

PALM LEAVES

Palm Schwenkfelder Church

Special Points of Interest:

- Youth News Youth Birthdays Rally Day Choirs Christmas Stockings
- Caspar's Corner—Living In Hope Donate Online Harvest Home Sunday
- Brown Bag Lunch Lecture Gedächtnestag Holiday Bazaar Meetinghouse Picture Search
- Flowers and Bulletins Treasurer's Report School of Christ Announcement

Pastor's Pause—Living In Hope

In August the Pence family once again went to North Carolina for some vacation time on the beach. Like many annual events, there are things I find myself hoping to experience every year, but recognizing that it may or may not happen. I don't get to see dolphins swimming every year. The fishing isn't always great, the sunrises depend largely on the weather and cloud coverage, and sometimes the waves don't cooperate with either extensive swimming or playing in

the surf. But still, every year, filled with hopeful expectation, I awake wondering what each day will bring.

For the second time in my life this year, while playing out in the water and keeping an eye on the kids,



I felt something large and knobby with my foot. When I feel things in the water which aren't moving, I typically try to figure out what it is (When it is moving I normally move out of that general area!). Most often it is a large oyster shell or a plain old rock, but this year as I lifted the object with my feet and grabbed it with my hand, I pulled out a

...when I randomly pull a shell out of the water, and realize I have something good, it is the equivalent of catching a great fish...

huge conch shell! To set this in context for you non-beach goers or shell finders, when I randomly pull a shell out of the water, and realize I have something good, it is the equivalent of catching a great fish, finding just the right gift you have been searching for on sale for half price, or encountering that old friend you haven't seen for years in an unexpected time and place. And for the second

(Cont. p.11)



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Like many annual events, there are things I find myself hoping to experience every year...

PALM LEAVES

Y O U T H N E W S



Birthdays bring us great joy. We celebrate that birthday joy in many ways. A traditional way to celebrate is by throwing a birthday party to share that joy with our friends. When we know God's love we feel a joy even greater. God wants us to share that joy with others. Throughout this new Sunday school year we will be celebrating the joy we receive from knowing God's love and sharing that joy with others.

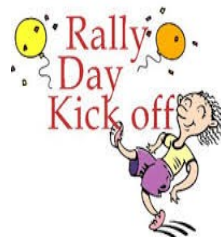
May God's joy ring out in your heart! "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!" Philippians 4:4



It's Everyone's Birthday at Rally Day!



Help us kick off the new Sunday school year on Sunday, September 13th at 9:00 am downstairs in Fellowship Hall. Come ready to celebrate with face painting and musical chairs! Bring a breakfast item to share. The Board of Christian Education will supply the drinks. Students will meet their teachers and visit their classrooms. Can't wait to see you there!



A Year of Bible Birthdays ~ Opening Devotions

We are excited this year to share the scriptures of great Biblical leaders "the early years", having the kids join in Bible verse repetitions and singing. Opening devotions will begin on Sunday, September 20th in the Adult Sunday school classroom which is located next to the church office. Toddlers thru 6th grade should meet here every Sunday morning before heading to their classroom.

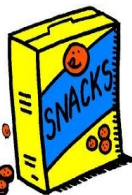


Children's Church ~ A Joyful Noise

Children's church will begin on Sunday, September 20th. Please look for a schedule of dates to volunteer. Children, ages 4 thru grade 4, are invited upstairs for a lesson, craft, and snack. Children in 5th grade and up are invited to volunteer to help the leader. Only one helper per Sunday is needed. There will be times when we are working on a service project and youth of all ages will be invited to participate. All the youth do a wonderful job with these projects!



Children's Church Volunteers



Snack Donations

It's time to stock up on some tasty snacks. Please drop off snack donations in the Narthex. Some favorites are: popcorn, gold fish, pretzels, fruit snacks, frosted animal crackers. Thank you.

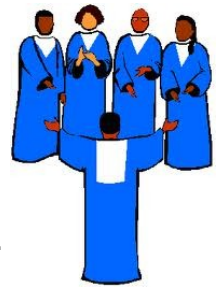




UNITED SCHWENKFELDER CHOIR

The United Schwenkfelder Choir will begin rehearsing for its 87th season on Monday evening, September 14th at the Central Schwenkfelder Church in Worcester, PA. This non-denominational choir, representing membership in over 30 churches from Montgomery and Bucks counties, will present a program of traditional and contemporary Christmas music at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 6th. The choir is under the direction of Ed Bieler and is accompanied by pianists Jane Cocks and Suzanne Williams, organist Louise Gerdemann, and a 17 piece instrumental ensemble. The Choir is always ready to welcome new members. Any individual who enjoys singing is welcome to participate and experience the harmonies and inspiration of Christian music. No auditions are required. Rehearsals are held in the Central Schwenkfelder Church, located on Valley Forge Road (Route 363), just north of Skippack Pike (Route 73) from 7:30-9:00 p.m. each Monday evening from September 14th until the concerts.

