

# **ECHOES**

**AUGUST 2023**

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
GREENAWALDS**



## **PotLuck Picnic to Follow**

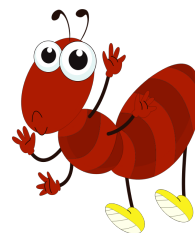
Hot dogs and water will be provided.  
Please bring a covered dish (side dish or dessert).



Rita Fenstermaker, at home  
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)

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR & Music Director Anthony Newett



### Greetings to all of you!

This is a message from me and Anthony.

We are so overwhelmed and grateful to the UCCG community for your love, kindness, prayers and generosity. The fire in our garage caused a bit of havoc in our lives, it's true, but still we are well aware of how lucky we are to have all of us safe and sound.

We are expecting to be living outside of our home for the next few months as various restoration companies do the work of cleaning, painting and rebuilding for us. The hotel we are in is really very nice though; it seems a lot of displaced families end up here. We appreciate the free laundry machines and good coffee served in the lobby every morning!

Anthony continues to struggle to do his usual work with recording and production clients as he is not fully functional. It really does take a lot of time to put the technology back together that makes the "magic" happen!

Our children are maintaining "life as much as usual." Paul (19yr) and Grace (17yrs) both work for the Starbucks at Target on Cedar Crest Blvd. Aria and Calvin continue to work at Copperhead Grille (at Center Valley and Airport Rd, respectively) while tending to all the last minute details and logistics of their wedding, which is Sunday, August 6!!

There's a lot of juggling schedules since the dogs can not be left alone at the hotel and the cats are still over at the house and need to be checked on and fed. Plus we have lots of appointments to meet inspectors and project managers. Everyone has been really great to work with so far, though, and that is certainly a gift!

We wanted to give you an update of where we are right now. We wanted to let you know that we are okay but continue to accept your prayers for energy, wholeness and healing, too.

With sincere gratitude and love to each one of you,

*Pastor Janet, Anthony, Aria, Calvin, Paul, and Grace*

"When I started counting my blessings, my whole life turned around."

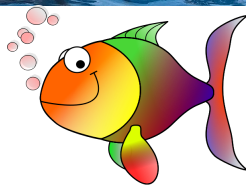
*~ Willie Nelson*





**Our “Little” Youth Group...**is designed with these younger ages in mind and has plenty of supervision. If you are interested in checking this out for your 3rd through 6th grader, feel free to join us. We have one more Youth Group gathering this Summer - Tuesday, August 22 - 3:00-5:00 pm - Art Night!

Our most recent gathering was on Tuesday, July 18. We had a swim party at the home of Sue & Ray Borger, complete with hot dogs, snacks, and tons of fun!





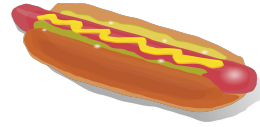
# UCC GREENAWALDS SUMMER BLOCK PARTY

On Friday, July 28, we had our first ever Block Party! The first year event was well attended by not only church members, but community and neighborhood members as well. The highlight of the night was listening to the music of Ant Jams who played two hours of classic rock covers. The youth of the church had a blast running and playing on the playground while the older members danced and enjoyed the awesome music. We would like to thank Anthony Newet and his band for a great evening in the HEAT! The church members put together a wonderful concession area with Hamburger BBQ, Hot Dogs, Soft Pretzels, Popcorn, Chips, and Desserts (baked by Stephanie Miller, Karen Griffith, and Janine Hensinger). With the sales of concessions and the donations of attendees, the church was able to profit \$250. The Evangelism and Outreach Committee will meet on Wednesday, August 2 to continue to plan more fun and fantastic events. We also look forward to growing the Block Party and making it an annual thing!

*~ Mark & Stephanie Miller*









## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023!!

**NEXT WEEK**

**We all deserve love, security and rights.**  
To make that happen for all of us, we don't need SUPERheroes;  
**We need ...**



**NEW DATE!** **AUGUST 8-10**  
**6:00-7:30 pm**  
2325 Albright Ave,  
Allentown  
Ages PreK to 6th Grades

W/ Outdoor Movie on Friday  
August 11 for the whole family!

**A Free, fun, safe and faith-filled environment for your little heroes!**  
(Clearances required for all volunteers)

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR VBS**

(Please fill out one form per child. Thank you.)

