

# **PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH**

**Associate Member: United Church of Christ**



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# **PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH**

## **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2017**

### **RALLY DAY**

**Chimes**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prayer**

**Prelude**                    “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”    arr. Mark Bender

**\*Call to Worship**

Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song; give praise in the assembly of the faithful.

**For the Lord takes pleasure in the people and adorns the humble with victory.**

Let us praise God’s name with dancing, making melody with tambourine and lyre.

**Let the faithful exult in glory; we will sing for joy and let the high praises of God be in our throats.**

Let us worship God!

**Senior Choir Anthem**

“Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place”

Words and Music – Lanny Wolfe

Choral Setting – Jack Schrader

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

**O God, we have not been faithful to your commands. We have been more ready to condemn than to console, more eager to justify ourselves than to work for understanding. We feed the flames of dissent instead of welcoming the freeing power of forgiveness. We gather as two or three, not to welcome your presence but to gossip about those who are absent. Our sins are destroying us, God. Turn us around to a new way of being. Amen.**

**Time of Personal Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Hymn #690**

“Bind Us Together”

**Scripture**

Exodus 12:1 – 14 (NRSV p.51; LP p. 101 – 102)

## **Children’s Sermon**

**\*Hymn #539**

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

**Sermon**

“Passover”

## **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**

“One in the Spirit”

Lani Smith

**\*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**

**May these offerings help to free your people, O God, from  
bondage to sin. Unite us in the community of mutual caring in  
which differences are resolved as we listen to one another and  
seek to offer understanding. May the light of your love shine  
through all of our efforts to share your good news. Keep us in  
the light when we are tempted to ignore and violate your  
commandments. With these prayers, we dedicate our gifts.  
Amen.**

**\*Hymn #710**

“We Are Called to Be God’s People”

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

“We Are Called”

Ronald Nelson

\*All who are able, please stand.

The bulletins are presented today in honor of Palm’s youth by Kevin and Barb Master.

The flowers are presented in loving memory of Grace Fox by Richard and Merris Ann Hoffman.

**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:**

The family of Carmen Davis, 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, Alvera Heffner, Dorothy Parker, Marian Fox, Goldie Graber, Kylene Bertoia Hart, Mary and Heinz Herrmann, Martha Wolford, Devon Hawkins, Kerm Goda, Vern Weller, Bryan Schwoyer, Donna Weller, Mary Hartman, Jen Fries, Reverend Ed Winslow, Betty Serff, 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 Board of Christian Education, and all those affected by natural disasters.

**Holy Bible App by You Version**

Make this a part of your Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are. Each day read a short new Verse of the Day. Reflect on how that Bible Verse is speaking to you.

**Bible for Kids by You Version**

Have an iPhone, iPad, iPod touch? Download it for free Bible interaction.

**September Youth Birthdays**

Happy Birthday to...

Shane Raab (9/12), Owen Hoffman (9/21), Josie Kinsler (9/23),

Thomas Colvin (9/29)

## **Helping Hands**

Look for the Helping Hands box located in the narthex. This is a new youth mission.

## **Wind & Flood Disaster: Hurricane Harvey**

Hurricane Harvey made landfall near Corpus Christi, Texas, on Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup> as a Category 4 storm with 130 mile per hour winds. The storm caused widespread flooding and significant damage across southern Texas as it dropped *several feet* of water throughout the region. UCC Disaster Ministries is in the midst of coordinating our long-term recovery work in the region. Your contributions for Harvey survivors will provide community support for holistic recovery, repair house and home for families and children, and restore dignity for the most vulnerable who have lost everything in the wake of this catastrophic event. 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\\_hurricane\\_harvey](http://www.ucc.org/disaster_hurricane_harvey). Gifts may also be made by indicating "Hurricane Harvey" in the 'Other' area of your Giving Envelopes; gifts will be forwarded to Wider Church Ministries by way of the Conference (PSEC).

