

PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Associate Member: United Church of Christ



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PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2017

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer

Prelude "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star" David Cherwein

Prayer

Call to Worship

Welcome this new year as the time of God's presence.

Our Creator offers us a new heaven and a new earth.

This is the season for rebirth of our best.

God has gifted us with new opportunities.

God is making all things new.

Mourning, crying, and pain cannot prevail.

We are invited to find enjoyment in living.

We are meant to discover pleasure in our toil.

God is mindful of our needs and our strengths.

We receive resources for the tasks God gives us.

We have come to thank and praise God.

How majestic is God's name in all the earth!

***Hymn #78** "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless, yet we do not love our brothers and sisters as he taught. You destined us for adoption as your children through Jesus Christ, yet we take our status for granted and fail to obey Christ when he calls us to follow. With all wisdom and insight you have made known to us the mystery of your will, yet we stubbornly refuse to study your Word. Forgive our sin, O God, and help us set our hope on Christ that we may live for the praise of his glory. Amen.

Time of Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*Hymn

“O God of Strength”
Hymn Tune #648 (3 verses)

O God of strength and mercy,
O sovereign majesty,
We look upon the heavens,
Your glory there to see.
The moon and stars proclaim you,
And distant galaxies
Announce your vast dominion
And fire our fantasies.

What worth are human beings
Amid this vast display?
Why make you home among us
When we deny your way?
Yet earth and all within it
Are placed within the hands
Of people you have trusted
As stewards of your lands.

May we, in every season
Take pleasure in our toil,
Enjoying tasks God gives us
Each day without recoil.
We feed and clothe the needy,
Their welfare to pursue,
And strangers are as family
When God makes all things anew.

Scripture

Ecclesiastes 3:1 – 13 (NRSV p. 537-538; LP p.1039 – 1040)
Psalm 8 (NRSV p. 427; LP p. 840)
Revelation 21:1 – 6a (NRSV p. 1007 – 1008; LP p. 1946)
Matthew 25:31 – 46 (NRSV p. 807; LP p. 1552)

Children’s Church

No Children’s Church

Sermon

Sister Millicent Drake

Pastoral Prayer and 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

"What Child Is This?"

Richard Purvis

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 our hands extend a blessing to friends and strangers who
hunger, or thirst, or shiver in the cold. May our presence
comfort and inspire persons who are sick or in prison. May
our witness to your gift of newness help to make it real to those
who can only look backward. Help us all to face the future,
trusting you, as we join you in wiping away tears and caring for
the least and the lost. Amen.**

***Hymn #701**

"God is Here!"

***Benediction**

Postlude

"March of the Kings"

Carl Simone

*All who are able, please stand.

The bulletins today are sponsored by 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:

Katherine Kocs, Connie Marks, Michael Marsicano, Jean Gabel, Willard Long, Samantha Hossler and Ryan Woods, Edmund Kuhns, Lucile and Bob Jones, Sheryl Tomlin, John Detweiler, Carmen Davis, Mae Gerhart, Brandon Komark, Rev. Bill Vanderslice, Alvera Heffner, Dorothy Parker, Sharon Stevens, Jack Bold, Marian Fox, Goldie Graber, Kylene Bertoia Hart, Mary and Heinz Herrmann, Martha Wolford, Becky and Craig Kimmel, Marvin Zeisloft, Devon Hawkins, Kerm Goda, Vern Weller, Bryan Schwoyer, Donna Weller, Donald Long, Mary Hartman, Jen Fries, Margaret Wallinger, Reverend Ed Winslow, Ernie Guldin, 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 Olivet Schwenkfelder Church.

Bible Study

The online Bible Study will resume on Jan. 1, raising issues in 1 Samuel 31 that are frequently encountered on-the-street. Take part in the discussion by contacting Rick Jones or the Church Office.

H.E.R.O.

Helpful, Enthusiastic, Respectful, Optimistic!

When you recognize heroic behavior among our youth, please let them know.

Acts 20:35 and Luke 19:10, check them out!

Holy Bible App by YouVersion

Teens - check out one of these current plans: Chasing Failure, How to Strengthen your Faith, or Fighting FOMO (it's what happens when everyone else's great day stops us from enjoying our own)

Kids - (and parents can help) check out one of these current plans: Courageous Kids, Next Steps for Kids, Truth or Trash.

