

PENNSBURG UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

775 Main Street
Pennsburg, PA 18073



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To our Members & Friends

February 2020
CHURCH DIRECTORY

Pennsburg U.C.C.
9:00 AM Sunday School
10:15AM Morning Worship

Pastor: Rev. Matthew Gorkos

Consistory Officers:

- President Jane Bernhard
- Vice President Dana Heimbach
- Treasurer Sharon Burns
- Secretary Paula Sell
- Director of Music:** Audrey Reinhart
- Custodian**..... Lynn Sturdevant
- Administrative Assistant**..... Jane MacNeill

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

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News
From
The
Pews
February
2020

Pennsburg United Church Of Christ

775 Main Street, Pennsburg, PA 18073

215-679-7513

Rev. Matthew Gorkos, Pastor

www.pennsburgucc.org pennsburgucc@gmail.com

“Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which He is to bless His people.”

These are famous words from St. Teresa of Avila that I don't think get enough attention. Yet, I believe they are especially appropriate to consider this time of year, during this season of rapid transitioning from Christmas to Epiphany to Lent. We are quickly shifting from thinking about the Incarnation and what Jesus reveals to us about God into a time of thinking about what it means for us as Christians to follow Jesus.

I believe St. Teresa offers us a really valuable insight. The Incarnation was about God taking on human flesh. Jesus had a body (like our) with hands and feet (like ours). In that body—in those hands and feet—the very character of God was revealed to the world. What Teresa suggests is that the Church—as the Body of Christ—continues to reveal God through our hands and feet, through our ministry to the world in Christ's name.

But, I want you to notice what she says our eyes and feet and hands are doing: compassion, good, blessing. Why are we doing those things? Because that is what Jesus did with his. When we pay attention to not just what Jesus said, but also what Jesus did—with his hands and feet and body—we see how we might show forth compassion, goodness, and blessing.

So, throughout this Lenten season, we are going to look at Jesus' hands—really look at them. Every Sunday, we are going to look at a different way that Jesus used his hands to do work of compassion, good, and/or blessing. We going to look at how his hands got dirty or calloused doing that work. Then, we're going to look at our own hands and what we might do with them.

There's a song by Brandon Heath that I'll hear on occasion as I drive to church on Sunday morning. It's called “Give Me Your Eyes,” and it plays on this quote from St. Teresa. The chorus prays, “Give me your eyes for just one second / Give me your eyes so I can see, Everything that I keep missing / Give your love for humanity. Give me your arms for the broken-hearted / The ones that are far beyond my reach. Give me Your heart for the ones forgotten / Give me Your eyes so I can see.” My hope as we enter this Lenten season is that we might share that prayer. I hope we might walk with Jesus and watch what he does with his hands, his feet, and his body. I hope we might reflect on what that means for us and how we might reveal through our lives the love of God.

Peace,
Pastor Matt

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING REPORT

December/January to date

<u>Date</u>	Amount Received 2020	Amount Received 2019	Attendance
Dec. 29	(2019) 1,993.00	(2018) 1,186.00	42
Jan. 5	1,339.00	1,399.00	53
Jan. 12	797.00	915.00	44
Jan. 19	622.00	465.00	25

Total	\$ 4,751.00	\$ 3,965.00	Avg. 41
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Faith in Film Group

Here are the upcoming showings for the winter/spring:

- February 21st - *500 Days of Summer* (PG-13) - Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Zooey Deschanel star in a creative and quirky romantic-comedy about quickly falling in and out of “love.”
- March 20th - *Jesus de Montreal* (R) - Powerful Canadian film about an acting troupe hired to perform a Passion play, whose lives end up paralleling the characters they portray.
- April 24th - *On the Waterfront* (PG) - Marlon Brando stars in the story of a disgraced boxer who decides to take on the mob in a shipping town. Don't miss this classic redemption story.
- May 22nd - *Dogma* (R) - A raunchy comedy about two fallen angels trying to sneak back into heaven that features a star-studded cast and some unexpectedly deep theology.