For additional information, contact choir president Dennis Alderfer at (215) 393-9974.



S e n i o r C h o i r

Do you find yourself humming along with the car radio??

Do you sing to yourself in the shower??

Can you carry a tune in a bucket??

Would you like to learn how to carry a tune without a bucket??

If you meet any of these requirements, you belong in the Senior Choir!!

Come join the fun.

Rehearsals every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., beginning September 2nd.



C H I L D R E N ' S C H O I R

Attention, past and potential Children's Choir members!! Whether you are a former member or someone looking to join our enthusiastic group, the new season is approaching quickly! We will begin practices on September 9th in the Adult Sunday School classroom at our regular practice time from 5:30-6:00. Our first performance will be October 9th. Again, this year there will only be ONE children's choir. Come on out and join in the fun!



One Ringy Dingy...

The Junior Bell Choir is looking for a few new ringers for the 2015-2016 season. Children in grades 2-12 are welcome to come out and join us. We start practices promptly at 6:00 on Wednesday evenings and play in church on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Practice will begin Wednesday September 9th. No previous musical experience is required.

Contact Beth Croll
(bethcroll@comcast.net)
if you have any questions.



PALM LEAVES**~ September 2015 ~**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 8:00a-11:30a Quilters 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 1:00p-2:00p Ladies' Aid Meeting 7:00p-8:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p-8:00p Girl Scouts Senior/Ambassador Troop	2 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 7:30p-9:00p Senior Choir Rehearsal	3 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	4 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	5 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
6 9:00a-10:00a Combined Sunday School 10:15a-11:30a Sunday Worship Service 11:30a Harvest Home Food Collection Begins 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	7 Labor Day 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 	8 8:00a-11:30a Quilters 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 7:00p-8:00p Boy Scouts 7:15p-8:30p Boy Scouts of America - Troop Committee Meeting	9 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 5:30p-6:00p Children's Choir Rehearsal 6:00p-6:30p Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30p-7:30p Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30p-9:00p Senior Choir Rehearsal	10 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 7:00p-8:30p Deacon's Meeting	11 Patriot Day 9/11 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 	12 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are
13 9:00a-10:00a Sunday School 10:15a-11:30a Rally Day Sunday Worship Service 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	14 11:00p-12:30p Board of Music Ministry Meeting 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 6:30p-7:30p Buildings & Grounds Committee 7:30p-9:00p Board of Trustees	15 8:00a-11:30a Quilters 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 7:00p-8:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p-8:00p Girl Scouts Senior/Ambassador Troop 7:00p-8:00p Mission Board	16 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 5:30p-6:00p Children's Choir Rehearsal 6:00p-6:30p Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30p-7:30p Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30p-9:00p Senior Choir Rehearsal	17 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	18 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	19 
20 9:00a-10:00a Sunday School 10:15a-11:30a Sunday Worship Service 11:30a-12:00p Sunday School Teacher Meeting 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	21 International Day of Peace 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 7:00p-8:00p Board of Christian Education Meeting 	22 8:00a-11:30a Quilters 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 7:00p-8:00p Boy Scouts	23 Fall Begins 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 5:30p-6:00p Children's Choir Rehearsal 6:00p-6:30p Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30p-7:30p Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30p-9:00p Senior Choir Rehearsal	24 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	25 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	26 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 12:00p-3:00p Walter/Karaszkiewicz Wedding
27 9:00a-10:00a Sunday School 10:15a-11:30a Day of Remembrance Sunday Worship Service 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 3:00p Day of Remembrance Celebration @ Meadowood	28 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are	29 8:00a-11:30a Quilters 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 7:00p-8:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p-8:00p Girl Scouts Senior/Ambassador Troop	30 12:00p Daily Time of Prayer Wherever You Are 5:30p-6:00p Children's Choir Rehearsal 6:00p-6:30p Junior Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30p-7:30p Senior Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30p-9:00p Senior Choir Rehearsal			



Holiday Bazaar

Date: Saturday, November 21st, 2015

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

It will be 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. 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.



You are invited to participate in the Palm Schwenkfelder Church Ladies' Aid Holiday Bazaar on Saturday November 21st, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. to set-up, please have everything cleaned-up by 4:30 p.m. and not before 2:30 p.m.

