

COMMUNIQUE



SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2251 Willow Road
York, PA 17408

A GROWING CHURCH
MEETING YOUR GROWING NEEDS

“Shiloh UCC is called to be a community where love is affirmed, truth is told, laughter, and tears are encouraged and shared, and the acceptance and peace of the Lord Jesus Christ is extended to all. The members of this community will strive to live a life that has a Christ centered faith in God.”

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- April 7 *Second Sunday of Easter/ Butterfly Sunday*
Acts 4:32-35
1 John 1:1-2:2
John 20:19-31
“It’s OK to Doubt”
- April 14 *Third Sunday of Easter/ELC Sunday*
Acts 3:12-19
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48
“We Are Witnesses”
- April 21 *Fourth Sunday of Easter*
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18
“Who Do You Follow?”
- April 28 *Fifth Sunday of Easter/ELC Sunday*
Psalm 22:25-31
John 15:1-8
1 John 4:7-21
“Fearless Love”



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Hope for the Journey

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Romans 15:13

Spring is all about hope. In springtime, we see the whole earth regenerate. This massive annual regeneration reminds us of the new life we find in Christ. When we have a spiritual awakening, when we are born again, we see everything in a new light. The sadness of depression leaves us, and we feel a natural enthusiasm for life. Spring holds that potential. It can infuse us with hope because the beautiful flowers remind us of God' eternal promise to renew us. Just like spring conquers winter every year, so Easter reminds us that Christ conquered death.

Even though we die, we live.

Sometimes, spiritual growth follows a period of darkness or struggle. Easter reminds us not to give up before the angels roll away the stone. God is going to roll away the stone that has been holding you back. Spring is about being freed from the cold of winter. That's why Spring is hopeful, and that is why Spring reminds us of resurrection. This Easter, let God fill you with warm joy and peace. Gather around the fire, right here at Shiloh, UCC, where we tell the old stories with a new twist. Come home to Shiloh Church this Spring and regenerate! Let the hope of life, the hope of renewal, and the hope of resurrection, fill you with happiness and spiritual strength.

Many of you have attended the Lenten study and the new Grief Group this year. Good job faithful disciples! We have to do the inner work. We have to clean house and to grieve our losses. When we heal, the pain we felt becomes meaningful. It becomes a story of faith that can help others find God. When you heal, it is like the blooming of flowers in Spring, and your pain becomes a seed, that can release another from suffering.

So it shouldn't be surprising that your hard work will bear fruit in time. It's not an April Fools trick that when we trust Jesus, and do the work, we receive peace and joy. It's serious business to live life in a meaningful way, but it is not easy. Many are called but few are chosen.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE (Cont'd)

Those of you who walked through the preparation of Lent and Holy Week, have made extra effort. And so you will receive blessings for your hard work. Job well done!

My hope is that this new season between Easter and Pentecost will fill you with hope and playfulness. I hope that you will come to church on Butterfly Sunday and praise God for another week of hope and new life. I hope that every week when you come to church, you feel the presence of God, and find gratitude for being able to worship together with your friends at Shiloh UCC. I hope that you will come and celebrate with the children of the ELC (Early Learning Center) on April 28, and show their families that you care about them and about our mission to this community.

For April and every month of the year, I wish you joy and peace. I am filled with hope. I pray for you every day, and I know that your faith in God is growing all the time. As you practice your faith, the power of the Holy Spirit will increase your blessings and strength. Over time, these lessons will sprout like sacred seeds. Then no matter what you are going through, even if the valley of the shadow of death threatens you, you will know that God is with you, and you will be with God forever.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” **Romans 15:13**

*Rejoicing in Christ,
Pastor Melinda*



Summer is a great time to try something different and fun! Pastor Melinda would love to hear your ideas, questions, and favorite Bible readings, to use for the "summer sermon series." There is a form in the gallery that you may use to write down your thoughts and Scripture ideas! Thank you!

MARCH CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

Pastor's Report-

Worship

Special worship services

- February 14th – Ash Wednesday drive-through service
- March 2nd – Memorial Service for Deborah Schaale
- March 3rd – Communion Sunday
- March 10th – a new member joined Shiloh UCC

Pastoral Care

- Home, Hospital and nursing home visits (5)
- Office/lunch meeting (5)
- Phone calls (8+); many text and Facebook messages to our members and friends.

