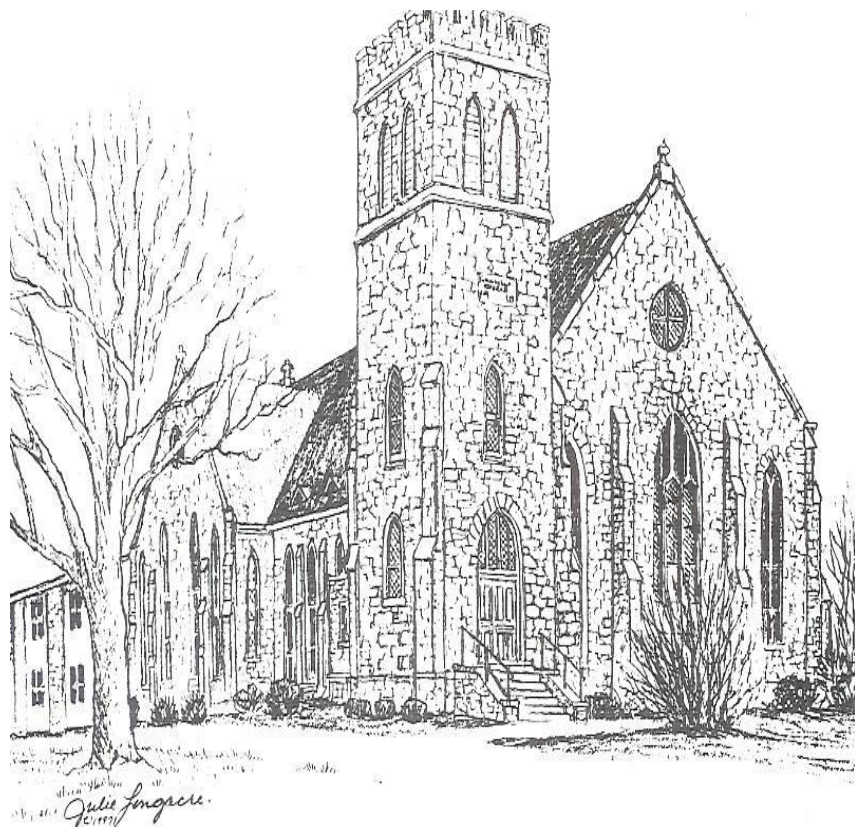


# **PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH**

**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, APRIL 2, 2017**

### **FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

**Chimes**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prayer**

**Prelude**

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

Mark Hayes

**\*Call to Worship**

God calls us from the valley of dry bones.

Come, listen for a word from our God.

**We hear God calling us in a far distant voice.**

**We had nearly forgotten God’s care for us.**

The Spirit breathes life into our dry bones.

God offers hope when we have lost our way.

**Our souls wait for the refreshment God offers.**

**Our spirits are filled with great expectation.**

Christ came as a light to all the world.

Christ comes among us today to light our way.

**We hear the teacher calling for us.**

**Christ unbinds us that we may see and believe.**

**\*Hymn #291**

“Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Out of the depths we cry to you, O God. Hear our prayers, the confession of our neglect, the admission of our desire to rule in your place. Like the house of Israel in Ezekiel’s time, we are cut off from communion with you. We are like dead people, going through the motions of living. We cry out for forgiveness and a new start. We long to know you, and to live in reverence before you. By your steadfast love, redeem us from our inequities and raise us up to serve you, in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

**Time of Personal Confession**

## **Senior Choir Anthem**

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

arr. John Leavitt

## **Assurance of Pardon**

**Scripture** Ezekiel 37:1 – 14 (NRSV p. 704 – 705; LP p. 1293 – 1294)  
John 11:1 – 45 (NRSV p. 873 – 874; LP p. 1679 – 1681)

## **Children’s Sermon**

**Children’s Church** Barb Master

**Hymn #295** “Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

**Sermon** “Valley, Village, Stone”

## **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 Jesus Wept” David Sartor

## **\*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**

**Lift us up, O God, from the graves of our self-interest as we  
invest ourselves in sharing the good news with the world.  
Increase our gifts of time and treasure, that all who are  
drained of hope might have their minds set on the Spirit. May  
the Spirit raise them to new life as we celebrate the  
resurrection Jesus promised to Lazarus and to all who trust  
and follow where God leads. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #523**

“Trust and Obey”

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

“What Wondrous Love”

Thomas Chesterton

\*All who are able, please stand.

The flowers are presented today in loving memory of Gayle Wallinger by Eric and Sasha Wallinger.

The bulletins are sponsored today in loving memory of Arlene Kriebel Bieler by Andy Kriebel and Ethel Soffa.

