

God is still speaking,

THE TRAVELER



JANUARY 2019

JERUSALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



545 Church Drive, Palmerton, PA 18071 (Trachsville)

Phone: (610) 681-4412

Facebook: Jerusalem Trachsville UCC

Website: www.jerusalemucc.org

**The Vision of our Church is to increase Faith, Hope,
Love, Community and Belonging.**

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Kathryn Foster
Office Hours: By Appointment

Secretary: Lyn Summers
Office Hours: Tue. thru Fri. 9 a.m. – 1 PM
(hours subject to change)

Director of Music: Shelba Scheffner
Director of Christian Ed: Marcia Heinick
Treasurer: Steph Anderson

Financial Secretary: Debbie Cope
Sexton: Barry George

Contact Information

home: (610) 261-9015

cell: (610) 554-7364

juccpast@ptd.net

(610) 681-4412

juccsecy@ptd.net

shelba.scheffner@gmail.com

mheinick@ptd.net

(610) 681-3878

stephand@ptd.net

(610) 681-5033

President:	Ed Brader	484-357-3551	braderwoodcraft@gmail.com
Vice-President:	Rick Anderson	610-681-3878	Randerson@serviceteam.com
Acting Secretary:	Lyn Summers	610-681-4412	juccsecy@ptd.net
Additional Members:	Terry Goodhile	Paula Abel	Barry George
	Marcia Heinick	Bob Buck	Lorrie Nothstein
	Beverly Waibel	Duane Hawk	Saralyn Sarandis
	Jaclyn Wonderly		



Dear Members and Friends,

How many scam telephone calls do you do get in a day? The number I get has been increasing at record pace. Every time honest people and businesses try to put safety measures in place to combat fraud, the dishonest people find a way around it. Now these scammers are asking for payment in gift cards, because this form of payment is less traceable.

Regardless, as long as I don't answer my phone but check the validity of messages, and clear out emails marking them "spam" as I know they are; I have been ok. I can have a happy Christmas! One has to put aside these sinful actions in order to be able to rejoice in God our Savior, and the blessing in our lives.

Fortunately, God has given me this filter. The world can do what it will try to do, but I can protect myself by being knowledgeable and vigilant against it. I can be joyful because I know there are still lots of good people in the world. My job is to find them. 1 Corinthians 15:33 says "Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals." Ephesians 5:15 says, "Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise." We can love others but still protect ourselves from sin.

My hope and prayer for 2019 is that you find good people, with good morals with which to spend your time. People with good morals are of no particular race, skin color, body shape, gender, specific theology or culture. Our scriptures only, and repeatedly, tell us to expect sin, at least some, in all of us. But don't forget, there is still a lot of goodness in the world. That is what we need to tap into to have better lives. May you all have a blessed 2019.

See you in church!

Pastor Kathryn

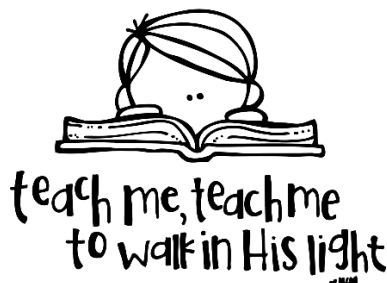
Christian Education December 2018

On December 16th, the children of JUCC, and some wonderful adults, put on the program, “The Newest Angel”. Everyone did an amazing job as “The Newest Angel” (Olive Hunt), learned how busy and important angels are in God’s realm, especially during the time of the birth of Jesus. The teacher angel, Jennika Borger, was a natural as she helped Olive understand the role of an angel. The angels (Jailene Beers, James Sarandis, Kalli Sarandis, Lynn Rice, and Jessie Walters) were glorious as they sang their Glorias, Olive sang a sweet solo of Silent Night as Trinity Beers used sign language for the words. The Narrators (Annie Borger and Taylor Bonser) read beautifully, the shepherds (Nathan, Jacob and Rachael Shafer, Riley Bonser, AJ Borger, Missy Waibel, and Saralyn Sarandis) kept a great eye on our little sheep (Landyn Beers, Cecelia Geissinger, Kaylin Waibel, Charlie Borger) and the sheep were adorable as they donned the ears made with love by Mildred Hoppes. We had a special little guest appearance by Analyn Sarandis who played the sweet little baby wolf. The 3 Kings (our own Lenny, Bob and Paul) presented their gifts with honor and humility as they sang We 3 Kings. Mary (Camryn Bonser) and Joseph (Peyton Waibel) were perfection in their roles, and the angel Gabriel (played by Cameron Bojko), was simply wonderful. We even had a Keyboard Angel (Shelba Sheffner) a Sound Engineer Angel (Bob Fahringer) and a Tech Angel (Pastor Kathryn), to help make the program run smoothly. At the end of the program the kids handed out halos to all the people in the congregation, because, when you do God’s work and love and praise Him always, everyone is an angel! Thank you to all who helped and participated in this sweet program. It takes a CHURCH!!!!

