Monthly newsletter of Colonial Park United Church of Christ
May-June 2025 Combined Edition
VOL.64 NO.5 & 6

The Messenger

Worship—Sunday 9:30m | **Sunday School—11am** | **Charging Station—5pm**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 1—Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser
- May 3—Harrisburg Association Meeting
- May 11—MOTHER'S DAY
- May 12 & 13—Arooga's Fundraiser
- May 18—Music Sunday
- May 25—Loose Change Sunday
- May 26—MEMORIAL DAY
- June 1—Mission Sunday & Recognize Graduates
- June 6—WORK DAY @ CHURCH
- June 8—PENTECOST SUNDAY
- June 13 & 14—Penn Central Conference Annual Meeting
- June 15—FATHER'S DAY
- June 19—JUNETEENTH
- June 22—Healing Service
- June 29—Receive New Members

YUMMY BAKED GOODS NEEDED!



As part of our May 1 fund-raiser at Texas Roadhouse, we are allowed to have a bake sale. Delicious CPUCC baked goods are sure to be a big hit, so we could use a BIG supply! **Please consider donating only cookies, brownies, and similar types of baked goodies, preferably already bagged ready to be sold. Cupcake type goodies are welcome because they can be easily placed in carry out containers at the restaurant.** Please no pies, cakes, or anything that needs to be refrigerated because of the prep to sell and transport will be difficult. Please bring your donations to church by 2pm on May 1st or call Jenny Gassert at 717-602-9065 if you are planning on dropping them off at the restaurant by 5pm. Thank you so much for your support!



WORSHIPPING



Upcoming Morning Worship Schedule

We return to the Narrative Lectionary:

May 4, 2025 – Stephen is Martyred (Acts 6:1-7:2a & 7:44-60)

May 11, 2025 – **Mother's Day** – Ethiopian reads Scriptures and is baptized (Acts 8:26-39)

May 18, 2025 – **Music Sunday** (Acts 15:1-17)

May 25, 2025 – Memorial Day Weekend (Rev. Dr. Nora Foust preaching)

June 1, 2025 – **Mission Sunday** (Galatians 3) and recognize grads

June 8, 2025 – **Pentecost Sunday** – Communion Sunday (Acts 2)

Begin a series on Jeremiah

June 15, 2025—Call and Temple Sermon (Jeremiah 1:1-10; 7:1-11) - *Pastor Scott preaching*

June 22, 2025—Potter and the Clay (Jeremiah 18:1-11) - **Healing Service**

June 29, 2025—Scroll Burned and Rewritten (Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-31) - *receiving new members*

July 6, 2025 - Letter to the Exiles (Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14) - Communion Sunday

July 13, 2025—Planting and Building (Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15)

July 20, 2025 - Messiah and New Covenant (Jeremiah 33:14-18; 31:31-34)



LET US KNOW YOUR GRADS

We will recognize graduates in our CPUCC family on **June 1.**
So, please contact the church office with names, relation and future plans (if known).

Geraniums for Pentecost Sunday

June 8, 2025



The Altar Guild will decorate the Sanctuary with red geraniums for Pentecost Sunday, red being the liturgical color for Pentecost. If you would like to sponsor flowers, please fill out the form below, include your remittance check (payable to CPUCC) and place in the offering plate or the church office or mail it to ATTN: Priscilla Fledderjohn, Colonial Park UCC, 5000 Devonshire Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109 no later than **May 31**. NO TELEPHONE ORDERS PLEASE!

The flowers will adorn the Sanctuary on June 8 and may be taken home following the Worship service. If you prefer, your flowers may be given to the church to be used to enhance our landscaping. Plants not removed by June 16 will be planted.

RED GERANIUMS—$12.00

In memory of _____

or

In honor of _____

Given by _____

Pastor Cindy would like to support our **Children and Youth** by attending your Spring concerts, recitals and games. Just let her know of the opportunities to attend and be a support to your family.



Beautiful Flowering Cross! Thank you from the church staff for all of the participation in Holy Week!

What a Blessed Lenten Season and Holy Week!



At Palm Sunday Festival, Jenny Gassert and our children publicly thanked all the hard workers who recently helped to freshen up the church with paint and more!

Happy Eastertide!





So much Palm Sunday fun, including "bobbing for peeps"!



Hallelujah Chorus, Easter Sunday. Thank you choir, Lancaster Brass Quintet and all our musicians!



Thank you Palm Sunday Festival

GIVING

In Recognition

Do you want to recognize an important person in your life, living or deceased, and say "thank you" to God for them while at the same time furthering CPUCC's ministry and mission? For each $15 sponsorship, a notice will be placed in that week's bulletin. You can sign up and pay for dates on-line or dates can be reserved and paid for by contacting the church office.



Rejoice, Renew, Revive Capital Campaign

Our Capital Campaign *Rejoice, Renew, Revive* has now raised $473,860.80 through March 2025. Your support is SO beneficial in repairing, maintaining, and improving our amazing church home. Thank you for all of your support!

