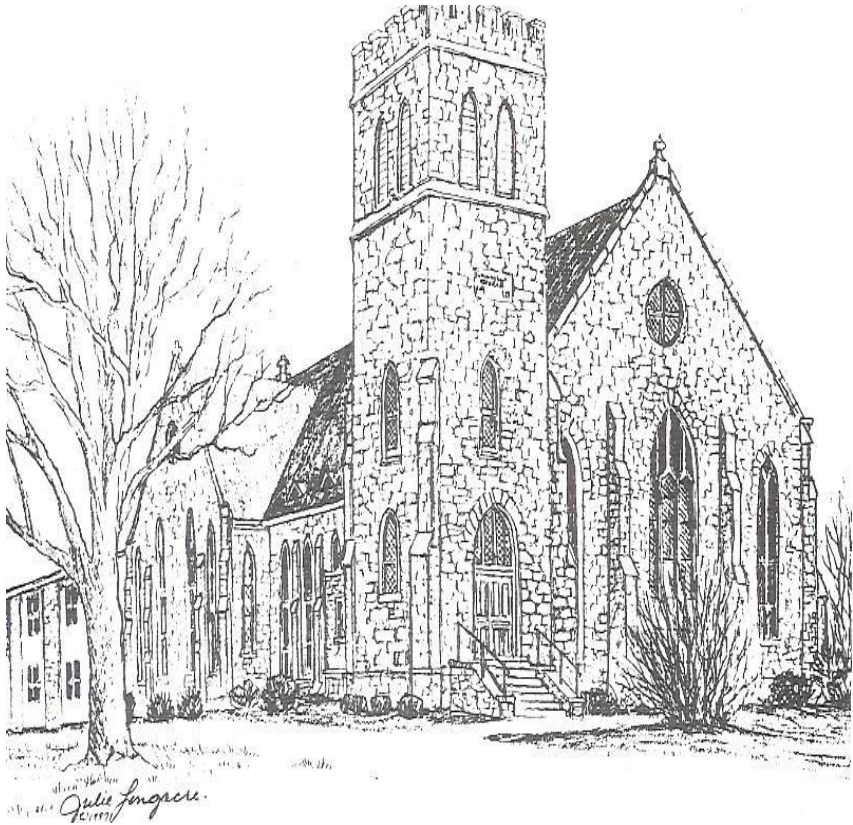


**PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH**  
**Associate Member: United Church of Christ**



**833 Gravel Pike**  
**PO Box 66**  
**Palm PA 18070**  
**215-679-5321**  
**[PalmSchwenkfelder@comcast.net](mailto:PalmSchwenkfelder@comcast.net)**

# **PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH**

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2013**

### **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Chimes**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prayer**

**Prelude**                    “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”                    Edwin Childs

**\*Call to Worship**

Awaken to a season of anticipation.

God is offering peace within and among us.

**How good it is to gather in God’s house!**

**God draws us together for this time of worship.**

God calls us to celebrate our diversity.

Differences shall no longer divide us.

**We want to see one another through God’s eyes.**

**We will look for the good in our neighbors.**

Seek the highest and best for each other.

Come to the mountain of God’s love.

**We will follow in the paths where God leads.**

**Our ears are open to hear God’s instructions.**

**\*Hymn #135**                    “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

**God of forgiveness and mercy, hear our prayers 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 a 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**

## Advent Candle Lighting

Isaiah 2:1 – 5 (NRSV p. 550; LP p. 1063 – 1064)

(Tune of Come thou long expected)

***Come our Hope, this Advent season  
wake us in the midst of this place***

***Call us once again to patience as we wait your saving grace  
As we light this Advent Candle may its flame in us inspire  
Hope eternal now, forever, light our hearts with Your own fire!***

**O God, we thank you that Jesus brought hope into our world.  
By the good news of the Bible you are still bringing hope to  
our people. Help us to be ready to welcome Jesus Christ so  
that we may think good thoughts and do good deeds and so  
that we may be a people of hope in our world. Amen.**

**Scripture** Matthew 24:36 – 44 (NRSV p. 807; LP p. 1549 – 1550)

**Children's Sermon**

**Children's Church** No Children's Church

**\*Hymn #142** "Long Ago, Prophets Knew"

**Sermon** "Looking for Hope"

**Senior Choir Anthem** "Immanuel, God With Us" J. Paul Williams  
and Michael Barrett

**Pastoral Prayer**

**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** "Wachet Auf" Johann Pachelbel

**\*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 #157**

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

“The King Shall Come”

Stephen Weber

\*All who are able, please stand.

