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, OCTOBER 5, 2014 World Communion Neighbors In Need

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer

Prelude"God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens"Mark Hayes

*Call to Worship

The God who frees us invites us to worship.
The God of law welcomes our loyal response.
The heavens are telling the glory of God.
The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.
God is present with us, eager to speak to us.
Our Creator is here to test us and to keep us from sin.
The Law of God is perfect, reviving the soul.
God's decrees are sure, making wise the simple.
We tremble before God, yet are not afraid.
We are ready to listen to God's word.
May our awe before God be pure and enduring.
May our thoughts and our words be acceptable to God.

***Hymn #20** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O God, we have no righteousness of our own. We have bent and ignored your law. Your commandments inform us but do not transform. We give lip service to your law but seek to avoid its implications for our lives. We recognize some of our errors, but many are hidden from us. We devote our energies to accumulating possessions that function as idols in our lives. We depend on them more than we honor you. Save us, we pray, from great transgressions and help us to reorder our days. Amen.

Time of Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Scripture Psalm 19 (NRSV p. 433; LP p. 850 – 851)

Children's Sermon

Children's Church	No Children's Church Today
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*Hymn #21	"How Great Thou Art"
Sermon	"Sweeter than Honey"
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	"How Great Thou Art"	Dale Wood

*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

We rely on your promise, O God, that you will not forsake us; our pledge to you is that we will be faithful. As we stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before, give us a vision of what commitment can mean. Accept the gifts that we place here before you, as we in our day make our response. Let what we do be an example for others so that future believers learn of Christ and his way. Amen.

Senior Choir

"Table of Peace"

Tom Fettke

Service of Communion

Beloved in Christ, the Gospel tells us that on the first day of the week Jesus Christ was raised from death, appeared to Mary Magdalene, on that same day sat at the table with two disciples, and was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the joyful feast of the people of God. Men and women, young and old, come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and gather about Christ's table. **Communion Prayer and Consecration**

Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine

Sharing the Elements

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, you have called your people from east and west and north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank you for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.

*Hymn#54	"God Who Stretched the Spangled Heav	vens"
*Benediction		
Senior Choir	"Change the World with Love"	Joseph Martin
Postlude	"Joyful, Joyful"	Edward Broughton

*All who are able, please stand.

Today's altar flowers are presented in loving memory of the birthday anniversary of Edward Hildenbrand by Betty Hildenbrand.

Today's bulletins are sponsored in loving memory of Francis and Grace Miller by Mae Gerhart.

Communion Note

The Lord's Table is open to all who confess Jesus as the Christ and seek to follow Christ's way. The Deacons will serve the congregation in the pews. Trays should be passed halfway through the pew and then returned to the same deacon, take the bread or grape juice while the person next to you holds the tray. Please hold the bread and the cup until the Pastor invites everyone to eat or drink. Then quietly place the cup in the holder on the back of the pew.

Note: Gluten-free Communion Wafers (individually wrapped) are provided on the bread trays for people with wheat sensitivity.

^{*}Concerning the Communion Service of Palm Schwenkfelder Church, children of our congregation take communion after confirmation. If you choose to have your children partake in Communion please explain the sacred meanings behind the ritual. If you would like to speak with someone on the meanings of Communion please speak with Pastor Nick or any Deacon."

Deacons of Palm Schwenkfelder Church

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:

Clara Graber, Anna Bieler, Earl Yerger, Donald Long, Jen Fries, Brad Hoffman, Vera Boykin, Clark Schultz, Bryan Schwoyer, Jean Gentry, Doris Masemore, Wanda Gentry, Charlie Krauss, Margaret Wallinger, Reverend Ed Winslow, Ernie Guldin, Vern Weller, Betty Serff, Mary Jane Burianek, Barbara Kirwin, Karen Freed, Donald Cook, Dave Jaeger, Robert Margerum, Mary Hartman, Helen Miller, Rob Ziegler, Kathy Bartman, 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 the Board of Christian Education.

Bible Study

David's early biography will be the topic for this week's online Bible Study. We will sift 1 Samuel 16 and 17 for facts, while eliminating embellishments from Hollywood and other creative teachers. Help our effort by contacting Rick Jones or the Church Office with an email address.

