#### AUGUST 2015

# PALM LEAVES

Palm Schwenkfelder Church

#### Special Points of Interest:

• Youth News • United Schwenkfelder Choir

Bell Choir

- Children's Choir
- Member News
  - Hosensack Pics
- Senior Choir Confirmation Ceremony
- Caspar's Corner—Benefits of the Cradle Roll to the Sunday School by Mrs. Amos Schultz Summer Music
- Brown Bag Lecture

Address Changes

# Pastor's Pause-The Unity of the Spirit

*I therefore, the prisoner in* the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:1-6)

Starting July 12<sup>th</sup> I began preaching on the Ephesians reading from the Revised Common Lectionary. It is a great epistle and it has been invigorating to dive into it once again. At its core the letter establishes Jesus Christ as the very foundation upon which our faith is built and through whom we are adopted into God's grace and love. It firmly establishes the reality of our unity in Christ, and reminds us of our common calling to faith. My favorite chapter in Ephesians is the fourth, part of which begins this article, and I won't

be here when it is the focus text! I leave this chapter in the capable hands of Rev. David Luz on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. I regret that I will not be preaching on this text and that I won't be able to hear Dave's sermon, and am only consoled by the fact that I should be on a beach in North Carolina when this is all transpiring.



For me Chapter 4 is really the center piece of Ephesians, a call for all of us to recognize the gifts of God at work in and among us. Paul sets forth the image of the Church as the body of Christ, and each and every one of us as a part of that body. In Ephesians, Paul makes one of his strongest arguments for unity in the Christian faith. Too often we think of Christian Unity as something that has not been achieved as we consider historic divisions and controversies throughout the life of the

Church. The truth is that our unity in Jesus Christ is already established, from the first moments of the empty tomb and fresh winds of Pentecost, we only need to wake to the reality of our unity in Christ.

I remember a conversation with my Aunt Camilla last summer. She was a young woman in 1957 when the United Church of Christ came into being, a merger of four denominational bodies. She expressed to me that when the UCC formed together she truly believed that it was the beginning of all Christian Churches coming together as one, and also acknowledged the disappointment she felt when denominational mergers no longer seemed to be occurring. Unity, however, is far more than organizational principles and corporate offices; it is far more than living under one denominational umbrella. Unity is the gift and challenge of God as we strive to living faithfully together.

I give thanks to God for this congregation of faith, and pray that together we

(Continued on page 7)









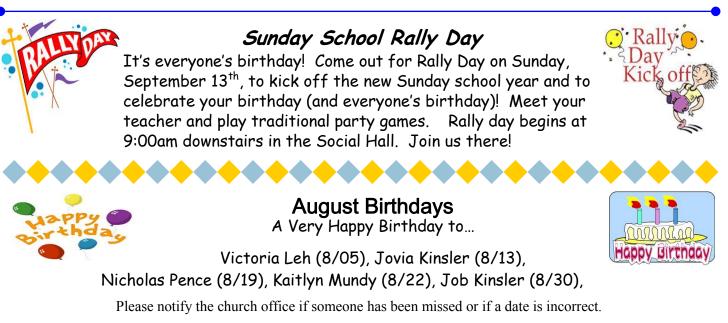


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# YOUTH NEWS

## FALL IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER AND SO IS ANOTHER GREAT YEAR OF SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES!!!





# **Children's Church**

**Church** The first children's church will be on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Watch the bulletin for scheduled children's church Sundays. We



would like to see this mission continue, so adults 18+ years please prayerfully consider leading for one Sunday. Look for a sign-up sheet outside of the church office.

**What is children's church?** After the children's sermon all children from 4 years of age thru 4<sup>th</sup> grade are invited upstairs to read a Bible story, participate in an activity, and eat a snack. Some Sundays throughout the year will also include Rainbow bells and mission projects.

It is fellowship time that the children really enjoy.

Please advise the children's church leader if your child has food allergies or food restrictions.

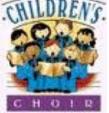
## One Ringy Dingy...

The Junior Bell Choir is looking for a few new ringers for the 2015-2016 season. Children in grades 2—12 are welcome to come out and join us. We start practices promptly at 6:00 on Wednesday evenings and play in church on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month. Practice will begin Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. No previous musical experience is required. Contact Beth Croll (bethcroll@comcast.net) if you have any guestions.

