

THE REPORTER

The Reporter is published monthly by:
PENBROOK UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
56 BANKS STREET, HARRISBURG, PA 17105

*An Open and Affirming Congregation
Of the United Church of Christ*

Sunday Service at 10:30 am
Sunday School at 9:15 am
(717) 236-5275 office@penbrookucc.org www.penbrookucc.org

ONE VOICE

As I write this, we are on the brink of Palm Sunday and the furious pace of Holy Week. Peace may very well be the one thing in short supply for the next several days. Then as we move through the season of Eastertide, we will be reading and hearing about Jesus' appearances to his disciples and friends following the resurrection. In the face of their fear, doubt and disbelief, he offers them peace. That is a commodity all too rare these days. And yet, we are all called to practice peace. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." (John 14:23)

It is true that peace means different things to different people – personal security and a sense of wellbeing; a trusting relationship with God; the absence of armed hostilities; and ultimately the peace of God's eternal reign. However, for me the one thought that seems to overshadow all the rest is the idea that peace is more than the absence of war. In truth, peace is neither inactive nor passive. Peace is a verb! Peace is something we do!

Peace is the result of people caring for each other as much as or more than they care for themselves. That manner of caring results in everyone's having a safe place to live; all children and youth having equal educational opportunities; no one ever going to bed hungry; all people feeling welcome and safe in whatever space they happen to enter.

That recalls to me the old rallying cry of protesters in the 70's and 80's: "No justice; no peace." And with it the statement from Pope Paul VI which became a motto for justice advocates in the 60's and 70's, "Si quieres paz, lucha por la justicia!" (If you desire peace, struggle for justice!) Certainly, without justice, there can be no peace – not only for those who seek justice but for those who withhold it as well.

Not only does Jesus refer to the peace that only he can give, the Hebrew Scriptures are full of references to the kinds of peace God advocates. God's peace is also active. It includes and is the result of faithfully observing God's statutes and commandments. (Leviticus 26:3-9) The pro-active work for peace that God desires is clearly stated in Isaiah 58 beginning with v. 6. If peace is our goal, there must be an end to gun violence. There must be no hunger, no nakedness, no homelessness, no lack of opportunity, no oppression or marginalization of any person based on ethnic heritage, race, gender orientation, sexual preference, religious affiliation, condition of ability or disability or level of education. There must be no destruction or abuse of any of God's creation in which we are all kindred. All of that requires that we be active participants in the struggle for justice and peace. It means feeding the hungry, providing affordable housing, clothing the naked, welcoming the stranger. It may even mean participating in peaceful marches to ensure all people receive justice.

In our own United Church of Christ's Statement of Faith, we profess that God's promise to all who trust God is "forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace [and] courage in the struggle for justice and peace." We are called to be part of that struggle with a love that supersedes any need for power or personal gain. In the words of Jimi Hendrix: *When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace.*

Penbrook UCC says in her mission statement that we are a people of peace; a people of courage. This year, more than ever, we are and will continue to be called on to courageously and actively participate in in the struggle for justice and peace in ways that help others understand how critical those constructs are for the future of our world. May we not be found wanting when the opportunities to do so come our way.

Peace,
Rev. Karin

NEXT COMMUNION

We will have the pleasure of celebrating Communion at Penbrook Church on Easter Sunday, April 1st. Please plan to join your brothers and sisters in Christ at the Lord's Table on this occasion.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR APRIL

April 1 -- Easter Day

Acts 10:34-43

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

April 8 -- Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35

Psalm 133

1 John 1:1-2:2

John 20:19-31

or Matthew 28:1-10

April 15 -- Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

April 22 -- Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

April 29 -- Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40

Psalms 22:25-31

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8

MISSION SUNDAY

Our third Sunday second-mile offering will be for the Manna Food Pantry.

OUR SYMPATHY

To the family of **Dot Rodriguez** who died peacefully on February 24, 2018. Interment was at Fort Indiantown Gap on Tuesday March 6 followed by a Celebration of Life service at the church.

