

ECHOES
JUNE 2025

**UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST GREENAWALDS**



This year's **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**
is taking us to the **NORTH CASTLE!**

June 17-19 6-8:00 pm AND June 24-26 2-4:00 pm

This is for preschool on up. 7th grade and higher will be helpers.

This is a free, fun, safe, and faith-filled environment for your young knight!

(Clearances are required for all volunteers.)

Our schedule is designed to meet the various scheduling needs of families and our volunteers! We encourage you to be with us for as many days as you/your child is able to.

All families are invited to be with UCCG on Sunday, June 29th to share the songs and stories they learned from their time at the **NORTH CASTLE!**

Here is the link to register! Please register in advance if possible but walk-ins are always welcome! Sign up and share this link with your family, friends, neighbors and child's friends. <https://forms.gle/ZdRV1C6d8GeMeLed6>

(There are also registration forms in the church lobby!)

VOLUNTEERS FOR VBS- If you can provide a snack, a craft or share your time to help make this year's VBS a success, please sign up in the LOBBY. There is a Volunteer meeting scheduled for June 3 at 6:00 pm. **THANK YOU!**

UCCG Worship Schedule -

Accessible In Person, Online and Audio Only

Worship begins at 10:00 am

With Fellowship Time at 9:30 am

Streamed LIVE on Facebook and YouTube. Or call in for audio only
by dialing 610-437-2320 OR 508-924-3609

JUNE 1- Ascension Sunday (No Communion today)

Luke 24:44-53 and Ephesians 1:15-23

JUNE 8 - Pentecost Celebration; Outdoor Worship with Holy Communion

Acts 2:1-21, John 14:8-17

Wear **yellow**, **red** and/or **orange** as we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit
and the birthday of the Christian Church!

JUNE 15 - Trinity Sunday John 16:12-15, Proverbs 8:1-4

JUNE 29 - VBS Sunday! The children will share the stories and songs from VBS!

More info on JUNE 8 Chili-Cook Off Picnic Lunch - did you sign up?



Those who wish to enter
the CHILI COOK-OFF
should sign up by June 1!

This is a youth fundraiser

- For contestants: \$10 entry fee
- For attendees/tasters: \$5 for a Taster Kit (bowl, spoon, napkin, a voting ballot)
- Boost your vote by adding cash! (A jar will be in front of each chili pot for voting)

Each cook brings:

- A labeled crockpot of chili
- A serving spoon or ladle
- *Optional:* toppings (cheese, sour cream, etc.)



FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR JANET

Hi friends,

Summer is upon us! Many of you are getting your campers ready, your pools open and your shore houses spruced up for use. Others are planning week-long fun family vacations.

As we embrace the warmth and vitality of this season, it's also a fitting time to reflect on the seasons of our lives. Just as summer follows spring, so too do our lives progress through various stages, each with its own beauty and purpose.

The Bible offers profound insights into the journey of aging. In Isaiah 46:4, God assures us, "Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you." This promise reminds us that our value doesn't diminish with age; instead, our experiences and wisdom become treasures to share.

Psalms 92:14 echoes this sentiment: "They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green." Our later years are not a time of decline but of continued growth and contribution. Each day presents opportunities to mentor, to love, and to serve.

As we enjoy the sunlit days and the joy they bring, let's also cherish the light that comes from a life well-lived. Let's honor the journey, embracing each season with gratitude and grace.

May this summer be a time of renewal for all, and may we find joy in every stage of life.

In Christ's love,

~Pastor Janet



June will fly by as it is already upon us. Many of us will be busy with 2 weeks of Vacation Bible School.

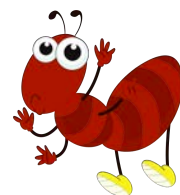
I am scheduled to have back surgery on July 2nd. Though I will not be at worship for a few weeks, I plan to do as much work as I can from home.

Look for a few special events to be scheduled for August as more of our Growing Old Gracefully program. We will be bringing in special guests to discuss wills, funeral planning and advanced medical directives.



