

PENNSBURG UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

775 Main Street
Pennsburg, PA 18073



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To our Members & Friends

September
2019
CHURCH DIRECTORY

Pastor: Rev. Matthew Gorkos

Consistory Officers:

- PresidentDana Heimbach
- Vice PresidentIrv Lash
- TreasurerSharon Burns
- SecretaryJessica Huff
- Director of Music:**Audrey Reinhart
- Custodian**.....Lynn Sturdevant
- Administrative Assistant**..... Jane MacNeill
- Groundskeeper:**Larry Hoff

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Pennsburg U.C.C.
September 1st-last 9am service
September 8th-Rally Day
9:00 AM Sunday School
10:15 AM Morning Worship

Our Mission Statement:
*We are a welcoming
congregation that celebrates and
shares God's unconditional love
with each other,
the community and the world.*



News
From
The
Pews
Sept.
2019

Pennsburg United Church Of Christ

775 Main Street, Pennsburg, PA 18073

215-679-7513

Rev. Matthew Gorkos, Pastor

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“There’s no such thing as a stupid question.”

Every one of us had at least one teacher tell us that along the course of our school years. It is a line meant to encourage open inquisitiveness in students without fear of being judged or laughed at. It helped students, especially the self-conscious ones, to know that being willing to admit that you don’t know something was okay. Asking a question was nothing to be ashamed of.

I remember the first day of a seminary class on the Old Testament, when one my classmates asked an honest question and was met by the professor with, “That’s a very undergrad question.” The shame on his face was visible, and not surprisingly, that classmate didn’t ask another question for the rest of that course.

The way that we either encourage or shun questions has consequences. Are we a church who says, “There’s no such thing as a stupid question,” or are we a church who shames and dismisses honest questions? The Church throughout the history, hasn’t always had the most patient responses to questions. In fact, Christianity is famous for its harsh reactions. Excommunication is a favorite punishment: “Don’t you dare ask questions, or we’ll kick you out.”

We don’t use the term ‘excommunication’ much anymore, but the shame and rejection still occurs. Sadly, there is still a large portion of Christianity, and a large number of churches, who operate by that resistance to questions. Instead of fostering inquisitiveness and the seeking of truth, we instill the fear that asking questions will lead to ridicule or expulsion. I think we do this because it scares us to walk the line between faith and doubt. It scares us to think critically about sacred beliefs. It scares us to scrutinize scripture. It scares us to imagine we’ll be asked a question we don’t know the answer to. So, we don’t allow questions.

That’s no way to learn or grow in faith.

As we prepare to begin another Sunday school year, I pray that we’ll be a church that encourages questions, leaves room for doubt, and is okay with the words “I don’t know.” I hope we’ll instill in all our learners, young and old, that there is no such thing as a stupid question and that no one is going to be kicked out for asking. I hope we’ll be a community that seeks to grow in faith together with grace and humility and patience.

Peace,
Pastor Matt

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING REPORT

July/August 2019 to date

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Received</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Received</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	
July 28	1,153.00	557.00	36
August 4	436.00	892.05	32
August 11	225.90	674.00	28
August 18	631.00	860.00	38
August 25	1,207.00	662.00	47

Total	\$3,652.00	\$ 3,645.05	Avg. 36
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Faith in Film Group

Here are the upcoming showings for the fall:

- September 20th - *Shadowlands* (PG) - After being postponed in June, we will come back to the story of acclaimed Christian writer C.S. Lewis and his marriage to Joy Davidman.
- October 18th - *Fallen* (R) - Denzel Washington stars in a psychological detective thriller trying to catch an enemy who isn't exactly human.
- November 15th - *Stranger Than Fiction* (PG-13) - Will Ferrell stars as regular guy, Harold Crick, who slowly begins to realize that he is a character in someone else's novel. But, he must find out how his story ends: is this a comedy or a tragedy?
- December 13th - *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* (PG) - An adaptation of C.S. Lewis' beloved book that is equal parts magical and inspiring. Come take a trip to Narnia!

