
HUPC News

Welcome New Pastoral Team



Dear Church Family,

The Session of HUPC has worked diligently over the past year discerning where God is leading our church in the community of Homestead and seeking pastoral leadership. Once again Pastor Judy Slater, from Duquesne Presbyterian Church, stepped up to lead Session through this period. Through her guidance we have been able to accomplish many things. After many meetings and consistent prayer by the elders and congregation, the HUPC Session is pleased announce a pastoral team has been chosen to lead us. Starting July 1, 2022 we will begin a partnership through 8th Avenue Place for Reverend Keith Kaufold and Reverend Erwin Kerr to lead our pastoral care and ministry leadership. We are excited to begin and see where this will lead us in our commitment to the Homestead community and continuing our ministry to all God's people.



Keith Kaufold

As I look back, even from the time of an infant, the hand of God was with me in the Steel Valley. I was baptized at St. Matthews Episcopal Church and Homestead and raised in the faith at Homestead Park UMC (until the age of 12) in Munhall, PA. In 1992, my family moved to Bethel Park and Christ Church further guided me in the Way. I have an Undergraduate and Masters degree in Social Work from California University of PA and a Master of Divinity and Master of Sacred Theology Degree from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Before becoming a full time elder in the UMC, I was a caseworker for CYF in Allegheny County. I also served at on staff at Jumonville for 6 years. I have been serving Eighth Avenue Place in Homestead for 15 years, Anne Ashley UMC for 3 years, and Swissvale UMC/New Day-Swissvale for 6 years. I have served at Calvary UMC in Mckeesport for 2 years and congregations in Millvale and Aspinwall for 2 years. I was a volunteer chaplain and teacher on the HOPE Pod in Allegheny County jail for approximately 4 years. I have a beautiful wife, Monica, and two awesome daughters, Malea and Jessa.

Erwin Kerr

Following graduation from college and seminary, I was ordained a deacon in 1962 and an elder in 1964, and became a full member of The Methodist Church, Western PA Annual Conference. Conference membership continued with the merger of The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church to form The United Methodist Church.

Appointments have been served in McKean, Erie County, Castle Shannon, Wexford and McMurray. In 1988, I was appointed as Superintendent of the Butler District for a six-year term. In 1994, I began an appointment at the Homestead Park UM Church which ended with my retirement in 2001

Between 2003 and 2008, I worked as Interim President of the United Methodist Church Union, a social service agency in Allegheny County. The Church Union sponsored MUSA in Homestead and Parkview Towers in Munhall, among other agencies. In the following years, I served on Pastoral Teams in the South Hills Partnership of 5 congregations, and at Homestead United Presbyterian Church.

Activities beyond the local church have included involvements with Missions, Christian Social Concerns, and Higher Education. I served a term as a Trustee of Allegheny College, and 20 years as a Trustee of Otterbein University, Westerville, Ohio. In addition, I was an eight-year member of The General Commission of Religion and Race, an agency of the national United Methodist Church.

I believe it is important for a pastor to preach, teach and act in accordance with the central truths of the Christian faith, and always be grounded in the biblical testimony about Jesus Christ. I am particularly interested in asserting the fundamentals regarding the promises of God for which we pray: “thy kingdom come, thy will be done.” Christians are those who have found their ‘commonwealth’ in God, who through Jesus promises a ‘new creation.’ A particularly beautiful image of the promise is found in Revelation 21:1-7. Jesus gives voice to the promise in Luke 4:16-21.

It is a privilege for me to be associated again with the people of Homestead United Presbyterian Church. I am grateful for the opportunity to be with you, and with the people of Homestead and the Steel Valley.

Join in Worship



Two Ways to Worship

- **In Person—11:15am.** Please enter through the Anne Street Door. The door will open at 10:45am.
- **Virtual Church Service—11:15am.** You can virtually join the in person HUPC worship. Sign in at 11:00am to ask for specific prayer requests that will be included during the prayer time during the service. See the directions below to join.