<https://forms.gle/cjPKmREvYbb42DeJ8>

**At the end of VBS Week, join us for our Community Fun (popcorn and bouncy house) & MOVIE NIGHT featuring the movie, *Encanto*!**  
**Doors open at 7:00 pm**

**UCCG'S**  
**Outdoor Movie Night!**  
Friday  
August 11, 2023

Bring a lawn chair or blanket  
Free Popcorn and Bouncy House!!

7:00 pm "doors" open  
8:30 pm Movie Time







**Ways of Work  
Planning & Pizza Lunch  
AUGUST 20**  
11am - 1pm (no later than)

**Are you on Leadership Circle or one of our  
Ministry Teams or Committees?**  
**Then please plan to stay after worship on August 20.**  
UCCG is actively working on documenting the  
way we make decisions together.  
**And we need YOUR input!**

Pastor Janet will give instructions and then we will break up into small groups. People on more than one group can float around from the different tables. We plan to WORK first and then order some pizza so that those who prefer to stay less can head out after the working session is completed. THANK YOU!

### OUR TEAMS:

Faith Formation  
Evangelism/Outreach  
Mental Health  
OMG/Mission  
Telephone Team  
Music & Worship  
Tech Team  
LIFT Group  
FISH Group

### Committees & Task Forces

Leadership Circle  
Property  
Pastoral Relations  
Discovery Project  
The Governance Task Force

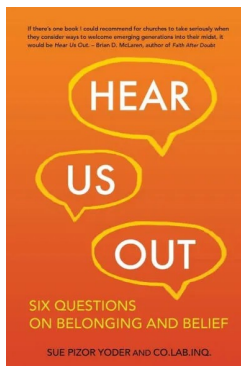


**From Ray & Sue Borger ...** thank you for the cards and messages of sympathy on the passing of Ray's oldest brother, Claude Borger of Wamego, KS.

### **NURSERY SCHOOL UPDATE:**

- Thank you for saving your cardboard egg cartons. We have enough for two years of nursery school. Thank you.
- **RECYCLE BEYOND THE BAG** - Nursery School is collecting soft plastics to try to earn a TREX bench for our playground.
- We will be collecting used clothing and household 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 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.

### **BOOK LAUNCH - Monday, August 7, 2023**



**Contributors:** Rev. Dr. Sue Pizor Yoder is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and has served in congregational ministry for 40 years. Her coauthors, all of whom hail from the Lehigh Valley, are [Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates](#), Rev. Brandon M. Heavner, Rev. Dr. Joanne P. Marchetto, Dr. Jill Peters, Dr. Stephen Simmons, Janet Stahl, and James Stahl.

Monday, August 7, 2023 - Doors open at 6:30 pm  
Event from 7:00-8:30 pm

Wesley UMC, 2540 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA (Fellowship Hall) - Park in either parking lot.

#### **Schedule:**

7:00-7:30 pm - Experience 6 interactive stations each based on our research questions (an author at each station)

7:30-8:00 pm - Introduction by the authors to the research process

8:00-8:30 pm - Toast and Cake

**Book Sale and Signing throughout the event.** Come and learn how this book can be used in congregations who are curious about engaging the emerging generations of nones and dones. RSVP is helpful but not necessary.

## DISCOVERY PROJECT UPDATE

In June we reported that our Zoning application was denied. Although disappointing, it was not unexpected.

The application for appeal has been filed with South Whitehall Township Zoning Board. We anticipate being on the August 23 7PM Zoning Hearing Board agenda.

South Whitehall Township will be notifying neighbors within 300 feet of our building of our request for use variance as well as the date and time of hearing.

The Discovery Project Team, along with Family Promise representatives, will be holding two town hall meetings to discuss our partnership and mission to prevent and alleviate housing insecurity in our area.

The town hall meetings will be held **Sunday, August 13 at 4 PM** and **Thursday, August 17 at 7 PM**. Neighbors will be notified by fliers delivered the first week of August, inviting them to attend one of the two offered meetings.

Members of UCCG are also invited to attend these meetings in support of this project.

We would also like to encourage members of UCCG living in the Greenawalds area to have informal conversations with their neighbors encouraging them to attend the information sessions.

