



The Looking Tree

Love lives here, Love flows from here...

June 2014

Hello Members and Friends of Head of Christiana,



Rev. Bob Undercuffler
Pastor

Here comes Pentecost!

Sunday, June 8, we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, empowering disciples to move out into the world, sharing the good news of peace with justice and love. Red is the Pentecost color, symbolizing the energy and fire of the Holy Spirit. Yes, wear something red on Pentecost. Bring a geranium plant or two.

Read about the first Pentecost in the Bible, Acts chapter 2. Be astonished. The entire book of Acts may be called the Acts of the Holy Spirit.

The following paragraphs from our Presbyterian **Confession of 1967** describe the New Life the Spirit creates: *The new life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.*

The new life does not release people from conflict with unbelief, pride, lust and fear. They still have to struggle with disheartening difficulties and problems. Nevertheless, as they mature in love and faithfulness in their life with Christ, they live in freedom and good cheer, bearing witness on good days and evil days, confident that the new life is pleasing to God and helpful to others.

The new life finds its direction in the life of Jesus, his deeds and words, his struggles. The members of the church are emissaries of peace and seek the good of all in cooperation with powers and authorities in politics, culture, and economics. But they have to fight against pretensions and injustices when these same powers endanger human welfare. Their strength is in their confidence that God's purpose, rather than human schemes, will finally prevail.

Here is a prayer to be breathed on Pentecost, and the days following:

Open my life, loving God, to fresh winds of Holy Spirit, and may those freshening breezes flow through me to others. Amen.

Grace to you, and peace,

Bob

One of the things we celebrate on Pentecost is the gift of the Spirit to speak in different languages, that we might communicate the joy of the gospel to people different from ourselves. So it is worth asking the question: What different languages are spoken by the people around us?



Kate LeFranc
Associate Pastor

Sometimes it feels like the young adults we're trying to reach out to speak an entirely different language than we do. And that's actually true in some ways! The language of the church we've known isn't the same as the language of the church that will be or might be.

But that doesn't mean that the message of the gospel is changing as it is spoken in different languages. I love the statement from the Lutheran World Federation on the different ways that worship relates to culture:

Christian worship relates dynamically to culture in at least four ways. First, it is *transcultural*, the same substance for everyone everywhere, beyond culture. Second, it is *contextual*, varying according to the local situation (both nature and culture). Third, it is *counter-cultural*, challenging what is contrary to the Gospel in a given culture. Fourth, it is *cross-cultural*, making possible sharing between different local cultures.

(from the Nairobi Statement on Worship and Culture, 1994)

The challenge for us, then, is to see how these four ways are operating in our context here on the Newark - Elkton line in 2014. What is the essence of our worship that never changes? What are the things that are specific to our time and place? In what ways do we challenge the world around us to live the gospel more fully? And, especially as we seek to grow and welcome new people into our midst – **how can our worship cross the lines of our local cultures?** I don't have the answers, and perhaps only God really does. So in this season of Pentecost, how can we invite the Spirit to rest on us? Are we ready for the Spirit to help us speak the gospel in new ways?

Peace,

Kate

SUMMARY OF CHURCH FINANCES

Summary of Church Finances as of April 30, 2014

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income	\$66,627	\$59,074	\$7,553
Expenses	\$64,665	\$61,351	\$3,314
Net Activity	\$ 1,962	- \$ 2,277	\$4,239

We hope to finalize the accounting for the Trail Race soon and report the results in the next issue of The Looking Tree.

Budget Item Explanation: Per Capita Apportionment

Our Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) per capita cost for 2014 is \$31.00 per member, for a total expense of \$3,162, based on our 102 members as of the end of 2013. This item is in our budget under Congregational Expense. Some members have asked for this number for the purpose of including an individual per capita amount in their 2014 church offering. We request that you also please consider including an extra \$31.00 in your giving for this year.

For more information about the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) per capita cost, please see:
www.ncpresbytery.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/PER-CAPITA-OVERVIEW-2014.pdf

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PRESENTS

Betsy VanCulin

Mission: Discovery

July 10 & 11, 2014

Thursday, July 10 from 5:30pm to 8:30pm:

- ▶ A Pot Luck Dinner for all God's Children
 - ◆ Sloppy Joes and drinks for everyone.
 - ◆ Please bring a side dish or dessert.
 - ◆ Adult and Youth Bible studies after dinner.
 - ◆ S'mores outside after Bible study.

