

COMMUNIQUE



SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2251 Willow Road
York, PA 17408

A GROWING CHURCH
MEETING YOUR GROWING NEEDS

“Shiloh UCC is called to be a community where love is affirmed, truth is told, laughter, and tears are encouraged and shared, and the acceptance and peace of the Lord Jesus Christ is extended to all. The members of this community will strive to live a life that has a Christ centered faith in God.”



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|--------|---|
| May 5 | <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter/Communion/Music Sunday</i>
Isaiah 55
Psalm 96 |
| May 12 | <i>Seventh Sunday of Easter/Mother’s Day</i>
Proverbs 31:10-31
Colossians 3:1-4;12-14
<i>“Agape Love”</i> |
| May 19 | <i>Pentecost/Annual Picnic</i>
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Ezekiel 37:1-14
Acts 2:1-21
<i>“We Are the Church Together”</i> |
| May 26 | <i>Trinity Sunday</i>
Psalm 29
Romans 8:12-17
Isaiah 6:1-8
<i>“Here I am, Lord”</i> |

COMING UP

- | | |
|------------|--|
| June 1 | Community Yard Sale |
| June 2 | Communion/Recognition of Graduates |
| June 9 | Strawberry Festival |
| June 16 | Father’s Day |
| June 7-9 | Penn Central Conference Annual Meeting |
| June 24-28 | ELC Summer Camp |

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Refresh Your Soul This May

Do you need some extra energy? Do you need enthusiasm to refresh your spiritual life? Then the excitement that comes from celebrating Pentecost is definitely for you. Pentecost may not be as well-known among Christians as Christmas or Easter, but it is a lot more fun. ☺ First of all, Pentecost (this year the date is May 19th) is the “birthday” of the Christian church. And everyone enjoys a good birthday party! Second, this year (again) we will be having an awesome outdoor picnic (at Sunset Lane Park – 2442 Sunset Lane) with fun for the whole family, which will make celebrating Pentecost even more exciting.

You can read about Pentecost in the Bible, in the Book of Acts Chapter 2. It's actually fascinating to learn how the first disciples became filled with the Holy Spirit. Can you imagine being so full of God's Spirit that tongues of fire appear above your head? Also, can you imagine being able to speak every language known on earth?

Regular Christians, like you and me, have been receiving blessings on Pentecost throughout history. If you are still in doubt, then, I encourage you to pray and learn about Pentecost together with me. During the church year, we don't spend enough time talking about the Holy Spirit. Mostly, we are fascinated by the life of Jesus, and, generally, we talk a lot about the Creator God (or God the Father), but it's hard to talk about the force which invisibly sustains us and the whole Universe. Let's be honest. The Holy Spirit is mysterious and difficult to understand. But instead of hiding from the Spirit this May, let's focus our attention on the Third person of the Trinity. On Pentecost, let's remember the importance of that force in the universe, that energy we call the Holy Spirit.

For us, Christians, it's vital to learn more about God's Spirit, because through the Holy Spirit, God works in us and through us in the world. The Holy Spirit inspires us to take the first steps in faith. Then the Spirit encourages and comforts us on our journey, which can be quite difficult sometimes. It is also the Holy Spirit who gives us courage and wisdom to serve God and each other faithfully, when we become “grown-ups” in the Christian life. Therefore, we need God's Spirit to constantly inspire and enthuse us, so we don't lose hope and don't burn out. Also,

PASTOR'S MESSAGE (Cont'd)

“...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” (Galatians 5:22-23)

Who doesn't need all these blessings? These qualities are signs that a Christian is being blessed by the Holy Spirit.

Through God's Spirit, we are sent out into the world to change the world, one small corner at a time. Our mission is to spread God's love everywhere. We are sent out to bring peace and justice to all, and to remind all people that God's Spirit is available to comfort, encourage, and enthuse.

So, let me ask you again: do you need some extra energy, joy, and enthusiasm? Then ask God to send you the comforting presence of the Holy Spirit, and the fire in your soul will be rekindled. Come to church regularly, but especially on **Pentecost**; and feel the power of God's Spirit in the midst of your friends, right here at Shiloh UCC.

