

PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

Associate Member: United Church of Christ



833 Gravel Pike
PO Box 66
Palm PA 18070
215-679-5321
PalmSchwenkfelder@comcast.net

PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2013

THANKSGIVING

Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer

Prelude

“We Gather Together”

Murray Bradshaw

***Call to Worship**

God is ready to answer us, even before we call.

God is eager to listen, though we are not ready to speak.

The hills sing together before God’s presence.

All of nature proclaims God’s glory.

If the seas join in praise, how much more should we.

If hills are alive with song, let us, too, awake and sing.

Make a joyful noise to God, all people of the earth!

Break forth into joyous song!

Be glad! Rejoice in all that God is creating.

Welcome the new heaven and earth God has planned.

We worship God with great joy and delight.

We welcome God’s healing touch in our midst.

***Hymn #376**

“We Gather Together”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O God, we confess that we have tried to live apart from you.

Our daily habits deny your reality. We toil without seeking

your will. We work without giving our best. We compete

with brothers and sisters without valuing them as your

children or relating to them as our kin. We follow fads and

false leaders while neglecting our faith. Forgive our

misplaced trust, our hesitation to take the risks of caring

witness, and our failure to empathize with others. Restore

our connections with all from whom we are alienated. Amen.

Time of Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Junior Bells

“Draw Me Close”

Kelly Carpenter
arr. Peggy Bettcher

Scripture Isaiah 65:17 – 25 (NRSV p. 607 – 608; LP p. 1169 – 1170)

Children’s Sermon

Children’s Church Liz Kennedy Kate Pence

Service Project: Christmas card making, all youth welcome

***Hymn #374** “Now Thank We All Our God”

Sermon “Be glad and rejoice”

Senior Choir Anthem “Lord of the Dance” Sydney Carter
arr. Don Hart

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 “We Gather Together” Dennis Johnson

***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 rejoice, O God, in the new world you are creating around us and within us. We give thanks for the joy we find in the church as we draw water from the wells of salvation. It is our intention to share the joy, to proclaim your word among all nations, to work quietly and enthusiastically for a world where your love reigns. To these ends, we dedicate our offerings. Amen.

***Hymn #596** “We’re Marching to Zion”

***Benediction**

Postlude “Now Thank We All Our God” Georg Friedrich Kaufmann

*All who are able, please stand.

Today's bulletins are sponsored in loving memory of Alta and James Miller by Marianne Miller.

Today's altar flowers are presented in memory of our loved ones by Marguerite Fries.

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:

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 Men of Palm.

Bible Study

This week the online Bible Study will propose 1 Samuel 10:19 as the Biblical Bookend for John 1:11. To join the discussion, please contact Rick Jones or the Church Office with an email address.

Youth Birthdays

Happy Birthday, Hans Muse (11/18)

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.

Kid's Corner and Youth Table

Look for the Kid's Corner at the Holiday Bazaar. Parents can shop while their children enjoy music, reading, toys and crafts. In front of the Kid's Corner, youth will be selling chocolate covered pretzels for \$4 a bag. Sales will go to various missions carried out by the youth. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex to volunteer at either of these locations.

Youth Outing:

On Sunday, December 8th, 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 5th grade and up, join us at Lisa Stitt's house from 7:00pm – 9:00pm on Friday, December 13th, 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. 1st at 9:00am and Saturday Dec. 7th at 9:30am

Practices/Performances for everyone

Sunday Dec. 8th at 9:00am, Sunday Dec. 15th at 9:00am,

Sunday Dec. 21st 10:00am performance at Frederick Home

Sunday Dec. 22nd 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 5th & 6th 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!

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.

Holiday Bazaar

On Saturday, November 23rd, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. join us for a fun-filled 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 (limited quantities of chow chow available). 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.

Blood Mobile

The Miller-Keystone Blood Mobile will be at Palm Church on Saturday, November 23rd from 9:00AM to 2:00PM. Please sign up to donate blood in the Narthex. You can also now sign up online at www.GiveAPint.org. Just click on "Schedule a Donation", put in your zip code, click on "Include Mobile Drives", then "Search". Click on "Schedule for Palm Schwenkfelder Church" and follow the directions. The Palm Mission Board thanks you for your donation.



