

# JERUSALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

# THE TRAVELER



545 Church Drive, Palmerton, PA 18071 (Trachsville)

[www.jerusalemucc.org](http://www.jerusalemucc.org) / (610)-681-4412

Follow Us on Facebook: Jerusalem Trachsville UCC



## SEPTEMBER 2020

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

**Pastor:** Rev. Jennika Borger conducting Sunday Services

**Support Pastor:** Rev. David Quinn (610) 844-6609

**Church Secretary:** Jillian Kuntzman

Office: (610) 681-4412

Office Hours: Tue. thru Fri. 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Email: [juccsecy@ptd.net](mailto:juccsecy@ptd.net)

*(hours subject to change)*

**Director of Music:** Shelba Scheffner

[shelba.scheffner@gmail.com](mailto:shelba.scheffner@gmail.com)

**Director of Christian Ed:** Marcia Heinick

[mheinick@ptd.net](mailto:mheinick@ptd.net)

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

**Financial Secretary:** Debbie Cope (610) 681-5033

**Sexton:** Barry George

### **CHURCH CONSISTORY**

<b>President:</b>	Ed Brader	484-357-3551	<a href="mailto:braderwoodcraft@gmail.com">braderwoodcraft@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice-President:</b>	Rick Anderson	610-681-3878	<a href="mailto:Randerson@serviceteam.com">Randerson@serviceteam.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Lorrie Nothstein	610-442-7437	<a href="mailto:loke4evr@hotmail.com">loke4evr@hotmail.com</a>

### **Additional Members**

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

MESSAGE FROM THE CONSISTORY PRESIDENT  
SEPTEMBER 2020



Hello Members and Friends of JUCC. I hope you are all safe and well.

It's hard to believe that two months have passed since we started the Sunday morning worship services from our grove. We have been blessed to have had great weather, with the exception of the one rainy Sunday. We had the rainy Sunday service in our sanctuary, allowing 25 people inside, and others listening to the service from their cars in the church parking lot. This sanctuary service did seem a bit odd, with everyone social distancing, but during the pandemic it's what we need to do to keep everyone safe. Let's pray for good weather into the fall as we continue to plan our Sunday services from the grove, as well as live streaming on Facebook.

On another note, several members have recently been asking about the terms and conditions of Pastor Kathryn's sabbatical leave. Since Pastor Kathryn has been our full-time pastor, the church has a contract with her which is a standard contract provided to us by the Penn Northeast Conference of the United Church of Christ. Among other things, this contract states that after 5 years of full-time service, the pastor is eligible for a 90-day sabbatical with full financial compensation and benefits. This 90-day period is a time of rest and discernment for the pastor. The sabbatical will end on October 11, 2020. The members of the congregation are not to have any communication with pastor during this time. It is a time to allow pastor to evaluate and reflect on her ministry and its future direction. The sabbatical leave is a common policy practice for professionals in education, business and faith-based organizations. I hope this explanation has been helpful.

As most of you know, Lois Beer, a long-time member of our church passed away in July. The church has been informed by the two executors and Lois's financial planner that Jerusalem UCC is one of the beneficiaries of Lois's estate. The amount of money the church will receive will be approximately \$200,000. We were informed by the executors and the financial planner that it was Lois's wish to have these funds used toward improvements to our church building. We are all grateful and appreciative for Lois's generous gift and the benefit it will provide toward the future ministry at Jerusalem UCC. (Thank you Lois)

Next, the consistory wants to thank Elise Binder and her team of facilitators for all their time and efforts in conducting the small group membership meetings these past several weeks. The information gathered from these meetings will allow the consistory to evaluate where we have been and where we see our future ministry heading. The consistory looks forward to evaluating this information and planning for the future.

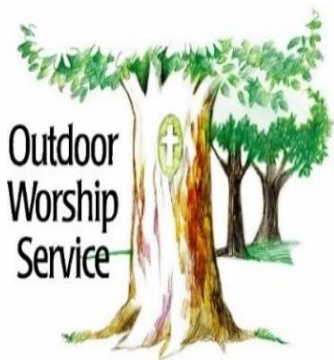
Lastly, we were able to receive final conditional approval on the land plan for the addition to our church. This was the last approval needed from the township before we apply for a building permit. The Future Building Use Committee will be meeting very shortly to evaluate all the bids and establish a final budget for our building project. This information and plan for construction will be presented to consistory for their review. This review and planning process may take several meetings as there is much to consider in planning the appropriate time line and budget for the project. The congregation will be informed of these plans as information becomes available.

