

COMMUNIQUE

AUGUST

2021

SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2251 Willow Road
York, PA 17408
Telephone 717-764-3569
Email office@shilohucc.com

A GROWING CHURCH
MEETING YOUR GROWING NEEDS



- | | |
|-----------|--|
| August 1 | <i>Proper 13 (18) Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>
Psalm 78:23-29
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35
<i>“Food From Above”</i> |
| August 8 | <i>Proper 14 (19) Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost</i>
1 Kings 19:4-8
Psalm 34:1-8
Ephesians 4:25-5:2
<i>“Walk in the Way of Love”</i> |
| August 15 | <i>Proper 15 (20) Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</i>
Ephesians 5:15-20
Proverbs 9:1-6
1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14
<i>“Be Careful What You Wish For”</i> |
| August 22 | <i>Proper 16 (21) Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>
TBA |
| August 29 | <i>Proper 17 (22) Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>
TBA |

PASTOR'S MESSAGE



Dear Members and Friends of Shiloh UCC,

In Matthew 11:28-30, Jesus says:

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Summer is all about relaxation and peace. This time of the year is about vacation and recharging our batteries. It is about laying down our burdens, and finding rest. However, this world is constantly trying to fill us with fear and worry. This world is not our friend. Just look at the TV. The programs are full of negativity. They are full of death and fear. Don't be surprised if you are full of anxiety when you watch the TV. “Entertainment News” is not good for your soul. But most people already know this.

What kind of “entertainment” do we see on the news? Who killed who this week, how many people are dying from disease, accidents on the road, and at the end of that train wreck of negativity, maybe one minute of human interest, so you don't become too suicidal. Thank God for puppies!

For a long time, I didn't watch TV. We didn't have cable, or a satellite subscription. We only had internet at home. Of course, you can still read the news, even watch the news if you really want to, but I didn't watch it every day. I read more and felt better.

In July we purchased a few indoor TV antennas (you know like in the good, old times, when you watched TV for free) to be able to watch some local channels, like Fox so Tank can watch the Eagles, and PBS kids so Sophie can watch Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood and Sesame Street. I watch the worst things: the news and maybe a few detective shows (where you usually find out who was the murderer). Now that we have the antennas, I am tempted to watch the news almost every day.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE (Cont'd)

It has a bad effect on me. I have trouble falling asleep (because I stay up too late). I have bad dreams. I wake up in the middle of the night, and the list goes on. I will be taking back at least one of the antennas, so that I can practice what I preach, turn off the News and go to bed earlier.

I have recognized how important it is to have good habits. I must feed my soul “healthy food.” We are so worried about our bodies. We constantly worry if we are eating healthy foods? But how about our souls? What are we feeding to our souls? I know what I have to do. I need to get out a good book, and shut the TV off. I have to place my trust in God and then let God take care of everything.

However, the world and our minds try to convince us that we are in control, and somehow by watching TV we can control things or at least that we will be “well informed.” Instead of lying to ourselves, we must admit that most of the time we are out of control. If you think this is bad news and it just gives you more anxiety, wait for a moment.

Do you know Who is in control? Not the reporters or the people on TV who are trying to scare you to death and force you to do things you don't want to do. No, it's not the government, or the President, or even the people who have guns. No-body is in control. The only “Being” who has total control over life and death is God. This is good news. Why? Because our God is the most loving and caring Being in the universe. God wants the best for our body, mind, and spirit. God sent Jesus Christ, the Word Made Flesh, to bring this message of everlasting Agape love to us.

So if you are carrying burdens and fears, give your burdens to Jesus. Put all your worries down at the foot of the cross. You may say, “But I gave my life to Jesus when I was young, or when I was baptized or when I had a mid life crisis. Why do I have to do it again?” Because God wants you to be happy again. Recommit yourself to God. Don't let the world steal your peace. There is hope, if you feel hopeless. Just ask Jesus to guide your heart again. Guess who Jesus was talking to when he said these words?

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Are you following Jesus? If you are, these beautiful words were made for you. In this passage from Matthew, Jesus was talking to his followers. He was talking to a crowd, and to his disciples. Even after being disciples for a while, his followers needed encouragement and help.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE (Cont'd)

Even after being baptized, and following Jesus for a while, they still they needed God's presence. Their lives were full of worry, illnesses, and worldliness. They needed God for the whole journey of life, not just the beginning or middle.

Even good Christians struggle with anxiety and depression. None of us is perfect. However, depression and anxiety doesn't have you. This world doesn't own you. Your soul is free. You can find peace and rest in Jesus' arms any time you want it. You just have to ask. You just have to search. You just have to come to church, and follow Jesus.