Children's Church

Children's church has started up for the new school year. After the children's sermon all children from 4 years of age thru 4th grade are invited upstairs to participate. Parent pick up is upstairs in the children's church room. A snack is provided, so please advise the leader if your child has food allergies or food restrictions.

"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" Matthew 4:19 When you catch a youth member carrying out an act of kindness, you may tell them to put a punch in their fish card. Together we can help shape Christian behaviors.

Open Link Delivery

Thank you to everyone who helped out Tuesday evening.

Younger Youth Fall Event

Please sign up **today** if your child is in 4th grade or younger, and would like to join us on Sunday, October 12th after worship in the social hall for pumpkin painting and seed cooking. Pumpkins and lunch will be provided. **Wear your Halloween costume!** Parents do not have to stay. Kids need to be signed up by **today** so the correct amount of supplies can be purchased. Please see the flyer in the Narthex for more details.

Older Youth Fall Event

If you are in 5th grade or above, join us **this Friday, October 10th** at Wilcox Farms for 8 miles of corn maze trails, followed by a sleep over at Palm Church! Bring your flashlight, snacks, and sleep items. We are looking for 1 additional chaperone and we are asking that no younger children attend. Please see the flyer in the Narthex for details.

Sunday School Room Committee

Currently, a committee is being formed to help spruce up the Sunday school classrooms. Beginning with the Toddler room and moving through all the classrooms, this committee will evaluate each room and propose improvements to the Board of Trustees. Once approved, this committee will work together to execute the plan and fundraise if necessary. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please see anyone on the Board of Christian Education, or sign up on the sheet outside of the church office.

Confirmation Class

The Confirmation Class/Mentor "Getting to Know You Picnic" will be held next Sunday, October 12th, at the home of Jeff and Luanne Stauffer. Parents, you can pick-up your students after the picnic at 3:30pm at the church.

Nursery

When there is no one available to supervise the nursery, parents are welcome to use the nursery but are responsible for their children. If anyone is interested in providing child supervision, please contact Gregg Hoffman.

Neighbors in Need

Today we will be receiving the annual Neighbors in Need Special Offering on behalf of the United Church of Christ (UCC). Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministries (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. This year's theme is 'Imagining' and focuses on literacy, and educational, initiatives. For more information visit www.ucc.org/nin, or see a member of the Mission Board. We thank you for your prayerful consideration of this offering.

Ladies' Aid Meeting

There will be a Ladies' Aid meeting this Tuesday, October 7th, at 1:00pm.

Lecture Series at Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center

At noon on Wednesday, October 8th, come to the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center and hear Forrest Moyer present *Introduction to Mennonites of Eastern Pennsylvania*. Many groups identify as Mennonite, from Old Order horse-and-buggy Mennonites to progressive groups who pursue higher education, travel and work around the world. Forrest Moyer, archivist at the Mennonite Heritage Center, Harleysville, will give an illustrated talk highlighting common values of the various Mennonite groups, and differences that can seem perplexing at times. The presentation will focus on the Mennonite community centered in Montgomery and Bucks Counties, PA.

Welcome Back, Pastor Nick!

Join with your church family this Saturday, October 11th, for a Covered Dish dinner to celebrate Pastor Nick's return. Bring your favorite hot dish, salad or dessert to share. Dinner will begin at 5:00pm. After dinner, Pastor Nick will regale us with pictures and stories from his time of sabbatical. It's sure to be fun! Hope to see you there!

A Fresh Take on School of Christ

School of Christ will take place on Sunday October 19, 2014 from 3:00pm to about 5:00pm. The theme will be "Faith Journeys," and this gathering will help us recognize where and how the Holy Spirit has been with us in our individual lives. We hope that, through small-group sharing, believers will be more aware of God's presence, grow stronger in faith, and become more at ease in sharing with non-believers. In the narthex are copies that explain and give an example of the program, which is to be held in small groups. Please bless others with your participation.

Who Let "The Dogs" Out????

