

COMMUNIQUE

October

2021

SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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**A GROWING CHURCH
MEETING YOUR GROWING NEEDS**



- October 3 *Proper 22 (27) Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost*
Psalm 26
Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12
Job 1:1, 2:1-10
“When Bad Things Happen to Good People”
- October 10 *Proper 23 (28) Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost*
Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31
“For God, All Things Are Possible”
- October 17 *Proper 24 (29) Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost*
Guest Preacher Rev. Nora Faust
Associate Conference Minister for Ministerial and Congregational Excellence
Penn Central Conference UCC
- October 24 *Proper 25 (30) Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost*
Psalm 34:1-8
Mark 10:46-52
Job 42:1-6, 10-17
“When Good Things Happen to Good People”
- October 31 *Proper 26 (31) Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost*
Psalm 24
Isaiah 25:6-9
Revelation 21:1-6a
“The Alpha and Omega”



Psalm 16:1 & 11

*“Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.”
“You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Wonderful news! There are many new and exciting things happening at Shiloh UCC. First of all, we have an awesome new sign. Wow! It's digital and it looks great. We have also returned to two services (8:30AM and 11:00 AM). Both projects have been a lot of work for a lot of amazing people.

I want to thank the wise members of the Consistory who made the final decision on these new projects. I also would like to thank our hard working teams, especially the Visioning Team, that brought up these new ideas and worked hard to accomplish them. There were individuals who worked many hours on these projects. I would like to thank especially Jane Harrison, who looked at many sites on the Internet, researched sign companies, interviewed them, suggested the best in business, and brought the research back to the Consistory. Thank you for all your hard work!

All of our teams have been working hard. Our Worship and Music Committee has been planning for the two services for many months. Other Committees have been working on how to welcome visitors and how to reach our dear friends who haven't been in church for a while.

So, if you are one of those people who have been worried about COVID-19, or the 9:15AM worship time didn't work for you and your family, this is a great opportunity for you to return to church. Come back to your spiritual home, and see what exciting, wonderful things are happening here at Shiloh, UCC. Come, check us out at 8:30AM or 11AM.

There is plenty of room for social distancing, especially at the 11:00AM service! At the later service, we also have a variety of beautiful music provided by talented volunteers and Sandy, and sometimes we can even hear some guitar music.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE (Cont'd)

Please, remember to bring your children and grandchildren to church with you. We make sure that there is childcare at both services (8:30AM and 11AM) and there is Sunday School for the young, between the two services (from 9:45AM to 10:45AM).

I am so grateful and excited about these new opportunities. Together, we are building up the body of Christ, right here, in the heart of Shiloh. Together, we are making our services joyful, happy, and beautiful.

Thank you to all the talented people who are making this possible. If you like to sing and enjoy praising God with music, please remember to join one of our choirs. If you have a musical talent and can play an instrument, please, come and talk to me (Pastor Melinda) or Stephanie, our Music Director and let us know how we can make you shine. Don't be shy. Let's find a way that you can play for our congregation. I always need a variety of musical offerings at the 11 o'clock service.

What wonderful news! Today my heart sings with joy and I have hope for Shiloh UCC's future, because I know God will grow our congregation not only spiritually, but also in numbers. Please, do the work you can do. Spread the word. Let all your friends and family members know that now we have two services and we welcome all people into God's presence. Thank you for being the loving hands and feet of Christ in the world!

*Rejoicing always,
Pastor Melinda*



SEPTEMBER CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

Pastor's Report –

▪Worship

- -September 5th Sally Jane Johnson preached.
- -We started two services on Sunday, September 12th.
- -I was on vacation between August 17th and August 31st

▪Administration

- -I attended the scheduled meetings, when possible.
- -Visioning Team met on August 11th.
- -Outreach Team met several times during last month.
- -Worship and Music met on September 4th.
- -Donate online? Where are we in the process?

▪Pastoral Care

- -Restarted visits and meetings with our church members.
- -Phone calls to our members.

▪Contact with the larger UCC + local community

- -York Association Annual Meeting at Shiloh UCC on November 14th starting at 1:30 PM.
- -The 52nd Greater York CROP Hunger Walk.

