the Messenger

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF COLONIAL PARK UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

JANUARY 2026 – VOL.65 NO.1

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

The Immigrant's Creed

by Jose Luis Casal in @sojogram

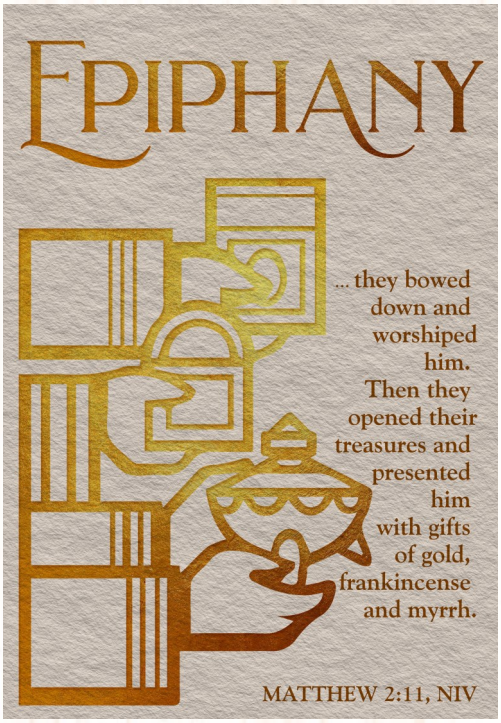
I believe in Almighty God, who guided the people in exile and in exodus, the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon, the God of foreigners and immigrants.

I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean, who was born away from his people and his home, who fled his country with his parents when his life was in danger. When he returned to his own country he suffered under the oppression of Pontius Pilate, the servant of a foreign power. Jesus was persecuted, beaten, tortured, and unjustly condemned to death. But on the third day Jesus rose from the dead, not as a scorned foreigner but to offer us citizenship in God's kingdom.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us, who speaks all languages, lives in all countries, and reunites all races.

I believe that the Church is the secure home for foreigners and for all believers. I believe that the communion of saints begins when we embrace all God's people in all their diversity.

I believe in forgiveness, which makes us all equal before God, and in reconciliation, which heals our brokenness. I believe that in the Resurrection God will unite us as one people in which all are distinct and all are alike at the same time. I believe in life eternal, in which no one will be foreigner but all will be citizens of the kingdom where God reigns forever and ever.
Amen.





- **Jan. 1st—HAPPY NEW YEAR!**
- **Jan. 4th—Epiphany Sunday (communion and Star Words)**
- **Jan. 4th—Un-decorating the church following morning worship**
- **Jan. 7th—Thrift Shoppe Reopens**
- **Jan. 11th—Installation of Council leadership**
- **Jan. 16-18—Hartman Center "All In" Youth Winter Retreat**
- **Jan. 19th—MLK Day of Service**
- **Jan. 23rd—Decades Dance**

CPUCC goes to Carnegie Hall

In November, Pastor Scott and some of our Sanctuary Choir were invited to participate in a mass choir singing Heather Sorenson's *Solas* at Carnegie Hall in New York City. *Thanks, Pastor Scott, Eric and Kim McKinney, Deb and Lucy Glorius, and Kelsey Kurtz for representing CPUCC! Thank you CPUCC for your support.*



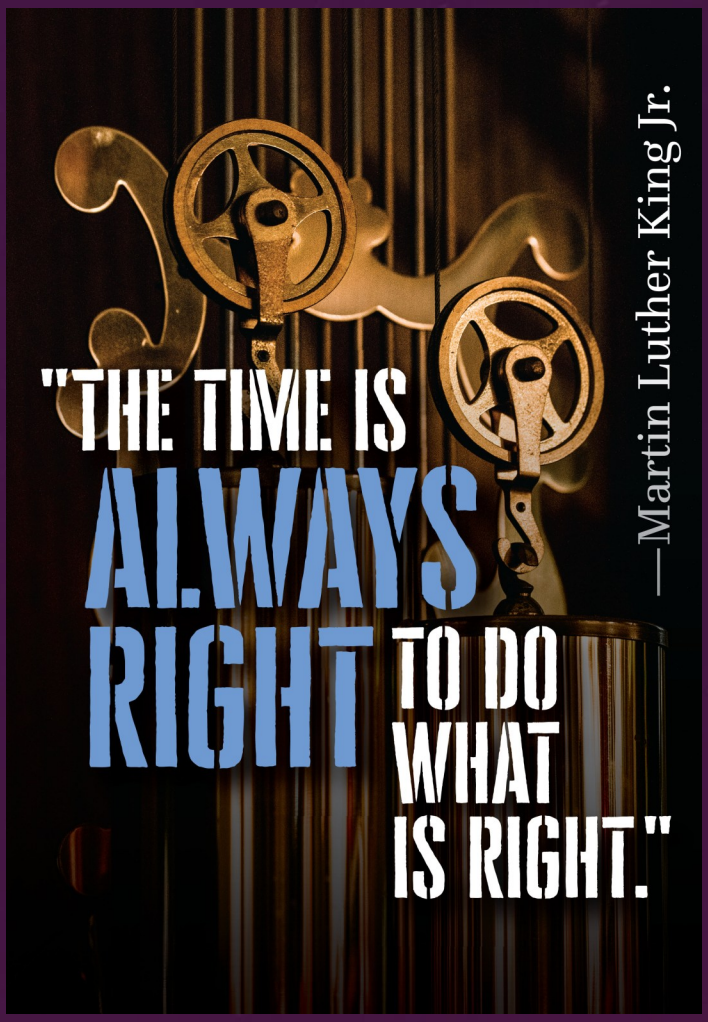
"The experience of singing in Carnegie Hall is one that I will cherish and carry with me the rest of my life."
~ Deb Glorius





