

ZION'S HEAVENLY

Look for:

- *Worship Schedule
- *Acolyte Schedule
- *Music Schedule
- *Announcements
- *Youth Group News



- *Exciting Events
- *Monthly Calendar of Events
- *Birthday Calendar
- *Synod News
- And Much More!**

HAPPENINGS



NEWSLETTER



Photo by Gayle Mateyak

*233 Years of worshipping the
Lord with each other....*

**ZION'S STONE CHURCH OF
WEST PENN TOWNSHIP**
A Federated ELCA & UCC Church

45 Cemetery Rd
New Ringgold, PA 17960

570-386-5111

www.zionstonechurch.org

Rev. Russell Campbell, Pastor
Cell # **610-737-2634**
zionstch@ptd.net
revarc@ptd.net

Come Worship with Us!

9:00am – Sunday Worship Service

(1st Sunday of the month Altar Communion)

10:15am – Sunday School

For All Ages

5:00pm – 1st & 3rd Saturday Night Worship Services

(1st Saturday Night of the month we will have communion)

As of April 2005,
Zion's Stone Church Lutheran Congregation and Zion's Stone Church United
Church of Christ Congregation enter into a shared ministry. Keeping both
heritages in the Sunday Worship Service each week.



CHURCH STAFF...



Pastor: Rev. Russell Campbell

Office Hours:

Wednesday and Thursday 10:00am – 4:00pm

Cell Phone # 610-737-2634

Pastor's Home Email: revarc@ptd.net

Pastor's Church Email: zionstch@ptd.net

Church Administrator/Treasurer:

Charlotte Fritz Office Hours:

Monday 12:00 noon to 3:00pm

Wednesday and Thursday 9:00am to 3:00pm

Charlotte's Office Email: zscofc@ptd.net

(Please use this email for information for Charlotte.)

Church Secretary:

Office Hours: Subject to Change/please call ahead.

Brenda will be in the office from 8:00am –12:00am Mon –Thurs.

Brenda Office Email: zscbrenda@ptd.net

**(Please use this email for all slide, newsletter
and any other information, for Brenda.)**



Church Office Phone Number:

570-386-5111 – When calling use:

prompt #2 for Pastor

prompt #3 for Brenda

prompt #4 for Charlotte

Check us out on Facebook!

Thanks to Sarah Martinez
for being our Facebook Coordinator!

Zion's Stone Website

www.zionstonechurch.org

Music Director/Organist:

Erin Zelinski – 570-205-3511

Card Care coordinator:

Nancy Meiser - 570-205-9267

Sexton(s):

Fred (& Donna) Gimbi - Home # 570-386-2888

Fred's Cell #570-573-7642

WORSHIP FEBRUARY 2023

Sunday, February 5, 2023 – 5th Epiphany

w/ Holy Communion – Altar

9:00am - Worship Service

Sermon Title: “Salt and Light”

Isaiah 58:1-12 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 Matthew 5:13-20

Sunday, February 12, 2023 – 6th Epiphany

9:00am – Worship Service

w/Young People’s Time and King’s Kids

Sermon Title: “How to Hold a Grudge”

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

1 Corinthians 3:1-9 Matthew 5:21-37



Sunday, February 19, 2023

Transfiguration of Our Lord

9:00am – Worship Service

Sermon Title: “A Moment in Time”

Exodus 24:12-18 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9

February 22, 2023 – Ash Wednesday Service

7:00pm – Worship Service w/Holy Communion

Sermon Title: “Keeping Lent”

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21



Sunday, February 26, 2023 – First Lent

9:00am – Worship Service

Sermon Title: “Always Something There to Remind Me”

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11

BOARD MEETING



DECEMBER 7, 2022

X Pastor Russel Campbell	X Nancy Meiser	X Paul Miller	X Sam Schaefer
X Charlotte Fritz	Blair Miller	X Gary Clemson	X Amanda Sassaman
X Scot Dietrich	X Dan Metzger	X Rick Zelinski	

(X) = Board Members present

Member(s) of the congregation – Church Secretary Brenda Osenbach and Darryl Fritz
Pastor Russ Campbell - Opened meeting with prayer

Pastor's Report – Presented

Secretary Report – Review of 9 November 2022 Board Meeting and 30 November 2022 Board Workshop Meeting Minutes. Accepted by Gary Clemson / 2nd by Blair Miller

Treasurer's Report – Accepted by Dan Metzger / 2nd by Sam Schaefer

Committee Reports

Worship & Music – Nothing to report.

