PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH Associate Member: United Church of Christ



833 Gravel Pike PO Box 66 Palm PA 18070 215-679-5321 PalmSchwenkfelder@comcast.net www.palmschwenkfelderchurch.com

PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2016

Paul Manz

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements **Change Our Hearts Offering** Prayer "Guide Us. O Thou Great Jehovah" Prelude *Call to Worship Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters. You who have no money, come, buy, eat! Our souls thirst for God in a dry and dreary land. We seek God's power and glory in the sanctuary. Listen carefully to God and eat what is good; delight yourselves in the rich food God provides. Here our souls are satisfied as with a rich feast. Together our mouths praise God with joyful lips. God offers us steadfast love and a covenant relationship. We are called to be faithful witnesses and leaders. We have come to meditate on the living God. We seek inspiration and empowerment to do what God asks. *Hymn #451 "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

We have tasted your goodness, O God, in Christ our Savior. In that name we come asking forgiveness. We confess that we are greedy, while others go hungry. The daily bread you give is not enough; we must indulge our appetites. Our egos need feeding as well; we crave recognition and ignore our neighbors. Show us once more that Christ is our cup and our portion; may we find in him our heart's peace. Amen.

Time of Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon

"Peace for the Journey" Senior Choir Anthem Incorporating "We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace," and "There Is a Balm in Gilead" (from Joseph M. Martin's cantata "A Journey to Hope")

Scripture Is	aiah 55:1 – 9 (NRSV p. 598; LP p. 115	52)		
Children's Sermon				
Children's Church	Barb Master			
*Hymn #547	"O for a Closer Walk with God"			
Sermon	"Seek the Lord"			
Senior Bell Choir	"What Shall I Render to the Lord" arr. Karen Thompson			
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	"When Peace Like a River"	arr. Harold DeCou		
*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 All that we present to you now, O God, we have received from your hand. We give so the hungry may eat and the thirsty may receive pure water. We share to send the good news of your Word to those who have not heard. We invest in just causes, that your mercy may be known among all people. Most of all we give because passing on your gifts in generous response is necessary to life. Amen.				
*Hymn #634	"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"			
*Benediction				

Postlude "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" arr. Harold DeCou

*All who are able, please stand.

The flowers are presented today in honor of Kasey Schultz's birthday by Karen and Kevin Schultz.

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:

Wanda Gentry, Debbie Staver, Beth Cleverly, Martha Wolford, Becky Kraig Kimmel, Marvin Zeisloft, Gladys Hoffman, Bud Johnston, Betsy Yoder, Devon Hawkins, Mary Steltz, Kerm Goda, Rev. Linda S. Gruber, Vern Weller, Mary and Heinz Herrmann, Bryan Schwoyer, Donna Weller, Jeff Treichler, Donald Long, Jean Gentry, Mary Hartman, Janet Esposito, Alice Davis, Jen Fries, Margaret Wallinger, Reverend Ed Winslow, Ernie Guldin, Betty Serff, Mary Jane Burianek, Dave Jaeger, Robert Margerum, Helen Miller, Rob Ziegler, John Hathaway, 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 Central Schwenkfelder Church.

Bible Study

This week's online Bible Study will continue a Discussion ongoing in our #23 Series of Notes. Next week, we hope to open 1 Samuel 24. Join-in by contacting Rick Jones or the Church Office.

What's for Lunch During Lent: Brown Bag Bible Study

During our 2016 Lenten schedule we are delighted to host a brown bag lunch Bible study which will be led by Sister Millicent Drake. This Scriptural study is framed upon the Joseph Martin Cantata, <u>A Journey to Hope</u>, and invites us to explore the Biblical foundations of Lent, leading us through Holy Week and the celebration of Christ's Resurrection. The Brown Bag Bible Study will take place every Wednesday, at 11:30 a.m., beginning February 10th and finishing March 23rd. Please feel free to join the study as your schedule allows.

Quilters

The quilters at Palm Church are looking for help. The y would like to continue quilting, but they need someone to coordinate the job. Actual quilting by the new coordinator would not be necessary, but would be appreciated. If interested, please speak to Shirley Miller.

February Youth Birthdays

Happy Birthday to... Andrew Pence (2/4), Stacey May (2/6), Samuel Pusey (2/26)

Bible App for Kids - A Call to Action!