All showings begin at 6 PM in Miller Hall (unless otherwise noted). Bring your own popcorn!



Community Day-Saturday, Sept. 7, 2019 from 10am-4pm-Raindate 9/8

Our church has a table to greet our neighbors and friends at the annual event. It is always a fun day and a great chance to connect with many new and old faces! Look for a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Miller Hall to be a part of the greeting team!



9/2: Peter Hoff
 9/3: Morgan Dwornik
 9/4: Sandy Mest, Nathan Royer
 9/5: Madison Dwornik
 9/7: Eva Bittermann, Mary Mutter
 9/9: Benjamin Arkans, Shirley Pursel, Mandy Redman
 9/10: Margaret Moser
 9/11: Ruth Yoder Taylor
 9/12: Holly Lash
 9/14: Frank Brown
 9/15: Barry Kline
 9/17: Gary Gehringer, Dennis Hess
 9/18: Ethan Reinhart
 9/20: John Hawkins
 9/24: Hazel Beard

9/29: Shirley Miller



9/5: Debra & Dwight Royer (39)
 9/10: Mike & Ruth Yoder Taylor (8)
 9/13: Amy & Rob Shafer (16)
 9/16: David & Lisa Weller (24)
 9/18: Audrey & Gerald Reinhart (43)
 9/23: Floyd & Rose Marie Cressman (58)
 9/23: Richard & Lori Kern (32)
 9/28: Randy & Beverly Reinert (34)

FYI: Pennsburg UCC softball team has won the Church League Championship which consisted of 12 teams. Way to go guys!



A Big Thank you to all who donated baskets for the Peach & Ice Cream festival basket raffle. As before they were very creative and brought in over 1000 tickets equaling a grand total of \$822.00. A list of winners are posted in Miller Fellowship hall. Much appreciated also were food, baked goods and money donations given, plus the hard working volunteers that helped make our festival a success!

*Gratefully,
 The PUCC Fellowship Committee*

P.S. Thank you too to Sherry Haas for coordinating this event again!



GREETERS

Dana Heimbach, Jane Bernhard, Paula Sell

OFFERING STEWARDS

9/1: Dee Dee Smith, Ginger Witman, Bud & Ginny Wisler

9/8: Irv & Holly Lash and Tom & Mary Jane May

9/15: Children & Youth

9/22: Bill Kurz, Cliff Lauchnor, Scott Mest, Aidan Lash

9/29: Frank & Donna Falk, Lori Kern, Sharon Burns

NURSERY

9/1: Jessica Huff and Huff Youth

9/8: Jane Bernhard & Baylee Cleaver

9/15: Holly Lash & Jana Butler

9/22: Jane Bernhard & Christine Henry

9/29: Jessica Huff & Huff Youth

ACOLYTE

9/1: Ezra Gorkos

9/8: Morgan Dwornik

9/15: Madison Dwornik

9/22: Chase Henry

9/29: Ezra Gorkos

UP Touchdown Club Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, September 28th 4-7 pm

@ Pennsburg UCC 775 Main Street Pennsburg, PA

Advance Ticket Prices:

\$10 per adult

\$7.00 children 10 and under

Under 4 years old Free

Includes: Spaghetti, meatballs, salad, bread, drinks and assorted desserts.

Please join us!



Harvest Home 2019

On Sunday, September 29th at 10:15 am worship, PUCC will be celebrating Harvest Home. This is a worship service where we offer our thanks to God for all the bounty of the summer planting. To help in the celebration, order your fall mums to decorate the sanctuary with fall colors. And bring your extra produce from your gardens to, not decorate the sanctuary, but to donate to The Open Link Pantry. If you don't have fresh produce, we are collecting food - canned goods, baking items -that can be used for Thanksgiving dinners for members of our community. Check out the bulletin Board in the church's front narthex for ideas or talk to a member of the Worship committee. Most important thing to remember when donating food, please check the expiration dates. Thank you!!

