## **PALM LEAVES**

#### Palm Schwenkfelder Church

#### **Special Points of Interest:**

• Brown Bag Lunch Lecture

• Youth News Children's Christmas Program & Rehearsal Schedule Treasurer's Report

• Caspar's Corner—A Biography of George Weiss Youth Lunch Outing

Luminary Form Trustee Tidbits Pastor's Pause

Congregational Meeting
 Budget Proposal 2016
 United Schwenkfelder Choir

## Pastor's Pause—Advent Adventures: Journey of Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy

November 29, 2015 begins our Advent Journey here at Palm Schwenkfelder Church. For four Sundays we will be lighting the Advent candles of Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy, but my prayer is that Advent will not be only a Sunday occurrence in our lives. Each week in Advent provides us with the opportunity to awaken to the presence and promise of God in every moment. This year during our daily time of prayer, you are invited to share in a specific Scripture reading. I encourage you to embrace these moments as a time of devotion and to reflect upon God's gifts of Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy as we prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ.

The listing of our daily readings you can find below and will also be a part of our weekly calendar in the bulletin.
During this Advent
Season, as we pray and
study together, may God
lead us all to deepen our
faith in Jesus Christ the
Savior throughout our
Advent Adventure.



#### <u>Норе</u>

November, 29
Jeremiah 33:14-16
November, 30
Psalm 25:1-5
December 1
Psalm 25:6-10
December 2
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
December 3
Luke 21:25-28
December 4
Luke 21:29-33
December 5
Luke 21:34-36

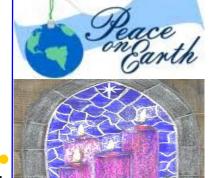


#### <u>Peace</u> December 6

Luke 3:1-6

December 7
Luke 1:5-20
December 8
Luke 1:21-25
December 9
Luke 1:57-66
December 10
Luke 1: 68-79
December 11
Malachi 3:1-4
December 12
Philippians 1:3-11

(Continued on page 7)





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Y O U T H N E W S



### "The Birth of Jesus"

Join our youth on Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:15am for the children's Christmas program. "The Birth of Jesus" is a traditional nativity pageant with narration written directly from the Bible adding songs and poems. Join us after worship in the adult Sunday School classroom for free refreshments and a hoagie sale.

## Refreshments and Hoagie Sale

After the Children's Christmas program on December 21<sup>st</sup>, join us in the Adult Sunday School Room for free refreshments.

And keep your lunch plans open, as the youth will be selling hoagies.



Youth
Birthdays
A Very Happy
Birthday to...

Drew Colvin (12/21)

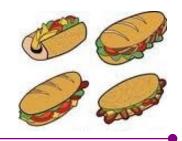
Jonas Kinsler (12/30)

Please notify the church office if someone has been missed or if a date is incorrect.









Lunch Outin



Youth and adults, join us for lunch at Chiaro's in Green Lane and a trip to hear the United Schwenkfelder Choir on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> following the worship service. Please bring money for

lunch. Youth, lunch is free. Please sign up in the Narthex or RSVP to Barb Master.



## Advent Opening Devotions ~ Jesus' Birth

Story: Excerpts from the Gospel of Luke

Song: Joy to the World!

Memory Bible Verse: "This very day in David's town your Savior

was born - Christ the Lord!"

Luke 2:11 Good News Version





## Children's Christmas Program Rehearsals

Sunday, Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> 9:00am – 10:00am Sunday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> 9:00am – 10:00am Sunday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> 9:00am – 10:00am Saturday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> 10:00am – 11:30am

Sunday, Dec. 20th 9:00am – 10:00am

Sunday, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> 10:15am, Christmas program during worship



## **Christmas Eve Cantata**

Christmas Eve Service of Carols, Scripture and Candlelight, featuring Joseph Martin's cantata "Let There Be Christmas"

This service in song is a joyous celebration of hope and peace. Using carols, narration, congregational participation and original anthems, it is a perfect way to usher in Christmas Eve. From jubilant songs of praise to reflective carols of peace, the service will be filled with moments which energize the spirit of the season.

#### Christmas Market 2015

Tenth Annual Christmas Market
December 5 and 6, 2015

Saturday 9:30 to 4:00, Sunday Noon to 4:00

The Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center is featuring a sale of art work and crafts. Be sure to see their ever-evolving Putz.