Help your kids connect each day and help them fall in love with God's Holy Word. During this season of lent, read two stories per week with your children and have them share those two stories with me the following Sunday. I would love to hear what they learned. If you are unsure about the Bible app, please see me (Barb Master) and I will help you with it. Or, they may read the stories from the Bible. Please see the complete list of stories on the bulletin board.

Teens & Adults ~ You Version Holy Bible App

Lent and Easter plans are updated on the Bible App. Some current plans include: Risen, Awed By Christ's Resurrection, 7 Words from the Cross, Seven Mile Miracle, The Story of Easter. **Teens** ~ check out the youth plans. Some of the current plans are: Jonah Challenge, Samson Challenge, Parents, Friendship, Peer Pressure, Integrity, Depression, How to Pray.

"Change Our Hearts" Offering

In conjunction with the First Monday Community Meal that Palm will be hosting on March 7th, we are having a special change offering. This will continue each Sunday during the months of February and March to help offset the costs of this meal. So, during these months please remember to bring in all your extra change (or bills), for another successful meal!!

Children's Church ~ A Joyful Noise

Children ages 4 years thru 4th grade may go upstairs for a Bible lesson, snack, and activity or craft after the children's sermon. If your child has allergies/food allergies, please remember to notify the leader for each Sunday.

Sunday School Theme

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new right spirit within me" Psalm 51:10

The youth are continuing to do a great job celebrating the birth of God's love in our hearts by sharing that love with others and acting kindly to one another. Thank you for supporting this mission by punching the kids' cards. May God's love be born in your heart!

Monthly Youth Hoagie Sales

Thank you for buying hoagies from the youth. For the combined January and February sales, the youth opted to donate \$150 to Relay for Life to help reach the Platinum goal and to donate \$195 to the First Monday Meal in March. Great job, youth and congregation!

Lent Service Transportation

If anyone (kids or adults) is in need of carpooling to the community Lent services, Maundy Thursday service, or Good Friday walk and lunch, please contact Barb Master at 610-295-2190.

Maundy Thursday

Youth, be sure to join us 7pm Thursday, March 24th, at Palm Church for the Maundy Thursday Service.

Good Friday Walk

All youth and adults, join us Friday, March 25th 12 noon for a spiritual walk to St. Mark's in Pennsburg where a community church service will be held. After the church service, everyone is invited for fellowship at McDonald's. All youth will be treated to a free meal.

Good Friday Lock-In

5th grade and up join us 6pm at Palm Church for a pizza dinner and a lock-in. Fellowship and fun with movies, games, and a casual candle-lit Lent service.

Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunts

Teachers ~ After opening devotions on Sunday, March 20th, youth Sunday school teachers will participate in an egg hunt, eggs hidden by the youth. The winning classroom will win a Dunkin' Donut party for their class. All classes will be treated to munchkins. The donut date will be Sunday, April 10th. Good Luck! **Youth Egg Hunt** ~ After the worship service on Sunday, March 20th, all kids please meet in the adult Sunday school classroom (next to the church office) for snacks before we begin finding eggs. All youth ages are welcome!

Christian Exiles Are Fleeing Persecution

Let's help rescue some Exiles! The Deacons at Palm have arranged a partnership with Church World Service (CWS) that will allow all of us to play a role in solving the problem. We will begin by serving as a Hospitality Team for legal, Christian refugees arriving in our area. CWS is one of nine agencies certified by the US State Department to receive refugees. It is difficult not to be distracted by news reports, but it should be noted that it will be another two years before current Syrian exiles can be expected. Meanwhile, we seek to minister to a Brother or Sister from anywhere in the world who has made it through the process and arrives as a stranger in need. Please watch for announcements polling our congregation for specific needs. In the meantime, please include this mission in your prayers. Ask the Lord to guide us and ask how He wills each of us to participate.

Donations for the Migrant Hospitality Project

Offerings to support the Migrant Hospitality Project are welcomed. Please mark "Migrant" on your Envelope to direct your donation. Thank you.

Are You Free for Service Sometime in March or April?

It looks very likely that the Migrant Hospitality Project will be ready for our first client household very shortly. On paper, we have what we can gather in advance, including volunteers. If you might be available, may we call you in case the arrival is on a day when our volunteer roster is thin? Please let our Deacons know. Efficiency shown so far suggests that the trip to Lancaster and back may be the most time-consuming part of the effort. A few items can only be gathered when detail is known about who is arriving. So, cash donations are still appreciated. Your prayers are still sought, including Thanks for His Blessings already evident for MHP.

