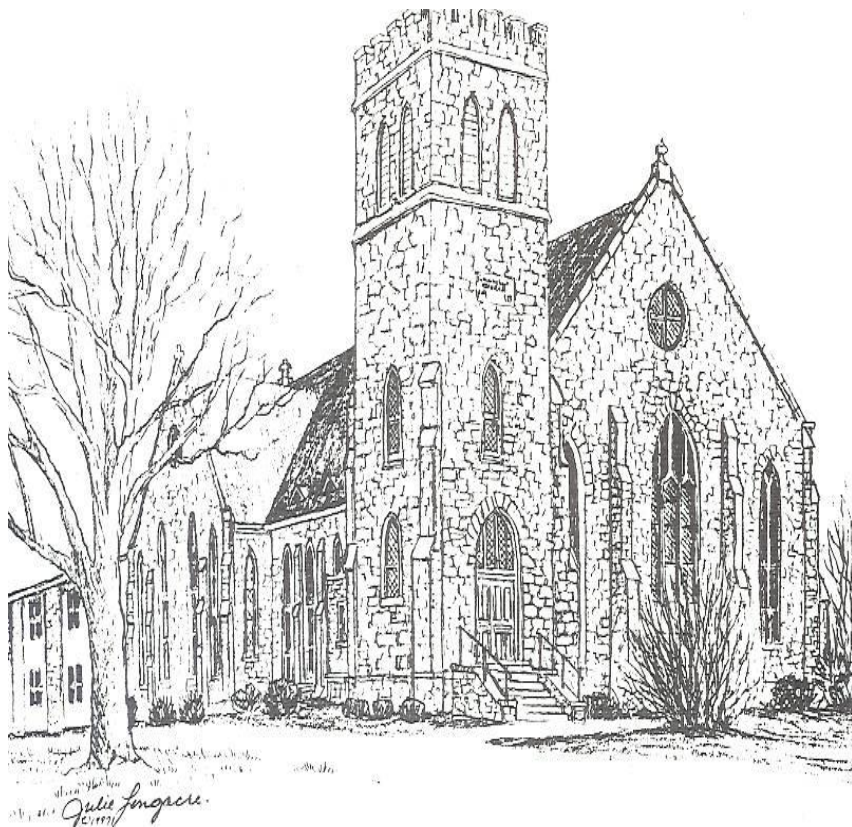


# **PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH**

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

# **PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH**

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2015**

**Chimes**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prayer**

**Prelude**

**\*Call to Worship**

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

**All the shining stars praise you, O God, for you commanded  
and they were created.**

Praise the Lord from the earth, young men and women alike, old and young  
together!

**Let everyone praise the name of the Lord, for your glory is  
above earth and heaven.**

Let us worship God!

**\*Hymn #174**

“Angels From the Realms of Glory”

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Heavenly God, we have wandered away to pursue our own  
agenda. We have laid aside your expectation that we will  
forbear one another and forgive. We harbor grudges against  
people. There are some we neglect and some we disdain. We  
have viewed them neither as your beloved nor as our sisters  
and brothers. The peace of Christ does not rule our hearts.  
Your truth is not what flows from our lips or finds expression  
in our action. O God, turn us around, that what we do may be a  
genuine experience of your love, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Time of Personal Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Scripture** 1 Samuel 2:18 – 20, 26 (NRSV p. 214 – 215; LP p. 423)

Psalm 148 (NRSV p. 508; LP p. 984 – 985)

Colossians 3:12 – 17 (NRSV p. 958; LP p. 1845 – 1846)

Luke 2:41 – 52 (NRSV p. 833 – 834; LP p. 1603)

**\*Hymn #162**

“The First Noel, the Angel Did Say”

**Sermon**

Sister Millicent

**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**

#### **\*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 are thankful for the love that gave us life, for the mission that gives purpose to our days, and for the peace that Christ grants to us. Keep us from needless anxiety, that we may give without counting the cost. We give ourselves as well as our money, that your Word may spread where it is not known and take root where it has not been heeded. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #152**                      “Angels We Have Heard on High”

#### **\*Benediction**

### **Postlude**

\*All who are able, please stand.

