

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

RAMBLINGS FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Without Easter the Christian faith is a waste of time.

That is what the apostle Paul says: "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you still are in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:17)

The reason for this is that Christ's resurrection not only gives us hope for eternal life, but it also confirms that what Jesus said in his earthly life was true. Jesus said he would rise from the dead. If he hadn't, who would have taken his teachings seriously thereafter?

"But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead," Paul says (1 Corinthians 15:20). The resurrection was God's stamp of authenticity on Jesus proclaiming, Yes, Jesus is my son. Yes, he has overcome death. Yes, what he informed and taught you was true, that my love is for all, and my grace redeems and saves. Trust him! Follow him! He will lead you to me.

There will be special worship opportunities at Penbrook UCC during Holy Week, and on Easter Sunday. These include: Palm Sunday we gather at 9:00 a.m. for breakfast and then to the sanctuary for our 10:30 worship service. Maundy Thursday in the ASSR, we will join for a pot luck meal at 6:00 and move into worship at 7:00. On Good Friday we will gather at 7:00p.m in the Sanctuary. Then we will join for our Easter Sunday celebration at 10:30 a.m. This journey will set us up for our walk to Emmaus and the Journey begins.

In our hope that is Christ

Peace and Love
Rev. Brian

NEXT COMMUNION

We will have the pleasure of celebrating Communion at Penbrook Church on the first Sunday of the Month, April 7, the Sixth Sunday of Lent. Please plan to join your brothers and sisters in Christ at the Lord's Table on this occasion.

MISSION SUNDAY

Our third Sunday second-mile offering will be for Christian Churches United/Lancaster Seminary

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR APRIL

4-7-19	Isa 43:16-21 Phil 3:4b-14 John 12:1-8
4-14-19 Psalm Sunday	Luke 19:28-40 Isa 50:4-9a Phil 2:5-11
3-18-19 Maunday Thursday	Ex 12:1-13 John 13:1-17
4-21-19 Easter	Isa 65:17-25 1 Cor 15:19-26 John 20:1-18
4-28-19	Acts 5:27-32 Ps 150 John 20:19-31

PRAYER REQUESTS

Eleanor Seaman (Diane's mom), Elinor Dunnewold, Cindy Mikesell, Luce Heiss, Ken Stauffer, Ethan Dixon (Rev. Karin), Frank Bomgardner, Diane Weinhold's Aunt Martha, Tammy Brehm and her family, the family of Mya Reyes, Luke Ansel's father. Lorna Owens' brother, and Beverly Tridenti, Teresa McDaniel (Linda Houseal), Richard Bisking (Kim Evanoff), Kim Evanoff's mother, Arlene. Harvey Bailey's brother, Donald Carpenter, Linda Deon (Judy Wagner), Pam Carr's Aunt Marie. Jane and Mel Myers(Bob Nease), Kristopher Weinhold, the family of Heather Branch (Donna Bauserman) , Elaine Skiles (Brian Johnson), Rev. India Garnett, Nancy Heckler, her son and her 10 year old grandson, Gavin, Ann Bailey for her son, Kyle, Tita Domingos and family for the death of Tita's mother. Ruthetta Jacobs (Sharon Bosworth), Craig Barbush (Brian Johnson), Jonathon Morgan's mother, Mary Kelly's family. Mike Thornton(Mike Proper), Angela Manley (a friend of the Heiss family), Becky Boone and Baum family.

SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Palm Sunday April 14, 2019 10:30 am
Breakfast at 9:00 am (ASSR)
Worship will open with a procession of palms.

Maundy Thursday April 21, 2019 7:00 pm (ASSR)
Pot Luck dinner at 6:00 pm before the service.

Good Friday April 19, 2019 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday April 21, 2019 10:30 am
A joyous celebration of the resurrection!

NEW OFFICE DAYS

Beginning April 1, 2019, the new church office days are Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday. The hours will remain the same 8:30am to 12:30pm.

MR. STICKY'S STICKY BUN SALE

Mr. Sticky has been making homemade sticky buns for over ten years and folks who enjoy them tell us they are not only delicious but downright addictive. Mr. Sticky's sticky buns are made fresh daily from a secret recipe. We will begin taking orders Sunday April 7th. Order forms can be found in the office, or in the church's Facebook group for you to download. Order forms and payment can be turned in to the office, or given to Robin Wheeler, by Sunday April 28th. Delivery will be Thursday May 9th at noon. Buns will be sorted and available in the ASSR. If you are unable to pick your buns up that day, please make arrangements. Buns not picked up that evening will be left in the front office on the counter. Stock up now, order extra and freeze them. They are fabulous warmed up!