Join us on Sunday, October 26th, at 3:00 pm, here at Palm in welcoming "The Dogs of Falkner Swamp" in concert. Accompanied by acoustic guitar, the popular trio will present a delightful blend of old time gospel tunes, original spiritual music, as well as secular favorites from the 50's, 60's, and 70's. Come on out for a toe tapping good time! Your free-will donation will benefit the church's ministry of music.

Electronics Recycling Day

Be environmentally friendly. Start thinking about what old, unwanted, or outdated appliances you'd like to get rid of and bring them to the Relay for Life Electronics Recycling Day on Saturday, October 25th, from 9:00am - 1:00pm. Smaller items are free, and larger items and appliances carry a small fee. Monetary donations will be accepted and go directly to the Palm Schwenkfelder Church Relay for Life Team.

Help Support the United Schwenkfelder Choir

The United Schwenkfelder Choir is seeking your financial support in order to carry out its ministry of music. If you wish to be a donor, please contact Beth Croll, Lee Schultz, Rev. Nick Pence, or Ed Bieler.

The following giving options are available:

The *Patron* level requires a contribution of \$5 or more The *Contributor* level requires a contribution of \$10 or more The *Sponsor* level requires a contribution of \$25 or more The *Business Card* level requires a contribution of \$35 or more, along with your business card which will be slightly reduced and reproduced in our concert program.

The deadline for all donations is Sunday, November 2nd.

Holiday Bazaar

On Saturday, November 22nd, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. come to enjoy a funfilled day of good food, good fellowship, and many crafters offering holiday shopping. The Ladies' Aid will sell the church afghan, the church collectible, cookbooks, chow-chow, and cookies by the pound. Light lunch will be served. Holiday baked items are needed for the baked goods table. The cost to rent a table is \$20.00. If you would like to rent a table, volunteer, or if you have any questions, please contact the church office at 215-679-5321.

Ladies' Aid Christmas Stockings

We are asking for your help again this year with monetary donations. We make 75 stockings each year to be sent to the Pennsburg Manor and to Norristown State Hospital, and we try to fill each of them with at least 5 items. With your donations we can do this. Thank you in advance.

Ethel Soffa, Sandra Kriebel, Miriam Hausman, Sallie Wright, Ruth Weaver.

Endowment for Continuing Education

The Palm Schwenkfelder Church family extends its congratulations to Christopher Mundy, the recipient of our 2014 Endowment for Continuing Education Scholarship award. Christopher is enrolled in a four year program at the University of Delaware Honors College and will pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in the field of Chemical Engineering. He is a graduate of Upper Perkiomen High School and ranked fourth in a senior class of 263 students. Christopher is a past recipient of the American Chemistry Society award and was a member of the Technology Student Association and the National Honor Society. He also served as the captain of his high school's soccer team and has participated at Palm Schwenkfelder Church with the youth group, bell choir, and the Men of Palm Chicken Barbecue. Christopher's future goals include using his background in chemical engineering in the development of alternative energy sources! Since 1997 – 98, The Endowment of Continuing Education scholarship has been awarded to 18 members of our church. Thank you to all who have supported our students through annual giving and estate planning. The future of this program depends upon your generosity. To learn more about the Endowment for Continuing Education, please contact the church office or any member of the endowment committee. Committee members include Kathy Bieler, Carol Carlin-Woodward, Anne Goda, Tom Long, and Emily Ross.

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 may have moved, or if any of the addresses listed appear to be incorrect, please call the office to let us know. Thank You.

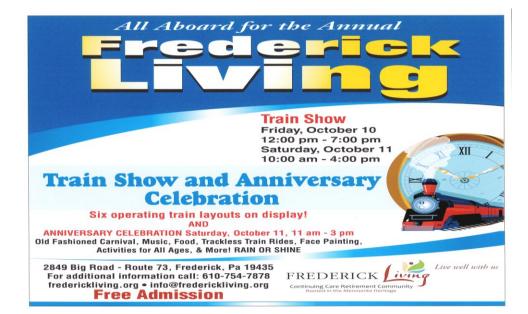
Ed and Kathy Bieler	ABFAN Guldin, Alyssa
P.O. Box 25	USS Ronal Reagan CVN – 76
East Greenville, PA 18041	Air Dept V – 4
	FPO AP 96616 – 2876

Bulletin Sponsorships

There are several upcoming dates open for sponsorship of our Sunday bulletins. We have three remaining openings for bulletin sponsorships:

November 30th; December 21st, 28th

The cost for bulletin sponsorship is \$15.00. Please sign up on the chart in the hallway outside of the office. And, thanks!