"I loved getting to know the people we went with better and experience something so fantastic as singing at Carnegie Hall. Words cannot express how amazing this experience really was. I am so glad that we could do it."
~ Kim McKinney







Find service opportunities at

https://www.mlk-365.org/

Undeck the Halls

January 4



We had excellent help with decorating, and could use your help with putting away our Christmas decorations. We'll UNDECK the halls on January 4, following morning worship.

A lite lunch will be provided.

GIVING

Grocery Cards

Are you looking for an easy way to support your church in 2026? There are many possibilities, but one of the easiest is to buy grocery cards for Giant, Weis or Karns on a regular basis. Five percent of your total purchase benefits CPUCC! So, if you buy $100 of gift cards, the church earns $5.00! Easy peasy! Gift cards are available in Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings, or in the church office during the week. Thank you for your support.

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.

Gratitude from Gift Cards Galore

The Gift Card Galore program started nine years ago is going strong to benefit CPUCC. Our fall order included 16 buyers and **raised $321.60** for CPUCC. Watch for your next opportunity to purchase a variety of gift cards in support of CPUCC coming in the spring.

Capital Campaign

Our Capital Campaign Rejoice, Renew, Revive has now passed the half million dollar mark – raising $501,545.61 through November 2025 (which includes the donations earmarked for the amazing parlor renovation). All but $11,140.68 of the donated funds has already been put to work on various projects to repair, maintain and/or improve our amazing church home. Besides the parlor renovation, the most recent project funded by the Capital Campaign was the new flooring throughout the main floor of the church. Thank you for all of your ongoing support!

2026 Pledge Update

Thank you to everyone who has pledged to support the mission and ministry of CPUCC in 2026!

As of Christmas,
66 people/families have pledged $255,855.00

THANK YOU !

Fun at Panera Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who came out to support our Anything Music Fund in December.

We enjoyed supporting one another and **raised $236.32** from Panera. Thank you for coming out!

Friday Fun with Friends and Tacos

Thank you to everyone who planned, cooked, served, cleaned up, donated, attended, and purchased auction items at our second Friday Fun with Friends and Tacos on November 21. Everyone present enjoyed a delicious taco dinner, baked goods for dessert, laughing at our fun "taco names," a 50/50 raffle, and the silent auction of many fabulous items, services, and experiences. We **raised $2,696 for the Building Fund** that night! Your support is truly appreciated.

Dreaming God's Dream

NO GIFT TOO SMALL, NO DREAM TOO BIG.



By Sharon Clark

God's dream for our world often seems impossible to me. The news seems to reaffirm that on a daily basis, and I wonder how God can continue to dream big for humanity. Last September I was looking forward to a camping trip to Cape May with my friend Mike, during which I hoped to leave behind the world's problems and my perceived backsliding of humanity. On our first morning in Cape May, however, my dream of a camping escape quickly turned into a nightmare. Mike took a severe fall from his bicycle due to an uneven pavement and a too close encounter with a tree. Hours of waiting and tests at both urgent care and the hospital in Cape May ensued, and by evening he was on his way to a trauma center in Atlantic City with four broken ribs. This was not at all the vacation I had been hoping for, but it was the start of me realizing the goodness that still exists in humanity and why God continues to dream big for us.

Generosity comes in many forms, and we received it that week in the form of comfort, support, prayers, and even hugs from complete strangers. In the emergency room, the patient next to us poked his head in after his discharge, wished us luck, and gave us both a guardian angel pin. Who walks around with a supply of guardian angel pins? It turns out this guy does because he's carrying on a tradition that his mother, nicknamed the angel lady, started. What a great way to express comfort and caring! There really are angels all around us. One day while visiting Mike at the Atlantic City hospital, I ventured out to the boardwalk in search of James's salt water taffy, a favorite of my mother's. I eventually found the taffy shop and a very caring, young sales clerk. Upon hearing my story, she offered prayers and asked if I needed a hug, which I did. I accepted her hug, and she said she was partial to Sharons, because that was her mother's name. I was touched, but also surprised because I forgot I was still wearing my hospital visitor tag with my name on it! As the days wore on, I decided to explore a bit of Cape May on my own. I walked the beach in search of Cape May

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"diamonds" and then visited a store to find some earrings made out of them. I found the earrings, but also a very kind older lady behind the counter who again offered prayers and then gave me a free bracelet. These are only a few examples of our experiences that week. I had enormous help from the campground staff and my neighboring campers, plus I know many of you were also praying for Mike and helping me out from afar. None of these things may seem like much, but they meant a lot to me. No gift is too small from someone who truly cares. As we go into a new year, I would ask that you keep giving the "small gifts" of hope, courage, and love to both friends and strangers. We are God's big dream and with God, nothing is impossible.





