



Jarrettown United Methodist Church
1460 Limekiln Pike
Dresher, PA 19025-1116



Spring 2019 NEWSLETTER

**Making Disciples • Relieving Suffering
Glorifying God**

Footprints

**Jarrettown United
Methodist Church**
1460 Limekiln Pike
Dresher, PA 19025
215-646-4129

JarrettownUmcOffice@gmail.com
Jarrettown.Church

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**Weekly Opportunities
for Worship**

Sunday
8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Contemporary Worship
10:20 am Fellowship Hour
11:00 am Worship

Wednesday Night
Informal Worship
7 pm Friendship Center

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In addition to every Sunday at
8:00 am, *Holy Communion* is
celebrated the first Sunday of
each month at
9:15 am and 11:00 am



Join us for Lenten Services:

Palm Sunday - Special music at 11 am Worship
Holy Thursday—Jarrettown.church for more info
**Good Friday—12 noon Worship Service with String
Quartet & Choir**

Easter Sunday Worship

8:00 am Traditional Worship - Friendship Center
9:15 am Contemporary Worship
**11:00 am Traditional Worship with Brass Quartet
& Choir**



Do you LOVE Jarrettown Church?

You can help spread the word!

Invite a friend to come to church!
Take the time to give a google review of Jarrettown.
You can rate the church on Facebook.

It also helps the church to like church posts and to
share posts and events to your personal page.

If you would like more info on how to do any of
these items contact Jean Graber.

A Message from the Pastor

WHAT IS LOVE?

The answer may seem obvious – that God demonstrated his love for us; that we when we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8). What might not be as obvious is how this love has power today to transform every aspect of our lives.

We want to know that we are accepted and loved and valued. But we hardly ever feel this way. We know our guilt. We feel ashamed for wrong choices, and the trouble we have caused. We imagine God is angry and frustrated with us. But that is not the case. Jesus gives us a different picture. He went to the cross to take our guilt and shame upon Himself, putting an end to our separation from God.

Because of Jesus' life, death and resurrection we have an opportunity for a completely new life. Easter is the signal to broken humanity that new life can always grow out of the old. Every spring we see it in each fresh blade of grass and new tree bud. With each flower that pushes through the soil, we are reminded of the power of life's statement to death that even the grave doesn't have to be the end of our story.

This Is Love is a new three-week series starting on Easter Sunday. What we know is that God loves us – but we could spend a lifetime discovering just how deep this love is, and how powerful it is to transform us from the inside out. Ask a friend or neighbor to join you as we go through this awesome series together!

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation.

The old has gone, the new is here!"

(2 Corinthians 5:17)

Jesus died for love, and He rose from the dead because love makes all things new. Find that love, and you will find new life, too. God knows you, and He knows why He made you. You are amazing, and He wants you to see it.

May God bless you with a wonderful celebration of the resurrection of Jesus!

Pastor Bob

Music Ministry Notes



We are thrilled to welcome three new singers to JUMC's

Chancel Choir this season!

Jolene Bierly

Jean Graber

Leslie Margolis

Come on out and give CHOIR a try!

SPECIAL MUSIC for HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

Trumpet & Choir

Good Friday

String Quartet & Choir

Easter

Brass Quartet & Choir



JUMC Children Sing and Ring

The JUMC Children's Choir has been doing a beautiful job of singing and playing the bells this year. Hopefully, everyone has had the opportunity to experience the joy of watching them praise God through song. The children perform in church once a month at the 9:15 am and 11 am services.



Upcoming performances:

Sunday, **March 24**

Sunday, **April 21** (Easter)

Sunday, **May 12** (Mother's Day) - May 12 will be their last performance before summer. Rehearsals will resume in mid September. All children are welcome to join. Practice is held every Thursday at 6 pm, and is located in the Children's Choir Room, which is across from the Music Room.

For more information, contact Lisa Durst-Hestnar at jumc.childrens@gmail.com



Looking to join a **Sunday morning Adult Sunday School**? Then meet us in the Library at 9:30 am. For more information, contact Marilyn Mansfield at mansfield84@gmail.com

Interested in a **Seekers Class**? We meet Sunday mornings at 10 am in the Resource Center. For more information contact Bill Ackerman at backerman1@verizon.net



Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. We know it hurts, and we want to help.

Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 am, April 10th – July 3rd at Jarrettown Church
Register thru Jarrettown.church or contact Jean Graber for information

JUMC MOPS: Learning, Sharing and Growing Together

The Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) celebrated the holidays by having a fun gathering featuring ugly Christmas sweaters/outfits, an attic treasure gift exchange and some yummy treats. January and February meetings focused on the theme of "Taking Care of You." All moms need some time to pamper themselves, but many forget to do so.



The January meeting focused on self-care for women, which included a talk from a life/fitness coach, and offered a demonstration of some simple exercises moms can do anytime and anywhere to stay active. In February, there was a free mini-yoga class with aromatherapy. This was a very relaxing morning on a cold winter day. The February meeting also kicked off the final fundraiser of the year. To stay in tune with the health and wellness theme, MOPs is selling intro kits of essential oils from doTerra. Each kit includes a bottle of lavender, lemon and peppermint, and is \$30. MOPs will receive \$10 for every kit sold. This event is open now until March 19. Checks can be made to JUMC MOPS. There are information kits in the church office or you can see Lisa Durst-Hestnar for more information. These kits make nice gifts for birthdays, holidays, teacher appreciation and Mother's Day too! The proceeds benefit JUMC MOPS to help support the groups costs for supplies, childcare, service projects and renewing the charter for next year.



Our group meets on the third Tuesday morning of each month from 9:30 to 11:30 am. We welcome all moms of babies and young children to join and celebrate the journey of motherhood together! Childcare (nursery and preschool) is provided by wonderful members of JUMC. Childcare volunteers are needed – please contact Debbie Ackerman if you would like to help.

If you are a mom and would like to join us or have a mom in your life that would benefit from some quality time with other mothers, please share this information with them. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information or to register, please call Lisa in the church office or email the group leaders at jumcmops@gmail.com.

A Minute with the Trustees

We begin 2019 moving forward with several projects that have been in the works. We will soon begin installation on the new supplemental heating/air conditioning for the Ark. The units have been delivered with plans to begin installation in the coming months. We will follow up with improvements in the basement area.

Throughout 2019, the Trustees have begun planning to improve the lighting in the Friendship Center, Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary, and Sunday School Rooms with more efficient LED technology. An electrician has been contacted to assist with these transitions.

The winter months can play havoc with moisture penetrating walls due to freezing and thawing water. These leaks can be very difficult to determine the source and the best fix to eliminate any reoccurrence. You may have noticed some of these water leaks throughout the Jarrettown facilities. The Trustees have already begun to address these issues with repairs underway. Another improvement scheduled for 2019 will be to replace the rotting wood by the entrance way at Fellowship Hall.

We are encouraging communication with the office for anything someone would like to be put on the Trustees agenda. Many of the repair items are brought to our attention by a congregant that noticed a problem.

In his service, Steve Hamilton, Trustee Chair



Interested in becoming a Jarrettown UMC Member? Please contact the church office - JarrettownUMCoffice@gmail.com

Fellowship Hour
Sundays at 10:15
Friendship Center -
Join us!



Need a Jarrettown Nametag? Order forms on rack!



Weekly Sermons can now be found on the website - Jarrettown.church

JUMC Family Ministry

MLK Day of Service Update & Thanks – January 21, 2019



The Rise Against Hunger team helped us assemble over 16,000 meal packs. Plumstead High School had 70 Sr high students participate. Thanks to the JUMC set-up team who came early to help set up and unload the truck (in the very cold weather). Thanks to our financial sponsors - SSC Distributors Kitchen Cabinets & Custom Millwork (Barry Scholtz), Thrivent Financial member donations and Thrivent Financial Associate, Rick Graber, and Keller Williams agent Tara Garrison.

OHAAT projects were very well received and attracted

some community families. Everyone enjoyed making blankets, pillowcases and stuffing bears. In addition, Plumstead Christian middle school students made 34 no-sew blankets at their school. Thanks to the project leaders: Nancy Larsen, Michele Scholtz, Wendy Hamilton and Chrissy Pappas (OHAAT representative). We were able to provide lunch for the volunteers thanks to donations from Giant in Maple Glen and Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza in Horsham.



In addition to January 21st, some groups have completed projects during their regular meeting times. MOMentum Aftercare has done a few projects and the two Girl Scout groups that meet at Jarrettown stuffed teddy bears for OHAAT.

Our efforts made the Channel 6 news (our 10 seconds of fame). If you haven't seen the clip it is available on the church facebook page. There was also an article in the Ambler Gazette about Jarrettown's MLK Day.

