

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



FEBRUARY 2023

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

Pastor: Rev. Marian Johnson (610) 462-3150
Email: pastormarianj@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Jillian Adamson 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

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

Financial Secretary: Jillian Adamson (610) 681-4412 / juccsecy@ptd.net

Sexton: Barry George

CHURCH CONSISTORY

President:	Wendy Hoppel	610-577-6772	wendy.k.hoppel@gmail.com
Vice-President:	Rick Anderson	610-972-0683	randerson@serviceteam.com
Secretary:	Lorrie Nothstein	610-442-7437	loke4evr@hotmail.com

Additional Members

Kelli George	Beverly Waibel	Jonathan Borger	Shelba Scheffner
Ed Brader	Tammy Landon	Jen Lesisko	Jillian Adamson

Pastor's Corner



My Dear Jerusalem UCC Family and Friends,

As I write to you today, I'm thinking about you and the love God has for all of us. And I want to thank you for all the love, support and appreciation that you share with me as your new pastor. You enrich my life so much and together we learn more about God's kingdom and God's dreams for our lives.

Happy Month of Love! February brings us many beautiful opportunities to express compassion and appreciation to everyone around us. God expresses His love through creating each of us as unique souls and individuals. He needs each one of us to share our personalities, our gifts and our human stories of struggle and triumph with those in the world around us. God loves us through our struggles and disappointments. He sends others to us to help us make it through the rough terrain. We are meant to journey life together.

Jesus asked 12 men to be His Apostles and help Him with his public ministry. Jesus knew the road ahead would require stamina, strategy and perseverance. People would be healed of lifelong illnesses, healed of being outcasts, healed of mental and emotional anguish. Those in power would not like His simple yet deeply profound theology of loving God and neighbor. And those who followed Jesus would need to be ready to love others and themselves with an agape love that transcends all conditions.

We are all God's Valentines – every one of us! We are all walking, breathing, tangible evidence of how much God loves us! And we are all inextricably linked to one another. Every action of ours affects another. We walk this path together and are sent to bring Jesus' love and our love to one another!

You are loved! You are enough! You are beautiful - with all your humanity and all your spirituality! God is counting on us to love one another in His Name! Let's go out there and create our new world together! God is on the move and so are we!!

Blessings and love,
Pastor Marian

You are *Beautiful*
For you are *Fearfully*
And *Wonderfully* made.

PSALM 139:14

FEBRUARY - Weekly Bible Verse

Sunday, February 5, 2023 - *Colossians 3:14* - And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Sunday, February 12, 2023 - *1 Corinthians 13:13* - So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Sunday, February 19, 2023 - *John 15:13* - Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

Sunday, February 26, 2023 - *1 Corinthians 13:4-7* - Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

MESSAGE FROM THE CONSISTORY PRESIDENT FEBRUARY 2023



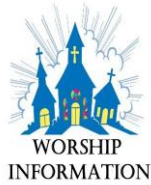
Greetings!

How can it possibly be February already? I think most of us would agree that February reminds us of Valentine's Day, pink and red hearts, flowers and roses, candy and chocolates, valentines and love. There's that word LOVE! I marvel at how much that word is used, we tend to love a lot of things in our life and express our affection in many ways. For close family and friends, we generally tend to show our love with hugs and kisses (I've been known to affectionally pinch a few cheeks or two especially with my grandkids!) OXOX!!! Reaching out a warm hand in a hand shake or resting on a shoulder can give physical comfort to many, a kind word to someone having a bad day can be mentally healing. Sending a card in the mail, a personal message in an email or text, or simply picking up the phone to say a cheery "Hello" can mean the world to the recipient to someone who is lonely and shows you love and care.

We tend to love many things. Along with our families, the physical things we own and worked so hard for, like our homes, our cars and all of our many clothes, food and belongings we possess, most of us would agree, we are blessed and thankful for the things we love so dearly and are fortunate to have.

We also have another great and unique love in our lives, the LOVE of our God and our church. I enjoy hearing stories from people in our congregation on how they happened to come to our Jerusalem. Some have no story at all, for they have always been here, as their parents and grandparents before them. I chuckle when I hear them say "I had no choice, my parents made me come, or else!" I can relate to that one. But then there are the beautiful stories of friends inviting friends and new neighbors, people stopping in for one of our many activities and observed us as we laughed and enjoyed each other's company in the grove, or at the Palmerton Festival and they commented that they too wanted to be a part of this LOVE for our church. I like to think what we have here is extra special, almost more than words can describe at times and I know this "special love" is unique to our beloved Jerusalem. We continue to grow physically as our new addition is almost completed, and in numbers as we grow in members and most certainly as we grow stronger in spirit, we continue to LOVE one another. This special love has been a part of Jerusalem for 175 years, as we celebrate this special milestone in this new year, won't you please share your stories and your history of this church with the Anniversary Committee? We have scheduled four meeting dates and would love to see you attend. Whether you have been a member for life, or for a few months, or you just stop in once in a while, you are a part of our history and you are LOVED. Come and spread your love and your story.

