

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



APRIL 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



My Dear Jerusalem UCC Family and Friends,

Happy Spring! How I have been waiting to send you this greeting! I am so looking forward to the green returning to our beautiful mountain church campus here in Trachsville. We have been faithful in serving God and those in need for these winter months, and now it's time for a spring-filled joy to return to us in our lovely natural surroundings. We are delighted to have our new addition completed and are so excited to have all kinds of fantastic activities taking place! Many of these activities are part of our 175th anniversary themed "Come Home to Jerusalem UCC"! Our church is our second home and we want to celebrate with everyone connected to our beloved church family!

Now, we are moving toward Holy Week, and we will be remembering the ultimate sacrifice that Jesus gave to open the gates of heaven through his death and resurrection. We are creating especially beautiful services for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter!! Please check your bulletins for the details regarding these services.

Jesus came into the world to conquer death and sin. He came to open the gates of heaven, so that we do not have to live in fear of death any longer. Are we listening to the voice of faith in our hearts and minds, or the voice of fear? We must become bold and courageous and listen to the voice of faith. Jesus told Mary Magdalene on Easter morning and told his apostles on Easter night "Do not be afraid". As we move towards remembering that very special and arduous week of Jesus' life, let us not be afraid. Together, we will be Jesus' companions and ambassadors of love, hope and courage.

Have a beautiful day today and every day moving forward, and always know that I am praying for you. Jesus is guiding us every step of the way!

Many Blessings, Happy Spring, and Happy Easter (soon),
Pastor Marian



APRIL - Weekly Bible Verse

Sunday, April 2, 2023 – *Zechariah 9:9*: Rejoice greatly, people of Jerusalem! Shout for joy, people of Jerusalem! Your king is coming to you. He does what is right, and he saves. He is gentle and riding on the colt of a donkey.

Sunday, April 9, 2023 – *John 11:25-26*: "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?'"

Sunday, April 16, 2023 – *Romans 8:34*: "Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us."

Sunday, April 23, 2023 – *Romans 6:9*: "We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him."

Sunday, April 30, 2023 - *Acts 4:33*: "With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all."

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, April 2nd 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

Spring Cemetery Clean Up

Monday, April 3rd at 5:00pm (weather permitting)

If you have any Fall and/or Christmas items on your loved one's plots that you would like to keep, please remove it prior to April 3rd. Otherwise, it will be removed on that date. If you have time and would like to lend a hand, we will be happy to have you!

THANK YOU!

MESSAGE FROM THE CONSISTORY PRESIDENT
APRIL 2023



Greetings!

Everyone has a story. I heard these few words for most of my life. Growing up when I would hear people talking about local stories in the newspaper, or I would hear them discussing some family news, it would usually end with “well, everyone has a story”. I found myself saying these same words many times over the years to my children as I tried to explain why their friends were different than our family, trying to justify the actions of my co-workers to one another and also as I volunteered in various community organizations and had to try and figure out how to get along with others whose personalities were much different than mine.

I found this classic line that I heard and that I spoke so many times, now took on a totally different meaning when it pertained to our beloved church here at Jerusalem UCC. I sit back in wonder and amazement in how our church is continuing to grow both in both spirit and numbers and I for one am honored to be hearing all of these stories. The good news of all the kindness, love and joy, excitement and energy, and God’s Holy spirit that we are spreading throughout our congregation and communities surrounding us, is becoming quite contagious! Members that searched for something missing in their lives in the past are returning. Young adults that grew up in this church and had memories of Sunday School, Confirmation, Youth Group and church picnics are now coming back, bringing their children to also experience what they so fondly remembered. Inactive members that have been hearing all the buzz about “what is going on at Trachsville?” are also being warmly welcomed back. And then there are the new members that are friends of friends, our neighbors and family - all are coming home to JUCC. Everyone has a different story to tell and I for one will never grow tired of hearing their stories.