Friday, July 11 at 12:00pm

- ▶ Youth will serve lunch at Hope Dining Room
 - ◆ Activities at HOC after returning from Hope Dining Room.
 - ◆ The day ends with a sleepover at the church.

We hope you'll plan on joining us as we discover God's love through mission at Head of Christiana.

CARE & FELLOWSHIP

Jeanne Hastings

Several cards were sent out to members of our HOC family. Thank you cards were received from Campus Ministry and from Andre Gill.

Treats and/or flowers were delivered to a couple of our members. Hosts for coffee hours are set through mid-June. Anyone who can help out in the coming months, please sign up on the sheet provided as you come in the sanctuary door.

Meals for Campus Ministry went well. Many thanks to Lillian Crispin for dealing with changes and handling delivery.

The book shelf for our lending library in Chapel Hall is in place thanks to Kathy and Steve Graham and there are books and magazines to borrow. There will be a sign above the shelf to explain its purpose.

Care and Fellowship will meet for tea on Thursday, June 5 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm at the Blue Hen Bed and Breakfast and a Caregivers' Coffee is scheduled for June 24 at 1:00pm.



PENTECOST — SUNDAY, JUNE 8

On Pentecost Sunday congregation members are invited to wear red to the worship service. Pentecost worshipers are also asked to bring red geraniums with them to be displayed in church and then to be planted in our HOC garden areas at a later date like we did last year.

Remember our special Pentecost offering designated for Children at Risk, Youth and Young Adults on June 8th. There are special offering envelopes in the pew racks. Thank you for your continued generous support.



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Kate LeFranc

The Feasting on the Word bible study classes are taking a break for the summer, but if you'd like to continue with your weekly reading, here are the texts we'll be preaching on for the month of June:

- June 1 — John 17:1-11
- June 8 — Acts 2:1-21
- June 15 — Matthew 28:16-20
- June 22 — Matthew 10:24-39
- June 29 — Matthew 10:40-42



FEASTING
on the WORD™

CONGRATULATIONS

**HOC's very own Julia M. Busick,
2014 Distinguished Service Award Recipient
awarded from Cecil College**

**Commencement Speech given by Chris Ann Szep,
Vice president of Institutional Advancement and Government relations**

“ Each year the Cecil College Foundation invites nominations for the Distinguished Service Award. The award is presented to an individual who has made major contributions of service, financial support, and other resources to Cecil College and the community. It is with great enthusiasm that I recognize Julia Busick as the 2014 Distinguished Service Award recipient.

Julia is a humble woman who may at first go unnoticed. I cannot however, imagine that many people underestimate her after a formal meeting because Julia's charitable and civic contributions are extraordinary. Julia was born and raised in Cecil County. Growing up with modest means during the depression, her parents instilled in her the importance of spending money wisely. Thankfully for us, Julia was watching the college's progression and in 2003, as a member of the Pythian Sisters, she played an instrumental role in the donation of a \$105,000 scholarship to benefit our students. How fortunate are we that Julia thought our students were a wise investment?

Julia's interest in meeting the student scholarship recipients was instrumental in the foundation expanding its scholarship breakfast, which now brings more than 300 donors and students together each September. It is no surprise to learn that Julia remains close with the first Pythian Sisters scholarship recipient because keeping in touch with friends and family is so important to Julia she sends an estimated one thousand cards out each year. Just to make sure I am perfectly clear graduates, those are handwritten cards and NOT text messages, tweets, or posts on Facebook.

Julia is also a steadfast member of the Rebekah's, a Fraternal Order and Service Organization whose members hold fast the true principles of Friendship, Love, and Truth, which they extend through the rendering of community service. Julia epitomizes Harry S. Truman's quote... *“It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit.”*

As a result, it is little known that Julia packs stockings for crewmen spending the holidays in distant ports, snacks for charity cyclists, and along with her dog, Honey Bear, brings great joy to many at a local nursing home. When Julia informed us that she had made a planned gift to Cecil College, we asked what compelled her to be so generous to us? Her response sounded very similar to what we hear from our graduates — *“Cecil College is small but mighty, everyone knows your name — even the president — and whatever you do is thought of highly and is sincerely appreciated. It is a place where you can make a difference and feel like family.”*

We are truly honored to recognize one of Cecil's family, the 2014 Distinguished Service Award Recipient,
Julia W. Busick.

Your HOC family is proud to call you one of our own. Congratulations, Julia!!!