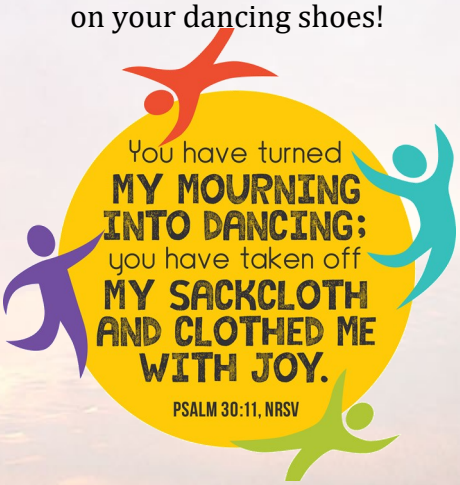
Loose Change Sunday

Our next Loose Change Sunday will be held January 25. So far the seven Loose Change Sundays which started back in the fall of 2024 have raised $1,876.76 for our church Building Fund. Coins, bills or checks are all welcome! Your support is greatly appreciated. And thank you to our children, youth, and young at heart "collectors" for their faithful participation!

CPUCC
BRIDGE TO TOMORROW

Decades Dance

Happy New Year! It's just the right time to enjoy a night of music, fun, dancing and snacks at the upcoming Decades Dance. No matter what kind of music you like, there's sure to be songs you'll love! It will be held Friday, January 23 from 6:30 – 9 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The decades refers to the type of music to be played, beginning with the 1950's and continuing through the 2010's. Tickets will be $5.00 per person and snacks will be available for purchase at a nominal cost. Participants are encouraged to dress in attire from their favorite decade, so start thinking about what that might look like for you. Plan to come out for a fun evening of music, dancing, and food to support the church Building Fund. And don't forget to put on your dancing shoes!



CONNECTING



We ARE a body of many, many parts...Council to Sunday School, Thrift Shoppe to Facility, Worship to Fellowship! Thank you all!

In 2026, we continued to support our disciples and neighbors, near and far, by giving generously to many projects highlighted in our weekly emails and Mission Moments. Thank you for giving of your time, talent and treasure to make the lives of others a little easier. Together we dream (and bring into being) a better world.

The Staff thanks you for your continued love, support and generosity (staff Christmas gift, individual gifts, and salary increase for 2026).

YOU make the ministry of CPUCC happen!

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you!

I am so blessed to know you and minister alongside of you. May we go forward into 2026 together with courage and compassion. Happy New Year!

Pastor Cindy



Please note that if CPUCC worship or activities are canceled due to weather (snow & ice), we will get the word out via…

- **TV—Abc27 Snow Watch**
- **Email to the congregation**
- **On our Facebook page**

Also, please note that **Half Day Play** and **Ye Olde Devonshire Thrift Shoppe** will be closed when Central Dauphin School District is closed or declares "online learning only" due to weather.

Save the Date: "Gather the Guitars" Benefit Concert February 1st at The Abbey Bar

Gather the Spirit FOR JUSTICE
Building Community in Allison Hill

Get ready for an unforgettable afternoon of music and community spirit in Harrisburg! **What to Expect:** Local guitarists and singer-songwriters will share the stage in an afternoon showcase of soulful tunes, energetic riffs, and heartfelt melodies. This family-friendly event offers something for every music lover and provides a unique opportunity to support a meaningful community cause. The event will include a silent auction and a raffle. **Doors open at 2:30.** The Abbey Bar at Appalachian Brewing Company, 50 N. Cameron St., Harrisburg, PA —an intimate and stylish setting with a strong local brewing reputation
Cost: $25 admission, 21 and older (younger needs to be accompanied by an adult). walk-ins welcome

Meet the Members –
Henry and Pat Greenawald

WARNING – This is not a fairy tale. But it reads like one!

Pat and Henry Greenawald first met in seventh grade when they were seated next to each other in band. That was nearly 80 years ago in a small town in Berks County.

The first impressions were divided. "I thought she was a nuisance," said Henry.

But around ninth grade, Henry thought Pat was looking "pretty cute" but then her family moved to a different school district. He invited her back to his 10th grade dance.

After graduation, Pat moved to Philadelphia to study to become a nurse. Meanwhile, Henry stayed closer to home and enrolled at Albright College to begin studies to become a doctor.

Fate intervened when Pat's then-boyfriend couldn't accompany her to a formal dance. Pat needed a date! Luckily, Henry was available to attend with her.

