

The Nexus

Presbyterian Church
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JUNE 2023

E. Stroudsburg, PA 18301
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Nicki's News

Dear friends and members,

I was caught off guard when I heard a favorite saying from Bernard Harnick, a marriage and family counselor in Zurich, "Love is a willingness to be frustrated!" I have to say frustration isn't the first word that comes to mind when I am thinking about love. Yet, I realize that he is referencing Ephesians 5:21 "Out of reverence for Christ, yield to one another." As Bernard will explain, often in a relationship be it partner, family, church, or any relationship, one individual may want to do something that we don't want or don't like. It may even be the opposite of what we want. Yet, this passage reminds us that, out of love and reverence for Jesus, we are to be willing to be frustrated.

We are to yield to the other person's preference and to do so without grumbling or complaining. We are called to be willing to suffer that they may know joy, just like Jesus suffered so that we may know joy. Keep in mind though, that a healthy relationship will see this type of love go back and forth. It is not suggesting allowing abuse, but to let more go of what we might think is the right way. In these times it's easy to let our frustrations get the best of us and act out in angered ways. May we choose though, to be like Christ, allowing ourselves to be willing to be frustrated to show Christ love.

In His Peace,

Pastor Nicki

Nexus Deadline

The Nexus deadline for the July issue is Monday, June 26th.

Nexus Sponsor

This month's issue is being sponsored by **Ron and Connie Powell** in memory of loved ones. We are looking for sponsors for our future Nexus issues in 2023. If you are interested in sponsoring an issue, the cost is \$35.00. Please notify Jen, in the church office or sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Task Lists

We appreciate so much everyone who has signed up for a task or to help with tasks in our church. Time is one way we can give back to God for all that God has blessed us with. You are invited to keep checking the task list and see if God is calling you to serve and give of your time. Don't forget too, if you have a new idea of something that God has laid on your heart, just fill out a task form and turn it into the office. May God use each of us in the way that God sees best fit.



Children's Sunday school's final Sunday morning class will be June 4. Miss Kylee was grateful for their active participation in this year's classes. She looks forward to seeing all your smiling faces throughout the summer, but especially next school year when Sunday school begins again.

Small All Session gathering

In the work that this shared ministry team has been doing, planning has begun for a Fall Seminar on *Living and Dying Well*. They are looking for individuals who may be interested in helping with this planning. If you are interested, please see Sandra Rydell, Lisa Swanson, or Pastor Nicki.



Thank you to Our Choirs

As we approach the summer season, I would like to take the time to thank the members of the Choir and Bell Choir for their dedication and willingness to lend their talents to God. Their performances this season have been outstanding. I am so blessed to have these people in our congregation. I look forward to September when the Choir and Bell Choir will again grace us with beautiful music performances. If you are interested in joining us in either group, please speak to me.

~Linda Schaller

THE PC(USA) WILL BE ON PBS!



For over 200 years, Presbyterians have been responding to the call of Jesus Christ, sharing the gospel with others and bearing witness to Christ's saving love to the ends of the earth. ***The Holy Spirit is still on the move, calling us to share what God is doing in the world.***

To support this mission, the PC(USA) has partnered with the Viewpoint project – a producer of high-quality social and educational documentaries for public television with the mission of positively impacting our communities and the world.

This educational segment focuses on the denomination's Matthew 25 commitment to creating healthy, just communities and a radically inclusive world.

Inspirarity Dialogues

This group is made up of many differing traditions that are fascinating from which to learn. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for this group, please send Pastor Nicki an email at pastornickiv@gmail.com and she will add you to the list. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81144599578?pwd=bjZmb3UwWEedHWkxWcUIUNHlpbmhFUT09>

Meeting ID: 811 4459 9578

Passcode: 621686

Next meeting is Sunday, June 11th at 7:00 p.m.

+16468769923,,88482331820#,,,,*759076# US (New York)

+16469313860,,88482331820#,,,,*759076# US

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 884 8233 1820

Passcode: 759076



Combined Church Youth Group

Join us for an exciting time as we work together to do an escape room at ESPC on **June 4th** from 2-4pm! Bring your party hats because this escape room is a birthday party themed. We will hopefully, successfully complete the mission for the day and have some time to discuss future plans. Hope to see you there. Any questions please talk to Pastor Nicki.

In July we are planning to serve the homeless, date and time TBD. August 5th is a pool party at the Denny's house with a rain date of August 6th.

Living into Our Mission

Here are ways we have brought God's light to our community in recent months:

1. We have helped someone move into a new apartment with furniture and home furnishings they needed.
2. We have provided meals for Family Promise.
3. We have supplied food to individuals and have taken food to the North Pantry.
4. We provided temporary room and board for people traveling through our area.
5. We supplied, blessed and delivered backpacks to kids in need.
6. We provided practice space for summer choir practices.
7. We baptized some babies!
8. We completed and are starting a new TOALC session.
9. We have had several Walk & Talks and are starting up again in May.