If you want more peace, hope, and love in your life stay away from the TV as much as possible. The more you can spend silent time with God, the happier you will be. This world doesn't care about you. The TV and the people on TV don't love you and don't want you to feel good. You are just a number to them; one more person who watches their channel.

God truly cares about you. Your spiritual home, Shiloh UCC, cares about you. Your friends, your family members, your Pastor, they really care about you. So focus on the positive things in life. Go outside; enjoy the sunshine; work in your garden; go for a walk; and talk to God while you are doing all these things. You will see, your life will change.

Jesus invites you to leave the earthly burdens and take up "His burden." Take up the burden of love that will lift you up and fill you with everlasting joy. When you help others, when you come to church, when you give of your time, talent, and treasure, you find heavenly riches. You find hope for the future. You find health for not only your body, but also your soul. So listen to the invitation of Jesus this month and come to Him. Talk to God honestly, with your own words, from the depth of your heart. If you are drowning, ask for help. God will send you a "life preserver", through His heavenly and earthly angels. Your job is simply to accept the help. Trust your Redeemer, when He says:

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

*Rejoicing in Christ,
Pastor Melinda*



MISSIONARY NEWS

Our missionary Sally Jane Johnson will be visiting Shiloh from **August 19th through September 13th**. She will be preaching at Shiloh UCC on Sunday Sept 5th. If you would like Sally to join any of your group meetings or invite her for dinner, please contact the church office to get on her calendar. It has been several years since she has been here and she is excited to come and reconnect with old and new friends!



You're Invited!

The Visioning Team met on Wednesday, July 7 to continue the exploration of God's future for Shiloh UCC, utilizing the Discovering God's Future for Your Church tool kit which is based on a model for vision discernment developed by Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr., the director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership and distinguished professor of church leadership at Wesley Theological Seminary. We read the text and watched videos, which were focused on how to discern the next faithful step for our church and the power of vision. Discussions followed including how our vision will be discovered for our church, and how the history, culture, and values of our church will be examined to help build a field of energy and excitement for the future. Part of what we learned is outlined below:

Mission (or Purpose) - refers to your church's overall purpose or "what we exist to do, or our church's reason for being".

Vision (or Next Faithful Step) A vision must be clearly related to and grow out of the mission or purpose of your church, but it is something different. It gives expression to the church's purpose in light of its current circumstances, thus expressing the church's next faithful step in fulfilling its purpose. This approach to congregational discernment is a "*spiritual discernment exercise, undergirded by prayer*" and helps a church articulate a renewed vision by considering its mission or purpose through the lens of its **identity**, its **internal context**, and its **external context**.

- **Congregational Identity** - is its DNA, Personality, Gifts, and I want to emphasize **History**, (this is not being something we are not), but instead its who we are, what we believe and where we have been. It includes our traditions, and core values...our past is an important part of our future.
- **Internal Content** - is our strengths and needs, our opportunities for improvement, our attitudes and perceptions.

VISIONING TEAM (Cont'd)

- **External Content** – is what is going on around our neighborhood and community, and even determining who are our neighbors and how far reaching is our community.

Discovering God's Future for Your Church provides resources for analyzing your Congregational Identity, Internal Context, and External Context, and then guides you in a process of identifying a new vision by viewing your purpose in light of what you have learned about where your identity, context, and community intersect.

Our next step is to begin discovering our congregational identity, especially our history and that will require all of you, the more congregational participation the better our Vision (or next faithful step) will be. We will begin over the next few weeks and months to engage the congregation in this process, but in the meantime if you would like to learn more, please contact anyone on the visioning team or feel free to attend the next visioning team meeting on Wednesday August 11 at 7:00 PM in Room 100. Everyone is invited to join the team to help with this exciting move forward.

*Thanks!!
The Visioning Team*



Informal Choir rehearsals will begin on August 12th this year, because there is a need to get our voices acclimated to singing again. We will have rehearsals on Thursdays from 7:00pm to 8:00pm in the Choir Room, singers from all Choirs (any age) are welcome as well as any new singers. We will be exercising our voices to get them back in shape, so this is a perfect time to come and join one of our Choirs or Men's Chorus. Please prayerfully consider joining one of our choirs, and if singing is not your thing we are also looking for new Hand bell Choir members. If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Limbert.

Thank you & looking forward to seeing you.

*Stephanie Limbert,
Director of Music*



The Women's Guild will be meeting two times during the month of August.

The first meeting is on August 2 at 1 p.m. in room 202. The program will be from our study book *Bad Girls of the Bible*. Chapter Six: *Generous to a Fault – Sapphira: Bad for a Moment*. Norene Edgar will be leading this chapter.

