

*“No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here at Shiloh UCC, where God is still speaking”*

THIS WEEK

SUN 8:30 & 11 **Worship**
9:45 Sunday School (100 & 202)

TUES 6:30 Cub Scouts (100)
8:00 Men’s Chorus

WED 9:30 Bible Study (202)
5:00 TOPS (117)
7:00 Visioning Meeting (202)

THUR 6:30 NA Group (100)
6:30 Choirs

SUN 8:30 & 11 **Worship**
12:30 Potluck Dinner (100)
1:15 Annual Meeting (100)

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 98

THE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D.
pastormelinda@shilohucc.com
717-764-3569

Pastor Melinda office hours: **Wednesdays 9AM-12PM & 5-8PM**
Thursdays & Fridays 9AM-12PM

Director of Music Stephanie Limbert
Organist Sandra Bamberger
Missionaries in Costa Rica Sally Jane and Crosby Johnson
Early Learning Center Director Allison Hartnett
Administrative Assistant Maira Rivera
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Shiloh United Church of Christ
2251 Willow Road, York, Pennsylvania 17408

717-764-3569

January 21, 2024



Our Mission Statement

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

**CHILDREN'S BULLETINS and LARGE PRINT BULLETINS
are available in the Narthex.**

Welcome to this time of worship
January 21, 2024
Third Sunday after Epiphany
8:30AM & 11:00AM

MEDITATION

“True religion is always a deep intuition that we are already participating in something very good, in spite of our best efforts to deny it or avoid it.”

- **Richard Rohr, 21st century (in Falling Upward)**

PRELUDE

8:30AM	<i>“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”</i>	Thygerson
11:00AM	<i>“I am His and He is Mine”</i> <i>“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”</i>	Courtney Courtney

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(Please stand as you are able!)

One: Gather this day in silence and hope

All: We wait for God’s word for us.

One: Let your hearts and spirits be open.

All: God is our strength and salvation.

One: Wait patiently for the Lord.

All: With willing hearts and spirits we wait for the Lord. Let us worship God!

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

One: Let us pray!

From deep within us we know of a loving presence. All around us we see beauty, life and light. We have no words for what we experience, so we cry out, “God!”. In this moment of worship may that loving presence grow deeper, may our awareness of the divine presence around us grow more intense. May we, gathered in this place, learn to pay more attention to God, who loves us at all times and in all places. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN** *“Jesus Calls Us, o’er the Tumult”* #172



OFFERING is continually being collected for our missionaries, **Sally Jane and Crosby Johnson.**

GROCERY GIFT CARDS = CONTRIBUTION TO CHURCH. Weis and Giant grocery gift cards are available for purchase in the gallery. For every dollar of gift cards purchased, \$.05 is donated to the church by the grocery store. This contribution is used to support our Missionaries, Sally Jane and Crosby Johnson in Costa Rica.



The Visioning committee continues to meet to review surveys from the ELC parents. As we work on the issue of reaching more families with young children, we need all of Shiloh’s help and support. This is a follow up to the video from the Lewis Center we shared last fall. Also we have recommended and the Consistory has approved a new Vision statement which reads

“Shiloh UCC is called to be a community where love is affirmed, truth is told, laughter, and tears are encouraged to be 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.”

Some suggestions to carry out a plan of action to address our major focus are and fulfill our vision are:

- *Pray for the Pastor and the members of the Consistory
- *Always support the Pastor in front of others (if you have a concern go to the Church and Ministry Committee or if comfortable go directly to the Pastor).
- *Be a team player. The church is a *community* not an *individual*. You may not agree with everyone or everything but the purpose of the church is not to try to please you. It is to spread the word of God.
- *Get involved in the small groups that meet and / or volunteer for one of the many committees that meet.
- *Bring your children or grandchildren to church.
- *Invite your neighborhood children to church.
- *Volunteer to help the Church Chums which is a group that has events for families and young children.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
The Visioning Committee

- **THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sue’s mother, Thelma Deveney by Sue and Rick Trimble.
- **VIDEO TEAM:** Lew Wallace, Sallie Hagerman, Dani Bentzel, Matt Hildebrecht, & Nathan Limbert.
- **LITURGIST: 8:30AM:** Katie Bentzel **11:00 AM:** Carol Burns
- **GREETERS: 8:30AM** Cindy & Rick Repman **11:00AM:** Steve & Sue Besecker
- **NURSERY: 8:30AM:** Patti Goodyear & Kaitlin Rentzel **11:00AM** Jessie Sechriest
- **MUSIC:** Donna Seifarth, Men’s Chorus, Sandy Bamberger

All members of the Congregation are invited and encouraged to attend the **Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 28**. Before the Meeting, a **pot luck dinner will be held at 12:30 p.m. in room 100**. Sign-up sheets are located in the gallery and the Welcome Center. Following the dinner, the **Annual Meeting will begin at 1:15 p.m. in room 100**. There will be a time for discussion and questions on the printed Annual Report



In the event of inclement weather, any delays or closings will be listed on the **Church’s Website and Facebook page**. We will also submit the information to **Fox 43 News and WGAL New 8**. If services are held, please use your best judgement as to whether you are able to attend.

