

the Messenger

Monthly newsletter of Colonial Park United Church of Christ
October 2025
VOL. 64 NO. 10

Worship—Sunday 9:30m **Sunday School 11:00am** **Charging Station—5pm**

300th Anniversary Festival of Celebration

We will celebrate the 300th Anniversary of the German Reformed Church in the United States which began with the first communion at Faulkner Swamp, October 15, 1725. This celebration of our immigrant heritage is particularly meaningful and instructive given the current conversations about immigration happening around the nation.

Pastor Cindy is looking for 6 people to usher for this event. Please let her know if you can help out.

From Our Conference Minister:

Dear Friends of PCC -

Please mark your calendars to join with your Conference Staff on **Wednesday October 15th at 6:30 PM at Colonial Park** Church to celebrate the 300th Anniversary of the first communion of the German Reformed Church in America. Our own **Rev. Dietmar Plajer (St. Paul's, Selinsgrove) will be preaching**. The service is designed to honor and celebrate our Reformed heritage and will include prayers, readings, communion, and joyful music including a **specially commissioned original hymn by Rev. Scott Siciliano** (Colonial Park, Harrisburg). Clergy are invited to wear red stoles (no robes) to add to the celebratory spirit. Refreshments will follow.

October 15, 1725 was first time a group of German Reformed believers shared in a communion meal together at Falkner Swamp Church (in PA Southeast). Three hundred years later most of our UCC churches in PA have roots in that heritage.

Come and join us (in person or on-line) to celebrate!

Hope to see you on the 15th! Let's fill the sanctuary with praise and thanksgiving! Learn more & register: https://psec.org/300th-anniversary-of-the-german-reformed-church-in-the-us/

Peace,

Rev. Carrie Call, PhD, Conference Minister



October 5 - World Communion Sunday
October 15 - 300th Anniversary Celebration of German Reformed Church
October 19 - Crop Walk
October 26 - Trunk or Treat

November 2 - All Saints Sunday
November 7 & 8 "Plays on Devonshire"
November 9 - Stewardship Commitment Sunday
November 15 - Final worship Celebration for Penn Central Conference
November 21 - Fun with Friends Taco Night and Auction
November 23 - Hanging of the Greens - Decorate the Church for Christmas
November 26 - Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve service @ CPUCC



Expressing Our Gratitude

Jim Richardson and his family would like to thank the members of CPUCC for their prayers, cards and healing thoughts during his recent illness(es). They meant more to us than you can imagine.

To all of You,
I want to thank everyone for all the prayers and the outpouring of kindness and love which has been given to Rob and I. Pastor Cindy, Pastor Scott and all of you—I couldn't have made it without all of you. To my Sunday School Class, and the Charging Station, and the Choir, my deepest thanks to you all for everything that you have done for Rob and I. I am so grateful for my whole church family. We love all of you. Rob and I have so much to be thankful for.
Connie Herman and Rob Herman

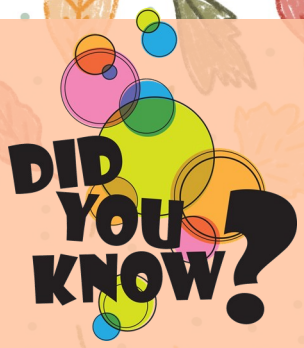


GIVING

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.

Grocery Cards



This fall as you are shopping, remember that Giant, Weis and Karns gift cards can support your church at the same time. Five percent of your purchase of gift cards from these stores supports the ministry and mission of CPUCC. Gift cards are available in Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings, or in the church office during the week. Thank you for your support.