The second meeting will be on August 30 at 1 p.m. in room 202. The program will be from our study book *Bad Girls of the Bible*. Chapter Seven: *Knockin' on Heaven's Door – Rehab: Bad for a Season, but Not Forever*. Julia Hahn will be leading this chapter. We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift of \$65 given to the Salvation Army of York. With your support, we continue to keep hope alive in those who are going through tough times. Again, thank you and my God richly bless you!

*Sincerely,
Bessie Babbitt, Major*

Dear Friends,

Our mission has continued for more than 100 years because of the kindness of others like the congregation of Shiloh UCC. Your gift of \$760 supports our work and is a demonstration of your compassion for the families that come to us for help.

We frequently hear the phrase "God Bless You" and we want to share this blessing back to you for your part in making our mission a reality.

*With Gratitude,
Eric Chase, Executive Director of Children's Aid Society*

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift in support of the ministry of theological education at Lancaster Seminary. The support you provide with your prayers and gifts opens the doors for our students' education, opening their minds to learning and opens their hearts to serving.

THANK YOU NOTES (Cont'd)

Dear Shiloh UCC Family:

Thank you so much for your generous donation. It is the only community donations we have received during the pandemic.

I plan to use: 1/2 on diapers/wipes, 1/4 for formula, 1/4 for miscellaneous needs – co-pay for medicine and diaper/breast cream.

*Many Thanks,
Jennifer and WellSpan OBGYN Staff*

Dear Pastor Melinda, Maira and Members of Shiloh UCC,

Pastor Melinda, thank you so much for the beautiful service for my sister, Helen M. Luckenbaugh. I realize with Covid-19 that you only got to meet with her once before her passing, but your words were such a great comfort for the family.

Maira, thank you for your patience and answering all my questions when I called during this difficult time for our family.

I would like to thank all the members of Shiloh UCC for their thoughts, prayers, sympathy and cards to the family..especially to my mother, Marguerite Lochman. Also, I would like to thank Charles Hull. He has a beautiful voice and singing, “How Great Thou Art” was lovely. Thank you, God Bless!!

*With Love,
Lois Schwartz and Family*



Our sympathy to the family and friends of **Nancy A. Hamme** who passed away on July 9, 2021. A memorial service was held at Shiloh UCC with Pastor Melinda officiating.

Memorial Gifts were received in memory of **Nancy A. Hamme** from Sara Jacoby, Richard and Helen Hodgson, Don and Jeanie Bentzel and Julene Bechtel.



VOLUNTEERS FOR AUGUST



August 1 Jen & Mark Miller
August 8 Kruza Family
August 15 John & Mary Reiber
August 22 Deb & Randy Reisinger
August 29 Pat & Nelson Roth

August 1 Milton & Beverly Hoak, Pat Roth
August 8 Mark & Jen Miller, Harry Hamme
August 15 Wilbert & Charlotte Mickley, Elaine Krout
August 22 Randy & Deb Reisinger, Jan Hopple
August 29 Jack & Diane Jordan, Julene Bechtel



***Please note: Only two Ushers are needed for each service until further notice. You will be contact by the office the week you are scheduled for confirmation.**



August 1 Sallie Hagerman & Natalie Fuhrman
August 8 Marsha Reiber & Karen Bupp
August 15 Reen Bentzel & Carol Burns
August 22 Marsha Reiber & Jessie Sechriest
August 29 Patti Goodyear & Kaitlin Rentzel

OFFERING DUTY

August 1 Consistory
August 8 Brian & Sally Curren
August 15 Nancy Sipe & Lisa Stough
August 22 John & Mary Reiber
August 29 Don Bentzel & Katie Bentzel

AUGUST BIRTHDAY'S

- August 1 Matthew Hamme

- August 2 Haley Betz
Patricia Mellott
Fay Myers
Mary Rodgers

- August 3 Helen Byers
Keith Krout
Brandon Miller

- August 5 Pat Roth

- August 6 Clark Arnold
Jan Hopple

- August 8 Alison Hamme
Jeff Hershey

- August 9 David Grove
Chad Harrold
Drew Heilman
Carol Wallace

- August 10 Carrie Korkie

- August 11 Cheryl Hershey
Carolyn Poff

- August 13 Noah Baker



AUGUST BIRTHDAY'S (Cont'd)

- August 14 Brett Pfeifer
Lori Whitecomb

- August 16 Susan Besecker

- August 17 Charlotte Rohrbaugh

- August 22 Zane Schmidt
Dean Spahr

- August 23 Lacinda Lewis
Gwen Shaffer

- August 28 Brian Copenheaver
Susan Long

- August 31 Jeanne Wilt



Updated Church Directories are available in the gallery. If you would like an electronic copy, please contact the office.