#### PALM LEAVES

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 World AIDS Day	2	3	4	5
esus		Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	9:00a-10:30a Staff Meeting 12:00p-12:00p Daily	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
Reason for the Season		Meeting	5:30p-6:00p Children's Choir Rehearsal 6:00p-6:30p Junior Bell	Time of Prayer Wherever You Are		6:00pm Boy Scout Troop 79 Holiday Party
for the		7:00p-8:00p Boy Scouts	Choir Rehearsal 6:30p-7:30p Senior Bell	7:00p-8:30p Deacon's Meeting	-	& Lock-In
season			Choir Rehearsal 7:30p-9:00p Senior Choir Rehearsal			
	7	8	9	10 Human Rights	11	12
chool	11:00a-12:00p Board of Music Ministry Meeting	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer	<b>Day</b> 12:00p-12:00p Daily	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer	9:00a-11:00p Fruit and Flowers Pick-Up for
00a-10:00a Rehearsal for nildren's Christmas ogram	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer	Wherever You Are 6:00p-7:30p Stage Goes		Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	Wherever You Are	Ladies' Aid 12:00p-12:00p Daily
:15a-11:30a Second unday of Advent Worship	Wherever You Are	AND RECOGNIZATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPE	Choir Rehearsal 6:00p-6:30p Junior Bell	-		Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
ervice 2:00p-1:00p Youth Lunch uting			Choir Rehearsal 6:30p-7:30p Senior Bell	-		
2:00p-12:00p Daily Time f Prayer Wherever You re		Troop 7:15p-8:30p Boy Scouts of America - Troop	Choir Rehearsal 7:30p-9:00p Senior Choir Rehearsal			
30p-5:00p United Choir oncert		Committee Meeting				
30p-10:00p United Choir oncert		4-	4.0	4.7	40	40
3	14	15	16	17	18	19
00a-10:00a Sunday chool 00a-10:00a Rehearsal	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
r Children's Christmas	6:30p-7:30p Buildings &	7:00p-8:00p Boy Scouts	5:30p-6:00p Children's Choir Rehearsal	Wholever rourite	Wholever 1647416	9:00a-11:00a Rehears
rogram 0:15a-11:30a Third	Grounds Committee 7:00p-8:00p Board of	7:00p-8:00p Mission Board	6:00p-6:30p Junior Bell			for Children's Christma Program
unday of Advent /orship Service	Christian Education Meeting	Dodiu	Choir Rehearsal 6:30p-7:30p Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal			<u> </u>
2:00p-12:00p Daily ime of Prayer /herever You Are	7:30p-9:00p Board of Trustees		7:30p-9:00p Senior Choir Rehearsal			
20	21	22 Winter Solstice	23	24	25 Merry	26
:00a-10:00a Sunday chool	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You	11:00a-1:00p Luminary Placement	Christmas 12:00p-12:00p Daily	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer
0:15a-11:30a Fourth unday of Advent -	Wherever You Are	Wherever You Are 7:00p-8:00p Boy Scouts	Are 5:30p-6:00p Children's Choir Rehearsal	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer	Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	Wherever You Are
hildren's Christmas rogram 2:00p-12:00p Daily		7:00p-8:00p Girl Scouts Senior/Ambassador	6:00p-6:30p Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal	Wherever You Are 7:00p-9:00p Christmas Eve Cantata	À	
ime of Prayer /herever You Are		Troop 7:30p-9:00p Senior Choir Rehearsal	6:30p-7:30p Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30p-9:00p Senior	Lve Camara		gran has gran grates gran o
27	20	29	Choir Rehearsal	31		
:00a-10:00a Combined unday School	28 12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer	12:00p-12:00p Daily Time of Prayer	*****	JECHC*
0:15a-11:30a Sunday /orship Service	Wherever You Are	Wherever You Are 7:00p-8:00p Boy Scouts	Wherever You Are	Wherever You Are		s still the hestest
2:00p-12:00p Daily ime of Prayer /herever You Are		23, 232, 23, 23346			* * *	JESUS* s still the bestest gift of all!