So, what is the draw? Why are they coming here to Jerusalem and not somewhere else - all the stories seem to have similar answers! Love. Such a simple thing. Step into this beautiful church of ours with its spectacular stained-glass windows, you are greeted with a bulletin, a handshake (or maybe a hug) and a warm welcome telling you how we LOVE seeing you, and most likely the loudest chatter of people you ever heard that are laughing and talking amongst themselves, you can feel the LOVE we all have for each other as we share a cup of coffee and a sweet baked good. Then there is the music - uplifting music both traditional and contemporary by our most talented group of musicians and vocalists. When I was child growing up, I never thought I would ever hear drums, saxophones, guitars, trumpets, flutes and a string bass in this church. Oh, but there is now! And how we do LOVE our music, thank you to our amazing praise band - we LOVE you all so very much and appreciate your gifts that you bring to us each week. Then there is our Pastor Marian and how much we all LOVE her. She humbly tells us it’s not just her, it’s all of us together that makes us a great church, but I beg to differ. It is her constant reassurance of God’s LOVE for us every week, the kind and gentle words she uses and the compassion in which she delivers her message that bring the scriptures to life and how we can relate to these words of wisdom that were written thousands of years ago to our everyday lives in which we live today. And then last but not least - the LOVE of our children. The future of any church depends on our children and youth, without them we have no future. Through our dedicated teachers, Pastor Marian and all of our members, it is the most important thing we can do to teach our children that they are LOVED and cherished, that they are wanted and important, and even though their voices may be small they are a very large part of Jerusalem. Now mix all these things together along with feeling the LOVE of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, feeling His Holy Spirit when you worship with us on a Sunday - this is our story. This is why we are the new and improved Jerusalem, join us, we can’t wait to hear your new story.

Keep the Faith, Wendy



“...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
Tina	Lew	Rev. Don Quayle
Our Troops	Our Church Family	Alan
MaryLee Smith/Family of Neil Smith		Lori
Bob	Mark Goodhile	Michael

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
Murphy Coyne	Bob Andrews	



MONTHLY GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

The Monthly Grief and Loss Support Group at JUCG 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 JUCG who make it possible!



On April 2nd, we will have an Egg Hunt for the children of JUCC.

Please have the children bring their own basket. 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.



Pancake breakfast with sides and beverages.

Sunday, April 9th from 8:45am -9:45am

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.



**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, 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

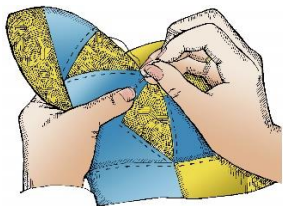
Rick Anderson, Jonathan Borger & Jaclyn Wonderly



Music & Worship

- Our 10:00 indoor services continue as well as Facebook Live and radio access. The worship service can now be seen and heard on the big screens in our new addition – we are so blessed by our new technology and those who have made it happen.
- We celebrated Holy Communion on February 5th, the Fifth Sunday after Christmas Day. We also experienced the joy of witnessing the baptism of Pearl Liahna and Collin Tucker Sterner, children of Matthew and CrissaRobin. Congratulations to the Sterner Family!
- February 12th was Boy Scout Sunday. Our church family was happy to welcome such a large number of local Scouts and their families and leaders. The group participated in the worship service and we thanked them all for joining us on their special day.
- We sang the old hymn, Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies on Transfiguration Sunday, February 19. Those old hymns are so wonder-filled, aren't they?
- We entered the season of Lent on February 22nd. Pastor Marian and our Praise Band led us in a meaningful Ash Wednesday service of Music and the Word. We are Stardust!
- Our large cross over the altar was draped with a striking purple parament to mark the First Sunday of Lent on February 26. Lynn led us in "I Will Fear No More" – 'When the wind and waves are coming, You shelter me ... Even though I'm in the storm, the storm is not in me'.
- We are blessed by the ministry of so many who make our church such a special place to be!

Shelba Scheffner



QUILTING GROUP

JUCC QUILT & CRAFTS GROUP

Our group will be meeting the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. **In April we will meet on the 13th and 27th 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

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 various dates and times listed below for meetings. 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!

