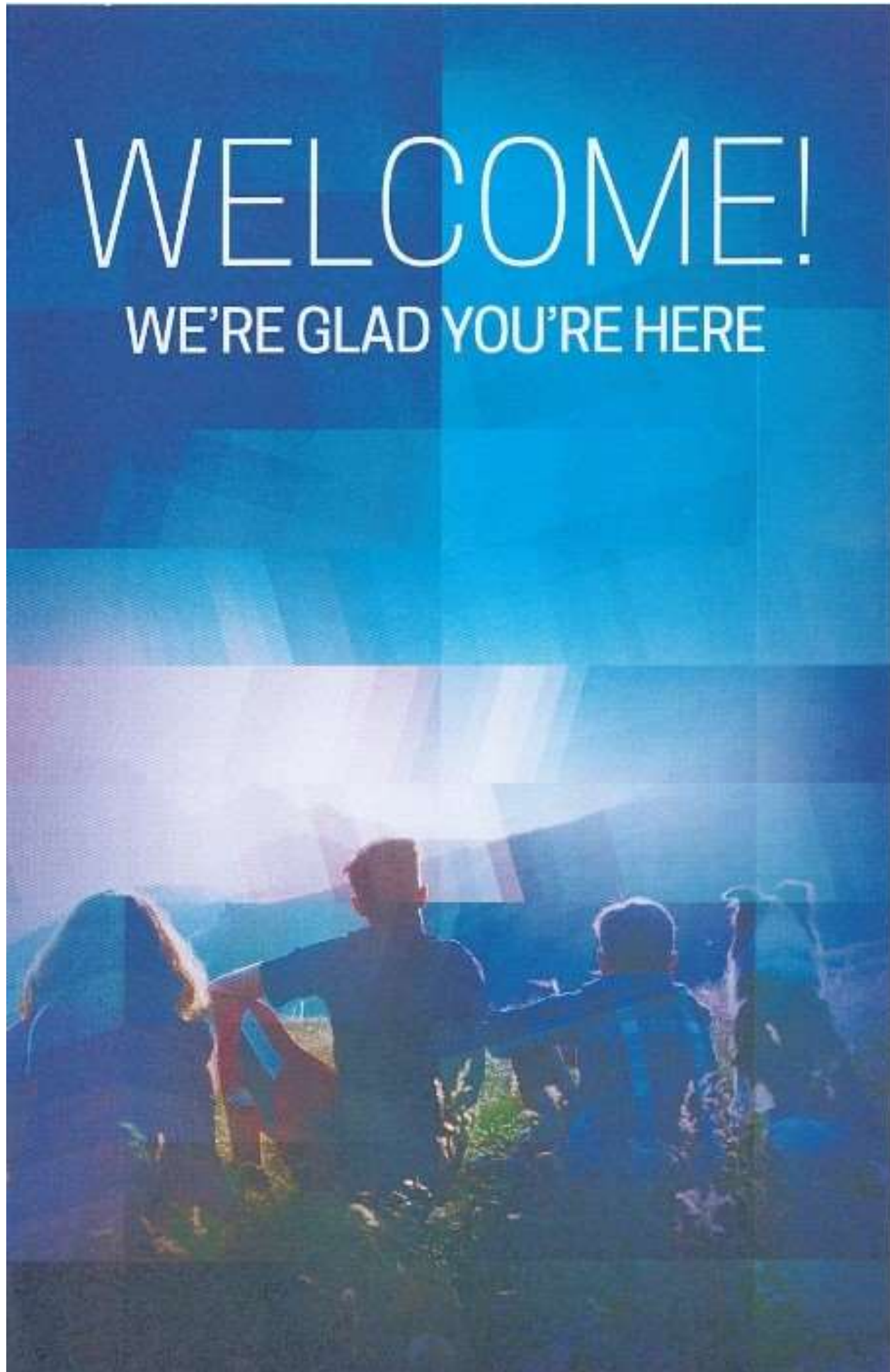


WELCOME!

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE



WELCOME TO SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
WELCOME BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 17, 2023
8:30AM AND 11:00AM

MEDITATION

*"We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive.
He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love."*

~Martin Luther King, Jr.

