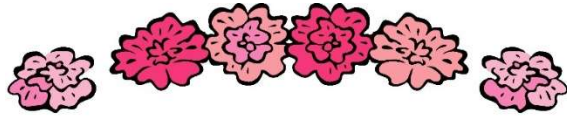
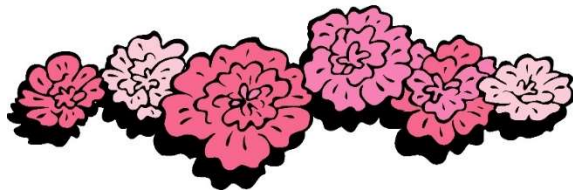


COMMUNIQUE



MAY 2023



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



- May 7** ***Fifth Sunday of Easter***
Communion/Music Sunday
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14
“Enduring Witness”
- May 14** ***Sixth Sunday of Easter***
Anniversary Sunday/Member Recognition
Proverbs 23:22-25
Proverbs 31:10-31
1 Corinthians 13
“Agape -Love”
- May 21** ***Ascension of the Lord***
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Psalm 93
Ephesians 1:15-23
Luke 24:44-53
“The Ascension”
- May 28** ***Pentecost Sunday***
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
Acts 2:1-21
“The Fire of Pentecost”

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

“The Spirit helps us in our weakness.

We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him,

who have been called according to his purpose.”
(Romans 8:26-28)

Dear Friends in Christ,

Because of vacations and family gatherings, most churches slow down a little after Easter. But not Shiloh, UCC! Praise God. Your spiritual home always offers many opportunities to worship and witness.

This May will be no exception. May will be a busy month at Shiloh UCC. On the first Sunday, we will celebrate Music Sunday with heart-warming melodies, and lots of special music. The second Sunday of May is Mother's Day. On that Sunday we will celebrate all women, mothers and grandmothers, who faithfully come to church. We will lift up our women as living examples for the next generation. On the second Sunday in May, we will also celebrate our long time church members. In that same service, we will receive new members who are joining the sacred rolls of membership. Halleluia!

On the third Sunday, we will celebrate the Ascension of Jesus. If you don't know much about this event, please, come and learn what happened on that first Ascension Day. On the last Sunday of May, which will also fall on Memorial Day weekend, we will celebrate Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit will set our hearts on fire. If you don't plan to travel during that long weekend, please, come and rejoice at Shiloh, filled with the Holy Spirit. It will be a blessed experience!

May is also a time when we congratulate the students who will be graduating high school and college. May God bless the students and their families that belong to Shiloh UCC.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE (Cont'd)

In May, and every month, I am eternally grateful for the members of our congregation who faithfully attend worship services in our beautiful Sanctuary and online. Also, thank you for generously giving toward the ministries of our beloved church. I am grateful for your tithing, and financial fidelity, to the ministries of Christ, here at Shiloh UCC. God sees your sacrifice.

For those of you, who are going through difficult times, let me assure you: God loves you and God is with you. You are never alone. Even when you are going through the darkest valley God's presence is right by your side. So keep the faith. Stay strong in Christ. God knows about your pain and suffering. Remember, your God is a powerful God, who can send healing and joy, even into the dark valleys of life.

Please, also remember that there are many people at Shiloh, who love you and are praying for you. Your Pastor is praying for you, too. Everything that happens can strengthen our faith and bring us closer to God. So don't be afraid. God is with you. We just need to trust God and know that *“in all things God works for the good of those who love him...”*

“The Spirit helps us in our weakness.

We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit,
because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him,

who have been called according to his purpose.”
(Romans 8:26-28)

Rejoicing in Christ,
Pastor Melinda



APRIL CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

Pastor's Report-

Worship

Special Services:

- March 26th - Daffodil Sunday
- April 2nd – Palm Sunday Service
- April 6th – Maundy Thursday Service (Hand washing ceremony)
- April 7th – Good Friday Service (Drama)
- April 9th – Easter Sunday Service with Communion
- April 16th – Butterfly Sunday
- Upcoming services: April 23rd – ELC Sunday; May 7th – Music Sunday.