Although the township zoning board will be looking at zoning codes, having neighborhood support for this project is very important.

“The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you or forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”

*Deuteronomy 31:8*

*(NIV)*

*Karen Griffith*

# 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.

**Bethany Children's Home** - On Sunday, August 13, we will welcome Carolyn Spano, who will provide a Mission Moment on behalf of Bethany Children's Home.

### **SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE**

During the month of August, we will collect school supplies for local children. Items needed include:

Pencils and Pens  
Pencil Cases  
Erasers  
Art Supplies  
Note books



Binders  
Folders  
Calculators  
School Bags/  
Backpacks

Please deposit supplies in the designated container in the narthex/lobby. Thank you for your donations.

### **SOFT PLASTIC RECYCLING - RECYCLE BEYOND THE BAG**

**WE DID IT!!** We have reached our goal of collecting 500 pounds of plastic (and we did it a month ahead of time). CONGRATULATIONS! We will now be receiving another TREX bench, with this one being in honor of the late Rev. Alan C. Miller.

**However, our Nursery School will continue to collect those soft plastics** in hopes of receiving a bench for their playground area. Collection bins are located in the Christian Ed entrance and in the narthex/lobby.

**Parkland Snack Pack Program** - UPDATE: There were a few additional donations, and we are pleased to advise that we collected **\$767** for the Parkland Snack Program. Know that your donations are greatly appreciated ... thank you!

**“Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer.”**

~ Maya Angelou





### Mark your Calendar:

Wednesday, August 16 - 7:00 pm - Volunteer Training in Fellowship Hall. It is strongly encouraged that all FP volunteers attend (both new and old.) This is an opportunity to refresh current regulations and ask questions.

Thursday, August 24 - Sip and Mingle - Stone Farm Cellars and Vineyard Ticket - cost is \$30 pp. This includes a drink (alcoholic or nonalcoholic) and a BBQ sandwich. A sell out is expected. If you would like to attend, let Sue Roth (610-554-2781) know and she will reserve a ticket for you.

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 - Boscovs - Friends helping Friends

Saturday, January 20, 2024 - BINGO - Tentative date

Saturday, March 23, 2024 - Homecoming 24 - The Club at Twin Lakes

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

Family Promise issues a quarterly newsletter - this is an excerpt from 3rd quarter 2023 - Volunteer/Donor Spotlight. The Family Promise organization is grateful for everything Sue Roth does for them and the families in the program.

### **VOLUNTEER/DONOR SPOTLIGHT**



When the Parkland School District first joined with the National Family Promise office to organize support for a growing number of children experiencing homelessness in their schools, Sue Roth and her church, UCC Greenawalds, answered the call to get involved. With the help of several area congregations, Family Promise of Lehigh Valley was born in 2018. In fact, UCC Greenawalds was the first church to sign on as a host congregation, and Sue quickly signed up to be the host coordinator. In this role she and her team organize meals, overnight stays, set up and break down the family living quarters, shop for food to provide breakfast and snacks and ensure there is always volunteers to offer friendship and support to area families in need.

Today, Sue, in addition to her regular host coordinator responsibilities, works with the Family Promise Staff to continue to recruit and train new host and support congregation, allowing us to serve more families in need. You can always count on Sue whenever we need something that will help the children. She loves spending time with the families and children when her church is hosting. In her spare time, she comes to the FP Day Center to do arts and crafts and singalongs with the children when they have down time during summer school break. She is an enthusiastic volunteer for our Sip and Mingle, Annual Homecoming and our Purse Bingo committees. Sue learned early on from her aunt and grandmother that "when someone is in need you just help". She believes that everyone needs and deserves compassion, love and understanding.

After a coworker's home burned down and she lost everything, Sue realized homelessness can happen to anyone, at any time. "We need to be there for each other to get through the hard times". Sue is always there. **Thank you!!**



### Ladies In Faith Together

Our **LIFT** Group (Ladies in Faith Together) was created a few years ago. **If you are interested in getting emails about LIFT, please contact the church office!**

On Tuesday, August 1, a group of us gathered at Crystal Spring Farm in Schnecksville for some ice cream and fellowship.

