

- the -  
Bimonthly  
Newsletter

# The Viewpoint

Christ's Community Church at the Riverview Avenue Community Center

**Rev. Mary Kruse Zambrana**

"This is the day the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24

"This is the day God showed me the meaning of things that seemed random or unimportant. This is the day God revealed His blessing for me," the Psalmist says! When the Lord heard the cries of the Psalmist, what seemed random and insignificant turned out to be preparation for God's work.

We don't understand much of how God is working in our lives, or all that God has prepared for this congregation. Looking back, however, we'll see that God's purposes have been here all along.

So this is the time to be joyful in God's work, whether we see it yet or not. I am being blessed and changed by my time within your community of faith. That makes me believe that you will continue to be effective in the lives of each other and everyone that God brings into your orbit.

This is the day—not someday in the future, but this day—that we can all enjoy and be happy in. All that God is doing is already started now and going to turn out well.



**In observance of Independence Day, the office will be closed Thursday, July 4th.**

**Our Vision:  
To Know Christ  
and make Him Known!**



## *Prayer List*

The gift of prayer enables us to join with one another in consecrating our world, our lives, and our ministries to God.

Please lift in prayer: Global neighbors and communities, communities supported by our congregation, the youth of our congregation, youth of the world, people suffering at the border—pray for solutions, shut-ins, victims of war, victims of natural disasters, hate crimes, the homeless, elderly, the hungry, our nation.

"The golden rule for understanding in spiritual matters is not intellect, but obedience."

Oswald Chambers

*Stay Informed*

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**Meet for Breakfast**

**BREAKFAST**

The first Sunday of every month  
8:00 a.m. | Fellowship Hall  
We serve until 8:40 a.m.

Family and Friends are also invited!  
July 7 | August 4

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR**

Coffee hour every Sunday, except the first Sunday when we enjoy breakfast together, following worship service.



**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP**

Join the women as they continue the discussion on the book; "The Good and Beautiful You" by James Bryan Smith; Discovering the person Jesus created you to be.

July 20 | August 17  
9:00 a.m. | Church Library

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

July 6 and 20  
August 3 and 17  
9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.  
Newcomers are welcome



**LIFFE CENTER MEAL**



August 31  
Volunteers prepare and serve an evening meal at the 63rd Street Life Center of Eastern Delaware County.

**CHURCH MOUSE**

July 12 and 13  
9:30 a.m. — 2:30 p.m.



Let's work together to fill our local food bank:

**Upper Darby Food Cupboard**

Bring your food items to Worship Service on the 1st Sunday.



Our next breakfast is on Sunday, July 7th and then August 4th. We start prepping at 7 a.m. so we can serve at 8 a.m. If you would like to join us, feel free. If

you can help with cleanup we would appreciate it so we can all get to worship on time. Summer months involve many families traveling; all help is appreciated.

Reminder, there are cards on the windowsill outside the chapel if you would like to send one to a member.

Thank you to Veronica Hernandez for jumping in to greet when Aaron is not present. She saw the need and stepped in to help.

The Deacons,  
Aaron, Nathan & Heidi

The Session appointed Abel Aruan as Youth Development director. He will work with the young adults on their spiritual development. Additionally, Villanova University selected Christ's Community Church as one of several churches to win sponsorship of a new program Villanova has developed. It shows how the church fosters sustainable living and is aimed at Sunday school aged children. It provides a grant and instruction training, to start this fall.



Even more news is a cancer resource package that we will be given. It consists of information on how to deal with cancer for both patients and families, as well as contact information to access support personnel. God has truly blessed us this spring!

On a different topic, we got an update from the Pastoral Nominating committee (PNC). They continue to pray and wait for additional candidates to be provided. They feel led by the Holy Spirit and are confident the right match for us will be forthcoming, in God's time. Meanwhile, we are blessed to have Pastor Mary Zambrana continue to ably lead us.

Holton Falk, *Clerk of Session*

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The Property team has interviewed a number of candidates to replace Ignatius Oshiomogwe as sextant. Ignatius is looking for new work that will make use of his conflict resolution knowledge and skills. We are pleased to complete the selection of Derick Hinton, who will start on July 11. Derick is a known good worker, as he was the sextant at Bethel Community Baptist Church (that rents the former Calvary building from us) and lives locally so is able to get to the building easily.

Further activity is focused on identifying where roof leaks are coming from and getting them repaired.

*Holton Falk, Heidi Hamilton & Woody Johnson, Property Committee*

The committee continues its mission to move forward with improvements according to our 5 year plan. We will be making some changes to that plan in the near future and will provide an update when achieved. Now however we are continuing to complete the first year with final touches like reupholstering two armchairs in the library and also the wrap around sofa in the Parlor. The Parlor sofa I now refer to as the Pentecostal sofa because of its lovely red color. Please take a look when you have the chance.