Hop by Our Easter Egg Hunt - - Join us on Saturday, April 20 at 10 am for a traditional Easter Celebration complete with an Egg Hunt and a visit from the Easter Bunny.

There will be an Easter Bunny photo area for you to take your child's picture. Free chances to win Easter baskets, treat-filled "Guess How Many" jars and many other fun games and activities are planned. Our Egg Hunt will be divided into age groups and located on the grounds of the church. If inclement weather, the entire event will be held in Fellowship Hall. Light refreshments will be served.

All are welcome. Please bring your family and friends. To RSVP or if you would like to donate an Easter basket or items for the counting jars, please contact Lisa Durst-Hestnar at jumc.childrens@gmail.com.



Tween Fellowship

Our Tweens had a "Night Out" on Friday, January 18 in Fellowship Hall. They played a fun game of Capture the Flag in a dark Sanctuary, made 25 Aid for Friends breakfast bags with homemade cards. They ended the evening by creating their own yummy Ice Cream Sundaes.



On Friday, February 22, the Tweens had a fun night of go cart racing, mini golf, arcade games and yummy snacks at the Speed Raceway. Thank you to Liz Bratton and Speed Raceway for their donations to make this an amazing evening.

In the planning stages is a "Stuff and Bowl" event for the end of March. Please contact Lisa Durst-Hestnar for more information, jumc.childrens@gmail.com.



College Care Packages

We will be sending small care packages to the students in March or April. Look for information on what we will be collecting in mid-March.

Girl Scout Sunday – March 10th at 9:15

There are currently 2 girl scout groups that meet at Jarrettown. We will be celebrating on March 10th with Girl Scout cookies! Some of the scouts will be at the door to greet you too!

OHAAT Sew-Haat Ministry

This project (a take-off from OHAAT) is growing. All are welcome to join us on the first Saturday of the month from 9-11am in the friendship center. We sew pillowcases and tie no-sew blankets. We also need people to pin, iron and other misc jobs. Contact Nancy Larsen for more info - nancyglarsen@gmail.com. Donations of cotton quilt fabric are always welcome.



Do you enjoy knitting? Would you like to learn? Our visitation team would love to have some new **prayer shawls** to bring to those who are under the weather. We will provide EASY directions (knit 3, purl 3) and yarn if needed. People REALLY appreciate receiving this reminder that God and their church family cares for them and wishes them a speedy recovery. Contact the church office with any questions - 215-646-4129.

Greetings from Living Hope High School & Connie Damon in Kenya!

I am on my 50-hour journey home from my 6th visit to Living Hope High School. As I sit here thinking about just how to tell you, my church family, about my experiences, I am overwhelmed, knowing there is no good way to share with you all I saw and felt. From our arrival when the entire student body was gathered outside in the late afternoon, clapping and singing to welcome us, to the tearful farewell as we left, my co-worker and I felt wrapped in the love and gratitude of students and faculty there at the orphanage.



It was a joy to have the students proudly show us the changes in the campus since our visit last year. The security fence we at JUMC helped to finance has achieved its purpose of providing safety for the children as well as prevention of thievery from outsiders and wanderings of neighbors' cows coming onto the property to eat grass our two cows need. The Healing Hut which we helped to build provides medical care for the students for the first time in the 10-year history of Living Hope. Nurse Catherine, my co-worker and I tested the students for a variety of diseases and provided the necessary medications and vaccinations for those who tested positive. We set up a record system including family history of the students and did health counseling as needed.



Praise and Worship gatherings mornings and evenings gave opportunities for witnessing, leading worship and prayer with the students. The Kenyans' love of singing and dancing results in worship services that can go on and on and ON as students praise God.

Although I wasn't able to visit my Kenyan "daughter" who I am sending to the University of Mombassa, we did talk by phone several times. What a blessing to be able to spend time with Roy Wafula, a 3rd year student my Sunday School Class sponsors...to hear him talk about his future goals and to see him acting in leadership roles at Living Hope. He is #1 in his class and says he wants to make us, his sponsors, his teachers, and Kenya proud of him. Between Marilyn Uhl's and the children's greeting of KARIBU NYUMBARI (Welcome home) to their KWA HERI (Good-bye) I was asked over and over to be sure to express their appreciation for all the help Jarrettown Church has provided to make Living Hope able to grow and thrive.



