

ECHOES

MAY 2019

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST GREENAWALDS



**Coming this month...Water Sunday, Spring Edition
Sunday, May 12th**

Just what is Water Sunday? Water Sunday is a day in fall when we will gather and bring the water from our memories and celebrations of the places we have visited and the people who have enriched our respite over the course of the summer.

But to make the fall event happen, we take a Sunday in spring to distribute containers for collecting the water. So come, come on May 12 to hear the words of scripture about water and its life-giving, health-restoring qualities. And then, wherever you go this summer, remember to collect a little water to bring back. The water from our summer experiences will be gathered, blessed, purified, and saved for rituals throughout the coming year, thus giving a sense of wholeness to work and play, rest and worship.

We have all heard the timely phrase that “April Showers, Bring May Flowers!” And so it is that watering our earth has become rather frequent these days. The grass has been nourished and turned green, flowering trees and the spring bulbs have sprouted in glorious display this year.

For this, we are grateful in God’s fresh season of growth!



<u>SUNDAY, May 5</u> – Holy Communion	10:30 AM	WORSHIP
Supply Minister: Janet Newett		
<u>SUNDAY, May 12</u> – Water Sunday	10:30 AM	WORSHIP
<u>SUNDAY, May 19</u>	10:30 AM	WORSHIP
<u>SUNDAY, May 26</u>	10:30 AM	WORSHIP

Confirmation will be held on Pentecost - Sunday, June 9th.

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



On Our Hearts with Concern

- | | |
|--|---|
| Mary Christman – Devon House | Doris Nissen – at home |
| Robert & Dorothy Foulds – at home | Doris Shaver – Heather Glen Senior Living |
| Phyllis Meckes – Blue Mountain Nursing/Rehab | Naomi Thomas – at home |
| | Bernice Ziegler – Country Meadows |

Celebration of New Life

Parker-Jane Hope LaAsmar, daughter of Steve and Megan (Borger) LaAsmar, little sister of Dallis, and granddaughter of Ray and Sue Borger born Saturday, April 27, 2019



FOR YOUR GIFTS ...

From Mary Christman: Dear Friends, thank you for the Easter card and Weis gift card. I appreciate your friendship and support at UCC Greenawalds. Love, Mary C.

From Doris Nissen: (addressed to Janine H) – I want to thank you for delivering the nice basket that was made by the Women’s Group of the church. It was so nice of you to remember the shut-ins of the church. Janine, I also enjoyed your visit and you are welcome anytime. Thanks again, and God bless everyone. Doris Nissen

From Naomi Thomas: Dear ladies of the LIFT Group, thank you so much for the beautiful basket I received from you at this joyous Easter season. I enjoyed the large variety of items I found there, and everything in it was so delicious and useful. It was so nice to see Sue and Mary again too, and I enjoyed a lovely visit with them. Please know that your kindness is very much appreciated. In Christian love, Naomi Thomas

Also, from Naomi Thomas: Dear ladies, thank you so much for remembering me at this joyous Easter season. I received your pretty Easter card, along with a gift certificate to the Weis store, which is usually where I do all my grocery shopping. I will certainly put that to good use, and I want you to know how much I appreciate your kindness. Greenawalds church is in my prayers every night, and I hope all of you will have a happy and healthy summer. God bless, Naomi

From the Pastor ... Celebrate!

Easter brings hope into our lives offering the possibility of newness and rebirth. I see evidence of newness of life in the devoted work of the leaders of the congregation this year. I would like to lift up the work of those who participated in Vitality Days. Many thanks to all who have given time and energy to the success of this process by attending the training and follow up planning sessions. Ask them about what they've learned.

