

THE CUP



CUP EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

'Join us for a drink of Living Water'



From the Pastor's Desk...

June/July 2022

Dear Cup family and friends,

Last week, one of the smoke detectors in our house started beeping occasionally. We have three – one for the basement and each floor – and the sound happened so occasionally that I had difficulty determining which detector was throwing the signal. By the time I finally solved the problem over the weekend, the beeping had stopped; but that was because the battery had finally died.

Smoke detectors are 'on call' around the clock. That's one of their most important features, because we never know when our lives will depend on their ability to alert us to danger. Nevertheless, they do require occasional maintenance to work accurately. It's easy for us to forget about them, but a home inspector or Insurance agent will check for them immediately.

Today I'm asking you to think of me as your friendly local 'smoke detector' of sorts, although more for your soul than for your body. During the month of July, I have received permission from the Session to take a pulpit sabbatical. I will be available for pastoral care, such as hospital visits and funerals, but I will not be preaching. My reasons for this request are two-fold. First, I am planning on using some of this time to get back to my writing for the doctoral thesis I have been working on. But second, and actually more importantly, I am recognizing the need to get recharged and recalibrated in my attentiveness spiritually and emotionally following the unusual difficulties of the past two years. The current issue of *Christianity Today* has a cover story on this very topic. It's titled 'Emptied Out: Tens of thousands of Pastors want to quit, but haven't. What has that done to them?' While I'm glad to say I'm not thinking of leaving the pastorate, I also recognize that I'm feeling more frayed than normal in recent months. My role as a member of the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry asks me to help step into situations involving clergy and churches where problems have occurred, some of them quite serious. Many of these can be attributed to situations involving high stress, where spiritual leaders made poor decisions, often due to a lack of appropriate care involving their own souls. Taking some time for more extended spiritual retreat and prayer will be of benefit not only to myself, but also to my family, my associates – and to the church upon my return to preaching in August.

I am asking both church officers and members to be extra diligent in supporting our church family in July, by coming to worship and extending care to one another through shared conversations, meals, and get-togethers. Two of our Ruling Elders, Brian O'Roark and Wade Rider, will be preaching during the month, as well as a couple of outstanding pastors, Rev. Harper Brady and Rev. Damon Bratton. You won't want to miss any of them!

July will mark the first time in my 18 years at Cup that I've taken a break of more than two weeks consecutively from the pulpit. I consider it a privilege to deliver the word of God through proclamation on Sunday – it is one of the most important roles I have as your pastor. I trust and pray this pulpit sabbatical will allow me to experience what Isaiah tells us in 40:28-31. *'Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.'*

Blessings,

Pastor Scott



May 29th the Blackhawk High School sponsored their 49th Baccalaureate Service. CUP Church was honored to be represented with speakers, praise team and prayer. We had 4 of our Youth in attendance. It was a special time shared in worship and encouragement.



Youth Sunday was held at CUP Church on Sunday, May 22nd. It is a special day set aside each year when the youth from Crosscurrent Youth Group lead the service under the direction of the Children and Youth Director, Joel Cunniff. The youth handle all aspects of the service from leading praise team and prayer to delivering the children's and adult sermons. This year was extra special including a water baptism and the confirmation of new members.

Pictured on the left is Dane Cox being baptized via submersion by Pastor Scott Graham. Pictured on the right are CUP Church's newest members Matthew McCandless, Kent Rider, Lillian Cunniff and Dane Cox. The group completed a year long Confirmation/Inquirer's Class with Pastor Scott before joining. Congratulations to all!