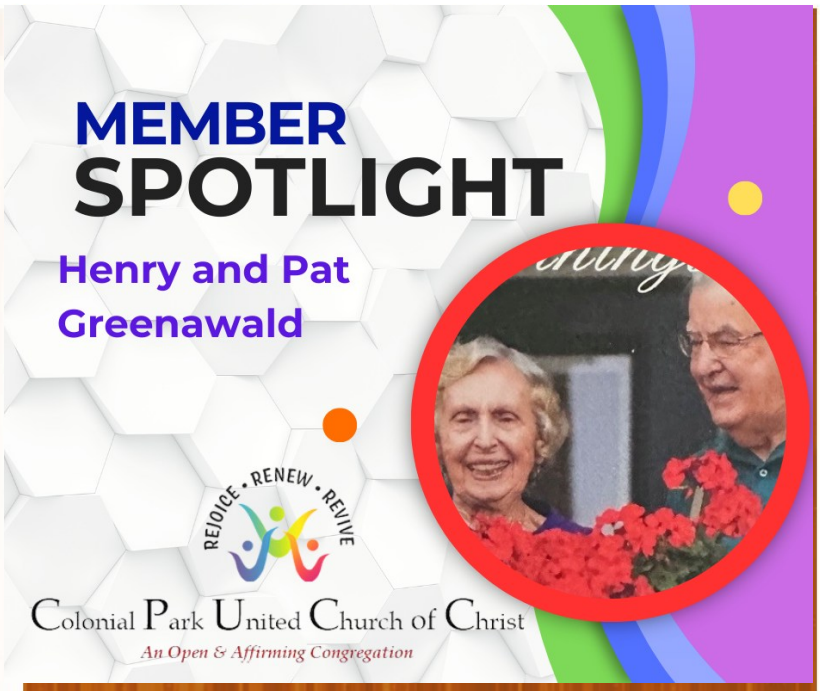
Soon after, Pat took a position as a camp counselor/nurse in New Hampshire. It seems the camp was looking for a golf instructor who could shoot a par 70. Without thinking – and without knowing anything at all about golf – she immediately suggested Henry. The rest, they say, is history.

They became a married couple on September 3, 1955. Yes, that's right, they just celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary.

In the 1950s, the Doctor Draft was instituted in response to the Korean War, compelling male physicians under 50 to register for mandatory military service or Public Health Service roles. Henry chose Public Health Service and he and Pat, along with their first daughter Debbie, moved to an Indian reservation – Fort Belknap near Harlem, Montana.

They were there for two plus years and soon their son, Mark, was born in Montana. Leaving Montana, they returned to Harrisburg for an additional year of training and the addition of another daughter, Susan.

Dr. Greenawald then entered a family practice with two other physicians located on Locust Lane near the former Central Dauphin High School.



All three children have very accomplished careers serving and caring for others. Mark is a family physician, Debbie is a nurse and retired head of a university nursing system, and Susan is a registered nurse and diabetic nurse specialist. The Greenawalds are also grandparents of seven grandchildren.

The Greenawalds were originally confirmed in the Evangelical and Reformed Church (which is now the UCC). Although they joked that they have been Presbyterians once, Methodists twice before moving on to the United Church of Christ.

Both have been very active in the church. Henry served as CPUCC Council President twice and was a substitute teacher for the men's Sunday School class and 3M's class. He was also the Chair of the Board of the UCC Church Home Board of the old Penn Central Conference. Central Pennsylvania Board of Church Homes.

Pat was the second woman ever elected to Council. She was part of the founding team for the Crèche Festival, which started small but eventually included over 500 nativity sets from CPUCC members and people from the surrounding churches. She enjoyed singing in the church choir for over 50 years.

The couple remember all the wonderful times spent at CPUCC for nearly 60 years now and have fond memories of being members of the 3M Sunday School class.

About eight years ago, the Greenawalds decided to move to Messiah Lifeways in Mechanicsburg where

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they participate in many activities. Both are 92-years-old but continue to be active members of CPUCC and make the trip to church as many Sundays as the weather permits.

They also want everyone to know they are loyal fans of both the Phillies and the Eagles.

If you ever have the chance to spend time with this inspiring couple, don't miss it.

They truly are the epitome of a fairy tale.

FUN FACT – Pat served as a tour hostess for educational opportunities which was founded by a Methodist minister to provide educational opportunities throughout the world for ministers and their families. It was later opened to other travelers as well. As a tour hostess, she has traveled to over 35 countries and all 50 states. Henry has also toured about 30 counties as well as all 50 states!



News from Ye Olde Devonshire Thrift Shoppe

Reopening January 7, 2026

The Thrift Shop continues to be a very busy place. The customers and the donations keep coming. Thirty members of CPUCC and the community have worked at the Shop this year. There are a few faithful men who show up to set up and return to tear down each day. Much of the merchandise is displayed on tables outside which have to be set up, merchandise carried out to the tables and displayed. When it is closing time, the reverse has to happen. We could not operate without Steve Burkholder, Tom Bay, Dennis Snyder, Denny Bender, Kevin Howard, Kevin Krause, David Harris or Larry Porter.

Denny Bender continues to take things we cannot use to Community Aid. Community Aid sends a check to the church for that donation. Donations from the Shop were made this month to the church for the Breakfast with Santa event, another $5000 was donated to the church general fund. Recent donations were made to The Central Pennsylvania Food Bank, Colonial Park Fire Company, Bright Futures Learning Center, and Hoffman Homes for Youth.

Volunteers are constantly needed. Many of the "regulars" need to take time off to visit family, have doctor appointments, etc. whenever you have a day or two to help with the Thrift Shop, just show up. We can always find something for you to do. Priscilla Fledderjohn, Linda Bender, or Helen Ferguson will be happy to answer any questions you might have.





The Thrift Shop reopens January 7, 2026.

