

A Note From Transitional Pastor Peter...

Pentecost Summer Sundays—a Time to Plant Seeds for the Fall Pentecost Sundays

Dear Friends,

We have just celebrated the third major festival in the Christian Year—the **Day of Pentecost!** **Pentecost** follows Christmas and Easter – often thought of as the church’s birthday – marks the completion of Jesus’ redemptive work and the fulfillment of his promise to send the Holy Spirit. For Carmel, it marked the middle of our Seven-Week **Transitional Ministry Mission Study** and **Sermon Series**, “**Living into the Seven Marks of Vital Congregations**”.

Two Wednesday night (7:30) **Transitional Ministry Mission Studies** and two following sermons in the **Sermon Series** (10:00 Sunday morning) remain and I want to thank you for such dedication in attending each of the studies and follow-up sermon challenges. Your voice is helping discern the ministry that needs to be implemented now as we transition to your ministry with your new pastor. The Mission Study will be crafted from these discussions, a congregation-wide questionnaire, and visits to key community leaders, local school staff, and non-profits. Your commitment to dedicate your time and share your voice as we shape Carmel’s future ministry and mission is appreciated!

Time from our busy days and evenings is a scarce commodity. There’s a story about the recently deceased 1980’s Secretary of State George Shultz. It’s said he would carve out **one hour each week for quiet reflection**. He would sit in his office; door closed, with a pad of paper and pen, having told his secretary to interrupt him **only if** one of two people called: “My wife or the president.” Schultz claimed his hour of solitude was the only way to find time to think about his job’s strategic aspects. Other times he was constantly pulled into moment-to-moment tactical issues, never able **to focus on larger questions** of the national interest.

Also, for us individually—no matter what we do—I think the only way to do well is **to find time to consider the big picture**—whether in the life of the church as in our Wednesdays and Sundays or in our personal lives. I believe that **Pentecost** is God’s way of encouraging us **to listen to and for the voice of the Holy Spirit**.

As summer begins, our **Transitional Ministry Mission Team** will gather to review the notes and learnings from our discussions to examine **Carmel’s big picture** and how we will focus on faithfully discerning God’s Spirit for us. They will pull

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Congratulations to all of Carmel's Graduates!



High School

Venus Agbadan, daughter of Patricia Agbote, will be graduating from Cheltenham High School in June, and she will be attending Colgate University this fall to major in physics.

Annaliese Bottinger, daughter of John & Denise Bottinger, will be graduating from Abington Senior High School in June, and will be attending Northeastern University this fall.

Abigail Fisher, daughter of Keith & Nicole Fisher, will be graduating near the top of her class from Upper Moreland High School in June. She will be headed to Ursinus College for a major in biochemistry and molecular biology in August. After completing her Bachelor's Degree, she hopes to be able to work in a lab and help discover cures for diseases.

Ian Lindsay, son of Simon & Heidi Lindsay, will be graduating from Springfield Township High School in June, and will be attending Temple University's Fox School of Business this fall.

Travis J. MacBride, son of Travis & Laurel MacBride, will be graduating from Hatboro-Horsham Senior High School in June, and will be attending Temple University in the fall.

Seneca Nakai Miller, son of Heather DiSandro, will be graduating from Central Bucks High School in June, and plans to attend Bucks County Community College in the fall.

Andrew Schuyler, son of Ken & Katey Schuyler, will be graduating from North Penn High School in June, and will be attending Penn State Abington in the fall to major in business.

Higher Education

Cassie Heintz will be graduating this summer with her Master's of Divinity from Palmer Theological Seminary. Her future plans are to complete the ordination process and begin searching for a call as a pastor in the area.

Sarah Heintz, daughter of Steven & Marleen Heintz, graduated in May with her Doctorate of Physical Therapy from Alvernia University. She will be taking her boards in July, and has been offered a position with Theraplay in Wyncote working in pediatric physical therapy.

Michael Santangelo, son of Beth & John Santangelo, and grandson of Gene & Pat Morris, will be graduating from Penn State Abington with a Bachelor of Science in finance.