MANNA FOOD PANTRY

A Ministry Partnership between Penbrook United Church of Christ
& Penbrook Church of God

Well I thought that I would be able to let you know we had two ladies interested in the Coordinators position. Well as it turns out they don't want it anymore, but they are still willing to volunteer with us, for which we are very grateful. This is a hard position, so the Board will have to come up with some new ideas, and people.

We are moving forward with the Air Conditioner in Manna's storage room and if anyone would like to help with the cost, it would be greatly appreciated.

God Bless you and thank you for all you do for Manna.

Please pray for us as we continue to do God's work through the Manna Food Pantry, and please support this very worthy mission as best you can.

THE MEMBERS ASSISTANCE FUND

Rev. Brian and I have decided to include a monthly report on the Assistance Fund.

Starting now, anyone who needs help through this fund will talk to Rev. Brian and he will then let me know how much to distribute and to whom. Rev. Brian and I had a long talk about how the fund should be handled in the future and he is in the process of putting some guidelines together and letting Consistory be aware of how this fund will be handled moving forward.

To get you up to date on the amount of Deposits and Disbursements that came from this fund, I will be giving information for the time frame of January 2019 to March 16, 2019.

◆ No. of Deposits	4
◆ Amount of Deposits	\$1,095.00
◆ No. of Disbursements	7
◆ Amount of Disbursements	\$1,050.00
◆ Check Reorder	\$ 17.20
◆ Total	\$ 1,067.20

I want to thank all who have made personal contributions to this Fund through the years. And ask that you keep supporting the fund as best you can. It is a blessing to be able to help those who are in need.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Kempf

THANK YOU

Thanks to all of you who have brought in your glossy magazines for recycling to benefit the Ronald McDonald House! I took two huge baskets full of your unwanted magazines and catalogues to the bin at the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey. There is also a bin at the Harrisburg Area Community College off of Industrial Road.

Thanks to all of you who keep bringing in empty pill bottles for recycling. Our sister congregation at Quentin UCC has parish nurses with connections to Doctors Without Borders which is where the pill bottles will be sent. Please only bring prescription bottles (no aspirin, vitamins, etc.) It is helpful if you take off the label and remove any sticky residue. Many of you are already doing this which is a big help. If you don't have the time or inclination, we can do it for you. If you have any questions, ask Becky Boone.

Thanks to all the young people who assisted in making 7 individual loaves of Milk and Honey Bread during March's Kidworks. They are in the freezer now, awaiting Easter Sunday Communion.

GREEN JUSTICE TEAM RECYCLING UPDATE

Since March 2015, the PUCC has been participating in the recycling of items that are otherwise difficult to recycle. We do this through TerraCycle, a highly-awarded, international upcycling and recycling company that collects difficult-to-recycle packaging and products and repurposes the material into affordable, innovative products.

With TerraCycle, we participate in the “Tom’s of Maine” brigade. Through it, we recycle **mouthwash bottles and caps, deodorant containers and caps, toothpaste tubes and caps, soap packaging, dental floss containers, and used toothbrushes.** (These items can be from any manufacturer; they do not have to be from Tom’s of Maine). We earn 2 points for every acceptable item, and TerraCycle ultimately pays us, as a nonprofit organization, \$.01 per point.

Through an additional TerraCycle brigade, the Personal Care and Beauty Brigade, we have been recycling all these things:

1. **Hair care packaging** such as shampoo bottles and caps, conditioner bottles and caps, hair gel tubes and caps, hair spray bottles and triggers, and hair paste plastic jars and caps.
2. **Skin care packaging** such as lip balm tubes, face soap dispensers and tubes, face lotion bottles, tubes and plastic jars, body wash containers, soap tubes and dispensers, body lotion dispensers and bottles, shaving foam tubes (**NO CANS**), and hand lotion bottles and tubes.
3. **Cosmetics packaging** such as lipstick cases, lip gloss tubes, mascara tubes, eye shadow cases, bronzer cases, foundation packaging and bottles, powder cases, eyeliner cases, eyeliner pencils, eye shadow tubes, concealer tubes, concealer sticks, and lip liner pencils.

We also belong to the Brita Recycling Program through TerraCycle, which allows us to recycle Brita® dispensers, Brita® Bottles, Brita® Bottle Filters, Brita® Standard Filters, Brita® Stream Filters, Brita® Longlast Filters, Brita® filter packaging, Brita® faucet filtration systems, and Brita® pitchers.