Property – The boiler is working but has ongoing issues. Required part is on order. Report presented by Darryl Fritz: Well repairs are complete. Well has been shocked and this date and flushing to happen 8 December. All materials were donated by Moyer Well Drilling and David Tyson. A stone protection barrier for the well will be donated by Dave Snyder.

Finance – Nothing to report.

Sunday School – Nothing to report.

Youth Group – Poinsettias are to arrive 23rd of December. Christmas Caroling and pizza party will be 11 December. A movie and sleep over will be on January 6, 2023 starting at 7pm to January 7th at 2pm.

Outreach/Evangelism – Giving Tree Gifts and Goodie bags to be packed up on 12-13 December with delivery on the 14th. Current count will be 271 goodie bags with 50 gifts.

Fund Raising – Craft Fair will be on 11 February 2023 with a snow date of 18 February 2023. Currently there are 12 vendors participating. Committee meeting is scheduled for 8 January 2023.

Personnel – Contracts to be signed prior to January.

Safety/Security Committee – AED batteries and pads still on backorder. We are now #15.

Other Business –

New Business – End of year payroll taxes will be prepared by H&R Block. Accepted by Scot Dietrich / 2nd by Dan Metzger

Pastor Russ Campbell - Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next Church Board Meeting on Wednesday, 18 January 2023 @ 7 pm

Meeting adjourned. Motion to accept by Scot Dietrich / 2nd by Sam Schaefer
Respectfully Submitted by Board Secretary, Amanda Sassaman



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022

X Pastor Russel Campbell	X Nancy Meiser	X Paul Miller	X Sam Schaefer
X Charlotte Fritz	X Blair Miller	X Gary Clemson	X Amanda Sassaman
X Scot Dietrich	X Dan Metzger	X Rick Zelinski	

(X) = Board Members present

Members of the congregation – 57 members present – Quorum achieved

Call to Order and Opening of Meeting – Nancy Meiser

Board President announced board members up for election with one position in need of a 1 yr. appointment.

Jeremy Brothers nominated Rosalee Rehrig for appointment. Nomination accepted by Rosalee Rehrig. Nomination closed by Dwane Miller. Motion to retain current officers and nominee: Congregation all in favor / 0 opposed.

Finance Committee – Gary Clemson

Presented 2023 Proposed Budget

Discussion points of increases/decreases: Salary to stay the same per Conference recommendations and prior year comparisons. Benevolence moneys remained same as 2022 but reinstatement of Lions Club moneys and removal of Make a Wish. Pastor Russ and Charlotte Fritz provided explanation to Guatemala Benevolence. Gary discussed fuel oil costs and impacts to the budget as well as future plans for cost savings. Darryl Fritz addressed the congregation regarding the well repairs and completion. Moyer Well Drilling and David Tyson donated all labor and materials for the repairs.

Motion to accept Budget 2023 – Nancy Meiser

Accepted by Donald Miller / 2nd by Susie Zeigler

Motion to adjourn – Nancy Meiser

Accepted by Jeremy Brothers / 2nd Dan Metzger

Respectfully Submitted by Board Secretary, Amanda Sassaman

NEWSLETTER SUBMITTALS...

Please help the office staff be efficient by having all newsletter submittals emailed to the church office (or placed in the newsletter submittal boxes) by the newsletter deadline, the **Third Sunday** of each month.

If you would like your wedding announcement or if you have a loved one who has entered into eternal life, thank you messages, etc., please contact the office by the newsletter deadline or we may not be able to publish your information until the next month. *Thank You!*

ALTAR FLOWER & NEWSLETTER SPONSORSHIPS...