Bible for Kids by YouVersion

Type in "Bible for kids free" to begin your kid's journey with Christ. New format, same great stories! Great for kids who aren't reading independently. Interactive fun for all ages.

January Youth Birthdays

Happy Birthday to...

Lily Hoffman (1/4), Ian Ross (1/5), LJ Morasco (1/14), Dillon Reinert (1/15), Johanna Kinsler (1/25)

Ladies' Aid

The date of the Ladies' Aid meeting for January has been changed from Tuesday the 3rd to Tuesday the 10th.

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."

Thank You

Many thanks to all who participated in the ACS Relay for Life Christmas Eve Luminary Project. With the generosity of our donors and the gifts of time provided by our volunteers, we were able to create a beautiful and meaningful display for those who worshipped at Palm on Christmas Eve. Through this project your teamwork has raised over \$1,300 toward our \$5,000 March 2017 goal. You are amazing!

Thank You

Thank you to the members and friends of Palm's Ladies' Aid Society for participating in our annual Christmas Plant & Fruit Basket Delivery Project. With your help we were able to bring some Christmas cheer to so many of our church family who are unable to attend worship on a regular basis.

Installation of Officers

The date for the Installation of Officers is now **Sunday, January 15, 2017**. During the worship service, we will have the installation of all new officers. Please greet and congratulate the new officers at the reception in the Adult Sunday School Classroom after the installation.

Open to All Epiphany Party Covered Dish Lunch

Date change: The Ladies' Aid Epiphany Party will be held on **January 10, 2017** at 12:00 noon beginning with a covered dish luncheon. Along with a variety of many delicious foods, we will be collecting monetary donations for Open Link and featuring a guest speaker from Philly Cure HD. Philly Cure HD is a local charitable organization that works to raise funds and awareness in supporting individuals and families affected by Huntington's disease. This special event is open to all so please make plans to join us! It will be a fun and informative afternoon! (And don't forget to bring something yummy to share) The monthly Ladies' Aid business meeting will follow the guest speaker.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed on Tuesday, January 10th to take down the holiday stage. Please consider coming out to help with this important and labor intensive task. If you are able to help, please come to the church by 6:00pm that evening.

Annual Report Submissions

And yes, it's also that time, too. Annual reports from all Church committees are due in the office no later than **Tuesday, January 10, 2017**. If possible, please e-mail your report to the church office; **palmsadministrator@comcast.net** Any questions should be directed to our Moderator, Joanne Luz.

Altar Flowers and Bulletin Sponsorship

The **new charts for 2017** are now available and are posted outside the office. The cost for flower sponsorship is \$50. The cost for bulletin sponsorship is \$15. Please sign up on the chart located outside the office. You could also call or email the office, or drop a note in the office drop box. Any Deacon or Church Officer will help you with any questions about the process. Getting your name in an available slot will hold the date for you. Thank You.

New Kitchen Floor

Starting January 7th and running through to the end of the month, we will be installing a new tile floor in the kitchen. Because of this work, the kitchen will be unavailable and no functions or events will be held in Fellowship Hall until the work has been completed.

February 5th – Souper Bowl Sunday

The Ladies' Aid will be selling soup after the worship service on Sunday, February 5, 2017. So whether you're a football fan or not, please plan on purchasing some delicious soup for lunch!

Thank You

The congregation of Palm Schwenkfelder Church would like to thank Sister Millicent for leading us in worship today.

Do You Know?

We are starting a new feature in our bulletins entitled "Do 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.

Do 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.



Valentine's Day Wishes

Please prepare valentine cards or treats for the church members listed below. You may make your own cards, or use store bought cards. Place the cards in the Valentines box in the Narthex by **February 5th**. The valentines will be delivered (in some cases mailed) in time for Valentine's Day, February 14th.

Verna Badman
Grace Beard
Lucille Berky
Kylene Bertoia Hart
Perma Bower
Ray & Carmen Davis
Edward Fegely
Marion Fox
Alyssa Guldin
Alvera Heffner
Heinz & Mary Jane Herrmann
Gladys Hoffman
Payton Keyser
Pauline Kloenne

Grace & Edmund Kuhns
Meg Lester
Virginia Longacre
Clyde Masemore
Helen Pannepacker
Beverly Phifer
Betty Pope
Margaret Schultz
Schwoyer Family
Carol Shafer
Bill & Jane Shermer
Dorothy Trumbauer
Adam Walter
Gene Wilcox

**UNITED
CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Communitas

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

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

January 1, 2017

*There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity
under the heavens..." Ecclesiastes 3:1*

At any given moment I can look at three clocks—one on my wrist, one on my computer, one on my cell phone. My grandmother, who couldn't see her watch, could push a button on it and it told her the time. Even at 93 you must know the time.