Administration

- March 28th – Outreach Meeting
- March 29th – Staff Meeting

Pastoral Care

- Home, Hospital and nursing home visits (2)
- Office/lunch meeting (6)
- Phone calls/Facebook private messages (15+); countless text messages to our members

Christian Education

- Grief Group meets once a month (last meeting: March 17th).
- Bible Study meets weekly on Wednesdays in room 202. Thank you, Ray, for leading this group!
- Sunday School adult programs are held in room 100 and Room 202. Thank you to our Sunday School teachers!
- Men's Breakfast meets once a month. Thank you, Brad, for leading this group!
- Lenten study started on March 1st and ended on April 5th. We had a nice group of people (around 12 people). Thank you Stephanie Limbert and Judy Clark for your help with this study!
- April 2nd - Easter Egg Hunt – Palm Sunday afternoon

Contact with the larger UCC + local community

- March 22nd - Chapel time for the ELC kids.
- March 23rd – Leaders in Ministry Consortium – ecumenical local clergy group.
- April 13th - Boundary Awareness Training for the UCC: 2 units of BAT are mandatory for UCC Ministers every year.

Consistory President's Report –

- Room Requests: There was one room request approved by myself.
 - Grandview Homeowners Association - Meeting on 6-05-23-23

APRIL CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

New business-

- A. Sign-in sheets.
 - It was decided to keep the greeters and sign-in sheets in the Welcome Center as this has been working well.
- B. York Association's Pastor's meeting - Judy Clark attended this meeting. They are holding Ecclesiastical Councils to approve 2 individuals for ordination. Each church in the association needs to supply a lay person at each council. Judy is attending as a pastor.
 - a. April 30, at Faith UCC, 3pm with a light supper–Nathan Limbert volunteered to go.
 - b. May 21, at Heidelberg UCC, 2pm–Jeff Hershey volunteered to go.

Unfinished Business-

- A. Lay Leader Convocation - April 15th
 - The registration deadline was missed so no one attended.
- B. WMTFD donation for Firefighters Association of York County Annual Convention, August 12, 2023. It was approved to go with the \$250 option with name on digital marquees for two weeks.
 - Jane Harrison will talk to Allison Hartnett (ELC director) to see if they would like to contribute to the \$250 with the church.
 - It is felt that this is a great outreach/advertisement for our church.
 - Reen Bentzel circulated a sign-up sheet for donations for May 18 ELC Staff Breakfast.

Worship and Music-

- Next meeting April 19 at 7:00 in room 202.
- April 23 - ELC Sunday (one service has been requested by ELC) followed by reception in room 100.
- April 30 - there will be a lay service to cover Pastor Melinda's vacation in lieu of a lay pastor.
- May 7 Music Sunday - luncheon after 11:00 service for music/technology program volunteers.
- June 25 - picnic - Sunset Lane Park - chicken with potluck side.
- Palm Sunday brunch was well attended.
- Ray Fox thanked the committee for all that they do.

Church and Ministry-

- Next Meeting April 24 6:30 pm Room 202.
- Starting to work on refining the church rosters.

Church Life –

- Matt Hildebrecht noted that there was a new volunteer supplying the coffee connections this past Sunday.

APRIL CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

Youth Ministry –

- Combined Youth Group event on April 29th.
 - Nixon Park - Arbor Day Tree Planting.
 - 9:00am-11:00am & 1:00pm-3:00p
 - So far there are 4 people signed up for the early shift
- Information for the Hartman Center Spirit week 2023 for different camps is available.

Christian Ed –

- The Heifer International contribution at this time is \$1,595. More donations are coming in.

Outreach/Evangelism -

- Next meeting - April 26 at 7:00 room 202 (visioning).
- Distributing carnations on Mothers' Day.
- Table at ELC Fun Day May 19.
- June 3 - Yard Sale.
- Visioning moving to create vision statement.
- They would like to share a video with the congregation on change sometime in the near future.
- Next Outreach meeting - May 3 at 7:00 in room 202.

Missions Committee-

- The Missions committee approved the Mother's Day offering envelopes to go to the Lehman Center this year.
- Next meeting is April 18th.