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

Winter SOS Helps Souper Bowl Sunday

This year is the 30th anniversary of Souper Bowl of Caring. Pennsburg UCC has participated for about 27 of these years! And this year we are participating again!!! AND we started collecting early with our Winter SOS mission!

Let's load up the mission corner with cans of Soup Or Stew.

Then on Souper Bowl Sunday, **Feb, 2nd**, we will be collecting money to add to the our SOS mission. All cans and money will be donated to the UP Open Link Pantry.

Help make Souper Bowl Sunday 2020 a Banner Year!



- 2/1: Charles Wisler
- 2/2: Mary Jane May, Weston Mensch, Cassandra Mensch
- 2/3: Sandra Bastuba
- 2/5: Kyle Smith
- 2/6: Michael Cleary
- 2/9: Beverly Reinert
- 2/12: Ryan Cleary, Dana Heimbach
- 2/17: Louise Wenner
- 2/20: John Hess
- 2/25: Janet Seip
- 2/28: Harry Miller
- 2/29: Katie Busch



- 2/9: Gary & Ella Gehringer (46)
- 2/19: John & Lori Hawkins (43)

Redner's Save-A-Tape

You may feel that saving your Redner's Save-A-Tape can be a hassle...and why bother? Well every penny counts! We usually turn in tapes every 3 months. Enough to pay a bill or two! So a sincere thank you for taking the time and effort to return your Redner's Tapes to the white box in the narthex. (Please do not cut off any part of the tapes).



The Red Cross Blood drive will be held on Monday, February 24th from 2-7 pm here at church. To sign up please go to the American Red Cross Web site at <http://www.redcrossblood.org> or call 1-800-RED CROSS. Please consider donating...your donation could help save a life.

FEBRUARY 2020 VOLUNTEERS

GREETERS

Christine Henry, Ginny Wisler, Jessica Huff, Hallie Huff

OFFERING STEWARDS

2/2: Frank & Donna Falk, Lori Kern, Morgan Dwornik
2/9: Helen Mensch, Donna Haws, Sandy Mest, Jana Butler
2/16: Dee Dee Smith, Ginger Witman, Bud & Ginny Wisler
2/23: Irv & Holly Lash & Tom & Mary Jane May

NURSERY

2/2: Holly Lash & Jana Butler
2/9: Jane Bernhard & Christine Henry
2/16: Jessica Huff & Hallie Huff
2/23: Jane Bernhard & Baylee Cleaver

ACOLYTE

2/2: Magdalena Bittermann
2/9: Ezra Gorkos
2/16: Madison Dwornik
2/23: Chase Henry



Community Meal

First Monday Meal will be served on February 3rd at 6pm

At *Pennsburg UCC* the menu is: Ham, Mashed potatoes, applesauce, rolls and cake for dessert.

YEAR END REPORTS: It's that time of year again! All committees should submit their year-end report to the church office. Please submit your report by email or drop off at the church office. *Thank you*





Ash Wednesday and Mid-Week Lenten Worship

Our Ash Wednesday worship service to begin the Lenten season will be held **on February 26th at 7 PM** and will feature communion and the imposition of ashes. For the following Wednesdays in Lent, we will be participating in a mid-week worship series with our fellow Lutheran and UCC churches. This year’s theme is “Brokenness Restored in Christ,” and the dates and locations are as follows:

- 3/4 - PUCC - “Broken Vessel Restored”
- 3/11 - St. Mark’s - “Broken Trust Restored”
- 3/18 - Palm - “Broken Bread Restored”
- 3/25 - New Gosh - “Broken Promise Restored”
- 4/1 - Friedens - “Broken Justice Restored”

