



WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

~ February 2023 ~

Sun., Feb. 5 - 10:30 am - Worship w/Holy Communion - Scout Sunday

Sun., Feb. 5 thru Sun. Feb. 12 - Family Promise Host Week

Order Homemade Soups thru Feb. 12

Sun. Feb. 12 - 10:30 am - Worship - Souper Bowl Sunday -

Dress to support your team and bring canned soups to vote for *Philadelphia Eagles* or *Kansas City Chiefs*


Last Day to Order Homemade Soup

Sun., Feb. 19 - 10:30 am - Worship w/Installation of New Leaders

Pick-Up Homemade Soup after worship

Wed., Feb. 22 - Ash Wednesday - 7:00 pm Service

Sun., Feb. 26 - 10:30 am - Worship - 1st Sunday in Lent (welcome to our new Music Director - Anthony Newett)



Feb 22 7:00 pm

**ASH
WEDNESDAY**

Worship at UCC Greenawalds

Supply Pastor, Rev. Dr. David DeRemer

FROM OUR PASTOR ...



Happy February everyone!

There are so many wonderful things happening in our beautiful faith community. You were willing to step out in faith. Because of that, there is no limit to where we are going to go from here.

I am excited about moving forward with the partnership with Family Promise! This is a good thing for us and our community.

(see the DISCOVERY Team update on the next page)

I am also excited about having a music director once again! As we build, our music ministry will include adult choir, children's choir, and even bell choir. Our worship services will be enhanced as many people share their God-given talents to the glory of God.

Anthony will begin with Greenawalds on February 26 as our new Music Director. His title of Music/AV Advisor has been adjusted to AV Tech. I know our Tech Team will be excited when Anthony is there each Sunday! What you don't know is that almost every Sunday, the Tech Team and Anthony communicate about the live stream and the in-house technology. Having Ant there in person each Sunday will really take the pressure off of them. It also allows me to be free on a Sunday morning in ways I have not been up until now.

I look forward to visiting with the children in Sunday School and also to starting the Adult Faith Formation class that we tried to get going in the fall.

(see article on FAITH FORMATION for more information on classes)

And on a personal note, I admit that I am so excited to finally have my family united in worship once again! Since my journey has taken me to many different churches, the idea of a "church home" began to seem unattainable for my children. This is one of the sacrifices they have made for me so that I could do and be what God was asking of me. Now that Anthony and I are serving the same congregation, my prayer is that Aria, Calvin (Aria's fiance), Paul and Grace will find their spiritual home.

There is one other thing that I want to let you know about:

From February 21 to March 1, I will be in Hyderabad, India. I was asked to represent our conference on this important mission trip as we establish relationships with the Diocese of South India. This trip includes the Conference Ministers from both Penn Northeast and Penn Southeast plus two additional representatives from each conference. I am humbled and honored to be included! So I will be traveling with our own Bonnie Bates, Bill Worley (PSEC Conference Min), David Charles Smith (Pastor, Jordan UCC Allentown) and two others from PSEC. When I return, I look forward to sharing my experiences with you.

With love as we serve together,
Pastor Janet

DISCOVERY PROJECT UPDATE

The members of UCC Greenawalds voted to affirm our partnership with Family Promise of Lehigh Valley during the January 29th Congregational meeting. This exciting project will now move into the next phase.

A few members of the Discovery Project Group will meet with Family Promise representatives to discuss and write up the covenant between our two non-profits. This will be called a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in future communications.

A press release informing the community of our intent to partner with Family Promise will be sent to various news outlets after the MOU has been signed. The press release will also inform the public of two community meetings to be held at UCCG to inform and answer questions about the project.

Concurrently, we will meet with the architect to finalize the plans. Both parties have requested a few minor changes that will need to be completed before going before the South Whitehall Township Zoning Board.

We are looking forward to this new partnership and the changes it may bring to our community and our lives.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

Karen Griffith



Eleanor Limpar, at home
Mae Moyer, at home
Louise Reinhard, at home

Doris Shaver, Phoebe Home (Room T313A)
Naomi Thomas, at home
Lois Tice, at home
Geri Yarnall, Phoebe Home (Room T311B)



We offer our sincere sympathy to Rev. Michael Eckroth
on the death of his mother, LaRue Eckroth, who passed away on
Friday, January 20, 2023 at the age of 85.