There is a \$20.00 fee for a 3x8 table, \$2.00 additional fee if electricity is needed. Please return the bottom portion with your check payable to Palm Ladies' Aid. Send to Shirley Miller, 1275 Buck Road, Pennsburg, PA 18073, (215) 679-9191 by September 30th, 2015 to reserve your table.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,
Shirley Miller

Yes, I would like to be part of your Holiday Bazaar on November 21st, 2015. Please reserve ____ table(s) for me featuring _____

Yes/No (circle) for electric.

Enclosed is a check for \$_____

Signature,



Harvest Home Sunday, October 11th

Please help us celebrate Harvest Home on Sunday, October 11th by bringing non-perishable food items. Food items may be brought to the church between September 6th and October 11th and placed in the donation center in the Narthex.

Celebration Food Drive

Celebrate your giving by coming out or volunteering at our annual Redner's food drive in Red Hill. The date is to be determined, so be on the look-out for it!



PALM LEAVES

Caspar's Corner—Inspiring the Schwenkfelders to Action

In the first decades of the twentieth century, one of the most significant projects on the minds of our Schwenkfelder Church forebears was the work of the *Corpus Schwenckfeldianorum* –

“...one of the most significant projects on the minds of our Schwenkfelder Church forebears was the work of the Corpus Schwenckfeldianorum – ...”

the scholarly publication of all the writings by Caspar Schwenckfeld von Ossig. At the 1915 Spring General Conference of the Schwenkfelder Church, Professor Howard W. Kriebel, from Palm Church, made a lengthy report (four full pages) which was printed in the June 1915

Schwenckfeldian as, “A Few Thoughts Concerning the *Corpus Schwenckfeldianorum*.” In his report he states, “Of the more direct initiative influences from without [the Schwenkfelder Society] that can-

not be overlooked there must be mentioned, among others...” and he lists some names. This Caspar's Corner introduces these people who, from outside the Schwenkfelder Society, influenced the Society members to take on this immense task which was to have such a profound effect on our church in the early twentieth century.

Heinrich August Friedrich Schneider – As a student at the University of Berlin about 1835, he was inspired to study the Schwenkfelders. Over the course of 35 years, he accumulated a vast collection of material. In the early 1880s, his collection was auctioned with much of the material ending up at Hartford Theological Seminary. Today we have a substantial amount of his material in our archives, which was a major source for the *Corpus* editors in their efforts to locate Schwenckfeld's writings in various libraries. Also in our archives are his lists of genealogical information of the Schwenkfelders in Harpersdorf and other nearby Schwenkfelder villages at the time of the Jesuit mission.

Rev. Dr. Augustus C. Thompson – As a young theology student in Berlin, he became a roommate of H.A.F. Schneider. Many years later, in looking at some newly acquired material for the Hartford Theological Seminary library, he recognized Schneider's handwriting. He passed on the material, with strong recommendations for study, to a young professor at the Seminary, Rev. Dr. Chester David Hartranft.

Hon. Major John F. Hartranft – An esteemed vet-

“Also in our archives are (Schneider's) lists of genealogical information of the Schwenkfelders in Harpersdorf and other nearby Schwenkfelder villages...”

eran of the Civil War, he was elected Governor of Pennsylvania and served from 1871 to 1879. While Governor, he became interested in genealogy and discovered his Schwenkfelder roots. In

the Harrisburg archives he located the 1734 *St Andrew* ship list with Schwenkfelder signatures. He participated actively in the production of the 1879 *Genealogical Record of the Descendants of the Schwenkfelders*. He served on a committee of the Schwenkfelder Society for preparation for the 1884 observance of the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the largest group of Schwenkfelders in Pennsylvania. He suggested a distant cousin – Rev. Dr. Chester David Hartranft – as a speaker for the occasion.

Hon. William A. Yeakel – Born in 1825 in White-marsh Township, PA, Yeakel started farming the family homestead in 1850. He was elected a member of the local School Board and held the office for 18 consecutive terms. In 1873 he was elected to the Pennsylvania State Senate and served one term. He was the chair of the committee which produced the 1879 *Genealogical Record of the Descendants of the Schwenkfelders* and then served on the committee for the 150th anniversary celebration.

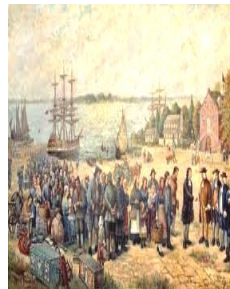
Casper's Corner (Cont.)