Linda Altrichter
Diane Borman
Jayne Christman
Annette Fatzinger
Donna Field
Mark Griffith
Karen Griffith

Ben Gullede
Janine Hensinger
Glenn Horlacher
Michael Huffman
Bonnie Marmon
Janet Newett
Joyce Weishaupt

The Vitality Days workshops offered lots of ideas for what leader, Michael Piazza, calls Vintage Churches. Sponsored by the Penn Northeast Conference of the UCC, the meetings trained leaders to examine and plan vital programs and areas of church life and outreach. Through the commitment to day long Saturday workshops, followed by planning sessions and meetings with a trained coach, participants have brought energy to developing these initiatives.

1) Vital Worship – We have gathered to plan ways to add richness and depth of experience in worship, engaging the senses and developing new worship rituals. One example of the planning imagined our use of stones throughout the season of Lent. The stone ritual offered concrete ways of relating to God through meditating and making promises for our Lenten practice. It is said that it takes 5 weeks to develop a new practice. Considering that Lent is 40 days plus Sundays, or 6 ½ weeks, I wonder how many of us might choose to take new Lenten practices into the remainder of the year.

2) Stewardship – Leaders involved with finance and giving have devoted many hours to evaluate our financial picture and to consider how we encourage and record our giving. First, letters were sent out to encourage and increase electronic giving. Second, the process of counting and recording Sunday giving has been redesigned sharing the work among a group of volunteers and staff, no longer requiring a Financial Secretary to be present 52 Sundays a year. (More about this process will follow as it gets underway.)

3) Technology – Use of technology has been a major theme throughout the training. We were given lots of tips for keeping our communication of all kinds up to date. We will continue to look at how we use social media to reach out to the community, sharing news of upcoming events and our passion for mission and joyful worship. Plans are underway for more frequent use of audio-visual elements in our worship to highlight the theme of the day.

4) Renewing Vintage Churches - The final session of Vitality Days is coming up on May 18. We will see what Michael has in mind this time. It has been a great journey so far and we have lots of ideas for moving into the future.

The apostle Paul tells his readers in churches he planted that we all have differing gifts for the service of the mission of Jesus Christ. Each week I see people come through the doors bringing their talents to our word and fellowship. Everyone is needed and valued for we are all God's Beloved. I invite everyone to consider how we are all called to respond to spread the news about the work and witness of the people of this church, its ministers.

Blessings,

Pastor Judy

Pastor Judy will be on vacation beginning Tuesday, April 30 thru Monday, May 6. She will return to the office on Tuesday, May 7. If you are in need of pastoral care during Pastor Judy's vacation, please contact our Pastoral Intern, Janet Newett at 610-657-2189. You may also call Sue Borger's cell or the church office, and she will then be in touch with Janet.

Pastor Judy will once again be participating in a concert with the **Lehigh Valley Chorale**. Their spring Concert is entitled "*Spirit, Music from the Heart*" and will be presented on Friday, May 10 at 7:30 pm and Saturday, May 11 at 2:00 pm. The concert takes place at Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA.



Tuesdays

Parkland Diner

Continuing in 2019 with Pastor Judy

Join me Tuesdays at the Parkland Diner for Out of Office Hours. Drop by any time between 12:30 – 2:30 PM for lunch or dessert, coffee or tea. Share what's on your mind, voice your prayer concerns, respond to Sunday's sermon, look at next week's lectionary readings, discuss what's going on in the community. I look forward to seeing you and finding where the Spirit leads.



The next UCCG Host Week is June 2-9, 2019

Karen Griffith will be scheduling volunteers very soon. If you are available to work a shift, sleep overnight, or make a meal, please contact her at 610-703-6826 before she has to call you! Set-up is being planned for Saturday, June 1, except for the mattresses. Currently there are 2 families, but there may be more until June.

Thank you to all who attended, worked the event, donated gifts for the baskets and supported the first Homecoming Fundraiser for Family Promise on March 30.

Our Penny Party was a huge success . . . a few volunteers needed!



Please join us on Saturday, May 11th at 9:00 am for the Penny Party Wrap-Up! The numbered tickets need to be counted and boxed for next year. The morning includes a continental breakfast and any one is welcome to come, as long as you are able to count to 10. Time commitment is approximately 2-3 hours. Thank you!