Congratulations 2014 Graduates

Vanessa Marianiello, daughter of Lucy and Vince Marianiello, is the 2014 Valedictorian of Newark High School. She will attend the University of Delaware in the Honors Program majoring in Nursing.

Five grandchildren of Carol and Gerry Cole are graduating this year:

Justine Dombroski, granddaughter, graduates from Vanderbilt University with a MS Degree in Speech Therapy.

Jonathan Dombroski, grandson, graduates from the University of Delaware with a BS Degree in Finance and Accounting.

Sarah Dombroski, granddaughter, graduates from St. Marks High School.

Thomas Dombroski, grandson, also graduates from St. Marks High School.

Gregory Cole, grandson, graduates from Kennett High School.

Emily Anne Southmayd, granddaughter of Ann and Alan Southmayd, graduates with Honors from Penn State University receiving her BS in Kinesiology (the study of human movement).

Jennifer Gayle Southmayd, granddaughter of Ann and Alan Southmayd, graduates with Honors from Penn State University with a BS in Primary Education.

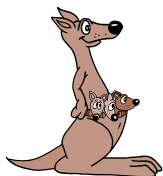
John Daniel Tipton, grandson of Katherine and John Brook, graduates from Penn State receiving his degree in Electrical Engineering.

Sarah Brook Tipton, granddaughter of Katherine and John Brook, graduates Magnum Cum Laude from West Chester University with a Bachelor of Arts and Sciences degree.

Michael Scot Tipton grandson of Katherine and John Brook, graduates Avon Grove High School in Pennsylvania and will attend Penn State University.

MISSION TRIP TO BRIGANTINE

Plans are taking shape for Head of Christiana to send a Mission team of 11 to Brigantine, New Jersey to assist with Superstorm Sandy recovery. Yes, recovery work still remains, and much of the work has to do with families getting back into their homes. A wide variety of skills are needed and projects will be set as the skills we bring are identified. We will also be cooking our meals. The trip, set for August 17-23, will be hosted by Community Presbyterian Church in Brigantine. Sleep accommodations have yet to be defined. We will be joined by workers from other New Castle Presbytery congregations. For more information, contact Jane Murray, chair of our Mission Commission at cairnmurray@aol.com or 410.398.8551, or pastors Bob or Kate. Please sign up on the sheet posted on the white board in Chapel Hall.



"Hoppy"

The "HOP" Event May 2014

April's HOP event took us to the Dickinson High School at 10:00 a.m. to hear a one hour concert played on a theater organ that was originally installed in The Boyd Theater in Philadelphia in 1928 to accompany silent films. I must confess that having been to the Boyd Theater as a boy (think CINERAMA!), I was totally captivated by anything that had to do with that magnificent movie palace, even though they had long since ceased playing the organ to enliven silent films when I was there.

Through the efforts of some local enthusiasts, the Kimball organ was removed from the theater in 1969 and brought to Dickinson High where it has been well-maintained and even enlarged so that it now boasts over 5,000 pipes to give it a wonderful range of sounds.

Mr. Wayne Zimmerman was the organist that day, and no doubt having sized up the audience, entertained us with a trip down memory lane playing popular songs from the 50's & 60's. There was a lot of nostalgic "toe tapping" that morning. It was great fun.

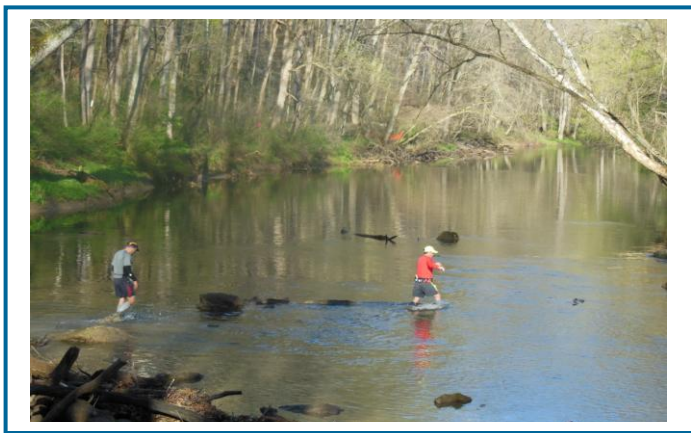


Following the concert, we made our way to the Skipjack Restaurant at the Shoppes at Louviers in Newark for a tasty lunch and some great fellowship.