*Rejoicing in our Resurrected Lord, Jesus Christ,
Pastor Melinda*



Summer is a great time to try something different and fun! Pastor Melinda would love to hear your ideas, questions, and favorite Bible readings, to use for the “summer sermon series.” There is a form in the gallery that you may use to write down your thoughts and Scripture ideas! Thank you!

APRIL CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

Pastor's Report-

Worship

Special worship services

- March 24th Palm Sunday service (Brunch between the services)
- March 25th Geraldine Funkhouser memorial service at Heffner Funeral Home
- March 26th Geraldine Funkhouser Graveside service at Mt. Rose Cemetery
- March 28th Maundy Thursday Service @7pm (well attended)
- March 29th Good Friday service (I have received good feedback about this service)
- March 31st Easter Sunday services with Communion
- April 3rd Dean Spahr Graveside service
- April 7th Butterfly Sunday services

Administration

- **Meetings**
 - March 14th Worship and Music meeting
 - March 19th – I attended the Missions meeting (in the Parlor)
 - April 4th – ELC Board meeting
- **Vacation Days**
 - April: April 29th to May 3rd
 - August: August 5th to August 20th
- **Pastor Melinda Preliminary Sabbatical plans for 2025.**
 - 2025 summer (3 months, June, July and August): read at least three theological books about church growth and/or preaching. Attend at least one retreat. Take at least one theological course at a seminary/online or in person.

Pastoral Care

- Home, Hospital and nursing home visits (7)
- Office/lunch meeting (3)
- Phone calls (20+); many text and Facebook messages to our members and friends

Christian Education

- Grief Group last meeting: March 19th at 7PM in the Parlor. Next meeting: April 16th at 7PM
- The weekly Lenten Study ended on March 27th
- Wednesday Bible Study meets weekly. Thank you, Ray!
- Two Sunday School adult classes meet weekly in rooms 100 and 202. Thank you to our Sunday School teachers!

APRIL CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

- Thank you to all the ladies who lead our women's social groups.
- Men's Breakfast group meets monthly. Thank you, Brad!

Contact with the larger UCC + local community

- March 15th Meeting with Pastor Eva (UCC Association)
- Chapel Time with the ELC March 13th (Upcoming April 10th)
- Self-care: monthly meetings with spiritual director (Judy Clark)

Consistory President's Report-

- Approved Vacation Requests for Pastor Melinda and Maira

New business-

- A. Consider purchasing another T.V for the back of sanctuary (Pastor Melinda's wish list)
- B. Members questioning the appearance of the memorial garden-an announcement can be made on Sunday about the Eagle Scouts project and what they are planning asked for permission to be here the next 3 Saturdays (4/6, 4/13 & 4/20 8am-5pm) to begin transporting supplies in and out of the courtyard. Plants removed from the garden will be available outside the kitchen door inside a plastic and labeled. Nathan will discuss with the congregation.
- C. Love Offering for the ELC Scholarship Fund beginning ELC Sunday and lasting for two weeks, April 28 and May 5.
- D. We were informed that visitors were coming to the front door for entrance. It was discussed by consistory to post signage for entrance at the portico.
- E. Penn Central Conference. It will be held from June 7 - 9, 2024. Registration deadline is May 6. Pastor Melinda's expenses paid for by the church. Nathan Limbert and Judy Clark volunteered to also attend, with expenses paid by the church. Consistory approved this.
- F. Instead of printing new sheets for signing in on Sunday, it was decided to start using the Friendship Pads again.

Unfinished business

- Proposal to go to a worship service at 10am and moving SS to 8:30-9:15. Coffee connections would be 9:15
- 9:45 Announcement will be made April 14 and April 21. One service schedule will start June 2, 2024. Reminder will appear in all May bulletins and the May communique.
- Nathan Limbert said that there would be a charge of \$700 for the May, 2025 wedding.