MANNA FOOD PANTRY

Sarah Kempf, Administrator

Manna Food Pantry has been advertising for a Coordinator for a couple months now. We had one candidate but they thought the position was too much and so they declined. By the time you get this month's reporter we will have interviewed another person and possibly added them to our list of very best volunteers in the country.

I can't say enough about the folks that do all the duties that need done, we are very blessed to have them in our mist.

We have been averaging around 160 to 180 households a month, and around 50 to 100 new clients a month.

We are so blessed to have so many good friends in Christ that donate food, personal items, and money to the pantry. We can't thank you enough for all you do for Manna.

God Bless each one of you,

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Greetings from your Pastoral Search Committee. The committee consists of the following members:

Tita Domingos
Kim Evanoff
Olivia Grier
Richard Heiss-Chaplain
Linda Houseal
David Salapa-Chair

The Pastoral Search Committee has sent the local church profile to Penn Central Conference for its review and validation. Once Penn Central Conference reviews and validates the local church profile, it will be posted on the UCC web site. Interested ministers will submit their profiles to Penn Central Conference. Penn Central Conference will forward the profiles to the Pastoral Search Committee. The Pastoral Search Committee will then review the ministerial profiles we receive.

Understandably, there will be interest from the congregation about who has submitted a ministerial profile, where they are from, and what experience they have. While the Pastoral Search Committee appreciates your interest, due to our covenant to maintain confidentiality, we cannot provide information about candidates we are considering. Once the Pastoral Search Committee selects a candidate and consistory approves that selection, we will provide information on the successful candidate.

As we move into this next phase of the pastoral search process, please continue to hold the members of the Pastoral Search Committee in your prayers.

CHICKEN BBQ SATURDAY, APRIL 7

St. Thomas UCC Drive-Thru Chicken BBQ happens Saturday, April 7 beginning at 10am until sold out. Cost is \$8 per meal (includes 1/2 chicken, baked potato, applesauce, roll). Baked goods are available inside. For tickets, call the church office [717.652.7259](tel:717.652.7259).

SUNDAY, APRIL 8 SERVICE AT RIDGEWAY

A REMINDER: Sunday, April 8, we will worship at Ridgeway Church of the Brethren at 10:30 am.

FAMILY GAME NIGHT FRIDAY APRIL 13TH

Come join us for Family Game Night on Friday April 13, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Pizza will be provided. You will need to bring your favorite family game and your favorite snacks and/or drinks. Oh, you might want to bring your competitive edge, too!

WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2018, WILL BE AT 9:30 A.M.

Sunday, April 22, 2018, is Earth Day! Celebrate at a non-traditional breakfast worship, planned by Kid Works, at a special time – 9:30 a.m. Sign up ahead of time to bring a dish to share at the breakfast worship. **And bring something to recycle - a personal care container, an empty toothpaste tube, a water filter, a battery!**

After worship, we will have a work session, tending to the church's outdoor space if the weather permits, and to the indoor space if not. So, come dressed in your work clothes if you would like to help after worship. (We will be finished well in time for Skip's student piano recital, which is later that afternoon.)

PUCC CELEBRATES 125 YEARS IN 2018

Join PUCC as we celebrate our 125th Anniversary in October 2018. If you would like to help with the preparations, please contact Linda Grier at 717-695-7764 or 717-439-4858

PENBROOK SCHOOL REUNION

Penbrook School Reunion for all students who attended Penbrook School is planned for Sunday, September 16, 2018. Mark your calendar. Details to follow. For info. Call 717-469-4156 or 717-540-7955

PLEASE DO NOT HAVE PACKAGES DELIVERED TO THE CHURCH

Due to the UPS delivery schedules in the Penbrook borough, UPS package deliveries made to the church are never received. This is due to the short office hours. If you order something for the church have it delivered to your own address or contact Sharon Bosworth and have it delivered to her address.