PRELUDE

8:30AM	<i>"How Firm a Foundation"</i>	Hayes
11:00AM	<i>"I Will Sing of My Redeemer"</i>	Pritchard

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (2018, Nathan Decker)

(Please stand if you are able.)

One: Welcome Home! Welcome to your spiritual home!

All: Home is not a building or a place we meet.

One: Home is not just where we came from.

All: Home is more than people and memories.

One: Home is more than sentimentality or traditions.

All: Home is toys on the floor.

One: Home is a mess in the kitchen.

All: Home is a welcome at the door.

One: Home is a hug of acceptance.

All: Home is the laughter around the table.

One: Home is remembering promises made in water and spirit.

All: Home is seeing where God is leading us and going there together.

One: Welcome home to Shiloh UCC, where we welcome children and adults, rich and poor, people of all backgrounds; where we care for each other, and learn how to love. Welcome Home!

All: Home is where we are better together. We give thanks to God for Shiloh UCC. Let us worship God together!

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

One: Let us pray!

Almighty God, as we wander in the wilderness of our lives, lead us with your cloud by day and with your pillar of fire by night. Guide us on this spiritual pilgrimage that we may never lose our way. Bless us with your presence, Holy One, that we may know the strength of your hand and the tender mercy of your love. Feed us with your bread from heaven, that we may taste your Spirit and shout your praises. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN**

"Morning Has Broken"

Insert

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Let us pray!

Loving God, oh how we struggle to forgive wholly and fully. We hold onto grudges. We resist your work to bind us together. Even though we know you have forgiven us in Jesus Christ, we are slow to forgive each other. Thank you for demonstrating such forgiveness by graciously extending it to us. Help us to let go of bitterness. We have received grace; help us to share it with each other. Change our hearts, O God, and grant us Christ's willingness to forgive. Forgive us for these and all our sins. Strip our hearts of anger, and replace it with joy. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Rom. 8:34; 2 Cor. 5:17)

One: Hear the good news!

Jesus Christ died for us,

He rose for us,

He reigns in power for us,

He prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

All: Thanks be to God!

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. Parent’s/ caregivers are encouraged to accompany their young child during the message.*)

***HYMN**

“Word of God Speak”

CD

WITNESS TO OUR SACRED STORY

First Reading: Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-2

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

8:30AM & 11:00AM CHANCEL CHOIR

“We Gather to Praise”

McDonald

Third Lesson: Genesis 50:15-21

SERMON

“Compassion”

***HYMN**

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

#506

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

God is always with us, not just when everything seems clear and times are good, but also when we struggle with questions and doubt. When we cry out to God, our prayers are heard. When the world cries out to God, we are part of God’s answer, offering water in the desert, offering nourishment to a world that is spiritually hungry. Our gifts this morning are our answer to God’s own goodness. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

**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!

Generous God, you have given so much to us in love and joy – every good thing in our life reflects your caring. Even in the giving of our offerings, we have tried to give our best, but know we could do more. In a world where forgiveness has become a rare commodity, it is often an asset we hold back to maintain power over one another. Help us to hear your call to the generosity of forgiveness. May we learn to give that to others with your extravagance! We pray this in Jesus’ name, who gave all. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“How Great Thou Art”

Insert

***BENEDICTION** (*Traditional Blessing, www.faithandworship.com*)

One: May there always be work for your hands to do.

May your purse always hold a coin or two.

May the sun always shine upon your window pane.

May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain.

May the hand of a friend always be near to you and

May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.

All: Amen.

POSTLUDE

8:30AM

“We Your People, Praise You”

Edwards

11:00AM

“Grace and Love Medley”

Towner & Kaiser

**WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT YOU JOINED US FOR WORSHIP
TODAY!**

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK:

Morning Prayer (Attributed to Augustine of Hippo, 354-430)

Loving God, to turn away from you is to fall,
to turn towards you is to rise,
and to stand before you is to live forever.
Grant us, dear God, in all our work, your help;
in all our uncertainties, your guidance;
in all our dangers, your protection;
and in all our sorrows, your peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Evening Prayer

