



**Outdoor Worship at
UCCG June 11, 2023
10:30 am**

**Community
WELCOME!**

**With
"WELCOME SUMMER"
Picnic to follow!!**

2325 Albright Ave Allentown, 18104



**June 18 - Start of Summer
Worship Time**

**Worship at 9:30am
Fellowship at 9:00 am**

**Worship with UCCG
this summer!!**

See more about what is coming THIS SUMMER on pages 3-5!!

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR ...



As I write this, a cool breeze blows gently around me. I'm sitting outside and I hear 3 or 4 different kinds of birds! It is a beautiful day. The sun is bright and warm but it's a little chilly in the shade. I wonder: How did 5 months of this year go by already? But I am also not complaining because this is kind of a perfect moment.

I hope that in the middle of everything that you have going on you get to find and appreciate little perfect moments, too!

I like to call them.... God's little love notes.

~Pastor Janet

ECCLESIASTICAL COUNCIL UPDATE: **July 15 9:30am at UCCG**

Last month, I explained to you a bit of the ordination process and my journey in ministry. Next month my Ecclesiastical Council will be at UCC Greenawalds on July 15. It will begin at 9:30am with a 15 minute time of worship, after which I will talk about my journey, calling and Ordination paper. Then those in attendance, representing the whole "church" of the United Church of Christ, have the opportunity to examine me by asking questions of me and my theology. Sometimes these questions are fairly challenging, yet it will be my job to defend my call and choice to pursue ordination in the UCC.

I hope that you will consider being there to lend your support on July 15. Your warm energy and kind spirit will be just what I need in this nerve wracking time! Plus then you can vote, too (anyone who is a member of a UCC church can vote... *so that new member class in June is important for some of you*)!

More explanation:

Ecclesiastical means relating to the Christian Church and its clergy.

The question posed to the CHURCH at large at an Ecclesiastical Council is:

*Is this individual fit to be a minister of the Word and Sacrament
for the entire United Church of Christ?*

[Tentative date for Pastor Janet's Ordination and Installation Ceremony is September 17.

More information will come after July 15.]



PET BLESSING **July 9, 2023** & OUTDOOR Worship **9:30 am**

UCC Greenawalds COMMUNITY EVENT!

All pets are welcome.
Event held rain or shine.

9:00 am
Gathering
Refreshments
& Music



SAVE THE DATE: AUGUST 27!

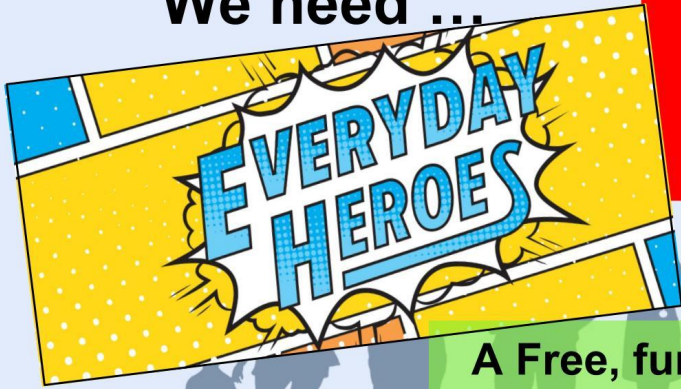
Outdoor Worship with Back to School Blessing followed by an awesome
fun and tasty *end of the summer* picnic

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023!!

**We all deserve love,
security and rights.**

To make that happen for all of us,
we don't need SUPERheroes;

We need ...



**A Free, fun, safe and faith-filled
environment for your little heroes!**

(Clearances required for all volunteers)

**UCC Greenawalds
Vacation Bible School**

July 25-27

6:00-7:30 pm

**2325 Albright Ave,
Allentown**

Ages PreK to 6th Grades

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR VBS:

<https://forms.gle/cjPKmREvYbb42DeJ8>

(Please fill out one form PER child. THANK YOU!)

**At the end of VBS Week, join us for our Community fun & MOVIE NIGHT
featuring the movie, *Encanto*!**

UCCG'S Community Fun & Outdoor Movie Night!

**Friday
July 28, 2023**

6:45 pm Food* & Fun

8:30 pm Movie Time

Bring a lawn chair or blanket

*Food available for purchase. As we solidify, event details will be updated.