Sponsorship is needed for 20 of the new students. If this is something you might feel called to do, I can guarantee you will feel-as I do-that you are helping a poverty-stricken child to receive a Christian education. Go to livinghopehighschool.org to see how you can be a part of sponsorship. I would be glad to talk to you about this if you have any questions.

I hope to have the opportunity to share more with you. I feel so blessed to have had the opportunity to go and serve in the name of our gracious Lord, as your ambassadors on the other side of the world.

Children's Sunday School

Sunday School Classes begin after the Children's Moment at 9:15 am Service.
Nursery Care is available during the 9:15 am and 11 am Services.
Classes: Preschool, Kindergarten & 1st Grade, 2nd & 3rd Grade, 4th to 6th Grade

Join Us for Sunday School - March 2 begins the Spring session of Sunday School. The children will continue to learn and grow in God's loving ways. This is also a fun time as they learn and celebrate the Easter season during their lessons and through activities. The children will be making butterfly habitats on Sunday, April 7 during Sunday School.

We are still looking for a part-time teacher in the 4th to 6th Grade Classroom. If you have a calling to educate this great group of tweens and/or are interested in learning more about this role, please contact Lisa. Thank you to all children who participate in the Sunday School offering each week. The money raised supports our Compassion Child. Due to the wonderful generosity, we were able to cover all costs for our child in 2018 (\$456).

Sunday School Check-In System

Just a reminder for parents/guardians to check in and sign out their children for Sunday School. The Check-In Chart is located in the lobby to the left of the Sanctuary doors. The sheets are in your child's classroom for quick sign out when you pick up.



Family Playgroup: Fun for the Entire Family

Our next Family Playgroup is Sunday, March 10 from 11 am to 1 pm in Fellowship Hall. This is a great time for children to play while parents socialize. For the kids, there will be a moon bounce, craft and games, and make your own pizza. Please bring a snack to share!

RSVP or questions, please contact Lindsey Sachs at sachs.lindsey@gmail.com.

This year's **VBS** will be held July 8 to 12 from 9 am to Noon. Our theme is **"Roar! Life is Wild. God is Good."**

We offer preschool for 3 to 4 year olds, and elementary groups from K to 4th Grade. All children will work in groups and explore bible stories, crafts and science, games, snacks with a different bible theme each day. There is always something new to learn while the kids dance and sing to the music at the daily opening and closing assembly. There is also a week long mission project and an open house for parents. Registration information is available in the church office, welcome center and jarrettown.church.

An aftercare program will be available from noon to 5:30 pm for an additional fee. If you are interested in having your child participate, please contact Lisa Durst-Hestnar at jumc.childrens@gmail.com.

There are many fun opportunities for those interested in volunteering during this wonderful program. Contact Lisa for more information about volunteering for our VBS program.



UnStuck Update from the Worship Action Team - As some of you may have either read or heard about recently, the Worship Action Team was formed as a result of the UnStuck Leadership Retreat weekend held back in July of 2018. The current mission of this team is to explore ways to improve all of our worship experiences here at Jarrettown, and the team has been very busy lately collecting as much information as we can to ensure we are well educated before making any recommendations to Church Council.

To share with you a little insight on what has happened to date, we've held a focus group session with young families of our congregation about their needs and observations; conducted a series of secret shopping exercises with local churches in and around the Jarrettown community; analyzed our worship attendance records over the past 14 years; and lastly, held a series of meetings with our team and our UnStuck consultant to discuss the findings and ways to move forward. To date we have not come to any conclusions on any of the services but we are gaining a lot of knowledge about them and we are being prayerfully patient and mindful about any recommendations or changes. However, there are a couple of events that took place recently that are important to JUMC and how this team will begin to frame the discussions around our contemporary service.

This past January I shared with Pastor Bob and the Worship Action Team members that I will be stepping down as leader of the Praise Team effective at the end of May this year. This was not an easy decision to make, but I've given a lot of prayerful thought on this matter, and I do believe that this is the right time for me, and as I think about Jarrettown and the critical need to grow our church, it's the right time for Jarrettown as well. There are many reasons I can share, but after 14 years of leading and playing on the Praise Team I do believe the Good Lord has other plans for the 9:15 service. Jeremiah 29:11 says it best: For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Some of you might initially think this is "bad" news - but I can assure you that it's not. In fact it's quite the opposite! As I shared with Pastor Bob and the Worship Action team this is an opportunity for our church to redesign the contemporary service in the context of a very different community that is surrounding Jarrettown than it was back in the day when this service was initially created (1997-1998). Whether we like it or not, the community and culture has changed and now is the time for Jarrettown to recognize those changes and to implement a service that will be more attractive to our young families that we all want to see more of at Jarrettown!