Finally, the consistory would like to thank all of our members for your support and understanding as we navigate our way through these unusual times. Everyone's efforts are greatly appreciated and needed to continue the ministry God is calling us to do.

Peace be with you,

Ed Brader  
Consistory President

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**COME WORSHIP WITH US EACH SUNDAY IN THE CHURCH GROVE AT 9:00 AM.**

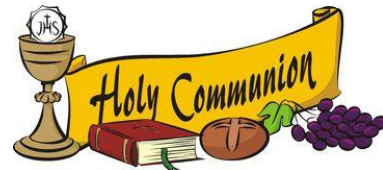
**We follow CDC guidelines with social distancing and face masks required.** Everyone, please bring your lawn chairs and face masks. You can remain in your car and listen to the service on 95.5 FM. The service will also be LIVE on Facebook at 9:00am. It will be recorded and available for viewing around 11:00am on the JUCC website for those who do not wish to attend the service. In case of inclement weather, the service will be held in the sanctuary (you can remain in your car for this service as well).

During Pastor Kathryn's sabbatical, if there is a need for an emergency requiring a pastor, please call **Rev. David Quinn at 610-844-6609.** He will be serving our members during this time of sabbatical.



**Rev. Jennika Borger is leading our Sunday worship services** during Pastor Kathryn’s sabbatical. Jennika is the chaplain at Moravian College. She is the granddaughter-in-law of Grace and Leonard Borger. We all welcome Jennika and greatly appreciate her generous offer.

**September 6<sup>th</sup> is Holy Communion**, please bring your own communion elements, none will be provided.



**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED**  
**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2020**

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Christian Education News September 2020



Happy September!!!

This will definitely be an interesting school year for all kids and young adults attending college, whether they attend school virtually or on a hybrid plan. Our prayer is that no matter how the kids attend school that they are safe as they strive to learn in these unprecedented times. Please pray for our administrators, teachers, support staff, transportation providers as we (yes, I am on that list 😊) try our best to serve our most precious children. Lots of people in our very own congregation serve the children in our community through the schools and we need prayers as we press forward.

I want to give a special thank you to Jacob Shafer, Olive Hunt and Nathan Shafer. I run the Sunday School Zoom class on Sunday Mornings at 10:30. It is an incredible treat to see the kids so eager to share their adventures they had during the week and to be so eager to learn

Bible Stories about incredible love that God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit have for us. All I can say is that there are a lot of cute puppies, dogs and an occasional cute cat that we see on the monitors! There have been a few weeks where I have been in meetings after church and I couldn't teach. Jacob Shafer offered, without solicitation, to teach a Zoom class in my absence! Of course, with the approval and support of his mom Rachael, Jacob ran the Zoom class! As a Sunday School teacher, I know that to teach, I have to be familiar with the lesson to teach it effectively, which is exactly what Jacob did. Well I attended the next week and once again I had to miss the following week and Olive was so happy to teach the next class as they made origami boats to teach how Jesus walked on water! It has been a crazy month and I once again have a meeting so Nathan is stepping up for this week. I allow this as it is a great teaching tool and their moms are Sunday School teachers so I know they can support the kids with the presentation and delivery. When asked how the kid teachers felt about leading the Zoom class, they said they were nervous at first but they really enjoyed it. I am so incredibly proud of these kids as should we all be. This Sunday School Zoom is a safe space to talk and share and it is a true blessing to see the kids wanting to share the Good News with others. I am excited to one day get back to in-person teaching but for now we are doing great in our Zoom space. Anyone interested in having your child, Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, participate in the Zoom class please contact me at 610-248-4875 or email me at [mheinick@ptd.net](mailto:mheinick@ptd.net).