Maria Santangelo, daughter of Beth & John Santangelo, and granddaughter of Gene & Pat Morris, will be receiving her Masters of Science in occupational therapy from Jefferson.



TRANSITIONAL MINISTRY MISSION STUDY CONTINUES

Our Transitional Ministry Mission Study and Sermon Series "Living Into the Seven Marks of Vital Congregations" has been well-attended and **your voice** on where Carmel has been, where we are now, and where we discern the Spirit is guiding us is well appreciated. The Study & Conversations Wednesdays (7:30-9:00 pm) and the "Living Into ..." Sermon Series Sundays (10:00 am) continue through Sunday, June 13, 2021.

A Zoom link for the Wednesday study is emailed each Tuesday before Wednesday (or can be found on Facebook at *Carmel Presbyterian Church*) and the Sermon Series is during in-person worship or on YouTube at *Carmel Presbyterian Church Glenside*.

Marks of Vital Congregations engaged so far include:

- **Lifelong Discipleship Formation**
- **Intentional Authentic Evangelism**
- **Outward Incarnational Focus**
- **Empower Servant Leadership**
- **Spirit-Inspired Worship**

And the two remaining discussions and sermons are in June:

Week 6: Caring Relationships
June 2, 2021 – Theme Study/Discussion & Carmel Implications (Galatians 6:1-10)

June 6, 2021 Sermon Series— "Living Into Caring Relationships"
Carmel: Congregational Life; Deacons

Week 7: Ecclesial Health
June 9, 2021 – Theme Study/Discussion & Carmel Implications (Matthew 15:1-9)

June 13, 2021 Sermon Series— "Living Into Ecclesial Health"
Carmel: Property, Finance, Investments and Insurance

Continue each Wednesday (and on Sundays) to share your voice to shape our ministry now and into the coming years as we transition into ministry and mission with our new pastor. This past year of the pandemic has only increased the urgency of all of us participating so our portrait of the church that emerges will truly reflect who we are and where we are going! Covid-19 forced many ministry changes upon all congregations, and we have adapted well to some of the challenges; yet we realize we will not return to the same old, same old way of being church. A new reality of doing ministry in this new "mission field" continues to challenge us and urge us to live into the new life Christ promises even now!
— Pastor Peter



Session Notes

The following items were among the reports and business conducted during the Regular May Meeting of Session.

Session welcomed Florence Dyer as the Deacon Representative who provided an update on Deacon activities.

With sadness we accepted the resignation of Elder Bruce Miller from the Board of Session. We are very thankful for Bruce's work, dedication and contributions and we will truly miss him.

Session approved a request from Chuck Monts to publicize his upcoming Mission Bike Ride Fund Raiser. You can read more about this in the Courier.

Session discussed the feedback and response received to date from the Vital Congregations Study. There has been great participation and meaningful discussion that will help Carmel move into the next phase of our Transitional Ministry when we begin searching for a new Senior Pastor. Session looks forward to having the same level of participation, if not more, from our members as the study continues into June.

The Stewardship Committee is sending a letter to all members requesting an update to their contact information and interest in remaining on Carmel's active membership roll. The Committee's goal is to have this updated information completed by year end.

Worship and Sacraments presented several items for Session action. Starting with Pentecost

Sunday and ongoing for the remainder of 2021, we approved to serve communion in the sanctuary by coming forward to receive the elements. With thankfulness we approved to continue to pay David Campbell for singing at all services during the months of July and August. We are very grateful for David sharing his time and talents with us. Lastly, Session approved to the mitigation of the guidelines related to the use of the Sanctuary and church building for an upcoming funeral service.

In conjunction with some of the above requests of Worship and Sacraments, the Church Reopening Task Force presented changes to the Guidelines for the use of the Sanctuary in accordance with the lifting of the government's restrictions effective May 31. Session approved no sign up for worship; no limit on worship attendance; coffee hour for outside with prepackaged snacks and beverages and; no need for a waiver form. This will be put into action starting with Sunday June 6. We will ask everyone to continue to social distance and wear a mask while inside the building.

In preparation for the Fall, when we anticipate Choirs participating in worship again, the Technology Task Force will begin looking at the purchase of additional microphones for the sanctuary to capture the music for live streaming of worship.

