



Shenkel United Church of Christ



April

2023

SHENKEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1580 Shenkel Road
Pottstown, PA 19465

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Shenkel United Church of Christ's "NEWSLETTER" is a monthly publication prepared, edited, and mailed by the leadership and staff to all members and friends of the church. It communicates news about our life, purpose, and mission as a Church of Jesus Christ. Information related to our partnership as a member of the United Church of Christ and wider church/community outreach is included on a regular basis. The Church is located at Unionville & Shenkel Roads in North Coventry Township.



2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2 Reflective Service 8:30 am Traditional Service 9:45 Book Study 11 am	3	4	5	6 Maundy Thursday Soup and Service 5:30 pm	7 Good Friday Service 7:30 pm	8
9 Easter Dawn service 6:30 am at Temple UMC Traditional service 9:45 am Easter Communion	10	11 Consistory 6:30 pm	12 Yoga 4:30 pm	13	14	15 Scholarship Deadline
16 Reflective Service 8:30 am Traditional service 9:45 am Book Study 11 am Church School	17	18 Mid-Day Dinner Club 12 noon	19 Yoga 4:30 pm	20 Card class 10am Agape 6:30 pm	21	22
23 Reflective Service 8:30 am Traditional service 9:45 am Book Study 11 am	24 Community Meal 12 noon at Christ Episcopal	25	26 Yoga 4:45 pm	27	28	29
30 Reflective Service 8:30 am Traditional service 9:45 am Book Study 11 am	April 16 					

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Suzanne Spaulding

Organist:

Susan Royer

Music Director

Dan Wolgemuth

Office Administrator:

Lisa Dice

Sexton:

Stacey Keim

COVENANTED MINISTER IN MISSION

Rev. Wanda D. Craner,
Gestalt Pastoral Care
Minister and Trainer
Gestalt Pastoral Care
Associates

CONSISTORY

President:

Randy Berriker

Vice President:

Dan Jenkins

Secretary:

Chris Gray

Treasurer:

Ken Bevan

Financial Secretary:

Joan Palubinsky

Elder

Randy Berriker

Deacons:

Dan Jenkins
Gary McDermit
Pat Kuestner
Tony Gulotta
Chris Gray
Kelly Strunk

MINISTERS

All the members
of the church

Shenkel United Church of Christ

1580 Shenkel Road, Pottstown PA 19465 610.326.3535

Email: shenkelucc@aol.com www.shenkelucc.org

Office Hours:
Tues., Wed., Thurs.
8 AM to 1 PM



The day that I write this newsletter article feels full of awful news. Last night we watched images on the news of the devastation of the tornadoes in Mississippi, and of the school shooting in Tennessee. We heard the news that Shenkel's former interim minister has died suddenly. And our member Judy Miller is in the hospital recovery from hip surgery after her fall on Sunday! That is not even mentioning the members working to regain health and strength after strokes, Covid, and chemo or those no longer allowed to drive. Sometimes we want to shout STOP! Enough of the catastrophes and bad news, we can't take anymore!

Our hearts break with the pain of the world and even more intensely with the pain of those we know and love. What are we to do with it all? How do we keep going?

I like to take a cue from Jesus' life and work. The Gospel of Luke is the one that most often records that Jesus withdrew, alone, to pray. When I think of all the demands on Jesus' time and his compassion, I see how it would be important for him to withdraw once in a while to remember who he was and what his mission was on earth. We can follow his example. It doesn't need to be for days at a time or even hours, just withdraw and spend some time in solitude, remembering who you are and whose you are; God's beloved child.

Remember Jesus' invitation from Matthew chapter 11, "*Come to me all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am gentle and humble of heart and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.*"

As we move into the season of spring and you hear the birds and see the flowers and trees blooming, pause, take a deep breath, and rest in the one who offers to help you carry your burdens and give ease to your weary soul. God is not absent; Jesus is risen!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Suzanne

March Consistory Highlights

- Consistory recommended to the congregation the bid for MR Roofing for the Sanctuary Roof Project. Congregational vote will be at the March 26th meeting.
- Lori Scharneck and Dan Snyder have been nominated for Consistory and will be voted on at the March 26th meeting.
- An external company is being contacted to determine if we have a mold issue in the lower level of Fellowship Hall. Subsequent action will be dependent on their findings.
- Dan Jenkins is researching an Automated External Defibrillator for emergency use.

Operation 143 Shenkel Donations

We helped to feed close to 400 are school students with our donations! Thank you and well done Shenkel!!

