

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



AUGUST 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



Dear Jerusalem Family and Friends,

Peace be with you! May the peace of Jesus that passes all understanding bring you hope for your journey!

As I write this, it's hard for me to believe that August is almost here! The summer is such a special time of year and there are still many sunny days ahead. Let us be sure to treasure each day that we are given to spend with our family and friends, to work, play and pray together!

There has been so much happening here at our beautiful church this summer. Last week, we had Vacation Bible School and it was a marvelous experience of God's love in action. We had fantastic weather and could be in the grove!

The children, the teens, the adult leaders/volunteers, the parents and the grandparents who participated all experienced the goodness of God's creation through caring for animals and nature, caring for those in need and for one another!! A true peace of Jesus and sweet spirit of love could be felt all around us. A special thank you to Marcia Heinick, Rachael Shafer and each one of their terrific team of adult leaders and teens for creating such a safe, fun and life-giving environment for the children! It truly was a feeling and an experience of how heaven will be!

How can we bring that sense of heavenly presence and experience into our every day life? We can give someone a second chance, we can give ourselves a second chance, too. God sees us in the best possible way but sometimes we focus on our flaws and failures. Ask God to renew your sense of hope and purpose, to help you find encouragement and to offer that encouragement to others.

Be sure to take some time to renew and refresh in these days of summer and allow the beauty of nature to recharge you. Spend time with your family and friends while the children are out of school!

Our church picnic on Saturday, August 12th is a fantastic way to celebrate summer, family, friendship and community! Hope to see you there!

Blessings always,
Pastor Marian

AUGUST - Weekly Scripture

Sunday, August 6, 2023 – *Proverbs 16:24 "Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the body."*

Sunday, August 13, 2023 – *Psalm 23:4 "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."*

Sunday, August 20, 2023 – *Malachi 4:2 "But for you who are in awe of My name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall."*

Sunday, August 27, 2023 – *John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."*

MESSAGE FROM THE CONSISTORY PRESIDENT AUGUST 2023



Greetings! By the time you receive this August newsletter, we will be ready to celebrate our Annual Church Picnic. I love our picnic and always have had such fond memories from a little girl to adult grandma stage. My earliest memory of the picnic was always standing in front of the Candy stand (for our younger folk and newer members - there was one individual stand that was dedicated to Candy and was every child's delight and main stop) and starrng in awe as to which Candy I will decide to fill my brown paper bag and put in the car to take home. My sister Sherry and I were especially blessed because my Mammy Borger would usually give us her left-over tickets and we would then go over to the Candy stand the second or third time to get more Candy to eat right then and there. My favorite items were red shoestring licorice, satellite wafers and little wax filled bottles with very, very sweet liquid. But then there was the Ice Cream Stand! Again, this too was a single stand for ice cream only, without a doubt, the second most popular stand, especially if it was really hot. Strawberry on a cone was my first choice. On to the Soda Stand (another single standing stand) A-Treat red Cream soda in glass bottles was my number one choice! We had to "eat something decent for the day" so onto the kitchen stand which was always a Chicken Bar BQ with pickle cabbage on top. Maybe later we got a Cheeseburger or Hot Dog with relish! As you can see food was the highlight of the day! For some reason I don't remember playing games or the Kiddie Cakewalk, but I know we had them. But I certainly remember the Big Cakewalk at night. We would save our nickels and dimes and put them in a bag to bring along to the picnic to hopefully win a cake that night. Many years we had well over 200 items of cakes and watermelons and all the ladies (and kids too) would walk around the tables to view all the baked creations. I remember hearing complaints that the people "just don't walk" and they should rename it the Trachsville Cake Stand instead! Depending on your age and how long you have been attending our legendary Trachsville Picnics, you might share some of the same

memories that I have but I'm sure you all have your own special favorites. I highlighted my favorite memories as a child, but my favorite memories as an adult are being able to walk around the entire grove and see all the people walking in with their chairs, carrying a sweater (that's telling me they plan to stay for the night) and simply meandering and mingling with each other. Listen carefully and you will definitely hear the Pennsylvania Dutch language from our "older set" - to me, that is music to my ears and a rich part of our heritage. Time and time again I hear so many people looking forward to this picnic because this is the one time a year they get to catch up and see those lifelong friends. Food, Friends and Fellowship, (don't forget our amazing entertainment The Main Street Cruisers) what a winning combination for the day. Kid games and Cornhole, we truly have something for everyone. Sign up for a shift to help in a stand of your choice or simply sit back and visit. Please join us and bring your friends! we will greet you with a warm smile and handshake, maybe a big hug too and love to say Welcome Home!
Keep the Faith- Wendy



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Join us for worship Sunday mornings at 9:00am in our beautiful picnic grove!