## TRUSTEE TIDBITS

- If you currently have a key card or key fob for the church, please stop in the office sometime so Dan can verify the information associated with your key card. In the summer, our system was down and we were unable to verify key ownership as we passed keys out to new Trustees. Our system is now up and running, so we want to make sure our records are accurate. In addition, if you have a key card or key fob that you no longer need, please return it to the office so we can recycle it. Otherwise, we will have to purchase more key cards for members who need access to the church.
- The Board of Trustees is searching for a few more people who would be willing to serve
  as proofreaders for the weekly bulletin and the monthly newsletter. We are looking for
  people to assist Jean Ross, our trusted long-time proofreader, with these proofreading
  tasks, especially when Jean is on vacation.
- If you chair a committee or are the designated secretary, please submit your annual reports as soon as possible. It would be great if they could all be in by the end of December. Also, committees and organizations, please have your books in the office by January 14, 2016, so they can be audited.

Thank you, Board of Trustees

## Thank You



Many thanks from the United Choir Gown coordinator to all of the seamstresses who helped to repair the gowns prior to our concert!

## Chow-Chow for Sale!

Get a pint. Get a quart. Get a pint AND a quart. Get *two* pints and *two* quarts. Get some for yourself. Get some for friends. Get some to take to parties. Get some to bring along

to parties. Get some to bring along to barbeques. Get some to give as gifts. Whatever you do, just get some! On sale now in the church office. Pints \$5.00 — Quarts \$9.00 Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's new batch!



## Caspar's Corner—A Biography of George Weiss

George Weiss was the first spiritual leader of the Schwenkfelders who left Harpersdorf and settled in Berthelsdorf. Weiss was well regarded at that time for his organization and produc-

Weiss was well regarded at that time for his organization and production of the first Schwenkfelder hymnal.

tion of the first Schwenkfelder hymnal. He also wrote several hymns for it himself, including a long series of hymns called "Meditations." Weiss did not become the chosen leader of the Schwenkfelders until shortly before it was time to leave Berthelsdorf for Pennsylvania. Below is a biography written by his childhood friend Balthasar Hoffmann in 1753. This translation appears in Allen Anders Seipt's thesis on Schwenkfelder Hymnology (1909) on pp. 76-77.

born in Harpersdorf, a village in the principality of Liegnitz in Silesia; his father was Caspar Weiss, born in Deutmannsdorf; his mother Anna (nee) Anders, born in Harpersdorf, and both were plain, poor and insignificant, as the world goes. George had a brother named Caspar, and a sister, Mary; both died in Silesia in the bloom of youth. In 1715 he married. His wife was Anna (née) Meschter, born in Langneundorf; she accompanied him to this country and died shortly after the landing at Philadelphia. She is buried there in the Pilgrims' cemetery. They had an infant son whom they named Abraham, who was taken from them in his second year. So that in this country he was quite poor and alone, a plain man and, as the world goes, unimportant. But because he exhibited a seemly zeal for the Holy Scriptures, and was minded to please God and honor Him (although in great frailty and in the face of many obstacles) God bestowed upon him in magnificent measure a talent for interpreting Holy Writ, for disclosing the mysteries of God, and

George Weiss was

for discerning sound Christian doctrine in these latter doubtful days. For this reason, he was chosen as our head (regarding ourselves as a congregation), as our chief in our Confession of Faith, as our leader in Christian living, and as the guide of our youth. Thereby we attested that his qualification for these duties was recognized.

"...because he exhibited a seemly zeal for the Holy Scriptures, and was minded to please God and honor Him (although in great frailty and in the face of many obstacles) God bestowed upon him in magnificent measure a talent for interpreting Holy Writ..."

And having (in accordance with his judgment, and after consultation with his conscience and long agonizing before God) arranged a plan for religious services and an order of worship, and having manifested therewith such a zeal for God that certain signs and indications appeared of the correctness of such a course, the direct course to salvation through penitence; namely, a full apprehension and mortification of our depravity, in true humility, sorrow and prayer; self-sacrifice and surrender to the will of God, and the daily renewal of these things; the zealous practice of Scriptural discipline, with daily supplication for the unlocking of the divine mysteries and for grace for the mending and renewing of our lives, under the direction of the Scriptures having conducted such a ministry for four years, with a true passion for God and the salvation of men, during the last year his strength failed appreciably, and a subsequent illness warned him of his approaching end. But in spite of his frailty he continued zealous, in as far as this was at all possible,

## Casper's Corner (Cont.)

confined to his bed. His illness was chiefly of the nature of exhaustion, with some pleurisy (it was said to be gastric fever). He had no desire for food and suffered intense pains in the abdomen. And thus on the eleventh of March, 1740, in full possession of his faculties and in the fifty-third year of his age, he was called away, and his body was conveyed to its interment. He is buried at Schippach on a plot of ground belonging to George Yeakel.