Grocery Cards

The first quarter of 2025, the Grocery Card fund-raiser made $842 for CPUCC, $800 to the Current Expense Fund and $42 for Half Day Play. Only twenty-eight individuals or families purchased grocery cards this quarter. Think about how much we could earn if that number increased to 50 participants! Can you help us make that happen for the second quarter of the year? Thank you to everyone who supports this program!

Loose Change Sunday

Our next Loose Change Sunday will be held the last Sunday of May, the 25th. "Foldin' money" is also gratefully accepted! Thank you for your support of the last three Loose Change Sundays – your generosity has raised $803.04 for the Building Fund already! Thank you so much!



Pastor Cindy will be away on vacation May 15-30, 2025. Pastor Scott will be on call for pastoral emergencies. Music Sunday is May 18, and on May 25 Rev. Dr. Nora Foust will be bringing our morning message.



Imagine Together



There has been much talk about the economy lately, and most of us have some anxiety. Yet, in Matthew Chapter 6, versus 24 through 34, we are told not to worry because God will take care of you. Most of us have some worries or have had worries in the past. These worries may be about our financial situation. However, if we are honest with ourselves, and as we look at our past, God has provided us with what we have needed. If we continue to have faith, fading anxiety will be our reward. Imagine together that we are part of church with even greater faith than the faith that we already have. One way to help us have faith that God will take care of us is to pay God first with our tithes and offerings; just like paying God is a bill that we always pay every time. When we are consistent with our giving, we may be surprised to learn that we continue to receive the things that we have always needed. As we all give consistently and generously, imagine the amazing things we can do together.
~ Dave Gassert

Texas Roadhouse Fund-Raiser

Fun night out for CPUCC! On Thursday, May 1, we will be having a fund-raiser for the church Building Fund at Texas Roadhouse on Union Deposit Road. Whether you dine in or purchase takeout that evening from 4-9 p.m., you just need to bring the flyer and provide it to your server for the church to earn 10% of your total bill. We will also be having a bake sale at the restaurant that evening – donations of delicious baked treats would be greatly appreciated. They can be delivered to the church by 2 p.m. or to the restaurant by 5 p.m. Hope to see you there!



Budget Update

Thank you for your continued support of our mission and ministry. CPUCC exists to listen, to love, and to restore hope and community to all of God's people. As of the end of March, year-to-date we had income of $101,077 and expenses of $101,755. For the year (income vs. expenses) we are **$678** behind.

CONNECTING



Summer Mission Trip Anyone?

Just wanted anyone who has been thinking about joining the CPUCC mission team this year to know that we have finalized the dates and accommodations. This year's mission trip to the Morgan Scott Project in Appalachia will be from **August 3rd until August 8th.** We leave at 7:30 AM on Sunday morning and return to Harrisburg at the end of the week on Friday. I would encourage you to think about coming along for a life-changing experience. You can call or text Sue Reinke at 717-991-1586 for any information about the journey. Please prayerfully consider being part of the team.

Greetings Church Family!
It's time for the mission trip annual fundraiser/ church family outing. We are hoping to see you at the **Arooga's on Rte 22 on May 12th** and / or the **Arooga's on Linglestown Rd on May 13th.** They will honor our coupons for lunch and dinner and take out. We just need to have coupons. These are available in the church office, in the bulletin and in the monthly newsletter (see below). Thank you so much for your support in so many ways for this upcoming mission trip to the Morgan Scott Project in Appalachia. Please join us if you can. The dates this year are Aug3 thru Aug 8. Please call Sue Reinke at 717-991-1586 for additional information.

Please hand voucher into your server or bartender to attach to your receipt to receive proper credit.

7025 Allentown Blvd
Harrisburg, Pa

YOUR LOCATION STAMP HERE

Funds for Friends®

Colonial Park United Church of Christ

ORGANIZATION

May 12, 2025

DATE OF EVENT

Dine at this Arooga's Grille House & Sports Bar location on the above indicated date & 15% of your guest check will be donated to the above organization/charity.

15% donation not valid on specials. Coupons/Vouchers must be distributed prior to event date. Any solicitation on site will result in forfeit of all monies to your organization/charity.

Please hand voucher into your server or bartender to attach to your receipt to receive proper credit.

4301 Linglestown Rd.
Harrisburg, Pa

YOUR LOCATION STAMP HERE

Funds for Friends®

Colonial Park United Church of Christ

ORGANIZATION

May 13, 2025

DATE OF EVENT

Dine at this Arooga's Grille House & Sports Bar location on the above indicated date & 15% of your guest check will be donated to the above organization/charity.

15% donation not valid on specials. Coupons/Vouchers must be distributed prior to event date. Any solicitation on site will result in forfeit of all monies to your organization/charity.

Meet The Members – Shawn, Kristy, Alexis, and Wes Stauffer

Occasionally, you just happen to come across something by happenstance that can make a huge impact on your life. That's how Shawn and Kristy Stauffer first came to Colonial Park United Church of Christ.