Property Committee –

- Access control upgrades completed.
- It was agreed that the Vicar would lock the entry doors at 8:30 and unlock them at 9:30. The doors will again be locked at 11:00. The Vicar will stay in the welcoming center for an additional 10-15 minutes at the beginning of each service in case there are late-comers.
- Parsonage has a Freon leak from the air conditioner in the attic.
- Matt Hildebrecht has submitted 2 quotes to replace the parsonage air conditioning. There are 3 areas, in the rear of the property, without air returns. This would be an additional \$500 to improve comfort.

Finance Committee and Budget –

- With the copier continuing to break down, Natalie Fuhrman will have quotes available at the May meeting.
- 2024 Offering envelopes have been ordered.

ELC –

- ELC Sunday is April 23rd. will show a video and sing 4 songs at 10 am with light refreshments afterward.

APRIL CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

- Texas Roadhouse Free Meal Voucher- we have enough for every ELC student and will distribute at May 19 Fun Day in conjunction with Marsha R. promoting Bible School.
- Registrations are phenomenal with only 9 openings left for the fall 2023.
- Lots of programs happened: Bowling, Curious Playhouse trip (downtown), dental programs, Dr. Seuss skits, Dover Dragons Fitness and Focus, P/T Conferences, Canned Food Drive Service Project hugely successful (donated to New Hope Ministries and St. Matthews Food Bank.
- The Cake Pop Fundraiser for Scholarship Fund made \$800, The ELC is excited about Shiloh UCC Love Offering donations for the month of April also that are earmarked for this cause.
- April 1 Parents' Night Out was a huge success.
- Very appreciative of the new security features at Shiloh UCC.
- May 18 Set up at 8:30 am for the staff meeting at 9 am breakfast, provided by the Consistory - sign up here or email Reen if you can donate something.
- May 19 9:30 - 11:30 am is Fun Day.
- Next meeting August, 2023.
- CBS 21 News wants to do a story on the ELC about how to bridge the gap between children with special needs and an early learning center/daycare. What are the needs, challenges, benefits, in having students with special needs in our school? With so few options out there this is an area that all early learning centers are struggling with.

Communication and Technology –

- Computers (office, ELC laptop, and Pastor Melinda's computer)
 - The previous computers that we received were the same models as the previous ones.
 - Windows 10 will no longer work after 2025 and Windows 11 will no longer work as well.
- It was recommended contacting Shiloh Computer to check out our system–Matt Hildebrecht will take care of this.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nathan Limbert, Consistory President*

MISSIONARY NEWS

Greetings from Limon,

This year we were fortunate to receive suitcases of clothing which were donated when the team visited in January. Some students I taught before going into the work of the mission have also recently reached out to us with donations of clothing, toys, books, and furniture. What a blessing to be able to provide these gifts to others with need in the community.

A bed went to BriBri for a young student that is staying with our missionary friends living there. During the week she lives with them so she can attend school. She has to cross 2 rivers to go from her home to school. It is too dangerous for her to cross the rivers to return home at night when it is dark. What a blessing to have this donation for this young student.

All of the clothing has already been passed out in the community. Several of the girls at church love showing off their new dresses on Sunday. One mother said the infant clothing she received for her new born son was an answer of prayer.



The suitcases have also been passed on to families for storage of their clothing as many do not have dressers.

We have been so blessed by these donations and are happy our mission continues to follow Christ's teaching to meet the needs of "the least of these"! In our world today we rarely see people walking around naked but we do see people that have ragged, dirty clothing or clothing that does not properly protect them from the weather.

MISSIONARY NEWS (Cont'd)

When Christ tells us to cloth the naked, he was talking about people that are facing hard times. To show dignity and respect for the recipient, allowing the person to understand God's mercy and goodness. By clothing those with need we welcome them into community and remind them that God loves them and will provide.

We praise God for your support and gifts that allow us to share God's love with the community we serve. **Matthew 25:35-36** "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was in prison and you came and visited me." 40 "The King will reply, I tell you the truth, when you did for the least of my brothers of mine, you did for me."