Ant's Corner

"The Soundtrack of the Psalms"



Last Saturday, Pastor Janet, Sue Roth, Ashley Adams and I took our youth from UCCG, along with some folks from Good Shepherd UCC in Slatington, to a Hindu temple in Allentown. Before that, we'd visited a synagogue and participated in Friday evening Shabbat services. At both events, our little buddy Spencer Barnett didn't hesitate to ask great questions. I admire his courage—it'll serve him well in the future!.

At the Hindu temple, our presenter often referred to the music used in their worship as "hymns." I wondered if he was choosing that word to make it more familiar to our Christian ears—but unlike Spencer, I didn't have the nerve to ask. I should've followed his example!

By contrast, the visit to the Synagogue was for an actual service. It was rich with beautiful melodies, which reminded me of a fascinating project from years ago.

Back in the early '90s, I had the pleasure of meeting Rabbi Dr. David Rabeeya, a friend of my former father-in-law. He was a Sephardic Jew. Allow me to clarify the terminology—here's the quick version: Sephardic Jews trace their roots to Spain, North Africa, and the Middle East, while Ashkenazi Jews—often lighter-complected and generally more prevalent in our neck of the woods—come from Eastern Europe.

Rabbi Rabeeya and I set the text of The Song of Solomon—or, as he always insisted, "The Song of Songs"—to music. But not just any music. We used Middle Eastern modes that echoed the ancient musical language of his heritage. The result was haunting and beautiful—so different from what my Western-trained ears were used to.

Without getting too technical, here's a quick musical sketch: most of the music we hear—pop, classical, church hymns—is based on a system that divides the octave into 12 equal steps. It's tidy and symmetrical. But Middle Eastern music uses a system of scales called maqamat, which often include notes that fall between the notes on our piano. These microtones create textures and emotions that Western ears don't often hear—but they carry centuries of meaning.

So when we composed this music, it didn't just sound "exotic"—it felt like stepping into an ancient emotional landscape. And it made me wonder: what other sounds are hidden in scripture, waiting to be heard again?

Which brings me to the Psalms. We often call them poems, but they were written to be sung—accompanied by harps, lyres, or tambourines. The Hebrew word for "psalm" (mizmor)

literally means melody. And sprinkled throughout are little musical notations—"For the choir director," or "To the tune of the lilies"—clues that these were performed, not just recited.

The original melodies are lost to time, but the spirit of the music remains. Every time we sing a Psalm—or even read one aloud with care—we're stepping into a tradition thousands of years old.

Music helps us access something deeper in our spiritual lives. You don't have to know what a maqam is or speak Hebrew to feel it. Just listen. Take a Psalm—any Psalm—and speak it with rhythm. Or hum a tune as you read. Let your soul sing, even if you're convinced you can't carry a tune.

Remember King David? He danced before the Lord with all his might, robes flying, dignity nowhere to be found. And, God loved that.

So the next time someone asks what kind of music you're into, you can smile and say, "Lately, I've been into ancient Hebrew poetry set to microtonal modes." This may serve as an interesting conversation starter... more likely, an ender!



2nd ANNUAL Community Yard Sale!	
Sat. July 19 2025 8:00 am- 12:00 pm	
UCC Greenawalds 2324 Albright Ave Allentown	
<i>Contact the church office to reserve your space TODAY!! uccgreenawalds@gmail.com Space set up begins at 6:00 am</i>	Reserve a space to sell your items for only \$10! Need a table, also? Rent one for \$10
	HOT DOGS, POP CORN, & DRINKS (Available for purchase)

Note: The Youth Group will be manning a table at the Yard Sale, so if you would like to donate "stuff" for them to sell, we would greatly appreciate it.



IT'S BLUEBERRY TIME!!

*Orders for fresh blueberries are now being taken!
(from Whelan Farms in New Jersey)*

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



Delivery date is Thursday, June 19

Pick up your order at UCCG (time tbd)

Deadline to place orders is Sunday, June 15

We are once again joining with Solomon UCC to get these delicious blueberries directly from Whelan Farms, a New Jersey grower. The cost is \$33 for a 10-pound box of blueberries. Please place your orders, along with your payment, in the offering plate on a Sunday morning or give directly to Sue Borger. 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." 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 15th.**

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

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



... **from the Lakatos Family** (Eleanor and Sandy Lakatos, Sue Borger and Diane Molchany) for all the prayers, phone calls, cards, flowers and messages of sympathy on the passing of our son/brother, Scott Lakatos on April 5. Your kindness is much appreciated.