Annual Report Available to View

The Palm Schwenkfelder Church Annual Report for 2015 has been posted to the church website. It can be found at <u>http://bit.ly/1QfQGoz</u>, or by going to <u>www.palmschwwenkfelderchurch.com</u>, rolling your mouse over the "About" tab, and then by selecting the "Present" page from the drop down menu.

Special Music! Be Sure to Mark Your Calendar

On Sunday, March 6th, come hear the Upper Perkiomen A-Choir as they share their talents with us during the worship hour. Then, on Sunday, April 24th, come join us as we celebrate Music Sunday with all of our talented musicians.

First Monday Community Meal

The Deacons at Palm Church are sponsoring a free community meal at Pennsburg UCC on Monday, March 7th. We will provide, prepare and serve dinner. Last year was a success with serving ham, so it was decided to serve ham again. Volunteers are needed; 6 people to cook and prepare the meal between 3:00 – 6:00pm, and 8-10 people to help serve, box up leftovers and cleanup from 5:45-7:45pm. Monetary donations and food donations will be needed. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Narthex. If you would like to help cook or serve the meal on March 7th, or make a monetary or food donation, please see Kevin or Barb Master. **Donations of desserts are needed.** Please bring desserts to the Palm church kitchen either on Sunday, or on Monday morning. Youth are welcome to help!

One Great Hour of Sharing-Sunday, March 13, 2016

In a world where communities are being destroyed by the catastrophes of war, famine, and natural disasters, the Church is called to help. Our faith calls us to respond to people in crisis. Unfortunately, crisis such as war, disaster, changing climate or a devastated economy have forced millions of people over the years to seek safety as refugees. Today, our world is facing a refugee crisis beyond anything we have seen in recent generations. At this moment, there are more refugees in the world than at any time since World War II. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering is rooted in responding to Christ's call to welcome the stranger. The offering provides assistance beyond emergency food, water and shelter. Please prayerfully consider donating to this extremely important mission. As we respond generously, may we recognize that in giving, we are on a personal journey to live in Christ's image.

Palm Gives Hope!

Our church's fundraising for the 2016 Relay for Life event is well under way. Thanks to your participation in our Christmas season projects, and to the generous support of additional Palm donors, we are now *\$531.00* away from receiving a <u>Platinum Sponsor</u> designation for the Upper Perk Relay for Life. Please prayerfully consider helping us to reach this goal. **Today** following worship is the final day that we will be accepting your donations. Please donate as you are able by cash or check. Checks must be made payable to "Palm Schwenkfelder Church" with memo: "Relay for Life." Thank you to all for your gifts of hope!

Ladies' Aid Easter Candy!!!!

Get your sweet tooth ready! The Ladies' Aid will be making Easter candy again this year. There will be chocolate covered peanut-butter eggs and coconut eggs, as well as the possibility of a few other sweet surprises. The candy will be for sale on Sunday, March 13th and Sunday, March 20th. We always need extra hands in making the candy so we are asking for help on Thursday morning March 10th at 9am to mix and roll the candy and also on Friday evening, March 11th at 6:00pm to dip and package. Please make plans to join us for some sweet fun in the candy kitchen!!!

Back to Back Bay - 2016

The Mission Board is looking for Members to form a Mission Team for the next trip to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi. The trip is scheduled to run from July 30 through August 7, 2016. So whether you are a "Seasoned Veteran," or have never been on a Mission Trip before; be on the lookout for further details, and consider joining what is sure to be another memorable, and moving, adventure in service.

MCC Mobile Canner Project

In years past, our local MCC canning Operation produced nearly 14,000 cans of protein-packed meat for families devastated by draught, flood, tsunamis, earthquakes, hurricanes, extreme poverty, war, or other emergencies. This year our local church community has been asked to help purchase, prepare, and pack 17,500 cans of meat needed to provide vital nutrition to sustain the lives of hungry people here and abroad. The MCC Mobile Canner will operate for three days at the MCC Material Resource Center (MRC) from 6:00am to 7:00pm on Monday, March 14, Tuesday, March 15, and Wednesday, March 16, 2016. Contributions have been coming in, but we need more volunteers. If you are interested in putting your love into action to help the needy through the simple act of sharing your time, please call the MRC at 267 - 203 - 8074. If you'd like to share your resources, your tax-deductible contributions may be made payable to the "MCC Canner Project" and mailed to the MCC Materials Resource Center, 737 Hagey Center Drive, Unit C, Souderton, PA 18964. Go to mcc-harleysville.org, click "Get Involved," then "Meat Canning" for more information about how, together, we can sustain the lives of the hungry.