Church Life-

- Women's Banquet on April 14th at 4:00pm

APRIL CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

Worship and Music-

- ELC Sunday, April 28th @ 10:00am followed by a reception in room 100
- Music Sunday, May 5th @ 8:30am & 11:00am followed by a luncheon for members of the music and technology team
- Picnic Service & Pentecost, May 19th @ 10:00am at Sunset Lane Park - potluck lunch with chicken provided
- Use former pew attendance pads for sign up in the welcome center
- Next meeting April 24 in room 202 at 7:00 PM

Outreach/Evangelism -

- Mother's Day and Father's Day gifts will be distributed
- Name tag materials have been purchased/ will assemble and distribute soon
- Next meeting 4/10 @ 7:00 PM

Youth Ministry-Had a couple youth help with the Egg Hunt

Church & Ministry

- A meeting will be held on April 17 at 7:00 PM

Visioning –

- Survey that committee would like to send out to those who have not attended recently. Jane Harrison shared a sample of the survey with the consistory.
- Discussing a Messy Church event in the Fall - looking for an organizer
- Next Meeting 5/1 @ 7:00 PM

Missions Committee-

- Consistory approved the Mother's Day envelope to the Lehman Center which offers emergency respite care for children and mothers.
- Consistory approved the Father's Day envelope to York Habitat.
- The Missions challenge for this year will be split between Bell Socialization Services and our Capital Expense Fund. The challenge will start on August 25.
- Next meeting will be June 18 @ 6:00 PM

Christin Ed.

- Still seeking teachers for younger students—Carol Burns has offered to help but at least 1-2 more are needed.
- Acknowledgement of Jeanie Bentzel's retirement as SS Superintendent after 39 years. It was suggested to place chancel flowers in honor of Jeannie's service.

APRIL CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

ELC –

- ELC Sunday April 28 -
- Looking forward to completion of Eagle Scout project for outdoor classroom activities
- Registration for the fall is almost filled - considering addition of classes to accommodate waiting list (two's and four's)
- ELC Fun Day is May 17th
- Next meeting Aug. 1 at 5:00 Pm in room 202

Communication and Technology–

- Seeking someone to look at our server and to update it, along with the software we are running. Still need to update the three main computers in the church, the Pastor's and the Administrative Assistant's. Linda Little suggested having a computer available for volunteers to use when in the church. Place to be decided.
- Jeff Hershey and Tom Klunk suggested reaching out to Tom Jones (former parsonage renter) about updating servers and computers and what the requirements and parameters are.

Property Committee-

- Fire alarm box and detectors need to be replaced for insurance purposes. Quotes have been attained from Johnson Controls and Kleppers. Still waiting for third estimate from BFPE. Our current equipment is out of life and cannot be replaced.
- Jeff Hershey got someone different for painting the windows. Steeple is not being addressed at this point.
- Meeting on April 22, 2024.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nathan Limbert, Consistory President*

All funds received in the **Mother's Day offering** envelope will go this year to the **Lehman Center** in York. This organization offers emergency respite care for children and mothers in their time of need. It also provides family advocate services, parent educational and support groups.



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 meetings.

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. 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 17th we will host a Fun Day celebration for all our students. During Fun Day our children will have the opportunity to play games, eat snacks, get a tattoo and their face painted, visit a firetruck, bounce in a bounce house, pet animals in the petting zoo, watch Tae Kwan Do demonstrations and so much more! 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 four summer camps for returning and new students. We will have a Down on the Farm Camp (May 20-23), Theater camp (June 24-28), Music Camp (July 15-24) and Going for Gold an Olympic themed camp (August 5-8).

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, Director

In November, the Consistory received a letter from the Nominating Committee expressing the difficulty in finding people willing to serve on the Consistory. This was mainly due to the amount of time required for Consistory members to be involved in and at the church on Sundays, due to the two worship services. This committee felt that maybe we should return to having just one worship service. Many volunteers have also expressed their concern about the amount of time required due to having two services. Also, the amount of volunteers has diminished in numbers and attendance at the 11:00 service only averages about 30 people. The Consistory has discussed this issue at many meetings over and over again in order to make a decision that is in the best interest of the congregation. It was decided at the April 8th meeting that **starting June 2 there will only be one worship service. The new schedule will be Sunday School from 8:30-9:15, Coffee Connections from 9:15-9:45, and our Worship Service at 10:00.**



Women's Fellowship The **Women's Guild** will be meeting **May 6, at 1:00 pm in room 202.** The program will be from our **new** study book **Experiencing Contagious Joy, Chapter One: Joyless Living.** Norene Edgar will be leading this chapter. Special offering this month is for New Life for Girls and Cash Rally. *We invite all women of the church to join us at any time.*