... **from the Auman Family** (Sheri Stephens, Kim Minarovic, Jane Kelly and Patti Leaney) for the many prayers, cards, flowers and messages of sympathy on the passing of our father, William Auman, on May 1. We appreciate your thoughtfulness.

~PARENTS~

FAITH FORMATION INFORMATION STATION

☀️ Summer Fun is Here for Our Youth! 🌈

Hey parents and students—summer is just around the corner, and that means it's time for sunshine, laughter, and some serious fun with our church youth group! We're working on a full lineup of awesome summer activities designed especially for students entering 5th grade and up.



Whether your child is looking to deepen friendships, grow in faith, or just enjoy the best of summer, we've got something for everyone!

🎉 What's Happening This Summer?

Vacation Bible School this month. *Did you register?!*

Day Trips, Special Events and Special Projects.

Here are some of the things we are planning:

- Card making for making connections within our congregation
- Mini Golf & Ice Cream Social
- Service Project Day – (Serve together and make a difference!)
- Swim Party
- Hiking
- And more! Dates will be emailed to families, advertised on Sundays and included in Weekly Words.

💬 Why Get Involved?

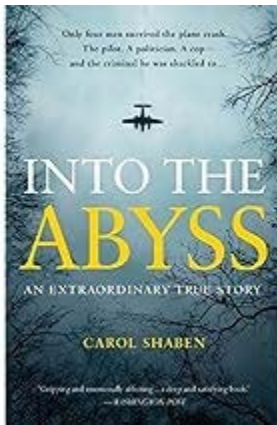
Summer can fly by, but it's also a great time to grow closer to God, build lasting friendships, and make amazing memories. These events are open to all students entering 5th grade and up—so bring your friends! There will be events that include Preschool and younger elementary, as well!

Invite. Connect. Grow. Have fun!

Let's make this a summer to remember! ☀️ **Questions?**

Please see Ashley Adams or Karen Adams.

"Fuel Your Faith" on Wednesdays



FAITH CLUB ... has decided to take a break for the summer. We will resume our 10:30 a.m. meetings on Wednesday, September 3. We will be reading the book INTO THE ABYSS by Carol Shaben, which is a true story of how a deadly plane crash changed the lives of a pilot, a politician, a criminal and a cop. If you would like to participate and want us to order a book for you, please let Sandy Lakatosh know by mid-August.

WHAT MATTERS ON WEDNESDAYS, which meets on a Wednesday evening from 6:30 - 7:30 pm will continue unless otherwise stated. We hope you can join us! Sign up to bring a snack on the bulletin board in the lobby.



LET US PRAY TOGETHER FOR:

Ruth & Ken Newhard, Althea Blose, Nancy Saeger, Nydia and Henry Grube, Todd Mellett, Eli, Drena Merkel, Tracey Hildebeidel, Bruce Stocker, Ray and Terry Ward, Jenn Seidel, Ray Smith, Dolly and Bruce DeLong, Frank Keglovitz, Amanda and Mike and their four children.

Please keep Raylee LaAsmar in your prayers. Raylee was discharged from Children's Hospital of Philadelphia on Tuesday, May 27, where she was being treated for an infection that started at the incision site. She will continue oral antibiotics at home.

If you have a prayer request and any updates, please contact Sue Borger or Pastor Janet.

****Names will remain on the prayer list for two months unless updated with Sue Borger (484-695-7954).**

ALWAYS REMEMBERING OUR HOMEBOUND FAMILY AS WELL:

Eleanor Limpar (Whitehall Manor - Room C62) Naomi Thomas, at home
Doris Shaver (Phoebe - Room T313A)

Outreach + Mission = GROWTH

OMG's MISSION FOCUS FOR 2025

Our “LET’S MAKE A DIFFERENCE” campaign has been very successful, with over \$1,200 collected to date. As you know, these donations will be made to a local family in desperate need of a new furnace. We initially planned to collect for this family through April. However, as we have not identified another local need, we will continue to collect funds toward this family’s furnace.