In case of inclement weather our service will be held in the new addition while the sanctuary is being remodeled. 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, August 6th we will have Holy Communion. Elements are provided by the church.
Thank you to Kim Williams & Shirley Hawk for volunteering to perform this service.





“...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	Katie Huelskamp
David	Doris Behler	Marveline Costenbader
Barbara Borger	Danielle & Family	Tina
Rev. Don Quayle	Our Troops	Our Church Family
Alan	Lori George	Michael
Cathy Smith	Tori	Kelsey
Ed	Bonnie Beers	Chris Hahn
Kathy Kuehner	Crissa Carroll	Dean Berger
Ed Strohl	Millie Zellner	Neal Murphy
Megan Fredericks	Donna Mackes & Family	

Longer term prayer concerns:

Dalton Fredericks	Linda Mackes	Elizabeth Krause
Timothy Henning	Joanne Frable	Helen Smale
Anna Bowman	Marla Schmidt	Michael McCabe
Lana Kuehner	Mildred Green	Alverta Strohl
Bill Yelland and Family	Jean George	Lenora Robertson
Susan	Sharon	Bob Buck
David Garrigues		
All who have experienced a loss		
All people and families in need		

Answered Prayers

Duane Hawk	Kathy	Larry George
Ed Hoppel	Perma Berger	Lew
Mitzi and Tim O'Donnell	Dwight Hawk	Murphy
Coyne	Barry Smale	Gerald Robertson
Cathy	Mark Goodhile	



Music & Worship Recap

- On June 4th, we transitioned to our 9:00 summer worship hours. We were able to celebrate Holy Communion and Trinity Sunday outdoors in our beautiful grove. Facebook Live and radio transmission (95.5 FM) are still available. June 4 was also our last Sunday School and Nursery session until we resume in September. Marcia Heinick thanked our teachers and helpers for their ministry to our children during the past season.
- On June 11th, the Second Sunday after Pentecost, we recognized our 2023 graduates for their hard work and accomplishments. We were happy to welcome Kelly Heinick back from her college studies to join Lynn Mastio Rice on vocals with our Praise Band. Following the service, the Youth Group and their Leaders and families prepared a special Grads and Dads brunch in the grove.
- Father's Day was celebrated on June 18th, the Third Sunday after Pentecost. Pastor Marian preached on "Jesus Spends Time with His Father" and we sang the old favorite, "Faith of Our Fathers".
- We continued to be blessed with beautiful summer weather (including the 'Trachsville breeze'!) on Sunday mornings. On June 25th, Pastor Marian spoke of "Guarding the Children's Hearts" and the Band had the congregation moving to "Days of Elijah".
- As always, we so appreciate all who support our ministry of music and the word: Pastor Marian, who creates a space for us to learn and be inspired, and those who serve through our Praise Band: Paul and Lynn Mastio Rice, Chuck Scitney, Dave Eveland, Renee Mowad, Matt and CrissaRobin Sterner, and Kelly Heinick. Worship in Oak Grove means band set-up in the early morning hours, and we offer sincere thanks to Rick Anderson, Ed Brader and Barry George for being there to set up and tear down equipment. We are blessed!

Shelba Scheffner



We wish to thank the children of vacation Bible School for the beautiful succulent plants. We can't tell you how much it means that you care. God Bless you!

Love, Carolyn & Buzz Hill



JERUSALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST YOUTH GROUP

The JUCC youth group has a schedule of fun events and activities planned! Monthly meetings are set for the last Sunday of every month, after worship. 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 & Melissa Waibel



QUILTING GROUP

QUILT & CRAFTS GROUP

Our group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, 10:00 – 3:00. We are now in Hope Hall, our beautiful new addition (with SUPERIOR lighting!). We generally work on our own projects, or do some group work on charity quilts. If you've always wanted to learn to make quilts (of any kind), we have experts who love to teach! We also have machines to use, if you don't have your own. Recently, we have branched out into basket-making at a different location. This is fun, too. We just love creating!

For more information, feel free to contact Shelba Scheffner at 610/704-3756 or our church office.



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!**

Christian Education News for August 2023

We held Vacation Bible School this year from July 18-July 20, 2023, from 6-8pm in the Grove and in Ryman Hall. This year's theme was "Caring for God's Creation" where we learned to care for animals, the Earth and each other. We served a total of 22 children. Seven of those children were in our "Littles" Program where the parents stayed with them. Two of the children were non-members but relatives. Of the fifteen children in the Sunday School age program all were either members, considering membership or related to a member. We had 8 Youth Helpers and 19 adults who helped with the activities, food set-up or food / activity clean-up.

