

PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Associate Member: United Church of Christ



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PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
HOPE

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer

Prelude

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”
Ruth Elaine Schramm

***Call to Worship**

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel. Stir up your might and come to save us!

Restore us, O God; let your face shine that we may be saved.

Let your hand be upon us that we may be made strong for yourself.

**Then we will never turn back from you; give us life and we will
call upon your name.**

Let us worship God!

***Hymn #135**

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God, “we have all become like one who is unclean, and all
of our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade, like
a leaf, and our inequities, like the wind, take us away.” We fail to
call on your name; we don’t stir to take hold of your plan for us.
Yet you are our God. “We are the clay, and thou art the potter.”
May all that we do be the work of your hand. Amen.**

Time of Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope

Senior Choir Anthem “An Advent Credo”

Joseph Martin

Scripture

Psalm 80: 1 – 7, 17 – 19 (NRSV p. 470 – 471; LP p. 917 – 918)

Mark 13:24 – 37 (NRSV p. 826; LP p.1588 – 1589)

Children’s Sermon

Children’s Church

Lisa Stitt

***Hymn #279**

“My Lord! What a Morning”

Sermon

“Let Your Face Shine”

Pastoral Prayer and 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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil:**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Call to Offering

Offertory

“Wake, Awake”

Johann Sebastian Bach

***Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye Heavenly Host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

God of unchanging truth, your promise is eternal, your benevolent care spans the ages. We come with our gifts to be molded in accordance with your purposes. We offer ourselves to be shaped by your will. Fill us with wisdom, and make us vessels of your truth. Make all that we do an outpouring of your goodness, spreading compassion on the afflicted and care to all who may be in need. Amen.

***Hymn #684**

“Face to Face”

***Benediction**

Postlude

“My Lord What a Morning”

Stephen Folkemer

*All who are able, please stand.

The bulletins are sponsored today in honor of the wedding anniversary of Roy and Betty Hildenbrand.

Mission Statement of PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH:

Our task is to proclaim the Living Word of God, which empowers us to care for and share with our community and the world.

Vision Statement of PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH:

Serving the glorious God, claimed by Jesus, and inspired by scripture, honoring our history, with renewed commitment we will reach out to our community and the world through worship, spirit enriching programs, and outreaching mission.

...Things of Interest to Our Palm Schwenkfelder Family...

This week, please keep in your daily prayers:

Renée Shelly, Lena Johnson, Bob and Sandy Croll, Dan and Bonnie Croll, Marvin Zeisloft Jr., Ralph Stevenson, Bryan Schwoyer, Evelyn Bold, Ruth Adams, Darlene Jones, Rick Jones, Jean Boreman, Judy Yerger, Jacki Hensler, Erin Beighley and family, the Weinder family, Rochelle Ginder Manuel, Deena Updegrove, Rebecca Himmelwright, Joe and Sue Cooper, Jeff Treichler, Ernie Guldin, Leon Wohlbach, Meg Lester, Willard Long, Samantha Hossler and Ryan Woods, Lucile and Bob Jones, Sheryl Tomlin, Mae Gerhart, Marian Fox, Goldie Graber, Kyrene Bertoia Hart, Mary and Heinz Herrmann, Martha Wolford, Devon Hawkins, Kerm Goda, Vern Weller, Donna Weller, Mary Hartman, Jen Fries, Mary Jane Burianek, Dave Jaeger, Betty Pope. Please also keep in your prayers the men and women serving in the United States Military. This month from our Schwenkfelder Prayer List we uplift the staff of Palm Schwenkfelder Church, and all those still being affected by the most recent natural disasters.

Holy Bible App by You Version

Verse of the Day: “Your unfailing love is better than life itself; how I praise you! I will praise you as long as I live, lifting up my hands to you in prayer.”

Psalms 63:3 – 4 NLT

December Youth Birthdays

Happy Birthday to...

Andrew Colvin (12/21), Jonas Kinsler (12/30)

Journey to Advent

Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Please sign up in the Narthex if you will be attending the Journey to Advent Soup and Salad dinner. Also, please sign up for a dinner or dessert item to bring. After dinner, adults will be led in a devotional time in the Sanctuary while youth enjoy an activity to learn about advent. We will wrap up our time together with cookies and coffee/hot chocolate.

Helping Hands

Need help raking leaves or getting out Christmas decorations? Fill out a helping hands request form to receive exceptional help from our youth.

Adopt-A-Family

Palm Youth has adopted a family from Open Link to help provide the children with gifts for Christmas. If you are able to help, take a tag from the tree in the narthex, purchase the gift on the tag, bring the gift back unwrapped by **next Sunday, December 10th**. I will be unable to bring gifts that arrive after the deadline. If you have any questions, please contact Barb Master at 610-966-4293.