The bulletins are sponsored today in loving memory of Ray Kriebel by the 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:**

Bud Johnston, Betsy Yoder, Devon Hawkins, Clara Graber, Mary Steltz, Kerm Goda, Rev. Linda S. Gruber, Edmund Kuhns, Vern Weller, Mary and Heinz Herrmann, Bryan Schwoyer, Donna Weller, Jeff Treichler, Bill Ludlow, Donald Long, Brian Shelly, Jean Gentry, Mary Hartman, Janet Esposito, Alice Davis, Jen Fries, Doris Masemore, Margaret Wallinger, Reverend Ed Winslow, Ernie Guldin, Betty Serff, Mary Jane Burianek, Dave Jaeger, Robert Margerum, Helen Miller, Rob Ziegler, 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 staff of Palm Schwenkfelder Church.

### **Bible Study**

This week's online Bible Study will compare 1 Samuel 3:19 to a steakhouse in Oregon. Join the discussion by contacting Rick Jones or the Church Office with an email address.

### **Combined Sunday School**

Our annual Hockey Game **today** will be an intergenerational Sunday School held in the Adult Bible Classroom. The season and the Bible provide questions. It plays very much like ice hockey, with body-checking prohibited. The need for teamwork assures roles for anyone old enough to attend Sunday School. Some past games have been high scoring; some have been defensive contests. The fellowship is genuine. Please join us!

### **December Youth Birthdays**

Happy Birthday to...

Drew Colvin (12/21), Jonas Kinsler (12/30)

### **December Joy Scripture**

Joy is trusting when you want to doubt.

“Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal.” Isaiah 26:4

### **You Version Holy Bible App – Teens and Adults**

The Christmas Story, Chris Tomlin-Adore, Loop for Women, WiRE for Men, A Christmas Prophecy Devotional, Prayers for Christmas, Our Daily Bread Video Devotionals

**Bible App for Kids** ~ Help your kids connect each day and help them fall in love with God's Word.

### **Installation of Officers**

On January 10<sup>th</sup>, after the worship service, we will have the installation of all new officers. Please greet and congratulate the new officers at the reception in the Adult Sunday School room after the installation.

### **Thank You**

We would like to thank Sister Millicent for leading us in worship today.

## **Christian Exiles Are Fleeing Persecution**

**Let's help rescue some Exiles!** The Deacons at Palm have arranged a partnership with Church World Service (CWS) that will allow all of us to play a role in solving the problem. We will begin by serving as a Hospitality Team for legal, Christian refugees arriving in our area. CWS is one of nine agencies certified by the US State Department to receive refugees. It is difficult not to be distracted by news reports, but it should be noted that it will be another two years before current Syrian exiles can be expected. Meanwhile, we seek to minister to a Brother or Sister from anywhere in the world who has made it through the process and arrives as a stranger in need. Please watch for announcements polling our congregation for specific needs. In the meantime, please include this mission in your prayers. Ask the Lord to guide us and ask how He wills each of us to participate.

## **Donations for the Migrant Hospitality Project**

Offering to support the Migrant Hospitality Project is welcomed. Please mark "Migrant" on your Envelope to direct your donation. Thank you.

## **Migrant Hospitality Team**

Would you like to be part of the Migrant Hospitality team? We want to make sure that you are included! Drivers, cooks and movers are needed for arrival day. Occasional help will be needed collecting items in preparation. Volunteer forms for these roles are available in the Narthex.

## **Donations of Furniture for MHP**

Can you help us furnish a safe place for arriving Christian exiles? Please let us know. Forms for you to list possible items that you wish to donate are available in the Narthex. They can be turned in to any Deacon or placed in the mail slot on the Church Office door. The picture painted for housing is small. Specified items are crucial. Limited space may be a factor for other items.

## **Annual Report Submissions**

And yes, it's also that time, too. Annual reports from all Church committees are due in the office no later than January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016. If possible, please e-mail your report to the church office. Any questions should be directed to our Moderator, Anne Goda, or Vice Moderator, Joanne Luz.

## **Music Ministry Committee**

The Board of Music Ministry has been asked to consider providing appropriate sacred music from 10:00am - 10:15am, prior to the Sunday morning service. For those who arrive early, it can be a quiet time of reflection and prayer to prepare hearts and minds for the service which will follow. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact our Director of Music, Ed Bieler.