The first night we learned a fun song and made dog biscuits. "Littles" decorated containers for the biscuits and the Sunday School aged kids rolled out the biscuit dough. All the while, kids had the opportunity to play kick ball and they tried their hardest to get Rick Anderson and Riley Bonser wet with water during water games. Halfway through the evening the kids had a snack and then Pastor Marian gave a beautiful fun message complete with dancing in a circle praising the beauty before us, behind us, around us and in us. Most adults, youth and kids all joined in! To keep with the theme of caring for animals, they were able to use a sling shot to launch fruits and vegetables into the woods. Rachael was able to procure the unsaleable fruit from Shoprite. All had a great time! Lots of laughter and encouragement. Also, to go with the theme, we were able to collect lots of donations for cat and dog shelters in the area. I was able to take the dog donations to Awesome Pet Rescue of Monroe County. They were very excited with the dog biscuits!! And of course, the generosity of our congregation. Rachael will take the cat donations to a local cat rescue in Carbon County.

The 2nd night the kids immediately started painting pots and planting succulents that will be given to our Home Heroes and some people in the congregation took them home on Sunday. They also decorated the "On the Go bags" that will be used to hold food and care items for people who reach out to Pastor Marian and are in need of short-term sustenance. The congregation and VBS participants donated enough items to substantially fill 11 bags. The 2nd night was also water play night and all who wanted to get wet got soaked and even those who were not so willing got a bit wet 😊. After water play, we had a snack and then the kids could play Dodge Ball, make a bird feeder, a bracelet from recycled bags or make a sensory bottle. The Sensory Bottle was a bit of a fiasco as the glue was too old and was very viscus, lots of "ewwwwws" were heard 😊 We ended the night around the new Dogwood tree presented in honor of our VBS. We added mulch and Pastor Marian led us in singing and dancing around the tree as it received lots of love and blessings. Thanks to Rick Anderson for his connections and getting the tree planted.

The last night, families gathered, and we had a potluck supper as a way to care for each other. The kids and parents painted rocks that will be put at the base of the Dogwood Tree. Families played games and just socialized with each other. Pastor Marian had another meeting at the tree and I heard the song "Oh Christmas Tree" in the background as I was still in the Grove.

It was a beautiful few days, not only because of the weather but because of the Spirit that was with us through VBS. I am in awe of the kindness and willingness for people to step in and up when it comes to the kids and missions. My prayer is that the kids remember the feeling they receive when they come to VBS and church, that they remember having great times and a feeling of being safe, secure and deeply loved as they give of themselves and others give of themselves for the kids. We are truly blessed!

I would like to thank Rachael (my co-leader), Pastor Marian, Steph Anderson, Rick Anderson, Shelba Sheffner, Lisa Williams, Jackie Wonderly, Missy Bonser, Matt and Carissa Robin Sterner, Emily Murphy, Kelly Heinick, Natalie Bojko, Christina Bilheimer and special thanks to Bonnie Beers, Heather Miller, Rick and Beverly Waibel who helped with clean-up and other odds and ends. I would also like to thank Jillian Adamson for clerical help. Last but not least I would like to thank our Youth Helpers: Lila Borger, Riley, Camryn and Taylor Bonser, Cameron and Dominick Bojko, Trinity Beers and Jacob Shafer.

JERUSALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST COMMUNITY PICNIC

***** SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2023 *****
(RAIN DATE SUNDAY, AUGUST 13TH)



MUSIC BY MAIN STREET CRUISERS



COME AND ENJOY OUR BEAUTIFUL GROVE!!



CAKEWALK



KIDS ACTIVITIES



RAFFLE TICKETS

12:00 NOON – OPEN AND READY FOR LUNCH

1:00 P.M. – FREE KIDS GAMES & KIDDIE CAKE WALK

3:00 P.M. – CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT
MUSIC BY MAIN STREET CRUISERS

4:30 P.M. - GREETINGS & GIFTS

5:00 P.M. – MUSIC BY MAIN STREET CRUISERS

6:30 P.M. – TRACHSVILLE'S LEGENDARY CAKE WALK

7:30 P.M. – MUSIC BY MAIN STREET CRUISERS

9:00 P.M. – TRICKY TRAY & RAFFLE TICKET DRAWING

~~~~GREAT FOOD, GREAT FUN, GREAT ENTERTAINMENT! ~~~~  
~~~BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS AND SPEND THE DAY! ~~~



**PREPARATION & SET UP FOR THE PICNIC IS
FRIDAY, AUGUST 11TH AT 1:00PM.
SCRUBBING OF POTATOES WILL HAPPEN AT 3:00PM.
ALL HELP YOUNG & OLDER WELCOME...BRING YOUR BRUSH!**



**Annual Church Picnic - Coming Soon!
Saturday - August 12, 2023**

It's hard to believe we are talking about the Picnic already but it will be here before you know it, right around the corner! Your Picnic Committee has been working very hard to organize all the details and as always, we certainly need a lot of help. What can you do? Sign up for a shift in the kitchen, ice cream stand, drinks and candy, fries and pierogis or raffle and tricky tray. Maybe helping with the kid's games or joining the Corn Hole Tournament. We also need donations of homemade pickles, onions and tomatoes.