*Your Hearts and Hands in Costa Rica,
Crosby and Sally Johnson*

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Safety and physical wellbeing for us, those we serve, family, and friends
- God's favor through Monthly financial support and prayer to meet the needs of our mission
- Prayers for students' success and educational needs books, uniforms, bus passes
- Funds to purchase a truck to fulfill the needs of the mission and ministry (the engine went out in van no refurbish engines of our type in country, we have not had a vehicle since November)
- For my passport renewal
- Hearing God's voice clearly and being led by the Spirit as we minister to our community

EARLY LEARNING CENTER



It's hard to believe that we have come to the end of another school year. This has been such a wonderful, busy and fun-filled year. I am confident that our students have been academically, socially, and emotionally prepared for the next step in their education. I am so grateful to my very dedicated, creative and loving ELC staff. Each and every one of

them works very hard to make our preschool a wonderful place to be.

In addition to my fantastic staff, I am so appreciative of the encouragement I receive from the members and staff of Shiloh UCC. Maira keeps me on my toes and is always ready to help. Jeff and the Work Crew keep our classrooms safe and in working order. The Advisory Board provides advice and support at our bimonthly meeting.

Before we all head off for summer vacation we have so many exciting things planned for the month of May. We will spend time learning about flowers and enjoying some extra playtime hopefully outside. In addition, we will make wonderful surprises for our parents in honor of Mother's Day and Father's Day. We will host our families for a special end of the year program to celebrate all the wonderful things their children learned throughout the year. On May 19th we will host a Fun Day celebration for all our students. During Fun Day our children we will have the opportunity to play games, eat snacks, get their face painted, get tattoos, visit a firetruck, bounce in a bounce house, pet animals in the petting zoo, and watch Tae Kwan Do demonstrations! Plus, each child will go home with a special bag filled with lots of treats from Shiloh UCC and many area businesses. Over the summer we will also be hosting three summer camps for returning and new students. We will have a Jungle themed camp (May 22-25), Theater camp (July 10-14) and a Camping themed camp (July 31-Aug 3)

The teachers of the Early Learning Center wish you all a relaxing summer. We hope that wherever your travel plans take you, you will be safe and have a wonderful time. We will see you in September.

Allison Hartnett, ELC Director



The **Women's Guild** will be meeting **May 1, at 1:00 pm in room 202**. The program will be from our new study book **Encouraging One Another, Chapter Three: Encourage My Faith!** Norene Edgar will be leading this chapter. *We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.*

Engaging Women will be meeting on **Tuesday, May 9, at 6:30 p.m. in the Parlor**. Contact Sally Curren at dgft25@hotmail.com for additional information.



The special **Mother's Day offering** envelope will go to the **Lehman Center of York** this year. The Lehman Center offers emergency respite care for children newborn through six years of age in a 24-hour crisis nursery, art and child-centered therapy, family advocate services, and parent support groups.

The **Women's Guild** will be collecting items for **Wellspring Mother/Child Clinic in April and May**. The following items are needed: newborn diapers, unscented wipes, formula (powder), heavy menstrual pads, breast pads, breast cream, baby clothes (newborn to 3 months), blankets (fleece or lighter ones for summer). All items should be new except clothes and blankets in good shape. Place them in tubs marked Women's Guild. Items will be displayed on **Mother's Day, May 14**.



The **Women's Social and Support Group** will meet for breakfast at 9:00am on **Friday, May 19 at the West Manchester Café**. Please contact Ginny Heath at 717-764-6768 by **May 15** if you plan to attend.

Mark your calendar for the next Shiloh UCC Men's Breakfast on **Tuesday, May 16, at 8:30 am at Dover Valley Restaurant** located at **3720 Carlisle Rd, Dover, PA**. Contact Brad Jacobs at 717-764-2773 or bcj402@verizon.net for additional information.



The **Recognition of Graduates** will be held on **Sunday, June 4**. If you are graduating, please contact the church office by **May 21** with your graduation information. We would like to include this information in the bulletin on Recognition Sunday and also in the *June Communique*.

Just a reminder that everyone is invited to attend the **church picnic on Sunday, June 25 at Sunset Lane Park, 1060 Church Rd. York PA 17408**. Worship begins at **10:00 AM** followed by lunch. **Please bring your lawn chairs, a covered dish, place settings and beverages (broasted chicken will be provided)**. We look forward to this special yearly event that allows us to socialize with friends from church in nature.