## **Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering**

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. Funding is provided through donations to the Neighbors in Need offering. Palm Schwenkfelder Church, along with most UCC congregations, will receive the NIN offering on **October 1, 2017** as part of our World Communion Sunday observance. The Mission Board asks that you prayerfully consider support of this Special Offering.

## **Migrant Hospitality Project**

Thank you to all who have supported MHP throughout the year. Financial support and donated time and furnishing have us ready to serve a household of up to four legal, Christian exiles fleeing persecution from anywhere in the world. Cash donations are still appreciated, in anticipation of moving costs and final items that depend on demographics of the actual clients. Please mark your donations "Migrants."

## **MHP Is On-Deck**

We have not been officially activated, but have been alerted that families from Central Africa are expected. Cash donations are appreciated. Anyone willing to help with the moving please let a Deacon know.

## **Still Needed!**

Ten dozen pint canning jars new or used for the Ladies' Aid Chow Chow making event. (Please no wide mouth or mayonnaise jars)

### **Brown Bag Lecture Series**

This Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at noon, come to the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center to hear a lecture presented by Monica Najjar entitled *Rebecca Reed and the Ursuline Convent Riots: American Anti-Catholicism in Mid-Nineteenth Century*. In the summer of 1834, rumors circulated throughout the Boston area about captured young women, secret conspiracies, and physical and mental abuse. The rumors centered on the Ursuline Convent in Charlestown, home to twelve nuns and fifty-seven Protestant girls enrolled in the convent's school. Rioters and spectators gathered on the night of August 11 with torches and ill intentions, and the convent was razed, its inhabitants escaping into the night. This talk will explore the nature of antebellum anti-Catholicism, and why women in particular were on the front lines of this religious battle.

### **Endowment for Continuing Education Scholarship Update**

We would like to extend our congratulations to Emily Badman, the recipient of our 2017 Endowment for Continuing Education award. Emily is enrolled in a four year program at Cedar Crest College, where she will pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Forensic Science. Her future goals include studying for a Master's degree with an eye toward working for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Our candidate is a 2017 graduate of Perkiomen School, where she achieved a GPA of 3.83 and a weighted GPA of 4.28. While attending Perkiomen she was able to choose an elective course in Forensics and to participate at Cedar Crest College in a Forensic Science Symposium. As a devoted member of our church family, Emily has been involved in Vacation Bible School, youth activities, the Relay for Life Team, various Ladies' Aid projects and mission trips to Heifer International and Old First Church. She has shared her musical talents with us through her membership in the Junior Bell Choir and the Cherub, Junior and Senior Vocal Choirs. Palm's blessings go with Emily as she continues to pursue her educational goals.

Many thanks to the members of the Palm Schwenkfelder Church congregation who faithfully support the Endowment for Continuing Education Program. Through your generosity, twenty of our young adults have received scholarship awards from the 1997-98 academic year to the present. To learn more about the scholarship program, please contact the church office or any member of the Endowment for Continuing Education Committee.

### **Let's Celebrate Together!**

Join us in the church social hall **immediately following the service** for a catered lunch, dessert and fellowship sponsored by the Ladies' Aid Society of Palm Schwenkfelder Church in honor of Pastor Nick's ten years with our congregation. This is your opportunity to say "thank you" to Pastor Nick for his ministry and friendship over the past ten years. We Hope To See You There!

### **Mark Your Calendar! It's Time to Make Chow Chow**

The Ladies' Aid will be making Chow Chow on September 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>. We will need many hands on deck to help wash & count jars & chop fresh vegetables on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am – noon. The monumental task of canning will start at 8:00 am on September 16<sup>th</sup>. This endeavor is no small task and will take many hands. Please save these dates & consider helping with this Ladies' Aid sponsored project.

## **Ladies' Aid Stocking Mission**

It is that time of year again. The Ladies' Aid will be filling 75 stockings for Pennsburg Manor and Norristown State Hospital. We need your monetary gifts to help us. We try to put at least 9 items in each stocking. Any of the following committee members will take your gifts: Miriam Hausman, Sandy Kriebel, Sally Wright, Ruth Weaver, Ethel Soffa.