Ladies In Faith Together – Sunday, May 19 - 12-3 pm

Outdoor Walk on a Sunday afternoon
Bring bag lunch for after church



Women's Guild meets May 29 at 9:00 am - Chow-Chow Making

Place your order on the chart in the Narthex or contact Louise Reinhard. Please return any jars from past purchases of Chow-Chow to be recycled and sanitized. There is a basket in the narthex where you may place the jars. Thank you.



On March 30th, **Andrew Syslo (AJ) achieved Eagle Scout status** as a member of Troop 8 at Greenawalds. His project was the repair of the concrete at the handicap ramp to the sanctuary.

Congratulations to Eamon Bonner for achieving his Eagle Scout award on Sunday, April 28th. His project was installing new markers and stakes for the church parking lot. Eamon is a member of our church and attends Scouts at Troop 57 in Neffs.

May 25th will mark another **Eagle Scout achievement for Teddy Reinhard**, a member of Troop 8 at Greenawalds. His project was to repair the cement entrance to Fellowship Hall by replacing the step with a slight ramp.

We appreciate the hard work of these boys, their families and their scout peers, not only to earn their award, but for their contribution to our church.

Thank you to these fine young men!



HIGHLIGHTS FROM MINISTRY COUNCIL - April 11, 2019

Next Meeting May 9th – 6:00 pm

- First meeting with new start time 6:00 pm
- Devotions provided by Janine Hensinger
- Tonight's Ministry Council offering went towards the Puerto Rico mission trip
- Minutes of February Council were approved
- Financial Secretary's and Treasurer's reports accepted with general discussion
- February was a black month due to increased giving and no oil expenditures
- 4 Rs to Revenue increase reviewed; had a spike in E-Giving of approximately \$700 per month in January and February, versus our 2018 monthly average
- Discussed ideas around changing the Financial Secretary Position, "Counting Captain" proposal and letter to Elders
- Idea floated to use Family Promise funds toward a portion of heating costs
- Ministry Team reports shared by Finance & Budget, Mission, Music & Worship, Property, and the Pastor
- Pastor items: Vitality updates, Book group, Confirmation, AV, Family Promise, Continuing education plans, Vacation time
- Property to investigate the expense of a chairlift and replacement of fire extinguishers
- New Copier agreement to be decided by Finance & Budget
- Proposed gift ideas shared regarding Janet's internship
- Rental income - Hope UCC's change of heart
- Family Promise updates
- Vitality Seminar updates
- Audio / Visual gift discussed with follow-up action

"Counting Captains"

THANK YOU! We have been blessed with 11 individuals who have said "Yes" to serving as a Counting Captain following worship! If we evenly distribute the Sundays, that means only 5 Sundays a year for this responsibility for each individual. One training session is all that you will need, approximate training time is 45 minutes.

Training dates:

Tuesday, May 7 – 3 pm or 6 pm

Wednesday, May 8 – 3 pm or 6 pm

Tuesday, May 14 – 10 am or 6 pm

Wednesday, May 15 – 10 am or 6 pm

During the training we will review the process of what Diane Borman, Financial Secretary, does each Sunday. The goal is to kick this off on Sunday, June 2nd.

Again ... **many thanks** ... for your help with this endeavor.

Mark Griffith

Mission Ministry

3 GREAT LOVES



LOVE OF NEIGHBOR!

Thank you from Grant Field and Ben Gullede as we “Rebuild a Community”!

We would like to thank the congregation for their generous support of our mission trip to Puerto Rico with Penn Northeast and Penn Southeast Conferences. We feel blessed to be part of an outreach congregation, committed to helping others. Your gifts were received on Easter Sunday, and we flew there the following week on April 28th. As of this writing we are still at work in Puerto Rico, so more to tell when we return.