During an epidemic (Christoffer Dahl [1758-1809] in Den Svenska Psalmboken [1819].
Translated from the Swedish by Carol M. Norén)

Almighty God, you have dominion over life and death. We beseech you, let us not all be destroyed. Hear our cry and look upon the needs of the sick, the dying, and one another: so many we cannot number them. You who are our aid, turn away this plague. Keep us in your care, you who love what you have created, and give comfort and strength to those whom you chasten. You who are father to the fatherless, the refuge and defender of widows, soothe the stricken and the suffering; lighten the heart of the oppressed. Merciful God, let your consolation never be taken from the afflicted. Make us content in your will, and prepare us with your Word. Let us run our course with patience and hope, and finally, with sin's contagion washed away, take us to abide in your arms forever, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Sandy Baboian, Julene Bechtel, Julie Beall, Jim Sr. and Rosemary Bentzel, Rosabel Bentzel, Helen Byers, 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 Baboian Family, The Brenneman/Hershey Family, The Guillard Family

- **THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of John Parke Bentzel by the Bentzel Family and Janis & William Heindel.
- **VIDEO TEAM:** Lew Wallace, Sallie Hagerman, Dani Bentzel, Reen Bentzel, Matt Hildebrecht, & Nathan Limbert.
- **LITURGIST: 8:30AM:** Brian Curren **11:00AM:** Mary Reiber
- **GREETERS: 8:30AM:** Nelson & Pat Roth **11:00AM:** Richard & Helen Hodgson
- **NURSERY: 8:30AM:** Sallie Hagerman & Natalie Fuhrman **11:00AM** Volunteer
- **MUSIC:** Chancel Choir, Jessie Sechriest, Sandy Bamberger

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS AND MUSICIANS FOR PROVIDING THE WORSHIP MUSIC THIS SUNDAY!

Dear Shiloh UCC Members,

Words that we live by and hear every Sunday at Shiloh United Church of Christ are:

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Shiloh UCC, where God is still speaking."

These words are very important and not to be taken lightly. It is with heavy hearts that we heard a speaker at the August 20, 2023 Sunday service share words which were contradictory to what we believe.

We, the 2023 Shiloh UCC Consistory wish to express our sincere apologies to anyone who heard the inappropriate message from this guest speaker. We do not condone what the speaker shared and did address our concerns regarding his message. We also reached out to several congregation members regarding their feelings over this matter.

Do not hesitate to contact any member of the Consistory should you need further assistance. Thank you for your understanding.

2023 Shiloh UCC Consistory

*“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 **Welcome back to church Sunday**
9:45 Brunch (100)

TUES 8:30 Men’s B-fast (Dover Valley Rest)
6:30 Cub Scouts (100)
7:00 Quilt Club (202)

WED 7:30 Soup Prep
9:30 Bible Study (202)
5:00 TOPS (117)

THUR 10:30 Our Daily Bread
6:30 NA Group (100)
6:30 Choirs

SUN 8:30 & 11 **Rev. Sally Jane Johnson/Dedication &
Installation of Church School Teachers &
Officers**

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 99

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 5-8PM
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
office@shilohucc.com

Website: www.shilohuccyorkpa.org

Facebook Page www.facebook.com/shilohuccyorkpa



2023 MISSION CHALLENGE

This year's challenge began on **August 27** and ends on **October 8**. Our goal is to raise **\$3000** to be divided between **White Rose Hospice and the VNA Hospice and Home Care**. These non-profits provide a wonderful service to persons who want to stay in their home and receive health care as well as those who choose to wish to spend their end of life time with dignity. As we know all too well, many of our Shiloh members have had the need of these services. Please mark your offering envelope "Mission Challenge" on the other line or just use a regular envelope and mark it accordingly. Thanks for considering this mission challenge.



There will be a **prayer breakfast held at Genesis Church across from twin pines on 616 on September 23rd 2023**. All are invited to attend with hearts and hands for Jesus. Sally Jane and Crosby Johnson will be in town and will be there. The breakfast will be pancakes, sausage links and scrambled eggs and drinks. We will serve breakfast from **8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.** please call Linda Little at 717-309-4523 if you plan to attend. Hope to see you there!

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.



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.

