

## September 2019

### JERUSALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



545 Church Drive, Palmerton, PA 18071 (Trachsville) Phone: (610) 681-4412 Facebook: Jerusalem Trachsville UCC Website: <u>www.jerusalemucc.org</u>

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 CopeSexton:Barry George

#### **Contact Information**

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President: Ed I Vice-President: Rick Acting Secretary: Ly	Anderson 610	-681-3878	braderwoodcraft@gmail.com Randerson@serviceteam.com juccsecy@ptd.net
Additional Members	Barry George Lorrie Nothstein Saralyn Sarandis	,	pel Duane Hawk





Dear Members and Friends,

I have seen quite a few rainbows lately.... If I can, I pause to look at them or take pictures of them. Rainbows take a rainstorm and add sun, making a thing of beauty. To me, a rainbow is a sign of God's hope for the people of this planet. It is a sign of God's promise to me, that though we experience instability and suffering, in some way in this world God will carry me through it just as the Ark carried Noah and his family through the flood to safety.

A journalist recently asked comedian, and openly Roman Catholic, Stephen Colbert, if he really believes suffering is a gift from God. Colbert lost his father and brothers in a plane crash when he was very young. Colbert gently stated, "Yes." He said our own pain and grief allow us to comprehend and understand the grief and pain of others, and to desire then to connect or reach out to those others in love and compassion.

I see that pain and grief can do this sometimes. I also see that it has the opposite effect at other times. Pain is painful. It is hard to get past. Pain makes us feel alone. That is why I stop and enjoy rainbows, because at the same time, life is life and I do not get to choose this environment. However, I can look at the world around me, the rainbows and other beautiful things around me and feel God carrying me through it.

In this, often, upsetting political climate, there is still God. Psalm 46:10 says, *"Be still, and know that I am God."* After all the maneuvers of humanity, God is still God, and I know God walks with me. Every time I see a rainbow, I feel that.

See you in church!

Pastor Kathryn

#### MESSAGE FROM THE CONSISTORY PRESIDENT SEPTEMBER 2019

Hello Fellow Members and Friends of JUCC ~

I was on vacation for ten days and unfortunately missed the Sunday services on August 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. I heard through the grapevine that our Youth (YRT), and the 55 & Alive ladies did a great job in heading those services. Thank you! Your efforts are much appreciated!

I have also learned that our annual Community Church Picnic had a very successful day in raising over \$7,000 profit. A *"BIG Thank you"* to all those folks who helped out in any way, whether it was providing items for the cake walk, preparing and serving food, donating raffle items, selling food and raffle tickets or providing the enjoyable entertainment. It certainly was a rewarding day in so many ways. GREAT TEAM WORK!

We now need to keep that "team work" attitude as we prepare for our largest fund raiser of the year – The Palmerton Festival! This event goes a long way in supporting our church budget and ministry. The new food trailer has been renovated and equipped to meet the challenge. I encourage anyone and everyone who is able to help in any way to please see Wendy Hoppel. There is much to do and many opportunities for you to pitch in. Please spread the word to family, friends, and neighbors to come out to the Festival and enjoy "The Original Happy Bowl", as well as those delicious chicken barbeque sandwiches.

On September 10<sup>th</sup>, we will be having the first meeting of our newly formed Governance and Policy Committee. The hope and purpose of this committee is to review, formulate, and establish policy guidelines that will clearly define the manner in which we conduct our church's business. This will be an ongoing process which will take time, patience, and cooperation. The committee will be seeking information from our existing groups and committees in order to develop the best policies possible, clearly leading us on a path to do God's will. So, I encourage all groups and individuals to please be willing participants in this process. Much information and input will be needed to develop these policies.

Finally, a quick update on our building addition. We have received the final septic design plan from our engineer and have submitted that plan to the township for final approval. The last item we need to have completed is the storm water run-off plan. We hope to have that very soon. We will then put our bid packages together and begin the bidding process. We will keep you updated as we move forward and more information becomes available.

See you in church – and at the Palmerton Festival!

Peace be with you ~

Ed Brader - Consistory President

Remember – "God's Work – Our Hands"

#### SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PROGRAMS

\*\*Registration required for all programs\*\*

**Nursery (infant to pre-K):** Meets with Judy Hessinger at 9:00 AM in the Sunday School room. For the nursery, parents are required to stay on premises and may be asked to stay with their children depending on planned activities.

<u>Children (ages 5-12)</u> "Children's Church" program begins during the 9 am service; children are released for Bible School around 9:15 AM. Parents are encouraged to stay for church service. Registration required. <u>NOTE:</u> Play clothes are recommended! We sometimes get messy!

**Youth Group (ages 13-17):** Meets the last Sunday of each month @ 6pm. Please contact Jessie Walters, our Youth Group Director at juccyouthgroup@gmail.com or call 484-358-6720 for more info.