**Sunday, September 24 - Campfire for a Cause** - our mission focus this year is **Valley Youth House**. We are looking for monetary donations to help sponsor the items Sue Sawyer has already purchased for this cause. There is no need for you to shop because Sue has already done that for us. Please include your donation in an envelope marked "Campfire for a Cause." We are requesting all donations be given via this route so the donations and receipts will be transparent. A list of items and the cost is available upon request. Please contact Sue Sawyer with any questions. Thank you.

### **Saturday, October 7 - 10:00 am - Wreath Making Workshop**



LIFT group is sponsoring a wreath-making workshop, led by Jayne Christman. The cost of supplies is \$35.00. Payment is due with registration AND choice of center sign no later than September 18. This workshop is open to all members of our church and friends are welcome too. Ideal class size is 12 people, so if we need to, we can add another class on Sunday, October 8 in the afternoon or evening. A copy of all center sign choices are included on page 13. Please contact Sue Sawyer or Jayne Christman if you have any questions.

## Center Choices for Wreath





## **LEADERSHIP CIRCLE**

Our Leadership Circle continues to meet monthly in person and via zoom. Here are some highlights from our June 15 meeting:

- We will not have a LC meeting in July. Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 17 at 4:00 pm.
- Jayne Christman offered devotions; she read from the *stillspeaking Daily Devotional* for June 12, 2023, entitled *I'll Never Stop Talking to You* by Phiwa Langeni.
- The Financial Secretary and Treasurer Reports were reviewed and approved.
- We received reports from each Ministry Team and the Discovery Project Team.
- The Pastor's Report was received and reviewed.
  - VBS - August 8, 9, 10, with Movie Night on August 11
  - Pastor Janet's ordination and installation - September 17

### **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/Committee Leaders**

Faith Formation - TBD

Evangelism/Outreach - TBD

Mental Health - Christy Dunbar

OMG/Mission - Sue Roth

Telephone Team - Janine Hensinger

Music & Worship- Linda Altrichter

Tech Team - Antony Newett

LIFT Group - Sue Sawyer

FISH Group - Sue Sawyer

Discovery Project - Karen Griffith

Property - Lee Stephens

Governance Task Force- Pastor Janet

Pastoral Relations - TBD



August 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>OMG is collecting school supplies for local children in need.</b> 		1	2	3	4	5
<b>6</b> 9:00 am Fellowship 9:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion Supply Pastor – Rev. Gary Baracco  Pastor Janet & Anthony on vacation today – Daughter, Aria's wedding	<b>7</b> 7-8:30 pm – Book Launch – Hear Us Out – co-author Bonnie Bates (details in Echoes)	<b>8</b> Vacation Bible School 6:00-7:30 pm	<b>9</b> Vacation Bible School 6:00-7:30 pm	<b>10</b> Vacation Bible School 6:00-7:30 pm	<b>11</b> Outdoor Movie Night – Encanto 7:00 pm doors open <b>Popcorn and Bouncy House!!!</b> 8:30 pm movie time	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 9:00 am Fellowship 9:30 am Worship  4:00 pm – Family Promise Neighborhood Awareness Meeting	<b>14</b> 11:00 am OMG Meeting	<b>15</b> 7:00 pm Mental Health Task Force Meeting	<b>16</b> 7:00 pm Family Promise Volunteer Training Meeting (in Fellowship Hall)	<b>17</b> 4:00 pm Leadership Circle Meeting  7:00 pm – Family Promise Neighborhood Awareness Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 9:00 am Fellowship 9:30 am Worship  11:00 am – 1:00 pm Committees & Task Force Groups - Ways of Work Planning Meeting and Pizza Lunch	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 3:00-5:00 pm Youth Group – Art Night	<b>23</b> 7:00 pm South Whitehall Township Zoning Meeting	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 9:00 am Fellowship 9:30 am <b>OUTDOOR</b> Worship w/Back to School Blessing w/Potluck Picnic to Follow (hot dogs and water provided)	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		

**Welcome September !!**

**May the crisp days ahead fill you with Joy!**

## 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](mailto:churchoffice@uccgreenawalds.org) or to Sue Borger at [borgersusan@yahoo.com](mailto:borgersusan@yahoo.com) no later than the 22<sup>nd</sup> of each month.

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

**Eleanor Lakatosh** in loving memory of her husband,  
**Robert Lakatosh,**  
on what would be his 93rd birthday on August 10!

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.**