

PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Associate Member: United Church of Christ



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PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2014

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Awesome God, we confess the sin of our separation from you. We have blamed you for hiding from us, rather than admitting we have failed to see you in the thousands of ways you are revealing yourself every day. Without you, we have become tiny islands of self-concern. Our links with the rest of your children are stretched and broken. O God, we long for that loving community in which your reign is acknowledged and your purposes are served. Move us to that place, we pray. Amen.

Time of Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Prelude

“Wake, Awake”

Johann Gottfried Walther

*Call to Worship

Awake, people of God, and stay alert for Christ’s coming.
Grace to you and peace from God who sent Jesus to us.

Make your ways known to us, O God.

Show us once more your awesome presence.

We are all God’s People; no one is excluded.

Come together as God’s family for worship and prayer.

Let the mountains quake before you, mighty God.

Let the nations tremble in awe and reverence.

Praise the One who grants the gift of life.

Give thanks for God’s continuing faithfulness.

Heaven and earth will pass away,

But the Word of God is true for all times and places.

*Hymn #135

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Advent Lighting

Advent is a time to wait.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for light in the darkness.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for freedom from captivity.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for comfort in sorrow.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for power in weakness.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

Refrain



(1st Sunday) We wait in
(2nd Sunday) We watch in
(3rd Sunday) We pre - pare in
(4th Sunday) We praise with
(Christmas Eve) We pro - claim with

hope _____ for the morn - ing Light,



for the love of Christ to il - lu - mi - nate _____ the night. _____



We wait with
We watch with
We pre - pare with
We praise with
We pro - claim with

joy _____ for the Sav - ior's birth;



we wait in
we watch in
we pre - pare in
we praise with
we pro - claim with

hope for peace on earth.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

This morning we welcome into the household of faith

Madison Megan Zaborowski

Daughter of Kelly and Ken Zaborowski

Welcome

Address

Questions of the candidates

*Congregational Response

We receive this child as a new person in Christ.
We offer our understanding and support as she explores life. We enfold this child in our love, seeking together to grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and all people. We join with these parents in telling the gospel in our midst so that this child may live with us for Christ, showing forth His love for all people.

Prayer of Baptism

Act of Baptism

Prayer

Introduction to the Congregation

Welcome by Deacon

*Hymn "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"

Unison D7 G D G D G D

1 I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be
2 When you found the won - der of the Word, I was
3 In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too
4 I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you
there to cheer you on; You were raised to praise the
old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you
there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you

G D G C D7 G

were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.
 liv - ing God, to whom you now be - long.
 through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.
 were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold. *St. 4, end*

G/B C G

I was there when you were but a child, with a
 Should you find some-one to share your time and you
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you

Am D G G/B C

faith to suit you well; I'll be there in case you
 join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your
 shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as I have

G A7 D *to beginning*

wan - der off and find where de - mons dwell.
 vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.
 al - ways been with just one more sur - prise.

From *The New Century Hymnal*, Copyright © 1995 The Pilgrim Press.
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Scripture Mark 13:24 – 37 (NRSV p. 826; LP p. 1588 – 1589)

Children’s Sermon

Children’s Church No Children’s Church

Sermon “Spiritually Awake”

Senior Choir Anthem “Come, Come, Emmanuel” Joel Raney

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 “Lo, How a Rose” Mark Hayes

***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**
Gracious God, we give our best to you, not out of guilt or fear,
but with gratitude and faith. You have been our support in
times of need. Every breath we take is a gift from you. We
would be awake and watchful for opportunities to make a
difference, to help others be alert for your presence, to value
life in all its fullness, and to learn to care. We dedicate these
symbols of thankfulness and all the days of our lives to that
purpose. Amen.

***Hymn#677** “Soon and Very Soon”

***Benediction**

Postlude “Lift Up Your Heads” arr. Thomas Williams

*All who are able, please stand.

Today's altar flowers are presented in honor of Bryan and Tara Renninger's 30th wedding anniversary by Helen Pannepacker.

Today's bulletins are sponsored in celebration of Edmund and Grace Kuhns' 57th wedding anniversary.

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:

Pam Gibbons, Rick Jones, Francis Soffa, Walt Master, Jane Petrilla, Deb Callodonato, Molly Werley, Bryan Schwoyer, Clara Graber, Anna Bieler, Earl Yerger, Donald Long, Jen Fries, Vera Boykin, Jean Gentry, Doris Masemore, Wanda Gentry, Charlie Krauss, Margaret Wallinger, Reverend Ed Winslow, Ernie Guldin, Vern Weller, Betty Serff, Mary Jane Buriemek, 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 Men of Palm.

Bible Study

This week's online Bible Study seeks discussion about the cause of the dramatic change in translation in Malachi 2:16, which we encountered last time. To join the discussion, please contact Rick Jones or the Church Office with an email address.

“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.