Blessings for a safe, and beautiful September  
Marcia Heinick

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**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

**Children (ages 5-12)** Marcia is holding Sunday School on Zoom for this age group at 10:30am

**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:** Will resume at a future date

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*We are asking that people follow CDC and PA Health Guidelines.  
Please practice social distancing and wearing of face mask.  
Check our website and Facebook pages for info.*

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“...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:**

Mark & Kathy Stetler	Blanche Strausberger	Tammy Held (Hawk)
Shari Jacobs	Mildred Ahner	Wanda Pettit
Elaine George	Joanne Millward	
The family & church community of Donna Goodwin		

**Longer term prayer concerns:**

Jim Buck	Kayla Johnson	Bonnie O’Brien
Dalton Fredericks	Barry Smale	Linda Mackes
Jim Fritz	Ada Frederick	Dean Serfass
Elizabeth Krause	Timothy Henning	Duane Hawk
Doug Hawk	Joanne Frable	Helen Smale
Anna Bowman	Brenda Nothstein-Bunting	
Bill & Delores Scheffner		



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**Has your contact information changed?**

If your mailing address, phone number or email address has changed please contact the church office to update your information.

610-681-4412 or [juccsecy@ptd.net](mailto:juccsecy@ptd.net)



**Special Dates in September 2020**

Labor Day – September 7<sup>th</sup>  
 Patriot Day – September 11<sup>th</sup>  
 National Grandparents Day – September 13<sup>th</sup>  
 First Day of Autumn – September 22<sup>nd</sup>



## MONTHLY GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

The Monthly Grief and Loss Support Group at JUCC meets twice a month – on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 1:00pm, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 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 church office 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 QUILTS & CRAFTS GROUP HAS RESUMED MONTHLY MEETINGS!

Interested in crafting, sewing or quilting? JUCC Quilt & Crafts Group is scheduled the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **This month the group will be meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup> and September 24<sup>th</sup>.** 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 our website and Facebook page for information on when the group will resume.**

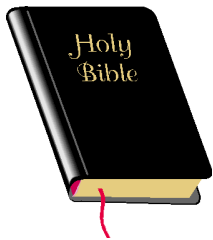
This support group assists anyone who is struggling with caring for a family member. It provides them with education and fellowship to ease their caring work.

Facilitated by Jennie Serfass from Manor Care.









**The JUCB Bible Study is on hold until further notice.**  
 Please watch for updates on our website and Facebook page for when the group sessions will resume.

**CANCELLED EVENTS**

The following events have been **CANCELLED** due to Covid-19 and for the safety of all involved.

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**Palmerton Festival – CANCELLED**

**Apple Fest – CANCELLED**

**Fall Bazaar - CANCELLED**



If you don't already receive "The Traveler" Newsletter by email and would like to, please send a request to [juccsecy@ptd.net](mailto:juccsecy@ptd.net)



**NewsLetter**  
**DEADLINE**

If you have an article you'd like to submit for the October Newsletter please email it to Jillian, our church secretary, by **Friday, September 18, 2020**. You can contact her at 610-681-4412 or by email at [juccsecy@ptd.net](mailto:juccsecy@ptd.net)

### REGISTER RECEIPTS

While services are being held in the grove, please continue to save your register receipts from Kinsley's Shop Rite in Brodheadsville, Weis Markets. Please bring the receipts each Sunday to church in the GROVE and place them on the table by the masks or give them to Lana Kuehner.



Receipts that will ***NOT*** be accepted include:

- Kinsley's receipts with the senior discounts, prescriptions, cigarettes, and beer, wine, lottery purchases or payouts.
- Weis Markets receipts with prescriptions, cigarettes, wine and beer, lottery purchases or payouts

#### **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



**Check JUCF Facebook or website for updates on cancellations, changes, delays or postponements.**

*If lights are flashing...  
...Don't be passing!  
Practice  
Back to School  
Safety!*



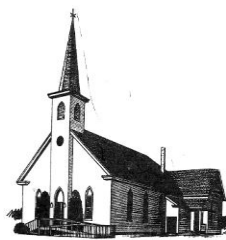
***Do You Know?***

*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.*

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Jerusalem UCC CCLI license number 2745745



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