RIVER CITY SINGERS

The River City Singers will be offering two opportunities for folks to attend their spring concert **COME TO THE MUSIC**. In addition to the Singers, the concert will include the Concert Choir from Boiling Springs High School. This is an audition choir, composed of 15 vocally talented youth. The choir has sung for many civic organizations, churches, private functions and most recently sang the National Anthem at the Bryce Jordan center for the Penn State/Ohio State basketball game. They also auditioned and were accepted to sing at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. It is the River City Singers great pleasure to have them join us. It is wonderful to have young and "old" join together as one voice. The Singers and the Concert Choir will also present their own songs. These are free concerts. There will be a freewill offering that will be shared by the two choruses.

The performances will be: Saturday, April 14, at 7pm, at St. Paul's United Church of Christ, 626 Williams Grove Road, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 and Sunday, April 15, at 3pm Colonial Park United Church of Christ, 5000 Devonshire Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109.

In addition, the River City Singers will be offering a third concert titled **WE SHALL BE FREE**. This concert will include the Arcona Reel Band performing a jig or two and singing some Irish tunes. This concert will be held at Penbrook United Church of Christ on Sunday, May 20, at 3pm.

As always, we wish to thank everyone at Penbrook UCC for allowing us to be part of your church family. We are so grateful!

MOVE IT FOR MANNA

Help Stop Hunger
Proceeds to Benefit
the Manna Food Pantry



MOVE IT FOR MANNA 5K RUN/WALK APRIL 7th, 2018

Join us for the 5th annual Move It For Manna 5K! Great exercise, music, post-race refreshments, exciting door prizes and loads of fun! All profits benefit the Manna Food Pantry.

Saturday, April 7th 9:00 AM

\$25.00 pre-registration, \$30 on race day

T-shirts guaranteed for participants who register by March 21st

Prizes awarded to Top Overall Male and Female, as well as 1st and 2nd place finishers in each age category as follows

New this year is our YOUTH DIVISION! Awards will be given to the 1st and 2nd place finishers in the following age categories:

20-29
30-39
40-49
50-59
60+

10 and under
11-15
16-19

Registration available online at Active.com OR you may print a paper registration from the church website.

PUCC WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS FOR APRIL, 2018

<p><i>Easter Sunday</i> 4/1/2018</p>	<p>Liturgist: Dale Mease Greeter: Acolyte: Children's Time: Head Usher:</p>
<p><i>Sunday</i> 4/8/2018</p>	<p>Service at Ridgeway Community Church of the Brethren</p>
<p><i>Sunday</i> 4/15/2018</p>	<p>Liturgist: Sharon Bosworth Greeter: Acolyte: Children's Time: Head Usher:</p>
<p><i>EARTH Day</i> <i>Sunday</i> 4/22/2018</p>	<p>Non Traditional Breakfast Worship at 9:30 AM</p>
<p><i>Sunday</i> 4/29/2018</p>	<p>Liturgist: Linda Grier Greeter: Acolyte: Ann Bailey Children's Time: Head Usher: Sharon Bosworth</p>

