

ECHOES

AUGUST 2018

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST GREENAWALDS



THE DREAM IS NOW A REALITY...

FAMILY PROMISE TO OPEN IN NOVEMBER!

Family Promise of Lehigh Valley will be opening its doors in November and UCC Greenawalds will be the first host church. Our mission for the past few years was to aid homeless families so that they may receive support and a roof over their heads during a time of transition. Our commitment to this grassroots organization in the Lehigh Valley has resulted in the formation of a local branch of the Family Promise Network. The UCCG coordinating committee has been meeting every 2 weeks the past few months to get ready for the first phase of the program, including use of our facility, establishing guest rules and gathering supplies, with Sue Roth coordinating with the FP Core Group.

Jim Byrnes, Executive Director of Family Promise of Lehigh Valley, will speak to the Mutual Ministry gathering on August 26th at 2:00 pm at UCCG about the mission of Family Promise and the current status of the work, and what is still needed for a planned opening later this year.

Please join us for this informational meeting in support of our shared goals for 2018-2019.

Family Promise of Lehigh Valley is part of a nationwide network of programs that seek to provide assistance to homeless children and families by providing safe transitional lodging, meals, and comprehensive support services so families can obtain sustainable housing and financial security.

A special offering to support the work of Family Promise of Lehigh County will be received by area UCC Churches during worship on **September 23, 2018**.

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Now is the time for members to show “faith in action” by signing up to volunteer during our host week. Approximately 30-35 volunteers are needed for the entire week. On August 12 there will be a Mission Moment that will bring information on how to volunteer and how much time is needed. Look for the sign up chart on the Narthex bulletin board for you to indicate your commitment.

Specific dates and assignments will be made once we know how many members are volunteering. Background checks (at no cost to volunteers) and a training session are required.

Allentown Mutual Ministry

UCC Greenawalds

Fellowship Hall

August 26, 2018 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Calling all clergy and lay members of Allentown Area UCC Churches ... A group representing the local UCC churches has been meeting periodically this year to discuss possibilities for shared ministry and resources in the Allentown area. In our most recent meeting we chose Homelessness and Literacy as our primary focus for 2018–2019. Specifically we will assist Family Promise of Lehigh Valley as they work toward opening the doors in the near future. You are invited to come and hear an update. Refreshments served.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

9:30 am

WORSHIP

Holy Communion

Jacob Roth, Guest Musician

Hearing Voices of Faith, both Ancient and New, Listening to the Word, Meditation

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

9:30 am

WORSHIP

Baptism – Shane Oliver

Jacob Roth, Guest Musician

Celebrating the One Who Claims Us, Communion and Baptism

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

9:30 am

WORSHIP

Quieting the Self and Naming Our Needs, Prayer: Thanksgiving, Petition

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26

9:30 am

WORSHIP

Remembering What Binds Us, Covenant and Statements of Faith

Breakfast with Pastor

10:30 am

Mutual Ministry

2:00 pm

Family Promise

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

9:30 am

WORSHIP

Holy Communion

Giving of Ourselves, Both Here and Beyond, Offering and Mission, Sending and Benediction

Hospitality for Fellowship is one half hour prior to worship service.

Lay Readers, Greeters and Hospitality Hosts

We are in need of Lay Readers, Greeters and Hospitality Hosts for the coming months. If you are able to help in any of these areas, please use the sign-up charts on the Narthex bulletin board.



On Our Hearts with Concern

Mary Christman – Devon House
Robert & Dorothy Foulds – at home
Phyllis Meckes – Blue Mountain Nursing & Rehab
Doris Nissen – at home

Michael Saeger – at home
Doris Shaver – Heather Glen Senior Living
Naomi Thomas – at home
Bernice Ziegler – Country Meadows

In Sympathy

Deepest sympathy to Bonnie Marmon and family on the sudden death of her brother, Jack Orr on July 21, 2018.

Deepest sympathy to Cindy Sandt and Samantha on the death of mother and grandmother, Phyllis Kimmel on July 15, 2018.

A Note from the Pastor - Summer Vacation

Summer is a time for celebrating abundance and beauty of creation as life and growth are evident at every turn. I have noticed the many and varied vacation traditions of the members of this church. And much as I love my ministry here I value the time I had away. My vacation was many things, rest, spending time with family, catching up with friends, visiting favorite waterfront sites in Maine and New Hampshire, a bit of play and wonderment admiring textiles in the garment district of Manhattan, and finally a bit of feeding the spirit at the Wild Goose Festival in North Carolina.

Just what, you might ask, is the Wild Goose Festival? It is a non-stop celebration of progressive Christianity in worship led by talented clergy and musicians from across the country - workshops, and music performances while camping on the Appalachian Trail in Hot Springs. (My very first time in a tent, believe it or not.) Bonnie Bates and I traveled together for this fun and inspiring weekend. I attended talks and workshops about many topics; respectful dialog and interactions on social media, mental health concerns and the church, grief work, addressing the problems of race and racism, and others. Most of all I was encouraged to witness a place of safety for folks who work for justice and inclusion in the church in places that are not always welcoming and accepting to diversity of ideas. It is a place they go to recharge and imagine tomorrow's church in our changing world.