You see, the Stauffers were attending a local gaming convention when they were looking to "squeeze in" attending church before the convention opened. Since CPUCC had an 8:30 a.m. service at the time, it was a perfect situation. It became a tradition since the convention was an annual event.

They found that the people were very nice and so when they moved a few years later, they decided to use the move as an excuse to change churches since they had some doctrinal differences with their former church. After visiting several others, they felt at home most with CPUCC, becoming members in 2020.

Shawn is originally from Ephrata while Kristy grew up in New York State. Both experienced a more conservative religious atmosphere – for Shawn it was the Church of the Brethren and Kristy was a Catholic. They both moved in a more liberal direction than in their earlier years.

After attending college for technical degrees, they both found work in the surrounding Harrisburg area. They met online and got married in 2010 and are the parents of two wonderful children, Alexis and Wes. That technical education must have rubbed off on the kids as they are both interested in science and engineering.

Shawn currently works in Carlisle as the Lead R&D Engineer and deals with electronics, programming, and most of the problems that crop up around the company. Kristy works as a subcontractor for the state designing the CareerLink website.

The Stauffers soon became very involved in the church. Shawn is the budget steward and assists in the livestreaming of the weekly service. Kristy is one of the children's Sunday School teachers and volunteers to usher at times. Alexis is an acolyte, and Wes enjoys participating in the Children's message.

But you won't only see the family only on Sunday mornings. They also attend messy church and other activities the church hosts whenever they can. They help at the Thrift Shop and with the Music Festival planning. The whole family really enjoyed the painting night and movie nights, and they feel good about helping people and contributing to the church's missions.



When asked what they most enjoy about attending CPUCC, the family said collectively, "The clear and unfettered display of God's love for all of his creation shown to us by the leadership and every member of the congregation every time we are fortunate enough to be there. And the snacks at fellowship time are nice, and Narnia was awesome!"

Kristy said that walking through the wardrobe doors into Narnia during Advent was fantastic and seeing the kids play in the "snow" was kind of magical.

Shawn noted that she greatly appreciates the amount of acceptance and support the church offered as she transitioned.

Inspiration for the Stauffers comes in the form of Jesus, Mother Teresa, St. Francis, and Senator Cory Booker (at the moment). As well as from Pastor Cindy – "She is an amazing individual!"

So how about a little quiz? Can you guess which activity each of the family has participated in? *Answers at the bottom.*

A. Gymnastics
B. Fencing
C. Western Martial Arts (European Medieval sword fighting techniques)
D. Producing, writing, directing, and designing a musical
E. Playing games

When asked why others should consider attending CPUCC, the answer came quickly. "Because it's great and awesome. It's a wonderful example of how Christ's church should be functioning in this day and age."

We couldn't agree more.

A-Wes; B-Kristy; C-Shawn; D-Alexis; E-All of the above! ("We like games, so if anyone ever wants to play with us, just let us know. We'll try to work out something.")

Central PA Womyn's Chorus
Giving Voice to Our Community

A 501 (c)3 nonprofit

Presents

Hear us... and Listen

STILL CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF MUSIC

Featuring music from our past 30 years and looking to the future!



Dr. Kyle J. Weary
Artistic Director

S. Max Mitchell
Accompanist

Saturday, May 17, 2025
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
22 S 6th Street
Lebanon, PA
7PM

Sunday, May 18, 2025
Silver Spring Presbyterian Church
444 Silver Spring Rd
Mechanicsburg, PA
3PM

Online Donations

Scan Here

Free Admission - Donations Appreciated
For more info: www.cpwchorus.org

Follow us on social media @CPWChorus

The Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus (CPWC) presents our free spring concerts "Hear us… and Listen: Still Celebrating 30 Years of Music." Join us in celebrating three decades of musical excellence. Don't miss out on this special occasion to commemorate our pearl jubilee and immerse yourself in the magic of music. Featuring music from our past 30 years as well as new pieces, there's something for everyone!

The free concerts are being presented at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Lebanon on Saturday, May 17th at 7:00 PM and at Silver Spring Presbyterian Church in Mechanicsburg on Sunday, May 18th at 3:00 PM. **Donations are gratefully received. We are thrilled to invite you to celebrate with us to "Hear us… and Listen".**

BLOOMBOX
YOUR GARDEN DELIVERED

Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus Fundraiser

BloomBox sells plants of all kinds (annuals, perennials, fruits, and vegetables). They deliver to your door. The chorus will receive 15% of any purchase made during the month of May, if you use our special code **CPWC15** when ordering.

https://getblooming.com/



My Spirit Sang All Day

Spring concert of the Susquehanna Chorale. Songs of the heart and soul expressing faith, love, and exultation.

Friday, May 16, 7:30 pm
Derry Presbyterian Church, HERSHEY

Saturday, May 17, 7:30 pm
Market Square Presbyterian Church, HARRISBURG

Sunday, May 18, 4:00 pm
Calvin and Janet High Center for Worship and Performing Arts, Messiah University, MECHANICSBURG

Learn more & ticket details: https://www.susquehannachorale.org/





Did you know that CPUCC has a church softball team?