MINISTRY AND MISSION UPDATE:

Where *and how* is God calling you to serve??

We are starting NEW Ministry Teams so that
we can keep the SPIRIT flowing!

It is time to jump into the POOL!
(if you aren't already swimming in the deep end)

DID YOU KNOW??

- Ministry Teams do the WORK of the CHURCH!
- Ministry Teams are not elected positions. YOU can choose the team that does the work you feel most passionate about.

NEW TEAMS:

FAITH FORMATION - keep the educational ministries engaging and running smoothly for children, youth and adults. This will include youth group and confirmation, as well.

EVANGELISM / OUTREACH - plan and implement community events, help to get the word out about us through new advertising strategies.

MENTAL HEALTH - help to educate the congregation about various brain diseases, implement mental health first aid and discuss with the church how we might become a WISE congregation for mental health and addiction (WISE stands for welcoming, inclusive, supportive and engaged!).

Existing Ministry Teams:

OMG (Outreach + Mission = Growth); Leader is SUE ROTH

Focus is mission-based projects - Family Promise of Lehigh Valley, Our Little Free Pantry, our partnerships with Resurrected Life Church, Jordan Lutheran food pantry, and the Ecumenical Food Bank.

Music & Worship - Leader is LINDA ALTRICHTER

Making decisions related to music and worship, including outdoor or special services

Tech Team - Leader is ANTHONY NEWETT

Help run tech in worship and we can always use more helpers!

Committees & Task Forces

Property helps to maintain our church building and makes necessary recommendations to Leadership Circle when issues arise. Led by Lee Stephens

Pastoral Relations advocates for the pastor AND has the best interest of the congregation in mind. See Pastor Janet if you want to learn more.

Discovery Project was formerly LEGACY, but now is working on making our deepened partnership with Family Promise of Lehigh Valley a reality.
(led by Karen Griffith; SEE REPORT for updates!)

The Governance Task Force was newly formed to work on documenting the way we do our mission and ministry (updating our bylaws). See Pastor Janet if you would like to learn more.

If you see an area of ministry and mission that we are missing, let us know!

If you are interested in learning more [or jumping in with both feet](#),

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE, PASTOR JANET OR A MINISTRY TEAM LEADER!

SUMMER FAITH FORMATION INFORMATION!

Sunday School for children will end on June 11.

For anyone interested in deciding what will be done for Adult Faith Formation, come to the Adult Class on June 4 for a brainstorming session.



Because the connections shouldn't end when Sunday School does, Pastor Janet, with help from Bri Borger and Karen Adams, will be running a SUMMER YOUTH GROUP for those 3rd through 6th graders. To decide on a meeting time, please sign up and then you will be contacted to find the best time!



Eleanor Limpar, at home
 Mae Moyer (Fellowship Manor - Room 324A)
 Doris Shaver (Phoebe - Room T313A)

Naomi Thomas, at home
 Lois Tice, at home
 Geri Yarnall (Phoebe - Room T311B)



Congratulations to Lee & Sheri Stephens on the birth of their 5th grandchild.

Ivy Elizabeth Stephens was born on Friday, May 12, to Tim & Michelle Stephens.

She weighed in at 9 pounds, 1 ounce and was 21 inches long. She is joined by big brothers, Noah, Isaac, and Cole, and big sister, Violet.

AND congratulations to Christopher & Brandy Hemerly on the birth of their first child. Carson James Hemerly, who was born on Monday, May 16, weighing 7 pounds, 15 ounces and was 20-½ inches long. Carson is also the grandson of Maria & Christopher Frey.

NURSERY SCHOOL UPDATE:

- We will be collecting used items again for the next school year, so if you are cleaning out closets, please place your items in sturdy garbage bags and bring them to the church any time between now and next April.
- 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.

DISCOVERY PROJECT UPDATE

Our April informal discussion with the South Whitehall Township Zoning officer resulted in a “not permitted in the zoning district” response concerning the plan for the annex to be used as a residence for Family Promise clients. This response, although disappointing, was not unexpected.

The team met with attorney, Matt Mobilio, and architect, Glenn Lichtenwalner, on May 4 to discuss the next steps.

An official application will be submitted to SWT zoning. This filing is a formality, as it will most likely be denied. At that point, we will file for an appeal to get an “exception for use” variance for the annex. A hearing before the zoning board will be planned.