Last year, we added alkaline battery recycling, which does not earn points for us, and for which an anonymous sponsor pays for the recycling container. Remember, you must **TAPE THE ENDS OF THE BATTERIES** to avoid a fire hazard. We recently shipped our first full battery recycling box to TerraCycle for recycling and a new box will be set out soon so we can resume recycling these. Note that this is for alkaline batteries only. If you have rechargeable batteries to recycle, please take them to Lowes or Best Buy.

Now, we have added a pen, pencil and marker recycling box. Again, we do not earn points from this, and it is sponsored because the recycling container must be purchased. But it will take any used pens, markers and mechanical pencils so you don’t need to throw them in your trash.

Happily, we have made several shipments to TerraCycle since 2015, and last year we received a check for approximately \$45.00 for what we sent in! Keep that waste coming and keep it out of landfills!

Aside from TerraCycle, we have located a place where we can ship CDs, DVDs and their packaging for recycling, so you can continue to bring those items in. Also, we take glossy magazines and catalogs – take out any portion that is NOT glossy – and recycle them at the Ronald McDonald House recycling program.

This is a terrific opportunity to collect these formerly unrecyclable items, earn points towards cash donations in some instances, and keep these things from going to the landfill! You can add them to the existing collection boxes, currently in the hallway by the Adult Sunday School Room, and the Green Justice Team will sort them into the appropriate collection. Collect from your friends, neighbors and workplace, too, so the collection mounts quickly – the more we ship, the more points we accumulate.

Questions? Talk to Ruth Dunnewold. Oh, and a BIG request – please REMOVE AS MUCH OLD PRODUCT AS POSSIBLE from the bottles etc. that you bring for recycling, and please keep food and laundry containers for your municipal recycling program. Don't bring them to church – we don't get points for those!

PIANO RECITAL APRIL 7, 2019

Skip Unger is once again pleased to showcase the accomplishments of his piano students at their annual recital being held on Sunday, April 7th, at 2:45 pm in the Sanctuary. PUC's own Olivia and James Grier, Dante Carr, and Gianni Carr are just some of the talented students that will be performing. All are welcome!

SPRING WORKDAY! SATURDAY APRIL 13

Please keep your calendar cleared to help clean up the church grounds Saturday April 13, 2019, starting at 9:00 am.

HOUSE BOUND

- **Walda Ansel**, Church of God Home, Personal Care Unit, Rm 206, 801 N Hanover St, 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 226, 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
Sarah Kempf	22 April
Hannah Salapa	22 April
Harvey Bailey	23 April
Bill MacClinchy	24 April
Torrie Weinhold	26 April
Mary Sherk	30 April
Katherine Wheeler	30 April

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



Eighth Annual Freedom Seder

Tuesday, April 9, 2019
7:00 p.m.



Welcoming the Stranger

Beth El Temple, the Interdenominational Ministers Conference (IMC), the Pennsylvania Council of Churches, Market Square Presbyterian Church, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and the Cathedral Parish of St. Joseph will sponsor a community-wide **Freedom Seder** to celebrate Passover, the Festival of Freedom. *Freedom songs will be led by the IMC Citywide Revival Choir.*

This special community event will celebrate the journey from slavery to freedom. Speakers will discuss the current political debate about "Welcoming the Stranger" from the teachings of the Torah, the Gospels, and the Koran on this topic.

All are welcome to attend on April 9th!
(Advance reservations and payment are required)

Beth El Temple is hosting the program at
2637 North Front Street (at Wiconisco), Harrisburg, PA 17110

The fee for the Freedom Seder including dinner is \$18.00 per person

Please register in advance by sending your name, address, e-mail address and check for \$18.00 to:

Beth El Temple
2637 North Front Street Harrisburg, PA 17110

Make checks payable to: Beth El Temple
Put "Freedom Seder" in the memo section

For additional information, contact the Beth El Temple office at 717-232-0556 or Michael Sand, Freedom Seder Chair at 717-238-5558