If you are aware of a local individual/family with a critical specific need, please talk to a member of the OMG Team. Info will remain confidential within the committee. If you have any questions, talk to a team member ... Eileen Cleaver, Karen Griffith, Janine Hensinger, Sandy Lakatos, Sue Roth and Randy Seyler.

Special envelopes are available in the lobby – look for the “Let’s Make a Difference” poster and basket, or place in offering plate. Checks may be made payable to UCCG, but please note “Let’s Make a Difference” on the memo line.

*“If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?”
~ 1 John 3:17*

LITTLE FREE PANTRY



Our Little Free Pantry continues to be a blessing to our food-insecure neighbors. We are currently in need of **CEREAL, SPAGHETTI SAUCE and CANNED CHICKEN**. Your contributions of food items are, as always, very much appreciated.

*“And do not forget to do good and to share with others,
for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”
~ Hebrews 13:16*

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING

Strengthen the Church is one of the “5 for 5” offerings of the United Church of Christ. “5 for 5” means that a church supports all five of the UCC’s denominational offerings. These offerings support various mission and ministry initiatives across the UCC. In addition to Strengthen the Church, the other offerings are:

- OCWM – Our Church’s Wider Mission Basic Support - funds the national UCC to support conferences, national ministries and related institutions.

- OGHS – One Great Hour of Sharing - provides relief and development in disaster zones and refugee situations worldwide.
- Neighbors in Need – supports justice initiatives, including the Council for American Indian Ministry and Justice and Witness Ministry Team.
- The Christmas Fund – Helps retired clergy and their families who have served the church.

On Pentecost Sunday, June 8, UCCG will collect a special offering for The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering of the UCC which reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.

Special envelopes will be available in the lobby on Sunday, June 8. Please consider making a contribution to this special mission offering. Thank you.



Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers for our recently completed April host week. There are currently four families in the rotation. Our last host week for 2025 is not until November 2 to 9, so you have plenty of time to pick the date and job you would like to do.

Three families graduated in May - Hannah, Natasha, Talisa and Raymond and their children have all found new homes. Congratulations! We have three new families, which again, gives us a full house.

Save the date:

Wednesday, June 4 - Free CPR Awareness Demonstration - The American Heart Association will be at the Family Promise Day Center at 10:00 am to do a demonstration on CPR. Stop by and learn this life-saving skill. The ultimate goal is to get an AED donated to the Day Center.

Wednesday, August 20 - Sip and Mingle from 5:30-8:30 pm at Domaine Pterion Vineyard & Winery at 6501 St. Peters Road, Macungie. Early bird pricing is \$45 pp or \$55 pp after the early bird deadline (date tbd). The ticket includes one glass of wine and one food item – choice of a tortellini plate, individual pizza or chicken salad croissant sandwich. If you're interested in attending, please contact Sue Roth 610-554-2781.



SIGHT & SOUND THEATRES ...

Our showings of Sight & Sound productions will be scheduled in the fall. We have three more movies to view – DAVID, MOSES and RUTH. Watch future Echoes for dates!

L.I.F.T. Group (*Ladies in Faith Together...*)

On Sunday, June 22 at 2:00 pm, 18 women will be going to DeSales University to see the show – The Producers. Thank you to Bonnie Marmon for making these arrangements.

Hold the date - 2025 Campfire for a Cause - Sunday afternoon, September 21. More details to follow.

Congratulations to our 2025 Graduates!



Eamon Bonner



Eamon Bonner, son of Kimberly and Ed Bonner, grandson of Linda and Ronald Lane, graduated Magna Cum Laude from Muhlenberg College on Sunday, May 18. He earned a bachelor's degree in Music Theory and Composition. Congratulations, Eamon!

Coby Lindenmuth

Coby Lindenmuth, son of Carla Lindenmuth and Jim Lindenmuth, and grandson of Jan Thomas, graduated from Temple University this winter with a BA in Environmental Studies and a certificate in GIS (Geographic Information Systems). Congratulations, Coby!

From PNEC ...



YOU ARE INVITED!

open HOUSE

PENN NORTHEAST
CONFERENCE OFFICE
431 DELAWARE AVE
PALMERTON PA

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27TH
9:00 AM - 12 NOON

Purpose:

- To celebrate years of serving together with member churches, staff, and volunteers
- To empty the building of books, banners, memorabilia, etc., and distribute back to churches or individuals who want these keepsakes.
- Generally, furnishings will remain in place, although request forms for furnishings not needed for the Association Office or the Keystone facilities will be available.