- Sept 6 Labor Day – Office Closed
- Sept 7 ELC Classes begin
- Sept 12 Two worship services begin: 8:30 & 11:00 am/Communion
- Sept 19 Welcome back Sunday/Brunch
- Sept 26 Sunday School begins
Dedication of Church School Teachers & Installation of Church School Officers





NEWS OF THE 26 CHURCHES OF THE YORK ASSOCIATION

Like us on Facebook: [yorkucc](https://www.facebook.com/yorkucc)
YA Email: YAPCCUCC@aol.com

Honoring Pastor Eva O'Diam's 40th Anniversary

Please plan to join us @ Dover UCC on August 29 during the 9 am worship service as we celebrate the 40th anniversary of Pastor Eva O'Diam's ordination. Reverend Nora Foust, associate conference minister, will be with us during the worship service.

If you cannot join us on August 29, you may wish to send a card to congratulate Pastor Eva. You can send your card to the church marked to the attention of Mary Duttera; the cards will be collected at the church and given to Pastor Eva on the day of the celebration.

Around the Association

Hayshire UCC, 100 Haybrook Dr, York

What: 3rd Annual Car, Truck & Bike Show

When: Saturday August 28th, 11:00am-2:00pm

ALL makes and models of cars, trucks & motorcycles are welcome. All vehicles will be part of judging. Registration fee is \$10/vehicle and can be completed in advance by calling the church office (717-848-4007) or on the day of the event from 9-10:30am. There will be food trucks, music, and crafts for kids.

York Fresh Food Farms needs some mobile market helpers, paid work. If you know anyone, please encourage them to check out the [York Fresh Food Farms website](http://www.yorkfreshfoodfarms.org/). Thanks!"

Contact Info:

- yorkfreshproduce@gmail.com
- 717-305-8270
- 150 Willis Road York, PA 17404
- <http://www.yorkfreshfoodfarms.org/>

Faith UCC, York is seeking an *Interim Director of Adult Choirs* and a *Director of Children and Youth Ministry*. Please contact pastorron@faithuccyork.org for position descriptions and to apply.

YORK ASSOCIATION (Cont'd)

"GO GREEN" SUNDAY IS BACK!

Sunday, August 8, 2021

1:00—3:00 pm

Mt Zion UCC—York, PA

YOUTH WORKSHOP

"Healthy Relationships and Respect"

Sunday, September 19, 2021, 6-8 pm

Hosted by St. Paul's UCC
2173 Stoverstown Road, Spring Grove

Youth in 7th - 12th grades are invited to gather at 6:00 pm for a pizza social. The session begins at 6:30 pm and the evening will conclude with an activity time, 7:30-8:00 pm. This event is free and welcomes youth from around the York Association.

Andrea Stoner Leaman, Program Manager for Safe Communities (formerly known as Samaritan Counseling Center's Safe Church/Safe Places) will lead the session. Members of St. Paul's Safe Sanctuary team will join our youth group leaders in chaperoning this event.

"In this lesson, your kids will discover what makes a relationship healthy. In a healthy relationship, you can talk about what is bothering you, compromise, respect each other's privacy, and support one another. Relationships also often change. We'll explore what their priorities are for a relationship, whether it's friendship or romantic, what things are important to them individually. We'll look for indicators of an unhealthy relationship or friendship and learn how to identify those things - power, control, unequal, and jealousy. Through a series of engaging activities and discussion, participants will learn about respect and the role it plays in healthy relationships. Focused on listening, being assertive, and using refusal skills - this session can enhance all types of relationships."

Please register by September 12 by calling the church at 717-225-6357, and be sure to leave your name, telephone number, the number of participants, and your church's name. Or you may email your registration to: bjsenft@aol.com

Pastor David Martin or Barbara Senft will gladly address any questions you may have. We hope your youth will be able to participate as we work together to provide them with tools for developing healthy, respectful relationships!

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

CONSISTORY

Elders

Marsha Reiber, President
Norina Bentzel, V. Pres.
Jaron Flickinger
Sallie Hagerman
Jane Harrison
Jeff Hershey

Deacons

Sally Curren, Secretary
Janene Beck
Dani Bentzel
Nathan Limbert
Stephen Sechriest

Natalie Fuhrman – Treasurer
Stephanie Berkheimer – Financial Secretary
Jeanie Bentzel – Church School Superintendent

THE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D. pastormelinda@shilohucc.com 717-764-3609
Director of Music	Stephanie Limbert
Organist	Sandy Bamberger
Missionaries in Costa Rica	Crosby and Sally Jane Johnson
Administrative Assistant	Maira Rivera
Early Learning Center	Allison Hartnett
Church Office Phone Number	717-764-3569
Church Email Address	office@shilohucc.com
Website	www.shilohuccyorkpa.org



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