Also, won't you please consider bringing one or more items for the adult cakewalk? Some suggestions would be baked cakes or pie items, watermelons, fruit baskets and boxes of fruit or vegetables. While you are baking all those goodies; we would like to add selling cake and pie items by the piece/slice this year, please mark that item to be cut and sold when you arrive at the picnic that day. (I think the secret is out that Trachsville UCC has the best bakers around!) We would also need donations for the free Kiddie Cakewalk - we always have been blessed with a very generous number of items for our kids.

Last year in addition to our Raffle Tickets, we started a Tricky Tray (Chinese Auction) drawing and was very well received, if you would like to donate a homemade hand crafted, lawn and garden, household or any other interesting item, we would welcome your donations. Maybe you can't physically contribute this year but would still like to help? You could be a sponsor for our entertainment, The Main Street Cruisers band.

What we really need the most is you! Please come and spend the day with us and enjoy the music, the activities for the day, reconnecting with old friends, great food and the Cakewalk! Thank you in advance to everyone for your help, we can't do it without you! -Wendy

Celebrating 175 YEARS

We are looking forward to many new and exciting things this year. One of those events will be the celebration of our 175th Anniversary on Sunday, October 15th. 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 set a date and time for an August meeting, please see below. 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, August 23rd at 6:00 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.



AUGUST FLOWERS & BULLETINS **SPONSORS**



August 6th – Don Kupillas and Family in honor of wife/mother, Dot's heavenly birthday on August 7th

~~~

**August 13<sup>th</sup> – Wendy & Paul Hoppel in honor of our amazing congregation!**

~~~

August 20th – Byron, Jillian, Sierra & Willow Adamson in honor of son/brother Keith's 2nd birthday on August 20th

~~~

**August 27<sup>th</sup> – Matt, CrissaRobin, Pearl & Collin Sterner in honor of Matt & CrissRobin's 7<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on August 27<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.

### **Available Dates for 2023**

**August 13<sup>th</sup>, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, October 1<sup>st</sup> and October 29<sup>th</sup>**

# Famous Original "Happy Bowl" Stand Palmerton Community Festival

Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup> ~ 5p.m. to 11p.m.  
Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> ~ 11a.m. to 11p.m.  
Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> ~ 12noon to 9p.m.



Come stop by our stand at the Palmerton festival and enjoy an original "Happy Bowl" with our homemade filling, chicken and topped with gravy!!

Filling Prep - Tues Sept 5 - 3:00 PM cut bread/ Hope Hall

Wed Sept 6 - 8:00 AM Make Filling/ Hope Hall

Thurs Sept 7 - Transport items to Festival



## Apple & Fall Festival

Saturday, October 7, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

In the Picnic Grove

*featuring:*

Music by Dean Hahn and The Hawks

12:00pm to 3:00pm

Tricky Tray and Meat Raffle

*with drawings at 3:00pm*



Local meat market and grocery store gift cards are needed for the meat raffle. A sign-up sheet will be on the table under the pavilion or you can see, call or text Lorrie Nothstein about your donation.

(610-442-7437). Gift cards can also be dropped off at the church office. August 16<sup>th</sup> is the last day to sign-up to give donations for the meat raffle tickets. Lorrie doesn't need the gift cards until September 24th. Donations will also be needed for the tricky tray. There will be a sign-up sheet for volunteers for the various work areas at a later time.

Prep for the Fall Festival will be 9:00 a.m. Thursday 10/5 and 9:00 a.m. Friday 10/6

## AUGUST LAY LEADERS

August 6<sup>th</sup> – Steph Anderson

August 13<sup>th</sup> – Family Service & Mike Shafer

August 20<sup>th</sup> – Ed Brader

August 27<sup>th</sup> – Lisa Hawk & Kim Williams

## PLEASE CONSIDER...

**Volunteering to read scriptures during our Sunday morning 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!



## Jerusalem UCC Trachsville Family Pantry

Thank you to all who help and to all of you that continue to donate to this wonderful mission! If you would like to contribute, please place your donation in the Sunday offering plate and mark it food pantry. Thank you and God Bless!!

## 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.**



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 September Newsletter, Please email it to Jillian by **Friday, August 18<sup>th</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