The Web Site Redesign Task Force is making great progress working with Worship Times on the redesign of Carmel's website. We look forward to seeing these updates in the coming months.

— Nancy Pinkowicz,
Clerk of Session



Your devoted Deacons hope you are all well, and finding the time to enjoy the beauty of the outdoors and the return to activities that you may have been missing for the past year.

If you are contemplating any spring cleaning, we ask that you remember the **Interfaith Food Cupboard** (located just inside the lobby). Please check for the current most needed items on the Interfaith Food Cupboard website at: <https://www.i-fha.org/what-we-do/food-cupboard/>

The Deacons look forward to sharing our updated webpage with you when the revised Carmel website debuts—stay tuned!

The **Caring for Friends** cook-in will correspond with the VBS program this year; please continue to check the Courier for updates as we will post more information closer to the date.

If you could use a home cooked meal, don't forget **Meals in a Moment!** Carmel members, please reach out to Carol Moll (clmoll@yahoo.com) to request a meal.

Mealtime Love

Are you a Carmel family with school-age children? Would you like a prepared family meal? Our Deacons are here for you! Email Joyce Kornfeld jjkornfeld@comcast.net and say 'yes'. Also include any family food allergies and a preferred night of the week.

Carmel Buddies

Hi Carmel Seniors! Are you spending a lot of time at home and missing your human connections? Deacons would like to connect you with our youth through a new pen pal program. We'll even supply the note cards and stamps. Want to join us? Email Joyce Kornfeld jjkornfeld@comcast.net (or call 215-884-9314) with your name, address and your top 3 interests.

As always, if you are in need of Deacon support or are interested in becoming a deacon, please reach out to me ampmp611@gmail.com or Pastor Ashley at pastorash80@gmail.com. God Bless! — Abigail Clayton

SHEPHERDS



Shepherds still looking for a few sheep from the flock who enjoy playing in a meadow of beautiful flowers. Also helping when needed or called to help out at church by our head "Shepherd". Please call or baa to Melissa Keller at 215-887-1446 or Beth Cherry 215-460-5594

FORMER CARMEL MEMBER BIKING FOR A GOOD CAUSE

For those of you who know me, you know about this latest adventure in my journey of life, faith and service: Biking for The Bowery Mission (TBM), pedaling off from The Union Rescue Mission in L.A. on Saturday, June 5th, and completing the trek at TBM on Sunday, August 1st, all to raise funds for the extensive and vital services TBM provides to hundreds of hungry and homeless neighbors throughout Manhattan on daily basis.

For those of you who do not know me, I am a 61 ½-year-old husband, father of two twenty-somethings, who has been a pastor since 1989, conducting mission trips for youth and adults throughout the country as a way of putting into practice the challenging, life-changing, transforming Call of Jesus to serve the “least of these.”

Biking has long provided me with a path to new places and for good purposes: exploring the countryside of rural PA where I grew up as a child outside of State College, in Reedsville, PA; spending time getting to know the suburbs of Philadelphia when I moved from the country to the big city; my first long bike hike at 15 when I biked from Philly to visit my friends back in Reedsville; going on bike trips with Carmel’s youth group in the mid-70s; and there was the big trip in 1978, biking from Philly to San Francisco with a friend to raise money for a Hunger Charity and for the amazing adventure of it as an 18-year-old, raising \$7000 which wasn’t too shabby for two kids in 1978 dollars. This adventure was embraced on a large

scale by the pastors and congregation of Carmel, where both of our families were members!

There have been other biking adventures over the years, but I’ve always dreamed of biking the country again for another good cause, and that cause came to be The Bowery Mission in Manhattan, because I was fortunate enough to work there these last couple of years, seeing firsthand the significant services they provide the hungry and homeless and troubled; and working with the amazing staff and leadership of TBM that serves those in need with such radical hospitality; responsiveness to ever-changing needs and crises within the surrounding community, such as the pandemics of COVID19 and ongoing injustice, inequality and racism confronting the poor and people of color.