Our summer study of worship continues.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer. Psalm 19:14

With these words the psalmist reminds us that worship is about God and gratitude for the one who created us, redeemed us, and dwells within us. It is first and foremost a reminder of who God is and how we encounter God at work in the world. Worship is also a call to us to gather as community, remembering that each of us is a beloved child of God with differing gifts. Those words from the apostle Paul, "differing gifts," reminds us that each of us will experience worship in unique ways. Sometimes in worship we most need the moments of quiet, a respite from the challenges we face every day or a moment of peace after a hurried or chaotic week. Sometimes we look to the music for a reminder of hope, a source of comfort, or an expression of joy and gratitude. We look for insight, inspiration, and understanding in the study of the word in scripture and message.

Many times we most need encouragement that we find in prayer, knowing that in our times of celebration and in our times of sorrow, doubt, or weakness we are held in love and care by those with whom we gather. And while hopefully each of us will find some portions of worship that speak to us, we hold space for those whose needs and preferences on a particular day are different than our own. We have been reminded that it is our creative and compassionate God we worship, and that in worship the needs of the whole and diverse people of God are lifted up.

Perhaps this Call to Worship from the UCC website says it best.

One: We gather to worship together,
All: Different people, different lives, different histories,
One: Yet all children of the same Parent,
All: Created lovingly by the Source of all life!
One: We gather to reconnect with one another,
All: Different people, different lives, different histories,
One: Yet all disciples of one Teacher.
All: Jesus, the Word made flesh, dwelling among us.
One: We gather with different joys and sorrows, different hopes and fears....
All: Different people, different lives, different histories
One: Yet one people with one God, one faith, one baptism.
All: Let us open ourselves to the presence of God at work in us, among us, and through us.

I hope to see you in worship when you are in town. I'd like to hear your thoughts on our order of worship and what you have witnessed in worship here at UCC Greenawalds and elsewhere.

Pastor Judy

Breakfast with Pastor Judy is Sunday, August 26 at 10:30 am in the kitchen. Invitations have been sent, but there are still a few spots open to join Pastor Judy for breakfast on Sunday mornings. If you would like to attend this "get-to-know-you-better" breakfast meeting, please call Pastor Judy on her cell phone at 484-705-5710.



Christian Formation News

Confirmation Class Confirmation classes for students entering 8th grade will begin in September. There will be an initial meeting for students and parents on Sunday, September 16th following worship. Questions may be directed to Carla Lindenmuth.

Sunday School Teachers Needed We would like to offer a class for younger students (age 4-7) this school year, but we need two teachers in order to do so. Please contact Carla at 610-739-7304 or ctlindenmuth@protonmail.com if interested. Curriculum, training, and materials will be provided to you throughout the year. Sunday School classes will begin Sunday, September 9th at 9:00 am. Please complete the registration form below for students.

Adult Christian Formation If you are interested in leading or co-leading an Adult Sunday School class, a single Pop-Up Class or a Bible study, please speak to Carla Lindenmuth or Pastor Judy.



Please return to
UCC Greenawalds
2325 Albright Avenue
Allentown, PA 18104

REGISTRATION FORM

Name
Birth Date
Grade in school
Address
Phone number
Parent name(s) and email address
Allergies/health concerns



Thank you from Rob and Wendy Heiney for all the cards, phone calls and prayers during Rob's recent illness. He was discharged from Sacred Heart Transitional Care Unit on July 24th and continues his recovery at home.

The Soup Kitchen Group will be serving again on Thursday, August 30th from 9:30 am – 1:30 pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Allentown. This group always serves when there is a 5th Thursday in any month. Volunteers are welcome, so if you would like to help out, please contact Linda or Charlie Roeder.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM MINISTRY COUNCIL: July 12, 2018

Next Meeting Aug. 9th – 7:00 pm

- Devotions provided by Mark Griffith included US homeless statistics, Family Promise impact on homelessness, and a prayer for the homeless
- Ministry Council offering donated to Parkland Snack Packs
- Financial Sec. and Treas. reports accepted with general discussion
- Decision made to continue Quarterly fund weekly reduction if possible to meet operational needs and also to allow Bookkeeper \$3000 flexibility to use savings for operating during July & August
- Vitality Training details and reminders; next step is finding candidates
- Tenant lease termination discussion; future plan of action to include outsourcing the repair work in order to have the property ready for future rentals; process begins 7/13 at 9am with David Faust, contractor
- Council performed a SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) to be used for future actions/decisions
- Christian Education - Carla will lead Confirmation this year; searching for Adult Ed. Teachers, Bible Study, Facebook administrator, 4yr old to 2nd grade teachers
- Employee Relations, Pastoral Relations, and Music & Worship - nothing to report
- Finance & Budget - council members asked to have budget requests to Glenn in August
- Property report provided by Sheri Stephens; ramp at back door completed
- Mission - Family Promise group to present at the August MC meeting; Snack Packs to begin in October; 35 Hygiene Kits & 26 cleanup buckets assembled; Mission Trip scheduled for spring of 2019
- Pastor's report shared in her absence - breakfasts well attended; 2 baptisms, 1 wedding scheduled
- Discussion on replacement of council members whose terms have expired



God's Work, Our Hands



Thank you for your generosity! The mission offerings in July resulted in \$609 to purchase CWS School Kits. The mission team will be assembling these kits this month so that they may be distributed in time for the start of school. Children in need are benefitting from your commitment!