The **Women's Guild** will be collecting baby items for **Wellspan Mother/Child Clinic** until **Mother's Day May 12.** The following are baby items that are needed: Newborn diapers, unscented wipes, formula (powder), heavy menstrual pads, breast pads, breast cream, baby clothes (newborn to 3 months), blankets (they love the fleece ones) or lighter ones for summer. Please all items should be new except clothes and blankets. Items can be placed in tubs marked ***Wellspan Mother/Child Clinic.***



The **Love Offering** is designated for the ELC Scholarship Fund beginning **ELC Sunday** and lasting for two weeks, **April 28 and May 5.**



Mark your calendar for the next **Shiloh UCC Men's Breakfast** on **Tuesday, May 14, at 8:30 am at Dover Valley Restaurant**. Contact Brad Jacobs at bcj402@verizon.net or 717-764-2773 for additional information.

Engaging Women will be meeting on **Tuesday, May 14 at 6:30pm in room 202**. Carolyn Poff will be leading the group with a video and discussion on one of the women of the Bible. Contact Sally Curren at dgft25@hotmail.com for additional information.



The **Women's Social and Support Group** will meet for breakfast at **Denny's on Rt. 30 on Friday, May 17 at 9:00am**. Please contact Gladys Seigman at 717-764-1840 by **May 13** if you plan to attend.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND THE CHURCH PICNIC!

When: **Sunday, May 19, 2024**

Where: **Sunset Lane Park**, 1060 Church Rd. York PA 17408

Time: **Worship at 10:00 AM** followed by lunch

Why: worship and socialize with friends from church in nature

What to bring: **lawn chairs, covered dish, place settings, beverages (broasted chicken will be provided)**



On Sunday, **May 19** the church picnic will be held at **Sunset Lane Park**. A worship service will begin at **10:00 AM** followed by a potluck meal. Broasted chicken will be the main course with a variety of sides, salads and desserts. In addition to a covered dish please bring place settings, beverages, and lawn chairs. *A sign-up sheet will be in the Gallery beginning April 28.* Pentecost Sunday will also be celebrated so **please wear red**. Geraniums will be used to decorate the tables. This will be a wonderful way to socialize with friends and worship surrounded by nature. Please consider joining us!

Pentecost will be celebrated on **Sunday, May 19**, the day of the church picnic. We are again seeking sponsors for **geraniums**. Please watch for details in the upcoming bulletins. The flowers will again be planted around the outside of the church. Thank you for your continued support.



The **Recognition of Graduates** will be held on **Sunday, June 2**. If you are graduating, please contact the church office by **May 24** with your graduation information. We would like to include this information in the bulletin on Recognition Sunday and also in the *June Communique*.

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Shiloh UCC,

A big thank you from the **"Friends"** Relay for Life team for allowing us to use the kitchen and room 100 to make our Easter candy. And a bigger thank you for buying it and supporting us. God Bless each one of you!



Connie Redman

Dear Members & Friends of Shiloh UCC,

I would like to thank everyone for all the Birthday cards I received for my 75th birthday!

Pat Myers



Memorial contributions were made in honor of **Deborah Schaale** by Stanley Reiber and Jane Harrison.

Memorial contributions were made in honor of **Geraldine (Gerry) Funkhouser** by Robert & Wanda Gosnell, John & Martha Rudisill, Kenneth Poet, Ginny Heath, Gloria Melhorn, Kathy Wise, David & Beth Wardrop, Kathy Estep, Don & Jeanie Bentzel, Judy Feeser, Sara Jacoby, William & Jacqueline Kramer, Shirley Kirsopp, Buchart Horn, Inc., William & Shirley Lohmann and Jane Harrison.

MAY BIRTHDAY'S

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 13 Donald Myers

May 16 Scott Bowers

May 17 Michael Benedick
Meredith Bupp
Jason Myers



MAY BIRTHDAY'S (Cont'd)

May 19 David Guillard Jr.

May 20 Sandra Baboian
Alicia Baker
John Eugene Ness

May 21 Julia Hahn

May 22 Ethan Jacobs

May 23 Jack Jordan
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

Nathan Limbert, President
Linda Little, V. Pres.
Bev Arnold, Secretary
Jane Harrison
Matt Hildebrecht

Deacons

Sue Besecker
Tom Fox
Tom Klunk
Pat Myers
Carolyn Poff

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 12 PM & 5-8 PM
Thursday and Friday 9AM-12 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



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