I also wanted to take the opportunity to thank Judy Hessinger, Rachael Shafer, James Sarandis, Missy Waibel, Lana Kuehner, Steph Anderson, Wendy Hoppel, Beverly Waibel, Jessie Walters, Natalie Bojko, Lisa Williams, Shelley Wonderly. Pastor Kathryn and Terry Goodhile for your roles in caring for the educational needs of our littlest children to our adults.

God Bless and Have a Wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Marcia Heinick



JANUARY GREETERS ARE...

January 6 – Donna & Barry Mackes
January 13 - Lyn Summers
January 20 – Mildred Ahner & Wendy Hoppel
January 27 – Grace & Leonard Borger



Thank you to everyone who served as a “greeter” during the past year. Whether you served once or numerous times, your helpfulness in welcoming people to our church is appreciated!

JANUARY FLOWERS & BULLETIN SPONSORS

January 6 – Lorraine Weiss in memory of friends lost to cancer
January 13 – Matthew Binder in honor of grandparents Jim & Doris Behler’s 62nd anniversary
January 20 – Leon & Danielle George in memory of loved ones
January 27 – Lana Kuehner in honor of birthdays – great nephew Steele’s 7th and great niece Quinn’s 5th



2019 ALTAR FLOWERS & BULLETINS SPONSORSHIP

If you would be interested in sponsoring the altar flowers and bulletins for a \$35.00 donation, there are a few Sundays still available: **July 7, August 11, August 18, August 25, November 10, and November 17.** Please call Debbie Cope at 610-681-5033 or contact by e-mail at gacope@ptd.net to reserve your Sunday with info that the sponsorship is in honor or in memory of people or an event.



NEW CONSISTORY MEMBERS

There will be a special Installation Liturgy for the new Consistory Members on **Sunday, January 13th**, 2019 @ the 10:30 am Service. Our new members are Bob Buck, Saralyn Sarandis, Barry George, Duane Hawk and Jackie Wonderly. Please come and show your support for these new leaders in our church!

PNEC BYLAWS and CHURCH POLICIES conference
on Saturday, Feb 9th for members of consistory.
The location of the conference will be determined at a later date.

JANUARY SCRIPTURE READERS

Jan 6 - Lisa Hawk / Jan 13 - Shari Jacobs

Jan 20 - Saralyn Sarandis/ Jan 27 - Deb Cope

*If you would like to read scripture during our service,
please contact Lyn at the office and let her know!*

FUTURE BUILDING USE COMMITTEE

On December 3rd, the Towamensing Township Zoning Hearing Board voted to approve the required variances needed for our church addition. We will now instruct our architect to proceed with the final construction drawings. It will take approximately 8-10 weeks for those drawings to be completed. We will then put the plan out for bids and go through the vetting process to select our contracting team. We will keep everyone updated as information becomes available.

~ The Future Building Use Committee



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

It's time once again to start putting together the Annual Report which is due in February, 2019. If you are responsible for one of the reports, please be sure to submit it to the church secretary ***no later than January 18th, 2019***. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH HERITAGE DAY

We are working to arrange a PA Dutch Heritage Celebration currently scheduled for ***Sunday, February 10th*** after church (Snow date the following Sunday). We will have a covered dish meal and then some entertainment and card games. If you are interested in providing a covered dish, please sign up on the list at the back of the church! If there is anyone in the congregation who would be willing to teach others how to play "Haas", please advise Bob Andrews or Pastor Kathryn. ***GOOD STUFF!***



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING WITH 55 & ALIVE!!!

During the past year, 55 & Alive has been very active and contributed to our community with a variety of “good deeds”. The core group of about a dozen ladies enjoy the twice monthly gatherings where we share the happenings in our lives and community while enjoying lunch together. Time is spent discussing our roots in the community and the health and needs of our friends and neighbors so that comfort and assistance can be offered where needed. This is a lively, active group, welcoming all women 55 or older to participate. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month usually at the Church. Our purpose is to support each other and share our good intentions with our community.

