

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



JANUARY 2021

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

Supply Pastor: Rev. Don Quayle

Conducting Sunday Services & Pastoral Support (610) 861-9203

Church Secretary: Jillian Kuntzman

Office: (610) 681-4412

Office Hours: Tue. thru Fri. 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Email: juccsecy@ptd.net

(hours subject to change)

Director of Music: Shelba Scheffner

shelba.scheffner@gmail.com

Director of Christian Ed: Marcia Heinick

mheinick@ptd.net

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

Duane Hawk

Saralyn Sarandis

Jaclyn Wonderly

Kelli George

Beverly Waibel

Jonathan Borger

Shelba Scheffner

Wendy Hoppel

MESSAGE FROM THE CONSISTORY PRESIDENT
JANUARY 2021



Hello Fellow Members and Friends of JUCC,

1st Peter Chapter 4 vs. 10 (TEV) : “Each one, as a good manager of God’s different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God.”

I hope you are all safe and well. As the year 2020 comes to a close I know it will certainly be a year most of us will never forget. The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged all of us in some manner. Our church family at JUCC has been challenged as well. There were times when our path to move forward was only blocked by another set of issues, which challenged our faith and our resolve.

With much prayer, patience, and the support of each other, God has guided us on His path to do His will. We were guided by the Lord to adjust the manner in which we operated the ministry God wants us to do. There were several times we stumbled on the Lord’s path, but He always picked us up and continued to guide us forward. We discovered we are a resilient congregation, comprised of folks with diverse gifts. We discovered much about ourselves and our God given talents to do the ministry God is calling us to do at Jerusalem U.C.C.

We have a great team of folks who rely on each other and quietly step up to the plate when God calls us. This past year, our consistory worked tirelessly thru each and every challenge. Although, for safety reasons, we were not able to hold our fundraisers this year, most all of the groups of our church found ways to continue their ministries. We also were able, with support of all the members, to continue our financial aid to those ministries that are an important part of our community (Family Promise, CACPAC, Valor House, JUCC Food Pantry).

When you take into account all the many blessings, we often times take for granted, you come to realize that our Lord has a great plan for our ministry to grow. We have been blessed to have a beautiful grove, (which really got a workout this year) enabling us to have very meaningful Sunday services throughout this summer and into late fall. Our “Praise Band” led by Shelba, Lynn and Paul, provided us with beautiful music giving us a level of comfort to let us know that everything was going to be ok, and the Lord is always with us.

One thing we should realize from the challenges we faced this past year is that God has blessed all of us with specific gifts. It is up to each of us to push ourselves to realize God’s gift and to use these gifts to do His will. Our path forward into 2021 will be filled with a new set of opportunities. God’s work is never done. Let’s use our gifts to meet those challenges. As it is simply stated in 1st Peter Chapter 4 vs. 10, “it is up to each of us to use those special gifts he has received for the good of others.”

Finally, we all want to thank Pastor Jennika Borger for leading our Sunday morning grove services throughout the summer into early October, and “Thank You” to Pastor Don Quayle who is currently serving as our supply pastor. Thank you both for sharing your gifts with all of us.

Peace be with you,

Ed Brader
Consistory President



During the winter months, our Sunday worship services will be led by Supply Pastor, Don Quayle. He has also generously offered pastoral support for our congregation. If there's an emergency requiring a pastor please contact

Pastor Don Quayle at 610-861-9203.

Thank You!



As many of you know, Ed Brader will be finishing his 4-year term on Consistory at year end, 3 of those years as the President.

Ed has been a positive role model for so many of us in the church. He has worked diligently to help our church live up to our goals that we set for ourselves in our mission statement. He always has a welcoming smile for anyone visiting. He has been the voice of reason many times, especially over the past year as we've struggled with how to move forward safely, but still get together for worship.

We know that we all have a great example of how a good Christian acts and conducts himself in the way Ed has done over the past 4 years. We hope after Ed takes a much-deserved break from hands-on leadership, that he'll jump in again with all his heart just as he did before.