# CHILDREN'S CHOIR



Attention, past and potential Children's Choir members!! Whether you are a former member or someone looking to join our enthusiastic group, the new season is approaching



quickly! We will begin practices on Wednesday, September 9th in the Adult Sunday School classroom from 5:30-6:00. Our first performance will be October 11th. As of now there will only be ONE Children's Choir. Come on out and join in the fun!



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Do you find yourself humming along with the car radio?? Do you sing to yourself in the shower?? Can you carry a tune in a bucket??

Would you like to learn how to carry a tune without a bucket?? If you meet any of these requirements, you belong in the Senior Choir!! Come join the fun.

Rehearsals every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., beginning September 2nd



UNITED SCHWENKFELDER CHOIR

The United Schwenkfelder Choir will begin rehearsing for its 87th season on Monday evening, September 14th at the Central Schwenkfelder Church in Worcester, PA. This non-denominational choir, representing membership in over 30 churches from Montgomery and Bucks counties, will present a program of traditional and contemporary Christmas music at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 6th. The Choir is under the direction of Ed Bieler and is accompanied by organist Louise Gerdelmann, and a 17 piece instrumental ensemble. The Choir is always ready to welcome new members. Any individual who enjoys singing is welcome to participate and experience the harmonies and inspiration of Christian music. No auditions are required. Rehearsals are held in the air-conditioned Central Schwenkfelder Church, located on Valley Forge Road (Route 363), just north of Skippack Pike (Route 73) from 7:30-9:00 p.m. each Monday evening from September 14th until the concerts. For additional information, contact choir president Dennis Alderfer at (215) 393–9974.

~ August 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> 12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
2 International	3	4	5	6	7	8
Friendship Day 9:00a-10:00a Combined Sunday School	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	8:00a-11:30a Quilters 12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
10:15a-11:30a Sunday Worship Service 12:00p-Daily Time of	11:00p-12:00p Board of Music Ministry Meeting	Are 1:00p-2:00p Ladies' Aid Meeting		6:30p-8:00p Boy Scouts of America - Patrol Leaders Council		
Prayer Wherever You Are		7:00p-8:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p-8:00p Girl Scouts Senior/Ambassador Troop		7:00p-8:30p Diaconate Meeting		
9	10	11	12	13 International	14	15
10:15a-11:30a Sunday	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	8:00a-11:30a Quilters 12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	Left-Handers Day 12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
	6:30p-7:30p Buildings &	Are				
12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	Grounds Committee 7:30p-9:00p Board of Trustees	7:00p-8:00p Boy Scouts 7:15p-8:30p Boy Scouts of America - Troop Committee Meeting				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:00a-10:00a Combined Sunday School	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You	8:00a-11:30a Quilters 12:00p-Daily Time of	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
10:15a-11:30a Recognition of Graduates Sunday Worship Service	Are 7:00p-8:00p Board of Christian Education	Prayer Wherever You Are 7:00p-8:00p Boy Scouts		AIG		
12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	Meeting	7:00p-8:00p Girl Scouts Senior/Ambassador Troop				
		7:00p-8:00p Mission Board				
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9:00a-10:00a Combined	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	8:00a-11:30a Quilters 12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	9:00a-10:30a Staff Meeting 12:00p-Daily Time of	Church Office Closed 12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You	12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
Washington Meetinghouse Site Sunday Worship Service		Are 7:00p-8:00p Boy Scouts	7:00p-9:00p Boy Scouts Board of Review	Prayer Wherever You Are	Are	
12:00p-Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are						
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#### Caspar's Corner – Benefits of the Cradle Roll to the Sunday School by Mrs. Amos Schultz

At the Schwenkfelder Sunday School Convention of August 1914, a number of papers were read regarding the importance of the Cradle Roll at each church. First Schwenkfelder Church of Philadelphia reported 23 new children on their Cradle Roll for a total attendance of 72 by the end of 1914. Here is one of the papers read, printed in the January, 1915 Schwenkfeldian, by Palm Schwenkfelder Church member Mrs. Amos Schultz:

This nation was founded by the fathers with a certain strong leaning toward truth and justice, with certain well defined principles, and in steadfast opposition to tyranny over the conscience – "What sought they thus afar," wrote Mrs. Heman in her beautiful poem on the

"One of the broad planks on which the fathers built, was the respect for the Lord's Day. They founded a Sabbath keeping nation..." Landing of the Pilgrims, when - "The breaking waves dashed high On a stern and rock bound coast And the woods against a stormy sky Their giant branches tossed; And the heavy night hung dark The hills and waters o'er When a band of exiles moored their bark On the wild New England shore." Then she goes on to say they sought not wealth, nor spoils nor anything but "Freedom to worship God". One of the broad planks on which the fathers built, was the respect for the Lord's Day. They founded a Sabbath keeping nation, thus obeying the Lord's command. "Seek ye first the kingdom of Heaven and all other things shall be added unto you."