Sunday, April 2- 12:30 pm

Thursday, April 13- 6:00 pm

Wednesday, April 19 - 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,



APRIL FLOWERS & BULLETINS SPONSORS



April 2nd – Wendy & Paul Hoppel in honor of their 46th Wedding Anniversary on April 9

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April 9<sup>th</sup> – In honor of Marian Smith's birthday on April 13<sup>th</sup> from her family

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April 16th – Rick & Steph Anderson in honor of son Hayden Kresge's birthday on April 14th

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April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Lana Kuehner in honor of Vivian Zalick's 9<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 16<sup>th</sup>

April 30<sup>th</sup> – Byron, Jillian, Sierra & Keith in honor of daughter/sister Willow Adamson's 4<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 29<sup>th</sup>



**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.

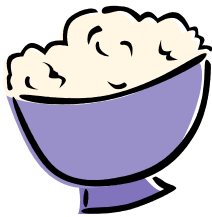
You can reach her by phone at 610-681-4412  
or by e-mail at [juccsecy@ptd.net](mailto:juccsecy@ptd.net)

**APRIL LAY LEADERS**

- April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Lisa Hawk & Kim Williams
- April 9<sup>th</sup> – Lynn Mastio Rice
- April 16<sup>th</sup> – Jillian Adamson
- April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Steph Anderson
- April 30<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!



**FILLING MAKING DAYS**

**Friday, March 31, 1:00-3:00pm**  
to cut up Bread, downstairs.

**Saturday, April 1, 9:00 am**

Filling making day downstairs!

Saturday April 1, pick up Filling orders  
from 12:00pm - 3:00pm and  
Sunday, 11:30am - 1:00pm.



**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.



**Feeding the Community**



**Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**

**Movie TBA**

*In the Church Sanctuary ~ Free popcorn & drinks*



**BINGO at JUCC**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023 at 1:00pm**  
**Free admission for Member & 1 Friend**  
**Free Hot dogs & Beverages**

*We are collecting gifts cards and SMALL gift baskets to give away as prizes. Please see Kelli George or Jillian Adamson FMI on donations. Deadline to donate is Sat., April 22<sup>nd</sup>.*

Please see below for gift basket ideas.

**Basket Ideas for JUCC Bingo**

| <i>Theme</i>      | <i>Basket Ideas</i>                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sports            | Balls (baseball, basketball, football, soccer, tennis, etc.), Trading Cards, Iron Pigs Tickets, etc.                                                  |
| Movie Night       | DVDs (not sure if people still buy DVDs), Popcorn, Popcorn Cups, Snacks, Candy (Twizzlers, Snow Caps, Raisinets, etc.), Gift Cards to MV Cinema, etc. |
| Coffee and/or Tea | Any variety or combination of coffee/tea, tea cookies, tinned cookies, Pepperidge Farm, etc.                                                          |
| Pizza             | Stone, Pizza Cutter, Spices (Oregano, Parm Cheese, Garlic Powder, etc.), Gift Certificate to local Pizza Place!                                       |
| Italian           | Sauces, Grater, Noodles, Salad Dressings, Croutons, Colander, Grated Cheese, Noodle Spoon, etc.                                                       |
| Pet               | Dog and/or Cat Treats, Toys, Brushes, Leash, etc.                                                                                                     |
| Hair Care         | Shampoos, Conditioners, Hair Putty/Wax, Sprays, etc.                                                                                                  |
| Game Night        | Family Board Games—Monopoly, Clue, Parcheesi, Checkers, Jenga, UNO, etc.                                                                              |

