



May 2024

Volume 46

Issue 5

# H A I N ' S H A P P E N I N G S

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Dear Friends,

Psalm 10 begins, *Why, O LORD, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble? In arrogance the wicked persecute the poor, let them be caught in the schemes they have devised. For the wicked boast of the desires of their heart; those greedy for gain curse and renounce the LORD. In the pride of their countenance the wicked say, "God will not seek it out"; all their thoughts are, "There is no God."* In this Psalm, we hear the cry of one who looks at the current events of his day and wonders why the Lord is AWOL. Then the psalmist begins to lift up the evil that he sees happening all around him.

Prayer is a time and place, we are often told, where we mainly praise God, remember others before Heaven, lift up our needs, and listen for a word from the Lord. However, Psalm 10 reminds us that it's also a time to share with God whatever we are seeing and experiencing in the world. It's a place to unload our deepest thoughts and feelings to the Maker of All Things. It's a time to even hold God accountable to being God! As the psalmist begins, "Why, O Lord, do you stand far off?" It's called "storming the gates of Heaven." This is something that I think many Christians don't really understand about prayer. We are perfectly within our right to share anything and everything that we are thinking and feeling with the one who comes to us in Jesus Christ! In the book of Job, Job does exactly the same thing, and God never once says that he is wrong for doing so. Even Jesus, in the Gospel according to Mark, says at the end of his life, while hanging on the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

As we live our lives and as we see what is happening in the world, from time to time we may have a strong desire to pray prayers like the one the palmist does in Psalm 10. Go ahead. God needs and I believe wants to hear it...and remember that you are not alone. We have people here to pray with you! There is an active Prayer Chain here at Hain's UCC! They are strong prayer warriors who will lift you and your concerns up to God on your behalf. Contact me if you have any requests to share with the group. If you would like to join the Prayer Chain, please contact me as well! Also, on Sunday mornings, by the offering plate at the sanctuary entrance, we have green prayer request cards. Please fill one out and place it in the offering plate; I will lift up these prayers after the service, and the cards will remain on the altar for the rest of the week as a continual prayer before God!



May the Lord richly bless us that we will be faithful followers of Jesus Christ!

Pastor Mark

## NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Greetings! As I write this, I am enjoying a beautiful Sunday afternoon drive home following worship and choir rehearsal. In contemplating my comments to you, I realize that by the time you receive this newsletter, the choir will be preparing the last couple of anthems for this season. When we move into the summer months, the Chancel and Bell Choirs will take a few weeks off and we will enjoy some solos, hymn sings, and Summer Choir anthems. I am so grateful for the Choirs' hard work, dedication, and comradery. Rehearsals are always a wonderful combination of focused work to prepare our offerings for worship mixed with a great deal of joy and laughter! Please take a moment this month to join me in thanking them for all they do to enrich our worship life here at Hain's.



We have two more Annie Gaul concerts this season. The first is the Conrad Weiser High School Jazz Band and Choraleers on Sunday, April 28, at 4:00 p.m. The final program will be presented by the Touring Choir of the Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts on Sunday, May 19, at 3:00 p.m. Please join me in welcoming these young, talented musicians to our church on those dates. We are most fortunate to be able to offer such a lovely space and performing opportunity. I invite you to join me to also provide a wonderful audience to receive their musical offerings. I have a few extra posters announcing the programs. Please see me if you have a place where a poster could be hung so others in our community will know about these fine concerts.

Gratefully yours,  
Marie Miller  
Director of Music Ministry

what's   
the buzz

Stay connected and join us for any or all of the following special activities here at Hain's UCC during the month of May. Read on to learn more about these upcoming events.

- May 5 - Rogation Sunday with potato and taco bar after the worship service
- May 10 - Mother/Daughter Banquet
- May 11 - Community Flea Market in the Grove
- May 16 - Presentation by Teresa Devine, Compliance Officer, Lanchester County Landfill
- May 19 - Concert by Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts
- May 26 - Visit by Lambeau from the Alliance of Therapy Dogs
- May 26 - Community Memorial Day Service in the Grove

## ROGATION SUNDAY



Like to eat? Then thank the farmers! On Sunday, May 5, we will celebrate Rogation Sunday at the 9:30 a.m. worship service with a special presentation by David Schaeffer.

After the service, we will meet in the social room for a baked potato and taco bar. All are welcome! If you plan to attend lunch, please sign up on the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the coatroom. If you are able to help with the luncheon, please call Linda Staudt at 610-507-2846. We hope to see you there.