But to accomplish that there must be change. And the good news is that some of that change is already underway. Under the leadership of Pastor Bob and the SPRC, the Church Council just approved a proposal from Adlib Music to help Jarrettown find and hire a worship leader for the contemporary service! So, who is Adlib Music? In short, they are a consulting company that helps churches to resource their contemporary services - everything from hiring, coaching, and education. (See Adlibmusic.com) And we are now in the process of engaging with them to help us in this endeavor. There will be much more to come on effort, but this will be a great opportunity for everyone to rally around a new beginning for the contemporary service - one that will hopefully become the future growth engine for Jarrettown.

Finally, you should all know that the last 14 years with Jarrettown and the Praise Team has been an extraordinary blessing in my life. It has changed me in ways I never knew existed, and I would not trade any of it for anything. For me personally just arriving at Jarrettown is nothing short of a miracle - a God moment that cannot be denied and I recognize that every time I stand at the front of the church and look out into the congregation. I thank each of you and my praise band mates for allowing me to have the privilege of leading this ministry. I am convinced God will move again in ways that will bless Jarrettown if we are faithful and allow Him to guide us all in this next journey. I know that now more than ever before.

In HIS Service, Frank Malfi

Men's Ministry

"Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord" Romans 12:11

Our super bowl tail gating breakfast in February kicked our 2019 season off to a great start. Besides another spectacular breakfast creation from our very own Chef Jon Klinger the men competed over 4 different games of Corn Hole, Ladder Ball, Football toss and Field Goal Flick. It was a morning of great conversations, fellowship and fun competition.



The Men's Ministry has a passion for service and our next 3 months will be busy recognizing and serving our community and church:.

In **March** (3/2) we will recognize our young men in the church who are serving our church and our community. Come out and recognize these special Men.

In **April** (4/6) we will serve our community with a breakfast sandwich car wash morning. We need people to show their service and love to our community.

In **May** (5/11) we will recognize all the women in our church who are Mom's and Mother figures. Men will be serving these great women a spectacular breakfast.

Every one of these breakfast events will be an opportunity for each of the men to grow in their relationship with God. Our mission is creating an environment where we are growing, encouraging and strengthening our relationship with God consistently seeking His purpose for our group, our church and each of us individually.

It will be a great 3 months and we would love for you to **join us for breakfast on these upcoming Saturdays 3/02, 4/06, and 5/11 at 8am in Fellowship Hall.**

Please note that May's men's breakfast will be the 2nd Saturday (5/11) instead of the first Saturday of the month. We will be serving OHAAT on 5/4 instead.

See Mike Pancione if you would like to volunteer to support **OHAAT**. We serve this Ministry every month so there is always a great opportunity to make a difference.

In Christ's service and love, Ray, Tom and Jon

Also..... Please bring your coffee and join us for **Men's Devotions** led by Barry Rose every 1st & 3rd Saturday in the Friendship Center from 7 to 7:45 am

Softball

Our **JUMC Softball Team** is preparing for an exciting 2019 season of friendly competition with other churches in the area and outreach to the community. New players are invited to join the team. Note: A limited number of players who are not currently church members may also be on the team.

We play a 12-game schedule, which begins the last week of April. Games are played locally (Mondauk Park or SPS Industries), take place once a week, and begin at 6:30 PM. Men who would like to learn more should contact Coach Ron Myers at 215-866-8789 or ronald.myers@jefferson.edu for details.

JUMC WOMEN'S MINISTRY - The Women of Jarrettown

The Executive Committee of WOJ has not met formally yet in 2019, but we have some plans for the first half of the year. There will be an **Attic Treasures fundraiser on May 18** in Fellowship Hall. It will feature donated items of furniture, small appliances (no TV's), kitchen items, linens, glassware, dishes, china, antiques, decorations, jewelry, tools, gardening items, toys, books, etc. – (save used clothing for the clothing drive in September). Keep an eye in the bulletin for donation drop off times starting May 4. We also expect to serve lunch and have our annual plant sale supplied by Jon Klinger and the students from Lakeside School. Supporting this fundraiser benefits not only our Women but the Lakeside students as well. Mark your Calendars!!