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 (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.)

Bulletin Sponsorships

We have one opening for bulletin sponsorship on December 29th. The cost for bulletin sponsorship is \$15.00. Please sign up on the chart in the hallway outside of the office. And, thanks!

Movember

As an official global charity, Movember's vision is to have an everlasting impact on the face of men's health. Movember encourages men to join the movement by growing a moustache for the 30-days of November. After registering on Movember.com, these generous Mo Bros start the month clean-shaven, then grow and groom their Mo (slang for moustache), asking friends and family to donate to their efforts. With their new moustaches, these Mo Bros bring much needed awareness to men's health issues by prompting conversations wherever they go. And Movember's not just for men. Mo Sistas are an important part of Movember's success. Once registered, Mo Sistas raise funds and encourage the men in their lives to get involved. Essentially, Mo Sistas do everything that Mo Bros do, without a Mo. And then, at the end of the month, Mo Bros and Mo Sistas celebrate their Movember journey by throwing their own Movember events or attending one of the official Gala Events held around the world. To find out more about Movember, go to us.movember.com

**UNITED
CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Communitas

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

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

November 17, 2013

PSEC Pastoral Excellence Program



This is a challenging time to be in ministry. Statistics show that some new pastors will drop out of the ministry in their first five years. Many of our pastors feel isolated and alone.

In an effort to change those statistics, the Massachusetts Conference of the UCC, funded by the Lilly Endowment, began the Pastoral Excellence Program in 2003. This program is designed to bring together people of shared interests in peer learning groups called *Communities of Practice*. Today across the UCC more and more conferences are introducing this program in their settings, bringing together clergy, interims, lay ministers, Christian Educators, and others for support and learning. To date, Massachusetts, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, Iowa, Minnesota, Michigan, New York, and Wisconsin are involved with this program.

The Pennsylvania Southeast Conference is about to embark on this program as well. We are in the midst of training our facilitators, and we have sent out our first invitations to new clergy in our Conference to become part of this program.

Each *Community of Practice* will develop a group covenant describing their focus. They will be facilitated by a respected peer and honor the "wisdom in the room." Our first group will begin in January 2014.

In this challenging time in ministry, these groups will strengthen our clergy and lay members, and in doing so, will strengthen our congregations and their ministry.

There is a fee of \$250 per year for participants. This fee will cover the cost of the facilitator and any other costs for the program. We are asking our congregations to pay this fee for their clergy or for any lay member who may be working in their congregations. We have limited scholarship funds if needed. We believe that this will be money well spent!

If you are interested in being part of a *Community of Practice* and are looking for life-sustaining friendships, a new perspective, a renewed calling, a time for reflection, then this program might be for you. Please contact Rev. Sharon Morris, Acting Associate Conference Minister, for additional information or to sign up to be part of a group.

Getting to Know:

St. John's UCC

232 E. Market St, Orwigsburg, PA 17961



'Traditional Worship for Contemporary Souls' is the centering statement describing St. John's UCC to all those seeking a church home. In our 1907 Akron-style sanctuary with pipe organ and choir, we worship the living God with enthusiasm and then go out into the world prepared to serve in Christ's name. Worship is sometimes a quiet and meditative time away from the daily grind. Other times, like Youth

Sundays, Jazz Sunday, or Holy Humor Sunday, worship is lively as the movement of the Spirit energizes and encourages us.

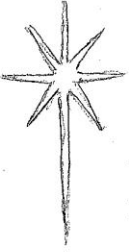
Our building also houses the Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry. We receive assistance from a wide range of local churches, businesses, farmers, and non-profit organizations, so that once a month boxes of food staples and often fresh foods are distributed to over 100 southern Schuylkill county residents. We help people come together for good! Our Health Ministry, led by Commissioned Minister Kay Jones, offers flu shot clinics, blood drives, good nutrition and other healthy habits workshops to the church and the wider community including our Food Pantry guests. We care for others and ourselves, body and soul!