So, I urge you all to visit my fundraiser page at mybowery.org/fundraiser/3166566

Please consider, first and foremost, joining my team as movers this summer (walking, jogging, bik-

ing, swimming, working out on ellipticals), creating your own page connected to my Team Fundraiser page and garnering as many sponsors/donors as you can from your circles of friends, family, neighbors, co-workers, church-members.

THANK YOU SO MUCH to my team of Movers and THANK YOU SO MUCH to those who will be donating to my teammates! I can’t wait to see what comes of our efforts this summer, including updates, posts and pictures on the various media platforms that will be made available.

— Chuck Monts



Stewardship

Summer is almost here! Vacation spots are opening. Some of us are making plans to "get out of town" and see other parts of our beautiful world in the mountains or at the shore. As you make your plans, please remember to keep Carmel in your budget. In addition to our normal expenses, there are additional costs as we provide disposable masks and hand sanitizer for our touch-less dispensers. Hopefully we will be opening soon so funding the regular activities is one of the pleasant tasks in our immediate future.

As we prepare for our new pastor, the committee is working to be sure all our records are correct. You should have received a letter from the committee requesting an update of the ways we can contact you. Please help us by returning the information form as soon as possible. We will correct any misinformation we have and you will receive notices in a more timely manner. Thank you for your help.—Anne Newman

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these learnings into a report for Session. This is good and movement forward toward the selection and election of the Pastor Nominating Committee (November/December). This movement of Carmel is important, yet no less important is each one of us setting aside time to focus and hear God’s will for our lives. So, I want to encourage **all of us** to carve out time – even if only 20 minutes daily – when **God through the Pentecost Spirit can shape our lives**. Be disciplined in finding that time to take a break, relax, and allow a sense of wonder to re-enter your life.

Of course, while things slow down over the summer months, the work of the church continues. To me it feels like Spring was all too short—like it was about an hour sometime in May. It is my hope that our **Session Committees** will each look to the fall and the next church year to sketch out ways their area of Session can build and strengthen our life together safely as the pandemic guidelines open up. I encourage you to continue to reflect on the **Seven Marks of Vital Congregations** and offer your ideas and volunteer as able for a meaningful expression of your faith. Carmel has weathered the Pandemic quite well and looks to be in good shape overall. The discussions have shown tweaks and adjustments and experiments that will be ongoing as we serve you and our community better and live into our new future ministry. We always desire your prayers, insights and service alongside the staff; and we are always glad to see you in worship now that we are in-person (as well as continuing live-streaming) and in the many opportunities to plan and build up Christ’s body.

As we move into the **Pentecost Summer Months**, I want to express my gratitude for those who **volunteer** for the many

tasks that our church undertakes. The tasks are the visible workings of what actually makes our congregation great; that is the often – invisible work done by volunteers giving of themselves, taking the time and making the effort to be helpful, extending grace and compassion to people who enter our circle of worship and influence. **Every member active and sharing in ministry** in some way is one of my goals during the transitional ministry, and it’s great to have so many people showing compassion to others by volunteering either in a drive-by event with inward and outward caring, in worship either in-person or live-streaming, in youth activities ongoing and emerging, or in the larger community to volunteer using personal gifts and skills. This is what has made our congregation strong over the last (almost) 140-years and it is the heart of being a good and faithful servant.

I like the “gentle rule” someone crafted—perhaps in a set-aside quiet time: “Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly, and leave the rest to God.”

Hope results in the **Holy Spirit’s** making all things new—including Carmel. The season of **Pentecost** means renewal and revival in the church. The **Holy Spirit** is renewed in the faithful. With the **Holy Spirit** comes new life and hope.

Let us live in the Spirit!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Peter



Thank You!

Dear Carmel family,
A belated thank you to Nicole Bohlander for delivering the delicious Easter bread. Next year I'll order two loaves!

Also a thank you to Beth Cherry for delivering the beautiful Easter Lily. My sincere thank you to you all for caring.
~Joan Rotenbury

Dear Carmel,
Many thanks for the lovely flowers in honor of our anniversary. They look just as fresh now as the day Cindy Keshishian delivered them. It was so nice to see another Shepherd “live and in person,” and have a chance to talk for a while.