65 cans of pasta

15 cans of soup

12 cans of tuna

6 “Compleats” meals

101 snack bags

50 cereals

180 granola bars

122 Pop tarts

131 Fruit snacks

66 applesauce cups

20 pudding cups

79 fruit cups

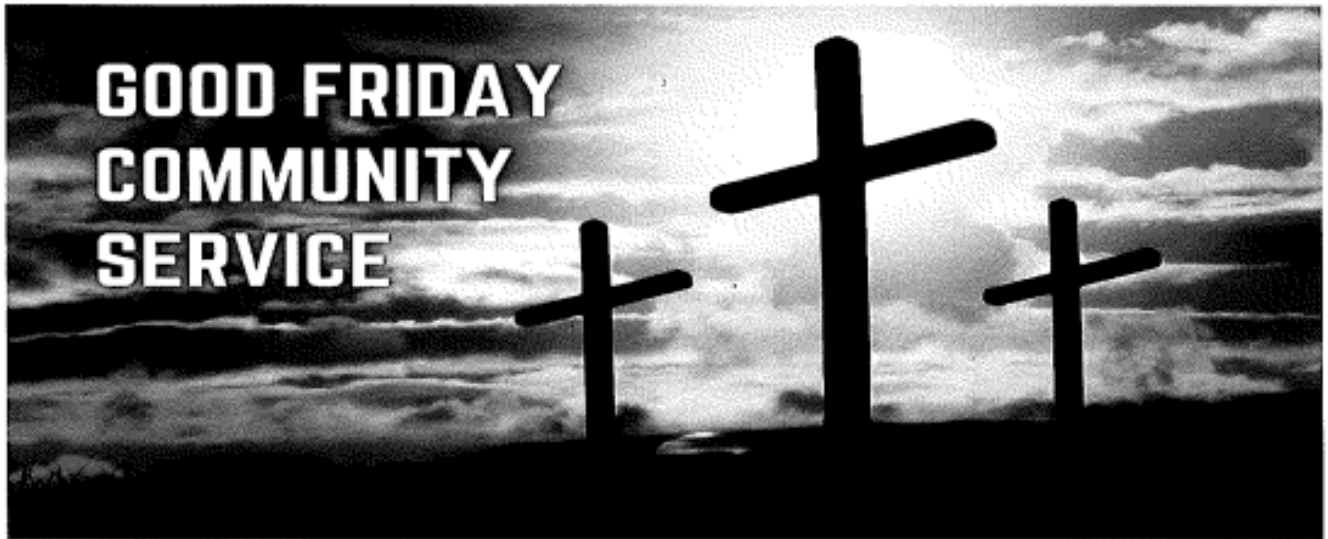
109 juice boxes

24 water bottles

48 milk boxes



GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNITY SERVICE



Commemorating the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ at Calvary.

Friday, April 7, 2023

12:00 PM

575 North Keim Street | Pottstown, PA 19464

610-326-1700 Church

(Just 20 minutes from King of Prussia)

In-Person

Or

Live on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/BCCP575>

Sponsored by



*God has not only spoken to us by His
life but has also spoken for us by His death. Soren Kierkegaard*

Upcoming Events at Shenkel UCC

Coventry Woods Festival—May 21

Coventry Woods Festival table staff needed. The Coventry Woods Festival is on Sunday, May 21 and we are in need of people to staff the Shenkel display table between 1-5 PM. Can you help for an hour or more? Please contact Gary McDermit with your availability.

In Need of a canopy- We need to find a portable canopy (approx. 10' x 10') to use for covering the Shenkel UCC display tables at the Coventry Woods Fair on Sunday, May 21. Does anyone have one we could borrow for the day? Please contact Gary McDermit if you can help.

Church School

Shenkel is offering three months of church school for children age 2 years to 6th grade. It will be held the third Sunday of the month at 11:00 am at the church. (Use the social hall doors).

This one hour program will engage the children in singing fun songs, learning about God, and participating in age appropriate activities. We look forward to this time with your children.



Holy Humor Sunday is April 16

The theme this year is colors. Everyone is invited to dress colorfully. Remember to bring jokes to share.



BULLETIN BOARD....

ATTENTION SHOPPERS!

GIANT

Redner's
WAREHOUSE MARKETS

Our gift card fundraiser continues to be a **BIG** success! Card denominations are \$25, \$50 and \$100

There is no additional charge for the cards and you can continue to use and accumulate points on your Bonus/Gas Cards. Shenkel UCC earns 5% back on all gift cards. Easy money for Shenkel UCC and no extra cost for you!

Holy Communion



Shenkel UCC will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion at our service on the Easter Sunday of the month.

Card Making Class

The card making class meets on the third Thursday of each month at 10 AM in our social hall. The cost of the class is \$10.00 which provides each participant with three beautiful cards.

To insure there will be enough materials prepared for everyone, please call Pat Kuestner at 610-327-0889 if you plan to attend.



Dedications

Do you have a special occasion coming up? Consider making a dedication in our worship service. Dedications can be for the altar flowers (\$30), the worship bulletins (\$6.50) or a choir anthem (\$30). Also you can give some "Flours" which is a collection of pantry items *or* a cash donation to the Pottstown Cluster, in which a wheat arrangement will be placed on the altar. Food Sculptures are also gladly accepted.



Dedicate to someone special, an event in your life, or just to the fact that you love music. There are many dates open for sponsorship and dedication during the upcoming months. Please complete one of the special flower/bulletin/anthem envelopes below the sign-up chart, enclose your payment, and either put it in the collection plate or in the secretary's box by the office door. You should sign your name on the chart in the narthex by the appropriate date after you have completed your envelope. Thank you for this needed contribution to Shenkel UCC.