If you are interest in sponsoring altar flowers or the newsletter, please call the office at (570) 386-5111 prompt #3, before 12 pm on Tuesday. **Leave a message** with your telephone number and the exact wording you would like to see printed on the slides. You can also email the office. The newsletter is printed one time per month. Use the envelope in your packet marked bulletin. If you would like special wording placed on a slide please include that also with your \$20.00 newsletter donation.



Please do not put your altar flower request in the envelopes, because it may not be seen until it is too late.

YOU MUST CALL THE OFFICE

The Florist wants our orders by Wednesday of each week.



COST OF SPONSORSHIP:

ALTAR FLOWERS \$25.00

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO

ZION'S STONE CHURCH. THANK YOU!

ROSEBUD VASE: \$10.00

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER:\$20.00

Lectors are needed for every Sunday.

Please sign up in the Narthex. If you or someone you know would like to be a LECTOR ... New volunteers are always welcome.

Acolytes...Last year's class and current confirmation classes please sign up on the calendar in the Narthex. Two acolytes are needed for each Sunday. Please arrive by 8:50am to prepare.

CHURCH AND AUDITORIUM FUNCTIONS NOW BEING SCHEDULED

DO YOU HAVE A NEW ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE &/OR CELL PHONE NUMBER?



Please notify the office either through email (zscofc@ptd.net) or phone (570-386-5111) prompt #4 with your new information. This way we can keep in touch with you and provide you with important information regarding the church. Thank you!

(All the clip Art printed in this newsletter was taken from google clip art.)

2022 WORSHIP ATTENDANCE FIGURES...

December 3, 2022- 17
 December 4, 2022- 120
 December 11, 2022- 106
 December 17, 2022- 10
 December 18, 2022- 105
 December 24, 4pm- 98
 December 24, 7pm- 127
 December 25, 2022- 22

January 1, 2023 – 73
 January 7, 2023 – 13
 January 8, 2023 – 111
 January 15, 2023 – 120
 January 21, 2023 – cancel
 January 22, 2023 – 95
 January 29, 2023 –

	FINANCIAL REPORT		
2022 DECEMBER			
Current Giving:			
Total Income Budgeted for 2022-----\$ 214,743.41			
Total Benevolence income for 2022 -----\$ 11,700.00			
Total Income plus Benevolence ----- \$ 226,443.41			
Monthly Income & Benevolence	Gain/ (Loss)	Weekly Budgeted Income & Benevolence	
\$ 33,047.68	14,177.40	(\$ 4,354.68 – per week)	
		(\$ 18,870.28 – per month)	

**Thank you for your continued support of
 Zion's Stone Church!**



The February Newsletter is sponsored in
 Celebration of the Birthdays of
 Charlotte Fritz and Marianne Storch
 by Their Families



SPECIAL THANK YOU...

(The church receives thank you letters from other organizations that we support through Benevolence giving throughout the year.)

Dear Zion's Church Family... Thank you for the bag of goodies and gifts I received. Everything was delicious and very much appreciated. God bless and thank you! Gail Loughman

Zion's Stone Church Members...

Thank you so much for the generous care package you sent to Dad, Elmer Henry. He is very touched that you remember him. And, in turn, he thinks of all of you often. Hope you've all had a wonderful Christmas. And may your New Year be blessed! Thank you also for remembering Elmer with all of your cards. Sincerely, Joan Maring, for Elmer Henry

Zion's Church Family...

Gary wants to thank the Secret Santa for the gifts he received.
Gary & Jeanmarie Zehner

Thank You Zion's Outreach Committee and friends for all you do to put smiles on so very many faces! A special thank you goes out to Nancy Meiser for my wonderful Angel Tree gifts. Lee Bittner

Zion's Stone Church... Outreach Committee of Zion's Church. Thank you for the gifts and food you gave to Marlin. He's starting to get better. Thanks for your kindness. Sandy and Marlin Zehner

A Big Thank You to my Church Family and Outreach Committee for the bag of goodies and gifts I received. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. I also want to thank the Youth Group and Advisors for stopping in and singing Christmas Carols. I really enjoyed that. It made my day. Pauline Oswald

Dear Outreach Committee and Zion's Stone Church Family...