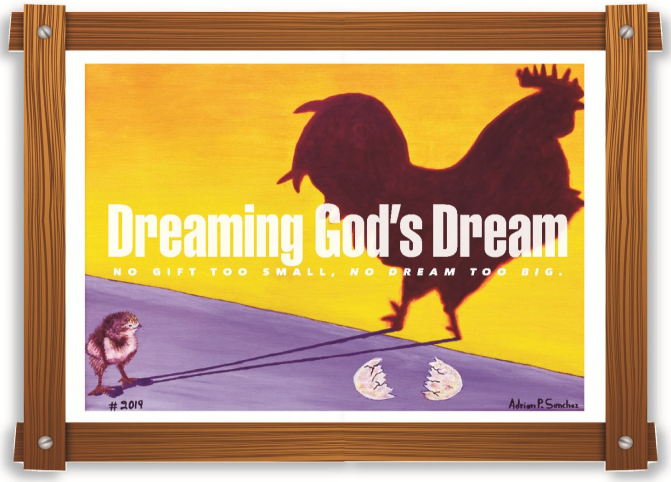
Imagine Together

Sharon Clark

"To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life."
Revelation 21:6b

During the summer when Pastor Cindy preached on the Book of Revelation, this verse immediately stood out to me. I suddenly pictured a spring along a shady country road in York County. Most times when I pass by it, there are cars parked there and a line of people waiting to fill up their containers with fresh spring water - without cost. One day there were no cars at the spring, and I caught a glimpse of a pipe coming out of the rocky hillside. Water was spouting freely from the small white pipe and flowing down the hill. My first quick thought was about how wasteful that was. Letting my faucet run like that at home and never turning it off would lead to an enormous water bill. Then I remembered the water was freely supplied by a spring that flows day and night whether or not anyone is there to partake of it. I am used to indoor plumbing and water company fees. I had forgotten how wells and springs supplied water to a multitude of generations before me in every time and place. This was water freely given at no cost and in abundance by our Creator God - water that was necessary for life to exist.

I love this image of water flowing freely and abundantly from a spring. It is an image of God for me, a symbol of God's life-giving love and grace that is always available whether or not we think we need it. If we are children of God, made in God's image, then we should likewise be willing to pour out that same love and grace to others. Imagine a world where that happened all of the time and in every place! It's up to each of us to help make that a reality. Be willing to receive God's abundant life-giving water into your own life and then generously give it to others who are also thirsty. After all, God may have supplied the water source for that spring in York County, but a human being put in the pipe that made it easily accessible to all.



Why Pledge

WHY DO WE MAKE A COMMITMENT OF SUPPORT TO CHURCH?

We can give to our congregation without turning in a commitment card. So, why write down our intention for the coming year? Of course, telling the church about our intention helps leaders plan. But we ask you to write down your intentions for another reason.

Jesus told us to love God with our heart, mind, soul, and strength; and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

A commitment card can engage us in all those ways as we express our love of God and neighbor.

Heart: we feel the love and support of people in the congregation. This is the place where we belong.

Mind: we think about our resources, both our income and our accumulated assets when deciding on what commitment to make in the coming year.

Soul: we experience the hope that comes from making a commitment to the future. A commitment card symbolizes our confidence in God's future and makes us part of helping that future come about.

Strength: we do what we can to help support our community.

We ask you to return a commitment card because it connects you to the mission and ministry of our congregation to our neighbors, near and far. Returning your commitment card affirms with all of your being that you are part of our response to God's dream.

CONSIDER YOUR PLEDGE AS A PERCENT OF YOUR MONTHLY INCOME.

Annual Income	Monthly Income	2%	3%	4%	5%	10%
20,000	1,667	33	50	67	83	167
25,000	2,083	42	63	83	104	208
30,000	2,500	50	75	100	125	250
35,000	2,917	58	88	117	146	292
40,000	3,333	67	100	133	167	333
45,000	3,750	75	113	150	188	375
50,000	4,167	83	125	167	208	417
60,000	5,000	100	150	200	250	500
75,000	6,250	125	188	250	313	625
100,000	8,333	167	250	333	417	833
125,000	10,417	208	313	417	521	1042
150,000	12,500	250	375	500	625	1250
200,000	16,667	333	500	667	833	1667

On average, Americans give 2% of their income to charity.
Giving even 1% more of annual income to charity would be transformative for our congregation and other organizations doing good in our community.

Dreaming God's Dream
NO GIFT TOO SMALL, NO DREAM TOO BIG.

Friday Fun With Friends and Tacos

GOODS AND SERVICES Auction

Last year our Friday Fun with Friends and Tacos was a blast! Attendees enjoyed a delicious taco dinner, baked goods for dessert, a 50/50 raffle, and the silent auction of many fabulous items, services, and experiences. We raised $3695 for the Building Fund that night! It was so much fun we're planning to do it again! This will be coming up on Friday, November 21. More information about the ticket purchases will be available soon. For now, we would LOVE to receive donations for this year's silent auction. If you are able to donate any items, talents, meals, or anything else, please contact Patricia Kishpaugh (sunonthewater@mailfence.com) or Cindy Gnech (717-991-4124 or cindygnech7@gmail.com). The sky's the limit – be creative! Thank you so much for your support!