APRIL 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>BNE = Bhutanese Nepali Evangelical Church NA = Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>(ASSR) = Adult Sunday School Room (DSS) = Downstairs Sunday School Rooms</p>	<p>(FH) = Fellowship Hall (RR) = Ross Room</p>	<p>(OC) = Off Campus (TBD) = To Be Determined</p>			
<p>1 EASTER 8:15 am: Men's Choir Rehearsal 9:15 am: Sunday School 10:00 am: BNE Church (FH) 10:30 am: Worship</p>	<p>2 7:00 pm: River City Singers (Colonial Park UCC)</p>	<p>3 10:30 am: Manna Bread Delivery 7:00 pm: Meditation (RR) 7:00 pm: Manna Board (ASSR)</p>	<p>4 7:00 pm: NA (FH)</p>	<p>5 9:30 am: Manna Preparation 6:00 pm: Manna Food Pantry (FH) 7:15 pm: Chancel and Women's Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>6 9:30 am: Manna Preparation</p>	<p>7 9:00 am: Manna 4K Run/Walk 11:00 am: BNE (FH)</p>
<p>8 9:15 am: Sunday School 10:00 am: BNE Church (FH) 10:30 am: Worship at Ridgeway 6:15 pm: A-pealing Too 7:00 pm: A-pealing Praise</p>	<p>9 4:00 pm: Delta (FH) 7:00 pm: River City Singers (St. Paul's UCC) 7:00 pm: Crafters</p>	<p>10 10:30 am: Manna Bread Delivery 7:00 pm: Meditation (RR) 7:00 pm: IRF (TBD)</p>	<p>11 7:00 pm: Consistory (ASSR) 7:00 pm: NA (FH)</p>	<p>12 9:30 am: Manna Preparation 6:00 pm: Manna Food Pantry (FH) 7:15 pm: Chancel and Women's Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>13 9:30 am: Manna Preparation 6:30 pm: Game Night</p>	<p>14 9:00 am: BNE (FH) 6:00 pm: Drum Circle (RR and FH)</p>
<p>15 9:15 am: Sunday School 10:00 am: BNE Church (FH) 10:30 am: Worship</p>	<p>16 12:00 pm: Sun Violence Awareness Meeting (ASSR)</p>	<p>17 10:30 am: Manna Bread Delivery 7:00 pm: Meditation (RR)</p>	<p>18 7:00 pm: NA (FH)</p>	<p>19 9:30 am: Manna Preparation 6:00 pm: Manna Food Pantry (FH) 7:15 pm: Chancel and Women's Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>20 9:30 am: Manna Preparation Spring Retreat(OC)</p>	<p>21 9:00 am: BNE (FH) Spring Retreat(OC)</p>
<p>22 EARTH DAY 9:15 am: Sunday School 10:00 am: BNE Church (FH) 9:30 am: Breakfast Worship 12:00 pm: WORK DAY 3:00 pm: Piano Recital (Sanctuary) Spring Retreat(OC)</p>	<p>23 7:00 pm: River City Singers (ASSR)</p>	<p>24 10:30 am: Manna Bread Delivery 7:00 pm: Meditation (RR)</p>	<p>25 Reporter Articles Due 7:00 pm: NA (FH)</p>	<p>26 9:30 am: Manna Preparation 6:00 pm: Manna Food Pantry (FH) 7:15 pm: Chancel and Women's Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>27 9:30 am: Manna Preparation</p>	<p>28 9:00 am: BNE (FH)</p>
<p>29 9:15 am: Sunday School 10:00 am: BNE Church (FH) 10:30 am: BNE Church (FH) 10:30 am: Worship</p>	<p>30 7:00 pm: River City Singers (ASSR) 7:00 pm: Crafters</p>					

FACTS AND FIGURES

FEBRUARY 2018

General Fund	December	YTD
Offering Envelopes	\$7,886.00	\$7,886.00
Budgeted Amount	\$11,385.00	\$11,385.00
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$3,499.00)	(\$3,499.00)

February Mission:

Member Assistance Fund \$466.00

MEMBERS ASSISTANCE FUND

A donation was made by Margaret Chrencik in honor of Sharon Bosworth and Sharon's loving dedication to Dot Rodriguez.

SECOND CENTURY BRICKS

One Brick was donated by Donna Bauserman in memory of Dot Rodriguez.