October 5, 2014

After a very long period of much deliberation, hard decision making, and the work of many, many people, we brought to final conclusion the sale of the Mensch Mill Retreat and Conference Center today. Settlement is complete. The amount of the sale quoted in the Reading Eagle was not accurate. The amount received for the sale of Mensch Mill Retreat and Conference Center is \$1,125,277.86. The Pennsylvania Southeast Conference is now debt free. The following press release was shared with local media outlets.

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE (PSEC) OF THE UCC SELLS MENSCH MILL RETREAT AND CONFERENCE CENTER

Alburtis, PA - Months of speculation about the sale of the Mensch Mill Retreat and Conference Center ended this week with the announcement of final settlement between the seller, Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ, and the buyer, the Amitabha Buddhist Society of Philadelphia.

Citing serious budget shortfalls and waning camp usage, representatives of the Conference's 169 congregations moved to sell the camp after arriving at the difficult decision at the Conference's November 2012 meeting; a decision that was reaffirmed with increased support, at the following June 2013 meeting.

The farm property that was originally owned by the Adam L. Mensch family was purchased for \$6,000 for the development of a church leadership training center on November 15, 1928 by the Eastern Pennsylvania Synod of the Reformed Church (a forerunner of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ). In 1947, the Jacob G. Rupp farm was purchased for 1, enlarging the Camp Mensch Mill property (an additional 70 plus acres). In 2004, the Kline Conference Center opened, on additional grounds that had been purchased from the late Annabelle Kemp, which expanded programming opportunities. For eighty-four years, the mostly wooded area of Mensch Mill was home to summer youth camps, workshops, and retreats. Mensch Mill staff welcomed diverse groups seeking to "provide an intermingling of varied backgrounds, cultures, races, and experiences in which individuals can develop an awareness and concern for society's issues" (from "A Working Paper on Church Camping," by Rev. William H. Solly, Minister of Camping for the PSEC of the United Church of Christ, 1973-1979). "It is with this spirit that we transfer the deeds of this holy ground to the Amitabha Buddhist Society of Philadelphia, with the hope that they, and we, may remain faithful to the hospitality and educational intentions of the former teachers and leaders of Mensch Mill Retreat and Conference Center," stated Rev. Wanda D. Craner, Minister of Spiritual Nurture for the PSEC.

The Amitabha Buddhist Society will maintain the property's current form and function, operating a retreat and conference center for their Society's members as well as groups from other organizations. According to Lee Ta, spokesperson, there is strong desire to not disturb the land and to honor the spiritual traditions that have preceded their purchase. The Society's first and foremost mission is to establish The Pure Land Learning Center in this holy ground. Secondly, they will earnestly seek to work with PSEC to continue retreat and leadership training programming on the Mensch Mill property in the near future; and third, they will seek to partner with other interested parties to create the next Multi-Faith Multicultural Center as a model city of peace and harmony.

"We have an exciting and extraordinary opportunity to continue our connection with what is for many in the PSEC, sacred ground, and to do so in partnership with new friends whose stewardship of the earth, quest for spiritual wellness, and respect for tradition, mirrors our own," said Rev. Bill Worley, Conference Minister of the PSEC, after a meeting with Mr. Lee Ta. Asked if the differences in the two faith traditions would pose potential conflicts, Rev. Worley responded, "perhaps, in the dining hall, over the menu."

"May this mill property, which ground so much grain--crushed so much seed--now no longer crush seed; but may this place scatter a higher type of seed, and may this seed fall into good ground and bring forth fruit abundantly. And may we all do our part to make it light and life for the Kingdom of God." --from an address by the Rev. J. M. Blatt at the Dedication of Camp Mensch Mill, August 24, 1930.