This all sounds a bit overwhelming and maybe confusing. I know it is for many of us who have listened to the professionals discuss this project.

Trusting the process can be difficult and frustrating, but in the meantime, we will continue to reorganize and purge areas of the building that could use a little refresh.

Nanci Snyder has been working with her crew in the library. Books that are no longer up to date or deemed unnecessary will be offered for free in the Narthex (look for the table with the red cloth). We will also be offering Bibles for free to the community at our outdoor events this summer.

*“I keep my eyes always on the LORD.
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.”*

Psalms 16:8

... Karen Griffith



Meet our New Custodian ... Christopher Michener

In mid-May, Chris Michener was hired as our new Custodian, replacing Sonny Rinker, who decided to retire after 6+ years with us.

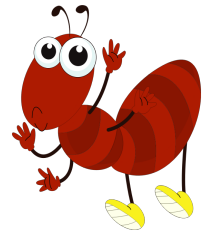
Welcome, Chris!

Chris is an avid golfer (pictured here on the left, while golfing with his dad). He made par for the first time last week! He is a fan of European soccer. “His teams” are Newcastle United, Wrexham, and Borussia Dortmund. He also loves to watch boxing. Chris lives in Emmaus, and works on his dad’s farm mornings and afternoons.



From the Music Director...

It's ANT'S CORNER



Hey! I thought that for this month's "Ant's Corner", I'd deviate a bit from church activities and tell you a bit about my musical history, and how it plays such a big role in the way I play for you each week.

You may notice that I often don't look at the music in front of me, with the exception of some of the hymns that are not particularly familiar to me. This is because I've learned to play many pieces of music "by ear".

But, what does this mean, exactly?

Consider the way that you use your own singing voice. There are many songs that you sing "by ear"; so, you already understand the concept. You don't need to see the musical notation when you are singing things like "Amazing Grace" or "How Great Thou Art". This is because the melodic intervals are familiar to you. Yes, the "intervals", not so much the pitches themselves. The component that allows you to sing, and re-sing, songs that you've heard many times in your life is actually based on the spaces that you hear between the notes. I am not referring to spaces in the timing or length between the pitches; I am talking about the "space" between the actual pitches.

If you were to sing a major scale (do-re-mi-fa... etc.), the reason you can do this is you've learned what the intervals are between these pitches. When referring to "intervals" in musical language, it does not refer to the way we typically use the word (i.e. "do this routine in two-minute intervals"), it is referring to a fairly abstract identification of the distance between two notes. The intervals in a major scale are WHOLE STEP, WHOLE STEP, HALF STEP, WHOLE STEP, WHOLE STEP, WHOLE STEP and HALF STEP. If you go over to your piano (assuming you have one readily available... hah), and you were to plunk out a random pitch, then SKIP a key to the next pitch, that represents a WHOLE STEP. Then do another WHOLE STEP (remember, skip a key), then a HALF STEP (don't skip a key), then continue this process using the formula above, you will suddenly find yourself playing a major scale on the piano. (Whether you realize it or not, you have already mastered this technique using your own voice.)

Almost all songs written in Western Culture utilize a combination of these very notes. That's why it is relatively easy for you to remember how to sing by ear. We've been hearing this formula from the time we were infants from nursery rhymes, hymns, Christmas songs... you name it.

Now, just imagine taking this skill that you already possess, and applying to a physical instrument, such as a piano or guitar. If you learn how to play the major scale, you can, in theory, plunk out the melody to any song... just in the same way you can hum melodies.

I had the great fortune of having a dad that encouraged my ability to play by ear. Often, this very natural skill is stifled by traditional methods of learning, in which you are taught to read everything that you play. If you don't use the skill of playing by ear, then it is never actually developed. It would be like having to carry around a dictionary everywhere you go in order to communicate effectively with people.

Having said this, the written form of language is essential (remember, music is a language). It is the means by which we share our ideas with others. But, if you only rely on the written form, you never truly internalize what you're doing. Okay... my last analogy: if, when you were taught to drive a car, you were required to consult a map for local trips to church or the grocery store, you may never really learn the lay of the land, as you would have become dependent on the map.