Wed., Fri., Sat. 10am-2pm

JANUARY
BIRTHDAYS

Bold indicates homebound resident

2	Asher Reinke, Tom Shamrock
3	Sandy Spedding
5	Duke Cobb
6	Cormac Hunter, Pat Greenawald
8	Peggy Kreiser
10	Pam Barndt, Jim Reinke
11	Betty Todoroff
12	Priscilla Fledderjohn, Steve Burkholder, Aimee Haldeman
13	Avery Orth, **Peg Reda**, Amanda Rogers, Donna Schwalm
18	Ayla Hunter, Liliana Skinner
19	Erik Nupponen, Diane Rabold
20	Meghan Rhoads, Zach Weaver
21	Tom Feit
22	Kathryn Marcus
23	Albert Hilliard, Jr
24	Lois Hafer, Robert Hilbert, Linda Mauck
25	Sharon Clark, Carrie Wilson, Isabella Stefanelli
26	Cathy Porter, Ken Miller
30	Kathi Blose, Marlene Myers

JANUARY
ANNIVERSARIES

January

10	Yvonne Graegs & Dixie College	11 Years
17	Michele & Bill Robison	17 Years
18	Kim & Pasquale Castellano	26 years

Thanks to everyone for Breakfast with Santa on December 6

What a fun outreach in the community!

Thank you Barbara Kirk for all your coordinating efforts.





Gratitude from Millie Artz, Centenarian

To all my Colonial Park and United Church of Christ Friends,

I am blessed and grateful for 100 years of wonderful memories. Thanks be to God for he is in control of everything good.

I received balloons, birthday cards, and gift cards to eat out, even a $100 bill. I celebrated with over 50 family members and friends at an Italian restaurant. Pictures were taken of me with a "Happy 100th Birthday" cake and wearing a "100th birthday" sash.

Thank you for celebrating with me.

~ Millie



Keystone CONFERENCE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

We are now part of the Keystone Conference!
2026 is a transitional year.

Keystone Conference Staff: Who to contact
See the contact list for the Keystone Conference staff, including information on who to contact when you have specific needs.
https://tinyurl.com/KeystoneConfContacts

Would you like to be involved?
The Keystone Nominating Committee is looking for two people (one clergy and one lay) from each of the historic conferences to serve on the committee. This would be a great way to make sure that the churches from Penn Central continue to be represented in the new Keystone Conference. You would serve until the first annual meeting in June, and then if nominated, serve a full two-year term. If you are interested, please contact Dennis Drummond at drummond.keystone@gmail.com.

Life's most persistent and urgent question is,

"What are you doing for others?"

-Martin Luther King Jr.

2026 Council (Approved)

Will be commissioned on January 11, 2026

Position	***Member***
President	Thaddeus Sampson
Vice President	Sharon Clark
Community Connections Deacon	Rick Cochran
Family Connections Deacon	Sue Duff
Service Deacon	Sue Graft
Spiritual Growth Deacon	Liz August
Worship Deacon	Patricia Kishpaugh
Budget Steward	Shawn Stauffer
Facility Steward	Tom Feit
Generosity Steward	Cindy Gnech
Human Resources Steward	Deb Magliette
Youth Representative	McKenna Rhoads

DELEGATES

Organization	**Primary**	**Alternate**
Christian Churches United	Pam Barndt	Dennis Snyder
	Janice Mountain	Tom Bay
Harrisburg Association	Natalie Lubold	Larry Porter
	Bethany Sweger	Cathy Porter
Penn Central Conference	David Harris	Jim Richardson
	Rhonda Harris	Jane Richardson
UCC Homes	Sam Gilbert	Jim Reinke
	Linda Gilbert	Sue Reinke

INVESTMENT TEAM

Member	**Three-Year Term**
Larry Porter	2023-2025
Jim Richardson	2024-2026
Liz August	2025-2027

WORSHIPPING

Jan. 4 – Epiphany Sunday (Communion and Star Words) - we finish our "What do you fear?" series with **"Fear Doesn't Stop Us."**

Upcoming Worship Series



Spiritual Affective Disorder

(for Epiphany season) Seasonal Affective Disorder happens when a lack of sunlight affects our moods and ability to cope effectively. **Spiritual Affective Disorder** can also be a condition when we've had prolonged stress and life is disturbingly uncertain. What is our faithful response to our strained mental health? What if everyday life activities could become spiritual practices — deepening our experience of a meaningful life and helping us shine a light on the "blahs?" *(© www.worshipdesignstudio.com/SAD)*

Jan. 11 – "Flip the Switch" (Isaiah 60:1-6)
- Rev. Cathy Porter preaching

Jan. 18 – "To Soothe the Soul" (Psalm 40:1-11)
- Pastor Scott preaching

Jan. 25 – "Lighten Up" (Isaiah 9:1-4)

Feb. 1 – "Make My Day" (Micah 6:1-8)

Feb. 8 – "Little Altars Everywhere" (Psalm 84 and Psalm 112:1-9)

Feb. 15 – "Get Up and Don't Be Afraid" (Matthew 17:1-9) – Transfiguration Sunday



Pastor Cindy will be on vacation visiting family from January 7th —19th. Please contact Pastor Scott with any pastoral emergencies.