## **Gedächtnistag**

Everyone is welcome to join us during the Sunday school hour on Day of Remembrance for a special slide show presentation from the Heritage Tour to the Schwenkfelder Homelands, this past summer. It will include significant Schwenkfelder and Reformation sites in Poland and Germany: the Gemeindehaus, the Spitzberg, the Viehweg, Groditzberg Castle, Harpersdorf, Görlitz, Wittenburg and Berlin. If you have never made the trek to the homelands of our spiritual forefathers, this is your chance to see sites in their country of origin.

## **Calling All Bakers - We Need Your Help.**

Ladies' Aid is holding an Election Day Bake Sale on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Many homemade goodies will be needed. Best sellers are breakfast cakes, shoo fly, apeas, funny cakes, along with muffins, cookies & brownies. Please bring donations to the church Monday evening November 6<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30-7:30 PM, or any time Tuesday morning.

## **Did You Know...?**

We are starting a new feature in our bulletins entitled "Did You Know?" Items of interest to members and visitors will be listed. 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.

### **Disaster Kits for Hurricane Harvey**

We invite you to join in partnership with a community-wide effort to support our neighbors in Texas in the wake of Hurricane Harvey. Pennsburg UCC would like to coordinate a disaster bucket drive ([cwskits.org](http://cwskits.org)) and would love to have your participation. Whether it is by putting your own buckets together, by donating bucket ingredients or taking up collections to buy such ingredients, or by putting together one of the two other kinds of kits on the Church World Service site, any help is greatly appreciated and much needed. Please call the church office for information on where to drop off donations.

#### **BUCKET CONTENTS AS SPECIFIED BY CHURCH WORLD SERVICE**

- One five-gallon bucket with re-sealable lid (If bucket has been used, clean well but do not use if it has held chemicals of any kind.)
- Four scouring pads
- Seven sponges, including one large
- One scrub brush
- Eighteen reusable cleaning towels (e.g. Easy Wipes)
- One 50 oz. or two 25 oz. bottle(s) of liquid laundry detergent
- One 16-28 oz. bottle of liquid disinfectant dish soap
- One 12-16 oz. bottle of household cleaner that can be mixed with water (no spray bottles)
- One package of 48-50 clothespins
- Clothesline, two 50 ft. or one 100 ft.
- Five dust masks
- Two pairs non surgical latex gloves
- One pair work gloves, cotton with leather palm or all leather
- 24-28 heavy duty or contractor type 30-45 gallon trash bags on a roll and removed from carton
  - One 6-9 oz. bottle of non-aerosol insect repellent

**UNITED  
CHURCH  
OF CHRIST****Communitas**

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

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

September 10, 2017

## Rally, Return and Reconnect

Christians enjoy a good return story. The Bible is full of stories about family members and entire groups of people returning after long journeys, prolonged wars, and endless exiles. We proclaim that Jesus returns from a death. Returning is exciting and hopeful. It can be joyful or risky; extraordinary or ordinary. But it is certainly part of life's rhythm-- from family reunions at summer picnics, holidays and weddings to the beginning of new school years. August marks the return of the 'annual parade of human change' from kindergarten to college.

Many churches mark this time with "Rally Day" -- a grand welcome back to the rhythms of church attendance. I hope you use these particular Sundays as points of entry for people returning to church after short or long absences. Most folks will be joy-filled at reconnecting after a summer away. For visitors, it is a risky return trying something new. Give a careful welcome to them as they join in the vibrant but unfamiliar rhythms of your church's life.

As we all return to the rhythms of school, work, and church, I hope that you add another return-- return to the spiritual disciplines that sustain you. Don't let the busyness of this season of return ruin your reflection time with God. Our prayers, big and small, long and short, are a type of returning. When we offer a prayer of thanksgiving, a prayer of hope, or a prayer of confusion, we are rallying our spirits towards The Source of our life. We rally, return, and reconnect.

