

JERUSALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE TRAVELER



545 Church Drive, Palmerton, PA 18071 (Trachsville)

www.jerusalemucc.org / (610)-681-4412

Follow Us on Facebook: Jerusalem Trachsville UCC



JULY 2020

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

Pastor: Rev. Kathryn Foster
Office Hours: By Appointment

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Church Secretary: Jillian Kuntzman
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(hours subject to change)

Office: (610) 681-4412
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Director of Music: Shelba Scheffner

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Treasurer: Steph Anderson (610) 681-3878 / stephand@ptd.net

Financial Secretary: Debbie Cope (610) 681-5033

Sexton: Barry George

CHURCH CONSISTORY

President:	Ed Brader	484-357-3551	braderwoodcraft@gmail.com
Vice-President:	Rick Anderson	610-681-3878	Randerson@serviceteam.com
Secretary:	Lorrie Nothstein	610-442-7437	loke4evr@hotmail.com

Additional Members

Barry George	Marcia Heinick	Bob Buck	Lyn Summers
Duane Hawk	Saralyn Sarandis	Jaclyn Wonderly	Kelli George



Dear Members and Friends,

Last month I wrote to you about the undeserved suffering of Job. Many of us are suffering now, but at the same time, many of us are receiving blessing, even in the midst of this crisis. God is still with us and God is still in the heavens working God's plan. These are also turbulent times. We see injustices in moments on our TV or internet devices. We see completely opposing points of view on the validity of this pandemic, and other issues. We see criticisms and justifications. Even a Discovery Channel series trying to figure out "Why we hate" (which I recommend watching, by the way.) We ask, "What do we believe?"

In my Tuesday night bible study on the book of Acts, we read about the disciples journeys after the resurrection and ascension of Jesus. Yep, Jesus walked and talked with the disciples for only 40 days after his resurrection and then abruptly left the earth to return to his home in the heavens - our home too, once we finish our work in this place. He left us to manage it. The disciples' accounts in Acts, speak of many successes as well as sufferings.... Read it. You will see them trying to work it out with only the Spirit to guide them.

In Micah 6:8 God tells us that what is "good," is to "do justice," to "love kindness," and to "walk humbly with God." However, what is justice, when we feel oppressed ourselves? Can we love kindness if abused ourselves? What is humility with God, when we must "feel" after God and try to find God, as the Apostle Paul tells the scholars of Athens in Acts 17?

Paul addresses this issue in Romans chapter 8. He says, through everything, those who walk according to the Spirit, rather than according to the flesh, ("flesh" means worrying too much about our bodily needs and stuff) are "more than conquerors through Christ who loved us."

We can overcome with God's help. Whatever real or imagined hardships, the most important thing is that we must act rightly with "truth and love" as is stated in 2 John. I encourage you to repel works of darkness and evil in our time. We must speak our truths calmly and with care, reasoning together, understanding each other's concerns. There are many ways to think about justice. God instructs us to care for the poor and weak, not discriminate, and show mercy. If we do not, we sin and fall short of "the royal law." (James 2:5-13).

Stay Strong; Stay well; Serve people; the church was created for such a time as this.

Pastor Kathryn

MESSAGE FROM THE CONSISTORY PRESIDENT
JULY 2020

Psalm 50:15 ESV

And call upon me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

I hope you are all safe and well.

The past 3 ½ months have certainly been strange and challenging times. Our consistory has been meeting weekly to evaluate and develop plans and timelines for our future church services. Information about COVID-19 and how to plan safely seems to change almost daily.

Most all of our church programs and activities have been put on hold throughout this time. Fortunately, Pastor Kathryn, Bob and Shelba have continued to provide meaningful Sunday services. We want to thank all 3 of you for your efforts in making these services possible. Our conference minister recently told me of an interesting statistic; that it takes twice the amount of time to prepare a live stream or recorded service over the time needed to prepare a normal Sunday service. So again, Pastor Kathryn THANK YOU, for all your efforts in this regard.

I am writing this article on June 23rd in order to have it submitted to Jillian, our church secretary, in time to go to print by the end of the week. That being said, the consistory will be sending out a letter shortly explaining the format and safety requirements for our future services. The majority of the summer services we are planning to have in the grove. We will be following the CDC guidelines, including social distancing and wearing of masks. We are also finalizing plans for services in the church sanctuary. Social distancing and masks will also be required for church services.