Keep the Faith, Wendy



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP



Come worship with us at 10:00AM inside in our beautiful sanctuary!

You can also remain in your vehicle in the parking lot and listen on 95.5 FM.

The service can be viewed live on our Facebook page and on our website after the conclusion.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!



Sunday, February 5th we will have Holy Communion. Elements are provided by the church. Thank you to Kim Williams & Shirley Hawk for volunteering to perform this service.

Jerusalem UCC 2023 Consistory

Wendy Hoppel – President

Rick Anderson – Vice President

Lorrie Nothstein – Secretary

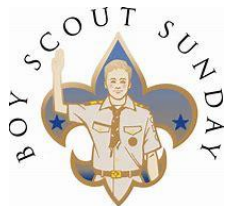
Steph Anderson – Treasurer

Jillian Adamson – Financial Secretary

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Jonathan Borger, Ed Brader, Kelli George, Tammy Landon,

Jen Lesisko, Shelba Scheffner, Beverly Waibel



**Boy Scout Sunday is February 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. We will also be doing a canned soup drive that Sunday. Watch for more details.**



**The Community Lenten Services will be every Wednesday in March at 7:00pm. The first Wednesday of the month, March 1, 2023, will be held at Jerusalem UCC. The theme is “Amazing Grace”. Please watch for more information in the weekly announcements and on our Facebook page and website.**



**Ash Wednesday – Lent Begins – February 22<sup>nd</sup>**



*“...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.*

We are currently updating our prayer request lists and are also adding an *Answered Prayers* list. Please speak to Pastor Marian or a member of our Care Team to make any additions or changes.

**Shorter term prayer concerns:**

- |                        |                   |                            |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Mark & Kathy Stetler   | Buzz Hill         | Mary Beth Beers            |
| Judy Hessinger         | Joseph Turoscy    | Gavin Stroup               |
| Eric Breiner           | Faye Haydt        | Katie Huelskamp            |
| Sherry Longacre        | David             | Doris Behler               |
| Marveline Costenbader  | Barbara Borger    | Darlene Serfass            |
| Steven Rohner & Family | Danielle & Family | The Family of Colin Berger |
| Bob Andrews            | Tina              | Lou                        |

**Longer term prayer concerns:**

- |                           |                 |                                   |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Dalton Fredericks         | Barry Smale     | Linda Mackes                      |
| Elizabeth Krause          | Timothy Henning | Joanne Frable                     |
| Helen Smale               | Anna Bowman     | Marla Schmidt                     |
| Micheal McCabe            | Lana Kuehner    | Mildred Green                     |
| Bill Yelland and Family   | Alverta Strohl  | Jean George                       |
| Gerald & Lenora Robertson | Susan           | Anna (Laura Maliszewski’s sister) |
| Sharon                    |                 |                                   |

**Answered Prayers**

- |                         |              |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Duane Hawk              | Kathy        | Larry George |
| Ed Hoppel               | Bonnie Beers | Perma Berger |
| Mitzi and Tim O’Donnell | Bob Buck     | Dwight Hawk  |
| Michael                 |              |              |

**MONTHLY GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT GROUP**

The Monthly Grief and Loss Support Group at JUCG 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.** Thanks to God and to the members of JUCG who make it possible!



**JUCG QUILT & CRAFTS GROUP**

Our group will be meeting the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. **In February we will meet on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10am-3 pm.** 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. Please see Shelba or call the church office if you need further information.



## 175th Anniversary Celebration

(It's Coming Soon!)

As we enter this 2023 year, we look forward to many new and exciting things. One of those events will be the celebration of our 175th Anniversary. Our hope is to include our already present activities and enhancing them with our 175th theme as well as having a few extra special events. We hope to not only celebrate the history of this beautiful house of worship, but also to celebrate the history of this congregation and its people as we "look back" in time on the activities and fundraisers, our pastors, our time of worship and how we have changed through the decades. Won't you please join us in planning this celebration? We scheduled four meeting dates, two are during the day and two are in the evening to hopefully accommodate everyone. We would love to have our senior citizens join us and listen to their stories of years gone by, as well as our younger generation and all the ages in between - your thoughts and input would be so greatly appreciated. Hope to see you there!

Thursday, February 2, 2023 - 6:00 PM  
Wednesday, February 15, 2023 - 1:00 PM  
Thursday, March 2, 2023 - 6:00 PM  
Wednesday, March 15, 2023 - 1:00 PM

If you have any questions or information you would like to share and cannot attend the meetings, please speak with Pastor Marian or Paul and Wendy Hoppel.