Christian Education

- Our new Grief Group started on Tuesday, February 20th at 7PM in the Parlor. Our next meeting is March 19th at 7PM.
- Lenten Study started on February 21st at 7PM in room 202 and we meet weekly.
- Wednesday Bible Study meets every week. Thank you, Ray!
- Two Sunday School adult classes meet weekly in rooms 100 and 202. Thank you to our Sunday School teachers!
- Thank you to all the ladies who lead our women's social groups.
- Men's Breakfast group meets monthly. Thank you, Brad!

Contact with the larger UCC + local community

- Meeting with Rick from the York Association on Friday, February 23
- Coming up: Chapel Time with the ELC March 13th
- Self-care: started meeting with a spiritual director (February 22nd)

New business-

- A. Revise the Committees of the Consistory List for next year's annual report
- B. Maundy Thursday offering will go to the current fund. Sue Besecker volunteered to do consistory duties for this service.
- C. Consistory picture - The picture will be taken on Easter Sunday between worship services.

Unfinished business

- A. Revisit the Nominating Committee's letter submitted in November suggesting to consider changing back to one service. Discussion to continue after Easter.
- B. Membership roster update. Roster is divided in three sections: Active, Inactive and Former members.

MARCH CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

- C. Wedding fees for May 2025 wedding - Friday May 16, 2025 from 5-8pm & Saturday May 17, 2025 from 10am-4:30pm. Nathan Limbert will check into what all this will entail.
- D. Eagle Scout Project: Donovan Reiber will update and refresh the courtyard area. He will clean, mulch and stage the area for the requested ELC education garden. Approval was given to move forward with the project.
- E. Server needs to be updated and the computers need to be checked.
- F. Articles for April Communique are due no later than March 22.

Worship and Music-

- Brunch Sunday, March 24 in room 100 9:45 - 10:45
 - Committee providing food, donation jar provided.
- Volunteers for ushers have been collected, start date is March 24, Palm Sunday. Linda Little will coordinated
- Holy Week services:
 - Palm Sunday. 3/24, Daffodil Sunday (7 mini potted, 11 bunches)
 - Brunch 9:45 - 10:45 AM Room 100
 - Maundy Thursday @ 7:00 PM with communion
 - Good Friday 12:00 noon
 - Easter 8:30 AM 11:00 AM with communion
 - Flowering the cross - congregation participation
- April 7 Butterfly Sunday
- April 28 ELC Sunday **10:00 service**
- Next meeting March 14 @ 5:30 PM in room 202

Outreach/Evangelism -

- Direct mailing is being arranged.
- Name tags are being made for greeters each week
- Easter Egg Hunt - date changed to **Sat. March 23 (Church Chums) at 10:00 AM.**
- ELC Sunday April 28 - followed by a reception in room 100 (Church Chums)
- Mother's Day and Father's Day gifts will be distributed
- Next meeting April 10, @ 7:00 PM

Youth Fellowship-

- An email was sent out about volunteering for upcoming Egg Hunt, March 23, 10:00 AM

Church & Ministry

- Held an organizational meeting on Feb. 19th.
- Upcoming Meetings: April 3rd, and August

MARCH CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

Visioning –

- Discussion about a “messy Church” program as modeled by Dallastown church.
- Several committee members will visit to observe the program.

Missions Committee-

- The mission committee suggested that the **Easter offering** go to New Life for Girls.
- Our next meeting will be March 19 @ 6:00 PM

Christin Ed.

- Sue has talked with Sunday School representatives about a possible change in time should we go to one worship service.

ELC –

- Bev Arnold has volunteered to be consistory liaison
- Next meeting April 4 5:00 PM in room 202

Communication and Technology-

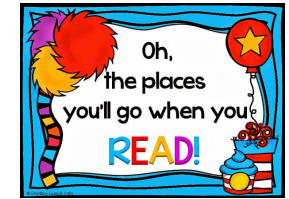
- We will need someone to look at our server and to update it, along with the software we are running.
- We need to update the two main computers in the church
- Still would like to bring more volunteers onboard to help with setting up PPT, streaming and running PPT at 11

Property Committee-

- Fire alarm box and detectors need to be replaced for insurance purposes. Quotes received from Johnson Controls and Kleppers.
- Jeff Hershey will meet with BFPE on Tuesday, March 12 for their quote.
- Steeple and sanctuary windows on the parsonage side (5 windows). Quotes have been attained from Tabora, Brownstone, PA, for scraping, cleaning and painting.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nathan Limbert, Consistory President*