Thank you for your gifts and bags of treats and goodies for Christmas. Our congregation is so kind and generous. Everything each one of you did is greatly appreciated. Thanks again and God Bless You!
Russell and Fern Hauck

Blessed are the givers...I want to Thank You from the bottom of my heart on behalf of our community. With your donation I am able to purchase things that can't be purchased with the access card. The kind of items I purchase are laundry detergent, tooth paste & toothbrushes, dish soap, etc. These items are always appreciated.

Debra K. Bologach, Coordinator, New Ringgold Area Food Pantry

Thank you...for your generous donation to Valor Clinic Foundation. Because of you we can serve our Local Veterans. Your Contribution ensures that our veterans have the support they need.

VALOR A HAND UP ON THE HOME FRONT

Dear Charlotte, Board Members and Congregation:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, riders, and volunteers of Horses & Horizons Therapeutic Learning Center, Inc., I want to thank you once again for your recent half-year Benevolence Donation. Your continued support of H.H.T.L.C. and the work we do means a great deal to us. Your much appreciated donation will help us maintain our special horses until such time as we can get back to our pre-pandemic status with lessons and fundraisers. With Sincere Thanks, Elaine L. Smith, Program Director



Christian Sympathies go to...

John and Kathy Kromer and Family and Friends on the death of their niece, Briana Kromer, who entered into eternal life on December 25, 2022.

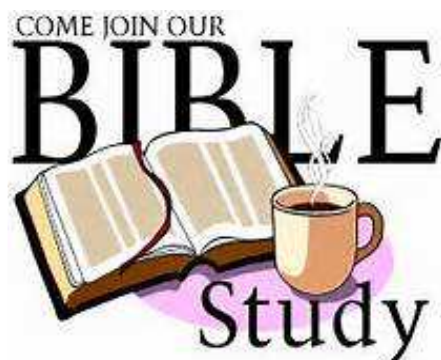
Christian Sympathies go to ...

Beverly Knoebel and Family and Friends on the death of her husband, Rev. David Knoebel, who entered into eternal life on January 19, 2023.

THURSDAY MORNINGS



THURSDAY NIGHTS



w/The Rev. Russell Campbell

Bible Study

February 2nd, 9th and 16th

Feb. 23rd is cancelled

**Pastor will continue with a study
of the book of Habakkuk**

*Morning Bible Study starting at 10:00am
Evening Bible Study will start at 6:45pm
(will notify to cancel if inclement weather)*