We are a part of the Penbrook-Progress Church Softball League. Feel free to come out and cheer on the team (schedule below). If you are interested in more information or in joining the team, please contact **Kevin Krause** at paulorion@comcast.net



Registration / Check-in: Noon •• **Tee-off:** 1:00 •• **Cost:** $75/player
Hole Sponsorship: $100 (Includes sign with your Logo)

Includes 18-holes of Golf, Riding cart,
Dinner and chance to win various prizes!

To register text/call Denny Keckler @ 717-579-1812

All costs are due at time of registration. Registration deadline is 5/20.
Checks should be made payable to '**Penbrook-Progress Church Softball League**'

Thank you!

2025 Colonial Park UCC Regular Season Softball Schedule

Game #	Date	Time	Visiting Team	Home Team	Location
1	05/01/2025	6:30 PM	Midtown Community	Colonial Park UCC	C Brightbill Park
2	05/06/2025	6:30 PM	Colonial Park UCC	Midtown Community	D - Bethany
3	05/13/2025	6:00 PM	Devonshire Church	Colonial Park UCC	D - Bethany
4	05/13/2025	6:00 PM	Devonshire Church	Colonial Park UCC	D - Bethany
5	05/20/2025	6:00 PM	New Hope	Colonial Park UCC	C Brightbill Park
6	05/20/2025	6:00 PM	New Hope	Colonial Park UCC	C Brightbill Park
7	05/29/2025	6:00 PM	Colonial Park UCC	Derry Presbyterian	D - Bethany
8	05/29/2025	6:00 PM	Colonial Park UCC	Derry Presbyterian	D - Bethany
9	06/05/2025	6:00 PM	Bethany	Colonial Park UCC	B - Hbg State Hosp - Lower Field
10	06/05/2025	6:00 PM	Bethany	Colonial Park UCC	B - Hbg State Hosp - Lower Field
11	06/10/2025	6:00 PM	LifePoint - Blue	Colonial Park UCC	C Brightbill Park
12	06/10/2025	6:00 PM	LifePoint - Blue	Colonial Park UCC	C Brightbill Park
13	06/16/2025	6:00 PM	Colonial Park UCC	Linglestown Life	D - Bethany
14	06/16/2025	6:00 PM	Colonial Park UCC	Linglestown Life	D - Bethany
15	06/19/2025	6:00 PM	Colonial Park UCC	Community Evangelical	C Brightbill Park
16	06/19/2025	6:00 PM	Colonial Park UCC	Community Evangelical	C Brightbill Park
17	06/26/2025	6:00 PM	Susquehanna Valley	Colonial Park UCC	B - Hbg State Hosp - Lower Field
18	06/26/2025	6:00 PM	Susquehanna Valley	Colonial Park UCC	B - Hbg State Hosp - Lower Field

View schedule online at: https://www.leaguelineup.com/schedules.asp?url=penprogsoftball

SERVING



Blessing Box

Please continue to donate items for our Blessing Box. These donations directly benefit our local neighbors. You may place items directly in the Blessing Box anytime or in the Alcove, we have also placed a basket in the Narthex to receive donations.

Harrisburg Area Food Pantry

For the month of May we are requesting canned tuna or chicken, Ramen noodles, or any kind of noodles, and canned fruit for the Harrisburg Area Food Pantry. For the month of June, we are requesting peanut butter, jelly, cereal, and applesauce. You may place items in the grocery cart.

Giving TREE

THE GIVING TREE "TAKE ONE, GIVE ONE"

For May & June, we will be collecting items for

Gather the Spirit for Justice Program

This organization is building community on Allison Hill. They offer a free breakfast every Saturday at First Church of the Brethren on Hummel Street. In addition to breakfast, they offer many services such as helping people get State ID's, birth certificates, and other needed documents, and teaching English as a Second Language classes. The Free Store offers adult & children's clothing and household items.

The items we are requesting for their Toiletry Closet are: bar soap, body wash, dish soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, hand sanitizer, and any cleaning sprays. Please, if possible, purchase full size items, not travel size. Any donations will be gratefully received.

TAKE a tag from the GIVING TREE, GIVE an item on the tag, and place your purchase on the tree or in the containers under the tree.
THANK YOU!

Strengthen the Church

On May 11th we will collect the **Strengthen the Church Offering**. This offering supports congregations and initiatives that help us live into the United Church of Christ's "big tent" vision. God wants our congregations and our whole Christian movement to be a "big tent" where **ALL** are genuinely welcomed. Funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and renewal initiatives in existing congregations. Our conference and the national ministries work together to use these funds for projects that matter now and for the future of our movement.



Just a note that our July & August focus for the Giving Tree will be books for the Foose Reading program, so when you are out this spring and summer look for appropriate books.

Dinner and Annual Meeting for Christian Churches United is happening on May 19th at Charlton United Methodist Church. Registration begins at 5:30pm. To register visit www.ccuhbg.org/assembly.