|                       |                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                       | Beginner Games—Don't Break the Ice, Guess Who, Chutes and Ladders, Memory, etc.                                                           |
| Ice Cream Fixings     | Any variety—sprinkles, morsels, cherries, jarred fruit toppings (for ice cream), bowls, cones, Gift Certificate to local Ice Cream Place! |
| Lottery               | A variety of different ones                                                                                                               |
| Beach                 | Beach-bag, sunscreen, beach towels, cooler, etc.                                                                                          |
| As Seen on TV         | Anything that looks fun!                                                                                                                  |
| Baking                | Muffin Tins, cookie trays, measuring spoons / cups, baking ingredients, mixes, etc.                                                       |
| Chocolate Lover's     | Candy, chocolate covered pretzels, candy bar varieties, cookies, etc.                                                                     |
| First Aid             | Kits, Band-Aids, Creams (Neosporin, After Sun Care, Dry Skin, Chap-Stick), etc.                                                           |
| Outdoor Fun           | Bubbles, Sidewalk Chalk, Velcro Catch Games, Badminton Sets, etc.                                                                         |
| Gardening             | Seeds, Garden Tool Set, Gloves, Stepping Stone, Lawn Ornament, etc.                                                                       |
| Road Trip             | Gas Card, Snacks, Travel Games, etc.                                                                                                      |
| Chef/Cooking Utensils | Tea Towels, Spoon Rest, Spatulas, Spoons, Whisks, Apron, Mixing Bowls, etc.                                                               |
| Art                   | Crayola Products (Crayons, Markers, Colored Pencils), Drawing Pads, Coloring Books, Paints, Paint by Numbers, etc.                        |
| S'more                | Hershey Bars, Marshmallows, Graham Crackers, Campfire Roasting Sticks, Blanket                                                            |
| Snack                 | Packages of Chips, Pretzels, Cookies, Crackers...think Keebler, Nabisco, Frito Lay, UTZ, etc.!                                            |
| Grilling              | Grilling Utensils, Marinades, BBQ Sauce, Cookbook, etc.                                                                                   |
| Camping               | Flashlight, Lantern, Mess Kit, First Aid Supplies, Thermos, etc.                                                                          |
| Spa/Self Care         | Lotions, Soaps, Books, Eye Mask                                                                                                           |
| Bird Care             | Feeder, Seed, Suet                                                                                                                        |
| Childrens' Books      | Any variety!                                                                                                                              |
| Adult Books           | Any variety!                                                                                                                              |
| Lego                  | Any variety!                                                                                                                              |
| Toy-Themed            | Any variety!                                                                                                                              |



## Register Tapes

**Kinsley's ShopRite: Brodheadsville ONLY.**

**O other stores such as Giant, Other ShopRite stores/locations.  
) 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.**



## 2-DAY FLEA MARKET

**Fri. June 9<sup>th</sup> 9:00am to 3:00pm**

**&**

**Sat. June 10<sup>th</sup> 8:00am to 1:00pm**

**Rain or shine!**

Church Members may bring donations to the church Thurs. June 1<sup>st</sup> and Fri., June 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:00am to 1:00pm and the grove June 4<sup>th</sup> through June 8<sup>th</sup> between 9:00am and 1:00pm. All donated items: clothing, etc. must be clean and presentable! All electrical items must be in working condition!

All help will be greatly appreciated!

We are all in this together!

Let's make it a Great Success!

FMI: Contact Church Office or Beverly Waibel



**The Penn Northeast Conference  
of the United Church of Christ**

*...God is still speaking,*

**2023 Spring Meeting of the Penn Northeast Conference**

**Saturday, April 29, 2023 (In Person or Virtual)**

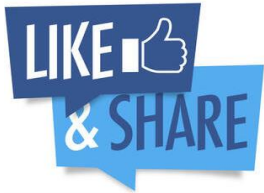
**St. Thomas UCC, 902 E. Macada Rd., Bethlehem, PA**

**THEME: Health, Renewal, Restoration**

**(2 hours continuing education for PNEC Authorized Ministers)**

### **Keynoters:**

Rev. Cindy Garis August, Sr. Pastor at Colonial Park UCC, Harrisburg  
Ms. Padma (Colette) Fanning, Mindfulness Educator, St. Luke's Univ. Health Network,  
Bethlehem



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!

# Newsletter

If you have an article to submit for the May Newsletter, Please email it to Jillian by **Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**.  
FMI call 610-681-4412 or email [juccsecy@ptd.net](mailto:juccsecy@ptd.net)



Jerusalem UCC CCLI license number 2745745



Jerusalem United Church of Christ  
545 Church Drive, Palmerton, Pennsylvania 18071  
Rev. Marian Johnson, Pastor  
Cell: (610) 462-3150 / [pastormarianj@gmail.com](mailto:pastormarianj@gmail.com)  
Church office: (610) 681-4412  
[www.jerusalemucc.org](http://www.jerusalemucc.org)  
Facebook: Jerusalem Trachsville UCC