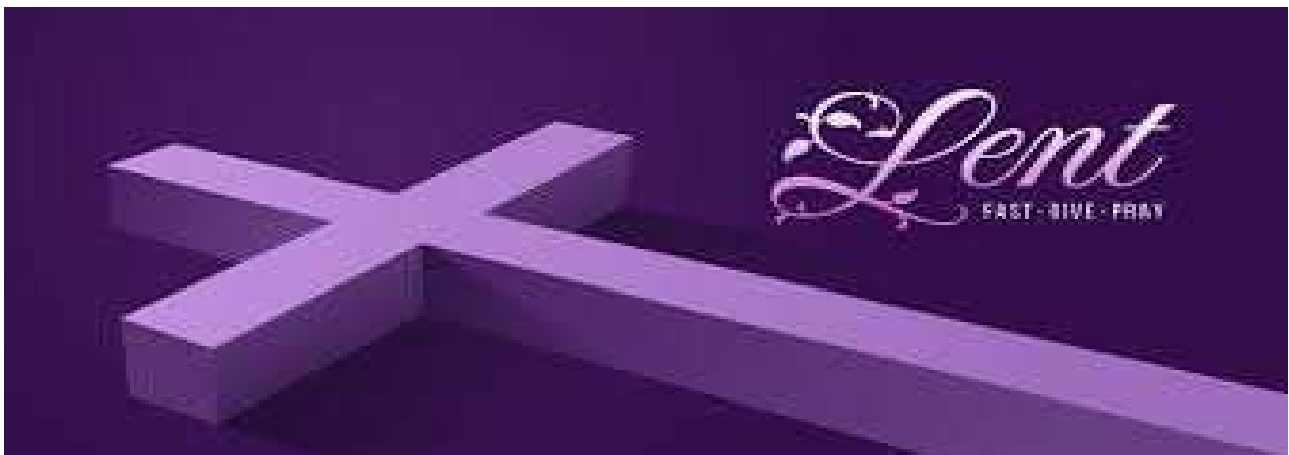


SATURDAY WORSHIP SERVICES...

**Worship Services for February 2023
February 4th, 5:00pm w/Holy Communion
February 18th has been Cancelled!**



Thank you to our Director of Music
Erin Zelinski
for sharing her musical talents
with us during worship!



MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE

March 1	Ben Salem UCC	Rev. Russell Campbell, preaching
March 8	St. John's/Mahoning	Rev. Virginia Heimer, preaching
March 15	Zion's Stone Church	Rev. Anthony Pagotto, preaching
March 22	Dinke Memorial	Pastor Randy Lentz, preaching
March 29	St. Peter's/Mantzville	To Be Announced



January 6th, 2023

Youth Group Meeting Notes

Members Present:

Bradyn Brothers, Kyrsten Derr, Madison Schock,
Elizabeth Davenport, Tyler Buchman, Madelyn Miller

Advisors Present:

Charlotte Fritz, Darryl Fritz, Karen Wood, Kyle Snyder,
Adele Snyder, Dave Snyder, Marianne Storch

Old Business

- At this meeting, we had our Youth Group Sleepover. We had snacks, played games, and watched movies. It was a fun time and thank you to everyone who came out.