The Special Offerings for April benefits

Special Offering

Phoebe Ministries

Phoebe Ministries is a non-profit, multi-facility organization located in several eastern PA counties, affiliated with the UCC specializing in health care, housing and support services for seniors. For more information, go to www.phoebe.org.

Maunder Thursday – April 6th & Good Friday April 7th – Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM)

OCWM is the shared funds of the United Church of Christ that makes all we do at Association, Conference, National, and Global level possible. It starts with local congregations! Local congregations make important decisions about how much OCWM they will give to support the wider ministries of the United Church of Christ, and from the (in Minnesota) OCWM dollars are split between our local Conference and the national organization. For more information, go to www.ucc.org/ocwm.

Easter Sunday – April 9th – Pottstown Cluster

The Cluster's current programs provide food security, clothing and household assistance, supportive services and referrals, case management, housing stability and an opportunity for individuals living in poverty to participate in an education and support program.

Do you have an announcement for the bulletin or newsletter?

Bulletin announcements should be at the church office by *Wednesday at noon* to be included in that week's bulletin. Newsletter articles must be submitted by the *15th of each month* to be included in the upcoming month's issue.

BULLETIN BOARD....

Scripture Readings for April

April 2	Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Matthew 21:1-11
April 9	Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 Matthew 28:1-10
April 16	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 John 20:19-31
April 23	Acts 2:14, 36-41 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35
April 30	Acts 2:42-47 Psalm 23 1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10

Pottstown Cluster OF RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

Nourishing Lives. Strengthening Families.



The Cluster welcomes all cash and food donations 8:30am to 12pm Monday thru Friday. They are at 57 N. Franklin Street in Pottstown. Items such as coffee, tea, peanut butter, sugar, artificial sweetener and baking products are **always needed**. Other items on their wish list:

- cereal, macaroni and cheese
- tomato products, canned soup
- jelly, canned fruit
- laundry detergent and all purpose cleaner (small containers)
- dish soap
- shampoo/conditioner
- paper towels
- twin and queen size sheets new/used (must be clean)
- blankets, comforters

We will be collecting school supplies: folders, glue, glue sticks, highlighters, index cards, markers, pencils pencil cases, pens, rulers, spiral notebooks. Please place your items in the bin marked for the Cluster. We will be collecting each week and items will change on a monthly basis. Items for May will be toilet brush, toilet plunger, dust pan and brush, mop and brooms.



*Our next event will be on
Tuesday, April 18
We will be meeting at **Santina's**
(1 E. Vine St. Stowe)*

The Mid-day Dinner Club meets at 12 noon on the third Tuesday of each month and you're invited! It is open to young-at-heart adults of any age who enjoy eating out and would like to get to know other Shenkel members a little better.



Meehan, Scott	04/04
White, James	04/07
Hoff, Debbie	04/10
Kutz, Scott	04/10
Mest, Gloria	04/10
Rowe, Sandy	04/11
Stultz, Gary	04/12
Wanner, Julianne	04/12
Sweinhart, Drew	04/16
Viti, Angeline	04/16
Wolgemuth, Rosemary	04/16
Braley, Jennifer	04/18
Strunk, Kelly	04/19
Brown, Barbara	04/21
Kline, Kaelyn	04/24
Neff Glatfelter, Sarah	04/25
Palubinsky, Joan	04/28
Laverty, Donald	04/29

During the month of April, Shenkel UCC will be praying for these randomly selected members and friends of our congregation:

- 4/2 Linda, Andrew, Brandon, Michael, Aaron and AJ Foss and Christine Hauze
Debbie and Glen Hoff
Jen, Jeff, Hannah, Catherine and Audrey Dyott
Chris and Ted Gray
Clair and Jim Faust
- 4/9 Lucas Gray
Julie and Bill Zachesky
Stacey, Bill and Aurora Keim
Lynn, Dave and Katie Derman
Sandy Rowe
- 4/16 Pat and Don Laverty
Sandy Peterman and James Heath and Emily Trego
Cameron Dushanko
David Phillips
Erika Price
- 4/23 Angeline Viti
Pat Kuestner
Mari, Christian and Connor O'Drain
Barb and Jesse Painter
Olivia Dushanko
- 4/30 Judy Gergle
Erika and Kyle Manetti
Drew Sweinhart
Julianne Wanner
Joel Sweinhart





As of February 28, 2023	Current Fund	
ACTUAL	Month	YTD
Opening Bal.	(4,284)	0
Giving	7,146	17,289
Expenses	(16,052)	(32,230)
Subtotal	(13,191)	(14,941)
Rent Income	1,750	3,500
Other	0	0
Ending Balance	(11,440)	(11,441)
Net Chg	(7,156)	(11,441)
BUDGET		
Giving	15,876	31,752
Over (Under)	(8,730)	(14,463)

Our Church's Wider Mission		
February 28, 2023	Month	YTD
Actual	505.00	1,070.00
Budget	1,083.33	2,166.67
Over (under)	(578.33)	(1,096.67)