Altar Flowers and Bulletin Sponsorships

There are several upcoming dates open for sponsorship of our Sunday flowers and bulletins. Dates available for flower sponsorship are:

June 5th; July 10th; August 7th, and 14th. We have openings for bulletin sponsorships on:

March 6th; June 5th, and 12th, July 31st.

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. And, thanks!

Address Changes/Updates

As a service to our members, any address changes that come through the office will now be listed in the bulletin. There will also be a section in the Palm Leaves that will list new addresses. 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.

Lenten and Holy Week Schedule

Wednesday, March 2nd Pennsburg UCC at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 9th St. John's Evangelical Lutheran – Sumneytown at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 16th St. Paul's Lutheran – Red Hill Church at 7:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday, March 20th Palm Schwenkfelder Church at 10:15 a.m.

Youth Easter Egg Hunt at 11:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, March 24th Palm Schwenkfelder Church at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, March 25th at 1:00 p.m. St. Mark's Lutheran Church Walk begins at 12:00 p.m. Fellowship at McDonald's Following the Worship Service

> Easter Sunday Sunrise Worship, March 27th Palm Schwenkfelder Church at 7:00 a.m.

Covered-Dish Breakfast Following the Service

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:15 a.m. Easter Sunday Communion Worship Service



February 28, 2016

World Day of Prayer

Message from Rev. Wanda D. Craner, PSEC Minister of Spiritual Nurture

March 4, Friday, is designated as **World Day of Prayer**. World Day of Prayer is a global, ecumenical movement of Christian women joined together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday of March. The World Day of Prayer (WDP) motto, is <u>"Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action</u>." This year's worship resources were written by WDP Cuba. These worship resources will be used in worship events in a variety of ecumenical settings within the PSEC.

In the past, as I have attended WDP events, I have learned much about various communities around the world who have provided resources in celebration of this day. At the same time, I have wished that every day might be a world day of prayer. During Pope Francis' recent visit to the United States he designated a Day of Prayer for creation and for good stewardship of the blessings God has given us. What might happen if we were mindful <u>each day</u> of the ways we use creation's gifts? What would happen if we decided to pray for the welfare of a specific country every day? The internet makes it easy to gather information; in a few minutes we can learn of prayer needs all over the world. Every prayer we pray can make a difference, if only we pray!

In the book, **Too Busy Not To Pray**, by Bill Hybels, a book used during the Spiritual Life Mission Team Lenten Awakening series, we read, "Come into my presence," our God conveys, 'Talk to me. Share all your concerns. I'm keenly interested in you because I am your [Parent]. I'm able to help because all power in heaven and earth is mine, I am willing to listen, and I am *hoping* to hear your voice'...Many of us have pressing needs...that ravage our lives, but we neglect to ask God for help. Somewhere, far beneath our surface layer of faith and trust, we don't actually believe God has the ability to do anything about them. The fact is, of course, that God is capable of handling any problem we could possibly bring to [God]...*Nothing* is too difficult for God to handle, but we won't see much proof of this until we actually ask [God] to handle it." So, as World Day of Prayer approaches, I invite all of us to consider our prayer lives, and ask God to help us become more informed pray-ers and to engage in prayerful action in our communities and churches.

Rev. Wanda D. Craner, PSEC Minister of Spiritual Nurture

Getting to Know :

Trinity UCC 448 E Grand Avenue, Tower City, PA 17980



Trinity, Tower City, located in the beautiful Williams Valley, has a long history. The decision in the 1920's to build Trinity's present building presented a challenge, but members refused to give up. When a loan was not available, members mortgaged their own homes so the building could be completed. The contractor completed the church basement, then went bankrupt. So members put a roof over the basement until they could complete the building. For a time Trinity was known as the "Church without a top." In 1956 church members generously donated and the building was completed!