Announcing a West Virginia Mission Trip for September 21 – 28, 2019

Information meeting Sunday, May 19 following worship in the Sanctuary

Would you like to experience a Mission Trip? A second mission trip to West Virginia is in the planning stages. It was a great experience in 2017 and our generous congregation has already given enough for another experience. West Virginia is a 5-6 hour drive from UCCG, so we will carpool together. The cost is \$50 per participant for housing.

If you are interested, please contact Grant or Donna Field at 610-395-0821 as we are starting a list of possible participants.



PARKLAND SNACK PACKERS NEEDED FOR MAY 15TH!

Nanci Snyder will be the new coordinator for the UCCG Snack Packers! The school year is winding down, but we still need a few more packers on Wednesday, May 15, meeting at 2:30 pm at Parkland High School (finish no later than 4:00 pm). If you are able and willing to commit to this assembly line project, please contact Nanci as soon as possible, 610-762-5030. You will be working with students, so due to security reasons, all packers need to be registered at least 2 days prior to the packing date.



A Successful Season

This has been an amazingly successful season, highlighted by extraordinary cooperation among all the partners who serve those who are homeless. Did you hear about [the "100 Day Challenge"](#) a project set up through the Trexler Trust?

It was reported 63 people exiting homelessness; another 46 households were prevented from becoming homeless! Kudos to all the organizations and groups that contributed to the effort, and to the Trexler Trust for initiating the project.

In addition, the Coordinating Committee at Zion also strengthened partnerships between agencies, varied ministries and the Warming Station as we all serve the same client-community. I'm also happy to say we have "birthed" a task force that will continue to meet after the Warming Station season ends. We hope to learn more about (and perhaps apply learnings from) the [Community First village project](#).

Zion's Became a 7 days-a-week Home for the Homeless

Here at Zion, we expanded our supportive role this year. In case you didn't know, for the past six months we have been the temporary home for the Ripple Community ministry five days a week; we also host St. Paul's community breakfast ministry on Sundays; and of course, we have continued our own Jubilee breakfast ministry three days a week.

One Way to Support the Mission

We appreciate the support we receive from individuals, churches and granting organizations! You helped us respond to the increasing numbers of people who have been coming to the breakfasts. However, as the Jubilee season draws to a close at the end of the month, we're facing an immediate need for dishwasher repairs (\$1,500). And anyone who has volunteered this past year knows the toll this seven-days-a-week programming has taken on the floor of our Fellowship Hall. We are seeking bids to replace the entire floor!

One way you can help is by supporting our fund-raising brunch, Breakfast for the Homeless fund-raiser on Saturday, May 11 from 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Tickets: \$10 each / children 5-12: \$5 / children under 5: free! You can [purchase tickets or simply make a donation](#) via Paypal. (To purchase tickets online, just type "tickets" in the box that says: "indicate where to use donation.")

And for sponsorship information or to reserve tickets, call Zion's UCC 610-435-2412.

Thank you for your continuing support of the Jubilee ministry to/with/for those who are homeless. I'll keep you informed about the projects that continue to develop over the summer months.

Pastor Bob Stevens

May is Soup Kitchen month for UCC, Greenawalds!



Our faithful soup kitchen crew is scheduled to serve a meal this month because it has a 5th Thursday! That is our regular schedule throughout the year, any month with a 5th Thursday, and coordinated by Linda and Charlie Roeder.

A few new helping hands would be greatly appreciated, so please contact the Roeders at 610-439-0019 if you would like to serve. The group leaves our church at 9:30 am; time commitment is approximately 3.5 hours.

Our 2nd Offering on May 12 and May 26 will support the operation of the Allentown Soup Kitchen.

For Sale – 4 plot cemetery lot. Cedar Hill Memorial Park off Airport Road. Please contact Randy Seyler for more information (484-274-4306).