### **JERUSALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST YOUTH GROUP "YOUTH REASON TOGETHER"**

The JUCC youth group, aka "Youth Reason Together", or YRT, has a schedule of fun events and activities planned! Monthly meetings are set for the last Sunday of every month, at 6:00PM at the church. In these meetings, our young people (grades 7-12) can find support among each other, the leaders, and with God as our guide. All Are Welcome!!

**Youth Group Directors**

**Rick Anderson, Jonathan Borger & Jaclyn Wonderly**

## ***PEWS PEWS PEWS***

There is still time to purchase a new church pew for our sanctuary in honor and/or memory of family and/or friends. The cost of a pew is \$1,700.00. Names of the individuals participating in this endeavor will be displayed in the sanctuary on a "Recognition Plaque."

Options are available to be part of this opportunity.

**Option A:** Purchase entire pew(s) at a cost of \$1,700.00 each.

**Option B:** Split a pew(s) with one other family/friend at a cost of \$850.00 per family/friend per pew.

**Option C:** Multiple families/friends divide up the cost of a pew(s) to total \$1,700.00 per pew.

**\*Questions: Contact Kelli George- email:[kellig@ptd.net](mailto:kellig@ptd.net) or 610-762-5299**



## Music & Worship

- Our 10:00 indoor services continue as well as Facebook Live and radio access.
- December 4th marked the Second Sunday of Advent. Rachael and Mike Shafer and Family lit the Candle of Hope in our beautifully decorated sanctuary. Communion was also celebrated.
- On December 11, the Third Sunday of Advent, Paul and Wendy Hoppel lit the Candle of Joy. Our Sunday School children then presented a wonderful Christmas program that brought the peace and joy of Christ's birth to us all. Huge thanks to all involved in bringing the Christmas spirit into our hearts that day! One of my favorite hymns is O God, Our Help in Ages Past, and it talks about "our hope for years to come". That hope is surely our beautiful children.
- The Fourth Advent Candle – the candle of Love – was lit by Kelli and Shawn George and Family on December 18. Pastor Marian preached another inspiring sermon – 'Saying Yes to God's Requests'.
- Our original plan for Christmas Eve was for a 5:00 outdoor grove service and a 7:00 indoor service. A deep freeze had us rethink that, so we came together in the warmth of our beautiful sanctuary for both services. Steph and Rick Anderson and Family lit the Christ Candle. Both services featured Lessons and Carols led by Pastor Marian and our Praise Band. Lynn Mastio Rice sang about how "A Baby Changes Everything" and Chuck Scitney added his special touch on sax with "O Holy Night" as we received communion at the 7:00 service. "Go Light Your World" was the message as we lowered the lights and lit our candles.
- Lorrie Nothstein coordinated our poinsettia plant display, and a total of 43 plants added to the beauty of our Christmas Eve setting. Eleven plants will be delivered to our Home Heroes.
- The following day, December 25, was a time to again gather and celebrate the birth of our Savior. Beverly and Ricky Waibel and Family lit the Christ candle a final time as we sang more of our favorite Christmas hymns.
- Sincere appreciation to all who provide our uplifting music each Sunday – Lynn and Paul Rice, Chuck Scitney, Dave Eveland, Renee Mowad and Jen Heilakka. We are so blessed by your ministry. And to Pastor Marian who supports us in every way – thank you, thank you!

Shelba Scheffner



## **FEBRUARY FLOWERS & BULLETINS** **SPONSORS**



**February 5<sup>th</sup>** – Shawn, Cole and Mason George in honor of their wife/mother’s birthday, Kelli George on February 4<sup>th</sup>.  
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February 12th – Lana Kuehner in honor of great niece Quinn Zavagansky’s 9th birthday on February 2nd and great nephew Steele Zalik’s 12th birthday on February 7th.
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**February 19<sup>th</sup>** – Wendy & Paul Hoppel in honor of their grandson, Julius Kornafel’s 15<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 20<sup>th</sup>.  
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February 26th – Lois & Eugene Strohl in honor of our son’s birthdays, Kevin on February 26th, Jason on February 21st and Wade on February 27th.



INTERESTED IN SPONSORING FLOWERS & BULLETINS FOR 2023?

If you would like to sponsor flowers & bulletins (\$35 donation) for a Sunday in 2023, please contact Jillian Adamson at the church office.

You can reach her by phone at 610-681-4412 or by e-mail at juccsecy@ptd.net

FEBRUARY LAY LEADERS

- February 5th* – Steph Anderson
- February 12th* – Ed Brader
- February 19th* – Rachael Shafer
- February 26th* – Lisa Hawk & Kim Williams

PLEASE CONSIDER...

Volunteering to read scriptures at our 10:00am Sunday service. We are always in need of lay leaders and would love to have some new voices! Contact Jillian at the church office for available dates!