Just A Little Christmas

Palm Youth will be performing a Christmas skit called *Just A Little Christmas* during our regular 10:15 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 17th. You will get to sing along to traditional Christmas songs, listen to Scripture readings and enjoy the sounds of young instrumentalists throughout the worship service. Please join us after the service for light refreshments and a hoagie sale. For participating youth, a list of rehearsal days and times are posted in the hallway.

Palm Tee-Shirt Sale

Order forms are available in the narthex for Palm Church short-sleeve t-shirts, long-sleeve t-shirts and hooded sweatshirts. Available colors, sizes and prices are printed on the order form. There are also a few styles available for immediate purchase. Orders are due by Sunday, December 17th and orders will be filled in January.

Help Needed for the Boy Scouts in Puerto Rico

Please help the Boy Scouts in Puerto Rico, whose camp was flooded and damaged by Hurricane Maria. Whitney Leh's Venture Crew, in the Hawk Mountain Council, is collecting items from other Venture Crews for Scouts in Puerto Rico. These items include Nalgene water bottles, microfiber towels, head lamps, propane lamps, and propane camp stoves (minus the propane tanks). The Crew anticipates sending several boxes of items to Puerto Rico and Whitney is asking if Palm would help with funds to purchase one camp stove, one lamp, and also cover the shipping costs (approx. \$300.00). Please consider donating funds to this cause to help the Scouts in Puerto Rico rebuild their camp. Funds should be earmarked "Puerto Rico Boy Scouts" and will be managed/dispensed through the Mission Board. Thank you for helping these Scouts in Puerto Rico.

Wind, Flood & Fire: Disaster Response

UCC Disaster Ministries has expanded the long-term recovery work for those recovering from Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria in Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico along with those in need from the Wildfires in California. These efforts mean providing community support for holistic recovery, repairing house and home for families and children and restoring dignity for the most vulnerable who have lost everything in the wake of these catastrophic events. You may contribute to support Harvey relief and recovery efforts by clicking on the 'Donate' link to make a secure online donation at <http://www.ucc.org/disaster>. Gifts may also be made by indicating "Disaster Relief" in the 'Other' area of your Giving Envelopes; gifts will be forwarded to Wider Church Ministries by way of the Conference (PSEC).

Special Congregational Meeting

A Special Congregational Meeting will be held **next Sunday, December 10, 2017**, immediately following the worship service, to elect our church leadership and approve our budget for 2018. There will be copies of the budget in the narthex available before the meeting. Please be sure to attend this important meeting.

Donation of Flower Vases

The Deacons are looking for donations of flower vases. They are needed for altar flowers, for when they are delivered to someone who is sick or shut-in. You can give your donated vase to one of the Deacons, or you can drop it off in the office.

Redner's 1% Save-A-Tape Rebate Program

Recently we have been notified by Redner's that they will no longer honor register receipts that have the bottom part cut off. To qualify for the 1% Save-A-Tape Refund Program, the register tape must be the *entire tape*. Also, they want *no magic marker* used on the tapes. *Entire tapes* dated within the last three years will qualify for the rebate. Thank you for your cooperation.

Disaster Assistance Services Center for Hurricane Victims Now Open in Philadelphia

3 Great Loves....Love of Neighbor Opportunity for PSEC Churches!

Is your church looking for a great opportunity to be part of 3 Great Loves ...Love of Neighbor? Perhaps your church is also still wanting to assist those who suffered loss in this summer's hurricanes. If so, we have the answer! The Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management, in cooperation with the PA Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) and the Southeast PA Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (SEPA VOAD) has opened a Disaster Assistance Services Center in the city to help those displaced by recent hurricanes in Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands. Local, state, federal and non-profit partners are working together to provide information on available services for individuals displaced from the recent hurricanes. As of last count, 135 families, representing 280 individuals have visited the DASC for assistance. Evacuees can register for FEMA assistance, medical assistance, emergency food stamps, unemployment assistance at the center. In addition, evacuees can also obtain career services, medical and behavioral health evaluation and referrals. At the request of SEPA VOAD the PSEC is getting more involved. The conference has been asked to take the lead on this special mission. The UCC Disaster Ministries has issued a grant to the PSEC in support of this ministry however additional funds are required. As you can imagine the needs are many: housing, food, transportation, medical assistance, just to name a few. Your support of this cause can be sent to the Conference office. Please mark your check DASC. Each day we ask God to keep the world safe. When disasters occur, it is nice to know there is a way to help! No gift is too small!

Thank You

We would to thank Anne Goda for driving Paul down to Philadelphia last week. It was a very nice thing for her to do and we really appreciate it.