Boscov's Friends Helping Friends

Have you started thinking about Christmas shopping this year? It's not too early – beat the rush for the best deals. And CPUCC can help with that! On Wednesday, October 22, Boscov's is once again offering their Friends Helping Friends Day, during which individuals buy **a $5.00 pass**, which goes to support a non-profit group (in our case, the CPUCC Building Fund), and when you shop in store from 8 a.m. – 11 p.m. or on-line that day, **you save 25%** off the lowest sale prices available. You save money and the church makes money – what a great "win-win"! These **passes will be available from now through October 22 at the grocery card table in Fellowship Hall**, and on select dates, at a table in the back of the sanctuary. For more information, please contact Cindy Gnech at 717-991-4124, or cindygnech7@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!

Boscov's FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS IN-STORE & ONLINE

Stewardship is HEART WORK

Tax Volunteer Recruitment

Volunteers are needed to offer free tax preparation to help working families receive the federal and state tax credits they are eligible for.

The service is offered through the Money in Your Pocket (MIYP) program, a community partnership led by the United Way of the Capital Region that is committed to the economic stability of local families. Since the program began, more than 78,000 federal returns have been filed, bringing more than $83 million back into the community. And the program has saved participants almost $15.6 million in tax preparation fees.

No previous experience is required and training is provided. Volunteers are also needed to serve as greeters (no tax preparing required for this position). Scheduling is flexible with daytime, evening and Saturday opportunities available at sites throughout Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties.

For those interested in learning more, weekly virtual information sessions will be held throughout October and November. For more information, contact Heidi Neuhaus at 717.724.4055 or by e-mail at hneuhaus@uwcr.org.

Rejoice, Renew, Revive Capital Campaign

REJOICE • RENEW • REVIVE

Our Capital Campaign Rejoice, Renew, Revive has now raised $477,814.12 through August 2025. Virtually everything that has been donated has already been spent on various projects to repair, maintain and/or improve our amazing church home. There is a current available balance of $13,081.39. Thank you for all of your support!

Budget Update

As of the end of August, our 2025 General Fund Income is $267,048.71 and our Expenses are $276,541.68.
We are behind $9,492.97



SUPPORTING CATRA

Kayla Kraft is inviting you to support her and the **Capital Area Therapeutic Riding Association** in Grantville (https://catra.net/).

Support Kayla's fundraising efforts for CATRA-thon (October 18) by stopping by the church office, talking with Kayla in church, or by visiting her fundraising page: **https://tinyurl.com/Kayla-CATRA2025**



SHARE YOUR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURES

Let us know of your commitment for 2026! Be looking for materials in the mail or online, and plan to join us on November 9, 2025.

Panera Fundraiser

On Thursday, **October 2**, CPUCC is hosting a fundraiser at Panera **from 4-8 p.m.** at the location nearest the church, at 5125 Jonestown Road (near Kohl's). **The CPUCC Building Fund will earn up to 25% of the total cost of your meal.** You need to bring the flyer (below) available in the church office, and show it to the cashier when you pay. At 5 p.m., we will have a CPUCC table (or tables), so come join your church friends then! Hope to see you there!





On October 5th we will receive the Neighbors in Need Special Offering of the UCC. Gifts to Neighbors in Need (NIN) support the United Church of Christ's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). The other two-thirds of the offering support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, direct service projects and grants. Neighbors in Need grants are annually awarded to UCC Churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities



SERVING

The Giving Tree

In October, the focus of the Giving Tree will continue to collect donations for the CROP HUNGER WALK.

CROP HUNGER WALKS are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service. They are organized by local churches/groups to raise funds to end hunger at home and around the world. The first official CROP HUNGER WALK was held in York County, PA in 1970.

TAKE an envelope from the Giving Tree. GIVE a donation, placing it in the envelope. Place your envelope in the container in the church office or mail it to the church at 5000 Devonshire Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109.

Kathy Neely, our long-time office manager, who died from ALS in April 2023, was passionate about the CROP WALK. You can donate, walk, or do both in her honor/memory. THE KATHY NEELY CPUCC CROP WALK will take place on October 19th. More details to follow.

THANK YOU for considering this worthy cause and THANK YOU for your continued generosity to the Giving Tree.

CROP HUNGER WALK
October 19, 2025
ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME



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.

