

COMMUNIQUE



SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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A GROWING CHURCH
MEETING YOUR GROWING NEEDS

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- July 3** **Proper 9 (14) Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**
2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30
Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16
“Don’t Give Up”
- July 10** **Proper 10 (15) Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37
Jonah 1:1-16
“Jonah in Trouble”
- July 17** **Proper 11 (16) Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42
Jonah 1:17-2:10
“In the Belly of the Beast”
- July 24** **Proper 12 (17) Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**
Colossians 2:6-19
Luke 11:1-13
Jonah 3
“Second Chances”
- July 31** **Heritage Sunday Celebration at Salem UCC, Dover**
Time: 10:30am followed by picnic
More info to follow!

COMING UP

- August 1** Women’s Guild (202)
August 1-4 ELC Summer Camp
August 4 ELC Board Meeting (100)
August 7 Communion
August 8 Consistory (100)
August 9-22 Pastor Melinda vacation
August 16 Missions Group (202)
August 23 Quilt Club (202)
August 24 Staff Meeting (202)
August 25 Outreach (202)
August 28 Missions Challenge begins
August 29 Women’s Guild (202)

August



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”
~ *Jeremiah 29:11*

Dear members and friends of Shiloh UCC,

During the summer months, many of us get busy with our vacations, gardens, and family gatherings. The weather is warm and the beach is calling. How can we stay home, when the weather outside is so tempting? How do we make sure that our spiritual life doesn't regress, just because the weather is good?

Before all else, we need to put our spiritual needs first. Being connected with God and the body of Christ has to be a priority. Even when the “great outdoors” is calling, we can still give an hour to God on Sunday. If you have children, coming to church is even more important, as you want to teach them about priorities.

If you haven't been coming to church for a while because of COVID-19 or other reasons, this may be the time to rededicate your life to God. You can start by coming to church once a month and see what happens. There is nothing wrong with fun and sun, when we have extra money, but when times are tough we need to be in church. What a difference one hour a week can make in your life.

That one hour on Sunday morning (services start at 8:30 and 11AM) can be the difference between chaos and order. When we give attention to God, our lives get better. And think about it...You will still have plenty of time to enjoy the sun and get your Vitamin D. You will still have time to waste. You can still watch TV, sleep in, and go out with your friends for dinner. Spending an hour with God once a week (or once a month, if you are just coming back to church) is a small sacrifice that reaps big results.

Coming to church makes you shine. I cannot explain it. Coming to church gives you something special, that cannot be explained with simple words. Grace... It grants us grace. When we come to church, we just seem to get the green lights in life. I am not sure why.

PASTOR'S REPORT (Cont'd)

It's not because we are special or better than others, but just because God loves us. God loves us, and coming to church gives God's elect the faith to relax, and enjoy all that God's green earth has to offer.

Coming to church actually frees you up from worry, so that you can do all the things you want this summer without anxiety or stress. So enjoy the summer, but keep the faith, too!

I wanted to highlight a few events for the month of July.

➤ **On July 10th, we will be starting a SERMON SERIES on the BOOK OF JONAH.** Come and listen to God's message talking through the shocking experiences of Jonah, the prophet.

➤ **July 31st is Heritage Sunday for the local Lutheran and UCC churches.** We will be celebrating our common traditions and shared historical background. We will have fun in the sun at Salem UCC in Dover, and one worship service at 10:30AM. Our Conference Minister, Rev. Dr. Carrie Call, PhD will preach for us. Picnic and games will follow, where you can get to know your brothers and sisters in Christ, who attend UCC and Lutheran churches in Shiloh and Dover. Please invite your family (especially children and grandchildren!) to attend with you.

These are just a few reasons to come to church this summer. The main reason is simply to relax in God's presence, and enjoy each other's company.

I'm sure you have great plans for the summer. However, God has even greater plans for your life. Come into God's presence to learn more about these plans.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”
~ *Jeremiah 29:11*

*Rejoicing in Christ always,
Pastor Melinda*



JUNE CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

Pastor's Report –

Worship:

- Special worship services
 - May 15th – Member recognition Sunday
 - May 22nd – Outdoor worship; Church Picnic (Thank you to Jane H. and everyone else who helped with the event! It was wonderful.)
 - May 29th – 3 new members joined Shiloh UCC
 - June 5th – Pentecost and Graduation Sunday
 - June 12th – Trinity Sunday – Rev. Dr. Carrie Call preached – Visit from the Conference Minister of the Penn Central Conference.
 - Upcoming worship services: Father's Day and Baptism June 19th; June 26th Confirmation Sunday

Administration:

- May 16th ELC staff breakfast. A big “Thank you” to those who organized it!
- May 17th ELC Fun Day. Thank you to those who represented Shiloh UCC and gave out materials to the crowd!
- May 18th – Pastor-Parish Relations Committee meeting – first meeting (setting up the committee and defining the role)
- May 31st – Worship and Music Committee meeting
- June 1st – Visioning Meeting
- June 12th – Strawberry Festival at Shiloh UCC. Thank you to everyone who organized it!