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



## Flowers and Bulletins

The Deacons would like to thank the members of Palm for sponsoring bulletins and real flowers every Sunday for the 2015 calendar year! Everyone who did

sponsor, please remember that bulletin sponsorships are \$15, flower sponsorships are \$50, and the flowers are yours to keep after the service. Please keep an eye out for the new 2016 chart in the hallway outside of the office. And, thanks!



# Estending due and leartfelt sympaths to you goes family

## MEMBER

NEW S

Sympathies to

...the family of Earl Yerger

## Pastor's Pause—(Cont.)



#### Love

December 13
Luke 3:7-9
December 14
Luke 3:10-14
December 15
Luke 3:15-18
December 16
Zephaniah 3:14-16
December 17

Zephaniah 3:17-20

December 18 Isaiah 12:2-6

December 19

Philippians 4:4-7



#### Joy

December 20 Luke 1:39-45 December 21 Luke 1:26-38 December 22 Luke 1:46-55 December 23 Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26



#### Christmas Eve

December 24 Luke 2:1-14 December 25 John 1:1-14



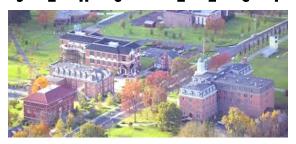


## **Upcoming Due Dates**

Books for
Auditing
- due to the Church Office by
January 15, 2016

Reports for Annual Report — due to the Church Administrator by December 31, 2015

## SLHC LECTURE SERIES



Brown Bag Lecture with Allen Viehmeyer



#### **Perkiomen School Photos**

Presented by Allen Viehmeyer December 9, 2015 at noon

On Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at noon, come to the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center to hear a presentation by Allen Viehmeyer about the Perkiomen School. Original photos of the outside and inside of the buildings on the Perkiomen campus between the 1900s and the 1930s give a good glimpse into campus life during those times. Some of the old course catalogs give interesting rules and regulations for boarding and day students. Come and find out what the campus, students, teachers, and activities looked like some 90 years ago.



## 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.



Clara Graber Pennsburg Manor—Room 104 530 Macoby Street Pennsburg, PA 18073



A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, December 13, 2015, immediately following the worship service to approve the 2015 budget and to elect new officers. Along with the copy of the 2016 budget on the following pages, there will be copies of the budget in the narthex available before the meeting. Please be sure to attend this important meeting.



#### Palm Schwenkfelder Church Sponsors Luminaries for Christmas Eve

Every Sunday, from November 22nd until December 13th, you may contribute \$5.00 per line for a luminary to decorate the church driveway on Christmas Eve. Your contribution may be made "in honor of" or "in memory of" friends or loved ones. There will be a special insert in the Christmas Eve bulletin acknowledging your gifts. Please order your luminaries at the table located in the Narthex after worship services or place your order and payment in the office lock-box before the deadline of Sunday, December 13th.

# Please make checks payable to: PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH Memo: Christmas Eve Luminaries

#### PLEASE PRINT

	Donor's Name	
RELAYFORLIFE2015	Phone Number	
***	"In Honor of"	
<b>1</b>	2.	
FOR LIFE	2	
American	4	
Cancer Society <sup>4</sup>	5	
	"In Memory of"	
-	1	
YOU ARE	2	
AWESOME	4	
Aria III	5	
	Total Donation \$Check # Cash	_

#### **Budget Proposal**

Income	]				
		2014	2015	2015	2016
		Actual	Budget	Projected	Budget
Offering envelopes - Operations	\$	235,778.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 207,191.00	\$ 205,000.00
Organiz. Contrib Operations	\$	13,400.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Sun Sch Offerings - Operations	\$	1,058.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 900.00
Plate Offerings - Operations	\$	6,690.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00
Day School Utility Donation	\$	2,640.00	\$ 2,970.00	\$ 2,970.00	\$ 2,970.00
Endowment Funds Available	\$	25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 32,000.00
Rentals - Church & Hall	\$	1,910.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,000.00
Flowers and Bulletins	\$	2,802.00	\$ 3,380.00	\$ 2,967.00	\$ 3,000.00
Faith Budget	\$	-	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 5,800.00
Pastor Health Insurance Reimbursement					\$ 3,252.00
Music Endowment			\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,000.00
Palm Church Endowment Fund					
for Operation and Maintenance			\$ 30,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 42,822.00
From Electronic Equipment Escrow account	\$	634.00			
Miscellaneous Income	\$	671.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,056.00	\$ 500.00
Totals	\$	290,583.00	\$ 292,550.00	\$ 287,434.00	\$ 313,244.00

