

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, NOVEMBER 27, 2016

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Chimes

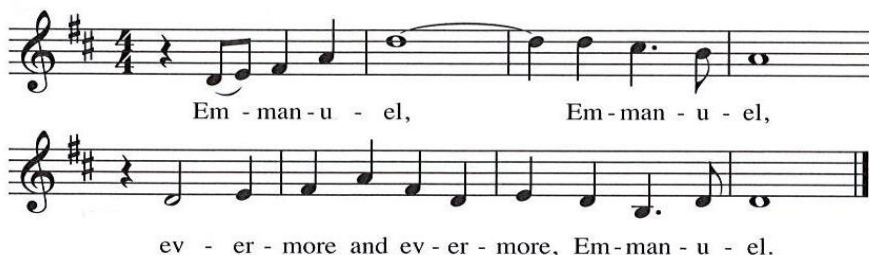
Welcome and Announcements

Prayer

Prelude

“Good Christian Friends Rejoice”
Johann Sebastian Bach

Advent Wreath Lighting



Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,
ev - er - more and ev - er - more, Em - man - u - el.

During Advent, we wait for the one promised in scripture.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.

We wait for the one who will bring answers to a world filled with questions.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.

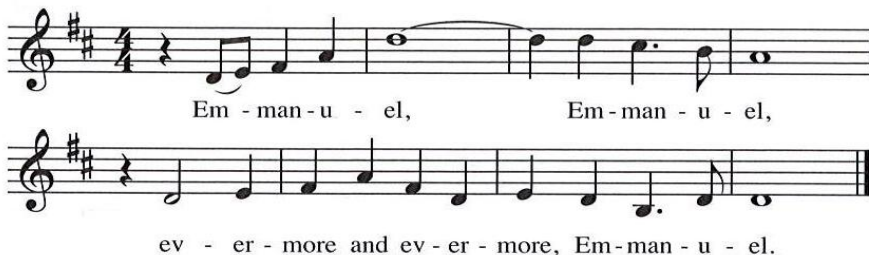
We wait for the one who can heal what has been wounded and mend what has been broken.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.

We wait for the one who can renew our weary spirits and ignite our hearts with hope.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.

Lighting the Candle of Hope



Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,
ev - er - more and ev - er - more, Em - man - u - el.

Prayer

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of forgiveness and mercy, hear our prayer as we confess our sin. With moments so critical we let time go by. With deliverance so near we linger in the darkness. With Christ as our armor, we yet fear the unknown foe. With the night having passed, we still hesitate to greet the new day. O God, lead us forth, that we may meet the moment you graciously give us. Dispel the shadows, so that your will may be clear. Clothed with light and new life in Christ, let us go forth as those awake to your will. Amen.

Time of Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Senior Bell Choir

“Advent Hope”

Derek K Hakes

Scripture

Romans 13:11 – 14 (NRSV p. 923; LP p. 1776 – 1777)
Matthew 24:36 – 44 (NRSV p. 806; LP p. 1549 – 1550)

Children’s Sermon

Children’s Church

***Hymn #157**

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

Sermon

“The Nearness of Day”

Senior Choir Anthem

“Rejoice, All Ye Daughters”

arr. Joel Raney
Joseph Martin

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

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Burton Bumgarner

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**

Thank you, God for the privilege of sharing your bounty with those in need. Thank you for prospering our work and witness. We seek to walk in your light and follow the pathways where you lead. We want to share the good news of salvation through these gifts and by the way we live. May all your people be made ready for Christ’s coming. Amen.

***Hymn #170**

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

***Benediction**

Postlude

“It Came upon a Midnight Clear”

Diane Bish

*All who are able, please stand.

The bulletins today are sponsored in honor of Shirley and Kenny Miller’s 50th wedding anniversary.

The flowers are presented today in loving memory of Evelyn Schultz by Kasey, Lauren, Karen, and Kevin.

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:

John Detwiler, Carmen Davis, Maurice Meecker, Mae Gerhart, Ethel Soffa, Edmund Kuhns, Brandon Komark, Rev. Bill Vanderslice, Alvera Heffner, Dorothy Parker, Sharon Stevens, Jack Bold, Marian Fox, Helen Miller, Goldie Graber, Kylene Bertoia Hart, Mary and Heinz Herrmann, Wanda Gentry, 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 The Men of Palm.

Bible Study

This week's online Bible Study will wrap-up our discussion on 1 Samuel 30. Join the conversation 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!

Upcoming Youth Event – Advent Celebration

Tonight, starting at 5:00 pm, come join us for our Advent Celebration. We will have a soup and salad dinner – sign-up sheet in the narthex for items to bring and share. There'll be craft and story time for children, an Advent devotional time for adults, then cookies and coffee/tea for dessert and closing. Hope all can attend this wonderful fellowship for Advent.

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.

November Youth Birthdays

Happy Birthday to...

Tatum Korn (11/13), Bridgette Wright (11/16), Hans Muse (11/18),

Reid Hoffman (11/25), Anja Muse (11/29), Sabine Muse (11/30)

A Very Happy 18th Birthday to...