Hon. Christopher Heydrick – Born in Venango County in northwest Pennsylvania in 1830, Heydrick graduated from Allegheny College in 1852. He taught school in

*“...’Judge Heydrick,’
(A)lthough not actively a part of the Schwenkfelder Society ...maintained a strong interest in his Schwenkfelder heritage throughout his life.*

Gedächtnstag

Be sure to join us on September 27th at 9:00 am for our annual Gedächtnstag intergenerational Sunday School class. We will be hosting Maggie Buckwalter, who is the Museum Educator for the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center. Then, later in the day at 3:00pm, the 281st Day of Remembrance (Gedächtnstag) celebration will be held in the Strasburg Auditorium at Meadowood Senior Living Center (located behind Central Schwenkfelder Church), where the traditional meal of bread and applebutter will be served.



Pennsylvania and Kentucky where he also studied law and obtained his first license to practice. He returned to Venango County in 1854 where he based a law practice which reached surrounding counties as well. After he served a term on the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, he picked up the moniker “Judge Heydrick,” by which he was known for the remainder of his life. Although not actively a part of the Schwenkfelder Society, he maintained a strong interest in his Schwenkfelder heritage throughout his life.

Rev. Dr. Ernest C. Richardson – Rev. Richardson was a Hartford Seminary trustee and the librarian at Princeton University. He represented the seminary on various committees related to the publication of the *Corpus*. In 1907 he traveled to Wolfenbüttel, Germany, and assisted in providing more financial and clerical resources for the effort.

And finally, Howard W. Kriebel lists “the various bodies of the Hartford Theological Seminary, and last but foremost, the colossal, dynamic and dynastic Rev. Dr. Chester D. Hartranft.”

Casper's Corner is provided monthly to The Schwenkfelder Church by the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center

PALM LEAVES

S L H C L E C T U R E S E R I E S



The Strong Case of the Murder of Norman Bechtel

Presented by
Candace Perry

September 9, 2015 noon

Brown Bag Lectures Series
Schwenkfelder Library and
Heritage Center



On Wednesday, September 9th, come to the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center to hear a presentation by Candace Perry entitled "The Strange Case of Murder of Norman Bechtel."

When Boyertown native Norman Bechtel was murdered under unusual circumstances in Philadelphia in 1932, the newspapers were quick to call it a "hex murder," similar to the slaying of Nelson Rehmeyer in York in 1928. The case went unsolved for five years as detectives pursued one false lead after another. This illustrated lecture will tell the tale of this unusual case of Bechtel's untimely death, and how the media sensationalized it.



Flowers and Bulletins

There are several upcoming dates open for sponsorship of our Sunday flowers and bulletins.

Dates available for flower sponsorship:

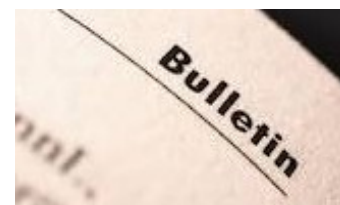
November 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th

Openings for bulletin sponsorships:

September 6th, October 25th, November 22nd and 29th

The cost for flower sponsorship is \$50, and the cost for bulletin sponsorship is \$15. Please sign up on the chart in the hallway outside of the office. Make checks payable to "Palm Schwenkfelder Church," with the notation of "flowers" or "bulletins," and place in the office lock box or offering plate prior to or on the date of your sponsorship.

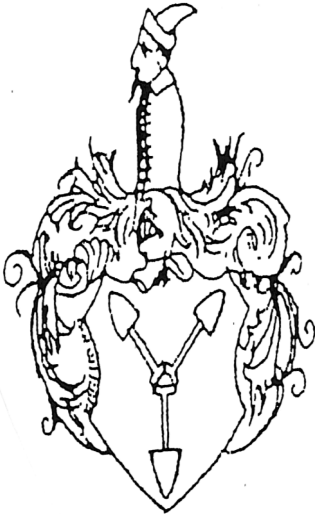
Thanks for your support!



World Communion Sunday

Please join us on October 4th as we celebrate World Communion Sunday. On the bread plates will also be gluten-free wafers for those with gluten sensitivity.





School of Christ

Sunday, October 18th

3:00 pm

The School of Christ will take place on Sunday October 18th at Central Schwenkfelder Church from 3:00pm to 5:00pm prior to the General Conference meeting. The title of this year's program is:

"How does the Holy Spirit lead you when Exiles (Schwenkfelders) meet immigrants?"

Last year's program helped us recognize where and how the Holy Spirit has been with us in our individual lives. This year we would like to talk about the Spirit's leading regarding immigrants: those coming into our society as well as members of our society who leave to enter other societies.