March was a true example of both lion and lamb days. We had bright sunny days where everyone in the school was outside at some point. Then we had darker, colder and very windy days where only the bravest of us ventured onto the playground. It allowed for some interesting discussions on the unpredictable weather of March. In addition to the weather, we celebrated the birthday of Dr. Seuss by having many themed days as well as an exciting performance of Green Eggs and Ham starring myself and fellow teacher Karen Lingenfelter. Since Easter was so early this year, we celebrated with the amazing story of Jesus’s death and resurrection. We ended our month with Easter egg hunts in addition to the wonderful one held by the Church Chums. Finally, our fours and Pre-K students had parent/teacher conferences. Teachers were able to share all the wonderful things our students have been learning this year.



Many of our teachers took advantage of a worthwhile educational opportunity this month. We were invited to Dover Elementary School to attend a workshop with the reading specialists from Dover. We are always so grateful for these opportunities to learn and grow as educators.

April is shaping up to be just as exciting and busy for the children. We will explore units on rain, clouds, farms, spring, worms, Earth Day. The York County Solid Waste Authority will visit our school and teach our four-year-old students about worms, and how to make paper. Our students love these valuable lessons. Our twos and three-year old families will have the opportunity to conference with their children’s teachers during April

Finally, April 28th is ELC Sunday. On this special day, all our 4 and 5-year-old students will be asked to sing during a special service at 10 am. The ELC students’ families will be invited to attend the service and fellowship afterwards in room 100. We are all looking forward to these amazing events sponsored by the members of Shiloh UCC.

Our registration for the 2023-2024 school year is going very well and many of our classes are filled. We currently have limited openings in all age groups. Please spread the word about the Early Learning Center.

Thank you for all your support and guidance. May you have a blessed Easter.

Allison Hartnett, Director



Women's Fellowship

The Women's Guild will be meeting **April 1, at 1:00 pm in room 202**. The program will be from our study book **Encouraging One Another, Chapter Twelve: Just Think!** Deb Myers will be leading this chapter. Special offering this month is for our missionary Sally Jane Johnson. We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.

Mark your calendar for the next **Shiloh UCC Men's Breakfast on Tuesday, April 9, at 8:30 am at Dover Valley Restaurant**. Contact Brad Jacobs at bcj402@verizon.net or 717-764-2773 for additional information.



The Women's Social and Support Group will meet for lunch at **Round the Clock Diner on Rt. 30 on Friday, April 19 at 12:00pm**. Please contact Judy Feeser at 717-764-9935 by **April 15** if you plan to attend.

The Women's Guild will be collecting baby items for **Wellspan Mother/Child Clinic** until **Mother's Day May 12**. The following are baby items that are needed: Newborn diapers, unscented wipes, formula (powder), heavy menstrual pads, breast pads, breast cream, baby clothes (newborn to 3 months), blankets (they love the fleece ones) or lighter ones for summer. Please all items should be new except clothes and blankets. Items can be placed in tubs marked **Wellspan Mother/Child Clinic**.



Please save the date! The annual church picnic will be held on **Sunday, May 19 at Sunset Lane Park**. (This is a change from the original date given on the Annual Church calendar.) It will begin with a church service at **10:00 AM** followed by a picnic lunch. More details will be available closer to the date. We look forward to seeing you there!

Come Grow with Us!

Engaging Women are inviting women and their children to Shiloh UCC to celebrate their uniqueness in a harmonious atmosphere on **Sunday, April 14 at 4:00 PM** in room 100.



A buffet dinner from Olive Garden will be served followed by a vocal presentation by Leslie Talley (daughter of Donna and Randy Seifarth who has performed professionally). Tickets will be sold in the Gallery on the following Sundays:

March 17, March 24, and April 7 (Adults \$14/Children \$6)

If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Hildebrecht at 717-683-0440 or the church office at 717-764-3569. We hope you will join us for this delightful event!



The **Worship and Music Committee** would like to extend a thank you to those who have volunteered to be an usher. A list has been created, and ushers have begun to be on duty Sunday mornings. Notification about serving as an usher will be done with a phone from Linda Little. If you are interested, names are still being accepted to add to the list. The more volunteers we have, the less often you will be scheduled.