100TH ANNIVERSARY CANVAS

Would you like to help complete the 100th Anniversary canvas that’s hanging in the narthex? For a \$20 donation, you may design your own square to help complete this project. You can do the artistry yourself or we can draw it for you – a picture, a quote or a simple message of positivity. We’ve named this project – TEAM POSITIVITY. Paper squares are available in the narthex near the canvas to use for sketching out your ideas. Please pass them on to Annette Fatzinger or Sue Borger with your \$20 contribution. All donations will be designated to help pay down the Fellowship Hall floor balance. Thank you!

June is the month for graduations. If you have a soon-to-be-graduate (high school or college) and you want them acknowledged in Echoes, please email or call the church office – 610-435-1763 or churchoffice@uccgreenawalds.org before May 22. Thank you.



If you think you might be able to look back at today and laugh about it, why not do it today?



May 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Pastor Judy on vacation 10:00 – 3:00 PM - Quilters	2 Pastor Judy on vacation 6:00 PM – Nursery School Board meeting	3 Pastor Judy on vacation	4 Pastor Judy on vacation 9 – 4 PM PNEC Spring Meeting 6:00 PM – Cub Scouts Pack meeting
5 Pastor Judy on vacation 9:00 AM – Sunday School 9:30 AM – Choir 10:00 AM – Hospitality 10:30 AM - Worship Supply Pastor – Janet Newett	6 Pastor Judy on vacation 7:00 – 8:30 PM – Boy Scouts	7 6:30 – 8:00 PM – Cub Scouts	8 10:00 – 3:00 PM - Quilters	9 9:00 – 10:30 AM – Nursery School Mother's Day Tea in Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM Ministry Council	10	11 9:00 – 12:00 noon – Penny Party wrap-up
12 Mother's Day 9:00 AM – Sunday School 9:30 AM – Choir 10:00 AM – Hospitality 10:30 AM – Worship – Water Sunday	13 Piano Guild Auditions in Sanctuary 7:00 – 8:30 PM – Boy Scouts	14 Piano Guild Auditions in Sanctuary 6:30 – 8:00 PM – Cub Scouts	15 Piano Guild Auditions in Sanctuary 10:00 – 3:00 PM - Quilters	16 Piano Guild Auditions in Sanctuary	17 Piano Guild Auditions in Sanctuary	18 Armed Forces Day 9-3 PM Vitality Day at Jordan UCC 3:00 PM – Piano Guild Recital in Sanctuary & refreshments in Fellowship Hall
19 9:00 AM – Sunday School 9:30 AM – Choir 10:00 AM – Hospitality 10:30 AM – Worship Mission Trip Meeting following worship	20 7:00 – 8:30 PM – Boy Scouts	21 6:30 – 8:00 PM – Cub Scouts	22 10:00 – 3:00 PM - Quilters	23 Nursery School closing program in Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall	24	25 11:00 am Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Teddy Reinhard 12:00 pm Reception in Fellowship Hall
26 9:00 AM – Sunday School 9:30 AM – Choir 10:00 AM – Hospitality 10:30 AM – Worship Confirmation Lunch after worship	27 Memorial Day	28	29 9:00 – Women's Guild making chow chow	30	31	2nd Offering May 12 & 26 Allentown Soup Kitchen



Not at our church . . . A woman named Gladys Dunn was new in town and decided to visit the church closest to her apartment. She appreciated the pretty sanctuary and the music by the choir, but the sermon went on and on. Worse, it wasn't very interesting. Glancing around, she saw many people in the congregation nodding off. Finally it was over. After the service, she turned to a sleepy-looking gentleman next to her and extended her hand, saying "I'm Gladys Dunn." "You and me both," he replied.



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

A volunteer is available in the office on Friday mornings.

Hospital Code #439

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.

Sponsorship Needed for 2019 Echoes

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.

May Echoes are sponsored by Oliver & Althea Blöse

Sponsors for the Echoes help to support the ministry of UCC Greenawalds to all members. You may sign the chart in the Narthex, including your dedication information.

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