## **Epiphany Party**

The Ladies' Aid Epiphany Party will be held on January 5<sup>th</sup>. We will start at noon with a covered dish lunch, and we will take up a monetary gift collection for Open Link. Following our lunch we will hold our monthly business meeting.

## **Treasurer's Report**

### November, 2015

Starting operating cash on hand  
Operating Income Received  
Operating Expenses  
Ending operating cash on hand

### November

\$ 1,950.48  
\$21,248.50  
\$19,529.40  
\$ 3,669.58

### Year to Date

\$ 29,325.78  
\$259,653.47  
\$285,309.67  
\$ 3,669.58

## **Back to Back Bay – 2016**

The Mission Board is looking for Members to form a Mission Team for the next trip to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi. The trip is scheduled to run from July 30 through August 7, 2016. So whether you are a “Seasoned Veteran,” or have never been on a Mission Trip before; be on the lookout for further details, and consider joining what is sure to be another memorable, and moving, adventure in service.

## **Women's Fellowship at New Gosh**

The Women's Fellowship of New Goshenhoppen United Church of Christ would like to cordially invite the women of Palm Schwenkfelder Church to worship with us on Saturday, February, 13, 2016. We will be celebrating “Women's Week” with a communion service in our sanctuary beginning at 9:00 a.m. Rev. Dr. Deborah Rahn Clemens will lead the service and a guest speaker will be bringing a timely and interesting message. Women of neighboring churches are also invited to join the choir for an anthem. A combined rehearsal will be held in the choir room at New Goshenhoppen Church at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 13, prior to the worship service. Following communion, we will enjoy a continental breakfast and a time of fellowship in Fellowship Hall. In the event of inclement weather, please call the church office at (215) 679 – 2041, Delores Schuler at (610) 395 – 1570, or Bonnie Fisher (215) 234 – 8483.

## **Personal Care Volunteers Needed**

Peter Becker Community, Harleysville, will be holding a training for Abiders in January 2016. Abiders provide a reassuring, comforting presence to someone in the last hours of their life who would otherwise die alone. This can take the form of silent and soft prayers, reading a poem or psalm, singing a song or hymn, or simply holding a resident's hand. The hours are very flexible. To learn more contact Director of Pastoral Care, Merlin Hedrick, at 215 – 513 – 6817, or at [mhedrick@peterbeckercommunity.com](mailto:mhedrick@peterbeckercommunity.com)

## **Altar Flowers and Bulletin Sponsorships**

The Deacons would like to thank the members of Palm for sponsoring bulletins and real flowers every Sunday for the 2015 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 2016 on the new charts in the hallway outside of the office. And, thanks!

## **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.

Emily Stengle  
Spectrum Center Blvd  
Apt 10209  
San Diego, CA 92123





**UNITED  
CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



# Communitas

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

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

December 27, 2015

## PSEC Conference-wide Events

Register online at [psec.org](http://psec.org)

**Jan 5 - FREE Webinar - *The Power of the In Box*** First impressions matter – how are YOU doing with your emails? This seminar will help you avoid common mistakes and maximize your emails for powerful impact! You'll also receive tips, techniques, and tools to help you navigate the do's and the don'ts. Register online and join Marsha Pearson, owner of Emailmarketing.guru, on **Jan 5 at 2 pm**.



**2016 Dates: JAN 5, FEB 2, MAR 1, APR 5, MAY 3, JUN 7, JUL 5, AUG 2, SEP 6, OCT 4, NOV 1, DEC 6** Quiet Days are held at New Goshenhoppen UCC, 1070 Church Road in East Greenville, PA 18041. They allow for Sabbath time and renewal in the midst of our busy world and are open to all.

**Jan 12-14 - CLERGY WOMEN'S RETREAT** at St. Raphaela Retreat Center in Haverford. During the retreat ***Behold, Your Life: Wisdom's Journey*** there will be time and space for connecting with colleagues in meaningful ways. Register online by [Jan 4](#).