You know how we celebrate "Loose Change Sunday" the last Sunday of odd-numbered months (Jan., Mar. etc.)? Well, we are planning for the last Sunday of even-months (Feb., Apr. etc.) to become ***Bounty of Blessings****, starting in October, where we encourage* ***every person attending worship to bring one item, can or box, of something for the Blessing Box.*** *We will receive them in worship by wagon or basket.* ***Starts October 26, 2025.*** *(Just think our wagon will be overflowing with more than 50 items!)*



Harrisburg Food Pantry

For the month of October, we are requesting macaroni & cheese, noodles of any kind, canned vegetables, and deodorant for the Harrisburg Area Food Pantry. You may place items in the grocery cart.



Meet The Member – Barbara Kirk

ACTIVE! That's a description of Barbara Kirk's life in just one word.

While many people may be satisfied with the flow of life, Barbara is always on the move. Whether it is her professional positions or her interests, she just never seems to slow down.

Barbara has a rare distinction of joining CPUCC twice. First off, she joined back in 1984, invited to attend by her friend Cindy Gnech. Then Barbara's journey led her to another church where she attended Sunday evening, as well as CPUCC in the morning. After a while, she felt unable to fully commit to two churches, so she left CPUCC.

"My spiritual journey has been eclectic," Barbara explained. "I was baptized Lutheran, raised EUB/United Methodist, graduated from Messiah College (Brethren in Christ), married a Jewish man and attended holiday services with him."

In 2015, after Barbara married her spouse Roben Roof, she came back to CPUCC because the church had become more open, affirming, and welcoming.
Since rejoining, Barbara jumped in and has played a big role in CPUCC over the years. She rang in the bell choir, served as lay reader, Sunday school helper, Council member, Council president, and various committees and she initiated the Breakfast with Santa event.

Barbara spent her career in non-profit accounting. Most recently, she served as Finance Director for Hospice of Central Pa. for 26 years, and then six years at the Partnership for Better Health. She retired two years ago.

But retirement has not slowed her down at all!

Their seven grandchildren, ranging in age from 9 to 3 (one each year!) keep her busy. Two are local, two live in Massachusetts, and three are in Delaware.

She also enjoys working on her family genealogy. Barabara recently completed a project to reproduce her second great-grandmother Amanda's Album of Remembrance.

"The beautifully handwritten entries, dated from 1857 to 1864, are touching statements of friendship, prayers, Bible verses, and advice," she said. "I gave a copy of the book to each of her descendants so that the words of faith and friendship that comforted Amanda might also speak to us."

Both Barbara and Roben love to travel. They have visited Rhine River Christmas markets, Helsinki and an Arctic resort in Finland, ran a 10k at Disney World, mined quartz crystals in Arkansas, and recently completed a Rte. 66 and national park road trip. She also has a keen eye for photography. So much so, that she won first prize in the Wildwood Photo Contest, beginner division.

When asked what one of her favorite memories of CPUCC, Barbara recalls a particular Christmas Eve many years ago. She was a lay reader for the 11:00 p.m. service. As she was sitting on the platform in the dark and quiet church, she says she felt the overwhelming presence of Jesus and the Holy Family.

Barbara feels that there is something for everyone at Colonial Park UCC – and to become involved.

"Whether it's office work, preparing/serving food, building repair and maintenance, lawn care, music, Sunday school, or the thrift shop – there's a place for you," she said.
In closing, we asked Barbara Kirk what has inspired her in her life. She said that the following words from Dag Hammarskjöld, the second Secretary-General of the United Nations, have encouraged her for the past 50 years:

For all that has been...THANKS
For all that will be...YES!

We are all thankful that Barbara Kirk is so very ACTIVE and inspiring herself.

The Ye Olde Devonshire Thrift Shoppe



***Ye Olde Devonshire Thrift Shoppe* hours:**

Wednesdays	**10am—2pm**
Fridays	**10am—2pm**
Saturdays	**10am—2pm**

Your GIVING matters

The Thrift Shop continues to be a busy place! We were getting overwhelmed with donations so we decided that we would not take any donations during the month of September so that we could catch up with sorting and pricing. It did not quite work out as planned. Donations continued to pour in.

There is still a problem recruiting helpers for the shop when it is open. Saturdays seem to be the day when people have other things to do so we are often short staffed on Saturdays. Helpers are welcome any time. Just show up and we will find something for you to do.