In the last few years we have seen a decline from the old reverence for the Sabbath. Perhaps some of our ancestors erred in being too rigid, if so the swing of the pendulum is now rather toward the other extreme. We are not to think that in God's family are to be found only in the old, and those who are grown up men and women, a large part of God's family consists of children. People sometimes hesitate about leading the dear little children into the Kingdom, but Jesus called the little ones to Him and said. "Suffer them to come to me and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." One

easy upward step of Sabbath keeping, and one of the important factors in leading the little ones to follow the right path is the Cradle Roll Department of our churches. Composed of little ones under three years of age, it certainly is the

> "...one of the important factors in leading the little ones to follow the right path is the Cradle Roll Department of our churches."

sweetest and most interesting organization in our church life. The benefit the church derives from this organization is immeasurable. An important one is the formation of the habit of church attendance on the part of the little ones and in most cases this means the attendance of parents as well. The joy with which the little ones attend the Sunday School services and the interest which they take in the various exercises of the Sunday School cannot but be an inspiration to the parents.

The religion of babies is something sweet and simple, they are full of love and reverence. They kneel besides us with their tender prayers and their faith is as strong in ready forgiveness for the naughty as it is in protecting angels around about the good. It should be our aim as teachers not only to have the babies enrolled but endeavor to have them present at our regular Sunday School session for as I have said this habit of church going at this early age will be a wonderful power for good in the years to come. We should aim to make their lesson periods bright and interesting and still instructive. It is surprising how anxious these little ones, scarcely able to lisp the words, are to give the Golden Text and repeat anything asked of them.

The eagerness with which they welcome the collection plate if copied by their elders would be an everlasting benefit to the church. It is our custom on promotion day when the Cradle Roll babies are promoted to the regular Sunday School work to have the mothers there and with exercises by the little ones and by the placing of a star after the names of the little ones (continued on page 7)

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#### Address Changes/Updates

As a service to our members, any address changes that come through the office will now be listed in the Palm Leaves. If you have any information on members who have may have moved, or if any of the addresses listed appear to be incorrect, please call the office to let us know. Thank You.



#### Benefits of the Cradle Roll to the Sunday School by Mrs. Amos Schultz (Cont.)

It is surprising how anxious these little ones, scarcely able to lisp the words, are to give the Golden Text and repeat anything asked of them.

promoted an atmosphere of real unity with the Sunday School and church seems to be felt. These special days are most important in those churches where the parents are not regular attendants at church. In all cases the card and good wishes sent to the homes on baby's birthday and calls made by the Superintendent on sick members go toward making a strong bond between the home and the church. Let me in closing make a strong plea for the growth of the Cradle Roll Department for as it grows our church membership will grow, and I would urge the parents to bring their little ones to the church services. Someone\* has said

"[So] I love in the great assembly, On the Sabbath morn, to see The dear little children clustered And worshipping here with me; For I know that the gracious Savior, Whose mercies are ever new, Has a special benediction For the dear little heads in the pew."

\*Margret E. Sangster in *The Sabbath recorder*, Vol. 64, pg. 19, American Sabbath Tract Society, January 6, 1908

Caspar's Corner is provided monthly to The Schwenkfelder Church by the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center.

## The Unity of the Spirit (Cont.)

may live out the unity established in Jesus Christ, as those welcomed by God's amazing grace.