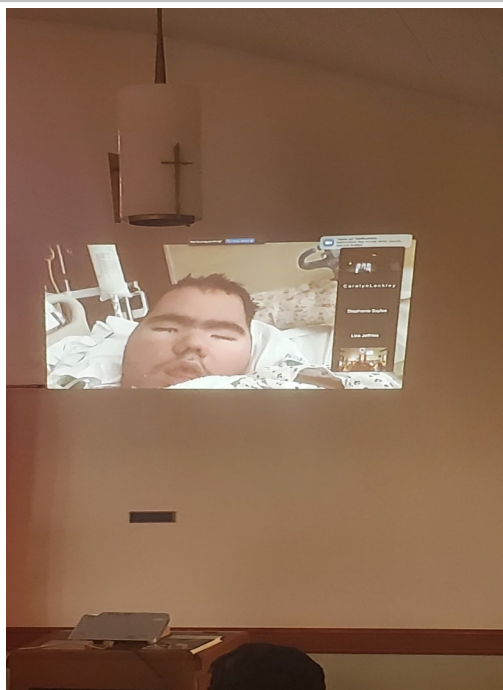


Also, Linda Martin and Mary Ellen Scott have been hard at work with selecting window treatments and desk arrangement in office. This is all funded with the \$5,000 donated by the women’s Church Mouse income. Take the time to visit Linda in the office and see now how much more efficient her work space is. Also note the new blinds in all the windows of all 4 offices.

In the works are new door for patio entrance (paid for by an anonymous donor) and window replacements for the parlor, the learning center and Eloise’s classroom.

Keep us in your prayers as you watch the new planned work.

*Heidi Hamilton, Linda Martin, Chawezi Mwantembe & Sue Parker—Restoration Committee*



June 2, 2024

Children and Youth Sunday

Morgan joined us from the hospital

“All of God's people are ordinary people who have been made extraordinary by the purpose he has given them.”

Oswald Chambers

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Morgan James Sidor

May 20, 2004 - June 9, 2024

Morgan was a truly remarkable young man. Throughout his life he repeatedly broke through the severe limitations placed on him by his genetic disorder, Spinal Muscular Atrophy, and he often exceeded expectations of what everyone thought he could do. Morgan was a warrior from his earliest days; not expected to live much beyond his first birthday, he celebrated his 20th this past May!

Suddenly removed from his familiar and loving home and his Mother when Hiroko became ill in 2018, Morgan overcame his tremendous losses, adapting to and thriving at ChildWay Pediatrics under the loving care of its staff.

Occasional respiratory illnesses did not stop him for long. He became a favorite of the CHOP medical teams and was a success story, over and over again.

Morgan attended school, first at the HMS School in West Philadelphia, and then at North Penn High School in Lansdale. When COVID closures kept him at ChildWay, a wonderful tutor introduced him daily to a wide range of subjects. He graduated from North Penn on June 14, 2023.

Morgan enjoyed many things, particularly art. Many of us have his artwork in our homes. He also loved music, especially jazz, Yo-yo Ma, and the Beatles. He was a Phillies fan, and recently discovered Sumo wrestling!

Ironically, it was his long survival that ended Morgan's remarkable life. The insertion of a tracheostomy tube in 2016 gave him years of easier breathing, but over those years his trachea became flaccid. Air was leaking out and infectious mucous was seeping into his lungs. The situation became irreparable.

It was a privilege to have been Morgan's guardian and to have had Hiroko's trust. I want to express my condolences to his family here (his father Mark and his faithful Aunt Gigi) and in Japan (his Aunt Keiko and his Grandmother, Eiko Iku-ma). And I offer deep gratitude to the many, many people who enriched his life and supported us throughout. My gratitude goes especially to Debbie Falk, Margaret Carroll (Gigi) and Mary Zambrana who were with Morgan and me at the end.

Morgan lived, to the fullest, the life he was given. His example is a wonderful gift to us all. *Eloise Smyrl*



Morgan's 20th Birthday Celebration  
May 18, 2024.



Morgan resting comfortably  
on June 8, 2024.

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73rd Observance of the National Day of Prayer- 2nd Praying for America Upper Darby Gathering



Darlington Yeah Home on Leave

Darlington Yeah recently completed basic training and AIT (Advanced Individual Infantry Training) in the Army at Fort Moore, Georgia. He came back to Pennsylvania to see everyone and have a little R&R before moving on to his next assignment - Fort Cavazos (formerly Fort Hood) Texas. Fort Cavazos is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest military base in the United States.

Darlington will continue his infantry training and enjoys the camaraderie and teamwork in the Army. He says the food isn't bad and it offers a wide variety, but also says he sees a little too much broccoli!

Darlington seems to have adjusted well to Army life, and has a number of new friends who will be moving with him to Fort Cavazos. We pray for his safety and well-being.

Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024



Front Row: Lynne West (seated), Vero Saylee, Laura Price, Etta Saylee, Colin Seebach, Tracy Johnson (holding granddaughter Charlotte Sawatzki), Debbie Engell and Laura Johnson.

Second Row: Sue Parker, Don West, Bea Feddy, and Mary Ellen Scott.

Third Row: Christine Bodden, Chris Stephano, Eloise Smyrl, Emmanuel Saylee, Ashlee Seebach, Heid Hamilton (holding Mandela Saylee) Mary Zambrana and Hank Engell.

Fourth Row: Tom Kocher, Holton Falk, Sandy Reilly, Nathan Johnson (holding Phoebe Johnson), Woody Johnson, Chawezi Mwantembe, Linda Martin, Sir Elliott Saylee, Omar Zambrana, and Aaron Geh.



### Father's Day Luncheon

June 16, 2024

The ladies honored the men of CCC with a brunch on Father's Day. They then treated us with a dance routine choreographed by Sandy Reilly. What a talented bunch!

Thank you to all who helped to make this a memorable day.



We honored Sir Elliott after a church service. Members of the congregation had a chance to tell a story about Sir Elliot or share how they know him. Many shared how quiet and kind he is; how good he is with his little brother and sister, and nothing seems to bother him. He is responsible and knows how to step in and help. It has been a joy to watch him grow into the man he is today. We are looking forward to seeing what our Lord has planned for him in this next chapter of his life. Sir Elliott will be attending Delaware County Community College in the fall.



### Goodbyes and Hellos

Spring brings the promise of seeds reborn that unfold from buds to flourishing flowers. And summer's ripening crops promise the fullness of purposeful fruits and food for us to savor. The part we play to cultivate these blessings is often miniscule because we know that it is God who ordered the seasons for His good purpose.

So, we say hello to spring and all its promises of renewed and renewing life. This spring in particular it feels like renewal and loss, hello and goodbye. We are saying hello to some and goodbye to others and anticipating the promise of new babies to join families in the near future.

Ecclesiastes 3 is one of my mother's favorite scriptures. This spring as she declines it is this scripture she has chose to read at her funeral service.

3 There's an opportune time to do things, a right time for everything on the earth:

<sup>2-6</sup> A right time for birth and another for death,  
 A right time to plant and another to reap,  
 A right time to kill and another to heal,  
 A right time to destroy and another to construct,  
 A right time to cry and another to laugh,  
 A right time to lament and another to cheer,  
 A right time to make love and another to abstain,  
 A right time to embrace and another to part,  
 A right time to search and another to count your losses,  
 A right time to hold on and another to let go.

We hold life in the balance and the scales weigh up and down. Our neighbors of 34 years moved away this June. Our children were raised together. The day they left I was not home to say goodbye. I came home to find five sunflowers tucked in the handle of the front door. I wept. But God gave me the grace to know we meant something to each other and we shared a life together. This spring we say good bye to Claire Jones, Dave Choate, and our dear, Morgan. These blessed souls were loved among us and we let them go. We watch as Darlington and SirElliott embark on new journeys in life. What joy we anticipate as we watch our young people move out into the world.

This week, our new neighbors arrived full of anticipation for the life to be established and grown here. We now have two young adults, two little girls and a cat. Hello to new life and the delight we hope to share together. We also have learned that the couple next door is expecting their first child. And our Stephanie is also bringing new joy into the world. So, more life is being given to us.

Eugene Peterson in his scripture interpretation of Ecclesiastes 3 from The Message, opens verse one: "There's an opportune time to do things." The word opportune invites us to join the moment given to us. In the Lord's prayer we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." Give us this day our opportunity to savor life as it comes whether it be a hello or goodbye or anticipation of things to come. May this season be one you savor for all God's goodness and anticipate what God has in store for us.

*Deb Engell*



Ignatius Oshiomogwe has been with us at Christ's Community Church for almost a year. He will be moving on with his life as of July 21, 2024.

We're going to miss you Ignatius. You have been a wonderful addition to our church family, and have left a mark on us for sure. We know that you give all the credit to God, and have been so faithful in your work and interactions with all of us. We believe you have shared some of your own special spiritual gifts to us as well.

We'll always remember you presenting the Bible at the beginning of our worship services on Sundays – reverently holding the Bible up to God and Jesus as you do so. We remember your reply to any compliments with "To God be the glory." We remember your willingness to do so many housekeeping jobs around the building, and are so grateful for the excellent job you have done.

We know it's time for you to move on. Please know that we will remember you fondly, and wish you good health and a continued spirit of joy and gratitude. We wish the peace of Christ to you and your family.

Thank you, Ignatius. Blessings –



Chester non-profit organizations who benefited from the Sprint Cell Tower decommissioning sends “thanks”!