St. John's connects with various congregations in other ways as well, sharing in the community Thanksgiving service, providing children's Christmas crafts for the town Christmas Festival of Lights and joining Salem Methodist church for Lenten fellowship in soup suppers and worship services. We participate in an ecumenical Good Friday service as well. Our vacation Bible school is a joint project of St. John's and the Lutheran congregation, St. Paul's.

Through the PSEC revitalization program, St. John's has recognized our need to reach out with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Our recently formed Growth and New Members ministry helps integrate newer people into our life and mission by pairing them with more established members who invite and include them in the life of the church, identifying their gifts and the opportunities available to share them. We are a multi-generational church honoring our faithful elders and nurturing our eager children, encouraging our youth away at college or in the military, making room at the table for singles, widows, and the divorced, and offering a variety of service opportunities for all ages. Our church is 182 years old...our thinking is now! To learn more, visit our website: stjohnorwigsburg.org/.



Prayers are requested for St. John's UCC, Orwigsburg, its pastor Rev. Barbara Kershner and our commissioned minister of health, Kay Jones as the congregation reaches out in love for Christ and the world.



Palm Schwenkfelder Church

Route 29, Palm, PA

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

November 23, 2013

9:00 to 3:00

Featuring

Country and Victorian crafts, Jewelry, Woodwork,
Ceramics, Needlework and
Hand Painted items

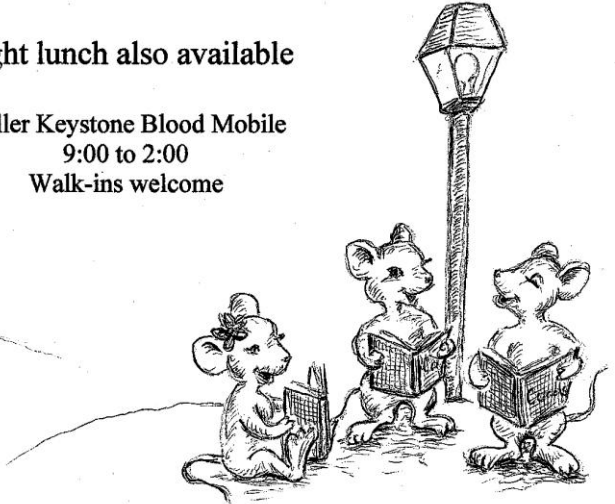
Holiday Baked Goods, Cookies, Candies
Jellies, Jams and limited Chow-Chow

Light lunch also available

Miller Keystone Blood Mobile

9:00 to 2:00

Walk-ins welcome



Our Schedule: November 17 Through November 23, 2013

Sunday, November 17, 2013

9:00 a.m.: Sunday School

10:15 a.m.: Thanksgiving Sunday Worship Service

Monday, November 18, 2013

Church Office Closed

2:30 p.m.: Music Committee Meeting

7:00 p.m.: Board of Christian Education

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

8:00 a.m.: Quilters

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

6:30 p.m.: Brownies

6:45 p.m.: Boy Scouts

7:00 p.m.: Mission Board Meeting

7:00 p.m.: Daisies

7:00 p.m.: Cadettes

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

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

5:30 p.m.: Children's Choir

6:00 p.m.: Junior Bells

6:30 p.m.: Senior Bells

7:30 p.m.: Senior Choir

Thursday, November 21, 2013

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

7:00 p.m.: United Choir Instrumental Rehearsal

Friday, November 22, 2013

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.: Church Office Open

Saturday, November 23, 2013

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Holiday Bazaar

9:00a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Miller-Keystone Blood Mobile

Sunday, November 24, 2013

9:00 a.m.: Sunday School

10:15 a.m.: Reign of Christ Sunday Worship Service

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

Church Administrator E-mail: palmschwenkfelderchurch.com

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 Luz

Organist: Peg Jacob

Church Administrator: J. Daniel Ferry

Youth Director: Barbara Master

Sexton: Kevin Master (484) 358-1684

Greeter: Rick Jones

Ushers: Glenn Hoffman, Nancy Hoffman, Rick Jones, Kevin Schultz

Prayer Chain: Nancy Hoffman 610-845-7208

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