Discipleship Program

Attention to anyone interested in either being confirmed, joining the church as a new member, or reaffirming their membership: registration for the 2019-2020 Discipleship Program is now OPEN! The program will begin with an Orientation Retreat on Saturday, September 28th and will culminate with a celebration in worship on Easter Sunday, April 12th. If you would like to be a part of this year's group, please let Pastor Matt know before September 22nd. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.



September Book Study

We will be offering an "at your own pace" book study during September. It will build upon the summer sermon series by focusing on what seem to be the two major metaphors at work in our church: table and family. The book we will read is *From Tablet to Table* by Leonard Sweet. Pick up a copy, or request an ordered copy before September 5th. Then, work your way through the book at your own pace. After worship on October 6th, all who read (or didn't read but are interested in the conversation) will be invited to a lunch and discussion of the book. If you have any questions, or to request a book, see Pastor Matt.



Peach & Ice Cream Profits

On August 17th the weather was hot with some clouds, but we still hosted our 49th annual Peach and Ice Cream Festival. The Red Hill Band was the entertainment this year again and did a good job. Many members joined together to help set up, peel peaches, and made delicious food to serve. Due to the Funds that were raised from the Fellowship Committee and Generosity of many members Food and Baskets were donated. The Red Hill Band and the Tent was also paid for by members.

Here is a list of the money we made:

Games	\$60.50
Baked Goods	\$216.80
Baskets	\$822.00
Drinks	\$565.00
Peach & Ice Cream	\$1969.50
Food	\$2116.90
GRAND TOTAL	\$5750.70

Thanks to everyone that came out help, hope to see you all next year.

THANKS AGAIN!

July 2019 Financials

Beginning Balance	\$2,821.53
Expenses	\$11,482.28
Income	\$4,806.34
Transfer from investment	\$5,000.00
Ending Balance 7/31/19	\$1,145.59

Full report on bulletin board.

Sharon



1st Monday Meal to be held on September 9, 2019 at 6pm

Next Meal will be the second Monday in September due to Labor Day. The servers at PUCC are St. Mark's. They will be serving: Baked Ziti & Meatballs, tossed Salad, bread, desserts and drinks. Please join us!

September 2019

September 2019 Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Last 9:00am Worship service	2 	3 8am-noon Office hours 2pm Worship Committee	4 7pm Choir rehearsal	5 9am-noon Office hours	6 9am-noon Office hours	7 10-4pm Community Day
8 9am- Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Rally Day!	9 6PM-1 st Monday Meal	10 8am-noon Office Hours	11 7pm Choir rehearsal	12 9am-noon Office Hours	13 9am-noon Office Hours	14
15 9am- Sunday School 10:15 am Worship	16 6:30pm Consistory Meeting	17 8am-noon Office Hours	18 7pm Choir rehearsal	19 9am-noon Office Hours	20 9am-noon Office Hours Movie-6pm "Shadowlands"	21
22 9am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship	23 6:30pm Consistory Meeting	24 8am-noon Office Hours	25 7pm Choir rehearsal	26 9am-noon Office Hours	27 9am-noon Office Hours	28 "Orientation Retreat" UP Spaghetti Dinner from 4-7pm
29 9am-SS 10:15 am Worship Harvest Home	30					



MUMS FOR HARVEST HOME
ORDER FORM - 2019

It is time to order mums for Harvest Home Sunday
The mums will add so much color and beauty
to our sanctuary on

Harvest Home Sunday, September 29th, 2019

The deadline for placing your order is

Sunday, September 22

Please fill out the order form below and return it,
along with your payment,
to any member of the Worship Committee:

Kathy Badman, Sharon Burns,
Ginger Witman & Tom & Mary Jane May

_____ 9" various colored mum \$**6.00**

_____ Total Enclosed

(make all checks payable to Pennsburg UCC)

Presented by: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Flowers may be picked up after worship on Sunday, September 29th.