New Business

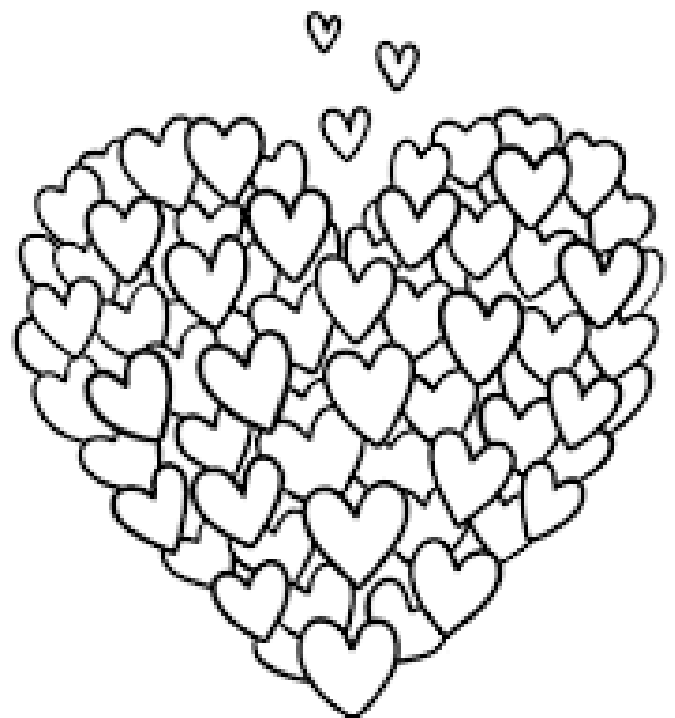
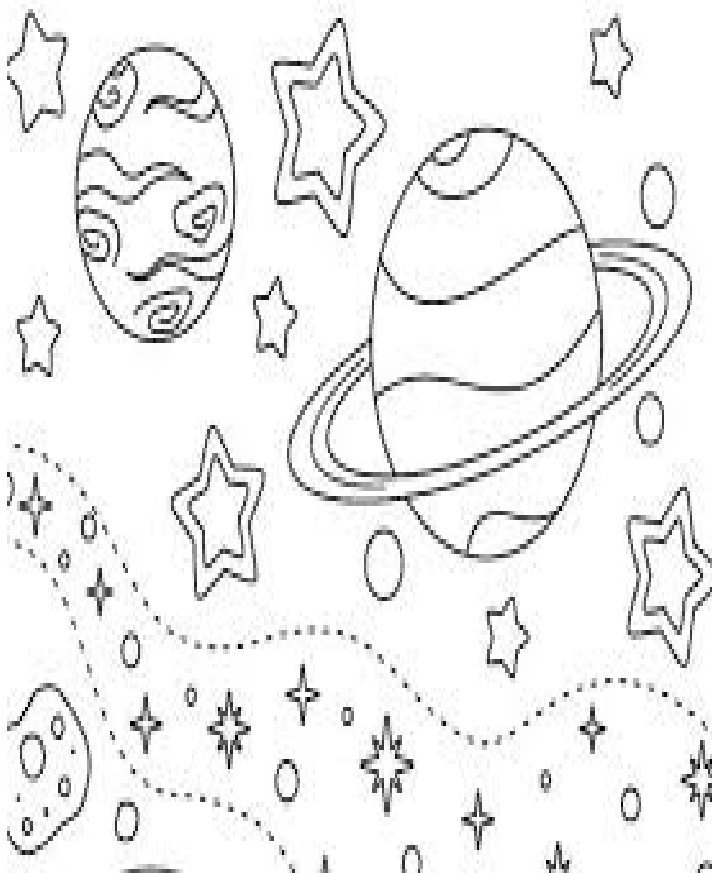
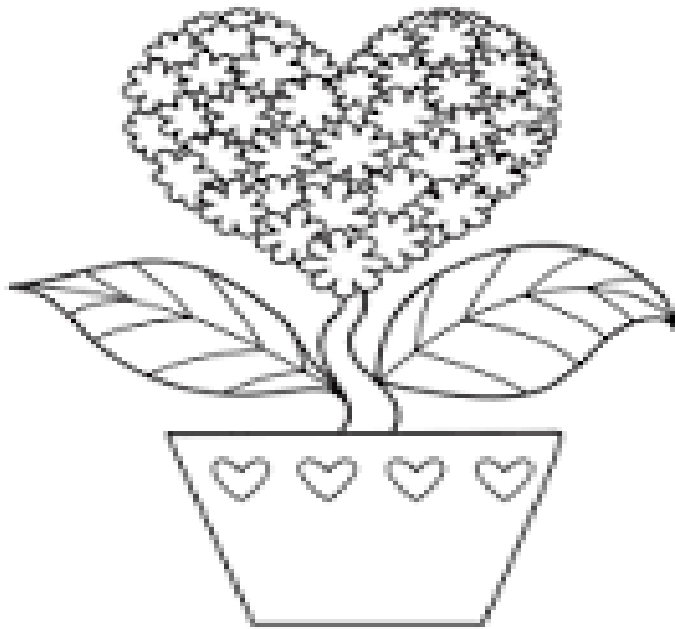
- On February 11, the church will be holding a craft fair. The snow date for this event will be February 18. We do not need help at this event!
- On April 21-22, we will be having the 30 Hour Famine. Please make sure to wear sneakers and old and heavy clothes. Also, please bring sleepover items.
- The Next Youth Group Meeting will be on February 5th at 7 pm.
Show and Tell TBD.

“Encourage not Discourage.”



On Sunday, February 12th, the Youth Group will be collecting canned goods and soups for donation to the McKeansburg Food Pantry. Bring a can or you can also give a monetary donation to support feeding the hungry in our area. Youth Group Members will be at the doors when entering the Narthex. Thank you!

ZION'S COLORING CORNER



Zion's Stone Church

45 Cemetery Rd, New Ringgold, PA 17960

570-386-5111, extension 4



*The Fundraising Committee
Is Hosting a*

Winter Craft Fair

on

Sat., February 11, 2023

10:00am – 5:00pm

Vendors will have items
for sale and they
include, but not limited
to...