From the Thrift Shoppe

The Thrift Shop is looking forward to some warm weather - sunshine with no wind or rain!!! This has been a very wet, cold, windy spring so far but the shoppers keep coming and — the donations arrive every time the shop is open. We only accept donations when we are open on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm.

Unfortunately some people drop off donations when we are not open. We had arranged for the POD to be picked up at the end of March. The POD company wants the POD to be cleaned out , unlocked and empty for them to pick up the POD. Unfortunately, someone put something in the unlocked POD when we were not there and when the POD company came to pick up the POD, they could not take it. This resulted in additional fees. It is incredible to the people who work at the Shop to see the many wonderful donations we receive. .It certainly keeps the sorters and pricers busy!

Recent donations were made to CPUCC, the Mission Trip, and The Silence of Mary Home. Ongoing contributions of fabric etc. go to the Maryville Church for their quilting project, clothing for Bethesda Mission, and towels and blankets for the Humane Society . We also collect shoe boxes for a program that makes up treasure boxes for kids in hospitals. We support the church's baseball team.

Anytime you can spare a few hours, come and join the fun! We will find something for you to do. You don't have to be a member of CPUCC to help out at the Shop . Some of our loyal workers are not members of CPUCC - so bring your friends and have a good time talking to our customers!.

Creation Justice



Climate scientists such as Katharine Hayhoe and Michael Mann and religious leaders such as Pope Francis and Jim Antal have pointed out the disparate social and economic consequences caused by the climate crisis on poorer, less developed countries on the globe. However, the impacts are becoming progressively obvious in richer, developed countries as well.

This is particularly true for immigrants and migrant workers in the United States, a population that is in one of the most precarious positions for several reasons. Immigrants are the backbone of U.S. agriculture , making up 73% of the agricultural workforce, performing back-breaking work often in sweltering temperatures with few rest breaks. When massive wild fires break out as we have seen in California producing smoke laden with fine particulate matter, immigrant workers suffer the most since they often work outside in landscaping and construction in addition to farming. Smoke inhalation can exacerbate existing health conditions and is linked to increases in heart attacks, stroke, and cancer. Many other immigrants work in offices and homes as cleaning and caregiving staff. When extreme weather disasters destroy office buildings and homes, they are suddenly unemployed and likely homeless themselves.

Unfortunately, current federal policies in dealing with climate change, from withdrawing from the Paris Climate Accords to opening more federal lands to drilling for oil and natural gas only accelerates carbon emissions. At the same time, engaging in raids on undocumented workers at their residences or workplaces makes their situation more precarious by instilling fear of deportation. The more precarious their legal status, the harder it is for immigrants to seek protection for themselves from climate impacts and other hazards on the job since they are at the mercy of their employers.

While financial support by local and national nonprofits may provide some assistance, advocating for federal and state laws and rulemaking that provide protections for the aforementioned workers while opposing roll backs of existing protections will go a long way to offer a broader framework.
~David Harris

GROWING

Church Camp



Did you know that our Rudy Youth Fund helps to support children and youth attending summer camp? Talk with Pastor Cindy and register with our partners at Lutheran Camp Corporation (https://www.lutherancamping.org/upcoming-events/)
Also: Use code PENNCENTRAL2025 for a 50% campership from Outdoor Ministries on summer camps.

See bulletins, newsletters, and Spiritual Growth reports about upcoming Sunday School plans.
Learn more about classes:
For adults: https://tinyurl.com/CPUCCSundaySchool-Adults
For children: https://tinyurl.com/CPUCCSundaySchool-Children

Spiritual Springboards

a 5-film series from our friends at The Work of the People, called ***Faith on the Margins.***
See trailer at: https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/film-series/faith-on-the-margins.
Tuesdays, at 6:30pm on Zoom (zoom link can be found at https://tinyurl.com/CPUCClinks).

Through raw and prophetic truth-telling, Miguel De La Torre calls us to a gospel of solidarity—one that does not seek comfort in hope without cost, but instead learns to sit in the agony of injustice. This series challenges the viewer to reckon with their faith, asking: What does salvation mean when it is severed from justice? Where is God among the crucified of today? How do we practice a faith that stands with the oppressed rather than benefits from their suffering?

The discussion guide can be found at https://tinyurl.com/CPUCChandouts

May 6—Doing the Gospel - A Call to Reckon with Our History: when we stop focusing on personal piety and start embodying justice. For too long, Christianity has been used to justify colonization, exclusion, and oppression. In this session, Miguel De La Torre calls us to reclaim the Gospel as a tool for liberation rather than control. What does it mean to do the Gospel rather than simply believe it?

May 13—Treasures—Finding God in the Absence of Hope - Where is God when all seems lost? Faith is not about certainty—it is about remaining present even when hope feels distant. In this final session, Miguel De La Torre explores what it means to trust in a God found among the suffering, even when easy answers fail.