APRIL 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
BNE = Bhutanese Nepali Evangelical Church NA = Narcotics Anonymous	(ASSR) = Adult Bible Study Room (DSS) = Downstairs Bible Study Rooms	(FH) = Fellowship Hall (RR) = Ross Room	(OC) = Off Campus (TBD) = To Be Determined			
	1 7:00 pm: River City Singers (ASSR)	2 10:30 am: Manna Bread Delivery 6:00 pm: Celebrating Families (DSS) 7:00 pm: Meditation (RR) 7:00: Manna Board (ASSR)	3 7:00 pm: NA (FH) 6:00 pm: Girl Scout Meeting (ASSR) SUB SALE DELIVERY	4 9:30 am: Manna Preparation 6:00 pm: Manna Food Pantry (FH) 7:15 pm: Chancel and Women's Choir Rehearsal	5 9:30 am: Manna Preparation	6 9:00 am: BNE (FH)
7 COMMUNION 9:15 am: Bible Study 9:15 am: Men's Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am: BNE Church (FH) 10:30 am: Worship 2-45 pm: Skip's Spring Music Recital 6-15 pm: A-peeling Too 7:00 pm: A-peeling Praise MR. STICKY SALE BEGINS	8 4:00 pm: Delta (FH) 7:00 pm: River City Singers (ASSR)	9 10:30 am: Manna Bread Delivery 6:00 pm: Celebrating Families (DSS) 7:00 pm: Meditation (RR) 7:00 pm: Crafters	10 7:00 pm: Consistory (ASSR) 7:00 pm: NA (FH)	11 9:30 am: Manna Preparation 6:00 pm: Manna Food Pantry (FH) 7:15 pm: Chancel and Women's Choir Rehearsal	12 9:30 am: Manna Preparation	13 9:00 am: BNE (FH) 9:00 am: Workday
14 PALM SUNDAY 9:00 am: Breakfast 10:00 am: BNE Church (FH) 10:30 am: Worship 6-15 pm: A-peeling Too 7:00 pm: A-peeling Praise	15 12:00 pm: Gun Violence Awareness Meeting (ASSR) 7:00 pm: River City Singers (ASSR) Bill Oberholzer's 100 B-day	16 10:30 am: Manna Bread Delivery 6:00 pm: Celebrating Families (DSS) 7:00 pm: Meditation (RR)	17 7:00 pm: NA (FH) 6:00 pm: Girl Scout Meeting (ASSR)	18 MAUNDY THURSDAY 6:00 pm: Potluck Dinner 7:00 pm: Worship	19 GOOD FRIDAY 7:00 pm: Worship	20 9:00 am: BNE (FH) 9:00 am: Easter Saturday Hike
21 EASTER 9:15 am: Bible Study 10:00 am: BNE Church (FH) 10:30 am: Worship	22 7:00 pm: River City Singers (ASSR)	23 10:30 am: Manna Bread Delivery 7:00 pm: Meditation (RR)	24 Reporter Articles Due 7:00 pm: NA (FH)	25 9:30 am: Manna Preparation 6:00 pm: Manna Food Pantry (FH) 7:15 pm: Chancel and Women's Choir Rehearsal	26 9:30 am: Manna Preparation	27 9:00 am: BNE (FH)
28 9:15 am: Bible Study 9:15 am: Men's Choir Rehearsal (ASSR) 10:00 am: BNE Church (FH) 10:30 am: Worship	29 7:00 pm: River City Singers (ASSR)	30 10:30 am: Manna Bread Delivery 7:00 pm: Meditation (RR) 7:00 pm: Crafters				

FACTS AND FIGURES

FEBRUARY 2019

General Fund	February	YTD
Offering Envelopes	\$8,745.00	\$18,503.00
Budgeted Amount	\$9,616.00	\$19,232.00
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$871.00)	(\$729.00)

February Mission:

Hartman Center - PCC \$425.00

MEMBERS ASSISTANCE FUND

SECOND CENTURY BRICKS

MEMORIAL BRICK FUND

Carol Proper donated two bricks in honor of Skip Unger's birthday and as a Thank You to Luce Heiss

MEMORIAL FUND

MUSIC MINISTRY SELECTIONS...

Sweet Hour of Prayer –
PUC C A pealing Too - March 17, 2019
<https://youtu.be/NgTMHfCudew>

Wade in the Water –
PUC C A pealing Praise - March 17, 2019
<https://youtu.be/cwnfxvRwXxl>

Jesus Paid It All –
PUC C Men's Choir - March 24, 2019
<https://youtu.be/j3RFLCXHKBg>

I Claim the Cross –
PUC C Chancel Choir - March 31, 2019
<https://youtu.be/avPYCIErD0Y>

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Minister: Rev. Brian Damrow
Music Director: Brian Johnson
Organist: Rita Oberman
Bell Choir Director: Ruth Dunnewold
Office Staff: George Long and Sharon Bosworth
Manna Food Pantry Director:
Web Administrator: George Long

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS AND CONTACT

8:30am to 12:30pm Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
Telephone 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 24**. 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 need temporary financial assistance. There are basic needs for gas and food. If you have a need for this kind of assistance, we encourage you to talk to Rev. Brian.

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.

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.