NURSERY SCHOOL UPDATE:

- Thank you for your support of our Blue Mountain Candle fundraiser.
- Our current fundraiser is Gertrude Hawk candies. A brochure will be available in the lobby/narthex on Sunday morning. Deadline to order is Thursday, February 23.
- We will continue to collect items for the Used Clothing Drive until April 20 (please place items in garbage bags).
- We are now accepting registrations for the 2023-2024 school year. If you know of someone who may be interested in enrolling their child, please have them call the Nursery School office at 610-435-5467.
- THANK YOU for your continued support of our Nursery School program.

**On January 15, 2023 we welcomed 9 new members into our congregation at
UCC Greenawalds.**



L-R Matt Stalter, Dave Adams, Paul Quinn, Karen Adams, Ashley Adams and her children,
JJ, Spencer, and Arra Barnett (not pictured)
Pastor Janet, CJ Hemerly, Brandy Hemerly, Bart & Kimberly Tizio and their children,
Bartolo and Haley

UCCG 101 *New Member Class*

Are you new to United Church of Christ
Greenawalds? Are you considering joining us
in our mission and faith formation?

THEN THIS IS FOR YOU!

**Our next class will be Saturday, March 11 at 10am.
Sign up with Pastor Janet or use the signup sheet
in the Lobby.**



... **to** everyone who contributed to our “Weather Alert” collection box. We collected 130 items. The Lehigh Conference of Churches is appreciative of our support of their ongoing effort to care for our local homeless population.

... **from** Sandy Lakatos for the prayers, cards and phone calls following her recent hip replacement surgery. She hopes to see everyone soon!

... **from** the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank for your generous food donation of 125.5 pounds of essential items given to us on December 23, just in time for our holiday distribution. *(FYI, these items were from our Reverse Advent Calendar collection.)*



Faith Formation at Greenawalds

9:30-10:15 am

We offer Sunday School for ages 3 to 5th grade which is led by a spirited team of leaders.

We use a curriculum entitled, “A JOYFUL PATH.”

Here is a description:

A Joyful Path is a spiritual curriculum that connects children with their own inner wisdom and focuses on how we behave affects our happiness. It teaches interdependence, self awareness, respect for nature, stillness, forgiveness, prayer, meditation, integrity, radical inclusion, and experiencing God. Using the Bible, sacred texts, and wisdom stories from around the world, A Joyful Path, Year 1 helps children learn how to follow the path of Jesus in today’s world. In Year 1, we emphasize behavior over belief, teaching reverence and gratitude for this life, supporting children to find their own inner wisdom and to connect to the Spirit and God Within All.

WHAT ABOUT AN ADULT CLASS??

Good News!! The *Adult Faith Formation Class* will begin on March 5 at 9:30am.

Pastor Janet will lead. Join us!

UCC Greenawalds MISSION Ministry
is out of this world

O. M. G!!

Outreach + Mission = GROWTH

This GROWTH comes in many forms and has
multiple uses for the church, for each of us &
for God's vision in this world.



"Souper" Bowl

February 5 and 12, 2023



Bring canned
goods and
other
non-perishable
food items to
church on
Feb. 5 & 12



**Dress to
Support your
favorite team
by wearing
your team's
colors on
Feb. 12**

On **Sunday, February 5, and Sunday, February 12**, we will again have the opportunity to 'vote' for our favorite team by bringing cans of soup and placing them in the box in the narthex/lobby labeled with your favorite team. On Sunday, February 12, you are invited to support your favorite team by wearing your team's colors. Regardless of who wins the game on February 12, the Ecumenical Food Bank will be the big winner when all soup donations are delivered to them!



We are very happy to report that in the month of January, three families successfully completed the program and have moved on to affordable housing. Congratulations to all!

We currently have two families in the rotation; however, we are expecting to add two more families just in time for our host week beginning Sunday, February 5 thru Sunday, February 12.

Our host weeks for the remainder of 2023 are: April 30 - May 7, September 24 - October 1, and November 5 - 12.