Sunday School continues through the month of May for children, youth, and adults. We will take a break over the summer (Memorial Day—Labor Day) and resume after Rally Day (September 7)





Interested?

Pastor Cindy has received requests from a few folks to schedule another time of receiving new members. Yay! She is planning to receive new disciples on June 29, 2025, with "membership classes" taking place the two Sundays prior: June 15 & 22. Please let Pastor Cindy know of your interest as soon as possible (cgaris@cpucc.org).



Friday, June 6th is Deloitte Impact Day

About 15 people from the Deloitte Company will be coming to CPUCC to do some work as part of a wonderful community service program called Impact Day.

The activities they'll be working on include:

- Trim bushes around the property.
- Clean up/rake up leaves & debris around the property and place into recycle bags &/or into a cart to be taken to LPT compost facility for recycle.
- Remove weeds and tree branches from the play-yard.
- Weed and then spread mulch in the flower beds and playground.

Below is a list of tools that are needed. It would be very much appreciated if you would be able to loan the team any of the following tools for just that one day. We need 4 to 8 of each item.

- Wheel barrows and garden carts
- Hand style hedge trimmers
- Shovels (spade, flat snow)
- Pitch forks and Leaf rakes
- Branch cutter / Pruning shears
- Garden tools / hand tools for weeding
- Tarps to put the mulch on and for covering yard waste bags
- Long extension cords

Tools should be dropped off at the church no later than Thursday, June 5th. The best drop off location is outside of the Fellowship Hall rear/side exit doors (near tool shed). WILL YOU PLEASE MARK YOUR ITEMS WITH YOUR NAME so you can easily get them back when the project is complete.

It would also be a help if you could email Tom Feit at tpfeit@aol.com with a list of any tools you can provide. **Thank you!**

Women's Spirituality Group (WSG)

WSG meets on the 2nd Monday of the month (with a few exceptions), in person in the church Parlor, 6:30pm—8:30pm. This year, we have been working through Christine Valters Paintner's ***The Soul's Slow Ripening: 12 Celtic Practices for Seeking the Sacred***

May 12 - Chs. 10 & 11
June 9 - Ch. 12 and Conclusion
Learn more at https://tinyurl.com/CPUCChandouts

Bible Study

Even though there is not Sunday School after Memorial Day, Pastor Cindy plans to meet for three weeks with the Parlor and Chapel Sunday School classes (and whomever wants to join us) at 11am in the Parlor for conversations using the resource ***Age-Friendly Congregations.*** There are three Bible Studies included in the materials and it invites good conversation as we move forward together.

She is planning on 11am the following Sundays:

Three Bible Studies for Individuals and Groups when Exploring the Experience of Aging in the 21st Century by Beth Long-Higgins
June 1 - Healthy Aging: Ephesians 4:1-16
June 8 – Naomi's Vantage Point: Ruth 1:1-18, 4:13-17
June 15 - Transforming Aging: Romans 12-1-2

Bible Study and Spiritual Springboards will take a break for June and July. If you are interested in independent study, Pastor Cindy suggests Amos as a bible study (https://tinyurl.com/CPUCChandouts) or the short yet inspiring videos by Juan Martinez at https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/search?q=maritinez.



Everyone Is Invited...

to join in conversation at "Pastries with the Pastor," congregational gatherings after morning worship to have discussions about the ministry and future of CPUCC.

Gathering Dates:
June 29 – Who is our neighbor NOW?
July 13 – Where is God calling us?
August 17 – How do we strengthen community?



Interfaith Community Read: Countering Hatred and Division

This past February, Colonial Park UCC was invited by the Pennsylvania Council of Churches who is partnering with the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission to meet with other communities of faith in Central Pennsylvania. The invitation was to learn more about the dangers of Christian Nationalism and to find ways to work together to oppose this threat to both our religious communities and our country.

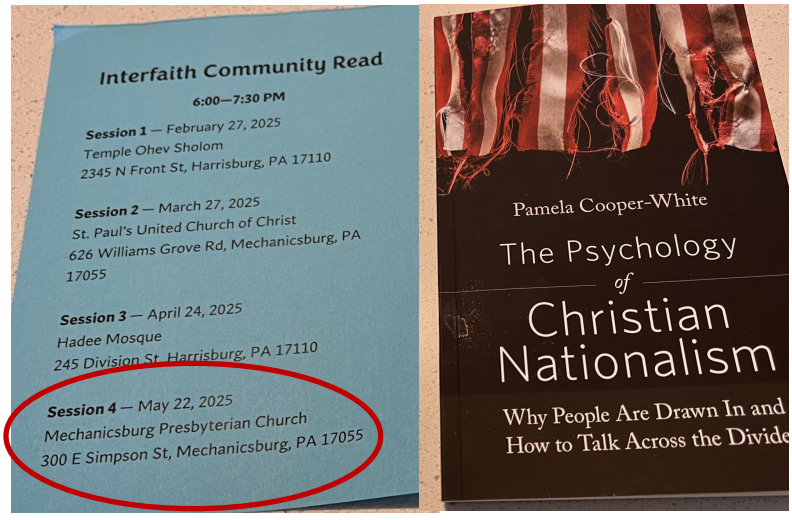
Brenda Eckert and Ron Johnson have been attending and representing our church. There have been two sessions held as of March 27th. Two more will be held by May 22nd. Communities of all kinds of faith have been attending. It is important to share with our congregation that those attending represent an interfaith initiative and all of us have shared values no matter what our faith.

