

the Messenger

CELEBRATING



YEARS of MINISTRY
1971 – 2021

May 16, 2021
Seventh Sunday of Easter

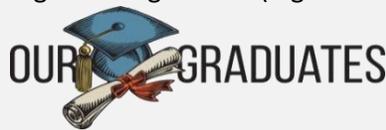
Find the Messenger **online** at godslovenewtown.org
(click “Read the latest newsletter”) or scan this code with your phone.



Congratulations and God’s blessings to the following young people, receiving their first Holy Communion on May 16, 2021.

- Kaitlyn Bowen
- Emma Dunkerley
- Madison Robison
- Ryan Cuneo
- Aiden Franco
- Mason Robison
- Kaitlyn Deppi
- Claire Kostrzewski
- Noah Wischhusen

We would like to honor our “Class of 2021” graduating seniors (high school, college, trade school, military, etc.) with a tribute in an upcoming Messenger and worship service. This would also include fall 2020 graduates.



If you would like to share the good news of your student with the congregation, contact the office **by May 23** with your graduate’s name, graduation date, school name, degree/major, future plans and a graduation photo.

Faith & Fun at the Fire Pit

Sunday, May 16 at 6:00pm
in the Prayer Garden

All Sunday school children and their families are invited to this fellowship event to wrap up the Sunday school year. We will enjoy some socially distanced songs and s’mores (supplies provided).



Blessing Bags are a Blessing!

Thank you to everyone who donated toiletries and first aid supplies for the April collection. We were able to make **72 very full bags**. Some were given away this week under the bridge to some very happy people, 35 will be given out at this month’s shared meal and the rest will be given out during the year.

Also, thank you to our prep and assembly team,
Eileen Bishop, Debbie Hockman and Ingrid Johnson.



Bible Book-of-The-Month Study

May: **The Gospel of John**
Monday, May 24 • 7:00pm **ON ZOOM**

Read through this book at your own pace during the month of May with the help of [this Reading Guide to the Gospel of John](#). Join the discussion **ON ZOOM**, led by **Pastor Dan**.



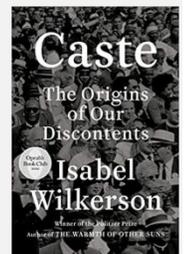
“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.”
John 14:1 NRSV

Up Next in Adult Faith & Life (NEW TIMES!)

Sunday, June 6 at 10:00am

Book Discussion on “Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents” by Isabel Wilkerson

Wilkerson explores, through an immersive, deeply researched narrative and stories about real people, how America has been shaped by a hidden caste system, a rigid hierarchy of human rankings. A brilliant book and a masterful portrait of an unseen phenomenon in America. The discussion will be led by **Will Toppin**.



Sunday, June 13 at 10:00am

Continuing the Work of Becoming Anti-Racist

Vicar Brandi will present a variety of resources for how to continue anti-racism work both in our homes and in our community. A list of these resources will be kept in the church office for the congregation’s use following the conclusion of her internship. This final piece concludes her internship project focusing on theological aspects of racial justice for our time.

Scripture Readings
for May 23 (Pentecost)

Acts 2:1-21
Filled with the Spirit

Romans 8:22-27
Praying with the Spirit

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
Christ sends the Spirit of truth

A Note from the Animal Ministry

These two beauties are in need of a new home, as their owner has passed away. Lola and Marley are



11-year old female indoor cats, litter mates, in good health.



Contact **Janet Nordberg** for more information.

AHTN's Shared Meal • Saturday, May 29

Our next Shared Meal To Go is **only two weeks away**. Taco casseroles are still needed. Find the recipe at the signup link below. If you'll be away for the Memorial Day weekend, consider making the casserole early and place in the church freezer.

CAN YOU HELP? This meal benefits AHTN and the homeless folks they serve. [Sign up to donate food](#). Hunger does not take a holiday!



Scholarship Information

The Newtown Yardley Ministerium is offering a \$1,000 cash scholarship to a graduating high school senior who is active in an area faith community and demonstrates a passion for and

commitment to justice and service exemplified by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Applications are due by May 31. Contact the church office for further information and the application form.

May's Collection—Children's Books

We are collecting new and gently used **children's** books to be donated to [Reading Recycled](#). This organization puts books into the hands of children and families in Philadelphia and surrounding areas. All types of **children's** books are accepted. Drop donations in the lobby **by May 30**. You may also order book(s) online, delivered to the church.



The Good Neighbor Garden at God's Love

- **May 13 – 16:** If you started seeds at home, now is time to bring them back. Please place your tray in the lobby by the morning of **May 16**.
- **Saturday, May 15 • 9:30am – 3:00pm:*** Help spread compost/wood chips. Wheelbarrows or shovels are welcome.
- **Sunday, May 16 • 11:00am – 2:00pm:*** **Planting seeds and seedlings!** Wear your gardening clothes to church!



***Rain Date:** Work will happen in the evenings during the week.

Questions? Sandy Anthony 215-350-3379 or sandyanthony@msn.com



Thanks to Scout Troop 29 for spreading compost on May 8.

Plenty of volunteer opportunities exist—weeding, harvesting and delivering to the food bank. Work your own schedule, alone or as part of a team. Contact the church office or sign up in the lobby!

Thank you to all who help support the HOPE mission to feed the homeless in Bristol. Our highlighted volunteer this week is **Robin Pecuch**. Robin has been delivering meals under the bridge for the past year.

[Sign up for June](#) to donate for our Wednesday Bagged meals or to make a Sunday Supper.

HOPE Springs Eternal

a Testimonial on the Joy of Serving Others by Robin Pecuch

I have had the privilege of dropping off food to a homeless community living in Bristol through the God's Love HOPE Ministry. We pulled up with Kevin and served the soup from the back of our car. People came over and offered a "How are you doing?" and a "Thank you." There were other God's Love members there as well, handing out socks. Those who needed them came over and got socks, asked for bags or second helpings and gathered around the table talking to each other. In some respects, it felt like a picnic with other food donated through the week available on the table set up by Kevin. Kevin spoke casually with all of us and explained the work he does. I was reminded that years ago, some of us at a service ministry meeting were interested in handing out soup in Philadelphia, but our plans never came to fruition. We have sent our confirmands for many years to work in a soup kitchen in DC and have also sent many groups to the Appalachian Mountains to work with the poor there. God has shown this community to us. This community of people who live in tents and motels 20 minutes down the road, who rely on us, Kevin and other donations to eat and sleep in tents during snowstorms this winter. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve them in a very small way through our HOPE ministry.



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