- June 3 Shiloh UCC Yard Sale
- June 4 Trinity Sunday/Communion & Recognition of Grads
- June 11 Strawberry Festival
- June 18 Father's Day
- June 25 Church Picnic

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Shiloh UCC Members and Friends,

Through your generous contributions to the **Lenten Offering**, and the Lenten Project for Sunday School, we collected over **\$1,600**. This year, **Heifer International** is offering a matching gift to triple contributions. The matching gift increases our total donation to over **\$4,800**; the most we have ever been able to contribute. Thank you all for your generosity towards this great cause.



The Sunday School board and the Missions Committee

Dear Shiloh UCC,

The **Relay for Life Team** would like to thank Shiloh UCC for allowing them to use the church to make Easter Candy. Proceeds benefit the Cancer Society.

Connie Redman

Dear Friends,

I'm writing in heartfelt thanks for your recent gift of \$100 to share meals, which enables us to help and offer hope in 2023 at **LifePath Christian Ministries!** You'll be glad to know your support has gone right to work for your neighbors in need. Each life we touch is so grateful for your spiritual and tangible help.

*In His service,
Norman Humber, CEO*



OUR SYMPATHY to the family and friends of **Marguerite Lochman** who passed away on April 8. A memorial service was held at Shiloh UCC on April 22, 2023.

MAY BIRTHDAY'S

Memorial Gifts were received in memory of **Stephanie Berkheimer** from Gary & Mary Lou Berkheimer, Jeff & Cheryl Hershey, Jay & Joyce Mummert and Barbara Vranich.



Memorial Gifts were received in memory of **Marguerite Lochman** from Sara Jacoby, Fern & Wayne King, Linda Luckenbaugh, Kim Bunty, Grace Cook, Karen & Kenneth Smith and Thomas & Lois Schwartz.

If you are interested in purchasing items made in **Costa Rica**. Contact Linda Little at 717-309-4523 or lsclmt@yahoo.com. There are earrings, magnets, wood crafted magnets and more! A new item available is Costa Rican Coffee!



May 1 Krista Harbold
 May 2 Crystal Dell'Orfano
 Ross Hopple
 Elva Winter

May 3 Donna Krone
 Romaine Walton

May 4 Katie Bentzel
 Jerry Claytor
 Ty Reiber

May 5 Stephanie Waldron

May 6 Nelson Roth

May 7 Elijah Bentzel
 Joseph Wilt

May 8 Roberta Kepner
 Mary Ann Wotherspoon

May 9 John Johnson

May 12 Chase Kessler

May 13 Donald Myers



MAY BIRTHDAY'S (Cont'd)

- May 16 Scott Bowers
- May 17 Michael Benedick
Meredith Bupp
Jason Myers
- May 18 Michael Kauffman Jr.
- May 19 David Guillard Jr.
- May 20 Sandra Baboian
Alicia Baker
John Eugene Ness
- May 21 Julia Hahn
Tyler Whitecomb
- May 22 Ethan Jacobs
Marty Lehman
- May 23 Jack Jordan
Alec Kier
Tyler Riccardi
Jacquelin Taft
- May 25 Michael Andras III
Beverly Arnold
- May 27 Thomas Bentzel
Brandon Fuhrman
Lisa Stough
- May 28 Beckett Rentzel
- May 29 Anne Myers
- May 31 Jonathan Bupp



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

CONSISTORY

Elders	Deacons
Nathan Limbert, President	Dani Bentzel
Norina Bentzel, V. Pres.	Judy Clark
Sallie Hagerman	Pat Myers
Jane Harrison	Carolyn Poff
Jeff Hershey	
Matt Hildebrecht	

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

THE CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Melinda LaMontagne, Ph.D. pastormelinda@shilohucc.com
Pastor Melinda office hours:	Wednesday 9 AM-2 PM & 5-8 PM Thursday 5-8 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
Early Learning Center	Allison Hartnett
Church Office Phone Number	717-764-3569
Church Email Address	office@shilohucc.com
Website	www.shilohuccyorkpa.org
	www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa

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MAILING PAGE