Our circles (Rachel, Martha and Priscilla) continue to meet and share fellowship on a regular basis. Rachel circle has been primarily involved in preparing 80 meals for Aid for Friends every other month (those meals are greatly appreciated as they add to the meals made by our home cooks and other groups). Rachel Circle is also looking to have a devotional time on the alternating months. Priscilla Circle has been eager to support Connie Damon in her annual mission trip to Living Hope High School and is among the first to hear her stories. Martha Circle continues to live up to its name in providing service and kitchen help for church events. The circle is growing in number and welcomes new faces. There is more than enough room in our church for a new circle, maybe one built on our numbers of young families. Please contact Tom Kerrigan or the church office if you feel led to share your faith in whatever way inspires you.

WAWA SHORTIE COUPONS — 5 for \$20—Like hoagies? Then help us with our local missions fundraising. Coupons are available in the Welcome Center and church office.

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES - If you are interested in joining a group or being a leader contact Jean Graber. A women's small group bible study is meeting Wednesday evenings monthly. We are reading the book "Pew Sisters" by Katie Schuermann. Every woman in the pew has a story of God's Faithfulness, and women love to revel in one another's experiences and celebrate the sisterhood of believers. Pew Sisters helps get that celebration started. For more information, contact Kim Kellenbenz kolebenz@comcast.net

A Minute on Finance

At Jarrettown UMC, we are blessed with a wonderful staff and facilities, but Winter and Spring can be hard on the building, grounds, and even attendance at worship.

Our budget of \$455,000 includes provisions for heat, light, air conditioning, snow removal and repairs. We must continuously comply with all township building codes. We rely on your continued steady financial support to insure we can maintain our programs and missions. Please read the last page of our weekly church bulletin that shows our budget versus weekly offerings received. Information on electronic giving is available on jarrettown.church, bulletin or office.

Thank you all again for your faithful giving, and that we use our gifts to relieve suffering, make disciples, and glorify God. - The Finance Team

STAY CONNECTED! Never been on JUMC's online directory?

Go to Jarrettown.ccbchurch.com* (You can also access the directory through the website, **Jarrettown.Church** - scroll to bottom of home page and choose **Membership Directory**) Click on the small blue words that say **Sign Up**. Type in your **email address** and a link will be sent to you. Contact the church office if you need some help. (*Chrome browser works best)

Once logged onto **Jarrettown.ccbchurch.com** you can explore all it has to offer, including **JUMC's Online Directory** with the people tab. **After Logging in - you can check out your Personal Giving Statement** by choosing **Involvement** and then going to the Financial box (need help? Call the church office).

WE would love to have an updated picture for the directory - stop in and we can take your picture or just email one to the office.

CONTACT WENDY IN THE OFFICE FOR HELP USING THIS GREAT RESOURCE!

**You can also access our Facebook page & weekly sermons from the website—
"like us" on Facebook!**

Challenge from Church Council

Have you ever wondered if God can hear you? The short answer is yes, He does! But there are times when life just hits you so hard that you do question the master plan and if there, in fact, is one. I pray pretty much everyday as I am sure most of you do also. I have from time to time even prayed for myself. Usually, as with the prayer chain, I am praying for someone I know who is in need. I pray, and then there is an outcome. Sometimes the outcome is what I prayed for, and sometimes it is not. Sometimes the outcome is horrific which makes me wonder if He heard me.

At Church Council meetings, we usually pray for divine guidance. We pray for Jesus to be present with us, to guide our thoughts, conversations and decisions on the path that He chooses for us.

I am in no way qualified to tell you what the answer is but I would suggest to you that the answer is in the question. Perhaps the question shouldn't be, "is He listening to me?", but rather "am I listening to Him?".

Well that should stir some thought, so now...**I would like to know if YOU are listening to me.** Please send me an email, text, talk to me to acknowledge that you read what I wrote and if it stimulated your thoughts.

Greg Diehl
pkegs2002@yahoo.com - 215-219-3567

Missions

Corner

A Glimpse into North Hills Food Cupboard - Our dedicated and caring JUMC volunteers continue to serve the low income families of the North Hills area. We serve an average of 18 families a week and in 2018 we served a total of 832 orders. At Thanksgiving our cupboard families received a frozen turkey and all the additional trimmings for their Thanksgiving meal. The trimmings were provided by generous donations from JUMC people.