This is what our shared faith life is all about--staying connected through the rhythms and returns of life.

May it be so for you and the people you love.

- Pastor Bill

Rev. William P Worley  
Conference Minister, PSEC, UCC  
Cell: 717-575-6185

## Reflections on Hurricane Harvey

As we watch the flood waters in Texas and Louisiana, we wonder about the response of our churches in southeast Pennsylvania. What can we do?

### Be committed!

First, if you know someone who is responding in Texas or Louisiana and can offer direct support through text messages do it and keep doing it.

Second, worship, pray and sing. You can find updates and worship resources at [http://www.ucc.org/disaster hurricane harvey](http://www.ucc.org/disaster_hurricane_harvey). Pray without ceasing for the survivors, the responders, the faith communities that are involved, and the government disaster response officials.



*Christ United, Cypress, Texas*

Third, begin a Clean-up Bucket project in your church. There is a critical need for them. There is matching grant money available from the UCC to assist in the project. For more information go to [http://www.ucc.org/disaster\\_2017\\_matching\\_grants\\_for\\_cws\\_kits\\_home\\_page](http://www.ucc.org/disaster_2017_matching_grants_for_cws_kits_home_page).

Four, become a contributor to UCC Disaster Ministries. Give through your local church. Clearly mark gifts for Hurricane Harvey and send them to the PSEC office. Cash is the best way to contribute. Here is a link to a video that explains the importance of cash in a disaster: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pzH-7k035sM&t=9s>

Five, become a volunteer, if possible. There will be a need for all types of volunteers for years to come. There is always something you can do. Find it.

Six, let this experience be a reminder of how important it is to stay prepared. "Preparedness Month" begins on September 1. The UCC has prepared many resources that can help you and your congregation be prepared. You can access them at [http://www.ucc.org/disaster\\_national-disaster-resources](http://www.ucc.org/disaster_national-disaster-resources). FEMA also has preparedness resources at <https://www.ready.gov/september>. If you are a parent, stay prepared with a plan for how to speak to your children about what they are seeing on TV and talk with them about how you all can be safe if you have a plan. Finally, stay prepared as a person of faith. Keep your faith vibrant. If there is a way that I can be of help to your congregation please feel free to contact me.

*- Rev. Karl Jones, PSEC Disaster Response Coordinator*

## **This Week at PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH**

### **Sunday, September 10**

- 9:00am Rally Day
- 10:15am Sunday Worship Service
- 11:30am Reception in Honor of Pastor Nick's Tenth Anniversary
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are

### **Monday, September 11**

- 11:00am Board of Music Ministry Meeting
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
- 6:30pm Buildings & Grounds Committee
- 7:30pm Board of Trustees

### **Tuesday, September 12**

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
- 7:00pm Boy Scouts of America - Troop Committee Meeting
- 7:00pm Boy Scouts - Troop Meeting
- 7:00pm Girl Scouts Senior/Ambassador Troop 72134

### **Wednesday, September 13**

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
- 12:00pm Brown Bag Lecture @ SLHC
- 6:00pm Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30pm Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30pm Senior Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday, September 14**

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are

### **Friday, September 15**

- 9:00am Ladies' Aid - Cutting Veggies for Chow Chow
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are

### **Saturday, September 16**

- 8:00am Ladies' Aid - Canning Chow Chow
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are

### **Sunday, September 17**

- 9:00am Sunday School
- 10:15am Sunday Worship Service
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are

# **PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH**

833 Gravel Pike

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

**Sunday School 9:00 a.m.**

**Worship Service 10:15 a.m.**

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Pastor's E-mail: [palmpastor@comcast.net](mailto: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: Dave Woodward

Ushers: Kevin Master, Barb Master, Blake Master, Kate Pence

Prayer Chain: Nancy Hoffman

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