Program:

- There will be no formal program. Just a gathering to exchange memories, share stories, and help to empty the building to prepare it for sale.

FOOD! LIGHT SNACKS AND BEVERAGES WILL BE SERVED!

***BRING BOXES AND BAGS TO CARRY AWAY YOUR TREASURES!**

Also from PNEC ...

Save the Date!
PLEASE JOIN US FOR A


Music, food & good company **Celebration of** *Fun Surprises too!*
Bonnie's Ministry!

SUNDAY **16** 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM
NOVEMBER

Northampton Community Center
1601 Laubach Ave, Northampton, PA 18067

**YOUR PRESENCE WILL ADD TO THE FUN OF
BONNIE'S RETIREMENT CELEBRATION!**

We Hope you will join us!

 **BYE** **BYE** *Bonnie!*
Happy Retirement!

UCCG is...



The Mental Health Ministry Team brings you
this article from Lehigh Valley Press
Times News Medical Book

What Parents Should Know About Mental Health Issues and Children

Mental Health issues were once stigmatized to such an extent that many people dealing with problems like anxiety and depression felt uncomfortable speaking about them or even seeking help. Though some may still find it difficult to acknowledge their mental health issues, society has made great strides in regard to destigmatizing mental health conditions and recognizing how common such problems are.

Parents may be surprised to learn that many mental health issues begin in childhood. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, anxiety disorders, depression and other mood disorders can start to develop long before children leave for college. Recognition of that reality may compel parents to learn more about children and mental health, including signs of potential issues and how to determine if certain behaviors are indicative of burgeoning issue or a part of normal development.

Identifying mental health issues in children.

The NIMH notes the difficulty in distinguishing between behaviors that are a normal part of a child's development and those that suggest a potential mental health problem. Parents know that children's behaviors and emotions can be challenging to deal with, but that's part of a child's development that youngsters outgrow with age. NIMH notes that time is a potential indicator of a mental health problem, and encourages parents to seek help if a child's challenging behavior or emotions persist for weeks or longer. Kids will not outgrow negative behaviors overnight, but persistent problems that extend for weeks or months could be indicative of something beyond normal developmental hurdles.

Behaviors and emotions that cause distress for a child or the child's family are another potential indicator of a mental health issue. In addition, behaviors or emotions that interfere with a child's ability to function, be it at school or at home or among friends, may indicate the presence of a mental health issue.

What if signs suggestive of mental health issues are present?

The NIMH advises parents to be proactive if they notice signs of mental health issues in their children. Parents can begin by contacting their child's teacher and asking how the child behaves in school, both in the classroom and on the playground. A child's pediatrician also can be a valuable resource. Share the particular behavior(s) or emotions(s) that are causing concern with the child's pediatrician. The pediatrician may note if the behavior is part of normal development or may recommend a mental health professional to further address the issue.

Is an evaluation really necessary?

The aforementioned stigma associated with mental health issues may make even the most well-intentioned parents hesitant to seek an evaluation. But evaluations can set children on a path of improved mental health, and it's worth reminding parents that issues like anxiety and depression are quite common and nothing to be ashamed of. In fact, a large-scale 2023 study published in the journal, *The Lancet Psychiatry*, found that one out of every two people in the world will develop a mental health disorder in their lifetime. Evaluation is one of the initial steps toward overcoming mental health issues, and children may exhibit different signs that an evaluation is necessary based on their age. For example, the NIMH notes that young children who often seem fearful or worried and those who have frequent tantrums or are irritable much of the time may benefit from a mental health evaluation. Older children who engage in self-harm behaviors or those who diet or exercise excessively can benefit from an evaluation. Additional age-based indicators that an evaluation may be necessary can be found at [nimh.nih.gov](https://www.nimh.nih.gov).

Many mental health issues begin in childhood. Parents can keep an eye out for indicators of mental health issues and work with their children's health care providers to determine the best course of action.

What the Mental Health Team is working on for YOU!