## MOTHER / DAUGHTER BANQUET

The Mother/Daughter Banquet will be held on Friday, May 10, at 6:30 p.m. in the social room. It is a family-style dinner served by the men of Hain's. The entertainment, featuring singing and tap dancing, will be provided by Craig Caltagirone. Tickets can be purchased before and after church services on Sunday, April 28, and Sunday, May 5, or by contacting Fern Ruth at 610-678-3269. The cost of tickets is -

Adults and children ages 13 and over - \$10.00  
Children ages 6 to 12 - \$6.00  
Children ages 5 and under eat free



## COMMUNITY FLEA MARKET IN THE GROVE



Join us in the grove on Saturday, May 11, from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (rain or shine) and set up a table to sell your no-longer-wanted treasures. This is a great opportunity for us to spread the good news of Hain's UCC by connecting and interacting with members of the community. Food will be available for purchase. Spaces cost \$10; payment in advance is appreciated. To reserve your space, contact Curt Flory at 610-207-5045, and invite your friends and families to join us, either as vendors or as treasure seekers.

## LANCHESTER COUNTY LANDFILL



Have you ever wondered where your trash goes after the haulers pick it up at your curb? All are invited to attend the **Women's Fellowship** meeting in the Chapel on May 16 at 6:30 p.m., where Teresa Devine, Compliance Officer at the Lanchester County Landfill, will offer a Power Point presentation that will answer all your questions. All men and women are welcome to attend this program and share in fellowship with the group.



### **CHARTER ARTS TOURING CHOIR**

On May 19 at 3:00 p.m., the Charter Arts Touring Choir will present the last concert of the 2023-24 Annie Gaul Concert Series. David Macbeth, a founding vocal/choral faculty member of the Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts, conducts two of the school's five choral ensembles, along with teaching responsibilities in Advanced Placement music theory, piano and applied vocal techniques. In 2012, the Charter Arts Touring Choir earned a third place finish in the Advanced Youth Choir Division of the World Choir Games. Please join us for what's sure to be an entertaining afternoon.

### **MEET LAMBEAU (AND DEBBIE)!**

On May 26, Debbie Greusel, a member of the Alliance of Therapy Dogs since 1995, will join us with her 7-year-old Border Collie/Australian Shepherd mix named Lambeau. They will participate in the worship service during the children's sermon and then meet with the children in the Time with Young Christians classroom. As a certified therapy trainer, every month Debbie takes Lambeau to visit local hospitals, drug counseling centers, elementary schools, and the 911 call center to give support in the form of dog therapy to patients, children, and dispatchers. You won't want to miss this special treat for kids and adults alike.



### **WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ON MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**

On May 26 there will be two worship services for your consideration. Attend one...or attend both of them. They both promise to be very worthwhile!

The first one is our regular 9:30 a.m. service in the sanctuary. Pastor Mark will reflect upon what it means to *Be One in Christ* from John, the 17<sup>th</sup> Chapter.



The second worship service is the annual community Memorial Day weekend worship service held in the grove at 11:30 a.m. Our guest speaker will be Chris Bower representing the Veterans Coalition of Pennsylvania. Please bring a chair if you plan to attend this service, and a friend or two as well!

## STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING

The Strengthen the Church offering is a shared commitment across the United Church of Christ that allows people to cooperatively build up the UCC by equally sharing gifts given through local congregations. The funds raised through this offering support several vital areas:

- Nurturing and equipping leaders within the UCC.
- Planting and establishing new UCC congregations.
- Fostering spiritual growth and engagement among our youth and young adults.
- Encouraging fresh ideas and approaches within established churches.



Please use the attached giving envelope to support this commitment of the UCC. Your generosity contributes to building up the Body of Christ, enabling new church plants, awakening creativity in existing congregations, and developing the spiritual life of our youth and young adults.

## A HAIN'S HISTORY LESSON



The most influential group of Palatinate settlers in the development of Hain's Church arrived in New York on October 4, 1710. George Hain; his daughter, Anna Sabilla; and his second wife, Veronica, were among that group. They traveled up the Hudson River to the Schoharie Valley and stayed until 1723 when troubles with Governor Hunter forced them to leave New York.

In the Spring of 1723, 33 families (probably in two groups of 18 and 15) left the Schoharie Valley and began their 400-mile journey to the Tulpehocken region of Pennsylvania. The Tulpehocken tax lists of 1725 and 1726 include George Hain, spelled Hans Jery Heine and Hans Jery Hein respectively.

George and Veronica Hain became prosperous farmers in the Tulpehocken region. In 1735 they donated four acres of land, valued at 10 pounds, on which a log church was built on the site where the Memorial Log Church stands in our old cemetery. Until that time, worship was conducted in homes or barns. For most of the 18th century, Hain's, along with other southeastern Pennsylvania churches, was considered a mission church of the Reformed Coetus of Holland and was served by mission-preachers.

## NEW DONATIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Beverly Lewis's *The Heirloom*, Jan Drexler's *Hannah's Choice*, and Vannetta Chapman's *Material Witness* are all works of inspirational fiction - donated by Linda Gerber.