THE Charging Station

Charging Station Worship

Held Sundays at 5pm, and different than our more "formal" Sunday morning worship service, The Charging Station is a perfect setting for those who are looking for a more casual, intimate worship experience. Music is upbeat and engaging. You won't find a formal sermon here, but rather will have the opportunity to be a part of "Holy Conversation," where we explore together how the Scriptures may speak to our lives. Following worship, the community experience continues with a shared meal. Keep up with activities at https://www.facebook.com/chargingstationhbg.

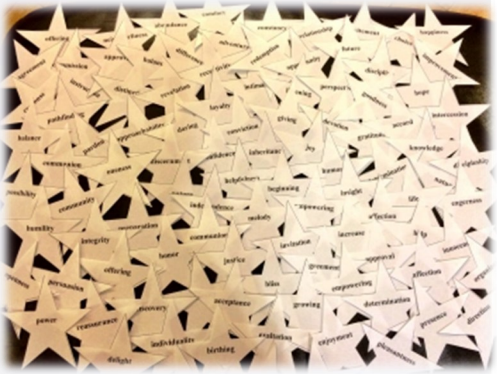
Thank you to everyone who helped to make our Advent and Christmas so special!





Star Words—Epiphany

Once again we will be inviting you to draw a word in morning worship on Epiphany Sunday, January 4. If you will not be physically present to do so, and wish to have a word, please come by the church office to draw your word or contact Pastor Cindy to pull a word from the basket for you.



What Are Star Words?

The use of star words, also called "star gifts," is a prayer practice connected to Epiphany and the new year that has been growing in popularity in Protestant churches for nearly a decade now. The idea is that a list of intention words, or guiding words, are written or printed, sometimes on paper stars. These words/stars are then arranged, most commonly face down, in a large basket. At some point during the Epiphany service, individuals are invited to draw a word from the basket or off the Table, and to use that word as a guiding word throughout the year. Typically, participants are encouraged to trust the word they have drawn, and not to replace the word. However, we do not have a strong need to be the "star police" if an individual wants to trade. Individuals are often encouraged to place their star word somewhere they will see it regularly throughout the year to allow consistent reflection on how God has moved through, around, or in connection to that word.





Get Ready for Lent—
"Tell Me Something Good"

(sanctifiedart.org)

Feb. 18 – Ash Wednesday – **"The Good News is… All are Invited"** (Luke 14:15-24)

Feb. 22 – First Sunday in Lent – **"The Good News is… So good that it catches us by surprise"** (John 2:1-11 and Matthew 13:31-32)

March 1 – Second Sunday in Lent – **"The Good News is… great love for God and neighbor"** (Luke 7:36-50 and Matthew 25:35-40)

March 8 – Third Sunday in Lent – **"The Good News is… together the impossible is possible"** (Mark 6:32-44 and Ephesians 3:20-21)

March 15 – Fourth Sunday in Lent – **"The Good News is… protection and care for the vulnerable"** (Matthew 19:13-15 and Deuteronomy 24:17-22)

March 22 – Fifth Sunday in Lent – **"The Good News is… rooted in justice, mercy and faithfulness"** (John 8:2-11 and Matthew 23:23)

March 29 – Palm Sunday – **"The Good News is… inspiring us to act"** (Mark 11:1-11)

April 2- Maundy Thursday – **"The Good News is… even Judas gets his feet washed"** (John 13:1-35)

April 3 – Good Friday – **"The Good News is … revealed through non-violence"** (Luke 22:47-53; 23:33-38,44-46)

April 5 – Easter Sunday – **"The Good News is… alive in the world"** (Matthew 28:1-10)

SERVING

Harrisburg Food Pantry

For the month of January, we are requesting canned soup or stews, canned fruit, cookie, cake, & brownie mixes, and toothpaste for the Harrisburg Area Food Pantry. You may place items in the grocery cart.

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. Remember that the last Sunday of even-numbered month is "Bounty of Blessings" where we invite even person to bring in one item to fill our wagon.

The generosity of this church is absolutely wonderful.

Because of you, we were able to…

- ⇒ Deliver 28 gifts for residents at Hoffman Homes
- ⇒ Deliver 96 bags of cookies for Truck Stop Ministries (thanks to everyone that baked & packaged cookies)
- ⇒ Collect $400 worth of Giant & Weis gift cards for residents at Kindred Place
- ⇒ Collect 180 packets of turkey gravy mix for Bethesda Mission



Because of you, many more people experienced more peace, joy, love and hope this holiday season!



THE GIVING TREE

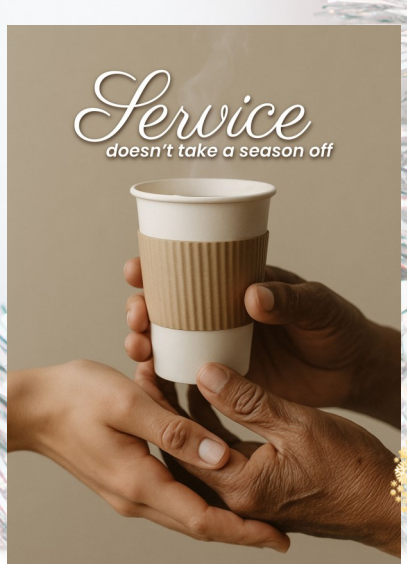
"TAKE ONE, GIVE ONE"

The focus of the Giving Tree for January will be collecting items for **Impact Ministries of Pennsylvania**. There are tags on the tree for items such as hats, gloves, mittens, socks, etc. Please take a tag and purchase items and place in the bins beneath the tree.