	2014	2015	2015	2016
	Actual	Budget	Projected	Budget
Our Ministry to the Denomination				
ieneral Fund	550	575	550	575
tudent Ministry		500	500	500
eakel Cemetery		500	500	500
chwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center	2750	2875	2750	2875
oard of Publication	2750	2875	2750	2875
A Council of Churches	660	690	660	690
ancaster Theological Sem.	200	200	200	200
V	6910	8215	7910	8215
Our Ministry to the Congregation				
hristian Education				
Youth Ministry	1425	2800	1109	2000
Sunday School	979	1500	600	1200
VBS	1082	1000	1019	1000
Confirmation Class	183	500	200	300
Church Library	0	0	0	0
flusic	2912	4000	3500	4000
offering Envelopes	1757	2000	1918	2000
iaconate Expenses	1143	1200	300	1200
CONTROL OF STATE OF S	9481	13000		



#### Treasurer Report — October 31, 2015

•		-
	<u>October</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Starting Operating Cash On Hand	\$ 5,396.52	\$ 29,325.78
Operating Income Received	\$19,743.08	\$238,528.25
Operating Expenses	\$23,162.62	\$265,877.05
Ending Operating Cash On Hand	\$ 1,976.98	\$ 1,976.98

#### **Budget Proposal**

Expense Continued				
	2014	2015	2015	2016
- "B	Actual	Budget	Projected	Budget
Payroll Related Expenses		400000	100500	101000
Salaries	122040	123633	123583	124820
Payroll Service	1816	1700	1732	1700
Health Insurance	11920	12397	16642	22698
Workman's Comp	2096	1880	2000	2200
Pension - Pastor	16638	17908	16966	17222
Social Security (Employer Share)	9304	9588	9215	9549
Travel & Professional Expenses	2383	1800	1600	1800
Conferences and Seminars	299	750	300	750
	166496	169656	172038	180739
General Operating Expenses				
Electricity -(Heat & Light)	15642	17000	17184	17000
Heating Fuel	21113	19000	16657	19000
Property Insurance	7562	7500	8167	8100
Repairs & Improvements	11413	12000	10613	12000
HVAC Maintenance	4917	4000	5044	2000
Contracting Services	19771	18000	21447	21000
Office Supplies	5149	5000	5507	5500
Copier	3574	3500	3284	3500
Telephone	3717	3900	3415	3900
Security Monitoring Fee	396	400	396	400
Water and Sewer	1933	2000	1979	2000
Janitorial Supplies	1006	1000	1293	1200
Flowers and Bulletins	2112	2100	2397	2200
Electronic Equip Upgrade Escrow	1560	1440	1440	1440
HVAC Repair Escrow				2400
Snow Removal	12612	4000	18000	10000
Miscellaneous	695	389	2555	500
	113172	101229	119378	112140
Total Expenses	296369	292550	308222	313244
Income Minus Expense	(5786)	0	(20788)	0



## United Schwenkfelder Choir 87th Annual Concert

Sunday, December 6, 2015 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Central Schwenkfelder Church Worcester, PA

The United Schwenkfelder Choir will present its 87th annual concert on Sunday, December 6, 2015. The 80-voice, non-denominational choir, representing membership in 30 churches from Montgomery and Bucks counties, will perform a program of traditional and contemporary Christmas music at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Central Schwenkfelder Church, located at 2111 Valley Forge Road (Route 363), Lansdale, just north of Skippack Pike (Route 73). A free will offering will be taken. For additional information, contact choir president Dennis Alderfer at 215-393-9974, or www.united choir.org.

#### PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

833 Gravel Pike P.O. Box 66 Palm, PA 18070

## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
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Lehigh Valley, PA
Permit No. 129

Dated Material Please Do Not Delay

Administrator/Office Phone: 215-679-5321

Fax: 215-679-2650

E-mail: palmadministrator@comcast.net www.palmschwenkfelderchurch.com

# SAVE THE DATE!

December 6th — Youth Lunch Outing to United

Schwenkfelder Choir Concert

December 6th — United Schwenkfelder Choir Concert

December 12th — Ladies' Aid Fruit & Flower Pick-Up

December 13th — Congregational Meeting

December 20th — Children's Christmas

Program

December 24th — Christmas Cantata



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