*2 Chairs*, written by Bob Beaudine, a top sports/entertainment search executive in the U.S., teaches us how to develop a much deeper and more personal relationship with God. This book has helped Sandy Kauffman find more meaning and strength in her daily spiritual journey, and she donates this book in the hopes that it will do for others who read it what it has done for her.



## SAVE THESE DATES FOR THE SUMMER PICNICS IN THE GROVE

Mark your calendar and join us for Food – Fellowship – Fun!



Saturday, July 13

Entertainment by the Ringgold Band

Saturday, August 10

Entertainment by Dave Kline and the Mountain Folk Band

### MEALS MINISTRY



We are adding a Meals Ministry into the life of Hain's UCC. We are looking for individuals who are willing to make a meal or two for people who are in need on a short-term basis after an illness or when returning home from a hospitalization. If you can join in this support ministry, please contact Pastor Mark at [pastor@stjhains.org](mailto:pastor@stjhains.org) – you will be most welcome!

### HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES

We would like to honor our high school and college graduates! Please call the church office at 610-678-2133 or email [church@stjhains.org](mailto:church@stjhains.org) by May 13 to make sure we have your graduate's name, the school from which he or she is graduating, and post-graduation plans. If a college student, please include the graduate's degree/major. We are proud of all of our graduates and want to make sure that no one is missed!



### FREEDOM AND RESTORATION FOR EVERYONE ENSLAVED (FREE)

This year, both Hain's UCC and the Conrad Weiser Ministerium designated that special Lenten offerings collected go to Freedom and Restoration for Everyone Enslaved (FREE), a ministry that helps people who have fallen victim to trafficking in Berks County. The total amount received from this year's free-will offering collected by the Ministerium at the noontime, mid-week community Lenten services was \$1,455.25. The amount collected from the members of Hain's UCC through Lenten offerings was \$3,051.52. Thank you for your response to this need within our community.



From Joan Lincoln, CW Food Pantry volunteer - *Thank you for your faithful support of the Conrad Weiser Food Pantry. We received your generous donation of \$364. Our hungry neighbors are grateful! May God bless you always in all ways.*

To Sue McKendrick, Sandy Kauffman and Stephanie McMahon for providing refreshments after the worship service on April 14.

## SPRING CRAFT WORKSHOP

On April 21 we celebrated Earth Day with a pizza lunch and an inter-generational craft workshop after worship. Some of the crafts included decorating recycled bags, building bird houses, painting rocks, and making kites and sun catchers. Thank you to Steph McMahon for face painting, to Linda Staudt and the kitchen crew for coordinating lunch, to the Time with Young Christian Committee members for organizing the workshop, and to all the crafters who attended.



## HAIN'S PRIME TIMERS



The Hain's Prime Timers meet the first Tuesday of every month at 11:30 a.m. in the church social room. The meeting begins with lunch at a cost of \$7, followed by entertainment and/or games/cards/bingo. (In June and December, a potluck lunch is scheduled, and there is no charge for lunch.) Upcoming events include:

**May 7**

### **Regular Meeting - Lunch/Fellowship/Bingo**

Program: John Rauch – Life Is Many Times Stranger Than Fiction

**June 4**

### **Regular Meeting – Pot Luck Lunch/Fellowship/Bingo**

Bring your favorite dish to share.

**June 26**

**(Wednesday)**

### **Bus Trip to Boyertown Car Museum**

Lunch at Yellow House Hotel; stop at Repperts Candies in Oley. Depart Church at 10:15 a.m. and return at 4:30 p.m.; Cost is \$88

**July 2**

### **Regular Meeting - Lunch/Fellowship/Bingo**

Program: Dennis Damiani – Berks County Heroes; Bingo

All are welcome to join us for this time of fellowship. For more information or questions concerning the meetings or trips, please contact either Jim Ohlinger at 610-693-5754 or Linda Gartner at 610-698-9085.

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT VACANCY

St. John's (Hain's) UCC is seeking an experienced administrative assistant, effective June 3, 2024. This is a part-time, 25-30 hour/week, Monday through Friday position. The successful candidate must be proficient in Word, Outlook and Excel; be a self-starter and able to work independently; possess excellent communication and interpersonal skills; be organized, detail oriented, and able to multitask. Responsibilities include but are not limited to assisting staff and congregation and preparing bulletins, the monthly newsletter, and the Annual Report. Interested candidates should contact Mike Kauffman at 610-678-5450 or [luv2cruise217@comcast.net](mailto:luv2cruise217@comcast.net).