Impact Ministries of Pennsylvania is a local 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable organization that was formed to help the homeless population in downtown Harrisburg. They are working towards acquiring a building downtown that will be transformed into a homeless shelter that will not only house the homeless but will also help them with food and nutritional support, medical and mental health services, provide educational and job training programs, and provide monthly community days to help facilitate community involvement and interaction.

As we witness the growing challenges faced by the homeless community in downtown Harrisburg, our commitment to serving those in need has never been stronger. Our mission is to provide care and support to our neighbors who are struggling, and we are reaching out to you today because we believe in the power of collective efforts.

THANK YOU!



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

01/04/2026 Communion	01/11/2026	01/18/2026	01/25/2026
Acolyte ☐ sign up	Acolyte ☐ sign up	Acolyte ☐ sign up	Acolyte ☐ sign up
Lay Reader David Harris	Acolyte ☐ sign up	Acolyte ☐ sign up	Acolyte ☐ sign up
Greeter by F.Hall Jessica and Steve Burkholder	Lay Reader Larry Porter	Lay Reader Natalie Lubold	Lay Reader Eric McKinney
Usher ☐ sign up	Liturgist Thaddeus Sampson	Liturgist Priscilla Fledderjohn	Liturgist ☐ sign up
Usher ☐ sign up	Greeter by F.Hall Natalie Lubold	Greeter by F.Hall ☐ sign up	Greeter by F.Hall ☐ sign up
Nursery Elizabeth August	Usher ☐ sign up	Usher Jessica and Steve Burkholder	Usher ☐ sign up
Nursery Barbara Kirk	Usher ☐ sign up	Usher Jessica and Steve Burkholder	Usher ☐ sign up
Sound Tech ☐ sign up	Nursery Kelly Martini	Nursery Sue Bay	Nursery Liz August



Consider CPUCC Your Faith Community?

We will receive new members on **February 15th**. Pastor Cindy will hold "membership classes" the two Sundays prior:
February 1 and 8 @ 1:00pm.

Please let her know ASAP if you are interested.

GROWING

Sunday School for all ages at 11am.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Learn more: **For adults: https://tinyurl.com/CPUCCSundaySchool-Adults**
For children: https://tinyurl.com/CPUCCSundaySchool-Children



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'S Sunday School

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 (grades 1 - 5) Our Crosswalkers class did a terrific job in leading us in the Lord's Prayer on December 14, and participating in worship, including ringing bells. As we start 2026, we will be covering some biblical characters such as David and Goliath and ones less known, such as Meschah, Shadrach and Abednego. The Jolly Jinglers will continue to practice with Pastor Scott during the last 20 minutes of Sunday School. In addition to all of this, we'll be working on mini mission projects, and will even have some time to play together with our new Nintendo Switch!

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. In January, we will be learning about David, but then for a few weeks we will be painting a mural in the hallway of the lower level. (see below)



Right now, Pastor Cindy is thinking that January 25, February 1 and February 8, during Sunday School (and maybe a pizza lunch), we will be busy painting.

ADULT Sunday School

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—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 winter quarter we will explore the essential teachings of the Bible in relation to defining elements of our Christian faith - the Holy Scriptures, Grace and reconciliation, and the Church and its teachings.

Parlor Group (DVD and discussion)
The Parlor Class meets in the newly-renovated Parlor under the direction of Tom Feit. It is a time of growth and learning based on the video series of the season.

JOIN US FOR

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

We have a Wednesday Night Bible Study for Young Adults in our church Parlor at 7:30pm.

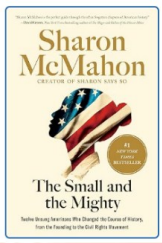
This season we are looking at how the Bible was formed and what it means to us.

Please note: Because of Pastor Cindy's schedule, we are not able to meet every week. So, please let her know of your interest to make sure that you are on the communications about when it is occurring.

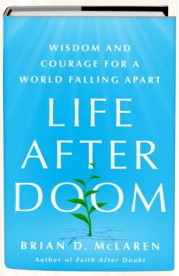
Unfortunately, in January, the only date she can meet is **Wednesday, January 21**. We will reconnect on the 21st, then meet in February on the 4th, 11th and 25th. The 18th is Ash Wednesday (our service is at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall).

Next Step Morsels Discussion Group

Continuing the social justice conversation. *Open to anyone, Learn more about our times together and find any handouts at https://tinyurl.com/CPUCChandouts. Find zoom info at https://tinyurl.com/CPUCClinks.*



FOR ONE GATHERING (January 3), we will be discussing Sharon McMahon's book: **The Small and the Mighty: Twelve Unsung Americans Who Changed the Course of History, from the Founding to the Civil Rights Movement.** It is an easy, inspiring read that restores hope in humanity. So, join us for a fun morning of discussion.