Today's bulletins are sponsored in loving memory of Norman and Mae Kuhns by Edmund and Grace Kuhns.

Today's altar flowers are presented in honor of Grace and Edmund Kuhns' wedding anniversary from their family.

**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:**

Shiogama Higashi Church, Sendai Hosanna Church, Jeff Treichler, Florence Miller, Vern Weller, the Nees family, Dick Guldin, Marty Glowacki, Vera Boykin, Charles Krauss, Betty Serff, Harold Weber, Mary Jane Burianek, Barbara & John Kirwin, Karen Freed, Melissa Tabasso, Clark Schultz, Brad Hoffman, Donald Cook, Dave Jaeger, Pearl Freed, Harold Smoll, Robert Margerum, Mary Hartman, Helen Miller, Rob Ziegler, Kathy Bartman, John Hathaway, Bryan Schwoyer, 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 Staff of Palm Schwenkfelder Church.

### **Bible Study**

What is the parable in 1 Samuel 11? You are invited to join the online Bible Study in this discussion. To do so, please contact Rick Jones or the Church Office with an email address.

### **Children's Christmas Program**

Join the children on Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:15 am as they perform a nativity play entitled

#### ***Virtual Christmas***

*Written by Vicky Best  
Donation made to Tear Fund*



*Virtual Christmas* takes the familiar nativity story and gives it a fresh, new perspective.

Enjoy traditional Christmas carols sung by our youth and musical instruments performed by our youth. Join us after worship to enjoy light refreshments as you meet the cast. The youth will also be holding a hoagie sale.

### **Kids Get Caught Being Kind!**

Members of the Congregation are invited to catch kids being kind. When you see a child carrying out an act of kindness, let them know you caught them and tell them to make a punch on their *Acts of Kindness Incentive Punch Card!* The acts are limitless! Once their card is complete, the card will be entered into a drawing and they will start a new one.

### **Youth Outing:**

**Next Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>,** after worship, bring some spending money for lunch followed by a trip to Worcester, Pa. to see the United Schwenkfelder Choir performance. Please see Barb Master or the event flyer to sign-up.

### **The Nativity Story Movie Night**

For youth 5<sup>th</sup> grade and up, join us at Lisa Stitt's house from 7:00pm – 9:00pm on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, to watch The Nativity Story movie. Warm-up at the fire and enjoy light snacks.

## **Christmas Program Rehearsals**

Practices for speaking parts only and prop/costume crew

Sunday Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00am and Saturday Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am

Practices/Performances for everyone

Sunday Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am, Sunday Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am,

Sunday Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> 10:00am performance at Frederick Home

Sunday Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> 9:00am rehearsal and 10:15am performance

## **Nursery**

Sadly, Sallie Wright has indicated her intent to resign from the Nursery. Sallie has been the happy, familiar face that the children of Palm Schwenkfelder Church have seen for years now, and we thank Sallie for her years of dedication to our children. If you are interested in caring for the children on Sundays in the Nursery, please contact Joan Pusey (215) 679 – 2048, or see her in church.

## **Used Greeting Cards**

The 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School class needs your help. They are looking for old/used greeting cards. They will use the pictures on the cards to help create a special book of Bible verses. Please drop off your used/unwanted cards in the designated box located in the Narthex coat closet. Thank you in advance for your help with this special project!

## **Palm Leaves**

Due to some publication difficulties, the December Palm Leaves will not be sent out until the end of this week. For that reason, several additional copies have been made to be picked up here at church. These copies are located in the narthex. If you take a copy, please put your name on the sheet that is with the Palm Leaves, so no additional copy is mailed. Thank you for your understanding.

## **Mission Board**

The Mission Board will meet this Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at 7:00 PM.

## **Congregational Meeting**

We will hold our Annual Congregational Meeting after the worship service next Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. There are still copies of the 2014 Budget for Palm Schwenkfelder Church available in the narthex. Please take time to pick up a copy and review this information as we will discuss this Budget at the Congregational Meeting.

## **Senior Hand Bell Choir**

Do you enjoy music? Please consider joining the senior hand bell choir as we need a couple more ringers. We will be glad to teach you. Musical experience is not necessary. If you have questions please feel free to contact Joanne Luz at 215-679-8237 or just show up for our next regularly scheduled practice on Wednesday, from 6:30 to 7:30 PM.

