

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



MARCH 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



Dear Jerusalem UCC Family & Friends,

I just want you to know that I'm thinking of you on this day, February 13, as I write my letter to you for March. We're still in the midst of winter and yet we're thinking of March, Lent, Easter and Spring! Of course, I always think of St. Patrick's Day, because I am Irish! As I told some of you, my Irish great-grandparents came from Ireland to Summit Hill and my grandparents were married in Beaver Meadow, Pa. I have been blessed to return to Carbon County with all of you!

The crocuses are already blooming and are just bursting with life! "It's almost time for Spring", they call to us! Hope for the beautiful colors of Spring to return is high, and soon, the trees will begin to bud with leaves and blossoms. God's world will become magical and marvelous once again!

How about us? What new ideas and activities are happening in our world? Are we ready to change and grow, learn and share our journey with one another?

With our new addition, we can begin some new interest groups to support a healthier and happier journey in life. We can have spiritual concerts, coffee house open microphone night, square dances, a Chili Cook-off and lots more!!! And we will continue all our wonderful children and youth activities as well as our fundraising activities!

With our 175th Anniversary of our church this year, we have lots of events and celebrations ahead! Come and be part of the fun and celebrate 2023!!

Each one of you have different gifts, talents and interests and we want to get to know you better! Let's journey through life together and know the joy that Jesus' promises - an abundant life with all our family and neighbors!

Blessings always
Pastor Marian



MARCH - Weekly Bible Verse

Sunday, March 5, 2023 - *Hosea 6:3* - Let us acknowledge the LORD; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.”

Sunday, March 12, 2023 – *Job 29:23* - They waited for me as for showers and drank in my words as the spring rain.

Sunday, March 19, 2023 – *Isaiah 35:1* - The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom like the crocus.

Sunday, March 26, 2023 – *James 5:7* - Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord’s coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains.

2023 WEDNESDAY LENTEN SCHEDULE

Theme: *Amazing Grace*

DATE	THEME	HOST CHURCH	PREACHER	BIBLE PASSAGE
March 1	Isaiah of Babylon	Jerusalem UCC	Deb Scheffey	Isaiah 6:7
March 8	The Prodigal Son	Salem-St. Paul Lutheran	Marian Johnson	Luke 15:32
March 15	The Blind Man	Salem UCC	Suzanne Brooks-Cope	John 9: 24
March 22	The Woman at the Well	St. Matthews UCC	Darlene Blocker	John 4: 13-14
March 29	Paul	Salem-St. Paul	Suzanne Brooks-Cope	1 Timothy 1:15

7:00 PM Worship Service

Each Church will provide an anthem or praise song with their own musicians if possible. There will be no joint choir this year.

There will be no meal before worship this year; churches are welcome to provide a social hour afterwards if they so desire.

Church offering envelopes received will be forwarded to their respective churches. Loose offering received will go to the Host Church.

In case of inclement weather, the host church will place a cancelation notice on their church answering machine and post an announcement on their Facebook page.

MESSAGE FROM THE CONSISTORY PRESIDENT
MARCH 2023



Greetings!

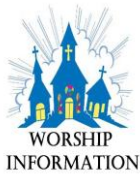
Many years ago, when I was a Brownie (that would be a young Girl Scout), I think I was about seven or eight years old, we sang a song “Make New Friends but Keep the Old, One is Silver and the Other’s Gold”. My thoughts continued to go back to that song in the last few weeks, since old friends and acquaintances and conversations of past members kept presenting themselves time and time again.

It all started when we were celebrating the life of Colin Berger and his family gathered downstairs at our church for a luncheon. I saw a couple that looked very familiar to me, but couldn’t quite place their faces in my memory, it was something in the way the lady smiled at me that I then recognized her. A familiar face, it was a new face in my mind since I didn’t see her since we graduated from high school, but all those memories that we shared from kindergarten through 12th grade came flooding back. We must have talked over a half hour reminiscing about our school years, our children, grandchildren, our jobs and our health. I was so happy that we were brought together, even though it was a sad occasion, I think some things are meant to be. I introduced them to Pastor Marian, and told her we all graduated together, which lead to another coincidence, Marian’s friend David, who actually visited our church, his brother also graduated with us. As the saying goes “what a small world”.

At our recent Movie Night, my husband Paul and Perma Borger also were reminiscing about their Tech School days, it had been years since they saw each other, so when Perma visited our church for the first time, it became a reunion time for them and many other members of our church that also knew Perma well. How exciting to see our old “Gold” friends once again, how we miss those good old days, it truly warms your heart, quite ironic that these reunions would happen here at our church.