This month we made donations to Hope Springs Farm, CATRA, OCWM, The Boys and Girls Club of Harrisburg, the parlor restoration project and the CROP walk. Our excesses go to community aid who sends the church a donation for those donations.

Any questions or concerns about the Thrift Shop may be directed to Helen Ferguson, Linda Bender or Priscilla Fledderjohn.



WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US FOR OUR COMMUNITY TRUNK OR TREAT EVENT!

Join us on October 26th for Trunk or Treat!

Help us welcome the community by decorating your car trunk, offering goodies (maybe even games). Vehicles should be in the front parking lot at Colonial Park UCC around 5:00pm. We are inviting dressed up trick-or-treaters to come from 5:30pm—6:00pm.

- Decorated "trunks" are encouraged.
- Costumes are optional.
- Consider offering candy and/or other items, like simple school supplies, fidget toys, etc.
- Maybe you even want to have a simple game—corn hole, ring toss, etc.
- Sign up for a space for your vehicle in the church office or https://tinyurl.com/CPUCC-Trunk25-SignUp
- There is a box in the office for donations of candy.
- Share a flyer about the event: https://tinyurl.com/CPUCC-Trunk25-Flyer

TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER
BIRTHDAYS

Italics indicates homebound resident

1 Jim Ishman

2 Shannon Strange

3 Cynthia Hogeman

4 Joyce Covey

7 Barb Love

9 *Greg Huntingdon,* Chris Sanders

11 Elaine Bogar, *Marguerite Myers*

14 Ruth Karabcievschy

16 Brad Johnson

17 Janice Mountain, Shawn Stauffer, Lily Iachini

18 Lisa Collins, Kirk Hartlaub

19 Wayne Karchner, Barbara Kirk, Jeff Sarno

20 C.J. Bender, Fred Gutshall, Judy Klinger, Nancy Miller, Dave Rogers

21 Dane Merryman, Patricia Kishpaugh, Jay Zeigler

September Birthdays continued...

22 Sam Gilbert

23 Stephanie Seltzer, Deb Keiser

24 Pearl Mahan

28 August Reinke

29 Charlotte Kurtz

31 Susan Martin

OCTOBER
ANNIVERSARIES

2nd	Bobby & McKenna Neely	4 years
6th	Sharon & Todd Brewer	46 years
	Sylvia & Dan Morra	35 years
8th	Lindsey & Dan Via	14 years
	Pam & Ed Stup	3 years
11th	Dave & Jenny Gassert	39 years
13th	Joe & Meagan Mauck	7 years
18th	Richard & Joyce Covey	39 years
20th	Eric & Mariah Sanders	7 years
22nd	Lorrie & Aimee Haldeman	3 years
24th	Donna & Stephen Schwalm	55 years
25th	Patty & Jeff Sarno	45 years
	Jim & Elizabeth Ishman, Jr.	23 years
31st	Deryk & Jennifer Thompson	27 years

THEATER PRODUCTION

Plays on Devonshire –

An evening of laughter, storytelling, and sweets!

Colonial Park UCC and the Playwrights Alliance of Pennsylvania (PAPA) invite you to this year's *Plays on Devonshire*—an original collection of short plays that celebrate food, family, and life's savory surprises.

Enjoy live performances **plus dessert and a beverage** included with your ticket ($18).

Showtimes:

- **Friday, November 7 at 7:00 pm**
- **Saturday, November 8 at 2:00 pm**

Extras: Try your luck with our **50/50 raffle**, and pick up a copy of our brand-new **recipe book inspired by the plays**—a unique keepsake that lets you bring the flavors of the stage into your own kitchen!

Come hungry for stories, laughter, and sweets. It's community theater at its most delicious!

Unlike movies, please have no rating system. All these plays are appropriate for most playgoers, but ask at the phone number above if you have any questions about what will be presented in the 60 to 90 minute program. We look forward to growing this event as it benefits the church. See you all there!

GROWING

Sunday School for all ages at 11am.





Since we have new members with young children, we are making the **Nursery available** during morning worship. If helping to staff the nursery interests you, please contact **Liz August** at abicacoma@verizon.net or 717-805-0390

CHILDREN & YOUTH

J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) – for toddlers to Kindergarten Walkers through Kindergarten are welcome for stories, crafts, a snack, and lots of play time in the preschool room next to the Library. Preferred if a parent can stay with young children.