Thank you, thank you, thank you Ed, for your wonderful service to all of us, our church, and our Lord, Jesus Christ.

NEW CONSISTORY MEMBERS

There will be a special Installation for the new Consistory Members on **Sunday, January 3,** 2021 at the 10:30 am Service. Our new members are Jonathan Borger, Wendy Hoppel, Shelba Scheffner and Beverly Waibel. Please show your support for these new leaders in our church!

January 3rd is Holy Communion, please bring your own communion elements, none will be provided.



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 9:30am

Youth Group (ages 13-17): Jessie is holding YRT on Zoom the last Sunday of every month at 6:30pm

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

Bible Study Video/Audio Conference: Will resume at a future date



*“...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

Norman Martin

Barbara Borger

Earl Meckes

Mary Meckes

The Family of Arlene Kibler

Carolyn Hill & Family

Shari Jacobs

Delbert Knecht

Terry & Sandy Voght

Family of Aleen Zacharias

Betty Nothstein

Tammy Landon & Family

Wanda Pettit

Jeff Eckhart

JoAnne Buzinski

Jane Pershing

Buzz Hill



Longer term prayer concerns:

Jim Buck

Dalton Fredericks

Ada Frederick

Timothy Henning

Joanne Frable

Brenda Nothstein-Bunting

Kayla Johnson

Barry Smale

Dean Serfass

Duane Hawk

Helen Smale

Bill & Delores Scheffner

Bonnie O'Brien

Linda Mackes

Elizabeth Krause

Doug Hawk

Anna Bowman

Millie Lehman



A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who donated to the Shut-ins gift boxes. We prepared around 30 bags/boxes. They were delivered by my Elves-Debbie Cope, Donna Mackes, Jillian Kuntzman, Beverly Waibel & me.

COVID-19 precautions were maintained doing this entire MISSION.

God's Grace to All,
Lana Kuehner

THANK YOU

A Special Thank You to Steph Anderson, Kelli George and Amy Shupp for organizing and distributing the “Adopt-A-Family” Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinner Mission Project. Also, “Thank You” to our congregation for your generous donations! If you would like to make a donation to the food pantry, please make checks payable to JUCC and mark “food pantry” on the envelope.

With Appreciation

No need for more talk about the great challenge that was 2020, right? But I do need to make mention of the special people in our church who, week after week, showed up to make sure that we could worship safely, whether in our cars, on Facebook, or live in our beautiful grove. For those who hauled/set up/tore down equipment, recorded the services, cleaned the grove, and tended to the many details needed to make our services happen - my sincerest appreciation. Stephanie Ryan, Jillian Rossi, Kelly Heinick - you add your voices in such a beautiful way. Pastor Quayle, did you expect to be preaching the Word in full winter gear?? And always with a smile. And to Paul Rice and Lynn Mastio-Rice - you bring the music and MUCH more, and I'm so, so thankful.

Looking forward to another year with you all in God's house.
Shelba



*36 hats
18 pairs of gloves and mittens
11 sets of hats and gloves/mittens
41 pairs of socks and slippers
9 scarves*

WOW! Thank you!

A big warm “THANK YOU” for everything given to decorate the “Hat and Mitten tree.” The tree was FILLED with hats, mittens, gloves, scarves and socks! All the items were taken to the Eldred Community Center for needy people living in the area served by the center.

Your generosity and kindness are appreciated!
Donna Mackes

Update from Andrea Lazicki

Happy, healthy, warm and wonderful holiday blessings to all of you! May the new year offer the same as we move forward into 2021!

I need to update all of you on my year as a Licensed Minister within the UCC denomination and as a Chaplain with Phoebe Ministries. It's been an interesting and challenging year in ministry as I know it's been challenging for everyone in various ways. When the pandemic was officially announced and we all stopped in our tracks I stayed home too and began telechaplancy for Phoebe Richland. For months I made phone calls and zoom calls to residents to keep in touch and offer encouragement and hope during such an uncertain and scary time. I returned to on site chaplaincy in August and have been navigating through the many changes and have enjoyed the return to face to face communication and care. We had a brief few weeks filled with programming and worship services but once again that came to a halt in October. Since October I've had many one to one visits which includes sharing of stories, sharing of the struggles associated with this pandemic and also prayer and blessings too. I love my chaplaincy position and the opportunity to serve our Lord!