10. We have given rides, meals and visits to our congregants.
11. We have donated money to Ukraine.
12. We donated funds to Common Threads, Angel's Closet, Angel's & Dragonflies, 2nd Coming Thrift Shop and Timberwolf Pantry.
13. We contributed to One Great Hour of Sharing.
14. We contributed to the Peace & Global Witness Offering.
15. We contributed to Alice Visionary Project.
16. We provided space to the Lehigh Presbytery for some activities.
17. We support *Cares*. Once a week we have young adults with special needs come in and volunteer small chores around the church.
18. We provided for several families for Brighter Christmas.
19. We sent 36 boxes overseas to children for Operation Christmas Child.
20. Some members volunteered to Ring the Bell for the Salvation Army at Christmastime.
21. Sunday School kids made cards and cookies and delivered them to shut-ins for Christmas.
22. We donated money to the Earthquake Relief in Turkey.
23. We started a new task list for our church.
24. We celebrated Lent with shared ministry and meals with neighboring churches.
25. We had an Easter Egg hunt with other churches.
26. We had a Ramadan dinner here at ESPC.
27. We welcomed new members!

Update

I would like to provide an update and thank you for your prayers for my cousin's now 10-month-old grandson, Dean.

Dean was thought to be a healthy, happy 9-month-old when he went for his checkup last month. However, his Friday routine checkup led to open heart surgery the following day at CHOP, for heart failure. It is unclear what Dean's health needs will be in the future, your continued prayers are appreciated.

Peace,
Judy Schreck

Ed & Judy Schreck
Chris & Nicole Vogel
Robert & Hollie Falzone
Ed & Gail Flory
Tom & Bobbie Long

Humor Corner

*Do you know where the waterslides are?
This is our first cruise.*



Birthdays

Celebrating birthdays in **June** are:

Gail Flory, Veronica Charpentier, Judy Shreck,
Callie Falzone, Rick Sanker, Jim Hall, Bob Touw,
Benjamin Santana, Isabel Santana and James
Barrett.



Anniversaries

Celebrating an anniversary in **June** are:

Phil & Theresa Lawrence
Bill and Barbara Cramer
Kerry & Janice Delaney

Walk and Talks

The Walk & Talks have started up again! Enjoy God's beautiful creation and visit with Pastor Nicki and other members of the congregation on Wednesdays at 1:00. Within a short drive of the church, each Walk and Talk is 1 to 2 miles and will last about an hour. Check with the church office (570-421-5821) for weather cancellations, to sign up to get email notifications, or to arrange to carpool.

A full schedule is on the bulletin board in the narthex.

June Meetings & Events

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| June 4 th | ~ Worship, 10:00 ~ No Communion ~ Youth Group, 2-4 (Escape Room!) ~ Last day of Sunday School |
| June 7 th | ~ Walk & Talk, 1:00 |
| June 11 th | ~ Worship, 10:00 ~ Session meeting ~ Inspirarity Dialogues, 7:00 pm |
| June 13 th | ~ Women's Circle, 1:00 |
| June 14 th | ~ Walk & Talk, 1:00 |
| June 18 th | ~ Worship, 10:00 |
| June 21 st | ~ Walk & Talk, 1:00 |
| June 23 rd | ~ K-Group, 1:00 |
| June 25 th | ~ Worship, 10:00 |
| June 26 th | ~ Nexus Deadline |

Church Elders

Sharon Laverdure Ellie Buff
 Sandra Rydell Judy Schreck Jim Hall
 Phil Lawrence Debbie Prince Lisa Swanson

Editor: Jen Carmella

Contributing Editors:

Ellie Buff, Kathy Johansen, Sandy Rydell,
 Linda Schaller, Judy Schreck

Church Staff

Nicole Vogel
 Jen Carmella
 Linda Schaller
 Sami Carmella
 Keith Karkut

Pastor
 Secretary
 Music Director
 Nursery Attd.
 Tech./Sexton



Nexus Staff

Pastor: Nicole Vogel

June 2023

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----|-------------------------------|--|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 Worship. 10:00 Youth Group 2:00-4:00 Escape Room! | 5 | 6 | 7 Walk & Talk, 1:00 Levee Loop Trail | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 Worship, 10:00 Session Meeting Inspirarity Dialogues, 7:00 pm | 12 | 13 Women's Circle, 1:00 | 14 Walk & Talk, 1:00 Caldeno Falls | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|----|--|----|----|--|
| Worship, 10:00 | | | Walk & Talk, 1:00 Glen Park | | | |
| Happy Father's Day! | | | | | | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |
| Worship, 10:00 | Nexus Deadline | | No Walk & Talk Scheduled | | | |