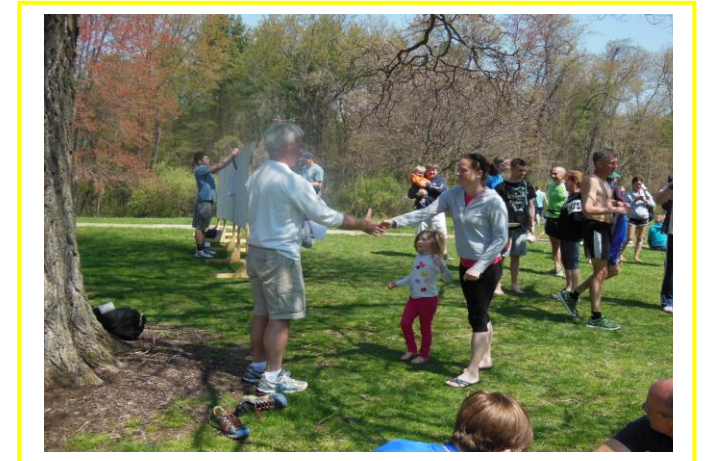
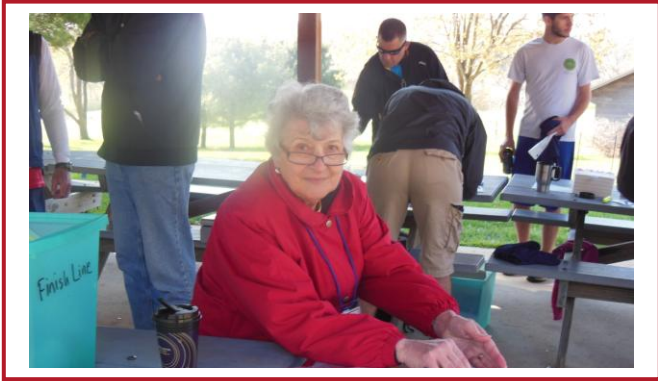


On June 10th we travel to the Auburn Heights Preserve in Delaware State Park in Yorklyn which features a furnished mansion completed in 1897 as well as the Marshall Steam Museum with the largest collection of operating steam cars in the world. Next month, The Looking Tree will feature photos of both our May trip to Olde New Castle as well as ones taken during our exciting June trip to Auburn Heights Preserve.

2014 Triple Crown Trail Race



2014 Triple Crown Trail Race



HOC CALENDAR — June Happenings

Sun.	June	01	11:00am	Recognition Sunday (Celebrating our Sunday School)
Mon.	June	02	7:00pm	Admin & Finance Commission
Mon.	June	02	7:00pm	Building & Grounds Commission
Wed.	June	04	6:00pm	Missions Commission (Chapel Room)
Thur.	June	05	1 to 3pm	Tea @ Blue Hen Bed & Breakfast
Sun.	June	08	11:00am	Day of Pentecost (Wear something red)
Mon.	June	09	6:30pm	Session
Tue.	June	10	9:15am	HOP trip to Auburn Heights Preserve
Tue.	June	10	4:00pm	Worship Commission
Wed.	June	11	11:00am	Outreach Commission
Tue.	June	12		NEWSLETTER DEADLINE (for July Looking Tree)
Fri.	June	13	12:00pm	Hope Dining Room
Sun.	June	15	12:00pm	Father's Day Festivities after worship
Fri.	June	20	12:00pm	HOC serving at Elkton Community Kitchen
Tue.	June	24	1:00pm	Caregivers' Coffee
Wed.	June	25	11:30am	Nifty-Wifty @ Wesley's





Contact Steve Graham at (302) 368-3794 to schedule an appointment. This is a free service for Head of Christiana members.

Sunday, June 15, 2014

Join us after worship today to celebrate all the fathers we love and admire. Special treats will be served in our Chapel Hall. Don't miss it!

June Birthdays



June 1	John Slack	June 14	John Brook
June 1	Sallie Christian	June 16	Clella Murray
June 1	Michael DePaul	June 16	Lew Riess
June 3	Carol Cole	June 17	Deborah Harper
June 4	Ronan DePaul	June 17	Corinne Marquess
June 6	Jim Sawyer	June 19	Sarabeth Gillespie
June 7	Jim Herrington	June 25	Elisabeth Gallaher
June 9	Kristen Riess	June 25	Al Harper
June 10	Clarence Cox	June 29	Mary Lou Oakes
June 10	Dawn Brautigam		