New business –

- A. Proposals for a new copier system have been received and reviewed. At this time no purchase is necessary.
- B. New Consistory Duties list.
- C. Safety
 - a. Jeff Hershey will do periodic checks of the AED in the Narthex.
 - b. Joyce Mummert provided the evacuation plan for sanctuary.
 - c. Jeff will check on changing the times for services listed on the street signs.
 - d. Jaron will change Sunday school time on the Website.

Unfinished Business – The new outside digital sign has been installed, and is working. The metal cap on top needs to be installed. Training for operational processes was provided to 3 people on September 7. Ken Goodyear is planning to inspect the brickwork to see if any repointing is needed. Currently the sign dims at 7:00 p.m. and goes off at 10:00 p.m.

Church and Ministry – Reen reported annual staff reviews have been compiled and they were shared with Consistory members for final input at the end of the meeting.

Christian Ed –

- Sallie reported they will be using an 18-week course using Legos for the children's class.
- An Adult Sunday School class will also start following the completion of the SOS Visioning meetings.
- All Sunday School leaders will meet to unify plans.

SEPTEMBER CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

Worship and Music –

- Jane shared that we began two services Sunday, September 12 - 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
 - Choirs will be singing at both services, with only one choir per service.
 - Volunteers will provide music during second service with Sandy Bamberger playing as needed.
 - Hand bells will play the second Sunday of the month at both services.
- Welcome Back Sunday will be September 19 - Beverages and snacks are planned.
- Christmas Concert will be Sunday December 5 at 6:00 p.m. followed by refreshments.
- Carol Burns is looking for acolytes. Liturgists may be asked to acolyte and using the Confirmation class was also discussed.
- A survey is being prepared to ask for more volunteers, which are needed for ushers, greeters, nursery (must have clearance – there is no charge to apply for clearance), and acolytes. The survey will be placed digitally in the bulletin for the on-line service, along with printed in the bulletins, Communique, and also at sign-in in the Welcome Center.

Outreach/Evangelism –

- Current members outreach: Postcards were sent to members who attended regularly between 2015-2016 (except for current attendees) for the September 19, Welcome Sunday.
 - Sign-in sheets have been changed to gather information from guests.
 - A visitor survey has been created.
 - Visitor gift bags have been created to be handed out at the Welcome Center when guests sign in. (They are in the small cupboard on right hand side.)
 - New children's bags were created. They will be hung at the old student bag tree. They will be handed out by the ushers and the Captain, and kept by the child. Replacement bags are in the closet.

Youth and Ministry – The Crop Walk will be held on Sunday, October 10 at 2:30 at Sunset Lane Park. Nate has reached out to the youth and is awaiting responses. It was suggested that all members of the congregation are welcome to participate by walking and donating and would not necessarily have to be done at that particular time.

Communication and Technology – We have the phone system password and Pastor Melinda's phone now rings.

- Pastor needs a monitor
- New sound system and mounted data projector
- Smart TV (65")
- ELC laptop is set up and waiting for Allison's follow-up

SEPTEMBER CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

ELC –

- ELC Advisory Board meeting was held on September 7 at 5 pm in Room 100.
- First ELC day went well on September 7.
- ELC gave out one full scholarship and two 50% scholarships, Scholarship fund is driven by one annual fundraiser.
- Enrollment - currently have 170 students attending and only have 4 openings in one of the 3's class on Tuesday/Thursday.
- Duck Donuts fundraiser is currently running with October 9th at 10 am here at Shiloh UCC as the delivery/pick-up time.
- Mask requirement - Masks are now required and ELC is complying with Gov. Wolf's requirements. Any exceptions would require a Dr. note and/or be reviewed by the ELC Advisory Board. A positive letter will be drafted by the Advisory Board and sent to the ELC parents regarding the mask requirement.
- Following much discussion and a motion by Sallie Hagerman and seconded by Jaron Flickinger, Consistory moved that the only exception to wearing a face mask that Consistory agrees to is a medical exception and that person must then wear a face shield. Conscientious objection is not an exception that Consistory will agree to. Reen will forward that information to the ELC.
- One student/parent was refunded money and choose not attend due to the mask requirement. Four other parents voiced concerns.
- Should any positive cases or exposure cases occur, the ELC will follow the Department of Health information.
- Next meeting will be on October 4th at 5 pm in room 100.