Go ahead and give it a try. Plunk out a major scale! Here's a little cheat for you. Instead of observing the whole, whole, half formula, just play the white keys on your piano. The white keys are already laid out in this formula for the key of "C". Now, after plunking your way up the scale, starting on a C and ending on a C, try and find hidden melodies within this scale. It's a little like finding Waldo! Try playing the scale backward... from a high C down to a low C. Can you hear the melody for "Joy to the World"?

Thank you, that will be fifty dollars!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Newett', with a stylized, flowing script.

Anthony Newett, Music Director

O.M.G.!!

Outreach + Mission = GROWTH

UCCG members volunteer in many ways in our community. The OMG team has arranged Mission Moments with a few of the organizations to educate our congregation on each organization's impact on our local community.

May 4 – Hope you had the opportunity to hear Dave Edinger, Deputy Director of Community Bike Works, describe the good work being done with Allentown's youth. As you know, Community Bike Works is the recipient of 10% of proceeds of our 2023 fundraisers.

June 4 – We will welcome Gail Micca, who will provide a Mission Moment on behalf of Parkland Snack Pack Program. We will take a collection for this program during morning worship during the month of June. Special donation envelopes will be on the podium as you enter the sanctuary.

In July, David Watson, Clinical Manager from Lehigh Conference of Churches (LCC) will provide a Mission Moment on behalf of the Soup Kitchen (and possibly other LCC programs). A special collection will not be taken, as LCC is one of UCCG's yearly benevolences.

In August, we hope to have a representative from Bethany Children's Home speak to us regarding possible Christmas mission opportunities.

LITTLE FREE PANTRY

Our Little Free Pantry continues to be a blessing to our neighbors in need. Thank you for your ongoing support of this mission.

TREX PROGRAM

Our "Recycle Beyond the Bag" program is going well. We have collected 271 pounds of soft plastic. We are half-way through the six month program and need another 229 pounds to qualify for a bench for our garden. Keep saving that plastic - help us meet our goal! Collection bins are located in the Christian Ed entrance and in the narthex/lobby. If you need more information on the types of plastics being collected, please see the poster on the bulletin board in the lobby.



Wednesday, August 16 - 7:00 pm New and Updated Volunteer Training in Fellowship Hall.

Thursday, August 24 - Sip and Mingle at the Stone Farms Cellar and Vineyard. More information will follow.

Our remaining 2023 host weeks are September 24 thru October 1 and November 5 thru November 12.



Ladies In Faith Together

Our **LIFT** Group (Ladies in Faith Together) was created a few years ago. While social interaction is important to us, we also engage in smaller scale service/mission projects, i.e. greeting cards to our homebound members at holidays and our annual Campfire for a Cause. **If you are interested in getting emails about LIFT, please contact the church office!**

Saturday, June 17 - 5:00 pm - Ice Cream Social and LIFT planning meeting at the home of Sue Sawyer. Please bring a folding chair and your calendar. There is still time to RSVP to Sue. Ice cream and bottled water will be provided.

Sunday, June 25 - 2:00 pm - *"In the Heights"* (musical) at DeSales University.

Sunday, September 24 - Campfire for a Cause - our mission this year is **Valley Youth House** (more information to be provided at a later date).

"As human beings, our job in life is to help people realize how rare and valuable each one of us really is, that each of us has something that no one else has or ever will have, something inside that is unique to all time."

~ Mister Rogers



IT'S BLUEBERRY TIME!!



Orders for fresh blueberries are now being taken!

(from Whalen Farms in New Jersey)

The cost is \$33 for a 10 pound box, payable at time of order.

Delivery date is Thursday, June 22nd

Pick up your order at UCCG (time tbd)

Deadline to place orders is Sunday, June 18th

We are once again joining with Solomon UCC to get these delicious blueberries directly from Whalen Farms, a New Jersey grower. The cost is \$33 for a 10-pound box of blueberries. The deadline to order is Sunday, June 18. Pick-up date is Thursday, June 22 at UCCG (time TBD). Please place your orders, along with your payment, in the offering plate on a Sunday morning. You may also mail your orders to the church office. All orders should be marked Attn: Sue Borger. Cash or checks acceptable. If you write a check, please make it payable to UCC Greenawalds with a note "blueberries." The more boxes we sell, the better we'll do on this fundraising opportunity. Thank you for your support!