Older Youth Event

For 5th grade and up, our annual Nativity Story movie night will take place at the home of Lisa Stitt this **Friday, December 5th** at 6:30pm. Enjoy refreshments and hot chocolate by the fire! Sign up in the Narthex if you would like to attend.

December Youth Outing

Join us next week, Sunday, December 7th, after worship for lunch out at a Pizzeria, followed by a trip to the United Schwenkfelder Choir concert. Lunch is \$5 per youth. The concert is free. Transportation is provided. Younger youth should be accompanied by a parent. Please ask if you are unsure. Sign up in the Narthex. See Barb Master with any questions.

Sunday School Room Committee

Beginning in the New Year, a committee will work on improving Sunday school rooms. We are looking for members of all talents. You may find that you are strong in organizing and planning or maybe in painting and handyman work. You are all needed. 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. There will be an initial meeting in January. Come out and see if this committee is right for you!

Children's Christmas Program Rehearsals

Saturday, Dec. 6th 9:30am – 11:30am

Sunday, Dec. 7th 9:00am – 10:00am

Sunday, Dec. 14th 9:00am – 10:00am

Saturday, Dec. 20th 9:30am – 11:30am

Sunday, Dec. 21st 9:00am – 10:00am

Sunday, Dec. 21st 10:15am, Christmas program during worship

Confirmands and Mentors Luncheon

There will be a Christmas Party and Luncheon sponsored by the Board of Christian Education and the Mentor Committee on Sunday, December 14th. 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, also notify the church office.

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.

United Schwenkfelder Choir 86th Annual Concert

The United Schwenkfelder Choir will present its 86th annual concert, "Shout for Joy," on Sunday, December 7, 2014. The 85-voice choir will perform a program of traditional and contemporary Christmas music at 2:30p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Central Schwenkfelder Church, located at 2111 Valley Forge Road, Lansdale, PA 19446. A free will offering will be taken. For additional information, contact 215 – 393 – 9974.

Thank You

We want to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, and phone calls while convalescing from knee surgery. Thanks also for the meals. They were great!
Special thanks to Pastor Nick for his visits. Francis and Ethel Soffa

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.

“Trees, Trains, and Gingerbread”

From November 29, 2014 to January 18, 2015, come to the Reading Railroad Heritage Museum where you'll see an exhibit featuring a Schwenkfelder Christmas tree decorated with cookie cutters, and a showcase with German cookies and Schwenkfelder information on display. There will also be trees decorated with railroad themes and railroad gingerbread buildings and trains. A large O-gauge operating layout with a Reading Company theme will also be part of the exhibit. The Schwenkfelder pieces are thanks to Lee Schultz, and Bill and Sallie Wright. Museum hours are 10:00am – 4:00 pm on Saturdays, noon – 4:00pm on Sundays. Admission; adults \$7.00, seniors (65+) \$6.00, ages 3 – 12 \$3.00, children under 3 and active military are free. Free parking. For additional information visit www.readingrailroad.org/museum

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.

Bulletin Sponsorships

The Deacons would like to thank the members of Palm for sponsoring bulletins and real flowers every Sunday for the 2014 calendar year! Everyone who did sponsor please remember that bulletin sponsorships are \$15, flower sponsorships are \$50, and the flowers are yours to keep after the service. Please sign up for 2015 on the chart in the hallway outside of the office. And, thanks!

**UNITED
CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Communitas

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

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

November 30, 2014

Mark These Upcoming Events on Your 2015 Calendars

Additional details and online registration will be available on the PSEC website

Jan 6-8 - Clergy Women's Retreat

Jan 11 - Conversation with PSEC Church Educators from 3-4:30 pm at Zwingli Hall, Church of the Good Shepherd in Boyertown

Jan 24, Mar 25, Sep 12, Nov 10 - **Committee on Ministry Training**

Four training sessions using the Manuel on Ministry at two locations:
First UCC in Spring City and Trinity Reformed UCC in Pottstown.

Feb 20-21 - Clergy Couples Retreat

Mar 10-12 - Clergy Men's Retreat

Mar 17, May 13, Oct 22 - **Boundary Training** in PSEC from 9 am to 3 pm.

Mar 17 - Trinity Reformed UCC in Pottstown 19464

May 13 - Chestnut Hill United Church in Philadelphia 19118

Oct 22 - First UCC in Schuylki9ll Haven 17972

Feb 5, Apr 13, Sep 3, & Nov 19 - **Days Apart for Clergy**

May 5-7 - **Clergy Convocation** - From *Sabbath to Selfies: Faithful Spirituality in the Smartphone Age* at DoubleTree by Hilton, 2400 Willow Street Pike in Lancaster, PA 17602. Presenter is MaryAnn McKibben Dana.



Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) Continuing Testament:

Our faith is 2000 years old but our thinking is not. Because of our belief in a continuing testament, we are attentive to God's creative movement in the world. We arrive early on issues of social justice, as evidenced by courageous "firsts" for racial justice, equality for women, and inclusion for all. We prepare leaders who are open to and prepared for ministry in the present and future church. We train leaders who grow spiritually, who build up the church, and put their faith into action. We embrace and equip new kinds of congregations and new modes of leadership. Gifts to Our Church's Wider Mission benefit the full range of the United Church of Christ mission across the country and around the globe.

NOTE: The PSEC Conference office will be closed for the Christmas Holiday beginning on Wed., Dec. 24 and will reopen on Mon., Jan. 5. The Conference Minister will be on call during the week for any pastoral emergencies. The closing date for the PSEC books for 2014 will be Jan. 16, 2015.

Getting to Know:

New Jerusalem Zion UCC

1458 Krumsville Road, Lenhartsville, PA 19534



New Jerusalem Zion United Church of Christ is a small congregation with a huge heart. Our main ministry at NJZUCC is our Sunday morning worship service at 10:15 am with Sunday School at 9 am. However, this time of worship has also become a time of mission for our faith community. The children of our congregation, after the Children's Message, collect our jingle offering which is then given to different organizations in the community. In the past we have collected for causes such as Opportunity House, Allentown Rescue Mission, and a local school lunch program. In addition, we have recently started monthly collection of items for our local food pantry at Friend Inc. Each month, we collect different items and congregants bring them to worship anytime throughout the month.



However, while worship is a key piece of our ministry, it does not encompass all that we do at NJZ. We have our traditional events, such as our Annual Thanksgiving Quilt Raffle in November as well as our Annual Cookie & Bake Sale in December. But we also are willing to try some non-traditional events. In June 2014, NJZ hosted a Drive-Thru Prayer event where weary travelers were invited to pull into our parking lot for prayer with our pastor and laity. We also just had our very first contemporary service, called Reconciliation & Revival, which was a more informal service designed to connect to those who have felt rejected by the church and recommit ourselves to be a church that heals and strives to not hurt. If the Spirit leads us, these events may continue and find a place in the fabric of our community. Keep an eye on our website: www.njzucc.org for upcoming events. In conclusion, we, at New Jerusalem Zion UCC, are working toward being a place where the traditional and non-traditional, common and unique, and reasonable and the seemingly unreasonable meet for the glory of God's Kingdom.

*Prayers are requested for New Jerusalem Zion UCC in
Lenhartsville and Pastor Joshua M. Fitterling.*



United Schwenkfelder Choir
86th Annual Concert

'Shout for Joy'
you heavens;
rejoice, you earth;
burst into song, you mountains!

Isaiah 49:13

Sunday, December 7, 2014

2:30 pm and 7:30 pm

Central Schwenkfelder Church
Worcester, Pa.

2111 Valley Forge Road ~ Lansdale

Edward K. Bieler - Director

Additional Information: www.UnitedChoir.org

A Free-will Offering will be received

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

Every Sunday, until December 14th, you may contribute \$5.00 per line for a luminary to decorate the church driveway on Christmas Eve. This is one of the fundraisers of the Palm Schwenkfelder Church Relay for Life Team.

Your contribution may be made “in honor of” or “in memory of” friends or loved ones. There will be a special insert in the Christmas Eve bulletin 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 14th.**

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

PLEASE PRINT

Donor's Name _____

Phone Number _____

“In Honor of”

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

“In Memory of”

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

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

This Week at PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Sunday, November 30

- 9:00am Sunday School – Children’s Christmas Program Rehearsal
- 10:15am First Sunday in Advent Worship Service
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Isaiah 64:1 – 9)

Monday, December 1

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Psalm 80:1 – 7)
- 2:30pm Music Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 2

- 8:00am Quilters
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Psalm 80:17 – 19)
- 1:00pm Ladies' Aid Meeting
- 7:00pm Boy Scouts
- 7:00pm Girl Scouts - Senior/Ambassador Troop

Wednesday, December 3

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (1 Corinthians 1:3 – 9)
- 5:30pm Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00pm Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30pm Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30pm Senior Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 4

- 9:00am Staff Meeting
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Mark 13:24 – 27)
- 6:30pm Boy Scouts of America - Patrol Leaders Council
- 7:00pm Deacon's Meeting

Friday, December 5

- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Mark 13:28 – 31)
- 6:30pm Nativity Story Movie Older Youth Event

Saturday, December 6

- 9:30am Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal
- 12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Mark 13:32 – 37)

Sunday, December 7

9:00am Sunday School – Children’s Christmas Program
Rehearsal

10:15am Sunday Worship Service

11:30am Youth Lunch Outing

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are (Isaiah 40:1 – 5)

2:30pm Afternoon United Schwenkfelder Choir Concert

7:30pm Evening United Schwenkfelder 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

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: Kay Kleppinger, Rick Kleppinger, Karen Schultz, Kevin Schultz

Prayer Chain: Nancy Hoffman 610 – 845 – 7208

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