Pastor Kathryn will be on a well-deserved vacation on Sunday, July 5th. We will hold the July 5th service in the grove with members of our congregation leading the service.

Finally, I want to thank all the members who have faithfully been sending in their weekly contributions. Your financial support is greatly appreciated. The consistory also wants to thank you all for your patience, prayers and understanding as we continue to work out the details of our plans moving forward. God is with us. God will guide us.

Peace be with you,

Ed Brader
Consistory President



CHURCH SERVICE IN THE GROVE

THE SUNDAY, JULY 5TH CHURCH SERVICE WILL BE IN THE CHURCH GROVE AT 9:00 AM.

Everyone, please bring your lawn chairs and face masks. **We will follow CDC guidelines with social distancing and masks required.** The service will be recorded and be available for viewing by 11:00 am on the Jerusalem UCC website for those who do not wish to attend the service.

Pastor's Note: If any church member has any basic needs that are unmet and we at the church might help, please call me on my cell phone. I am available for phone calls, video conferencing, and some people can respond for deliveries. This is a difficult time for everyone, but God is still helping and guiding us. Reach out to those in your network/circle to make sure we care for others as we would want to be cared for. Many Thanks. **Also, if anyone needs help with accessing the online services** or groups, please let me know. I can try to walk you through it by phone call. ~Pastor Kathryn~

SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PROGRAMS

****Let us know if you are not getting info on this but would like to!****

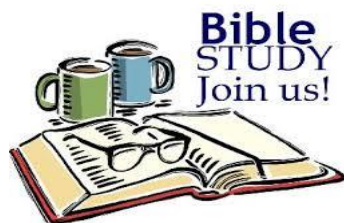
Nursery (infant to pre-K): Marcia is emailing recordings of bible stories for the nursery children

Children (ages 5-12) Marcia is holding Sunday School on Zoom for this age group at 10am

Youth Group (ages 13-17): Will resume when the church building is open

Adult Sunday School: Will resume when the church building is open

Bible Study Video/Audio Conference: Tuesday evenings 7pm to 9pm, call, text, email pastor for the connection link



BIBLE STUDY!! JOIN ANYTIME!!

Bible study is held Tuesdays from 7pm until 9pm with Pastor Kathryn on a WEB Platform. Contact the pastor for the connection link. The group is studying the book of Acts. The Bible study will continue indefinitely!

MONTHLY GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

The Monthly Grief and Loss Support Group at JUCC meets twice a month – on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 1:00pm, and the 4th Thursday @ 6:30pm. **The group is presently being held on a web platform.** 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. **Please contact the pastor for the link, or check for the invitation link on our Facebook page.** People are managing to find and make use of this important ministry. Thanks to God and to the members of JUCC who make it possible!



JUCC QUILT & CRAFTS GROUP WILL BE MEETING IN JULY!



Interested in crafting, sewing or quilting? JUCC Quilt & Crafts Group is scheduled the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **This month the group will be meeting on July 9th and July 23rd.** See (or call) Shelba for more info (610)704-3756. There will definitely be quilting going on, but this group also involves 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!

FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP NOT MEETING

The Family Caregiver Support Group is not currently meeting. Please watch for details on the Jerusalem UCC Facebook page for information on when the group will resume.

This support group assists anyone who is struggling with caring for a family member. It provides them with education and fellowship to ease their caring work.

Facilitated by Jennie Serfass from Manor Care.





SPECIAL SUNDAY SERVICES

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY IS CURRENTLY IN PLANNING. STAY TUNED!



Due to current public health concerns, we are asking that people follow CDC and PA Health Guidelines. Check our website and Facebook pages for info.



JULY FLOWERS & BULLETIN SPONSORS

July 5 – Robert Buck in memory of Clair & Pauline Buck

July 12 – Sherry Longacre in honor of her father Edwin Longacre’s birthday on July 4th

July 19 – Denise & Terry Goodhile in honor of son Kris’s birthday on July 2 & Terry’s birthday on July 18

July 26 – John & Penny Kleintop in memory of their beloved sister Kathryn (“Babes”) Kleintop Summers’ birthday on July 30 & in loving memory of their parents



JULY SCRIPTURE READERS

July 5th – Lana Kuehner
July 12th – Ed Brader
July 19th – Saralyn Sarandis
July 26th – Steph Anderson



Congratulations
Class of 2020!!!