“On behalf of all of us at Child Guidance Resource Centers, please accept my sincere gratitude for the Church’s very generous donation in support of our mission. All of us at CGRC envision a world where children and families receive the type of high-quality care that helps them live happier, more productive lives. The church’s gift enables us to expand our reach to meet the increasing demand for care. We are so appreciative of your recognition of our work and will use this gift to help our neighbors.”

“Thank you for your gift to CityTeam. Your support provides desperately needed services to people in or community faced with the debilitating challenges of poverty, homelessness, hunger, and isolation.

In the words of Peter, one of the 500,000 people who have been touched by CityTeam’s holistic outreach last year, “I am thankful to CityTeam, for helping me, and treating me with dignity.”

May the kindness and generosity your gift offers to people like Peter bring you great joy.”



Igniting Hope. Restoring Lives.



ChesPenn Health Services

Your Community Health Center

“Thank you very much for Christ’s Community Church’s generous contribution of \$5,000 to help ChesPenn provide quality, comprehensive health and enabling services to vulnerable residents of Delaware County. The Foundation for Delaware County’s Givebook includes many wonderful community benefit organizations and we are honored that you chose ChesPenn for this gift!”

Your support will help us continue growing our services, ensuring that more children and adults will thrive physically, psychologically and economically and are deeply grateful for your support.”

“Thank you for your donation of \$5,000.00 to benefit the youth served through the 9th Street Youth and Community Center.

Since 2011, the organization has worked with Chester youth (12-16) to come alongside and provide adult supervision for after-school and community activities to educate in life skills and promote health and safety.

Thank you for your commitment to support the youth n Chester. We thank you for your prayer support and sacrificial giving and we continue to seek your prayers and support for this vital ministry.”




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And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” “  
Matthew 25:40

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Christ's Community Church  
at the Riverview Avenue Community Center  
337 Riverview Avenue  
Drexel Hill, PA  
(610) 259-2696

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.  
In-Person and on Zoom

Email: [ccc@rcn.com](mailto:ccc@rcn.com)

Website: [www.ccchurch.co](http://www.ccchurch.co)

Facebook: Christ's Community Church of the  
Presbyterian Church USA

Instagram: [CCChurch\\_DrexelHill](https://www.instagram.com/CCChurch_DrexelHill)

Happy Birthday to you!



**JULY**

- July 1 Art Tung  
Peter Converse
- July 4 Mike Obwot
- July 7 Chris Stephano
- July 8 Mary Ellen Scott
- July 13 Abel Mwantembe
- July 16 Lori Rankin

**AUGUST**

- August 3 Mandela Saylee
- August 13 Heidi Hamilton  
Don West
- August 15 Christopher Kauffeld
- August 16 Jonathan Dryden
- August 18 Sekela Mwantembe
- August 29 Loretta Hartnett
- August 30 Eli Johnson

The Viewpoint is a publication of  
Christ's Community Church  
Rev. Mary Zambrana, Bridge Pastor  
Rev. Robert Eyre, associate pastor for  
missional outreach;  
Linda Evans, editor

**July / August  
Weekly/Monthly Meetings**

Sunday	9:30 a.m., Informal Worship Virtual Worship Service
Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Al-Anon in the Parlor 7:00 p.m., NA in Fellowship Hall
Wednesday	7:00 p.m., NA in Fellowship Hall
Thursday	7:00 p.m., NA in Fellowship Hall

**July**

July 4, Thursday	July 4th Holiday—Office Closed
July 6, Saturday	9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship 8:00 a.m., Breakfast in Fellowship Hall 9:30 a.m., Worship Service
July 7, Sunday	9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m., Church Mouse 9:30 a.m., Worship Service Session Meet after Worship Service
July 12 and 13	7:00 p.m., Finance Team Meeting
July 14, Sunday	7:00 p.m., Property Team Meeting 9:00 a.m., Women's Group Meet in the Library 9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship 9:30 a.m., Worship Service
July 16, Tuesday	July Birthday Celebration
July 17, Wednesday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service
July 20, Saturday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service
July 21, Sunday	
July 28, Sunday	

**August**

August 3, Saturday	9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship 8:00 a.m., Breakfast in Fellowship Hall 9:30 a.m., Worship Service
August 4, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service Session Meet after Worship Service
August 11, Sunday	September/October Viewpoint Deadline
August 15, Thursday	9:00 a.m., Women's Group Meet in the Library 9:00 a.m., Men's Fellowship
August 17, Saturday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service August Birthday Celebration
August 18, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service
August 25, Sunday	9:30 a.m., Worship Service
August 31, Saturday	Life Center Meal

"Perseverance is more than endurance. It is endurance combined with absolute assurance and certainty that what we are looking for is going to happen." Oswald Chambers