It's that time of year to warm up with a nice cup of **coffee from Costa Rica!** A new shipment has come in and it includes decaffeinated coffee as well as whole coffee beans for a fresh grind! Please contact Linda Little if interested at 717-309-4523



The **Women’s Guild** will be meeting **Monday, February 5, at 1:00 pm in room 202**. The program will be from our study book **Encouraging One Another, Chapter Ten: Where It’s Needed Most**. Joyce Mummert will be leading this chapter. Special offering this month is for Sally Jane Johnson. *We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.*

Please contact the office if you’re interested in **sponsoring bulletins**. The cost is \$20 and may be placed in your regular offering envelope. Please call the church office **2 weeks prior** your desired date to have your “Special” wording placed in the bulletin.



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Let us pray!

We listen to the stories of the call of the disciples and find them interesting, but unrealistic. When we look at our own lives, we believe that we could not leave everything to follow someone we didn’t know. We have many responsibilities and ties which keep us from following. But God is persistent. God understands our confusion and doubts. And God continues to call us to be in ministry and mission in this world. It may not mean leaving everything behind, but it does mean being willing to serve wherever God calls us. Discipleship is difficult. Forgive us, patient and persistent Lord, for the very many times we turn our backs on serving you and focus on our own comforts. Forgive us when we look the other way when people are in need. Forgive us our angry attitudes and actions which hurt rather than heal. Wrap your arms around us, healing our wounds, binding us to you. Gently move us into service in your name. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Do not be afraid. God is with you! That is good news. You do not have to go through life alone, wondering if anyone cares about you or knows your heart. God knows and God loves you. Rejoice for thus it is, has always been, and will continue to be. God’s love for you is eternal. **Amen.**

EXCHANGING THE PEACE OF CHRIST *(Please wave to one another)*

One: Let us greet each other in Christian Friendship.
The peace of God be with you.
All: And also with you.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

(All children of God who desire to come forward for the Children’s Sermon are welcome. Parents/caregivers are encouraged to accompany their young child during the message.)

***HYMN**

“Word of God Speak”

CD

WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-10
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

MEN’S CHORUS

Third Lesson: Mark 1:14-20

SERMON

“Jesus says: Come, Follow Me!”

*HYMN "You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore" (Vs. 1-2) #173

PASTORAL PRAYER

SILENT PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS BEFORE GOD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Gestures of gratitude are a demonstration that a blessing or benefit has been received. We heard a call, dropped our nets and came to this place to find new life. The gifts we give today are but tokens of the blessings of the new life we live in Christ. Bring your gifts with joy for they remind us of just how blessed we are to know this love that flows so generously from the spirit of God.

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE "Doxology" #780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

One: Let us pray!
**May these gifts, given to these ministries of grace,
be a blessing to friends and strangers,
those like us and those not,
those deserving and those not,
for in this way the love of God reaches all of God's beloved.
Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN "Lord of the Dance" Insert

BENEDICTION

As the disciples walked with Jesus so long ago, walk with Christ in your hearts and spirits. Feel the power of the Holy Spirit guiding your path. Know the love of God which is poured out for you and rejoice. Go in peace and may God's peace go with you. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

8:30AM "Go Forth For God" Powell

11:00AM "Jesus Shall Reign" Tornquist

WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT YOU JOINED US FOR WORSHIP TODAY!

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

Morning Prayer (Written by Wendy Blight)

Dear Lord, I don't know who or what will cross my path today. But I do know that you are my Rock and my Fortress. You are my Shield and my Strong Tower. Help me to anchor myself to you today. Teach me how to stand strong in you and choose only your way today. Help me walk by your truth and not my feelings. Help me to embrace anything that comes my way as an opportunity to see you at work and as an opportunity to point others to you. Thank you that you love me and nothing can ever take that away from me! Even if I fail today and fall short, you whisper your unconditional love deep into my soul and remind me that your mercies are new every morning. That truly amazes me, Lord. Thank you for meeting with me today. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Evening Prayer (Rebecca Barlow Jordan)

Loving God, Bless us with rest tonight, and a good night's sleep. Forgive us for the things we did today that did not honor you. Thank you for loving us so much that you sent your Son, Jesus Christ to walk with us on our journey. We need your help every day, and we thank you for the strength you give us and for helping us know that with you, even the hard things are possible. Bless our family and our home, and keep us safe through the night. May your angels guard us and watch over us, just like you promised. In Jesus' holy name we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Sandy Baboian, Julene Bechtel, Jim Sr. and Rosemary Bentzel, Rosabel Bentzel, Marvel Burg, Helen Byers, Gerry Funkhouser, Joe Jordan, Bev Kirk, Donna Krone, Elaine Krout, Dottie Limbert, Catherine Lochman, Arlene Myers, Joanne Overmiller, Randy Reisinger, Donna Robertson, Charlotte Rohrbaugh, Cedric Simpson, Stewart Wagner, Romaine Walton, Elva Winter

THOSE WHO GRIEVE FOR THEIR LOVED ONES

The Bechtel Family; The Geesey Family; The Shaffer Family, The LaMontagne/Boros Family