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God. to maturity. to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. (Ephesians 4:11-16)







# SLHC LECTURE SERIES



My Clear Conscience Presented by George Shenkle August 12, 2015 noon Brown Bag Lectures Series Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center



On Wednesday, August 12th, come to the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center to hear a presentation by George Shenkle entitled

"My Clear Conscience." George is a World War II veteran, and he will talk about his experiences during WWII as recounted in his book *My Clear Conscience: The memoirs of Corporal George Shenkle, Easy Company, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82 Airborne Division.* 

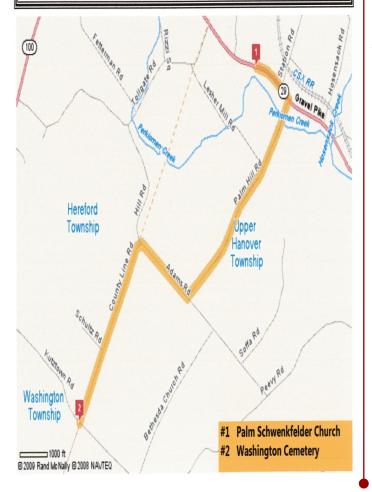


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# Palm Schwenkfelder Church Please join us in worship: Washington Meeting House Cemetery Sunday, August 23rd (please bring lawn chairs) 10:15am Worship Service Kutztown Road & Country Line Road

Hereford, PA 18041



# DONATE

## You Can Now Donate Online

Are there are times when you find yourself unable to join us here for worship and

you still want to contribute? Well now you have an easy and convenient way to donate online. Visit

http://palmschwenkfelderchurch.com/ and click the "donate" button at the top right hand corner of the page. You will find you can donate using PayPal or your credit card through PayPal. When you donate online we ask that you also fill out an online donation form specifying where you want your contribution to go: General Operating, Missions, or other. Our members of the Board of Trustees are sure that the ease of using this online payment service is well worth the small fees that our church will incur. Please call the church office, 215-679-5321, if you have questions.























**Christmas Stockings** The Ladies' Aid needs your help to fill Christmas stockings. We make a total of 75: 25 go to Pennsburg Manor, and 50 go to

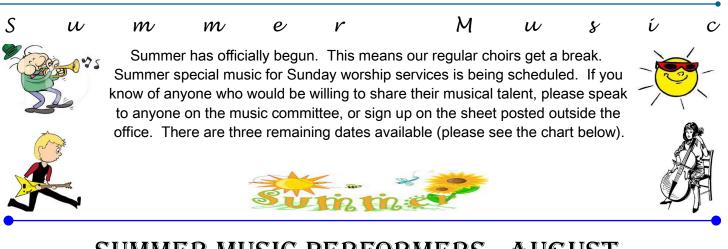
Norristown State Hospital. We try to put at least 6 items in each stocking. We would appreciate monetary gifts so that we can purchase the items

and keep all the stockings the same. You can give your gifts to anyone on the committee: Miriam Hausman, Sandy Kriebel, Sally Wright, Ruth Weaver, Ethel Soffa.









# SUMMER MUSIC PERFORMERS-AUGUST

August 2	David Luz			
August 9	Brent Master			
August 16 Peg Vacation	Jared Qahash & Dottie Heebner Suite Brass			
August 23 Washington Meeting House Site				
August 30 Peg Vacation				

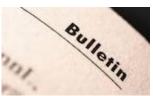
### **Flowers and Bulletins**

There are several upcoming dates open for sponsorship of our Sunday flowers and bulletins.

Dates available for flower sponsorship on: August 2<sup>nd</sup>, September 6<sup>th</sup>, October 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> We have openings for bulletin sponsorships on: August 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, September 6<sup>th</sup>, October 11<sup>th</sup>

The cost for flower sponsorship is \$50, and the cost for bulletin sponsorship is \$15.00. Please sign up on the chart in the hallway outside of the office. Make checks payable to "Palm Schwenkfelder Church," with the notation of "flowers" or "bulletins," and place in the office lock box or offering plate

prior to or on the date of your sponsorship. Thanks for your support!



#### PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

833 Gravel Pike P.O. Box 66

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED** 



Dated Material Please Do Not Delay Administrator/Office Phone: 215-679-5321 Fax: 215-679-2650 E-mail: palmadministrator@verizon.net www.palmschwenkfelderchurch.com

# SAVE THE DATE!

August 23rd September 13th

— Washington Meetinghouse September 2nd — Senior Choir Rehearsal — Rally Day



Rev. Nicholas L. Pence, Pastor Rev. Ronald Krick, Pastor Emeritus Barbara Master, Youth Director Dan Ferry, Church Administrator Kevin Master, Sexton Ed Bieler, Director of Music Peg Jacob, Organist