



THE HOPEFUL HAPPENINGS

12106 Frankstown Road, Penn Hills 15235

June 19, 2025 - Issue 2025:12 (occasional)

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LET US JOIN TOGETHER FOR WORSHIP JUNE 22 at 10:30

Bill Haley will be preaching "What's The Difference." You can read Scriptures in preparation: Matthew 7:21-28 (Build your house on the rock) and Romans 3:21-28 (the righteousness of God through faith).

Beatrice will be playing Chopin's "Prelude In C Minor, Opus 28, No. 20" as the Offertory. It is a very pensive and thoughtful piece. Our closing hymn is one of my favorite hymns, "Blest Be The Tie That Binds Our hearts In Christian Love."



Pentecost is celebrated as the birthday of the church. Soon the church will have reached around the world for 2000 years! In Acts 2 we read that the Holy Spirit came down from heaven on everyone, like the rush of a mighty wind and like tongues of fire! One June 8 Rev. Trip talked about firefighters and how forests need to be purged periodically of undergrowth. We need to have the undergrowth of our hearts periodically purged! "Friendly fire came on Pentecost and it comes today. There was a fire under the disciples and in them. "Risk the joy of being transformed by the Holy Spirit. Wouldn't that be cool?"



The sanctuary was adorned with new magic lights—RED! - and red poppies, red cloth draped in the front of the chancel, red paraments, and lots of people wearing red!

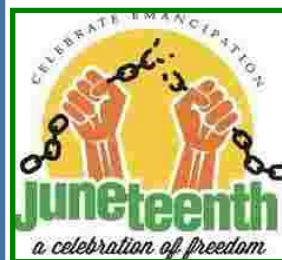




Our choir sang "River In Judea." Although some of you may recall hearing this anthem, it was new to me and profoundly uplifting. Linda Marcus wrote, "Oftentimes I dream of music, of the river that freely flows. And it sings a song sweeter than honey, one everybody knows. ..It fills me up with hope and goodwill...And the time it pauses in the stillness, I almost hear it pray."

On June 1 we sadly said farewell and best wishes to Camila Zanetti. She will be working on her masters in music in Lubbock, Texas. Her violin music has touched our souls throughout these months! She has complemented the piano and choir with her spiritual string resonance! She closed our worship, accompanied by Beatrice on the piano, with "Somewhere Over The Rainbow." "And the dreams that you dare to dream really do come true!" Rev. Trip preached on "Aging Out; Aging Up; Aging In." He closed speaking about Fred Rogers' "soul of spiritual maturity." "He was always fully present with people. He had an inner silence that left space for people walking in the world. They were holy moments, always engaged with kindness and emotional maturity. He left space for God to fill in the quiet moments." Can we become more like Fred?!

Happy Birthday to Bob Racchini (6/20), Chuck Lorence (6/27, Lexi Racchini and David Carlisle (7/2) and Happy Anniversary to Billa and Betty Ann Tis (6/25).



Juneteenth is a combination of the words June and nineteenth. Its origins date back to June 19, 1865, when the last group of people enslaved in the southern U.S. were informed of their freedom under the Emancipation Proclamation. President Abraham Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation more than two years earlier, on Jan. 1, 1863, declaring that everyone held as a slave was, and would continue to be, free. Opal Lee advocated for the day to be a national holiday, which Congress almost unanimously voted five years ago. "People think it's a Black thing when it's not. It's not a Texas thing. It's not that," Lee said. "Juneteenth means freedom, and I mean for everybody!" So let us all share in giving thanks for freedom for everyone!



Father's Day cake and gifts for all the men. Thanks to Hearts and Hands!





Alexandra Newby and Robert Schwerdt were married in our church on June 12 by Rev. David. It was a small, family wedding. Alex's grandmother, Eileen Newby, was able to join on the tablet!

The Sunday before her wedding Alex sang "Hymn of Heaven" on Pentecost" Some of the words are:

So let it be today we shout the hymn of Heaven
With angels and the saints, we raise a mighty roar
Glory to our God who gave us life beyond the grave
Holy, holy is the Lord