Thank you again for thinking of us.
~Rich & Ruth Kucera

Deaths
IN THE CHURCH FAMILY

Carmel member **George Beck** passed away on May 10th. Please remember his wife Peggy Ann, his daughters Katey Schuyler and Linda Flynn, his brother Charles, and their families as they mourn his loss.

Longtime Carmel member **Sally Hanline** joined the church triumphant on May 18th. Please remember her relatives and friends.

A Very Important Update on Kirkwood Camp:

It is with a heavy heart that the Kirkwood Camp Board of Directors along with the Philadelphia Presbytery announce the decision to close the Kirkwood Camp and Conference Center permanently. This was not an easy decision to make after 60 years of providing a Christian camping experience for generations of youth.

For 60 years, campers have been coming to Kirkwood to make new friends, to try new things, to build their faith in God, and to learn more about themselves in our beautiful outdoor environment. Our ongoing mission has always been to build bridges connecting kids to each other, to the creation we so desperately need to understand and care for, and to learn to love a God that has always known and loved them.

The Board met many times over the last year trying to create a plan that would keep the camp open. With the presence of COVID, the financial loss of two camping seasons and the loss of key contributions, the board, after much prayer and introspection, reached the difficult decision that the camp would need to close.

We would like to thank all of the campers, counselors and churches that have let us be a part of their lives and ministries. We would also like to thank our Interim Director, Ford Behne, for his work during this extremely difficult time. We wish Ford the best of luck in his future endeavors.

The Kirkwood Camp Board of Directors highly recommends that all families wishing to send their children to a Christian based summer camp to explore [Johnsonburg Camp and Conference Center](#). Johnsonburg is an exceptional camp with impressive amenities and is only 20 minutes from Kirkwood, on the New Jersey side of the Delaware River.

Note: Over the years many Carmel youth and adults have experienced Kirkwood for summer camp or youth group and family retreats. Memories of the Kirkwood experience and its contribution to faith development are rich indeed. Carmel is sad to hear this news.

Carmel Christian Education Activities from March 2020 to April 2021

As a follow-up to the opening Vital Congregations Mission Study on “Lifelong Discipleship Formation,” the Christian Education Committee and our pastor liaison, Rev. Ashley Rossi, have compiled this listing of Carmel education opportunities from the start of the pandemic shutdown to the present, May 1, 2021.

We thank all of those who have contributed to these offerings through leadership, teaching, volunteering, and participation. We also welcome your suggestions for future education and invite and encourage your participation, which is essential for a successful program of Christian Education.

--Janet Simon, Christian Education Chair

Adult:

- Wednesdays in the Word Bible Study from March – August, 2020, morning and evening
- Science Touches Christianity with Mr. Eric, weekly
- Outdoor Rally Day with games for kids
- Understanding Racism class, Sept. 2020 to Feb. 2021, Sun. and Wed.
- Small group on spiritual practices
- Advent devotionals and 2 years of Lenten devotionals
- ‘Jesus Sees Women,’ Lenten Bible Study for 6 weeks

Children, Youth and Family

- Science with Mr. Eric for a few months
- Virtual VBS with VBS to go bags and photo station
- Chalk the Lot event at the end of VBS
- Back to School letters/stickers/flyers to families of youth from K-gr.12
- Oasis small group opportunity on spiritual practices
- Outdoor Rally Day with games for kids
- Bibles awarded to 3rd and 4th graders at Rally Day
- Youth Halloween party; Refuge Zooms (2)
- Confirmation Class - 2 confirmed
- Christmas virtual pageant
- Christmas books delivered to all kids under Grade 8
- Holy Week to Go Bags this year and last year with Family Lenten devotionals
- Advent To Go Bags with Family devotionals and Advent wreath makings
- Easter Virtual pageant
- Easter/Spring card project for Edge Hill Nursing Home residents and staff by Refuge and Oasis youth and adults
- Oasis virtual meetings - to meet in person in May
- Mental health challenge for senior high



Carmel's Vacation Bible School for kdg. to grade 5

July 25-29, 6:30-8:00 PM

JOIN US FOR COMPASSION CAMP

- In-person ~Crafts
- Mostly outdoors ~Activities & Games
- Bible stories ~Music & Movement



Register online or via mail: Information in Courier or presbycarmel.org;
pre-registration a must! Registration form is attached to the Courier e-mail or click link:

[VBS 2021 Registration Form - Compassion Camp](#)

LOViNGKiNDness



Carmel Nursery School News

The 59th Graduation Day at Carmel Nursery School is here! On June 8th and June 11th at 11:00 all of the children moving on to Kindergarten will perform a short program for family in the back parking lot. After the program there will be a small celebration. The last day of school is on June 11th.