Finance Committee and Budget – Treasurer's report.

Stewardship- The Committee plans to hold their next meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 21st at 6:00 PM. The Stewardship Challenge for 2021 runs until Oct. 10th

Property Committee - Jeff Hershey reported that the downspouts were fixed temporarily, but a permanent fix still needs to be completed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Marsha Reiber, Consistory President*



EARLY LEARNING CENTER



Autumn

The Early Learning Center has had a wonderful start to the 2021-2022 school year. The children returned to school with smiles (we can tell by looking at their eyes), excitement and anticipation. Some of our newer students had a few tears but our awesome staff was able to patiently help with their transition to school.

The ELC students have enjoyed playing on our playground, exploring our building, painting, drawing, singing, and listening to stories. Friendships are beginning to form, not only with the children but also with their parents. The school year is off to a great start!!!!

The month of October brings many exciting themes and events. Fire Safety is one of our first units. We will discuss fire safety rules, walk to Shiloh Fire Station and conduct classroom fire drills. In addition, we will explore pumpkins, the colorful season of autumn, and night animals. The Bible lesson for our two and three-year old friends is Noah's Ark from the book of Genesis. Our four-year old students will explore The Spider and the Scarecrow, a beautiful story by Todd Aaron Smith. The students will learn that they are never alone. God is ALWAYS with them.

October is also the "kick off" of Chapel Time with Pastor Melinda. This exciting bimonthly event will take place in the sanctuary. The children will hear stories and Bible verses as well as enjoy beautiful music! Our busy month ends with our Fall Festivals, complete with special treats, costumes, and exciting games.

The ELC is also planning on participating with the Shiloh UCC Youth at Trunk or Treat. For many years our students have been invited to Trunk or Treat and have enjoyed every decorated car as well as all the wonderful treats, crafts and games. Thank you Shiloh UCC for always inviting the ELC students to Trunk or Treat!!

*Happy Fall!
Allison Hartnett*



The **Women's Guild** will be meeting on **October 4** in room 202 at 1:00 p.m. The program will be from our study book **Bad Girls of the Bible, Chapter Eight: Friends in Low Places – Jezebel: Bad to the Bone**. Susan Reidy will be leading this chapter. *We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.*

The **Crop Walk** will be held on **Sunday October 10th at 2:30 pm at Sunset Lane Park**. We will walk for as long as we want to. I will have more information about money that is raised closer to the actual date and updates will be provided in the bulletin. If you would like to participate or donate please notify Nathan Limbert.



Engaging Women will be meeting on **Tuesday, October 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary**. We will continue with the book called "The Power of a Woman's Words," by Sharon Jaynes.



The youth of **Shiloh UCC** will be holding a **Trunk or Treat event on Sunday Oct 24th from 2-3 in the Shiloh UCC parking lot**. We need adults to come and give out treats to our Early Learning Center students. Come and decorate your car trunk and hand out treats to our trick or treaters!!

During The month of **October** and **November** we will be accepting memberships for the **Homewood Auxiliary at Plumcreek for a \$3.00 donation per person or \$5.00 per couple**. You will receive a quarterly newsletter with updates from all the Homewood sites. Please see **Pat Roth or Shirley Lohmann for a membership until the end of November**.



This years **Stewardship Challenge** is to raise enough money to "buy a farm" through Heifer International. We would like to buy chicks, ducks, honeybees, one sheep, one pig, one goat, one water buffalo, and one heifer. **The total cost for those animals is \$1180**. We would be happy to buy more animals for our farm if we raise more money than that. Many times the Heifer Project received funds from our Sunday School classes and Vacation Bible School but with the Covid Pandemic that was not happening. Also, during Covid our own country suffered, but the third world countries even more so. Please prayerfully consider supporting this year's challenge and put your donation in your regular offering envelope or any envelope and mark it Stewardship Challenge. The challenge **will end on October 10th** before our many other holiday outreach projects begin.

During the month of **October**, the **Women's Guild**, in cooperation with Sunday School, will be having a special collection to support the needs of the residents and staff of "New Life for Girls" which is a residential ministry for women with drug and alcohol related problems. Due to ongoing Covid-19 concerns, our support will be limited to monetary contributions again this year. Donations will be used to repair and enhance the safety of the agencies residential buildings. Church members can use the "other" line on their offering envelope and designate **New Life For Girls**. Sunday School classes and other groups may give their donation directly to the church treasurer, Natalie Fuhrman. The deadline to donate is **October 31**.