Pastoral Care:

- Home, Hospital and nursing home visits (1)
- Office/lunch meeting (6)
- Phone calls/Facebook private messages (24+) to our members

Christian Education:

- Grief Group meets once a month. We met on May 20th. This is an “open” group, which means that you can join at any time. Next meeting is on July 15th.
- New Sunday School program in room 100 about the “Tabernacle.”

Contact with the larger UCC + local community:

The Penn Central Conference - Conference Minister, Rev. Dr. Carrie Call preached at Shiloh UCC on June 12th (Trinity Sunday)

New business –

- A. Maira would like to open discussion about the possibility of working from home 1-2 days per week.
 - a. Consistory agreed to allow Maira to work from home on Friday's through September 2.

JUNE CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

- B. Gary Joseph - current resident at Normandie Ridge is interested in attending services (11am) but needs transportation
Announcement in the bulletin and/or at the church service. Does he have any special needs?
- C. Bryan Jackson of Community Asset Mgmt Co. - called to inquire on using room 100 for a Homeowner's Association meeting July 26, 27 or 28 from 6-8pm for about 20 people.
Consistory approved this as long as the room use form is filled out and the room fee is paid and room 100 is available.
- D. TOPS Group will begin their meetings at 5pm instead of 5:30 beginning in July (they will be using room 202 on July 20 (VBS in room 100).

Church and Ministry –

- Meeting was held on June 7 with committee - topics included new Youth and Family hire position, Job Descriptions, Job Evaluations, Personnel
- Seeking Consistory Approval of ELC Staff and Director Job Descriptions and Annual Evaluations
 - The ELC Staff and Director Job Descriptions and Annual Evaluations were approved.
- Would like Pastor Melinda to research and find emails, phone numbers, or other contact information for how to get information out to seminary students and post help wanted for the new hire 10-hour weekly position. Can email the information to Reen and Janene as soon as possible since the Visioning Committee wants the position filled by September or January at the latest.
 - Could this person be shared with another church? --to be looked into.
 - Pastor Melinda will be getting contacts to us for finding the best ways to post the position
 - Have Maira post the job description through the seminary.
- May 25th staff meeting was held
 - Maira gave all staff members forms to fill out to alert her to the vacation requests so tracking is easier for her to complete
 - Communique deadline dates to submit information are: June 17, July 22, August 19, September 23, October 21, November 11, December 23
 - Allison will contact Marsha about VBS dates and building usage since one of their summer camp are the same dates
 - Staff members are asking for training on the new video system and copyright items to know what is permitted or not in clipart, YouTube, etc. Since Maira's plate is so full, it was discussed that she should not be the one to research and plan items for Sunday services.

JUNE CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

- New church members are asking Pastor Melinda how they can offer their services to the church. Pastor Melinda will give Maira the names of the members so she can get their names on the lists ((i.e. liturgist, usher, greet, etc.).

Worship and Music –

- Church events calendar for 2023 - several dates need to be provided by other committees
 - Many of the open dates were filled in based on when the events happened in 2021
 - The Church events calendar for 2022/2023 was adopted following a Dani Bentzel/Carolyn Poff motion.
- Confirmation June 26 with communion.
 - The July 3 communion was moved to June 26 so the confirmands can partake of their first full communion.
- No communion in July
- To be determined: a brass group ensemble for special music in August.
- Next meeting June 29 at 7:00 PM in room 202

Church Life –

- The Strawberry festival went well considering we are still catching up from the past 2 years of not holding it.
- Notes were taken as to what went well, what could be improved. Maybe advertise more next time.
- We collected \$593 and are still deciding where best to use it.

Outreach/Evangelism –

- Family/youth Coordinator job description from visioning - proceed with posting position
 - See Church and Ministry minutes
- Outreach committee will distribute key rings on Sunday
- Remind greeters to get visitors' contact info
- Sept, 18 Back to Church Sunday -
- Question raised about how to involve confirmands in the life of the church - sent letters to confirmands inviting them to Strawberry Festival/ with free meal
- Next meeting for Outreach Aug 25 at 10:00am room 202.

Missions –

- The Missions Committee agreed to make the beneficiary of this year's Mission Challenge, previously known as the Stewardship Challenge, to seek contributions towards the audio and video upgrades that have been made to the Sanctuary to replenish half of the funds taken from various church accounts. It will be the Committee's goal to raise about \$13,500. The challenge will run from August 28th to October 9th. The Committee next plans to meet on Tuesday, August 16th at 6 PM.

