



# *The* Messenger

August 2020

## From Martha

Happy August! For me, August has always held the highs and lows of birthdays and the beginning of school. This year, my sense is that this August has quite a bit more anxiety. I want to begin by saying that I continue to keep you all in my prayers and to hope that, as a community, we continue to find ways to support each other and live out our faith together. I have continued to work some hours each week at Westminster-Canterbury, mostly Monday mornings for Bible study and then Wednesday afternoons on the bridge. Both are very rewarding and pleasant and have afforded me lovely opportunities to see some Peakland members I had not seen in a long time and to meet new people. Our Bible study there has been reading through Proverbs, which is one of the reasons that I chose that book as a focus for the next month in worship. Also, I really like the idea of Wisdom, shouting in the marketplace, inviting us in. Also, I like that Wisdom is female, but you already knew that one. Some dates to note in worship this month:

**Special music will include Amanda Garber (Allan and Angela Heer's granddaughter); Tim Coleman; Christi Salisbury**

**The church will be completely closed for Sunday School and in-person worship on August 9th to allow for cleaning; worship will be offered that day on our Facebook page and on our website as a video, with a special program of music from our friend, Tim Coleman.**

I will be taking some vacation in August, from the 10<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>, missing one Sunday (the 16<sup>th</sup>). For some of that time, I will go to see my parents and other family members with socially distanced visits; the rest of the time I will be hiking on the Appalachian Trail which, for me, does actually mean I will be hiking the Appalachian Trail, but also probably involves more hotels than might otherwise be assumed. Anyway, I appreciate having vacation time, and look forward to having some down time and then returning to be with you.

### CHURCH STAFF:

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kearse  
Rev. Nathan C. Brooks, III  
Nicole Zulauf

Pastor  
Pastor Emeritus  
Office Administrator

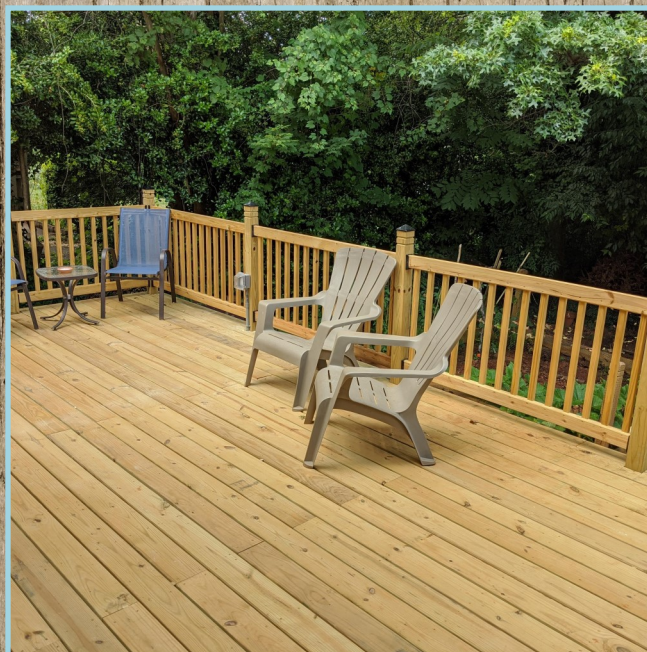
Susan Allen  
Debbie Burton  
Allan Heer

Financial Assistant  
Music Director  
Organist



The Facilities Team would like to report the completion of the deck on the back of the church parsonage. We met all of our goals: deck built to very high standards, deck is inviting, spacious and safe, deck passed inspection, and zero trips by deck builders to the emergency room. The cost of the deck was paid for out of two elements of the Pastor's compensation: the line item for housing and the line item that is set up for attending conferences, which otherwise would have gone unused this year. The work was completed by Jim Ray (chair), Monty Kears (Facilities Team member), Martha Kears, Conner Kears, and Mason Williams. The deck will now be available for small group gatherings of up to 8 people at a time, in keeping with social distancing rules; for now, Thursday evenings are being set aside as a time church members can drop by and visit. Upcoming dates for church visits on the deck are: August 5th and August 27th.