<u>Adult Sunday School</u>: Adult Sunday School will meet in the choir room @ 9 am beginning on September 15<sup>TH</sup>

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#### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS**

What a great Summer and it is wrapping up so quickly. VBS/Sports and Arts Jamboree was held July 15-18th this year with a closing program and Family Carnival on July 21st. We had 25 kids and almost as many volunteers! This year's theme was Camp Jerusalem - Heroes and Sheroes. We highlighted Moses, Esther, David and of course, Jesus. We celebrated each Hero and Shero with a re-enactment by our own Pastor Kathryn. She rocked each character - however, she could have won an Oscar for her portrayal of Queen Esther, and Bob as Mordecai, was a real hoot! One of our favorite nights was Wednesday night when the kids were treated to dunking the Pharaoh and Goliath (both Rick Anderson) in the dunk tank. We weren't sure if we were going to be able to have VBS outside due to impending storms. Well - we prayed and a window of opportunity presented itself and we had so much fun trying to dunk Rick, and even Ed Brader got into the act! At the end of the evening the kids went into the field and we launched water balloons toward each other, then chaos broke out as there was a free for all water balloon battle including staff and parents. The evening ended with a sweet gentle rain where we all laughed as we went into Ryman Hall for a wrap up of the evening. God's is Good. All the time!! As part of VBS the kids participated in a mission where tie blankets were assembled. These blankets will be given to members of the congregation whom Pastor Kathryn feels could use some extra lovin' from our kiddos. We also assembled sensory bags. A non-profit organization called Turn To Us services adults and children with ongoing medical issues. One of the populations this organization supports is children on the Autism Spectrum. We are supporting this organization by providing Sensory Bags. The bags we assembled had a stress ball, a sensory stick, a sensory mat, a calming bottle and a small stuffed coloring bear. This bag would be great to take along on trips or while waiting at the doctor's office. The kids at VBS assembled the items and were given the option of keeping the item or donating to the bag. All I can say is our kids have the biggest hearts when it comes to giving of themselves. We are blessed as a congregation to have such amazing, loving kids in our midst.

Now for the upcoming school year! Some of our kids will be entering 7th grade and will be going to church and Confirmation class. The kids who are entering 1st grade will join us in

Sunday School. We are requesting that the kids in First Grade sit in the church service until after the Children's Message. The Nursery will be available for kids birth up to Kindergarten with the option of the Kindergarten child remaining in the Nursery and then attending some Sunday School classes when they feel ready. In September we will distribute registration forms for the kids.

Enjoy the remaining Summer! Blessings, Marcia Heinick

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#### **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

Confirmation class for youth going into 7th grade or above will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month @ 6 pm beginning September 19<sup>th</sup> until May 2020. Any parent who desires this spiritual step for their child should contact Pastor Kathryn for participation expectations.



"...pray for one another, so that you may be healed." (James 5:13) "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing..." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-17) As disciples of Jesus, we seek to pray daily. Below is a list of those who need our prayers.

#### Shorter term prayer concerns:

Anna Bowman Timothy Henning Duane Hawk Carolyn Mackes & family Helen Smale

#### Longer term prayer concerns:

Jim Buck Bonnie O'Brien Dalton Fredericks George & Linda Seidel Jessie Walters Joanne Frable Kathleen Ridenour Marie Burger Jim Kindrew

Orpha Shaffer Bob Buck Barry Smale Mark Stetler Dorothy Summers Dick Strausberger Jeff Eckhart Kalli Sarandis

Kayla Johnson Gerald Hawk Linda Mackes

#### FAMILY CARE GIVER GROUP!

A Family Care Giver Support Group is now scheduled for the second Thursday of each month. In order to serve all potential needs, alternating times of evenings at 6pm and mornings at 11am will be offered. Meetings will be held on <u>September 12th</u> at 11:00 am and on <u>October</u> <u>10<sup>th</sup></u> at 6:00 pm. The group will meet in the Choir Room and is open to the public. If you know of anyone who is struggling with caring for a family member, please let them know that this support group may assist them with education and fellowship to ease their caring work. Facilitated by Jennie Serfass from Manor Care. No RSVP necessary.



#### MONTHLY GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT GROUP



Monthly Grief and Loss Support Group at JUCC will meet on <u>September 11<sup>th</sup></u> –  $2^{nd}$  Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm. Directed by professional counselor, Sue Featro, M.E.D., E.D.D., M.S. Counseling, this group is for people experiencing grief due to trauma, loss or death. It is an effort to assist people in the surrounding community to heal and find peace.

#### **CHURCH IN THE GROVE**

On <u>Sunday</u>, <u>September  $8^{th}$ </u> we will have one final "church in the grove" service at 9 AM. Bring along a lawn chair and enjoy the glory of God's nature along with a blended, contemporary church service!



#### September Scripture Readers

Sunday, September 15 @ 10:30 a.m. Lana Kuehner Sunday, September 22 @ 10:30 a.m. To Be Announced Sunday, September 29 @ 10:30 a.m. Stephanie Anderson

#### PLEASE CONSIDER

volunteering to read scripture at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Service. We are always in need of readers and would love to have some new voices! See Lyn for available dates!