In light of the coronavirus pandemic, this year's graduating class of 2020 missed out on traditional milestones like prom and physical graduations. We are honored to celebrate the high school and college graduates listed below for their achievements and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors. Congratulations!!!

Be brave and strong...the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Alyssa Acker



I attended Misericordia University and obtained a bachelor of science degree in Medical Imaging. After graduation, I am spending another year at Misericordia to obtain a certificate in Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

Parents: Tanya & Ron Frey and Phillip Acker
Grandfather: Barry George

Jamie Rockwell

As of May 2020, I have completed my Principal's Certification Program through Moravian College. This is a post Master's addition to my teaching certificate. I will be continuing my education through Slippery Rock University for my Doctoral Degree in Education.

Logan Kresge



Logan graduated from Palmerton High School on June 15th at the Pocono Raceway. He'll be attending Penn State University at State College in the Fall majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

Parents: Steph and Rick Anderson, and Jack (Skip) Kresge

Kelly Heinick



Kelly graduated from Palmerton High School on June 15th.

Kelly's activities included: Marching Band, Concert Band, Drama, National Honor Society, Environmental Club, Yearbook and The Buddies Club.

Kelly plans on attending Penn State University in the Fall and Majoring in Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Parents: Tom and Marcia Heinick

Quintin Snyder



Quintin Snyder is a 2020 graduate of Central Bucks West High School.

Quintin has been an avid band member, participating in Jazz, Symphonic, Marching and Indoor Percussion on a variety of instruments including trombone, euphonium, baritone, bass guitar, bass drum and auxiliary percussion. He was Low Brass Section Leader in Marching Band, a multi-year participant in the Ronald Lamar Select Wind Ensembles and a two-year select participant in the Bucks County Music Educators Association Wind Ensemble.



In addition, he works in Dining Services at the Pine Run Retirement Community, part of the Doylestown Health Network, and has continued working in this essential role during the Covid-19 pandemic.

He plans to attend Bucks County Community College and pursue a degree in Chemistry.

Parents: Earl and Patti Snyder



If you have an article you'd like to submit for the August Newsletter please email it to Jillian, our church secretary, by July 17, 2020. You can contact her at 610-681-4412 or by email at juccsecy@ptd.net



CHECK OUT THE PNEC'S WEBSITE!

Go to www.pnec.org and check out all the information about meetings, messages, ministries, trainings, resources and upcoming events. Just click on "News & Events" and then go to "This Week in PNEC" for all the latest news!

2020 Annual Events Schedule:

Annual Church Picnic - August 1st

Flea Market – August 14th & 15th

Palmerton Festival “Happy Bowl” Food Stand – September 11th – 13th

Apple Fest - October 3rd

Holiday Bazaar/Basket Social – November 7th

***WATCH FOR UPDATES**

Picnic Time!



NOTE: A decision has not been made yet if this event will be held

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

Saturday, August 1st from 12 noon to 9 pm

Kids Games ~ Kids Cake Walk ~ Adults Cake Walk

Music by “Main Street Cruisers”

GREAT FOOD, GREAT FUN, GREAT ENTERTAINMENT!
BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS AND SPEND THE DAY

***WATCH FOR FURTHER DETAILS & UPDATES!**



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2-Day Flea Market!

August 14th from 9am to 3pm

&

August 15th from 8am to 1pm

In the Church Grove.

Something for Everyone! Great Prices! Everything Must Go!

What a Year!

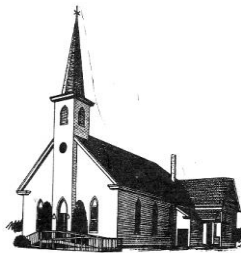
***WATCH FOR FURTHER DETAILS!**

Do You Know?

The JUCC sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assistance system?

You can ask an usher for a receiver to help you to hear during the service.

Jerusalem UCC CCLI license number 2745745



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