You might be wondering what exactly is Christian Nationalism? We have been reading two books that discuss this. One is "The False White Gospel" by Jim Wallis. The other is "The Psychology of Christian Nationalism - Why People Are drawn In and How to Talk Across the Divide" by Pamela Cooper-White. To quote Cooper-White - "Christian Nationalism is not primarily characterized by devotion to the gospel mandates of love, care, and justice as found in the teachings of Jesus but rather by a social and political goal of restoring the United States to a fictional origin in white, masculinist supremacy." Does this sound familiar to what is happening in our country right now?

Many unchurched people (and some churched) think that Christian Churches are not living the call of the gospel as we (CPUCC) see it. "To do justly, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God." Quoting Cooper-White again, "Making a commitment to talk across the divide may be among the most challenging and arduous work of a lifetime - but is Holy Work as well." We cannot be silent. We must speak the truth from a position of love for our community and the world to see.

If you have questions about this, please reach out to Brenda and Ron.

We plan later in the summer to discuss this at a congregational-wide gathering.





Bold indicates homebound resident

1 Barbara Gruber
3 Eleanor Mauck
5 Alexis Stauffer
6 Kim Castellano
7 Eric Gutshall
9 Kelsey Kurtz
10 Madison Gutshall
14 Ken Eng, Corey Schwalm
17 Karisa Zola
20 Linda Gilbert
21 Christopher Gnech
25 Marsha Krause, Jared Spiegel
26 Cierra Bender
27 Jeff Mertus
30 Angelina Castellano



10	Eric & Erris Gutshall	22 years
13	Faye & Jeff Mertus	36 years
18	Bret & Mary Jane Fledderjohn	23 years
19	Debbie Magliette & Rosemary Mirocco	13 years
20	Sue Duff & Anna Kohr	19 years
20	Sue & Dave Bishop	58 years
22	Diane & Mike Leonard	43 years
25	John & Barb Butari	45 years
29	Lauren & Justin Stefanelli	15 years
29	Holly & Fred Hughes	32 years
31	Barry & Mary Jones	56 years



Bold indicates homebound resident

1 Kimberly McKinney, Arden Schwalm
3 Solly Jones
4 Sylvia Morra, Lucy Glorius
5 Lori Shaffer
6 Audrey Karchner, Dominic Zola
7 Rick Mauck
8 Kyle Bowman, Dave Gassert, Brian Gutshall
9 Bennett Kurtz
13 Deb Bowman
14 Betty Gutshall, Robert Spedding
16 Ron Johnson
17 Mary Jane Fledderjohn
20 Kevin Krause, Kelly Martini
22 Sherry Sanders, Ed Stup, Pat Yanchuleff
23 Cindy Garis August, Brett Hartlaub, Alaina Sanders
25 Robert Reichard, Stacy Iachini
26 Calvin Criley, Cindy Shannon
27 Gerald Bierbaum, Cindy Gnech
29 Sheila Donato, Sharon Shaffner
30 Bud Gruber



2	Karen & Kirk Hartlaub	46 years
	Karen & Dan Cebra	41 years
3	Christopher & Alaina Sanders	8 years
8	Kelsey & Steve Kurtz	12 years
13	Richie & Kate Mauck	10 years
14	Larry & Peggy Miller	55 years
16	Patrick & Alison Sanders	
17	Fred & Betty Gutshall	64 years
	Pat & Ted Yanchuleff	47 years
	Jay & Roni Zeigler	30 years
20	Tom & Patti Feit	38 years
	Scott Siciliano & Michael Shafer	10 years
	Barbara Kirk & Roben Roof	27 years
23	Ruth & Vladimir Karabcievschy	52 years
24	Lucy & Deb Glorius	15 years
28	Guy & Micki Weaver	50 years
29	Tom & Beth Washic	40 years
	Cindy & Tino Gnech	51 years
30	Jess & Erik Nupponen	24 years

Buy a Brick – Leave a Lasting Legacy!

Support our fundraiser by purchasing a **personalized engraved brick** for just **$50**!

Personalization Options:

- Add your brick to the **labyrinth** or your **own garden**.
- Create a **meaningful gift** for graduates, Mother's Day, or Father's Day.
- Honor a **beloved pet** or memorialize a loved one.
- Feature a **significant scripture** or special message.
- Opt for an **engraved brick with a felt-covered base** for indoor display.

Fundraiser Details:

Forms can be picked up in the church office.

Order Deadline: ~~May 1~~ extended to **June 1**

Delivery: Bricks will arrive at the church **2-3 weeks** after the final orders are placed.