Paul, Brian, and Rose Schwoyer

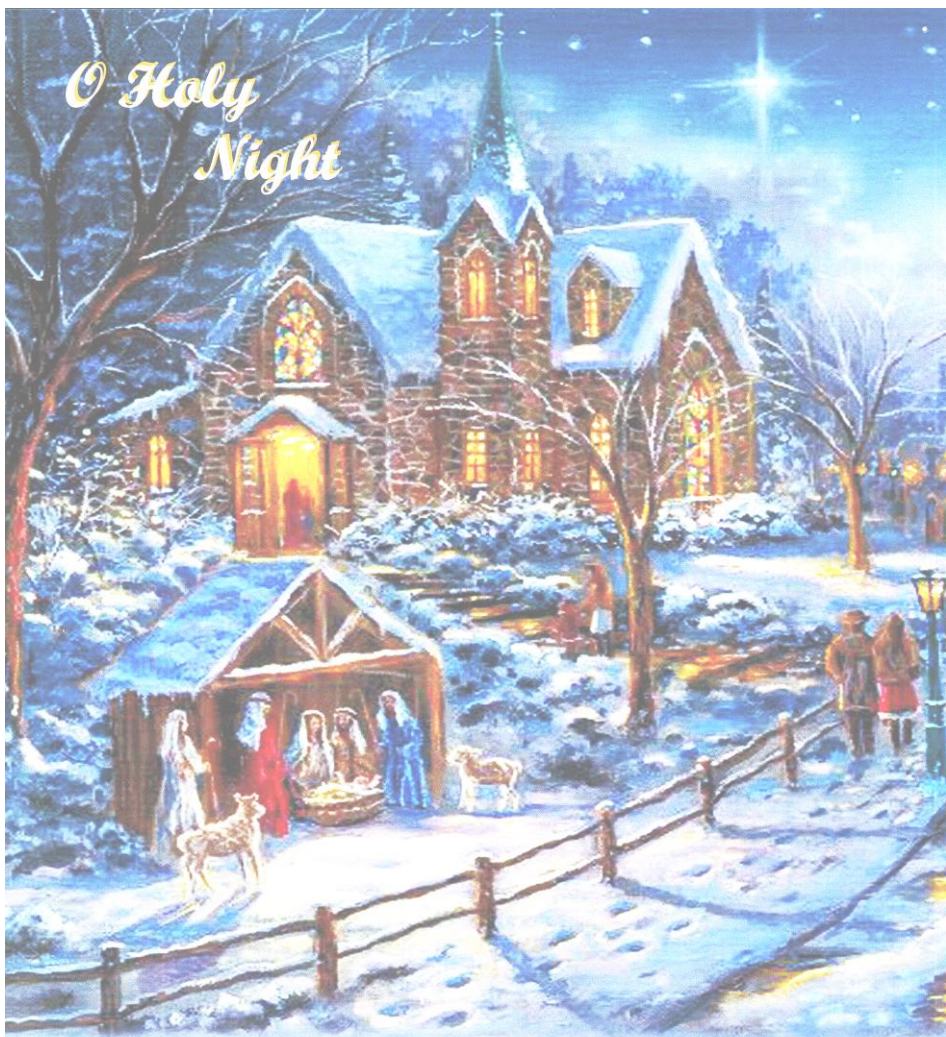
Did You Know...?

This is where we list items of interest to members and visitors. If you have any items to add, please call or email Dan Ferry in the church office. Thank you.

Did You Know...?

- LARGE PRINT bulletins are available from an usher. LARGE PRINT Bibles are also available for use during worship services, located on the table to the left between the front and back sections of pews.
- Listening devices are available for those who would like them. Please see an usher to assist you.
- A fully accessible restroom is located in the hallway, across from the office. A baby changing table is there, also.
- There are greeting cards on the podium as you enter the sanctuary. Anyone is invited to sign – you don't need to be a member of the congregation to add your name to the well wishes.
- Donations of greeting cards to this project are welcomed and needed, especially Get Well and Sympathy cards. Please see Nancy Hoffman with your donations, or place them on the podium shelf.
- There are two yellow and green bins at the back of the parking lot for recycling your office paper and newspaper. The church benefits from these collections, along with helping the environment.

*O Holy
Night*



*United Schwenkfelder Choir
87th Annual Concert*

*Sunday, December 3, 2017
2:30 pm and 7:30 pm*

Central Schwenkfelder Church

2111 Valley Forge Road ~ Lansdale

Edward K. Bieler - Director

Additional information: www.UnitedChoir.org

A Free-will Offering will be received ~ Handicap Accessible

**UNITED
CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Communitas

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

1441 Laura Lane, Suite 100, Pottstown, PA 19464
484-949-8774

December 3, 2017

PSEC Fall Meeting 2017

The Pennsylvania Southeast Conference held its annual Fall Meeting on November 18th, hosted by friends at First UCC in Schuylkill Haven, who fed us an exceptional meal and outdid themselves with hospitality.