Megan Johnson (11/3), Kali Kriebel (11/11)

Migrant Hospitality Project

The Migrant Hospitality Project (MHP) is awaiting activation. We are equipped to welcome a Christian exile household of up to 4 people. 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.”

PA German Putzing at the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center

Join us for a special one night putz visiting event **tonight**, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. We will have guides on hand to tell you about the putzes (Christmas Villages) and share some putz heritage. Admission is \$5.00 for adults, and children are free. Refreshments will be available. This will be a fun family evening and a great way to usher in the Advent season.

Confirmands and Mentors Christmas Party and Luncheon

There will be a Christmas Party and Luncheon sponsored by the Board of Christian Education and the Mentor Committee on Sunday, December 11th. Snow date is the 18th. The party begins at approximately 12:00 p.m., immediately after the special church meeting. After lunch, we will discuss your Faith Journey timelines. Please be sure to have them completed by this time. The event concludes around 1:30 p.m. If you are UNABLE to attend, please notify your confirmand /mentor, and also notify the church office.

Special Congregational Meeting

A Special Congregational Meeting will be held in two weeks, on Sunday, December 11, 2016, immediately following the worship service to elect our church leadership, approve our budget for 2017, and have a discussion regarding the Church's Memorial Garden. There will be copies of the budget in the narthex available before the meeting. Please be sure to attend this important meeting.

Women At Risk

Women's Christian Fellowship of Central Schwenkfelder Church is sponsoring “Holiday Shopping for a Cause” to benefit Women At Risk, International. This organization rescues women and children from human traffickers in the U.S. and around the world, providing them with safe shelter. They are presented with the hope of Christ and retrained to work with dignity. All the items at the fundraiser are made by these women. Items to be sold include jewelry, blown glass ornaments, cards, scarves, purses, toys, and clothing, in all price ranges. Purchase can be taken home that day. \$250 in sales supports a woman in a safe house for one month. Women At Risk, International applies 80-90% of profits to help rescued or at-risk women. Mark your calendars to join us on Friday, December 2nd from 6:00pm – 9:00pm, or Saturday, December 3rd from 10:00am – 2:00pm, in the Central Schwenkfelder Community Center, 2067 Steelman Road, Lansdale, PA 19446. Do your Christmas shopping with us! Together we can make a difference!!!!

Kids' Christmas Program

On Sunday, December 18th Palm Youth will present this year's Christmas program entitled *A Not So Silent Night*. It's a Christmas comedy where the shepherds are on trial for “disturbing the peace” when celebrating the birth of Jesus. Cookies and refreshments will follow the program in the Adult Bible Classroom, along with a hoagie sale.

United Schwenkfelder Choir

The United Schwenkfelder Choir will present its 86th annual concert on Sunday, December 4, 2016. The 80-voice, non-denominational choir, representing membership in 30 churches from Montgomery and Bucks Counties, will perform a program of traditional and contemporary Christmas music at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Central Schwenkfelder Church, located at 2111 Valley Forge Road (Route 363), Lansdale, just north of Skippack Pike (Route 73). A free will offering will be taken. For additional information, contact choir president Dennis Alderfer at 215-393-9974, or www.unitedchoir.org.

Christmas Cantata

On Saturday, December 24th, at 7:30 pm we will gather in worship to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. This night of nights culminates the weeks of Advent Anticipation as we wait in hope, peace, love, and joy, and prepare our hearts to once again receive the greatest gift the world has ever known. This year our worship will feature Joseph M. Martin's Canticles in Candlelight: A Cantata for Christmas.

Treasurer's Report October 2016

	<u>October</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Operating Cash on Hand		
Start of Month/Year	\$20,834.79	\$ 35,761.03
Operating Income Received	\$25,706.73	\$240,541.34
Operating Expenses	\$36,730.33	\$266,491.18
Ending Operating Cash on Hand		
As of 10/31	\$ 9,811.19	\$ 9,811.19

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.

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.

**Palm Schwenkfelder Church Relay for Life Team
Sponsors Luminaries for Christmas Eve**

Every Sunday from November 27th until December 11th, you will have the opportunity to contribute \$5.00 per line for a luminary candle to decorate the church driveway on Christmas Eve. This is one of the fundraisers for the Palm Schwenkfelder Church Relay for Life Team. You may purchase a luminary "In Honor" or "In Memory" of anyone who holds a special place in your heart, a family member, friend, teacher, etc. There will be a special insert in the Christmas Eve worship folder acknowledging your gifts. **Please order your luminaries at the Relay for Life Team table located in the Narthex after worship services, or place your order and payment in the office lock-box before the deadline of Sunday, December 11th.** You may use the form included in this newsletter to place your order.