**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:**

Jeff Treichler, Eleanor Guldin, Ernie Guldin, Leon Wohlbach, Sandy Chrysczanavicz, Meg Lester, Jean Gabel, Willard Long, Samantha Hossler and Ryan Woods, Lucile and Bob Jones, Sheryl Tomlin, Carmen Davis, Mae Gerhart, Alvera Heffner, Dorothy Parker, Sharon Stevens, Marian Fox, Goldie Graber, Kylene Bertoia Hart, Mary and Heinz Herrmann, Martha Wolford, Becky and Kraig Kimmel, 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 Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center.

### **Bible Study**

Ubiety is the topic for this week's online Bible Study. Take part 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**

New Lent Bible reading plans such as 40 days of Lent, come to the upper room devotions, Finding Jesus, and many more.

### **Bible for Kids by YouVersion**

The Big Picnic: each day's video teaches a memory verse, a key truth, and a song.

### **April Youth Birthdays**

Happy Birthday to... Parker Morasco (4/5), Aubrey Reinert (4/12), Joseph Kinsler (4/13)

### **Helping Hands**

Look for the Helping Hands box located at the back of the sanctuary. This is a new youth mission. See details on page 11 of this bulletin.

### **Youth Food Drive**

Lent is upon us, and the Youth will be doing a Lent food drive for Open Link from now till April 16<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to donate, items needed are non-perishable foods and personal items. The box is located in the narthex.

### **Easter Eggs**

Easter Eggs are located in the narthex and need to be filled with goodies. Please take a bag and drop it back off in the narthex by **today**. Please do not tape the eggs. Thank you for helping to make the Easter egg hunt a success for the children.

### **Music Sunday**

Join us on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, as we celebrate Music Sunday with all of our talented musicians.

## **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.”

## **What’s for Lunch During Lent? Brown Bag Bible Study**

During our 2017 Lenten schedule we are delighted to once again host a brown bag lunch Bible study led by Sister Millicent Drake. This Scriptural study is focused on Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount, and invites us to explore the Biblical foundations of Lent, leading us through Holy Week and the celebration of Christ’s Resurrection. Our next Brown Bag Bible Study for this Lenten season will take place this Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. Please feel free to join the study.

## **Mid-Week Lenten Series Update**

Please take note of the following information from Pastor Becky Schanely at St. John’s Lutheran, explaining the food donation process.

- The food collection that is happening during our mid-week Lenten services will be geared towards the specific items that each church normally collects for Open Link. Churches that do not have a regular collection item have landed on a specific thing to collect – and here’s the list:
  - April 5<sup>th</sup> – St. Mark’s – juice

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

## **Thank You**

We would like to thank everyone who donated food and/or supplies for our reception this past Wednesday after the community Lenten service. The turnout at the reception was fantastic and every morsel of food was enjoyed. Thank You!

## **Ladies’ Aid Easter Candy**

Get your sweet tooth ready! The Ladies’ Aid have made Easter candy again this year. There are chocolate covered peanut-butter eggs and coconut eggs, as well as a few other sweet surprises. The candy will be for sale today and next Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **Mission Accomplished!**

Our Relay for Life Committee is happy to announce that through the generosity of our church family, Palm has once again become a “Presenting Sponsor” for the 2017 Upper Perk Relay for Life. Many thanks to our donors, and our fundraiser sponsors and supporters for helping us to achieve this goal. Through your efforts over the years Palm Schwenkfelder Church has been able to provide more than \$100,000 to the American Cancer Society for their research programs and cancer patient services. The 2017 U.P. Relay for Life will be held from Friday, June 2 at 6:00 p.m. to Saturday, June 3 at 2:00 p.m. at Camelot Park in Upper Hanover Township, 1124 Church Road, East Greenville.

## **Birthday Celebration**

Join us for a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration for Mary Herrmann. It will be held on Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm till 4:00pm at the Vineyards Clubhouse, 1002 Burgundy Circle, Pennsburg. No gifts, please, but feel free to bring a card, photo, or fun memory.

## **Altar Flowers and Bulletin Sponsorship**

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.

Upcoming dates for flower sponsorship: May 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, & 28<sup>th</sup>

Upcoming dates for bulletin sponsorship: April 30<sup>th</sup>; May 7<sup>th</sup>

## **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.

## Lenten and Holy Week Schedule

Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>  
Brown Bag Bible Study with Sister Millicent at 11:30am  
St. Mark's Lutheran – Pennsburg at 7:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>  
Palm Schwenkfelder Church at 10:15 a.m.

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

Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>  
Brown Bag Bible Study with Sister Millicent at 11:30am

Maundy Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>  
Palm Schwenkfelder Church at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 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, April 16<sup>th</sup>  
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



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

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

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

April 2, 2017

## Is your Congregation in discernment over it's future?

Did you know that on average, one UCC congregation closes every two weeks? Did you know that from 2012 to 2015, 111 UCC congregations closed their doors?<sup>1</sup>

Unfortunately, this is happening more and more frequently. This is happening in the PA Southeast Conference. In 1996 there were 205 congregations; today there are 166. This is the reality of church in 2017.