JUNE CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

- Crew XI will be going to Costa Rica in January 2023. The team will leave Thursday, January 19th and return on Saturday, January 28th.
 - The first meeting was held and there are 10 interested in going from Shiloh UCC and 4 definite from Zwingli with a possible 2 more.

Christian Ed –

- Considering holding a Sunday School class on micro lending based on a Penn Central seminar Marsha attended
- VBS has 26 kids signed up, so we will not need to advertise since we are limited on supplies. VBS runs from July 17 to July 20 from 6-8pm.**Youth Ministry** - As reported previously, Nate will organize participants for the Crop Walk in October.

Youth & Ministry –

- Pastor Melinda asked what we could give the confirmands following their confirmation.
 - Bibles were suggested with something else.
- Will try to begin youth fellowship again in September.
- Possibly do a weekend at Helping Hands this summer.

ELC-No new meeting until August 4, 2022 at 5 pm in Room 100.

Finance Committee and Budget –

- Current offerings are down about \$8,000
- The approved audio/video cost was \$27,773.27. The final bill was \$28,868.78. The difference due to extra equipment needed for the audio part (speakers in the narthex).
- We received \$11,250 from the annual charitable trust contribution

Communication and Technology –

- Audio and Video equipment is in!
 - Audio and video both have been used during the services
 - Video portion was incorporated into the service starting June 4th and seemed to be perceived well by the congregation–lots of positive comments
- We are still looking for any volunteers willing to learn how to use the equipment
- The audio amplifiers used with earbuds are not always working–Matt Hildebrecht said this is still a work in progress with the new audio installation.

Property Committee –

- Security planning meeting scheduled for June 22 at 1pm
 - Having people come in to discuss the church security
- Projects, including the kitchen, are constantly ongoing along with regular maintenance issues.

*Respectfully submitted,
Marsha Reiber, Consistory President*



Cedric Richard Simpson, son of Christopher Scott Simpson and Kaitlyn Kozuch Simpson and grandson of Suzanne Kozuch, was baptized on June 19, 2022. Cedric was born on October 29, 2021.

New Members received on May 29, 2022

- *Thomas and Sharon Klunk
- *Suzanne Kozuch

New Members received on June 26, 2022 by Confirmation – Affirmation of Baptism.

- *Lily Fahnstock
- *Elysa Myers
- *Kyla Myers
- *Donovan Reiber
- *Kendra Tredway



JULY BIRTHDAY'S

- July 1 Bonnie Betz
Susan Emmons
- July 2 Robert Davis
William Heindel
Michael Wilt
- July 5 Marvel Burg
Michael Limbert
- July 7 Dottie Limbert
Amanda Pizza
Shirley Rinehart
Jeffrey Werner
- July 9 Rachel Emmons
Philip Lauer II
- July 10 Stephanie Barnes
Marilyn Johnson
Dianne Jordan



JULY BIRTHDAY'S (Cont'd)

- July 12 Susan Myers
Richard Reidy
Brandy Schmidt
- July 14 Chuck Baboian
Sandy Bamberger
Grace Gladfelter
- July 16 Sally Jane Johnson
Jackson Reiber
- July 18 Nan Frost
- July 19 Tyler Baker
Bill Behler Sr.
- July 20 Julene Bechtel
Marsha Brubaker
Luther Garber Jr.
Donald Hoffman
- July 22 Michelle Kessler
- July 23 Karen Ness
- July 24 George Flickinger Jr.
Matt Hull
DeeAnne McDaniel
- July 25 Carol Burns
Gail Chronister
Beverly Hoak
Brad Jacobs
- July 29 David Eshbach
Stephanie Limbert
- July 30 Wendy Mummert
- July 31 Ryan Bentzel
Robert Heilman



CONSISTORY

Elders

Marsha Reiber, President
Norina Bentzel, V. Pres.
Sallie Hagerman - Secretary
Jane Harrison
Jeff Hershey
Matt Hildebrecht
Nathan Limbert

Deacons

Janene Beck
Dani Bentzel
Carolyn Poff
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

Pastor Melinda office hours: Wednesday 9 AM-2 PM & 5-8 PM
Please call for an appointment Thursday 9 AM-11:30AM & 6-8:30 PM
Friday 9AM-2 PM

Director of Music Stephanie Limbert
Organist Sandy Bamberger
Missionaries in Costa Rica Crosby and Sally Jane Johnson
Administrative Assistant Maira Rivera
Director of Early Learning Center Allison Hartnett
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