- *A Moment for Wellness* will be included in our worship service every other Sunday in June, July and August.
- Our Mental Health Ministry Team is also working on its next Lunch-N-Learn, so please save the date of *September 28*. We will have a potluck lunch. For our programming, we are planning some important case study situation explorations! We will give each table a different scenario to explore how “it” might be handled; then each will share for us to discuss.
- We are also delighted to announce that we have established a **Suggestion Box**, conveniently located in the Lobby. This box invites you to pose questions or recommended subjects for in-depth discussions. These suggestions can remain anonymous. We want to hear from YOU!

Your Mental Health Ministry Team is Ashley Adams, Joanne Benfield, Tiffany Dieter, Karen Griffith, Nydia Grube, Anthony Newett, Sue Sawyer and Pastor Janet.

UCC Greenawalds is *W.I.S.E.* What comes next??

What does it mean to be ACCESSIBLE TO ALL?

“A2A” is the terminology used within the United Church to refer to congregations that have completed the *Accessible to All* process and thereby made the commitment to be physically and attitudinally welcoming of people with disabilities.

Becoming accessible will be different for each congregation because it may require different work for each setting. A2A is as much about becoming attitudinally welcoming to people with disabilities and mental health issues as it is about working to make our buildings physically and programmatically accessible to persons with disability. The UCC A2A process allows for churches to complete the A2A process, even if they are not fully physically accessible provided they have identified changes and created a plan to address those accessibility issues within the coming five years.

What does it mean to be OPEN AND AFFIRMING?

“ONA” is the terminology used within the United Church of Christ, and other Christian denominations as well, to refer to congregations that have gone through a process of education and discernment. Being ONA means welcoming *all* persons into Christian community AND including everyone in equal participation in the life and ministries of the church. So, whether someone is hard of hearing, or is a single mom with young children, or a person with a different sexual orientation, what we see is a beloved child of God.

But we are already welcoming. Why Should UCCG think about becoming ONA?

Because 'All Are Welcome' isn't enough

LGBTQ+ people of faith often experience emotional and spiritual injury in churches that condemn their capacity to love and seek love. Because many have learned the hard way that “All Are Welcome” usually doesn’t apply to them, LGBTQ+ folks can’t assume that every church will be safe for them and their families.

A public welcome by an Open and Affirming (ONA) church sends a clear message to LGBTQ+ seekers that they have a home in that United Church of Christ congregation.

A congregation’s affirmation and support through an ONA covenant can be a life-changing and life-saving experience—especially for LGBTQ+ youth and LGBTQ+ seniors.

A public welcome to LGBTQ+ seekers helps churches grow. When ONA congregations attract new members, many of them are LGBTQ+ people and allies who value the congregation’s commitment to inclusion and justice.

By adopting an ONA covenant, a congregation is taking seriously St. Paul’s admonition to “accept one another, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.” (Romans 15:7, NIV)

What is the first step to becoming A2A and ONA?

There is a PROCESS to these things. The process is about education, discernment and even bible study. It is about hearing one another’s stories and looking at who we are as a congregation.

If you are interested in the process, in seeing if these things are right for UCCG, and in making UCCG the safest place we can be, please contact uccgreenawalds@gmail.com to express an interest in being part of a CORE TEAM!

Thanks for listening!

***“The most valuable possession you can own is an open heart.
The most powerful weapon you can be is an instrument of peace.”***

~ unknown

Your 2025 Consistory *THANK YOU FOR SERVING!!*

(Consistory members are elected for a three year term. Officers are elected for a one year term within their three years; term in office may be repeated if necessary.)

Officers:

Moderator - Karen Griffith;	Class of 2026
Vice Moderator - Glenn Horlacher;	Class of 2027
Treasurer - Bonnie Marmon;	Class of 2027
Financial Secretary - Grant Field;	Class of 2027
Recording Secretary - Sue Borger;	Class of 2025

At Large Members:

Mark Adams	Class of 2026
Linda Altrichter	Class of 2026
Jayne Christman	Class of 2025
Nanci Snyder	Class of 2025
Matt Stalter	Class of 2026

SPIRITUAL COUNCIL

(Active Elders serve on the Spiritual Council for 2 year terms.)