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About Pennsylvania Southeast Conference

Pennsylvania Southeast Conference is the United Church of Christ (UCC) in southeastern Pennsylvania. We are 169 congregations, open and welcoming to all people, with an extravagant welcome for you! Although our faith is 2,000 years old, our thinking is not. We are a church committed to justice, equality, healing, and peace... a church where 'God is still speaking'!

About Amitabha Buddhist Society of Philadelphia

Amitabha Buddhist Society of Philadelphia is one of many The Pure Land Learning Centers all over the world under teachings and guidance of Venerable Master Chin Kung. We first established in Philadelphia, PA in early 2000. Our practitioners have come together to properly learn Dharma teachings, praise the unsurpassed Pure Land Teachings, and to devoutly practice chanting Amitabha Buddha's name and set our hearts on reaching the Pure Land.

Tammie Wisniewski, 484-949-8774x304, <u>tammie@psec.org</u> Wanda D. Craner, 484-949-8774x303, <u>craner@psec.org</u> William P. Worley, 484-949-8774x308, <u>worley@psec.org</u> Lee Ta, <u>mituovillage2014@gmail.com</u>



Prayers are requested for St. Luke's Union Church, Shoemakersville and Rev. Walter Breiner Jr.





Performing October 26, 2014 **3:00PM**

Palm Schwenkfelder Church 833 Gravel Pike, Palm, PA 18070 215-679-5321

Admission – Free will offering



Fall Conference

Building Friendly Communities: Addressing Alzheimer's and Related Disorders

Thursday, October 16, 2014 • 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

DeSales University, University Center 2755 Station Ave., Center Valley, PA 18034

Please join the Phoebe Institute on Aging as we explore what it means to become dementia friendly.



Fall General Conference – October 19, 2014

Fall General Conference is scheduled for October 19, 2014 5:00 PM following the School of Christ Central Schwenkfelder Church.

On September 23, 2014, Judge Stanley R. Ott of the Montgomery County Orphan's Court signed an Order finalizing the settlement of the dispute between The Schwenkfelder Church and the Perkiomen School. The dispute began August 13, 2010, when the Perkiomen School attempted to unilaterally sever its 118 year relationship with The Schwenkfelder Church. Listed below are the major terms of that settlement:

- 1. Church will no longer have Church-designated trustees on the Board.
- 2. Church will no longer have to approve any Articles or By-Law changes.
- 3. "Founded on Christian principles by The Schwenkfelder Church" reinserted in the Articles.
- 4. Schwenkfelder history reinserted on the website.
- 5. Schwenkfelder Church specifically referenced in Articles as an eligible recipient in the event of the School's dissolution.
- 6. Amendments proposed by the School effecting items 3, 4 or 5 will require approval by the Orphan's Court.
- 7. School to pay The Schwenkfelder Church \$475,000 over a period of three years.

Copies of the Agreement and the Order will be available at the meeting. The events leading to the Mediation with Judge Ott, the Mediation process and the Agreement will be discussed and a vote taken to ratify the terms of the agreement.

Additionally, the Executive Council approved 2015 Budget will be discussed. A light supper will be served following the meeting. Please sign up if you plan to stay for the meal so that Central's Deacons can make appropriate meal arrangements.

This Week at PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Sunday, October 5

9:00am Sunday School 10:15am World Communion Sunday Worship Service

Monday, October 6

2:30pm Music Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 7

8:00am Quilters 1:00pm Ladies' Aid Meeting 7:00pm Boy Scouts

Wednesday, October 8

12:00pm Brown Bag Lecture Series at SLHC
5:30pm Children's Choir Rehearsal
6:00pm Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:30pm Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30pm Senior Choir Rehearsal

Friday, October 10

8:00pm Older Youth Sleep-Over

Saturday, October 11

8:00am Older Youth Sleep-Over 5:00pm Welcome Back Dinner for Pastor Nick

Sunday, October 12

9:00am Sunday School

10:15am Sunday Worship Service

11:30am Younger Youth Fall Event

1:00pm Getting to Know You Picnic for Confirmands & Mentors

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: Jean Ross Ushers: Alex Jalowy, Joanne Jalowy, Barb Master, Kevin Master Prayer Chain: Nancy Hoffman 610 – 845 – 7208

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