**AUSTIN'S**  
RESTAURANT & BAR



**COASTAL  
GRILLE**

YOU'RE INVITED TO A FUNDRAISING EVENT

ORGANIZATION:  
**Western Berks Shepherding Ministries**

EVENT DATE:  
**Wednesday, May 22, 2024**  
**Thursday, May 23, 2024**

Bring this invite to:

**Austin's Restaurant & Bar - 1101 Snyder Road - West Lawn 610-678-5500**  
**Coastal Grille - 2713 N. Meridian Boulevard - Wyomissing 610-743-4006**

20% of your food purchases – alcohol not included  
(dine in or take out) will be given to:

**Western Berks Shepherding Ministries**

Invitation must be presented for purchase to qualify  
VOID IF DISTRIBUTED AT RESTAURANT  
Reservations Suggested

## WESTERN BERKS SHEPHERDING MINISTRIES FUNDRAISER

Western Berks Shepherding Ministries (WBSM) provides a valuable service to people of all ages who are in need of transportation to medical appointments or grocery shopping. Clients are not charged a set fee but, if possible, they make a donation to WBSM. Along with providing these services comes the costs to do so - Directors' salaries, applicable payroll taxes, liability insurance, mileage reimbursement to volunteers, etc. On Wednesday, May 22, and Thursday, May 23, you can help WBSM by having lunch or dinner (dine in or take out) at Austin's or Coastal Grille. Present the invite card (one per bill) to your server and WBSM will receive 20% of your food charges. Additional invite cards are available on the bulletin board in the coatroom, in the Church Office, or by contacting Linda Gartner at 610-698-9085.



## WHAT ARE YOUR TALENTS?

In the church, everyone has a role to play. When a water leak was discovered at the cemetery near the shed, Dan Miller and our cemetery groundskeeper Brain Schaeffer, developed a plan and made the repairs. We are truly blessed to have talent and expertise like this in-house!





The new ramp and handicap-access door will make entry into the building on the upper level much easier for those who have need. The handicap access “Push to Open” buttons at both handicap entrances are now operational when the doors are unlocked for events. We praise God for this good news and thank the Trustees for overseeing this project!

### FINANCIAL PICTURE

	<b>Jan - Mar 2024</b>	<b>Jan - Mar 2023</b>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
71000 • Weekly Offering	61,961.06	54,518.33
72000 • Estates/Investment Income	42,215.63	42,819.03
73000 • Other Income	3,965.35	1,111.09
<b>Total Income</b>	108,142.04	98,448.45
<b>Gross Profit</b>	108,142.04	98,448.45
<b>Expense</b>		
10000 • PROGRAMS & ADMINISTRATION	7,917.99	9,149.75
20000 • Operating Expenses	25,835.30	19,928.81
30000 • Wages & Benefits	59,024.01	54,285.43
50000 • Other Expenses	0.00	115.90
<b>Total Expense</b>	92,777.30	83,479.89
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	15,364.74	14,968.56
<b>Net Income</b>	15,364.74	14,968.56

**Restricted, designated & benevolent income and expenses are not included above.  
If you have any questions, please contact the financial administrator, Tina Grindrod.**

Church Office Hours  
Monday through Friday  
8:00 a.m. to noon

# May 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Bell Choir 6:30 pm	2 Bible Study 10 am	3	4
5 <b>Rogation Sunday</b> ECL 8:15 am Worship Service 9:30 am Lunch Following Svc. Chancel Choir 10:45 am Cub Scout 5:30 pm	6 Girl Scouts 6 pm Elders 7 pm	7 Prime Timers 11:30 am	8 Bell Choir 6:30 pm	9	10 Mother/Daughter Banquet 6:30 pm	11 Flea Market in the Grove – 7 am – 1 pm
12 <b>Mother's Day</b> ECL 8:15 am Worship Service with communion 9:30 am Chancel Choir 10:45 am Cub Scouts 5:30 pm	13 WBSM Board 1 pm WBSM Partners 2 pm Girl Scouts 6 pm Cemetery Board 7 pm	14 Consistory 7 pm	15 <b>Hain's Happenings Articles Due</b> Worship Committee 3:15 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm	16 Bible Study 10 am Women's Fellowship 6:30 pm	17	18
19 ECL 8:15 am Worship Service 9:30 am Refreshments in Chapel 10:30 am Chancel Choir 10:45 am Annie Concert 3 pm Cub Scouts 5:30 pm	20 Girl Scouts Bridging Ceremony 6 pm Mission Comm. 6 pm Prayer Shawl 7 pm	21 Trustees 7 pm	22 Bell Choir 6:30 pm	23 Bible Study 10 am	24	25
26 ECL 8:15 am Worship Service 9:30 am Chancel Choir 10:45 am Community Grove Service 11:30 am Cub Scouts – 5:30 pm	27 <b>Memorial Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>  Wernersville Memorial Day Parade 10 am	28 Hain's Happenings Assembly 9 am	29 Bell Choir 6:30 pm	30 Bible Study 10 am	31	