Our Designer Purse Bingo on January 21, was a success. The total profit was \$7,738. A big "THANK YOU" to the five UCCG volunteers who helped prep, prepare, and serve food at the event. Awesome job!

Save the Dates:

Saturday, February 18, 2023 - Big Band Dance - 7:00 pm at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott Street, Allentown - \$10 per person - ALL proceeds benefit Family Promise of Lehigh Valley.

A poster for a Big Band Dance event. It features a man in a tuxedo and a woman in a red dress dancing. The text "Big Band Dance" is in a large, stylized font. Below it, "Dance to the music of the" is written. A red box contains the text "THE HANOVER BIG BAND". To the left of this box is a heart shape with the word "DANCE" inside. To the right of the heart, the date and time "Saturday, February 18, 2023 Dancing 7-10 pm" are listed. At the bottom, the location "St. Timothy Lutheran Church * 140 So. Ott Street, Allentown Fellowship Hall (accessible from rear parking lot)" is given. Below that, the ticket price "\$ 10 PER PERSON" is listed, along with a note "(Includes soda, snacks, & desserts—Casual dress)". Tickets are available from the church office (610-435-6512 ext.200) or Rick Focht (610-393-8914). The Family Promise of Lehigh Valley logo is at the bottom left, and a statement "All proceeds benefit Family Promise of Lehigh Valley" is at the bottom right.

Big Band Dance
Dance to the music of the
THE HANOVER BIG BAND

DANCE **Saturday, February 18, 2023**
Dancing 7-10 pm

St. Timothy Lutheran Church * 140 So. Ott Street, Allentown
Fellowship Hall (accessible from rear parking lot)

\$ 10 PER PERSON (Includes soda, snacks, & desserts—Casual dress)
Tickets available from church office (610-435-6512 ext.200)
or Rick Focht (610-393-8914)

Family Promise of Lehigh Valley All proceeds benefit Family Promise of Lehigh Valley

Saturday, April 1, 2023-Annual Homecoming Gala - "The Magic of Community & Caring Year"

5:30 pm at Aster Event Center, 621 Grange Road, Allentown.

Individual tickets \$125 per person or a Table of 8 for \$800.

More information will be provided in the March *Echoes*.

SOUP, SOUP ... AND MORE SOUP!

We hope you enjoyed the chicken corn chowder and ham & bean soup last month! More of your favorites are being prepared this month ... chicken noodle, split pea w/ham, and vegetable w/beef soups.

See page 13 of the *Echoes* for an order form. Orders must be placed by Sunday, February 12, with pick up on Sunday, February 19.



SOUP'S ON!

HOME-MADE SOUP SALE
Sunday, February 19, 2023

Chicken Noodle - \$10 per quart
Split Pea w/Ham - \$10 per quart
Vegetable w/Beef - \$12 per quart

**Orders must be received by
UCC Greenawalds no later than
Sunday, February 12, 2023.**

Proceeds will go toward UCCG's
heating oil bill. 10% of the proceeds
will be donated to
Community Bike Works, Allentown.

PENNY PARTY - SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023

A graphic for a Penny Party. The background is a collage of US pennies. Overlaid on this are two rectangular boxes. The top box is orange and contains the event title and times. The bottom box is olive green and contains sign-up instructions and donation information.

PENNY PARTY - Saturday, March 25
4:45 pm - Doors Open; 5:00 pm - Light Supper Available
6:00 pm - Games Begin

SIGN-UP in the lobby to help on March 25!
Select the TIME SLOT you want to fill
and the JOB you want to do.

Also, **ACCEPTING YOUR DONATIONS** of
household items, non-perishable food,
books, kids' games/toys/art supplies, etc.
(new or gently used items, please).

There is a box in the lobby/narthex across
from Pastor Janet's office.

We need YOUR help to make this event a success!

If you have any questions, see Mark or Michelle Adams 610-295-7193 or
booschick@yahoo.com



LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

Our Leadership Circle continues to meet monthly in person and via zoom. Here are some highlights from our January 19, 2023 meeting:

- Sue Borger led devotions by reading a blog entitled, *"Changes: God's Opportunity to Bless"* by Martha Noebel.
- We reviewed the Financial Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for December and end-of-year. All were in order. Motion made to accept the reports as presented. All in favor; motion carried.
- We reviewed and approved minutes from several recent meetings. Motions made to accept each individual report. All in favor; motions carried.
- The Pastor's Report was submitted and reviewed.
- Reports were submitted by OMG, Property, and Music & Worship.