Friday, February 10th

6:30pm

“The Mighty Macs”

2009 · G · 1h 39m

In the early 70s, Cathy Rush becomes the head basketball coach at a tiny, all-girls Catholic college. Though her team has no gym and no uniforms -- and the school itself is in danger of being sold -- Coach Rush looks to steer her girls to their first national championship.

In the Church Sanctuary ~ Free popcorn & drinks



JUCC SOUP SALE

Super Bowl Sunday - February 12, 2023

\$7.00 per quart

Ham & Bean, Beef Vegetable, Chicken Noodle

Payment is due upon ordering. Order forms are in the weekly announcements and on the counter in the back of the church. Please place order and payment in the offering plate or give to Tammy Landon or Beverly Waibel. You can also call the church office to place your order.

Orders must be picked up at the church after the worship service on Feb. 12th.
If not picked up that day the soup will be frozen.

Deadline to order is Sunday, February 5th.

We will be collecting canned soup on "Souper" Bowl Sunday, February 12th.
The items collected will be donated to CACPAC.



We will be serving FREE Breakfast Sandwiches
February 12th from 8:45am – 9:45am
(Last order will be taken at 9:45am)

Sausage or Canadian Bacon with egg and cheese on a roll.
A donation jar will be placed on the counter.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!



CHILI COOK OFF TIME!

(Save The Date)

Saturday, March 25, 2023

4:00 P.M.

It's time to dust off that big cook pot under the cabinet, search your recipe box and stock up on a few cans of beans. Yes, it's Chili Cook Off time! After a few years absence, it's back and hopefully better than ever.

Bring your favorite pot of Chili in a crockpot and enjoy a night of fun, food and fellowship. You can always expect a night of entertainment with a lot of laughs, maybe some trivia, a little friendly competition and who knows, you could walk away with the first-place prize.

(Look for more information coming soon)



Easter Filling Sale



\$8.50 for a 2 lb. container

\$18.00 for a 5lb. container

All orders due by March 18th

Pick up at the church
April 1st from 12pm - 3pm and
April 2nd after Church Service between 11:30am -1pm

To Order Call Church Office

[610-681-4412](tel:610-681-4412)

545 Church Dr. Palmerton, Pa. 18071

(Trachsville)

(Off Rt. 209 Behind Towamensing Fire Co.)



BINGO at JUCC
SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023
More information coming soon.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023



From the banks of the Nile River to the depths of the Red Sea, **MOSES** is a spectacular entertainment experience for the whole family! Set adrift as a baby, he is an unlikely hero - until God calls him to lead His people out of Egypt and into the Promised land. Journey with Moses as he ventures through the wilderness, encounters God at the burning bush, and ascends to the top of Mount Sinai.

Experience one of the Bible's most epic stories as **MOSES** comes to life with massive sets, special effects, and live animals in this original stage production.

\$110.00 Per Person includes Bus, Lunch, & Show

7:30 AM	Depart Jerusalem United Church
10:00 AM	Arrive at Sight and Sound Theatre
11:00 AM	Showtime
2:00 PM	Lunch Smorgasbord at Bird in Hand
3:30 PM	Depart Bird in Hand Restaurant
4:00 PM	Kitchen Kettle Village for Shopping
5:30 PM	Depart for Home
7:30 PM	Approx. Arrival at Jerusalem Church

For Tickets Please Call Steph Anderson @ 610-597-0405



We are looking to once again begin sign-ups for “teams” to help with the coffee and snack preparation on Sunday mornings. If you are available to assist, please see the sign-up sheet in the fellowship room or contact the church office.



For our members that use Facebook don't forget you can share our online services with your friends and family. In this way, we can reach more people with our messages of love and hope. Simply click the “share” button under our Facebook video!

Register Tapes

Kinsley's ShopRite: Brodheadsville ONLY.

**NO other stores such as Giant, Other ShopRite stores/locations.
NO Senior Citizens Discounts, Pharmacy sales slips, Alcohol sales.**

Weis: Brodheadsville ONLY.

**NO other Stores or Locations accepted.
Senior Citizens Discount slips ARE acceptable.
NO Pharmacy sales slips, Alcohol sales or Gas sales slips.**



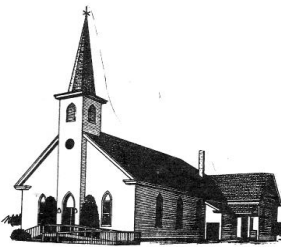
Check JUCS Facebook page or website for updates on cancellations, changes, delays or postponements.



If you have an article to submit for the March Newsletter, Please email it to Jillian by **Friday, February 17th**. FMI call 610-681-4412 or email juccsecy@ptd.net



Jerusalem UCC CCLI license number 2745745



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