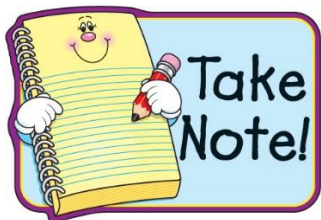
The ladies have offered for sale the wonderful “No Streak Cloths”, and the profits were used to supplement the contribution of \$5 per month dues each lady contributes, which is used for a variety of projects, including, but not limited to, the following:

- ❖ Started our group with a membership contact list and recipe book to help our ladies share and enjoy their history and talents;
- ❖ Financial gift in support and recognition for Ashlyn Anthony so that she can continue her lap blanket making ministry for the sick and Shut-Ins in this community
- ❖ Contribution of cereal and canned goods to the ecumenical food pantry earlier this year, and a gift of food and gift certificates to a needy family in our area for Christmas
- ❖ An October family costume party for the members and family of the church as well as participation in and support of all the church fund raisers and events such as the Flea Market, Filling Sales, Applefest, Basket Bazaar picnics, festivals etc.
- ❖ A well-attended hymn sing at Mrs. Bush’s Personal Care Home for the residents
- ❖ Two bus trips, open to the congregation and the community, to Muhlenberg Summer Theatre to see a production of “Beauty and the Beast” in July, in which our own Bob Fahringer had the lead role; and to “Christmas in the Air” at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse in December
- ❖ A words of wisdom item is contributed to the Church’s monthly newsletter
- ❖ Some of our ladies helped assemble the Christmas Goodie boxes and will distribute them along with poinsettias, carols and good wishes for Christmas and the New Year to the sick and Shut-Ins who aren’t physically able to come to the Church to celebrate their faith with the congregation
- ❖ Out to lunch events for our members are always a big happening and well attended and enjoyed by our ladies.

Submitted by Lorraine Weiss, Donna Mackes, Beverly Waibel and Carolyn Hill



A Great **BIG THANK YOU** to everyone at JUCC who worked so diligently all of 2018 to make our ministries grow and flourish! Thank you for sharing all of your gifts and talents with our church and with our church guests. You all make this a wonderful place to be! Happy 2019!!



The **February 2019** Newsletter will go to print on **January 25th**. Articles not received by **January 21st** may not make it into print. Contact the office if you have something you would like to submit.

REMINDER . . .

CONTRIBUTIONS – The end of the year is coming quickly. If you have not contributed to the church this year, you still have a chance. Please mail your contributions to the church or drop them off at the church during office hours. Contributions must be received no later than December 31st in order to be counted for 2018. It takes everyone's contributions to keep our church operating. Please do your part!

COMMUNION – Please remember to complete a communion card at least once per year following your participation in Holy Communion.

(Note: Financial support and Holy Communion participation are responsibilities of membership per our By-laws. This information is tracked by church envelope name/number and communion card name.)



*Does anyone know which page of the Bible explains how to turn water into wine?
I need to know for a party this Friday!*



THANKSGIVING FILLING SALE STATS

Income: \$ 3504.00 / Expenses: \$ 935.01

Profit: \$ 2568.99 / Tithe: \$ 2312.09

Total 1200 lbs. filling made - ALL sold - (We made 100 5 lb. tins alone)

Thank you to everyone, our "Filling Fairies".

Submitted by the Ladies of 55 & Alive!



Tune in to TV Channel 69 (WFMZ) for JUCC closings or log onto wfmz.com for updates for weather-related closings and delays.

Just a reminder! Our beverage can shed is looking for your empty aluminum beverage cans. There are two deposit slots: one for crushed cans and one for uncrushed cans.



Our clothing bin is out in the grove near the beverage can container. Recycle Local us a community-based organization benefiting those in need while keeping many items out of the nation's landfills. Accepted items include all clean & dry clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, towels, drapes, pillow cases and stuffed animals.

REGISTER RECEIPTS



Please continue to save your register receipts from Kinsley's Shop Rite in Brodheadsville, Weis Markets and Redners. Last year, receipts were down from prior years, so consider requesting receipts from your neighbors and friends. Bring or mail them to the church to the attention of Lana Kuehner.

Receipts that will *not* be accepted include:

- Kinsley's receipts with the senior discounts, prescriptions, cigarettes, and beer.
- Weis Markets receipts with prescriptions, cigarettes and beer.

Jerusalem UCC CCLI license number 2745745



Jerusalem United Church of Christ
 545 Church Drive, Palmerton, Pennsylvania 18071
 Church office: (610) 681-4412
www.jerusalemucc.org
 Facebook: Jerusalem Trachsville UCC
 Rev. Kathryn Foster, Pastor
 Home: (610) 261-9015 ~ cell: (610) 554-7364