Crosswalkers -This fall in **Crosswalkers Sunday School** (grades 1 - 5) we'll be learning the Lord's Prayer, working on mini mission projects, and will even have some time to play together with our new Nintendo Switch! The kids will have the chance to show off their new knowledge when we recite the Lord's Prayer in church during Advent.

Pathfinders: Grades 6-12
Pastor Cindy leads our Pathfinders. We have time for connecting and games, as well as videos, and a new curriculum from the Youth Cartel which looks at stories from the Bible as one over-arching story of faith.

Learn more about classes:

For adults:
https://tinyurl.com/CPUCCSundaySchool-Adults

For children:
https://tinyurl.com/CPUCCSundaySchool-Children



ADULTS

All are welcome! Adult Sunday School is not divided by age or family group. Different classes have different styles and topics.

Library Class (discussion-oriented)
The Wired Word (Begins Sept.14th)
Lessons are crafted from current news stories. News is inevitable--whether it be good or bad. What better way to extract hope from the news than by juxtaposing Bible verses as tools to ponder and navigate our daily walk in Christian faith.

Chapel Group (presentation-style, Bible Study)
The chapel group uses The Present Word series. This Fall we will be invited to discover and appreciate how God, through prophets and other leaders, gave help and guidance to the people of Judah so that we may come to see the hand of God in our own lives and all human affairs.

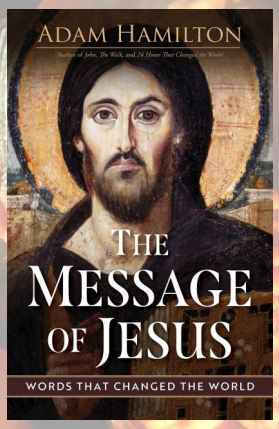
Parlor Group (DVD and discussion)
The Bible With and Without Jesus by Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler explores how Jews and Christians read the same biblical texts differently, focusing on well-known stories such as creation, Adam and Eve, Isaiah's suffering servant, and Jonah. By examining the original Hebrew context and later interpretations from both Jewish (Tanakh) and Christian (Old Testament) perspectives, the book reveals the distinct meanings and ongoing significance of these shared scriptures for both traditions. The synopsis emphasizes that these differences, rather than similarities, are crucial for fostering mutual understanding and respectful dialogue between the two faiths.

10/05/2025	Isaiah's Suffering Servant
10/12/2025	The Book of Jonah
10/19/2025	Jesus's Words on the Cross

Spiritual Springboards

Open to all, Spiritual Springboards dives deeper into faith in the company of others. We meet online on ***Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm on Zoom.***

Find zoom info at https://tinyurl.com/CPUCClinks
Find any handouts uploaded at https://tinyurl.com/CPUCChandouts



Continuing Adam Hamilton's *The Message of Jesus*

A fresh encounter with the words of Jesus.

More than 3 billion people claim to follow Jesus. But aside from a few verses, how many actually know what he taught? In fact, much of what people think Jesus taught, he never said.

Jesus's message is not only life-changing, but world-changing. Join Adam Hamilton in studying *The Message of Jesus: Words That Changed the World.*

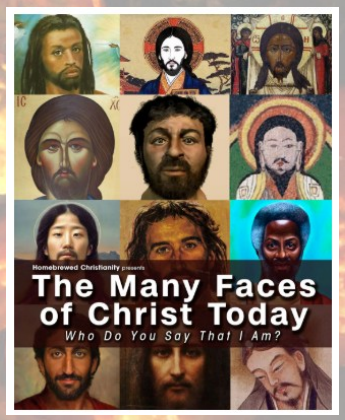
Dates and Themes

Oct 7—Final Words
Oct 14—The Resurrection and the Life

THE MANY FACES OF CHRIST TODAY

From Homebrewed Christianity:

A transformative 5-week online learning community exploring the diverse theological understandings of Jesus Christ across different traditions and perspectives.