THANK YOU NOTES

Reverend Melinda, members of Shiloh UCC, friends and family,

I want to say thank you for making this home visit so special. I am humbled and honored by the great outpouring of hospitality, gifts, words of encouragement, and prayers as so many changes have taken place. I believe more will be coming as we seek the Lord and follow his ways. I look forward to these changes with great joy and expectations. May we continue to be servants carrying the invitation boldly into the world as The Wedding Banquet is ready! God be with you until we meet again.



*Love and blessings,
Pastor Sally Johnson*

THANK YOU (Cont'd)

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and phone calls on the death of our grandson, Darrell.

*God Bless You,
Gary and Marvel Burg*

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the entire Homewood family, I would like to express our deep appreciation for your gift to the Benevolent Care Fund of the Homewood Foundation through the Penn Central Conference. With your support, we hope to continue our nearly nine-decade long tradition of providing world-class, personalized care and support for the entire Homewood family for decades to come.

*With Sincere Gratitude,
Jessica M. Laird, Director of Development*

Dear Rev. Melinda and Shiloh UCC:

Thank you for your most generous, continued and vital support through Penn Central Conference! Your donation helps our children thrive and truly makes a difference in their lives. Thank you for giving hope and investing in our children's future!

*With Gratitude,
Alicia Stanley, Hoffman Homes for Youth*



Our sympathy to Gary and Marvel Burg and their family on the passing of their grandson, **Darrell Missinger** on August 25.

Memorial Gifts were received in memory of **Mary Emma Elicker** from Dianne and William Jordan.



Memorial Gifts were received in memory of **Robert Behler Sr.** from Brad and Sue Jacobs, Alton and Carole Davis, G.L. and J.L. Knott and Carolyn Fahs.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY'S

October 1	Shirley Glatfelter Janine Pepo Ben Reiber Dawn Spahr
October 4	Dana Gaetjen Anna Miller Jackson Miller James Patterson
October 5	Diane Jordan
October 6	Janene Beck Wilbert Mickley
October 7	Andrea Mountford
October 8	Connie Benedict Allan Schmidt
October 9	Dan Bollinger Vanessa Seifarth Jane Wilt James Wotherspoon
October 10	Abby Aldredge Sally Reiber
October 13	Cindy Traettino
October 14	Mary Ellen Sayres Gladys Seigman
October 15	Scott Arnold Jr. Nathaniel Hamme Gloria Melhorn



OCTOBER BIRTHDAY'S (Cont'd)

October 16	Stephanie Berkheimer
October 19	Richard Berkheimer Brian Curren
October 22	Mary Berger
October 23	Brittany Childress Madison Miller
October 25	Rebekah Bupp
October 26	Dennis Delp
October 28	Karen Delp
October 29	Melinda Kreiser



OCTOBER

3	World Communion Sunday Neighbors in Need Offering
10	Harvest Home Sunday Stewardship Challenge ends
24	Trunk or Treat
31	Reformation Day

NOVEMBER

7	Cash Rally Memorial Sunday Daylight Savings Time ends
14	York Assoc. Annual meeting Annual budget meeting
25	Thanksgiving Day – office closed
26	Office closed
28	Slate of Consistory Nominees
28	First Sunday of Advent



In 2021, Neighbors in Need “Unfailing Love” offering which we will receive on October 3 is focused on supporting organizations and projects that are serving homeless and immigrant neighbors or communities.

One-third of NIN funds support the [Council for American Indian Ministry](#) (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC’s Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to provide funding grants to UCC churches and organizations leading justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects in their communities.

Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace advocates), Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice. Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. One-third of the offering supports the UCC’s Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hocak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Please join us in supporting the 2021 Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering as we place our attention on this important issue. www.ucc.org/nin. Thank you!

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

MAILING PAGE

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

Pastor Melinda office hours: **Wednesdays 9AM-2PM & 5-8PM**
 Thursdays 9:00-11:30AM & 6-8:30PM
 Fridays 9AM-2PM

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

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