recycling

Thanks to all who donated bottle caps to Krislund Camp and Retreat Center. If you would like to contribute to help pay the recycling center in the state of Indiana that is transforming the caps into usable items for the camp, please send your contribution to Mary D’Ambrosia for the Bottle Cap Fund at Krislund, PO Box 116, Madisonburg PA 16852.

If you would like to include a plaque on a recycled item in honor of someone, please email Phil Gardner, camp executive director, at [campdirector@krislund.org](mailto:campdirector@krislund.org). The cost of the plaque will vary depending on the item – picnic tables, benches, etc.



Photo by Bill Caufield

## Cutting the Rug

*A Fike Bros. worker lays carpet in the HPC vestibule containing the town clock’s mechanical works. The vestibule was closed pending installation by the borough of a cabinet for the works.*

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

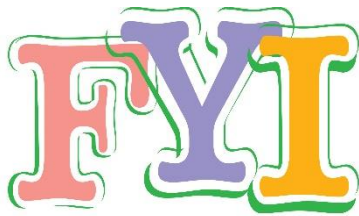
*The session approved the following during its monthly meeting on May 26 held in person and via Zoom:*

- Summer work hours through Labor Day of 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. for secretary Sylvia Byers and sexton Max Byers
- Gifting gift cards of \$200 each to Zach and Mickie Byers for their audio/visual work
- Completion of concrete and brick work in the parking lot by Mel Woomer and Big Valley Concrete
- Use of the choir room by Judy Post on Thursday mornings for her mahjong group
- A session planning meeting on July 21; the next regular meeting will be on August 11



*The session approved completing work on the parking lot and the Washington Street wall.*

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• FOR YOUR INFORMATION •

### Pastoral Care Available

Pastor Brett Hoover is available in the church office Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for pastoral care and calls. If you need pastoral care, please call the office at 814-643-1302 or you may email the church office at [huntpc1789@gmail.com](mailto:huntpc1789@gmail.com). In case of emergency, please call Pastor Brett at 724-331-5798. Pastor Brett will return from PC(USA) General Assembly work on Tuesday, **July 9**.

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### Summer Office Hours

The church office will operate on summer hours of 8 to 11 a.m. through Labor Day. The hours are 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., Monday-Friday.

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### Contributing Flowers for Worship

If you would like to contribute flower arrangements – either fresh or artificial – for the Sunday worship service, please contact the church office.

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### Sunday Liturgists Still Needed

If you are interested in sharing your gifts in Sunday worship as a liturgist, please contact Amanda Hetrick or the church office. Thanks to Ann Dunlavy and Pam Thompson for being liturgists on recent Sundays.

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### Thanks for the Musical Help

Our church musician, Ivan Yumagulov, a doctoral student at Penn State, is away for the summer. Thanks to Kay Rossman and Sarah Peachey for sharing their musical talent on recent Sundays.

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### Scheduling Pastoral Visits

If you would like a pastoral visit, please let the office know, and a visit with Pastor Brett will be scheduled. The office phone is 814-643-1302.



Photos by Bill Caufield

### At the Church Picnic

*Picnickers are greeted by a variety of food at the Portstown Park pavilion on June 16. The annual church picnic began with a worship service led by Pastor Brett – punctuated only twice by the noise of passing trains. The picnic beat by one day June's oppressive heat wave.*



*Jeff Shoemaker and Jay Pierotti tend the cooking hamburgers and hot dogs.*



*Pam Thompson says hello to Ozzie, Zach Byers' dog.*



**Huntingdon Presbyterian Church**

508 Mifflin Street

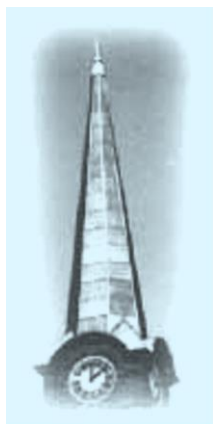
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814-643-1302

Address Service Requested



**July-Aug.  
2024**



## **Clock Tower Tidings**

**Huntingdon Presbyterian Church  
Serving God and Community Since 1789**

*“Our mission is to share God’s word  
and the Good News that Jesus loves us.”*



**Fun at Vacation Bible School**  
Details Inside

**Stay in Touch with HPC on Our Facebook Page**