Fabrics, Wreaths,
Decorations, Norwex,
Tastefully Simple,
Jewelry, Knitwear,
Color Street, Candles,
Soaps, Sugar Scrubs,
Drawings, Key Chains,
Paintings, Paparazzi
& Scentsy plus more.

We have 14 vendors and this is
open to the public! There
will be homemade soups to
purchase \$8.00 per quart. Fully
cooked just heat and eat.

(Takeout only).

Ham & Bean Soup, Potato Soup,
Halupki Soup, Vegetable &
Chicken Noodle Soup
Hot Dogs \$2.00 and
Beverages \$1.00

***Freezing Rain/Snow Date:
Sat. February 18, 2023***

Open to the Public &
Everyone is Welcome!!



FriEDENS...an amazing Garden Story

A few weeks after lockdown in the spring of 2020, I called a neighbor in town who had a garden in her front yard. It's Shartlesville, and the PA Dutch are used to their yards looking *just so,* so I knew this was a brave woman who loved gardening vegetables more than public opinion. I also knew she didn't have room for pumpkins in her small yard, so I called and proposed we plant some viney crops up on our church property. She agreed, and even had the seeds, gardening skills, and ideas, so after consultation with council, the garden was born. We sent our crop to the neighboring UCC congregation's food pantry, and with the excess had physically- distant free produce give-aways.

In 2021, we expanded the garden by half, to about 50 by 75 feet. We watered each plant via an recycled gallon milk jug with a pin prick in the bottom. The plants were happy, but our backs were not. It took 45 minutes to an hour to water all the jugs, which we did nearly every day because the garden is in full sun. The black plastic we used for weed suppression became a slip and slide while we irrigated. I joined a cohort through Plainsong Farm for ministry leaders who were developing farm- or land-based ministries and realized it could be worth asking the Synod to support our endeavor. We applied for and received a Witness & Service grant funded through congregational Mission Support giving.

In 2022, we were able to install a drip irrigation system that did not require filling milk jugs and weed suppression fabric that was not slippery. The fabric required using a blow torch to make holes for planting but will be able to be used for multiple years. The irrigation only required turning on the spigot and letting it run for several hours, which was a true God-send because we had some unexpected health issues on the garden team that limited our volunteer force! It was an extraordinarily dry summer, so the grant came just in time.

This past summer we had 21 people volunteer in the garden, took produce to 5 food pantries or senior centers, including Cafe Esperanza in Reading, and welcomed 29 people into the garden at a joint VBS. Not only are we feeding our neighbors with free, fresh, pesticide-free produce, we are getting to know our neighbors, developing new connections in the congregation among volunteers, teaching children about food insecurity and the joy of gardening, and passing on agricultural wisdom. The Hebrew word "Eden" means delight, and our garden is a place where we encounter the beauty of flowers, delight in the smell of herbs, and snack on sun-ripened cherry tomatoes while we work. In the garden of FriEDENS, we remember God is generous and are inspired to pass on that generosity by serving others.

Submitted by Pastor Inge Williams



Penn Northeast Conference UCC, 431 Delaware Ave., Palmerton, PA 18071

www.pnec.org 610-826-3113; 610-826-5464 FAX

Conference Minister, Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates bonnieb@pnec.org

Rev. Christian Creyer christianc@pnec.org

Barbara Jennings barbaraj@pnec.org Patty Rehrig patty@pnec.org

SEND ARTICLES TO BE INCLUDED TO patty@pnec.org

Letter from our Sabbatical Conference Minister, Rev. Dr. Becky Beckwith

New Beginnings Abound! Opportunities are everywhere! How will you respond to the many things that come your way? Will you see the problems, or will you witness the possibilities?

It was not in my game plan to be your Sabbatical Conference Minister. I frequently ask God to use me, and God does, even though I am often surprised at what comes my way. So, since I have been vetted and approved to serve for the next three months, maybe it would be good for you to know something about me.