Our Next Step Morsels conversations will take place the ***2nd Saturday of the Spring months, at 10am in person in the church Parlor and online (zoom).***
In 2026, we will be discussing *Life After Doom* by Brian McLaren.

For the last quarter-century, author and activist Brian D. McLaren has been writing at the intersection of religious faith and contemporary culture. In Life After Doom, he engages with the catastrophic failure of both our religious and political leaders to address the dominant realities of our time: ecological overshoot, economic injustice, and the increasing likelihood of civilizational collapse. McLaren defines doom as the "un-peaceful, uneasy, unwanted feeling" that "we humans have made a mess of our civilization and our planet, and not enough of us seem to care enough to change deeply enough or quickly enough to save ourselves."
Blending insights from philosophers, poets, scientists, and theologians, Life After Doom explores the complexity of hope, the necessity of grief, and the need for new ways of thinking, becoming, and belonging in turbulent times. If you want to help yourself, your family, and the communities to which you belong to find courage and resilience for the deeply challenging times that are upon us — this is the book you need right now.

Gathering Dates: Feb. 14, Mar. 14, Apr. 11, and May 9

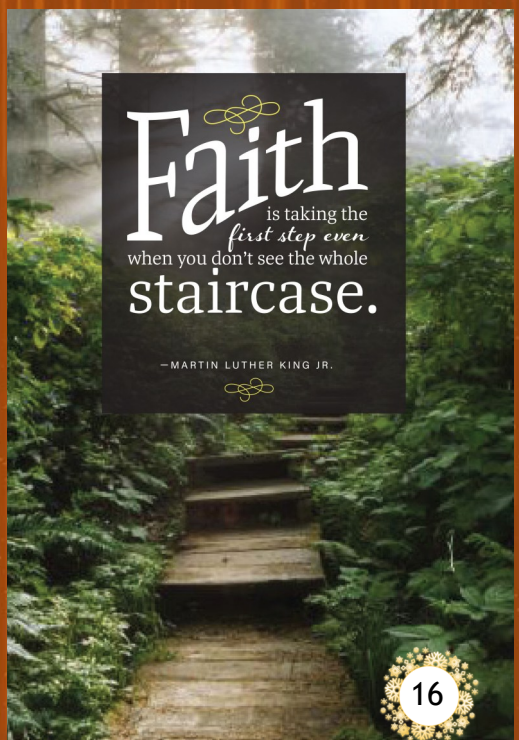
NOW HIRING—Taking Applications

Two Positions Available—

Sexton—Full-time
We received the resignation of our Sexton, Darrien Fleming. (Darrien's last day was 12/31/2025)
Please convey notice of the Sexton Position vacancy to persons that you believe might be interested in the position and have them contact Thaddeus Sampson (thadsampson@comcast.net). He will then forward the Sexton Position Description and the Employment Application to them.

Youth Leader—Part-time
The Youth Leader is to minister to and be an example for the youth of Colonial Park United Church of Christ (CPUCC). The Youth Leader will organize and facilitate youth meetings and activities, teach Sunday school, and attend worship services. Persons interested in the position should contact Debbie Magliette, Human Resources Steward (dmagliette134@yahoo.com). She will then share the Youth Leader Position Description and the Employment Application.

Thank you!





"All In"

Hartman Center Winter Youth Retreat

We will be returning to Hartman Center Camp ground as guests.
5725 Old US Highway 322, Milroy, PA 17063

January 16-18, 2026
Grades 7 through College Grad (or age 22)
Meals and Lodging included
$100 per person

Register at
https://penncentralconference.regfox.com/all-in-youth-retreat-2026

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



The Sacred Disruption

From our friends at The Work of the People
https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/film-series/the-sacred-disruption

This five-part film series with author and priest Dave Tomlinson invites viewers into a spacious and grounded reimagining of what it means to follow the way of Jesus in our time. Through personal stories, radical hospitality, and honest theological reflection, Dave invites us to release rigid categories, awaken to divine mystery, and rediscover faith as a journey—more than a destination.

Whether you're inside or outside the institution, these films offer a conversation for the spiritually curious and the spiritually restless. For the seekers, doubters, and dreamers—this is for you.

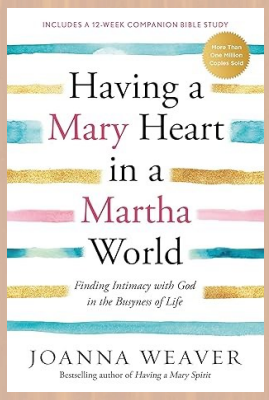
January 27—Session One: Permission to Explore
February 3—Session Two: The Way is a Process
February 10—Session Three: Reinterpret, Reconfigure, and Retranslate
February 17—-Session Four: Discovering the Divine Within
February 24—Session Five: Nurturing Our Graced Uniqueness

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

For our prayer time, participants are encouraged to sign up and share about or have exercises pertaining to a woman in Scripture or a female ancient mystic or saint.



In our discussion time we will use the book ***Having a Mary Heart in a Martha* World** by Joanna Weaver *(there is a study guide in the back of the book to help our conversation times).*

Dates and Chapters/Themes

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"

Colonial Park
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