MEMORIAL FUND

A donation was made by Neil Hendershot in memory of Dot Rodriguez

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Interim Minister: Rev. Dr. Karin Stork-Whitson
 Music Director: Brian Johnson
 Organist: Rita Oberman
 Bell Choir Director: Ruth Dunnewold
 Office Staff: George Long and Sharon Bosworth
 CMC Building Manager: Lisa Puliti
 Manna Food Pantry Director:
 Penbrook Learning Center Director: Deanna Hobbs
 Web Administrator: George Long

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS AND CONTACT

8:30am to 12:30pm Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
 Telephone and Fax: 717-236-5275
 Email: office@penbrookucc.org
 Website: www.penbrookucc.org

MAY NEWSLETTER

Articles for the April Reporter are due to the church office by **APRIL 26**. Please keep this in mind when submitting articles that are date sensitive. Thank you for your cooperation. Articles should be e-mailed to: office@penbrookucc.org

MEMBER ASSISTANCE FUND

The church maintains a fund for members and friends of the congregation who are in need of temporary financial assistance. People's rent is increasing, there are basic needs for gas and food. If you have a need for this kind of assistance, we encourage you to talk to Sarah Kempf. Please continue to give to this important fund.

ALTAR COMMITTEE

The altar committee needs more people to join us, (Men or Women). Please call the Church office and leave your name and phone number and I will get in touch with you. Thank you, Linda Grier.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Cancelled services and Manna Food Pantry caused by inclement weather will be announced on the following TV stations: ABC-27 and CBS-21, and on the church website.

HOUSE BOUND

- **Walda Ansel**, Church of God Home, Personal Care Unit, Rm 223, 801 N Hanover St, Carlisle, PA 17013
- **Dorothy Baker**, Moravian Manor Lititz, 300 W. Lemon St., Rm 246D-HCW, Lititz, PA 17543
- **Charlene Delli**, Claremont, 1000 Claremont Rd., Rm 222, Carlisle, PA 17013
- **Marge Lippert**, 1020 N. Union Street, Room 135A, Frey Village, Middletown, PA, 17057
- **Bill Oberholtzer**, 45 Conestoga Drive, Lititz, PA, 17543, Phone #(717) 581-3372
- **Mary Sherk**, 4700 Oakhurst Blvd., Apt 202, Kindered Place. Harrisburg, PA 17110
- **Peggy Stellfox**, Room 235, Frey Village, 1020 N. Union St. Middletown, PA 17057
- **Jeannetta (Jeannie) Wagner**, Frey Village, Phoenix Unit, Room 220, 1020 North Union Street, Middletown, PA 17057

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



We would like to extend a very happy birthday to everyone celebrating in April.

Walda Ansel	2 April
Robert Nease	3 April
George Long	13 April
Olivia Grier	15 April
William Oberholtzer	15 April
Rebecca Boone	16 April
William Guyer	17 April
Carol Murray	19 April
Sarah Kempf	22 April
Hannah Salapa	22 April
Harvey Bailey	23 April
Mikohl Jenkins	24 April
Bill MacClinchy	24 April
Torrie Weinhold	26 April
Qwen Mattes	28 April
Mary Sherk	30 April
Katherine Wheeler	30 April

Note: A complete list by Month is in the Church Directory.

March Gift of Music

When Jesus Wept PUCG Men's Choir 03/11/18
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Be17vIxnlo>

Go to Dark Gethsemane, A-pealing Too, 03/18/2018
<https://youtu.be/kVw0N4IzdwQ>

The Journey, A-pealing Praise, 03/18/2018
<https://youtu.be/hXj8CIL5848>

Hosanna! PUCG Chancel Choir 03-25-2018
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttSJ_17RSqM

Penbrook United Church of Christ
56 Banks Street
Harrisburg, PA 17103-2097
(717) 236-5275
E-Mail - office@penbrookucc.org



MISSION STATEMENT

The Penbrook United Church of Christ is an accepting, caring, and nurturing community gathering to worship God and welcoming all persons in their journey on the spiritual path.

As faithful stewards, we follow the model of Jesus Christ through loving service to the local community and to the larger world.

We strive in all aspects of our life as a congregation to be a people of courage and a people of peace.