An IMPORTANT Message about Business and Finances from Your Leadership Circle

At our Annual Congregational meeting on Sunday, January 29, we accomplished a number of important business and financial items:

- Karen Griffith made a detailed presentation on the proposed partnership between UCCG and Family Promise of Lehigh Valley. The congregation voted and affirmed this partnership, and we will now move on to the next step in making this partnership a reality.
- We conducted the annual Nomination and Election of Leadership Circle members and other representatives. Thank you and welcome to our new leaders!
- We also announced that an opportunity presented itself to us, and that we have hired Anthony Newett to be our Music Director, filling the vacant position formerly known as Director of Music Ministries.
- Hiring Anthony at a salary of \$15,000 for the Music Director position and the revamped A/V Technical Director position at a salary of \$5,000, made for a deficit of \$8,763 in the 2023 budget approved in November (this deficit also includes an \$828 fee for a maintenance agreement on the A/C units and payroll taxes for Anthony's salary.)
- A motion was made and seconded to amend the 2023 budget to include the above monies. The vote was conducted; all present voted in favor of amending the budget to include this deficit. The motion carried.

Here is where the Finance part comes in:

- During the budget discussion, Sheri Stephens explained that **if each of our giving units would increase their financial giving by a minimum of \$3.00 per week, we will be able to meet the revised 2023 budget.**
- We continue to encourage members to make a recurring gift through your bank or through our online giving resource. This way, if you're not worshipping in person, you may continue to support your church and our missions.
- Please contact Sue at the church office or on her cell if you would like to sign-up for on-line giving or are able to increase your on-line giving, and Sue can take care of that for you.
- Remember, it's best to sign-up using your checking account; using a credit card incurs fees the church is charged, thus losing money you are giving to the church.
- **Please prayerfully consider if you** are able to increase your weekly or monthly gift.

THANK YOU!

2022 Financial Giving

Month	Budget	General Offering Income	*Other Income	Total Operating Income	Operating Expense	Net Income
Jan-22	\$11,536	\$7,846	\$2,049	\$9,895	\$15,369	(\$5,474)
Feb-22	\$11,536	\$7,395	\$4,202	\$11,597	\$11,495	\$102
Mar-22	\$11,536	\$7,866	\$2,491	\$10,357	\$10,925	(\$569)
Apr-22	\$11,536	\$7,971	\$3,080	\$11,051	\$17,073	(\$6,022)
May-22	\$11,536	\$8,299	\$3,025	\$11,324	\$4,253	\$7,070
Jun-22	\$11,536	\$6,722	\$2,200	\$8,922	\$11,244	(\$2,322)
Jul-22	\$11,536	\$8,227	\$3,739	\$11,966	\$7,433	\$4,532
Aug-22	\$11,536	\$7,808	\$2,480	\$10,288	\$11,200	(\$912)
Sep-22	\$11,536	\$8,071	\$3,002	\$11,073	\$12,782	(\$1,709)
Oct-22	\$11,536	\$7,416	\$2,866	\$10,282	\$9,831	\$451
Nov-22	\$11,536	\$9,036	\$2,319	\$11,355	\$9,401	\$1,954
Dec-22	\$11,536	\$11,031	\$3,513	\$14,544	\$12,391	\$2,153
Total	\$138,432	\$97,688	\$34,964	\$132,653	\$133,399	(\$746)

* Other income includes; Annex Rental, bulletin, flowers, bill tree and special income

Your 2023 Leadership Circle

(to be installed on Sunday, February 19 during worship)

Officers:

Moderator - Kerry Merkel

Vice Moderator - Larry Christman

Immediate Past Moderator - Sheri Stephens

Recording Secretary/Financial Secretary - Sue Borger

Treasurer/Finance & Budget Representative - Bonnie Marmon

Members-at-Large:

Linda Altrichter

Diane Borman

Jayne Christman

Nanci Snyder

Ministry Team Leads:

Music & Worship - Linda Altrichter

OMG (formerly Mission) - Sue Roth

Property - Lee Stephens



HOME-MADE SOUP SALE

Sunday, February 19, 2023

Brrr... it's cold outside! We're making more of your favorite soups! Proceeds will go toward UCCG's heating oil bill, with 10% of the proceeds being donated to Community Bike Works, Allentown.