#### **SEPTEMBER FLOWERS & BULLETIN SPONSORS**

September 1 – Leon & Danielle George in honor of Leon's birthday on	
August 31	
September 6 – Keith & Lorrie Nothstein in honor of their anniversary on Sept.	
19 <sup>th</sup> and Jamie & Darren Rockwell's anniversary on Sept. 18 <sup>th</sup>	
September 15 – Duane & Lisa Hawk in honor of their 36 <sup>th</sup> wedding anniversa	
September 23 – Lana Kuehner in honor of her birthday on September 18	
September 29 – Denise & Terry Goodhile in honor of their 40 <sup>th</sup> wedding	
anniversary on September 29 <sup>th</sup>	





#### **Apple/Fall-Fest Chinese Auction**

<u>Apple/Fall-Fest Chinese Auction</u> baskets (or boxes or trays) of assorted items with an apple or fall theme or home decorative items, plants, etc. make nice prizes for the Chinese auction. Please bring any items for the Chinese Auction for the Apple Fall Fest to the church during office hours or to the festival by 9 AM, Saturday, October 5. All donations are appreciated. The Chinese auction corner has been a popular area at the festival for many years. Let's keep it going!

# Apple and Fall Festival

Jerusalem U.C.C. 545 Church Drive, Palmerton (Trachsville) (610) 681-4412 (located 1/2 mile off Rt. 209, behind Towamensing Fire Co)



# Saturday, October 5, 2019 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. In the Picnic Grove

featuring:

**Music** by God's House Band from noon until 3 p.m.

Chinese Auction and Meat Raffle

with drawings at 3 p.m.



homemade food, including apple dumplings, cobbler,

PA Dutch shoo-fly pie, apple or regular sausage sandwiches, soup, Bar-BQ, hot dogs and macaroni & cheese & ice cream! Wagon with apples, pumpkins, and fall items for decoration Graver's Apple Cider







It's Palmerton Festival Time! September 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>

It's not too early to start thinking about the Palmerton Festival! So...everyone please sharpen your favorite paring knife, dust off your largest cutting board, and find your Jerusalem UCC apron! Please see Wendy Hoppel in church to sign up to help out! *We Need YOU!* 

#### **SCHEDULE**

Tuesday, Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6:00 pm Polk Township Fire Company (Rt. 209) Please join us in starting to cut up all the veggies and lots of bread! Wednesday, Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 am to? More vegetable chopping! To help out – call Wendy at (H) 610-377-5946 or (M) 610-577-6772



#### FAREWELL FROM PAULA AND BOB ABEL

We have arrived safely at our condo in Myrtle Beach. Our new home in North Carolina won't be finished till November. Our address while in Myrtle Beach is 1229 38th Ave. N, Box 225, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577. I will update with our final address when we move in our home. It has been very hectic the last month, I thought we would never stop packing. We hoped to get to Church one more time but it didn't work out. I did bring some clothes to the Church bin and took a few minutes to walk our Church picnic grounds. I remembered the old grounds where our children played, but what beautiful improvements we have made. Looking at the Church I can envision the new addition; it will work beautifully with the picnic grounds. I am glad that we are leaving when the Church has such a bright and healthy future ahead. May God be with you all as Bob and I continue our faith journey in our new home.

#### HARVEST HOME SUNDAY – October 6<sup>th</sup>

To beautify our church and express our thanks to God for a bountiful life, we are asking that people donate nonperishable food items, canned goods and produce that will be either be donated to CACPAC, given away privately or sold to raise money for the church. You can bring nonperishable items for CACPAC or canned items any time; however please wait until Saturday, Oct 5<sup>th</sup> to drop off perishable produce items in the church building. **Thank you in advance!** 



#### **JUCC QUILTING GROUP!**



Interested in crafting, sewing or quilting? A group has formed here at JUCC and will be meeting on the  $2^{nd}$  and  $4^{th}$  Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The next meetings will be on <u>September 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup></u>. See (or call) Shelba for more info (610)704-3756. There will definitely be quilting going on, but this group could also involve other crafts/classes as well, depending upon your interests. It could also just be "open sew" where everyone works on their own projects. Bring your friends and enjoy some fun and fellowship!

The JUCC youth group has been very busy. They led the Sunday Service on August 11<sup>th</sup> with lots of participation and much fun! They are thinking about making this an annual event! The youth are very involved with the Family Promise shelter, and participated on August 16<sup>th</sup> at People's EC in Lehighton. They had a go-kart and mini golf outing on August 8<sup>th</sup>, are planning a potential beach trip for Labor Day weekend, and plan to participate in "Sleep-Out for Homelessness" at New Creation UCC in Easton on September 28<sup>th</sup>. They are also discussing involvement in the Lehighton Crop Walk on October 13<sup>th</sup> or planning a walk of their own. Watch for more news about this exciting and busy group of young people!



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*Thank you* to everyone who donated to the West End Food Pantry on Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup>. We collected 38 backpacks, notebooks and cash! JUCC was called <u>"Awesome – Awesome – Awesome"!</u>





Wine & Cheese Campfire! BYOB & BYOS! Fun & Fellowship Guaranteed! Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup> @ 6 p.m. Bring a lawn chair and your favorite beverages and snacks! Everyone is welcome!

#### 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.





Anyone who would like to have their own child blessed for the next school year may come to a Sunday service and ask for

Jerusalem UCC CCLI license number 2745745

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