If you were attending worship services lately, I’m sure you might have noticed some new “Silver” friends that you haven’t meant yet. Two weeks ago, we had 124 people in attendance and last week we had 150! Both weeks were an amazing mix of our Silver and Gold friends, and the best is still yet to come as we welcome all the new faces that we will call friends in the future. As the 175th Anniversary committee has been meeting, what an overwhelming amount of information we are finding, and talk about Gold friends, so many pictures of days gone by with the faces of our loved ones from the past. It brings back a lot of memories and I know there will be a few tears shed as we fondly revisit these times. Whether you are old and gold or silver and new, or something in between, we are so glad you are a part of our Christian family here at Jerusalem. If you have a friend that is missing something in their life and is searching for a church home, maybe our house is what they need? Our door is always open as well as our hearts and hands, invite them to attend with you, we can’t wait to meet them! Especially those new faces!

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, March 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.

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday – April 2nd – Worship Service at 10:00am

Maundy Thursday – April 6th – Worship Service at 7:00pm

Good Friday – April 7th – Worship Service at 7:00pm

Easter Sunday – April 9th – Worship Service at 10:00am



Easter Flowers

EASTER FLOWERS SALE

We are taking orders for Easter Flowers now through Sunday, March 19th.

Please return order form and payment to Lorrie Nothstein or place in the offering plate during our Sunday worship service. Order form and payment can also be dropped off at the church office, Tuesday through Friday 9:00am – 1:00pm.

Lily plant: (6" pot) \$10.00 each

Hyacinth: (6" pot) \$8.00 each

Daffodils: \$9.00 each

Tulips: (6" pot) \$8.00 each

We will be giving lilies to our shut-in members. Please see the order form FMI if you would like to sponsor a lily. Order forms can be found in your announcements bulletin or on the counter in the back of the sanctuary.

A BIG THANK YOU to Lorrie Nothstein for handling the holiday flower sales!!



“...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.

Please speak to Pastor Marian or a member of our Care Team to make any additions or changes.

Shorter term prayer concerns:

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	Steven Rohner & Family	Danielle & Family
Bob Andrews	Tina	Lew
Rev. Don Quayle	Our Troops	Our Church Family
Family of Alverta Costenbader	Family of Jimmy Mackes	Alan

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	Sharon

Answered Prayers

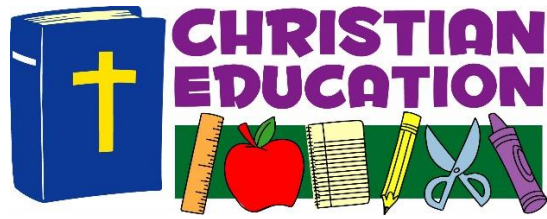
Duane Hawk	Kathy	Larry George
Ed Hoppel	Bonnie Beers	Perma Berger
Mitzi and Tim O'Donnell	Bob Buck	Dwight Hawk
Michael	Murphy Coyne	

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.** Thanks to God and to the members of JUCC who make it possible!

JUCC QUILT & CRAFTS GROUP

Our group will be meeting the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. **In March we will meet on the 9th and 23rd 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.



Christian Education

Here are the happenings in Nursery and Sunday School

Our Family Service will be held on March 12 this month. We will not have Sunday School however the Nursery will be available.

The Nursery is now located in the addition. It is bright, beautiful and full of kiddos! Our numbers are growing and we are so glad to provide a safe environment for our “Littles”. We are always looking for volunteers to help in the Nursery. Please let me know if you are interested.

We wanted to announce that our Miss Judy (Judy Hessinger) is “retiring” from Nursery. We can’t even begin to express our love and gratitude for over 60 years of caring, teaching and nurturing our children. Her desire to “plant seeds” so that the children could hear and learn of God’s love for them through Jesus, has lovingly impacted the lives of so many. We are truly blessed to have her involved with the spiritual growth of our most precious children and I know the kiddos will love to see Miss Judy in church and when she comes to visit. Thank you Judy, for your love and dedication throughout the years. You will certainly be missed and you will always be a part of JUCC Children’s Ministry.

On April 2nd, we will have an Egg Hunt for the children of JUCC. Please have the children bring their own basket. We will not stuff the eggs due to allergies but each child will get a small treat. That week is Palm Sunday so kids can start in the Sanctuary and will be instructed as to when to leave for the Egg Hunt.

Our Nursery, Sunday School and Youth Group are sponsoring an Easter Breakfast on April 9th before the service. This will be a pancake breakfast with sides and beverages. We will also have a baked goods table, which is very convenient if you need a baked good for an Easter gathering ☺. There is not a charge for the breakfast but we will gladly accept an offering which will be put toward sponsoring a pew from the children and youth of JUCC. The breakfast will be served from 8:45 -9:45. We hope to see lots of hungry people for this wonderful meal.