The meeting opened with worship and the renewal of baptismal vows to reconnect us to God's covenant with us and ours with each other.

Highlighted by the theme "Covenant Connections" the meeting focused on both the business of the conference and stories of covenant connections between churches, their members and the communities they serve including Islamic neighbors, individuals with dementia and veteran groups.

Conference Minister, Rev. William (Bill) P. Worley reviewed the proposed amendments to the United Church of Christ's Constitution and By-laws and presented the UCC's latest outreach "3 Great Loves" (Love of Neighbor, Love of Children, Love of Creation). He also brought the delegates up to date on the progress being made on PSEC's 2020 Vision statement.

A report by Rev. Dr. Joanne Marchetto, member of Penn Northeast Conference and member of the Joint Conference Vision and Development Team, explained the current path the two conferences are taking in this possible joint conference process and reminded anyone who was interested in filling out a survey to please do so.

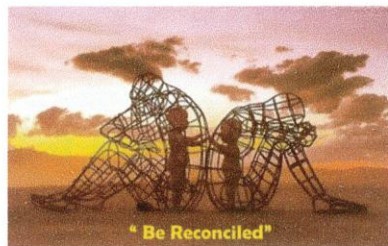
Reports from the PSEC Treasurer and PSEC Endowment Committee were reviewed as was the proposed 2018 Budget.

Rev. Sharon Morris, Associate Conference Minister reported on the following Church and Ministry updates: Revised Marks on Ministry, Ordained Ministerial Code, Local Church Profile and that the Committees on Ministry are in covenantal relationship with all parties.

Votes were taken on motions to ratify the UCC Constitution and By-Law amendments and to adopt the 2018 PSEC Budget. Both motions passed.

Together we accomplished work that had to get done. More importantly, however, we shared hugs and prayers, renewed friendships and offered words of assurance. We celebrated God's love and the connections that make us this odd and wondrous gathering called The Church. We begged for the Holy Spirit to touch the world where it is needed most.

If you missed this meeting, make sure you're at our Annual Spring-Meeting 2018. We will have a much better meeting with you! So, place the dates on your calendar now-- June 1-3, 2018 at West Chester University. See you there!



PSEC Annual Spring Meeting 2018
June 1-3, 2018
@ West Chester University

This Week at PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Sunday, December 3

- 9:00am Rehearsal for the Children's Christmas Program
- 9:00am Sunday School
- 10:15am First Sunday of Advent Worship Service
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are - Psalm 80:1-7
- 2:30pm United Choir Christmas Concert
- 7:30pm United Choir Christmas Concert

Monday, December 4

- 11:00am Board of Music Ministry Meeting
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are - Psalm 80:17-19

Tuesday, December 5

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are - Isaiah 64:1-9
- 1:00pm Ladies' Aid Meeting
- 6:00pm Stage Goes up in the Sanctuary
- 7:00pm Boy Scouts - Troop Meeting
- 7:00pm Girl Scouts Senior/Ambassador Troop 72134

Wednesday, December 6

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
- 6:00pm Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30pm Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30pm Senior Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 7

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are - Mark 13:24-27
- 1:30pm Staff Meeting
- 7:00pm Deacon's Meeting

Friday, December 8

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are - Mark 13:28-31

Saturday, December 9

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are - Mark 13:32-37

Sunday, December 10

- 9:00am Rehearsal for the Children's Christmas Program
- 9:00am Sunday School
- 10:15am Second Sunday of Advent Worship Service
- 11:30am Special Congregational Meeting Following Worship
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are - Isaiah 40:1-5

PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

833 Gravel Pike

PO Box 66

Palm PA 18070

Office Phone: 215 – 679 – 5321

Fax: 215 – 679 – 2650

Pastor Nick's Cell Phone: (267) 374 – 5691

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service 10:15 a.m.

www.palmschwenkfelderchurch.com

Church Administrator E-mail: palmadministrator@comcast.net

Church Office Email: palmschwenkfelder@comcast.net

Pastor's E-mail: palmpastor@comcast.net

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Serving You at PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Ministers: All Church Members

Pastor: Rev. Nicholas Pence

Director of Music: Ed Bieler

Junior Bells: Beth Croll

Senior Bells: Joanne and David Luz

Organist: Peg Jacob

Church Administrator: J. Daniel Ferry

Youth Director: Barbara Master

Sexton: Kevin Master 484 – 358 – 1684

Greeter: Joan Pusey

Ushers: Gregg Hoffman, Glenn Hoffman, Scott Kriebel, Matthew Wright

Prayer Chain: Nancy Hoffman

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