At Christmas time we again provided our families with a turkey and all the trimmings. We also gave each family a gift box of fruit and a customized bag of approximately 15 pounds of vegetables. Our Sunday School children beautifully decorated the bags for the vegetables. In total we purchased 824 pounds of produce. The fruit and vegetables were paid for and put together by two Thrivent Action Teams. Also the children in our families received Christmas gifts which they had requested. These gifts were donated through The Mattie N. Dixon Community Cupboard.

Fresh produce has become a regular weekly item at NHCC. During the growing season our families enjoy the wonderful fresh vegetables and herbs from the Jesus Victory Garden. Thank you so much to Kati for her leadership and all the superb gardeners. When the Jesus Victory Garden is not producing we purchase fruits and vegetables which are gratefully received by our clients. We always need monetary donations in order to continue providing this produce.

A recent addition is that once a month a nurse from Jefferson Abington Health comes to the cupboard and clients can have their blood pressure checked if they wish. Several of the clients have taken advantage of this service.



Whenever possible we link clients to much needed resources such as help with car repairs and Beds for Kids, etc. Our team of volunteers create an atmosphere of caring and acceptance for our clients and do whatever is possible to help improve the lives of our clients.

Please pray for all involved in this mission-the clients, donors, Jesus Victory Garden gardeners and NHCC Volunteer Team. If you are interested in helping with this mission please contact Sue Baybutt 215-896-1529 or Wendy in the church office. On behalf of the NHCC clients thank you to all who donate or help in any way to this mission. Your generosity really makes a positive impact in the lives of low income families.

Thank you to all- The North Hills Community Cupboard Volunteer Team

Red Cross ALERT! Due to the recent Federal Government shutdown, a number of host facilities were closed so there was a substantial decrease in collection. Supplies are being distributed to hospitals faster than donations are coming in. **The next blood drive will be on Thursday, March 14** from 1:30 to 7:30 pm at Temple Sinai.



The **Jesus Victory Garden** (JVG) needs your help in order to continue to provide wholesome produce to local food pantries, such as the North Hills Community Cupboard, which is staffed by volunteers from Jarrettown United Methodist Church. Since 2011, we have supplied over twelve thousand pounds of vegetables, fruit, and herbs to agencies serving our neighbors in need. In order to meet our goal of one to two thousand pounds this coming season, we urgently need volunteers to adopt one or more garden beds. Adopting involves readying the bed for its crops, planting, weeding, harvesting, and preparing the bed to overwinter at the end of the season. We usually plant in April and often have a later planting for our fall harvest, depending on the crop. Until the harvest picks up in June, gardeners typically only need to check their bed once a week to weed. After that, they will weed and harvest twice a week until the season slows down and we revert to harvesting once a week.



We encourage students to help in the garden. Alana, who started when she was in middle school, says: "It is nice knowing that the seeds I plant today will feed hungry people later."

While we need several people who are willing to commit about an hour a week for the whole growing season, we also need people who want to help out now and again or even just once. Gardening is good exercise but not everyone's dream volunteer position. Less-intense, infrequent activities like counting seeds or plucking wild raspberries also helps the JVG. Perhaps you'd like to weigh and/or deliver produce or weed a bed now and again. We can always use extra volunteers to set up the garden in the spring or put it to bed at the end of the growing season.

There are other ways in which you can help. We love to pass on the extras from home gardens to those in need. Please contact me if you want to contribute from your home garden. This year we are hoping one of our friends of the garden will donate an all-weather outdoor chair or stool, preferably with wheels. Used is just fine.

It is not too late to volunteer to help your neighbors. If you are interested in lending a hand, please email Kati at JVGGrows@vivaldi.net.

The mission of **St. Philip's church** is to share with others the gift of God's love through our service, witness and life together. We are committed to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ through word and deed, calling people to salvation in Christ and to live the tenets of Christian faith in love and service to others.

Our community meal requires many hours of logistics support for meal preparation and program development. We feed an average of 55 people each Wednesday. Our meals consist of a hot entrée, vegetables, bread, dessert and beverage.

We appreciate the support of the mission team and all the volunteers who helped make the breakfast for St. Philip's UMC mission program (food cupboard and meals) possible. Jarrettown's church and friends donated \$521.00 for the breakfast event. Thank You! **We continue to need the following food for the cupboard: Cereal, Tuna, Canned Fruits/ Vegetables, PB&J, and Pasta Products.**