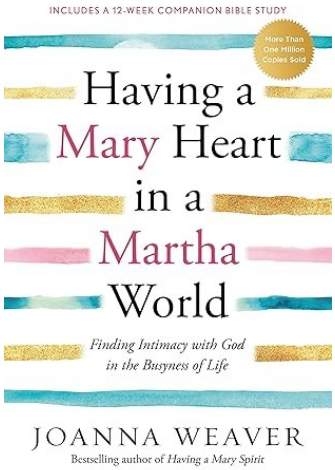
SCHEDULE *more at https://tinyurl.com/CPUCChandouts*

October 28 - Week #1 – Reformed Christology
November 4 - Week #2 – Liberal Christology
November 11 - Week #3 – Feminist Christology

No class November 18 or November 25

December 2 - Week #4 – Black Christology
December 9 - Week #5 – Process Christology

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. **Learn more at https://tinyurl.com/CPUCChandouts**

Open to all women, who identify as a woman, and who are non-binary and comfortable with feminine language and discussing issues from a female perspective. Please let Pastor Cindy know if you would like to participate but need a ride.

Typical Evening Schedule:
6:30-7:00pm Check in/Connect with one another
7:00-7:30pm Personal retreat time/Prayer Exercise
7:30-7:45pm Share (optional) what surfaced during personal time
7:45-8:30pm Discuss topic/book

Dates and Chapters/Themes

October 13 - "Lord, don't you care?" (Ch. 2)

November 10 - "The Diagnosis" (ch. 3) and "The Cure" (ch. 4)

December 8 - "Living Room Intimacy" (ch. 5)

January - **no WSG**

February 9 - "Kitchen Service" (ch. 6)

March 9 - "The Better Part" (ch. 7) and "Lessons from Lazarus" (ch. 8)

April 13 - "Martha's Teachable Heart" (ch. 9) and "Mary's Extravagant Love" (ch. 10)

May 11 - "Balancing Work and Worship" (ch. 11) and conclusion "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World"

Harrisburg Association Fall Meeting November 2

Worship Sunday Morning 9:30am & Sunday Evening (Charging Station) 5:00pm

WORSHIPPING



Sun, October 5, 2025
World Communion Sunday
Our Story in the Wilderness (Exodus 16:1-18; People complain and God provides manna. To live by manna is to live by faith in what God gives; John 6:51; Jesus is the living bread that came down from heaven; the bread he gives is his flesh)

Sun, October 12, 2025 Judges
1 Samuel 3:1-21; God calls Samuel in the night. He says, Speak Lord for your servant is listening. Told to warn of sin in Israel.
John 20:21-23; As the Father sent me so I send you; if you forgive the sins of any they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any they are retained

Sun, October 19, 2025 HEALING SERVICE
1 Sam 16:1-13; Psalm 51:10-14; God does not look on outward appearance but on the heart; create in me a clean heart
John 7:24; Do not judge by appearances but judge with right judgment

Series begins: "Dreaming God's Dream: No Gift Too Small - No Dream Too Big"
Sun, October 26, 2025 Pastor Scott preaching
"Generosity Even Amid Hardships" (Ruth 1:6-19)

Sun, November 2, 2025 COMMUNION
All Saints Sunday—"Telling Our Story" (1 Cor. 11)

Sun, November 9, 2025 "A Dream Powering Generosity"
(Acts 10)

Special Services to Get On Your Calendars!
October 15, 6:30pm at CPUCC – Festival of Celebration for the 300th Anniversary of the German Reformed Church in America. (register at https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/hvqg9jv or by contacting the Conference office.)

November 15, 2pm at CPUCC - final Conference worship as Penn Central Conference, cake and fellowship following the worship service

Wednesday, November 26 – Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service. CPUCC has been asked by the Harrisburg Interreligious Forum to host their Thanksgiving Eve Service.

THE Charging Station

Upcoming Plans for The Charging Station (CS)

Held Sundays at 5pm in the Chapel, the Charging Station is different than our more "formal" Sunday morning worship service and is a perfect setting for those who are looking for a more casual, intimate worship experience. Keep up with activities at https://www.facebook.com/chargingstationhbg

We try to hold monthly Community Service Sundays. We are following the Narrative Lectionary as is the morning service. Learn more below.