	<u># of</u> <u>Quarts</u>		
Chicken Noodle Soup	_____	x \$10.00 each =	\$_____
Split Pea w/Ham Soup	_____	x \$10.00 each =	\$_____
Vegetable w/Beef Soup	_____	x \$12.00 each =	\$_____
TOTAL	_____	Quarts	\$_____

Orders must be received by UCC Greenawalds **no later than Sunday, February 12, 2023**. Place order forms in the offering plate or mail them to the church:

Soup Sale
U.C.C. Greenawalds
2325 Albright Avenue
Allentown PA 18104

NAME _____ PHONE _____

**** Return above order form to church; keep this portion as a reminder ...
Soup must be picked up at UCCG after worship until 2:00 pm on
Sunday, February 19, 2023. (Total owed: \$_____)

February 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4
5 9:30-10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship w/Holy Communion Scout Sunday After Worship – Family Promise Set-Up Family Promise Host Week Begins	6 Family Promise Host Week	7 Family Promise Host Week	8 Family Promise Host Week	9 Family Promise Host Week	10 6:30-9:00 pm Cub Scouts – Pinewood Derby Weigh-Ins	11 5:30-9:00 pm Cub Scouts Pack Meeting – Pinewood Derby
12 Super Bowl 9:30-10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship – SOUPER BOWL Sunday After Worship – Family Promise Tear-Down SOUP ORDERS DUE	13	14 Valentine's Day NS Valentine's Day Party (F.H.) 6:30-8:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	15 10:00 am – 12:00 noon NS Vision Testing (in CR)	16 4:00 pm Leadership Circle Meeting (in Sanctuary or via Zoom)	17 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Soup Prep (Kitchen)	18 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Soup Making (Kitchen)
19 9:30-10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship Installation of Leadership Circle Members After Worship - SOUP PICK-UP	20 Washington's Birthday	21 6:30-8:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	22 Ash Wednesday Pastor Janet leaves for India Trip 7:00 pm – Ash Wednesday Worship Service Rev. David DeRemer – Supply Pastor tonight	23 Pastor Janet in India	24 Pastor Janet in India	25 Pastor Janet in India
26 9:30-10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship (Rev. David DeRemer, Supply Pastor today) 5:00-8:00 pm Scout Troop Red & White Banquet	27 Pastor Janet in India	28 Pastor Janet in India 7:00 pm Cub Committee Meeting	Pastor Janet returns from India late in the evening of March 1, and she will be back in the office on March 2. If you find yourself in need of pastoral care during her absence, please contact Sue Borger at 484-695-7954, and she will be in touch with the pastor on call.			

*“Giving is more than a responsibility - it is a privilege;
 more than an act of obedience - it is evidence of our faith.”*

~William Arthur Ward; author and motivational speaker

OUR STAFF

Pastor Janet Newett, Pastor	610.657.2189 cell
pastorjanetn@gmail.com	
Church Office/Main Phone	610-435-1763
Susan Borger, Church Secretary	484-695-7954 cell
Anthony Newett, Music Director & A/V Tech Advisor	215-805-4353
Robert "Sonny" Rinker, Custodian	484-524-2070
Nursery School	610-435-5467
churchoffice@uccgreenawalds.org	FAX 610-435-0988

Pastor's Office Hours Vary

**For a visit with Pastor Janet, please call her cell phone.
(Text messages preferred)**

**Church Secretary Office Hours are Wednesday, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm.
(Other hours, from home. Call as necessary.)**

Hospital Code #439

ECHOES is a monthly publication of the 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 Sue Borger at borgersusan@yahoo.com no later than the 22nd of each month.

The February 2023 Edition of *Echoes* is sponsored by:

Judith Anton

In loving memory of her parents, David & Doris Nissen

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. Call Sue Borger 484.695.7954 to sign up for a sponsorship and include your dedication information.

Cost is \$20.00 per sponsorship.