In addition, the basketball goal, purchased by the Prahinski family and offered as a gift to the church, will be installed professionally this month.





### State of our 2020 Finances

As we have concluded the second quarter of 2020, the Finance Team is reporting to our congregation the financial results for the 6 months ended June 30, 2020 as compared to last year for the same period and to our second quarter budget:

	<u>June 2019</u>	<u>June 2020 Budget</u>	<u>June 2020 Actual</u>
Contributions, and other	\$153,071	\$123,610	\$124,489
Expenses	\$139,278	\$155,060	\$134,502
Operating (Loss) Income	\$13,793	\$(31,450)	\$(10,013)
Market Increase-Investments	\$112,066	\$0	\$(20,866)

Despite services primarily being on-line during the COVID 19 crisis, we are surprisingly close to our budget for contributions during the first half of the year. (It is worth noting that in 2019 many of our members had accelerated their pledges and already paid them by June.)

Our expenses are below budget because we have not yet paid any of our insurance (it's not due until December), and have deferred most capital projects. However, we have funded all of our missions during the second quarter and kept all employees

The market value of our investments decreased significantly during the first quarter, but have largely recovered (at least for now) as of June 30. As you know, we do not consider this spendable cash as we know it is our long-term savings and can be very volatile. Our cash and investments total \$1,180,000 with \$908,000 in unrestricted funds.

***Our congregation has remained faithful to the church and we are truly grateful! With continued uncertainty ahead, it is imperative that we all continue to remember the church, with our participation, offerings, and prayer.***

As always, if you would like more information, you may obtain detailed financial statements from the church office or contact me with questions.

Amy Ray, Treasurer

For anyone that may be interested, the minutes from our PBC Congregational Council Meetings are being stored in a binder in the Parlor. As per our policy, these are available to all members at any time.

### Moving4Good

Our *Moving4Good* program continues! Way to go Team Riley for pickle-balling to raise funds for Meals on Wheels and to Team Angell for walking to raise funds for Freedom School! Let us know how you're doing in YOUR fundraising/moving! It's hot, but we keep *Moving4Good*!



# AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

## August Worship

- 2 Communion, Special Music by Amanda Garber
- 9 **No in person worship**, special music by Tim Coleman
- 16 Martha's out; Special music by Christi Salisbury
- 23 Regular Worship
- 30 Regular Worship

We anticipate that our current process of worship will continue unless the regulations for health safety change:

- \* Continuing to offer online access to worship through Facebook live, our website and emailed copies of sermon
- \* Continuing to send worship resources and sermons by mail to those who do not have internet access
- \* Offering space for those who wish to worship in person, with face masks and social distancing on Sunday mornings

## Spiritual Formation Offerings

Our Wednesday morning Bible Study

Sunday School Class Information:

Formations: The Formations class has set up the Parlor for social distancing; those who are interested in attending may come to the Parlor at 9:45 am on Sunday mornings.

- 1 Gail Boswell
- 4 Perry Millner
- 5 Gail Aud
- 5 Jeff Curcio
- 5 Parker Lee, III
- 5 Mike Riley
- 8 Jack Riordan
- 9 Gwen Hickson
- 10 Brent Riley
- 12 Marcey Cook
- 14 Allan Heer
- 16 Vic Angell
- 18 Dawn Daniel
- 18 Bill Riley, Jr.
- 18 Cynthia Riley
- 20 George Brady
- 21 Sandra Carroll
- 22 Deborah Raessler
- 23 Esther Kinuthia
- 23 Rondys Cook
- 24 George Cook
- 26 Brenda Brooks
- 27 Daphne Taylor
- 28 Martha Kearse
- 29 Monty Kearse
- 28 Randal Walton
- 29 Anne Flippin
- 29 Bill Riley