Jayne Christman	Class of 2025
Karen Adams	Class of 2025
Eileen Cleaver	Class of 2025

Carla Lindenmuth	Class of 2026
Don Harris	Class of 2026

PNEC Delegates: Ben Gulledge
Alternate Delegate: Ashley Adams
Youth Delegate: Markie Adams

Ben was unavailable to be the UCCG delegate at the May 3rd meeting due to a previous commitment. Ashley stepped up as a voting delegate.



May Consistory Meeting

The next Consistory meeting will be June 12, as our usual 3rd Thursday of the month interferes with Vacation Bible School

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- **June 8** - Outdoor Worship and Chili Cook-Off (Evangelism & Outreach and Music & Worship)
- **July 19** - Yard Sale...bring your basement treasures for others to buy! (E&O)
- **September 13** - Block Party (E&O)
- **June 17-19 (6-8 pm) & June 24-26 (2-4 pm)** - Vacation Bible School (Faith Formation)

OMG continues to collect for Let's Make a Difference; next Family Promise Host Week is November 2-9.

Our Property Team has been on a roll!! These folks are busy. Please consider being part of this team ...

- Annex yard was leveled (work needed due to sewer line replaced in the fall)
- Mowers and sanctuary A/C prepped for summer
- Fellowship Hall dehumidifiers set up and running (BTW, if you are in the church, check to see if they need to be emptied.)
- In spite of all the rain, the kitchen has remained dry! WHOOHOO!! The downspouts and drains are working.
- Grant and Lee are continuing the church updates in the Nursery School areas this summer (painting, wall repair, carpeting, cove molding)

There have been no volunteers to date to join the Safety Task Force (see article on following page)..

Ways of Work notebook (located on the ledge in the Narthex) contains the Ways of Work (how the team functions) for each team, a summary of any activities such as fund raisers or events, and minutes to the recent meetings. Please take a look and maybe you will find your passion in these pages.

The lease for the annex rental is up for renewal shortly. We discussed renewing with current tenants contingent on a few items.

All future Annual reports will contain certain information. The Wells Fargo check signers (for that year) and Key Executors will be listed on this page along with any other pertinent information deemed necessary by Consistory.

South Whitehall Township Escrow use for the lot line adjustment application was discussed.

Johnson Controls will be upgrading our current fire alarm system to a wifi system with battery backup instead of the telephone line system. Cost of the upgrade is \$1000.

~ Karen Griffith



Safety Task Force

At the suggestion of the Mental Health Team, Consistory has approved the development of a Safety Task Force for UCCG. This team will review our Safe Church Policies (2020), the PNEC Disaster Manual and other references to develop a written policy for situations that may arise. The final document will be presented to the congregation for adoption.

Considering the unrest targeting religious institutions in the last few years, a policy addressing church safety, including but not limited to drugs, alcohol, firearms, and door locking is important.

Our members and visitors deserve a place of worship where they feel comfortable and safe.

Please consider joining this Team. No experience necessary, just a willingness to learn and spend time exploring ways to keep UCCG a safe and welcoming place for all. Call or talk to Karen Griffith (610-703-6826) or Pastor Janet (610-657-2189) to volunteer or find out more.

Here are the financial results for the first four months of 2025.

Month	Budget	General Offering Income	*Other Income	Total Operating Income	Operating Expense	Net Income
Jan-24	\$13,856	\$8,618	\$2,694	\$11,312	\$12,595	(\$1,283)
Feb-24	\$13,856	\$9,617	\$3,604	\$13,221	\$15,769	(\$2,548)
Mar-24	\$13,856	\$10,514	\$8,226	\$18,740	\$12,357	\$6,383
Apr-24	\$13,856	\$9,108	\$4,057	\$13,165	\$13,394	(\$229)
May-24	\$13,856	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Jun-24	\$13,856	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Jul-24	\$13,856	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Aug-24	\$13,856	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Sep-24	\$13,856	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Oct-24	\$13,856	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Nov-24	\$13,856	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Dec-24	\$13,856	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Total	\$166,272	\$37,856	\$18,581	\$56,437	\$54,115	\$2,323

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

NURSERY SCHOOL UPDATE:

Contact: Sheri Stephens at 610-442-3176 or Nursery School office at 610-435-5467

- We are now accepting registrations for the 2025-2026 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 or Sheri Stephens at 610-442-3176.
- Thank you for collecting used clothing, bedding, purses, and shoes which were picked up on Thursday, April 24. This year, we collected 3,989 pounds and earned \$678.13 for this fundraiser. Please continue collecting used clothing, bedding, purses and shoes as we are doing this fundraiser again for the next school year!
- THANK YOU for your continued support of our Nursery School program. ♥

Eagle Scout Project - Vincent Cocca (Scout Troop 12)

Vincent Cocca, Scout Troop #12 (a young man from the Greenawalds neighborhood and grandson of Vince Cocca - Vince's Cheesesteaks) has chosen UCCG's macadam parking lot as his Eagle Scout project. He plans to reseal the cracks, put down a fresh top coat, and repainting the lines for the parking spots. We will let you know when he has other fundraisers planned to help with this project. In the meantime, if you would like to donate financially to Vincent's Eagle Scout Project (and the upgrade of our macadam parking lot), please make checks payable to UCC Greenawalds with the note Eagle Scout on the memo line. Thank you.

Do YOU need help?

(with car detailing, cleaning and organizing or miscellaneous jobs)?

If so, we've got help for you!!!

Car Detailing - Spring is here and it's time to clean and detail your car. Call or text Patrick Stephens at 610-428-4551 for an appointment.

Cleaning or Organizing - Abigail Paradysz has recently started her own business offering help with cleaning and organizing. Give Abby a call at 610-297-6072 for more information.

Miscellaneous Jobs - Do you need help with odds and ends around your home?? Odd jobs, yard work, flower beds, clean-outs, babysitting, etc. If so, please give me a call.

~ Faith, Love and Happiness – Ruth Clark at 484-692-0430.

JUNE 2025

**** every Sunday unless otherwise stated ****

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 ** Lay Leader Led Worship 2:00-8:00 pm Eagle Scout Ceremony and Dinner Last day of Sunday School til September	2 9-12 Nursery School Camporee 6:00 pm Music & Worship Mtg.	3 9-12 Nursery School Camporee 6:00 pm VBS Volunteer Mtg	4 9-12 Nursery School Camporee No Faith Club until Sept. 3 6:30 pm What Matters on Wednesdays	5 9-12 Nursery School Camporee 6:30 pm E&O Mtg	6	7
8 ** Outdoor worship w/Communion, Chili Cook-Off and Picnic No Sunday School until September	9 10:00 am OMG	10	11 No Faith Club until Sept. 3 6:30 pm What Matters on Wednesdays	12 5:30 pm Consistory Mtg.	13 Bethel House of God Rental (Fellowship Hall)	14 9a-11p All Day Bethel House of God Rental (Fellowship Hall)
15 ** Father's Day No Sunday School until September	16	17 6-8 pm VBS	18 No Faith Club until Sept. 3 No What Matters on Wednesdays 6-8 pm VBS	19 6-8 pm VBS	20 Deadline to submit info for July Echoes	21
22 ** No Sunday School until September	23 1:00 pm Budget & Finance Mtg. 3:00 pm PRC Mtg.	24 2-4 pm VBS	25 No Faith Club nor <i>What</i> <i>Matters on</i> <i>Wednesdays</i> 2-4 pm VBS	26 2-4 pm VBS 6:30 pm Mental Health	27	28
29 ** No Sunday School until September VBS participants share during Worship	30 6:00 pm Spiritual Council	Pastor Janet and Anthony are on vacation on Sunday, June 1 and return to work on Monday, June 2. ** 9:00 am Sunday School (June 8 is the last day until September) 9:30 am Fellowship Time 10:00 am Worship				

OUR STAFF

Rev. 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
Lee Stephens	610-216-1664
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.)

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 15th of each month.**

The **JUNE 2025** Edition of *Echoes* is sponsored by:

Kerry Merkel

in Celebration of the June 10 birthday of his wife, Drena.

Happy Birthday, Drena!!

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.

Each Friday, in our email newsletter entitled, WEEKLY WORDS, we share all of our prayer concerns, weekly bulletin and upcoming events. If you would like to be added to our email distribution list, please email churchoffice@uccgreenawalds.org