In November I was offered an additional position by Rev. Dr. Becky Beckwith and the consistory of TGS to join them at Trinity Great Swamp UCC in Spinnerstown, close to Phoebe Richland, as their Interim Visitation Pastor. I accepted this part- time pastoral position and I've learned a lot in my short time on board with this special group of people. I can't meet and greet face to face yet but as time moves on and I communicate through the great gift we have in technology I feel confident I'll meet everyone soon. I have a number of residents in my care at Phoebe that are members at Trinity Great Swamp. I'm excited and honored to be a part of a team working to serve and care for folks in Bucks County.

As we continue to journey through this interesting year I do give thanks to God for the beautiful yet small wedding celebration our family experienced as Kelsey married Brendan Gleason in Philadelphia at their Alma Mater of St. Joseph's University. October 10th gave us gorgeous weather and we had an extra special day celebrating their wedding.

Family life and my life in ministry has offered many blessings and I pray the new year will offer blessings and wonderful days for all of us and Jerusalem UCC, my home church. I love to worship with everyone in Trachsville and share in the goodness and grace God has granted us in these days!

Blessings and Peace!
Andrea

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 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 QUILT & CRAFTS GROUP

Our group will be meeting again in January, the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month (**1/14 and 1/28, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.**). We have a variety of crafts happening, from quilting to cross stitch to bag making. We welcome any crafters to join us. Some friends just stop by to hang out with our lively group - that is good, too! Social distancing is easy in the church basement, with each person having at least one large table to work on. Call Shelba if you need further information: 610/704-3756.

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.





JANUARY FLOWERS & BULLETINS SPONSORS



January 3 – Jamie & Darren Rockwell in honor of their daughter Blair's birthday

January 10 – Tammy Landon in honor of her son Cory – Happy Birthday!

January 17 – Rick & Lisa Williams in memory of their son Seth

January 24 – Debbie Cope in memory of loved ones

January 31 – Cole & Mason George and Tanner & Paige Burnett in honor of their grandmother Elaine George's birthday

The following dates are available in 2021 to sponsor
flowers and bulletins (\$35 donation):

**February 21, February 28, March 21, July 18, August 1, August 22,
September 5, September 26, and October 31.**

Please see Debbie Cope. She can also be reached by phone
at 610-681-5033 or by e-mail at gacope@ptd.net.



JANUARY SCRIPTURE READERS

January 3rd – Lynn Mastio Rice

January 10th – Ed Brader

January 17th – Steph Anderson

January 24th – Lisa Hawk & Kim Williams

January 31st – Lana Kuehner

PLEASE CONSIDER...

Volunteering to read scriptures at
the 10:30am Sunday service.

We are always in need of readers
and would love to have some
new voices!

Contact Jillian at the church office
for available dates!



**The JUCC 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.

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



Tune in to TV Channel 69 (WFMZ) or Blue Ridge Channel 13 for JUCC winter weather closings and delays. You can also view weather related postings on our website and Facebook page.

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



Newsletter
DEADLine

If you have an article to submit for the February Newsletter please email it to Jillian, our church secretary, by **Friday, January 22, 2020.**

FMI call 610-681-4412 or email juccsecy@ptd.net

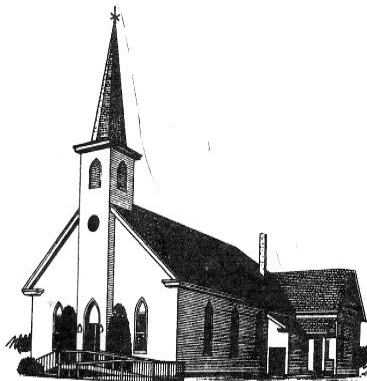


If you don't already receive **"The Traveler" Newsletter** by email and would like to, please send a request to juccsecy@ptd.net

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



Jerusalem UCC CCLI license number 2745745



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