The cruelest of all clocks is the one at the foot of your hospital bed where you can count every second of your spiraling sickness--or mark the moments on the march to restored health. And that is the question this New Year's Day—in which direction is the march of time leading you?

Ecclesiastes says there is a time for all things. There are inevitable passages of time through which God will lead us. Ponder this New Year's Day-- how will you follow? In the time of war will you go to war or will you pursue peace? In the time of peace, will you go to war over inequalities that offer peace but no justice? In the time of hate, will you hate or will you, as Jesus commanded, Love God and your neighbor? When it is time to die will you die as one who has truly lived?

When Jesus began his ministry in Galilee, he said, "The time is fulfilled." This very moment, January 1, 2017 is rich with divine possibility. We stand between the old and new. The past is not completely finished and gone, but the truly new has come.

For those of us who need a plan with time increments let me offer this one: block out one hour today—for 30 minutes give thanks for all that 2016 was and grieve for that it was not. For the second half-hour dream dreams of all that things that you hope will happen this year—realistic or not. And, finally, list the dreams that you will help along to reality and the ways you will do that.

If you do this, you will have answered both questions. You will know where the march of time is leading you and you will know that you have spent time with the ONE who is leading you and how you will follow.

- William P. Worley, Conference Minister



Training for Church Treasurers and Bookkeepers

January 14, 2017 - 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon

@ Church of the Good Shepherd, Boyertown

One United Church of Christ takes its name from Jesus' prayer for his followers and the UCC's motto, "that they may all be one." Our congregation formed when two UCC churches in the Reading area merged, and we just finished celebrating our 10th anniversary year. However, our history is much deeper than a decade and encompasses the stories of four predecessor congregations whose legacies we hold. Thanks to our past, we understand being the body of Christ today means change and experimentation. At its core, One UCC is a small, and growing, richly diverse bunch of people who love Jesus and follow him in some customary and some quirky ways. Reflecting the authenticity and giftedness of our congregation, our worship service is a bit traditional and a bit rock and roll.

Our ministries include the more usual activities of a congregation like faith formation, fundraising for the CROP Walk and the Greater Berks Food Bank, and building relationships within our community, and we have been known to host neighborhood hangout nights in the summer and worship in our pajamas on Christmas morning. In our local area, One UCC is known for our amazing Christmas and Easter candy, as well as gaining an increasing reputation as a neighborhood church. We value relationship, play, creativity and feeding people both literally and metaphorically.



January 1, 2017 marks the beginning of our 11th year as a congregation. We will be engaging in an intentional process of visioning and discernment throughout this year, wondering what God is calling us to be and do at this time in history and in our context. We covet, and are grateful for, the prayers of our partner congregations in the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference.

Prayers are requested for One UCC in Reading
and Rev. Rebecca J. P. Hoover.



This Week at PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Sunday, January 1, 2017

9:00am [Sunday School](#)

10:15am [Sunday Worship Service](#)

12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are](#)

Monday, January 2, 2017

12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are](#)

Tuesday, January 3, 2017

12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are](#)

7:00pm [Boy Scouts - Troop Meeting - Fellowship Hall](#)

7:00pm [Girl Scouts Senior/Ambassador Troop 72134](#)

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are](#)

6:00pm [Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal](#)

6:30pm [Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal](#)

7:30pm [Senior Choir Rehearsal](#)

Thursday, January 5, 2017

12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are](#)

1:00am [Staff Meeting](#)

7:00pm [Deacon's Meeting](#)

Friday, January 6, 2017

12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are](#)

Saturday, January 7, 2017

12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are](#)

Sunday, January 8, 2017

9:00am [Sunday School](#)

10:15am [Epiphany Sunday Worship Service](#)

12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are](#)

2:00pm [Service of Christian Unity @ St. Mark's](#)

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.

Church Office Hours

Tuesday through Thursday 8:00am – 4:00pm

Friday 8:00am – 3:00pm

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

Prayer Chain: Nancy Hoffman 610 – 845 – 7208

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