Blessings!
Marcia Heinick





Music & Worship

- Our 10:00 indoor services continue as well as Facebook Live and radio access. We look forward to seeing the changes each week as our new building addition moves closer to completion, and Ed Brader's weekly updates are appreciated and of great interest to all.
- On January 1, we welcomed the New Year 2023 in our warm and beautiful sanctuary with JUCS family and friends. Matt and CrissaRobin Sterner stepped in to round out our Praise Band as Lynn and Paul Rice took a well-deserved day off. We are so blessed to have such talented people in our church family who are willing to share their talents!
- "Jerusalem Church sings a new song" – that was the message we sang on January 8th as we celebrated a new year for Consistory 2023. Outgoing members Bob Buck, Barry George, Duane Hawk and Jaclyn Wonderly were thanked for their service in 2022.
- On January 10th, Chuck Scitney and I were privileged to play for the annual Solstice Service at Mrs. Bush's Personal Care Home.
- Pastor Marian continued to lead us through the Sundays of Epiphany during the remainder of January. We are so blessed by her ministry, and by the ministry of ALL who make our Sunday worship special in so many ways!

Shelba Scheffner

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

The JUCS 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, after worship at 11:30AM. 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

175th Anniversary Celebration

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 have one more meeting date scheduled for March 15th at 1:00pm. 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!

Wednesday, March 15, 2023 - 1:00 PM

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



As part of our church's 175 years of ministry, we would like to showcase pieces of our history during some of our Sunday worship services. Do you have an old picture that you would like to share, along with interesting information relating to that picture? Or, perhaps you have an item that is part of our history. If so, please see Shelba so that we can include it as one of our “175 years” moments. These will be very brief but, I think, very interesting presentations.

Thank you,
Shelba Scheffner



MARCH FLOWERS & BULLETINS SPONSORS



March 5th – Tammy Landon in memory of my father Del on his heavenly birthday.

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March 12<sup>th</sup> – Lisa & Rick Williams in honor of our 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on March 7<sup>th</sup>.

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March 19th – No Sponsor

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March 26<sup>th</sup> – Carolyn & Buzz Hill in memory of Elmer, Irene and Kenneth Hoppes

### 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](mailto:juccsecy@ptd.net)

### **MARCH LAY LEADERS**

March 5<sup>th</sup> – Lynn Mastio Rice

March 12<sup>th</sup> – Rachael Shafer

March 19<sup>th</sup> – Steph Anderson

March 26<sup>th</sup> – Ed Brader

### **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!



**Feeding the Community**

### **Jerusalem UCC Trachsville Family Pantry Food Drive-Thru**

**We are holding a non-perishable grocery items drive-thru on Saturday, April 15th, from Noon to 2 p.m. Anyone who is in need is eligible for this pick-up, and must call the church office by Friday, March 31st, 1 p.m. to reserve their grocery order.**



**Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**

**6:30pm**

***"Flywheel"***

2003 · 2hrs

A dishonest used car salesman decides to become the salesman that God wants him to be - with surprising results.

*In the Church Sanctuary ~ Free popcorn & drinks*

**Movie night for April will be Friday, April 14th, at 6:30 p.m. Movie TBA.**





## CHILI COOK OFF & DESSERT CONTEST

Saturday, March 25, 2023  
4:00 P.M.



Grab your crock pots from the back of the cupboard or pull out those baking dishes, our Chili Cook Off is back again along with a new twist of the Bake Off! All of you past champions, are you ready to “heat up” the competition? Bring your favorite pot of chili whether it’s five alarm hot, sweet and savory, white chicken, beans or no beans, we can’t wait to see how many pots we get. Please sign up, there is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church or call the office - the more the merrier, we would like to know ahead of time to prepare enough room for all the crock pots. AND - a new twist with the Bake Off. So, if making Chili isn’t in your recipe box, how about a dessert? This area is going to be wide open - cakes, cookies, pies or breads, whatever your specialty may be, bring it and let it shine! I heard there might be some friendly competition within some families between parents and kids! What fun! AND - we also need all the judges, so if you don’t like to cook or bake, we need you to come and eat and be the judge. (You have to eat supper anyway!) Come for food, come for fun, come for some entertainment and a little friendly competition - Fun, Food and Fellowship - what a great night out. Join us, it will be a gas! (pun intended!)



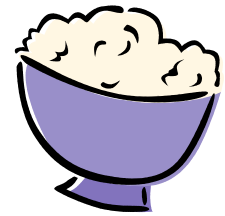
BINGO at JUC  
SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023  
*More information coming soon.*



## 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 1<sup>st</sup> from 12pm - 3pm and

April 2<sup>nd</sup> after Church Service between 11:30am -1pm

To Order Call Church Office: [610-681-4412](tel:610-681-4412)



## 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.**



**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!



If you have an article to submit for the April Newsletter, Please email it to Jillian by **Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>**. FMI call 610-681-4412 or email [juccsecy@ptd.net](mailto:juccsecy@ptd.net)



Lent IS A TIME TO  
GROW  
CLOSER TO JESUS

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Jerusalem UCC CCLI license number 2745745



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