## **Thank You**

We would like to thank the congregation for your financial support of the United Schwenkfelder Choir. We also hope you will continue to support the Choir by attending one of our two concerts **next Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**.

Choir Participants: Ed Bieler, Beth Croll, Rev. Nick Pence, and Lee Schultz



Mark your calendars! Join us to see the World Premiere of Sight & Sound Theatres' newest show – MOSES! The parting of the Red Sea...the Burning Bush...the Plagues...the Ten Commandments...the greatest Biblical epic of the Old Testament comes to life on the Sight & Sound stage. The show is on Saturday, March 29, 2014. It starts at 2:45pm (bus leaves Palm Schwenkfelder Church at 12 noon). The price includes Perkiomen Tours bus transportation, show ticket, and dinner at Shady Maple Restaurant. The cost is \$130 for adults, \$92 for children (18 and under). Flyer and registration forms now available in the church Narthex. Questions – contact Karen Schultz at 215-679-6747 or [karen.schultz12@yahoo.com](mailto:karen.schultz12@yahoo.com) (This may be the perfect Christmas gift – spending the day with your loved ones)

## **New Schwenkfelder Booklets**

The Publication Committee of The Schwenkfelder Church is pleased to announce that the new *Schwenkfelder Heritage Sites in Southeastern Pennsylvania* booklets will be available for sale. The 70-page booklet contains historical and current information, locations and full-color photographs of Schwenkfelder churches, meetinghouses, cemeteries of the immigrants, and other places of interest. You will find a copy on display in the Narthex. There are maps of the three main Schwenkfelder districts, and smaller maps of selected sites. Two appendices list the immigrants, their “E” numbers, and places of burial. The booklets cost \$15.00 per copy. Please make checks out to “The Schwenkfelder Church.” We’d like to thank the many people who assisted the Committee, in providing photographs, history and information to make this booklet possible. The booklets may be purchased in the church office or by contacting the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center (shipping \$3.95 additional.)

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

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

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

December 1, 2013

## 2014 UCC NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES SURVEY

The Washington, DC office of the United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries is in the process of discerning our legislative advocacy priorities for 2014. Your responses to a 5-10 minute survey will help them understand which issues are most important to UCC members and will guide their decision-making. Visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2014legpriorities> to take the survey.

### SAVE THE DATES

More information available: [psec.org/psec-events](http://psec.org/psec-events)

**QUIET DAYS Dec 3, 9:30-1 pm** at New Goshenhoppen UCC in East Greenville. Each participant is asked to bring a Bible, journal, & lunch.

**CONVERSATIONS AND CARE FOR ALL Dec 10, 7-9 pm** at UCC Warminster in Warminster; and **Jan 25, 9:30-11:30 am** at Zion's Red Church in Orwigsburg. Rev. Wanda D. Craner, PSEC Acting Conference Minister is inviting everyone to meet for Conversations and Care. This will be a time of listening and sharing. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided. Select the time and date that is most convenient for you and register online.

**COMMUNITY DAY OF SERVICE Jan 18-20** Conference wide  
The PSEC Global Outreach Mission Team invites you to set up a Day of Service in your community. *Suggested date* during Martin Luther King, Jr. *Weekend or time of your choosing*. You can partner with one of your local outreach organizations, set up your own outreach, or use one of the organizations listed on the website. Let us know what you're doing by sending your plans to the Rev. Barbara Pence: [bevence@comcast.net](mailto:bevence@comcast.net). Share your experience with all the churches in our Conference. Get a team of people to help out. Take photos, write a few lines, and send it to Marge: [marge@psec.org](mailto:marge@psec.org).

**CREATING A VIBRANT WEB MINISTRY Feb 7** (one session in the afternoon) & **Feb 8** (two sessions) at UCC Warminster in Warminster. Rev. Eric S. Anderson, Minister of Communications and Technology with Connecticut Conference, will provide information for beginning a web presence, integrating an existing web presence, and maintaining safe and healthy boundaries when using social media. Save the dates to attend one or more of the sessions. Details to follow.