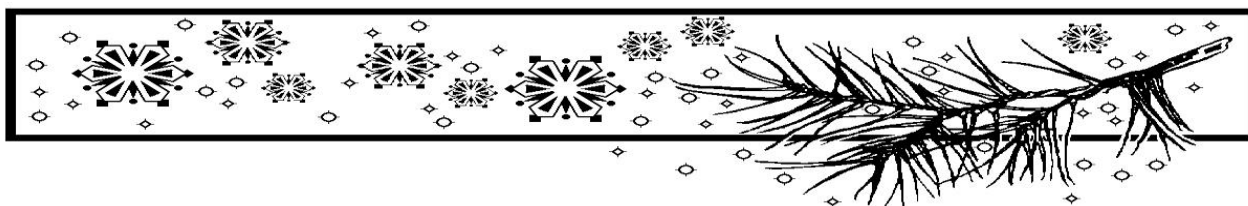
Community Day of Service

Our collection of local UCC and Lutheran churches are once again working together this year on a day of service in the Upper Perk Valley. It will be held on Saturday, February 8th, and it will feature a variety of opportunities to get involved and help out. To sign up for any of the projects, including the one being held here at PUCC, register at this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084FA8AD2CAAFD0-community>

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A special congregational meeting will be held following worship on **Sunday, February 16, 2020**. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the future of Pennsburg UCC, specifically regarding its pastoral ministry. With Pastor Matt’s term expiring in July, we need to discuss options for hiring our next pastor or choosing to close our doors.



Pennsburg UCC: An Academic Treatment

As of December 16th, I have been approved to graduate with my Doctor of Ministry degree. I'm now Rev. Dr. Matthew Gorkos, but you can still call me "Pastor Matt." Have cleared that final hurdle, I want to make available to you, a copy of my final paper, because it features you, Pennsburg United Church of Christ. It talks a great deal about your story and the work that we have been trying to do together. It will eventually be posted on Boston University's website, but until it is, there will be a printed copy in a binder in the church office with a sign out sheet. What I ask is that if you borrow it to read, you sign it out so that someone else who wants it knows where it is. Also, if you have any questions about it, please ask. I want it to be a gift to you as we continue working together (and as you continue the work after July). Thank you for all your support in this journey of mine, Pastor Matt.



December 2019 Treasurer's Report

Checking Account

Beginning Balance \$ 429.76

Expenses \$12,196.12

Income \$29,488.93

Transfers to/from memorial savings -\$11,000

12/31/19 Ending Balance \$6,722.57

Memorial Savings Account Balance as of 12/31/19 \$25,813.68



A copy of the consistory approved December 2019 Treasurer's Report is posted on the front narthex bulletin board. Sharon Burns, Treasurer

2019 Contribution Statements

The 2019 statements have been mailed. If you did not receive one & feel you should or have any questions about your statement, contact Sharon Burns.



FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Miller Hall Reserved 9-noon
2 9am-Sunday School 10:15 am Worship <i>(Souper Bowl Sunday)</i>	3 6pm-1 st Monday Meal	4 8am-noon Office Hours 7pm- Worship Committee	5 7pm Choir rehearsal	6 9am-noon Office Hours	7 9am-noon Office hours	8 Community Day of Service
9 9am-Sunday School 10:15 am Worship 6-8 pm Youth Group	10	11 8am-noon Office Hours 7pm- Christian Ed committee	12 7pm Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm Consistory Mtg.	13 9am-noon Office Hours	14 9am-noon Office Hours 	15
16 9am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship (Special congregational meeting)	17 	18 8am-noon Office Hours	19 7pm-Choir rehearsal	20 9am-noon Office Hours	21 9am-noon Office Hours 6pm-Movie "500 Days of Summer"	22
23 9am-Sunday School 10:15 am Worship	24 2-7pm Blood Drive	25 8am-noon Office Hours	26 7pm-Ash Wednesday Worship Service	27 9am-noon Office Hours	28 9am-noon Office Hours	29