June/July Calendar

June 2	6:00p DEACONS
June 3	Sanctuary/Hall Reserved—Wedding
June 4	Hall Reserved—Graduation Party
June 5	Graduation Sunday Hall Reserved—Graduation Party
June 7	7:00p Worship Committee 7:30p TRUSTEES
June 12	Sanctuary/Hall Reserved—Scouts
June 19	Happy Father's Day
June 22-24	General Assembly
June 26	Hall Reserved—Bixler Anniversary
June 27-7/1	God's Wonder Lab VBS
June 28	7:00p SESSION
July 3-8	Mission Trip—Big Creek Missions
July 4	Happy 4th of July



August 29, 2022

Avalon Golf and Country Club

[Www.edunations.org/golf](http://www.edunations.org/golf)



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

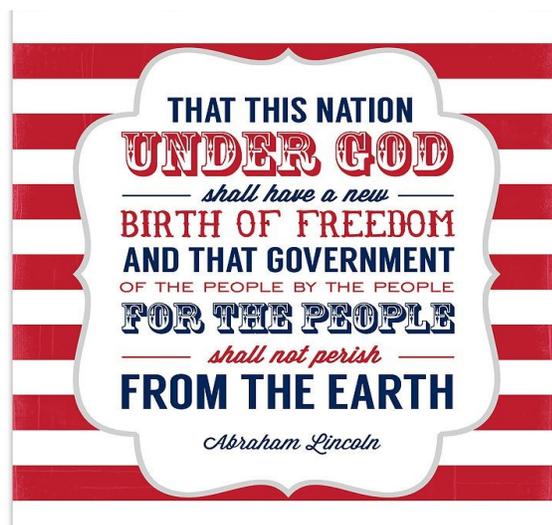
June 27th—July 1st

9am—12pm

K—5th Grade Graduates

Register online at

www.cupepc.org



Cup Library News

Paula Keefer-Herter, Librarian

Hi Folks! Are you ready for summer? Well, ready or not here it comes!

If you are looking for something to engage young children (or grandchildren) during summer holidays take a look at our newest book for kids, "Polly and the Screen Time Overload". With colorful illustrations by Samara Hardy and using a simple child's story author Betsy Childs Howard can help families start conversations about moderation and self-control in using technology within boundaries. She cites this scripture verse "'All things are lawful,' but not all things are helpful. 'All things are lawful,' but not all things build up." 1 Corinthians 10:23, a concept that is good for all of us to keep in mind.

Also recently new to the Children's shelves you will find these selections.

God Gave Us Easter by Lisa Bergren

Isaiah and the Worry Pack by Ruth Goring

The Celebration Place by Dorena Williamson

There are lots of other children's books available (look in the shelves below the stuffed toys on the right as you enter the main library door in back of the sanctuary).

These and many others selections for all ages are available to anyone interested in checking them out. Our library is open to you anytime the church doors are open (unless a meeting is scheduled for the room). If you are interested just remove the card from the back pocket, sign your name and place in the small basket next to the card files on the table against the left wall. Enjoy! Have a great summer!

Honoring our High School Grads



BLACKHAWK HIGH SCHOOL

THERESA CUNNIFF is a 2022 graduate of Blackhawk High School. During her time at Blackhawk she participated in the Band, Orchestra, and Choir and was Drum Major her Senior Year. She was a member of the Music Academy and was inducted into the Tri-M Music Honor Society her Freshman year. She was selected to County Band for two years, and District Choir and Honors Choirs for three years and was a founding member of the Blackhawk Show Choir. Theresa participated in the High School Musical all four years and was selected as Student Director her senior year. She was also awarded the Arian Award for Choir at the senior award assembly. Theresa will be attending Grove City College in the Fall to major in Music Education.



EMILY O'ROARK is a 2022 graduate of Blackhawk High School with High Honors. Emily participated in the Choir all four years and was a founding member of the Blackhawk Show Choir. She has participated in the high school musical all four years, landing some of the lead roles. Emily was inducted into the Tri-M Music Honor Society her Freshman year and the National Honor Society her Junior year. She was selected as the Lions Club Student of the Month for April and receives the English and Language Arts Award at the senior awards assembly. Emily will be attending St. Mary's College in the Fall to study Creative Writing.