## Getting to Know:

**New Goshenhoppen UCC**  
1070 Church Rd., East Greenville PA 18041



Don't let our name fool you... New Gosh is very OLD! Blessed with a rich and long history, the first Lord's Supper recorded was celebrated in 1727. The first church was a log structure which was replaced in 1770 by a second made of stone. The third church, a two-story brick structure erected in 1857, continues to serve our congregation today. Growing to meet the needs of generations ever since, our members provided an annex (1896), a church park (1905) with a band shell (1923), and an education building (1958).

Our latest growth spurt maintains our historical integrity while making NGUCC accessible-to-all (2012). So, what else is NEW at New Goshenhoppen? Plenty!

**Leadership:** The Rev. Michael D. Jones, our new assistant pastor (Sept. 2013), will lead New Gosh as we grow in discipleship and mission. We already love this NEW face in the church family.



**Quiet Days:** Led by the spiritual life team of the PSEC, our 100-acre campus is the new host for participants from around the conference. Please join us on the first Tuesday of every month for meditation and fellowship.

**Summer camping program:** Losing Camp Mensch Mill was devastating to everyone here. Knowing the value of Christian fellowship in a safe, nurturing outdoor environment, the church went to work this past spring to create a 6-week summer, day camp. Held in our church park, and frequenting a nearby creek and pool, children had lots of camping fun and cried when it was over! Our Outdoor Ministries will see that this NEW camping endeavor continues to grow.

**Goshenhoppen Meadows Fund:** By preserving some of our land for generations to come, NG created a way to provide grants for the continued maintenance of our beloved and historical OLD church as well as to broaden our ministry and mission at home and beyond our doors in NEW ways. In our first year, some ministry funds were designated to grow our new camping program and to install an auditory support system in the sanctuary for the hearing impaired. Some mission funds will support a Women/Children's Shelter, our community food cupboard, Syrian Refugee Help, and World Hunger Relief. And, our beloved 100+ year-old band shell will continue to give shelter for outdoor services, community activities, and concerts because it will receive a new roof.

We at New Gosh extend the right hand of friendship, welcoming all of God's people to join us. Find out more about us our website [www.newgoshucc.org](http://www.newgoshucc.org).



Prayers are requested for New Goshenhoppen UCC, Rev. Dr. Deborah Rahn Clemens and Pastor Michael D. Jones, and our missionaries in the field, Ariel Royer (in Jordan) and Chelsea Cornwell (in West VA).

# *United Schwenkfelder Choir* *85th Annual Concert*



*'Come and Worship  
Christ the King'*

*Sunday, December 8, 2013*

*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](http://www.UnitedChoir.org)*

*A Free-will Offering will be received*

## **Our Schedule: November 24 Through December 1, 2013**

### **Sunday, December 1, 2013**

9:00 a.m.: Sunday School

9:00 a.m.: Kids' Christmas Program Rehearsal

10:15 a.m.: First Sunday of Advent Worship Service

### **Monday, December 2, 2013**

Church Office Closed

### **Tuesday, December 3, 2013**

8:00 a.m.: Quilters

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.: Church Office Open

1:00 p.m.: Ladies' Aid Meeting

6:00 p.m.: Stage Goes Up

6:30 p.m.: Brownies

7:00 p.m.: Mission Board Meeting

### **Wednesday, December 4, 2013**

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.: Church Office Open

### **Thursday, December 5, 2013**

9:00 a.m.: Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m.: Diaconate Meeting

7:00 p.m.: PCDS Board Meeting

### **Friday, December 6, 2013**

### **Saturday, December 7, 2013**

9:30 a.m.: Kids' Christmas Program Rehearsal

### **Sunday, December 8, 2013**

9:00 a.m.: Sunday School

9:00 a.m.: Kids' Christmas Program Rehearsal

10:15 a.m.: Second Sunday of Advent Worship Service

Congregational Meeting Following Worship Service

11:30 a.m.: Youth Lunch Trip and Outing to United Schwenkfelder Choir

2:30 p.m.: United Schwenkfelder Choir Concert at Central Schwenkfelder Church

7:30 p.m.: United Schwenkfelder Choir Concert at Central Schwenkfelder Church

# 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.**

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

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

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 Luz

Organist: Peg Jacob

Church Administrator: J. Daniel Ferry

Youth Director: Barbara Master

Sexton: Kevin Master (484) 358-1684

Greeter: Luanne Stauffer

Ushers: Scott Kriebel, Matthew Wright, Pierce Wright, Darrell Manley

Prayer Chain: Nancy Hoffman 610-845-7208

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