Trinity has a real heart for children. For over 30 years, the Learning Tree preschool has been supported by and operated at the church. Trinity has a growing children's Sunday school, as well as an adult Sunday school *(see picture)*. The children's choir brings great excitement to holidays such as Christmas Eve and Valentine's Day. A weekly morning Bible Story and Craft Hour for children is held in the summer. Trinity takes part in the community summer "Kids' Café," which provides a once weekly Bible lesson, crafts, music, lunch and a backpack of food for the rest of the week to any child in the area. Trinity also hosts a Christmas party with a movie and free visit from Santa to area children and their families.

The church generously supports Schuylkill Women in Crisis with a monthly collection of needed items, and supports Bethany Children's Home as well as many other charities. The church is known for delicious fundraisers: chicken pie, pumpkin rolls, fudge, and a mother's day dinner. Trinity's choir is fantastic!

Trinity shares a pastor, Rev. Maureen Duffy-Guy, and ministries such as the confirmation class and Bible study with their sister church, St. Peter's UCC in Orwin. Our pastor emeritus is Rev. Edward Gobrecht. God is good, and we give thanks to God!



Prayers are requested for Trinity UCC in Tower City and Rev. Maureen C. Duffy-Guy.

LADIES AID EASTER FLOWERS **ORDERS AND MONEY DUE BY MARCH 13, 2016**

	Quantity	Each	Price
6" Mums – Assorted Colors	X	\$7.00 =	\$
3 Bloom Hyacinths – Asst'd Colors	X	\$7.00 =	\$
4 Bloom Tulips – Asst'd Colors	x	\$5.00 =	\$
6 Bloom Tulips – Asst'd Colors	x	\$7.00 =	\$
4 Bulb Daffodils	X	\$8.00 =	\$
White Lilies	X	\$8.00 =	\$

Grand Total for Order = \$

Given in Honor of: _____

Given in Memory of: _____

- Make checks payable to "Ladies Aid Society" -
- Place all completed orders in the lockbox on the door to the -Church Office.

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Please note: All flowers will be used to decorate the church on Easter Sunday. Each person is responsible for picking up their flowers after the church service on March 27, 2016.

Palm Gíves Hope!

Our church's fundraising for the 2016 Relay for Life event is well under way. Thanks to your participation in our Christmas season projects, and to the generous support of additional Palm donors, we are now \$531.00 away from receiving a Platinum Sponsor designation for the Upper Perk Relay for Life. Please prayerfully consider helping us to reach this goal. **Today**, following the worship service, is the final day that we will be accepting your donations. Please donate as you are able by cash or check. Thank you to all for your gifts of hope!

Please make checks payable to: PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH Memo: Relay for Life Team PLEASE PRINT

Donor's Name_____

Phone Number _____

Today's Date _____

Total Donation \$_____Check #_____Cash_____

This Week at PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Sunday, February 28

9:00am Sunday School
10:15am Sunday Worship Service
12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Isaiah 55:1 – 9)
Monday, February 29
12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Psalm 63:1 – 8)

Tuesday, March 1

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Hebrews 11:1, 23 – 28)
1:00pm Ladies' Aid Meeting
6:30pm Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:00pm Boy Scouts - Troop Meeting
7:00pm Girl Scouts Senior/Ambassador Troop 72134
7:30pm Senior Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 2

11:30am Brown Bag Bible Study w/Sister Millicent
12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Matthew 11:28 – 30)
5:30pm Children's Choir Rehearsal
6:00pm Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:00pm Community Lenten Service @ Pennsburg UCC

Thursday, March 3

9:00am Staff Meeting
12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (1 Corinthians 10:1 – 13)
7:00pm Deacon's Meeting

Friday, March 4

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Luke 13:1 – 9)

Saturday, March 5

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Luke 15:11 – 24)

Sunday, March 6

9:00am Sunday School10:15am A-Choir Sunday Worship Service12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Luke 15:25 – 32)

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.

<u>Church Office Hours</u> 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 Pastor Emeritus: Ronald R. Krick Director of Music: Ed Bieler Children's Choir: Gail Ferry Children's Choir Accompanist: Joan Pusey 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: Kevin Master Ushers: Glenn Hoffman, Nancy Hoffman, Rick Jones, Tammy Long Prayer Chain: Nancy Hoffman 610 – 845 – 7208

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