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

PLEASE PRINT

Donor's Name _____
Phone No. _____

"In Honor of"

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

"In Memory of"

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Total Donation \$ _____ **Check #** _____ **Cash** _____

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

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

1441 Laura Lane, Suite 100, Pottstown, PA 19464

484-949-8774

November 27, 2016

Report on the 2016 PSEC Fall Meeting

Two hundred, fourteen clergy and lay leaders came together on Sunday, November 13th for fellowship, worship and to do the work of our conference. Many thanks to First UCC, Quakertown for being such wonderful hosts with such wonderful treats!

After a welcome from Conference Minister, Rev. William Worley, the meeting was opened with worship followed by Moderator, Barbara Pence turning to the necessary business of the day.

Due to the illness of our Treasurer, staff member Tammie Wisniewski stepped in and discussed the 2017 budget. Following a chance for discussion, the budget was overwhelmingly approved.

Rev. Worley then opened discussion on the proposed General Synod 2017 Resolution allowing provisional use of the re-visioned Manual on Ministry over the next two years (2017-2019). Discussion followed regarding some of the proposed changes to authorized ministry reflected in the Manual. The vote was NOT to approve the manual but to allow for a time of exploration and amendment of the Manual prior to final adoption at General Synod 2019. After much discussion, adoption of the resolution was approved.

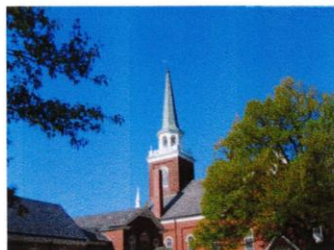
The last order of business was a report on the search for the Associate Conference Minister for Congregational Development. The Personnel Committee, after going through the UCC prescribed search process, has selected a candidate that they will present to Consistory on Nov. 19th. Pending approval by Consistory (per Conference by-laws), the candidate will be elected at a Special Conference Meeting scheduled for Saturday, January 21st at St. Paul's, Amityville. We will need a quorum at this meeting for the approval of this new position.

The meeting ended with communion and the offering, by church delegates, of their OCWM pledges. A free will offering for Scholarships for the Spring Meeting was received and \$1030 was contributed to this worthy cause.

Getting to Know :

St. John's (Hain's) UCC

591 N. Church Rd., Wernersville, PA 19565



St. John's (Hain's) United Church of Christ is known in our area by the names of the ancestors that gave the land on *Cacoosing* hill where the church sits, George and Veronica Hain. Still, many people here can trace their lineage back to the four or five founding families.

Other people make their first contact with this congregation on a Sunday morning at one of two worship services. Our worship is traditional in shape, contemporary in voice, and diverse musically. One Sunday our senior choir might sing at one service and the World Percussion Ensemble play at another. Our junior choir might sing or our handbell choir ring.

Neighbors in the community might learn about us by attending one of the events in the annual 'Annie Gaul Concert Series.'

Other people might experience Hain's church through its members that serve in the community through Little Acts of Love, Family Promise, the Robesonia Food Pantry, or the Free Medical Clinic at St. Daniel's ELCA. Maybe they were served a meal at the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey by our men's group. Perhaps they got a ride to a doctor's appointment from one of our members volunteering with Western Berks Shepherding Ministries. Some people meet us through mission and ministry.

There are others who get to know us from one of the good 'old fashioned' Sunday School Picnics that are held during the summer months in our grove. They have come to know us as they listened to the Ringgold Band while eating hand dipped ice cream.

Still others have come to know us through the Scouting organizations we sponsor. Our pastor might have taught their scout a course in the P.R.A.Y. program.

Residents at Phoebe Berks might know us because they watch a recording of our Sunday morning worship. Or, they may know us through one of our people who volunteer or work on the campus.

If George and Veronica were here today they might be surprised at how far we've come since that small log structure years ago. But in one way, not much has changed since 1735. We mark our existence by gathering around Christ's table, welcoming others to this same table, and by serving together in the world.



Prayers are requested for St. John's (Hain's) UCC in Wernersville and Rev. Dr. Jon A. Fogle.

This Week at PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Sunday, November 27

- 9:00am Sunday School
- 10:15am First Sunday of Advent Worship Service
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
(Isaiah 2:1 – 5)
- 5:00pm Advent Celebration

Monday, November 28

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Psalm 122)

Tuesday, November 29

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
(Ephesians 1:11-23)
- 7:00pm Boy Scouts - Troop Meeting

Wednesday, November 30

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Romans 5:1-5)
- 6:00pm Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30pm Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30pm Senior Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 1

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
(Romans 13:11-14)
- 7:00pm Deacon's Meeting

Friday, December 2

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (1 Peter 1:3-9)

Saturday, December 3

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
(Matthew 24:36-44)

Sunday, December 4

- 9:00am Sunday School
- 10:15am Second Sunday of Advent Worship Service
- 11:30am Youth Lunch Outing
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Isaiah 11:1-10)
- 2:30pm United Choir Concert
- 7:30pm United Choir Concert

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: Lawrence Croll

Ushers: Glenn Hoffman, Nancy Hoffman, Kevin Schultz, Karen Schultz

Prayer Chain: Nancy Hoffman 610 – 845 – 7208

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