2nd offering for August – Parkland Snack Packs



This mission offering will be forwarded to West Allentown Rotary to purchase food supplies for assembling Snack Packs. Children in the Parkland School District who qualify for PA subsidized breakfast and lunch receive these bags for weekend use. Snack Packing will begin again in October, usually on the third Wednesday, 2:15–3:45 pm. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Donna Field or Janine Hensinger.



Ladies in Faith Together

***August 19th – 5:00 pm Potluck Dinner at Mary Helfrich’s house
Contact Mary if planning to attend and if you need directions***



Women’s Guild meets August 29 - 11:00 am in the Kitchen

If you wish to recycle the pint jars from Chow, there is a basket in the Narthex to deposit them. Please do not leave jars in the kitchen and other places in the church.



S.O.S. BREAKFAST
Saturday, September 15, 2018
8:00 - 11:00 am

Menu: S.O.S. - Creamed Dried Beef on Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Home Fries, Toast, Fruit & Pastry

Cost: Donation Only

Proceeds will benefit Fellowship Hall flooring project

Willing Workers Needed – Please Sign Chart in the Narthex



“The Lights in Greenawalds” are lighting up November 17th!

It’s time to light up the corner of Orchard and Albright to make our church shine this holiday season . . . it is a wonderful opportunity for Community Outreach! Let our light shine in the neighborhood!

Task Force meeting is Thursday, September 6th at 7:00 pm

We will begin planning this holiday endeavor in September, so if you love Christmas, please come to bring your ideas and help make this happen! Last year we made contact with over 500 people who visited our neighborhood by distributing information about our church and Family Promise. If you are willing to help, please contact Donna Field or Lee Stephens.

August 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00 – 3:00 PM - Quilters	2 7:00 PM – Nursery School Board meeting 9:00 – 3:00 PM - Quilters	3	4
5 9:30 AM – Worship with Holy Communion Guest Musician – Jacob Roth 12:30 pm Bear Bash for Dining Groups	6	7	8 9:00 – 3:00 PM - Quilters	9 9:00 – 3:00 PM – Quilters 7:00 pm Ministry Council	10	11
12 9:30 AM – Worship with Baptism of Shane Oliver Guest Musician – Jacob Roth	13	14	15 9:00 – 3:00 PM - Quilters	16 9:00 – 3:00 PM - Quilters	17	18 Private Wedding
19 9:30 AM – Worship with ‘Pick-Up Choir’ 5:00 PM – LIFT potluck dinner at Mary Helfrich’s	20	21	22 9:00 – 3:00 PM - Quilters	23 9:00 – 3:00 PM - Quilters	24	25
26 9:30 AM – Worship 2:00 PM – Mutual Ministries for Family Promise @UCCG	27	28	29 9:00 – 3:00 PM – Quilters 11:00 AM – Women’s Guild	30 9:30 – 1:30 PM – Soup Kitchen (St Paul’s Lutheran Church)	31	2 nd Offering August 12 & 26 for Parkland Snack Packs

ECHOES is a monthly publication of United Church of Christ, Greenawalds

Members, committee chairpersons leading a group and anyone with pertinent information are encouraged to submit information and upcoming events. Submit news by email to the church office at churchoffice@uccgreenawalds.org or to Donna Field dgfield67@yahoo.com.



JUST RELAX DURING THE “DOG DAYS OF SUMMER”

OUR STAFF

Pastor Judy Brandon	484-705-5710 cell
pastorjudy.ucc@gmail.com	610-391-1078 home
Church Office/Main Phone	610-435-1763
Michael Huffman, Director of Music Ministry	610-433-6563 home
Susan Borger, Church Secretary	484-695-7954 cell
Robert “Sonny” Rinker, Custodian	484-524-2070
Nursery School	610-435-5467

churchoffice@uccgreenawalds.org FAX 610-435-0988

Pastor Judy is usually in the office Monday – Thursday

She can be reached by phone anytime for emergencies or appointments.

Church Secretary Office Hours are Wednesday & Thursdays, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Volunteers are available in the office Tuesday & Friday mornings.

Hospital Code #439

The August edition of Echoes is sponsored by

James and Donna McHugh

In loving memory of our grandparents and
in honor of our son, Shaun’s, 20th birthday!

Communication to our members is an important part of our ministry. If you cannot attend church regularly, or do not use a computer, you can remain connected with the news, our mission and upcoming activities through this newsletter.

Sponsors for the Echoes help to support the ministry of UCC Greenawalds to all members. Please contact the church office at 610-435-1763 if you would like to sponsor the publication of the Echoes during a particular month in the year. You may also sign the chart in the Narthex, including your dedication information.

We offer 3 sponsorships per month. Cost is \$15.00 per sponsorship.