OCTOBER

Sun, October 5, 2025 Our Story in Wilderness
It is also **World Communion Sunday**, so we will celebrate communion at CS.
Focal texts: Exodus 16:1-18 (People complain and God provides manna. To live by manna is to live by faith in what God gives), and John 6:51 (Jesus is the living bread that came down from heaven; the bread he gives is his flesh)

Sun, October 12, 2025 Our Story, Sin and Forgiveness
Focal texts: 1 Samuel 3:1-21 (God calls Samuel in the night. He says, Speak Lord for your servant is listening. Told to warn of sin in Israel), and John 20:21-23 (As the Father sent me so I send you; if you forgive the sins of any they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any they are retained)

Sun, October 19, 2025 David – Our Story and Healing
Focal texts: 1 Sam 16:1-13; Psalm 51:10-14 (God does not look on outward appearance but on the heart; create in me a clean heart), and John 7:24 (Do not judge by appearances but judge with right judgment)

Sun, October 26, 2025 Community Service Sunday – Trunk or Treat
Cars decorated at 5pm; Open to community 5:30pm

See all of the Fall Happenings for CS at https://tinyurl.com/CPUCC-CS-Fall2025

MOVING CIRCLES
NETWORKING FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

Peace and Justice Community Events from movingcircles.org in Carlisle, PA

October 2025

ANTIRACIST DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE CONVENING

You are warmly invited to the Antiracist Development Institute's 3rd Annual Convening being at Penn State Dickinson Law's Carlisle location, **October 8th-10th**

This convening will be a three-day collaborative, hands-on, and love-centered event bringing colleagues from across the country, from inside and outside of the legal profession together to learn, teach, implement, and celebrate.

There are three different cohorts to choose from and a few different registration options, including the option to only attend the banquet if you so choose.

Quoting TaWanda Stallworth, Program Manager for the Antiracist Development Institute:
"The relationships that we share with our community partners are of the utmost importance to us and we would be remiss if we did not extend this invitation to you and any of the community groups with which you are involved or represent."

Register here:
https://dickinsonlaw.psu.edu/events/annual-antiracist-development-institute-convening-2025

October 9, 7:00pm – Join Messiah University for a lecture by Dr. Judith Giesberg: "A Love that Survives: Freedom Generation's Search for Family After Slavery" at High Foundation Recital Hall, Calvin and Janet High Center for Worshipping and Performing Arts. Dr. Geisberg will read excerpts from her book that detail the thoughts and emotions of the Freedom Generation as they search for their mothers, children, husbands, and wives, and express in their own words what sustained them during years of searching. The lecture will be followed by a Q&A session and a book signing. This event is free but registration for tickets is required.

To reserve, please contact Messiah University Box Office at 717-691-6036 option #1 or online at:
https://www.messiah.edu/box-office/



October 13, 2025

Indigenous Peoples Day and Land Acknowledgement

On Indigenous Peoples Day, we pause to honor the original stewards of this land and to remember that their stories, cultures, and wisdom continue to shape our shared life. One way we commit to this remembrance is through a Land Acknowledgement—an intentional statement that recognizes the Indigenous people who lived, worked, and cared for this place long before us. Such acknowledgements are not only about the past; they call us to deeper awareness, gratitude, and responsibility in the present, as we seek right relationship with our neighbors and with the earth itself. A

At our congregational meeting on December 7, 2025, Pastor Cindy will be asking us to approve a Land Acknowledgement Statement for CPUCC.

SERVING YOUR CHURCH

Would you like to serve the church? Go to https://ttsu.me/serving or call/email the office.

10/5/2025-World Communion	10/12/2025	10/19/2025	10/26/2025
Acolyte ☐ sign up	Acolyte Jack Martini	Acolyte ☐ sign up	Acolyte ☐ sign up
Lay Reader Priscilla Fledderjohn	Lay Reader Sharon Clark	Lay Reader Kevin Krause	Lay Reader Jane Richardson
Greeter by F.Hall Jessica and Steve Burkholder	Greeter by F.Hall ☐ sign up	Greeter by F.Hall Cindy Gnech	Greeter by F.Hall ☐ sign up
Usher Elizabeth August	Usher Elizabeth August	Usher Jessica and Steve Burkholder	Usher Elizabeth August
Usher Cindy Gnech	Usher ☐ sign up	Usher Jessica and Steve Burkholder	Usher ☐ sign up
Nursery ☐ sign up	Nursery Kristy Stauffer	Nursery Elizabeth August	Nursery ☐ sign up
Nursery ☐ sign up	Nursery ☐ sign up	Nursery ☐ sign up	Nursery ☐ sign up

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Santa – Pancakes – Crafts – Activities



Saturday December 6

9 am – 11 am

Colonial Park United Church of Christ

5000 Devonshire Rd Harrisburg, PA

No charge
Donations accepted

Bring your camera for fun photos!

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Colonial Park
United Church of Christ
5000 Devonshire Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109
717-545-3782 cpucc.org
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