**Feb 26-27 - PSEC CLERGY COUPLES RETREAT** at the Golden Plough Inn (Peddler's Village) 5883 Lower York Road in New Hope 18938 led by Rev. Nancy Schongalla-Bowen and Rev. Gary Schongalla-Bowman. Register online by [Jan 15](#).

**May 3-5 - 22nd ANNUAL CLERGY CONVOCATION** at DoubleTree by Hilton, 2400 Willow Street Pike in Lancaster 17602. Our guest presenter will be Rev. Dr. David J. Lose. **Byron Borger** will be sharing his wisdom related to our theme ***Faithful Ministry in the Midst of Massive Cultural Change***. Register online by [Mar 28](#).



**NOTE:** The closing date for the PSEC books for 2015 will be January 14, 2016. The PSEC Conference office will be closed for the Christmas Holiday on Thursday and Friday, December 31 and January 1. The Conference Minister will be on call during the this time for pastoral emergencies.

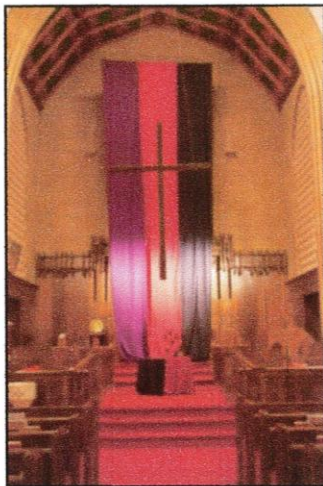
## Getting to Know :

## Trinity Reformed UCC

60 N Hanover St, Pottstown , PA 19464

Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ of Pottstown is well-known around Pottstown as the congregation that does the most to help the poor. Among the programs we offer:

- A free community meal each Tuesday at 5 pm
- Drop-in Center for the homeless each Saturday 10am-4pm, November-April
- Homeless Shelter Hosts for February 2016 where we prepare a hot meal each evening at 9 pm and breakfast at 6:30 am
- Mission Week for youth and adult volunteers the last week of July, where we take a "mission trip" in our own town, and work on neighborhood homes.



We also have new programs "in the works"



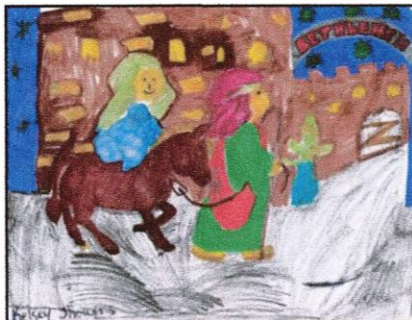
- An after school meal and Bible study for neighborhood children.
- Creating a safe place for middle and high school youth on Friday nights.

All this is possible because we don't do it alone. We partner with local organizations, other local churches, and UCC churches from throughout the PSEC. Many of the church

"groups" are one or two people from a congregation, who we partner with other churches and groups.

Please consider volunteering with youth or adults from your congregation.

To learn more, call the church office 610-326-2243, or visit our website [www.trinityuccpottstown.org](http://www.trinityuccpottstown.org), or follow us on Facebook.



Prayers are requested for Trinity Reformed UCC in Pottstown and Revs. Lisa K. Martin and James Hilker, Jr. as we go through a period of pastoral transition and discern how God is calling this

# **This Week at PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH**

## **Sunday, December 27**

9:00am Combined Sunday School

10:15am Sunday Worship Service

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are

## **Monday, December 28**

*Church Office Closed*

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are

## **Tuesday, December 29**

*Church Office Closed*

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are

7:00pm Boy Scouts - Troop Meeting

## **Wednesday, December 30**

*Church Office Closed*

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are

## **Thursday, December 31**

*Church Office Closed*

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are

## **Friday, January 1, 2016**

*Happy New Year*

*Church Office Closed*

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are

## **Saturday, January 2, 2016**

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are

## **Sunday, January 3, 2016**

9:00am Sunday School

10:15am Sunday Worship Service

12:00pm Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are

# 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 Closed This Week***

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

Church Administrator E-mail: [palmadministrator@comcast.net](mailto:palmadministrator@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 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: Scott Kriebel, Darrell Manley, Matthew Wright, Pierce Wright

Prayer Chain: Nancy Hoffman 610 – 845 – 7208

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