Soon after school ends, the summer camp program begins. Summer Camp begins on June 14th and runs until July 30th. Parents may choose one week at a time or send their children for all seven weeks. This year there will be a different theme each week and there will be a water play day once a week. Each day the children will join in a structured morning of indoor and outdoor activities and a snack will be served daily.

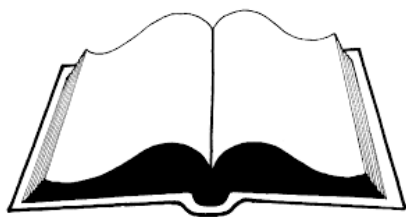
Registrations have begun for summer camp and also for the fall of 2021. Carmel Nursery School offers programs for children aged two years seven months to five. Each program is geared toward that age group while catering to the needs of the individual child. If you are interested in any of the programs that Carmel has to offer, call the nursery school office at 215-886-7677. Better yet, schedule a tour and see why amazing things happen here!

In one of our last articles we posted some items from our wishlist and were so kindly gifted a microwave and some people figures for our doll house from Bonnie and William Miller! Thank you so much !

As this crazy year comes to a close, I want to share what a wonderful year we have had. I would like to thank everyone for their support of the Nursery School, most especially the Nursery Advisory Board, (Ashley Rossi, Katey Schuyler, Karen Bogle, Jan Heckman, and Julia Kozak) and Lynne Schutt, Dick Thomas and Gene Morris. They have given so much time to the nursery school to keep our school heated, painted, safe, and beautiful. The support and encouragement from both church members and school families has been greatly appreciated.

—Leslie Arrowsmith

Lectionary



June 6th – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Semicontinuous: 1 Samuel 8:4-11 (12-15)
16-20 (11:14-15) and Psalm 138

Complementary: Genesis 3:8-15

Psalm 130

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Mark 3:20-35

June 13th – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Semicontinuous: 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13
and Psalm 20

Complementary: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Psalm 92

2 Corinthians 5:6-10 (11-13) 14-17

Mark 4:26-35

June 20th – 4th Sunday after Pentecost

Semicontinuous: 1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23) 32-49 and
Psalm 9 or 1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 10-16 and Psalm 133

Complementary: Job 38:1-11

Psalm 107

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Mark 4:35-41

June 27th – 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Semicontinuous: 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27
and Psalm 130

Complementary: Lamentations 3:22-33

Psalm 30

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

*You,
LORD,
are my lamp;
the LORD
turns my darkness
into light.*

2 SAMUEL 22:29, NIV



Happy Anniversary to:

Harry & Sandy Hurlburt, who will celebrate their 62nd on June 6th.

Charlie & Mary Ann Beck, who will celebrate their 58th on June 15th.

Jim & Mary Eby, who will celebrate their 61st on June 17th.

Bob & Cindy Gerhard, who will celebrate their 53rd on June 22nd.

Jim & Barb Thompson, who will celebrate their 58th on June 22nd.

Ray & Nancy Rose, who will celebrate their 56th on June 26th.

Walt & Anne Newman, who will celebrate their 58th on June 29th.

Enjoy your special day!



Baptism

Avery Joan Moll was baptized on May 2, 2021. Congratulations to proud parents **Tyler and Cassandra Moll**; and grandparents, **Gary and Carol Moll**.



Help Needed Live Streaming

We need your help live-streaming Sunday morning worship! We only have a few volunteers who facilitate the livestream every week, and with summer coming up we will need more to be able to fill in. We will be happy to train! It is not difficult. Please contact Gary Moll at 215-264-0221 or e-mail garylmoll@yahoo.com