My husband Bob and I joined UCC Greenawalds when our children were 3 and 4 years old. Alan Miller was our Pastor and introduced us to a God I had not encountered as a child – a God of love, of joy – a God who would walk with me always. My faith journey began. I started college, served two churches as their Director of Children and Youth, became a Commissioned Minister before working for the United Methodists.

It was at Allentown Center City Ministries (UM) working with Center City Teens and leading City Camp that I finally considered seminary. I graduated from Moravian Seminary in 1997 and was elected the first female pastor at Jerusalem UCC, Trachsville. So much for all those extra courses learning about urban ministry – God was calling me to a union church that was getting ready for many changes. Today, post pandemic, they are building to meet their continual expansion needs!

In 2005 God called me from Trachsville to serve St. John's UCC, Fullerton as their first female senior pastor. During our fourteen plus years together we welcomed almost six hundred new member and became an O&A congregation. In 2020 I became their Pastor Emerita.

So, that's the professional stuff. The personal stuff is that I am married to Bob Beckwith and the mother of Brad Beckwith and Jill Williams. Brad is a Licensed Forensic Psychologist (PsyD), and Jill is the Social Worker (MSW) for Salisbury School district. I'm one proud mom. Brad is married to Alyssa and Jill to George Williams. We are so blessed with our great in law kids!

Then there are the grandkids. Maya, Aubrey, and Lucas (14, 12, 10) who are the most gifted, awesome, loving creatures ever! I am totally prejudice when it comes to family. So, that is about me. Who am I really? A woman who loves and serves God to the very best I am able. I mess up often – we all need to be good at something!

It is now my profound privilege to serve as your Sabbatical Conference Minister. I invite you to call me and tell me about you. I plan to be available for these three months so feel free to call! And I am really good at doing lunch!!

Blessings and Love, Becky

Please Offer a Warm Welcome to...

Rev. Dr. Becky Beckwith who is our PNEC Sabbatical Conference Minister effective January 3, 2023. You can reach Becky through her email address beckyb@pnec.org and also by calling the Conference Office at 610-826-3113.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Jerry Mogish	2	3 Keith Beers	4 Christopher Schaeffer
5	6	7 Denise Campbell Rhea Steigerwalt Dennis Wood	8 Cason Davis Charlotte Fritz	9 Alan Tyson Kyle Zehner	10 Claudia Oswald Marianne Storch Kaitlynn Yorgey	11 Audrey Christ
12 Emmeline Knowlan Heidi Bitterman	13 Peggy Miller	14	15	16 Norman Hamm Heather Oswald	17 Eric Conover	18 Adele Snyder
19 Glenn Hill Ryan Hill	20 Tammy Weaver	21 Jaydin Ruch	22 Emily Buchman Kade Ruch	23 Barbara Renninger	24 Gloria Derr	25 Kay Hamm
26 Joshua Huegel Jean Serfass	27 William Clause Brianna Muffley Zachary Steigerwalt	28				

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 12th 			1	2 10am/6:45pm Bible Study 6:15pm bells 6:45pm choir	3	4 5:00pm Worship w/Holy Communion
5 9:00am Worship w/HC 10:15am SS 11:15am Conf. 7pm Youth Grp. Meeting	6	7	8 6:00pm Audit Books 7:00pm Board Meeting	9 10am/6:45pm Bible Study 6:15pm bells 6:45pm choir	10	11 Craft Fair 10:00am to 5:00pm Everyone Welcome!
12 9:00am Worship Souperbowl Sun 10:15am SS 11:15am Conf. Class	13	14 	15	16 10am/6:45pm Bible Study 6:15pm bells 6:45pm choir	17	18 No Saturday Worship Cancelled
19 9:00am Worship 10:15am SS 11:15am Conf. Class Newsletter Deadline	20 	21 	22 7:00pm Ash Wed Service w/HC @Zion's	23 No Bible Study 6:15pm bells 6:45pm choir	24	25
26 9:00am Worship 10:15am SS 11:15am Conf. Class	27	28				