Caspar Schwenckfeld was concerned with the development of a personal Christian lifestyle motivated by the dynamic (today we might say "interactive") indwelling of Christ. Erkenntnis Christi is the phrase he used to describe a Christian's growth toward spiritual maturity in the "School of Christ". Although he identified the "School" as all of life for a believer, he developed small groups or "conventicles" to nurture believers through the sharing of their experiences. We hope that, through small-group sharing on Sunday October 18th, you will be more aware of God's presence, grow stronger in faith, and become more at ease in sharing with others.

Chow-Chow for Sale!

Get a pint. Get a quart. Get a pint AND a quart. Get *two* pints and *two* quarts. Get some for yourself. Get some for friends. Get some to take to parties. Get some to bring along to barbeques. Get some to give as gifts. Whatever you do, just get some!

On sale now in the church office.

Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's new batch!



PALM LEAVES



Christmas Stockings

The Ladies' Aid needs your help to fill Christmas stockings. We make a total of 75: 25 go to Pennsburg Manor, and 50 go to Norristown State Hospital. We try to put at least 6 items in each stocking. We would appreciate monetary gifts so that we can purchase the items and keep all the stockings the same. You can

give your gifts to anyone on the committee:

Miriam Hausman, Sandy Kriebel, Sally Wright, Ruth Weaver, Ethel Soffa.



TREASURER'S REPORT

July, 2015

	<u>July</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Starting operating cash on hand	\$ (3,872.54)	\$ 29,325.78
Operating Income Received	\$ 19,140.33	\$166,810.66
Operating Expenses	\$ 17,084.35	\$197,953.00
Ending operating cash on hand	\$ (1,816.56)	\$ (1,816.56)

Note: For the detailed income/expense report, please see Treasurer David Luz.

You Can Now Donate Online

Are there are times when you find yourself unable to join us here for worship and you still want to contribute? Well now you have an easy and convenient way to donate online. Visit <http://palmschwenkfelderchurch.com/> and click the "donate" button at the top right hand corner of the page. You will find you can donate using PayPal or your credit card through PayPal. When you donate online we ask that you also fill out an online donation form specifying where you want your contribution to go: General Operating, Missions, or other. Our members of the Board of Trustees are sure that the ease of using this online payment service is well worth the small fees that our church will incur. Please call the church office, 215-679-5321, if you have questions.





Meeting House Pictures

The Publication Committee of the Schwenkfelder Church is requesting help from church members in compiling a collection of meeting house photos.

We welcome photos throughout the years including those depicting special occasions, celebrations, services and other gatherings.

We're happy to accept any format (hard copies/digital) and will return after scanning and/or saving. If known, please include the date, occasion and names of anyone pictured.

Please contact:

For Palm

Joanne Jalowy (610.845.9087) or Luanne Stauffer (215.679.8889)

For Central

Linda Grisdale (215.368.7534)

For Olivet

Everett Tyson (610. 279.3198)



Pastor's Pause — Living In Hope (Cont.)

time, in nearly forty years of beach going, I lifted that shell out of the water, smile from ear to ear across my face, pressed it above my head and ran back to shore to show my family and share my prize!



I don't expect to make finds like this whenever I go to the beach, but I hope to, and still look with expectant eyes, hoping to see a fin rolling across the surface or a dolphin leaping through the water, and still stretch out with expectant toes, feeling for promising shapes on the sea floor.

In our walk of faith, we are called to live in hope, to embrace each day with expectant eyes, and celebrate the discoveries that we might make. As we prepare to celebrate our Day of Remembrance on September 27th, remembering our ancestors of faith who looked with hope-filled eyes to the horizon, may we also once again lift our hope-filled eyes to the horizon as we respond to the continued calling of God.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.



PALM SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

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P.O. Box 66
Palm, PA 18070

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Administrator/Office Phone: 215-679-5321
Fax: 215-679-2650
E-mail: palmadministrator@comcast.net
www.palmschwenkfelderchurch.com

SAVE THE DATE!

September 2nd — Senior Choir

September 9th — Children's Choir, Junior & Senior
Bell Choirs

September 13th — Rally Day

September 27th — Day of Remembrance

Afternoon Worship Service at Meadowood

October 4th — World Communion

October 11th — Harvest Home Worship
Service

October 18th — School of Christ



Rev. Nicholas L. Pence, *Pastor*
Rev. Ronald Krick, *Pastor Emeritus*
Barbara Master, *Youth Director*
Dan Ferry, *Church Administrator*
Kevin Master, *Sexton*
Ed Bieler, *Director of Music*
Peg Jacob, *Organist*