Payment: Checks can be made payable to **CPUCC** (memo: "Bricks").

Order Online: www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/cpucc

Thank you for your support!

Colonial Park United Church of Christ

BUY A BRICK PROGRAM

We are raising money to help augment our building fund. The bricks will be 4"x8" *and cost is $50 each.* Please circle below, if the brick is to be placed in the labyrinth or for your personal use.

Please engrave our brick as follows:

Any Symbol Is Considered One Space (Period, Comma, Dash)
All Text Is Centered.

Select Location/Type: Labyrinth Personal—Outside brick Personal---Inside brick w/felt

Select Location/Type: Labyrinth Personal—Outside brick Personal—Inside brick w/felt

Please return this form and your check payable to:

Colonial Park United Church of Christ
5000 Devonshire Road
Harrisburg, PA 17109

Name: Phone:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Email Address: Amount Paid:

FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY June 1, 2025.
If you have any questions, please call Sylvia Morra at (717) 829-5823.
Orders can be placed online at: www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/cpucc

UCC Homes

UCC Homes Helping Hands Luncheon and Auction

The 29th Helping Hands event will offer both in-person and online only options. Both options offer a variety of ways in which you can lift up and support our mission by participating in our online or in-person auction.
We will host the in-person Helping Hands Luncheon and Auction on **Saturday, May 10, 2025** at the Hershey Country Club, beginning at 11:30am. The in-person event will include a delicious lunch, viewing and bidding on exclusive in-person auction items, and musical offerings by the multi-talented group ***Seasons.*** For those who are not able to attend the in-person event or prefer to participate virtually place bids on your favorite items during the active bidding period, **April 28th to 6:00pm on May 10th.** Learn more at: **https://events.readysetauction.com/unitedchurchchristhomes/helpinghands25**



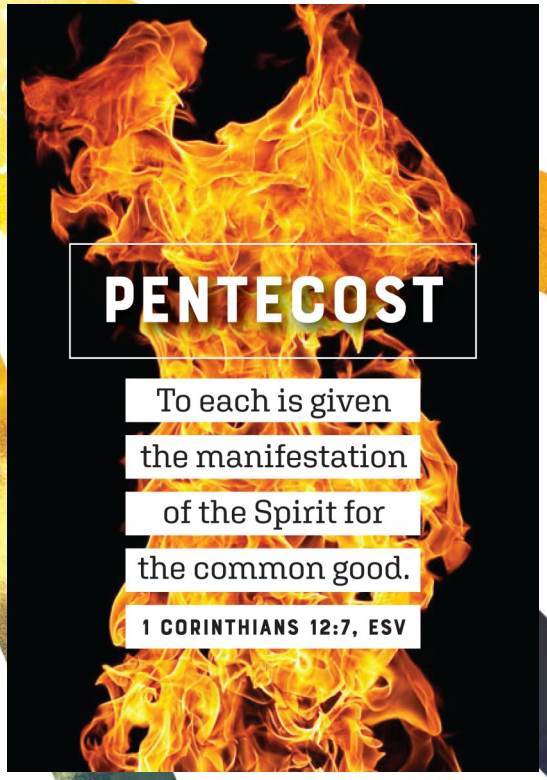
Serving Your Church

Thank you to all who serve the church faithfully.

To fill in any of the open slots go to ttsu.me/serving or call the church office

5/4/2025	5/11/2025	5/18/2025 Music Sunday	5/25/2025
Acolyte ☐ sign up	Acolyte ☐ sign up	Acolyte ☐ sign up	Acolyte ☐ sign up
Lay Reader Liz August	Lay Reader Cindy Shannon	Lay Reader Thaddeus Sampson	Lay Reader Sylvia Morra
Greeter by F.Hall ☐ sign up	Greeter by F.Hall Jessica and Steve Burkholder	Greeter by F.Hall ☐ sign up	Greeter by F.Hall ☐ sign up
Usher Thomas Bay	Usher Liz August	Usher ☐ sign up	Usher ☐ sign up
Usher ☐ sign up	Usher Thomas Bay	Usher ☐ sign up	Usher ☐ sign up
Nursery ☐ sign up	Nursery ☐ sign up	Liturgist Priscilla Fledderjohn	Liturgist Cindy Gnech

6/1/2025	6/8/2025 Pentecost	6/15/2025
Acolyte ☐ sign up	Acolyte ☐ sign up	Acolyte ☐ sign up
Lay Reader ☐ sign up	Lay Reader ☐ sign up	Lay Reader ☐ sign up
Greeter by F.Hall ☐ sign up	Greeter by F.Hall ☐ sign up	Greeter by F.Hall ☐ sign up
Usher ☐ sign up	Usher ☐ sign up	Usher ☐ sign up
Usher ☐ sign up	Usher ☐ sign up	Usher ☐ sign up
Nursery ☐ sign up	Nursery ☐ sign up	Children's Message ☐ sign up



Colonial Park
United Church of Christ
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Special Edition May-June 2025 Combined Newsletter