Computer instructions: Go to Zoom.us and create an account (username and password). Download the zoom program onto your computer. How to join the meeting at 10 am Sunday: Open the app and click “Join a meeting”. Put in the Meeting ID which is 867 571 2922. Choose whether or not you would like to join with video. Click join with audio.

Phone instructions: Dial 929-436-2866. You will be prompted to put in the Meeting ID number: 867 571 2922.

2022 Confirmands

We welcomed Kylie Salopek and David Fleming into our church family on May 8.

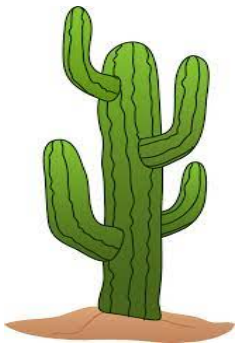
Kylie and David completed their confirmation classes in the weeks prior at Duquesne Presbyterian Church along with two other students from there. Rev Judi Slater taught the classes and along with learning about the Trinity, scripture, and what it means to be confirmed, she also gave them hands on lessons to help solidify what they were learning. Thank you to Judi for leading the classes!

Kylie is in 9th grade and wanted to confirm her baptism “because it will make her feel closer to the presence of God and strengthen her overall faith”. Kylie’s favorite part of confirmation class was the obstacle course they completed during one of their lessons.

David is in 10th grade and wanted to confirm his baptism to “become a man of faith and show his love for the Trinity as a whole”. David’s favorite part of the confirmation class was the timeline that they completed.

Welcome Kylie and David!





Monumental VBS 2022
Celebrating God's Greatness
Tuesday – Thursday
June 21 – 23
6:00pm – 9:00pm



- **Registration** is at the door or online at HomesteadUPC.org. VBS is open to all children who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade. There is no charge. Please tell your friends, neighbors, and family.
- **The VBS Mission Project** this year is for Operation Kid to Kid raising money to purchase school supplies for Native Americans. Through their connection with World Vision, one dollar can provide 1 child with basic supplies for a year. Help us fill our pencil can with money.
- **Volunteers for VBS**—There is a dinner and organizational/training meeting scheduled for **Thursday, June 16 at 6:00pm**. All volunteers are expected to be there.
- **Volunteer Staff Dinners**—Volunteers are invited to staff dinner at 5:00pm each day of VBS. Plan to be in the Sanctuary by 5:45pm to greet the children.
- **VBS Decorating**—Do you like to craft, paint, decorate, or even just move things around? The VBS decorating team is for you! You are welcome to come and lend a hand **Tuesday – Thursday June 14 – 16 at 6:30pm** each evening. The decorating and planning team will be turning the church into a scene from the southwest. Any abilities are welcome.
- **VBS Student Snacks**—Once again our VBS snacks for the children have been so very generously donated. Thank you Cindy Mitrik.
- **Donations**—Thank you to all who have donated money to operate VBS through the “Buy a Cactus” campaign. Our cactus garden bulletin board is looking beautiful. These donations help to support this valuable ministry at HUPC leading children closer to God.
- **Staff Snack Donations**—Yes, we do give the staff a break!! The VBS team will appreciate any donations of homemade cookies or desserts for the Staff Snack Break each evening!

Building Updates



Thank you to all who have donated to our Roof and Repairs for Refuge campaign. To date we have collected _____ The campaign is ongoing and we encourage any donations that you are able to continue giving. We continue to make improvements to our building so that it can be a resource for our ministry and community. Below is what has been completed so far.

- **Roof**—The entire roof has been replaced by Burns and Scalo. Some areas of concern were identified while the masonry work was being completed and Dale and Leisel Lengyel, Ken Wellman, and Don Lower from Coffey Construction met with Burns and Scalo to determine a plan for correcting the areas of concern.
- **Air Conditioning**—The church has been awarded a \$10,000 grant to assist with replacing the air conditioning and we are waiting a start date from Climatech to begin the work.
- **Masonry**—The church received a \$10,000 matching grant from the Pittsburgh History and Landmark Foundation (thank you to Ken Wellman for preparing the grant application) to offset the cost of the repairs. Coffey Construction completed the masonry work on June 6. The building looks beautiful and is now safe and secure from falling stone.