Name tags are returning!! New members are interested in learning your name. Name tags will be available for the greeters in the Welcome Center each week. Some of the **O U T R E A C H** previous name tags are on the wall in the Gallery. There is a plan to provide members with a name tag, but that will be an upcoming event. Until then, let's use what is available to help to create a warm, welcoming community at Shiloh.



Outreach Committee

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Members & Friends of Shiloh UCC,

Thank you for all the Birthday cards I received for my 85th birthday! I had a wonderful time celebrating with my family especially my children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Sara Jacoby

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to acknowledge your recent gift of \$150 to the Annual Fund at **Lancaster Theological Seminary**. Your generous contribution is greatly appreciated!

*Yours in service,
Matthew Hanna, Assistant Director*

SYMPATHY



**A Loss
in the Church
Family**

Our sympathy to the family and friends of **Deborah Schaale** who passed away on **February 26, 2024**. A memorial service was held at Shiloh UCC on Saturday, March 2 officiated by Pastor Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.

Our sympathy to the family and friends of **Geraldine (Gerry) Funkhouser** who passed away on **March 19, 2024**. A memorial service was held at Heffner Funeral Chapel & Crematory Inc. on Monday, March 25 officiated by Pastor Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.

Memorial contributions were made in honor of **Deborah Schaale** by Ronald & Sally Wisocky, Shiloh UCC Choirs, David & Rebecca Fuhrman, Sara Jacoby, Karen Melhorn, Brad & Sue Jacobs, Jay & Joyce Mummert, Karen Bupp, Gloria Melhorn, Virginia Heath, Frank & Sharon Probasco, Carl & Bonita Hollinger, Gertraude Barton, Corey & Christina Morgan, Delores Mummert, FOG (Friends of Grandview), Deb Althoff, Stephen & Kelly Ann Sheasley, Don & Jeanie Bentzel and Pamela Strathmeyer.



Memorial contributions were made in honor of **Stephanie Berkheimer** by Stephen & Kelly Ann Sheasley.

COMING UP

May 5	Communion/Spring Music Sunday
May 9	Ascension Day/ELC Spring Programs
May 10	ELC Spring Programs
May 12	Anniversary Sunday/Mother's Day
May 13-15	ELC Spring Programs
May 17	ELC Fun Day
May 19	Pentecost/Church Picnic/ Strengthen the Church Offering
May 20-23	ELC Camp
May 26	Trinity Sunday
May 27	Memorial Day (Office Closed)



APRIL BIRTHDAY'S

April 1	Matthew Schmidt
April 2	Cindy Dunn Doris Robertson
April 3	Mark Bentzel
April 5	Deborah Werner Steven Wilt
April 6	Randy Seifarth
April 10	Leon Leber
April 11	Howard Cramer
April 14	Mary Neiman



APRIL BIRTHDAY'S (Cont'd)

- April 15 Sandra Fox
Kaitlin Rentzel
- April 16 Sue Trimble
- April 17 Marsha Reiber
- April 18 Rosemary Bentzel
Troy Bowers
Richard Gruver Jr.
Raymond Sechrist
- April 19 **Joanne Overmiller *90**
- April 20 Ken Goodyear
- April 24 **Milton Hoak *85**
Donna Robertson
Stephen Sechriest
- April 26 Amanda Bentzel
Jay Mummert
- April 28 Marc Glatfelter

****PLEASE NOTE MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS!****



“Shiloh United Church of Christ is called to show Christ’s love for all through witness, word, and worship.”

CONSISTORY

Elders

Nathan Limbert, President
Linda Little, V. Pres.
Bev Arnold, Secretary
Jane Harrison
Matt Hildebrecht

Deacons

Sue Besecker
Tom Fox
Tom Klunk
Patt Myers
Carolyn Poff

Natalie Fuhrman – Treasurer
Sallie Hagerman – Financial Secretary
Jeanie Bentzel – Church School Superintendent

THE CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.
pastormelinda@shilohucc.com

Pastor

**Pastor Melinda office hours: Wednesday 9 AM 12 PM & 5-8 PM
Thursday and Friday 9AM-12 PM**

Director of Music
Organist
Missionaries in Costa Rica
Administrative Assistant
Early Learning Center
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Church Email Address
Website

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MAILING PAGE