There are so many reasons for this new normal and too many reasons to go into in this article. However, I would like to introduce a resource that can help you and your congregation to discuss and discern the future of your church.

The resource is *Living Legacy*. This is a resource of the United Church of Christ and contains many helpful chapters. It covers the challenges of today's church, discerning the future, options for your building, and legal issues in regards to church dissolution and/or merger. In addition, it contains a wonderful Bible Study for use as a discernment tool.

Who knows what might happen when we come to God with our prayers and concerns; God might just lead us down a path that we never dreamed we would travel. For we are a resurrection people! Where we see death, God sees new life! Where we see nothing, God may see an opportunity to do a new thing!

I want to lift this resource to your congregation and pray that your congregation will begin to discern the future that God has for your congregation. Please speak with your pastor and have a conversation.

If you would be interested in *Living Legacy*, please send me an email request and I will send it to you in pdf format. My email is [morris@psec.org](mailto:morris@psec.org)

<sup>1</sup><https://carducc.wordpress.com/2017/03/06/final-act-of-faith-closing-congregations-nurture-next-generation-of-mission/>

-Rev. Sharon Morris, Associate Conference Minister

## Getting to Know :

## Friedens Reformed UCC

1011 Church Rd., Sumneytown, PA 18084

Once “the little church on the hill”, we now call ourselves “the beacon on the hill”; for Christ’s Light has begun to shine in the life and ministry of Friedens church in new and exciting ways. We just completed a year of intentional renewal and revitalization facilitated by the interim ministry during our search and call process. We are thrilled to begin 2017 with our called pastor, the Rev. Deborah Schwartz. She already has been a great blessing to Friedens!

Exciting energy and engagement is easily felt within our church community. You may see it in the many smiles on faces on a Sunday morning, in the active lay leadership that works to enrich our faith work with Christian education initiatives, through new fellowship



events, in community outreach, and with ongoing mission activities. Our Sunday school has doubled in size. We will be welcoming TEN new members this month. Sunday worship attendance is growing. Joy abounds!

A mission team of 16 recently served at Back Bay Mission in Mississippi. We partner with Trinity Meals in Pottstown and the First Monday Meal in the Upper Perkiomen Valley. We also welcomed the community to Friedens’ Free Breakfast, a time of fellowship, as well as food for both body and spirit. Friedens is actively working to find additional ways to engage and bless our neighbors.



Worshippers find inspiration in our rich Music Ministry and through the gifted spiritual leadership of Pastor Deb. Christian Education flourishes through Sunday school classes, adult study groups, Vacation Bible School, and pursuit of wider church resources. There are always ways

to be engaged in faith’s good works at Friedens!!

Prayers are requested for Friedens Reformed UCC  
in Sumneytown and Rev. Deborah P. Schwartz.



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

### **Sunday, April 2**

- 9:00am [Sunday School](#)
- 10:15am [Sunday Worship Service](#)
- 12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are \(John 11:38 - 45\)](#)

### **Monday, April 3**

- 11:00am [Board of Music Ministry Meeting](#)
- 12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are \(John 11:45 - 57\)](#)

### **Tuesday, April 4**

- 12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are \(John 12:1 - 11\)](#)
- 1:00pm [Ladies' Aid Meeting](#)
- 6:30pm [Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal](#)
- 7:00pm [Boy Scouts - Troop Meeting](#)
- 7:30pm [Senior Choir Rehearsal](#)

### **Wednesday, April 5**

- 11:30am [Brown Bag Bible Study with Sister Millicent](#)
- 12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are  
\(Philippians 2:5 - 11\)](#)
- 6:00pm [Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal](#)
- 7:00pm [Community Lenten Service @ St. Mark's](#)

### **Thursday, April 6**

- 12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are \(Isaiah 50:4 - 9a\)](#)
- 1:30pm [Staff Meeting](#)
- 7:00pm [Deacon's Meeting](#)

### **Friday, April 7**

- 12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are \(Psalm 31:9 - 16\)](#)

### **Saturday, April 8**

- 12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are  
\(Psalm 118:1 - 2, 19 - 29\)](#)

### **Sunday, April 9**

- 9:00am [Teacher Easter Egg Hunt During Sunday School](#)
- 10:15am [Palm Sunday Worship Service](#)
- 11:30am [Youth Easter Egg Hunt](#)
- 12:00pm [Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are  
\(Matthew 21:1 - 11\)](#)

# **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 – 2:00pm

Friday 8:00am – 2:00pm

[www.palmschwenkfelderchurch.com](http://www.palmschwenkfelderchurch.com)

Church Administrator E-mail: [palmschwenkfelder@comcast.net](mailto:palmschwenkfelder@comcast.net)

Church Office Email: [palmschwenkfelder@comcast.net](mailto:palmschwenkfelder@comcast.net)

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: Deb Callodonato

Ushers: Alex Jalowy, Joanne Jalowy, Blake Master, Jeff Stauffer

Prayer Chain: Nancy Hoffman

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