***Please place your order using the form below and deposit in the offering plate or get it to the church office no later than Sunday, June 18th.**

=====

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

Number of Boxes _____ boxes @ \$33/box = Amount Enclosed: _____

Payment required at time of order. Check payable to UCC Greenawalds, marked Blueberries.



LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

Our Leadership Circle continues to meet monthly in person and via zoom. Here are some highlights from our May 18 meeting:

- Kerry Merkel led devotions by reading from “The Upper Room” devotional from January 13, based on John 11:17-27.
- Minutes from the April meeting were reviewed and accepted.
- Financial reports were not available because of the sudden passing of Joyce’s husband.
- Reports were received from all Ministry Teams.
- The Pastor’s Report was submitted; we will need a supply pastor for August 6. Janet will also be away on July 2, but that service will be led by lay leaders of UCCG.

Your 2023 Leadership Circle

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

“Church attendance is as vital to a disciple as a transfusion of rich healthy blood to a sick man.”

~ Dwight L. Moody



Congratulations to the following graduates:

John Barnett, Jr. (JJ), son of Ashley and John Barnett, Sr. and the grandson of Mark and Michelle Adams, will be graduating from Seven Generations Charter Elementary School on June 8. JJ will be moving up to the Seven Generations Charter Middle School.

Emily Christman, granddaughter of Larry & Jayne Christman, and daughter of Debra Kunkel Christman and the late Kevin Christman, will graduate from Parkland High School on June 6. Emily will be attending the New York School of Visual Arts (NYSVA).

Nicole Fix, granddaughter of Linda and Richard Weber, graduated from Penn State on Saturday, May 13, with a degree in medical accounting. She will be pursuing a job in that field.

Dakota Longenbach, grandson of Grant Field and the late Donna Field, and son of Janelle (Field) Longenbach, will graduate from Parkland High School on June 6. He will be attending LCCC in the fall, studying computers.

Evan Senftleben, son of Lani Senftleben, will graduate from Parkland High School on June 6. Evan will be attending Moravian University to study health sciences.

Congratulations!
Today is your day.
You're off to Great Places!
You're off and away!

~ Dr. Seuss

June 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9:00am-12:00 noon == Nursery School Camporee	2	3 Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community @ DeSales University (UCCG walks on behalf of Family Promise)
4 9:30 am – Sunday School 10:00 am – Fellowship 10:30 am – Worship w/Holy Communion AND Mission Moment – Parkland Snack Pack Organization	5 9:00am-12:00 noon == Nursery School Camporee	6 9:00am-12:00 noon == Nursery School Camporee	7 9:00am-12:00 noon == Nursery School Camporee	8 9:00am-12:00 noon == Nursery School Camporee – LAST DAY	9 4:00-8:00 pm – Leadership Retreat	10 UCCG-101
11 9:30 am – Sunday School LAST DAY 10:00 am – Fellowship 10:30 am – Outdoor Worship with Welcome to Summer Picnic after worship	12	13	14	15 4:00 pm – Leadership Circle Meeting	16	17 5:00 pm - LIFT Group Ice Cream Social and Planning Meeting (at Sue Sawyer's home)
18 1 st Day of Summer Worship Time 9:00 am – Fellowship 9:30 am - Worship Last day to order blueberries	19	20	21	22 TIME TBD – Blueberry Pick-Up at UCCG	23	24
25 Summer Worship Time 9:00 am – Fellowship 9:30 am - Worship 2:00 pm LIFT Group to Play at DeSales – “In the Heights”	26	27	28	29 Pastor Janet at General Synod in Indianapolis (June 29 thru July 5)	30 Pastor Janet at General Synod in Indianapolis (June 29 thru July 5)	Pastor Janet at General Synod in Indianapolis (June 29 thru July 5)

“As human beings, our job in life is to help people realize how rare and valuable each one of us really is, that each of us has something that no one else has or ever will have, something inside that is unique to all time.”

~ Mister Rogers

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
Christopher Michener	484-408-3139
Nursery School	610-435-5467
churchoffice@uccgreenawalds.org	

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 **June 2023** Edition of *Echoes* is sponsored by:

Eileen & Keith Cleaver
and

Darryl & Annette Fatzinger
in loving memory of our brother, Berdell Fatzinger

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.