KATIE O'ROARK is a 2022 graduate of Blackhawk High School with High Honors. Katie is a three year member of the Cross Country Team. She has participated in the high school musical all four years, in both stage crew and the ensemble. Katie was inducted into the Tri-M Music Honor Society her Freshman year and the National Honor Society her Junior year. She was selected as the Lions Club Student of the Month for May and received the Women in Technology Award at the senior awards assembly. Katie will be attending St. Mary's College in the Fall to study Computer Science.



EMMA WISE is a 2022 graduate of Blackhawk High School. She participated with the Swim Team throughout high school. During her senior season, Emma broke the Blackhawk High School 500 freestyle record three times and currently is ranked 10th in the state of PA in 500 freestyle among all AA schools. She served as a Senior Class Officer and was awarded with the Service to the Senior Class Scholarship at the senior award assembly. Emma will be attending Valparaiso University in the Fall to swim division one and study Music Therapy. She was awarded the Lutheran Heritage Award, the Valpo Alumni Award, Honors Scholarship and an Athletic Scholarship from the University. Emma is very excited to continue her academic, athletic, and spiritual life at Valpo! Go Beacons!!

Honoring our College Grads

EDINBORO UNIVERSITY



REAGAN RIDER is a December 2021 graduate of Edinboro University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Science in Strategic Communication. She is spending the summer working at Jumonville Christian Camp and Retreat Center in Hopwood, PA.

HERITAGE VALLEY- KENNEDY

SCHOOL OF NURSING



TAYLER DERRINGER is a 2022 graduate of Heritage Valley—Kennedy School of Nursing. She plans to work as a Registered Nurse on the Neonatal Unit at West Penn Hospital in Pittsburgh.

Pastor Scott will be out of the office on the following dates: 6/10-18, 6/22-24, 6/30-7/4. He will be on pulpit sabbatical in July.

Ms. Joel will be out of the office on the following dates: 7/1-8 and 7/18-31.



Pastor Scott, Jud and Paula caught up with Eduinations President and EPC pastor Samuel Sesay at Harmony Church in Harrisville. Samuel is in the US for a few weeks doing fundraising for the mission schools and churches that we have supported now for 10 years!



The CROSSCURRENT YOUTH would like to thank the congregation for their generous donations for the 30 HOUR FAMINE. With your help they raised \$800 for the kids in SIERRA LEONE.

THANK YOU!



Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it.

PROVERBS 22:6

SUMMER TIME!!!

“For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future. ’” — Jeremiah 29:11

Crosscurrent Youth Group has ended out our 21-22 year and are entering into the Summer schedule. Thank you all who have supported the Youth over the past year. Mentors in Confirmation, encouragers during Youth Sunday, financially giving for our famine and the upcoming mission trip. We are the body of Christ and all are very much needed and loved. So thank you again for supporting our youth!! Summer schedule is posted on our Facebook group. Frist up Summer Bon Fire at the Manse. June 12th 7-830. Bring a camping chair to sit around the fire.

Congratulations to our 2022 Graduates!!! **Theresa Cunniff, Emily O’Roark, Katie O’Roark, Colin Kenney and Emma Wise.** May the Lord lead you in all you do. Blessings!!!

Please keep us in prayer as the youth go on our Summer Mission Trip to Kentucky July 2nd– July 9th.

Confirmation class has ended and we are so blessed to have witnessed 4 new members join the church in May. What a blessing they will be to the church as a whole.

SHINE Fall Shine kicks off September 21, 2022. Looking for helpers. If interested see Ms. Joel

Children’s Church will continue through June 19th. Keep an eye out for Summer schedule coming soon!

VBS is coming June 27th– July 1st. Helpers still needed! See Ms. Joel for more information.

Registration is open for all kids who just completed PK-5th grade.

As always I ask you to please keep all the children and youth in our community and beyond in prayer.

Your sister in Christ,

Joel Cunniff

CUP Children and Youth Director

