

# THE REPORTER

*God is still speaking,*  
**PENBROOK  
UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



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

Sunday Service at 10:30 am

Faith Formation at 9:15 am

(717) 236-5275 [office@penbrookucc.org](mailto:office@penbrookucc.org) [www.penbrookucc.org](http://www.penbrookucc.org)

### **RAMBLINGS FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

On September 8<sup>th</sup> we look forward to celebrating the opening of our 2019-2020 Church Year. We will be announcing new classes and ministries as we move into our year together. Later in this church year we will be celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Penbrook.

I think of all that our parental churches went through to create this concept we call Penbrook UCC. All the effort and changes they needed to make to become a new entity doing the work of God together as one family.

Likewise, we are in the midst of becoming something new. I want to thank everyone who participated in the conversations over the summer months. A conversation that will continue to happen as we move into our new calling. I want to thank all who have done their Spiritual Assessments and Time and Talent forms. They will be a part of creating our new direction. For those of you who have not done them yet they still can be turned in. If you need another e-copy let us know. Otherwise, there are copies on the information table in front of the sanctuary.

Our music ministry begins its new season on September the 4<sup>th</sup>. This year we are under the direction of our new choir director Faith Brown. We are excited to have her join the Penbrook Staff.

Likewise, I would like to thank all who helped to keep our ministry and worship services going during the summer, with special thanks to all who shared their gifts while our choir took a much deserved few months break.

As this year progresses we will continue our talks about our direction, the changes that are happening to our building, new stewardship activities, new faith formation classes, and an updated nursery, are only a small amount of our new direction.

Truly God is still speaking at Penbrook. Let us ALL join in on the conversation.

Love and prayers  
Pastor B

## **NEXT COMMUNION**

We will have the pleasure of celebrating Communion at Penbrook Church on the first Sunday of the Month, September 1. 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 the Neighbors in Need - UCC

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

James Wheeler would like prayers for his daughter, Kate. Tita Domingos is asking for prayers for Nicole Butler and her husband. Fran White is asking for prayers for her daughter. Mackenzie Weinhold is asking for prayers for Earl Kreiser . Donna Bauserman is asking for prayers for her cousin, Spencer Roberts. Ruth Dunnewold asking for prayers for Kendra Dannelley and her husband, Todd. Mackenzie Weinhold is asking for prayers for the Albright family. Luke Ansel is asking for prayers--he was in a very serious auto accident this past Saturday a week ago when he was hit from behind. Robin Wheeler is asking for prayers for Kelly Jo as her step-dad recently passed away. Ann Bailey is asking for prayers for her brother-in-law, Galen Berkebile. Prayers for the Weinhold family, as Diane's Aunt Nancy passed away. Skip is asking for prayers for best friend, Cassie Pennycoss and his Aunt Mary (Sherk) who broke a rib and is currently in Pinnacle Community General Hospital. Diane Weinhold asks for prayer for her mother. Continued prayers for Anita Holupka for complete recovery after undergoing surgery. Prayers for Ken Stauffer who is in the hospital. Prayers for India Garnett and her upcoming surgery

**SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING**  
**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 15, 2019**  
**IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE**

## **NEW MEMBERS**

Please welcome the following new members of our congregation... Craig Chestney, Pamela Chestney, Aaron Damrow, Dawn Damrow, Eric Mulford, Susan Mulford, Lisa Stokes, Richard Stokes and Thomas Caruso.

## **YOUTH GROUP**

The Youth Group, through the UCC Global Ministries Child and Elder Sponsorship Program, will soon be introducing you to Pema Gyaltzen, a 6 year old boy from Tibet who is now living in India. Pema is presently receiving services from the Tibetan Refugee Self-Help Centre in Dharamsala, India. More than 650 Tibetan refugees receive services at the Centre which provides free education to children, as well as textbooks and school supplies, as well as offering handicraft training for their families so they may support themselves. The cost of sponsorship is \$30 a month. There will be a place on the UCC bulletin board when we receive a picture and more information about Pema.

## THANK YOU

To everyone who provided The Gift of Music and The Gift of Liturgical Dance during our worship services this summer. We are very blessed to have so much talent in our church, and we are all grateful for you sharing your gifts this summer.

To all how helped on the Saturday August 17<sup>th</sup> Workday at the sanctuary.

## NEW CHORAL DIRECTOR NAMED

Some of you may have seen a new face in our congregation as of late. Penbrook UCC is very fortunate and excited to welcome **Faith Brown** as PUCC's new Choral Director. She will be directing our Men's, Women's, and Chancel Choirs as our regular choral music program commences after Labor Day.

Faith graduated from Moravian College with a Bachelor's in Music Education and plans to continue toward a Master's in choral conducting. While her primary instrumental focus was classical voice, she also has experience with piano, guitar, mellophone, and jazz vocals. She currently lives in Bethlehem and has been teaching general music and chorus for elementary through high schools in the Bethlehem, Allentown, and Reading areas.

She has worked with several church choirs and performed in such choral groups as the Bach Choir of Bethlehem and the Allentown Symphony Chorus. Her interests have also led her to directing school musicals and teaching theater arts. Faith admits to having a passion for incorporating music into programs that will connect cultures and stimulate interest of younger generations, while capturing the beauty and history associated with older styles.

Her belief in the power of love and kindness to better connect with and serve our community, closely reflect those principals we hold dear within our congregation. Her energy, positivity, and openness are opportune resources as we work through this transformative time in our church. One might suspect a divine plan was in play with this pairing. We are indeed fortunate to have Faith's talents, spirit, and leadership benefitting our worship and music programs. Please make her feel welcome into our family, as only PUCC does.

- Bill MacClinchy, Personnel Chairperson

P.S. - Also, let us thank Brian Johnson for the incredible commitment he has shown to this congregation. He stepped in to lead our vocal choirs (and even added one!) during a crucial time and has helped sustain our music program and made it flourish under his direction. Even though he has passed the torch, Brian has provided terrific guidance in our candidate search process and remains active in our bell choir, our Pastoral Relations Committee, and our congregation.

## MUSIC MINISTRY CHOIR REHEARSALS

After a relaxing summer break, the five Penbrook UCC choirs will begin rehearsals after the Labor Day weekend. The rehearsal times for each of the choirs are listed below. If you have not been actively participating in the music ministry but are interested in joining any choirs, please contact Ruth Dunnewold or Faith Brown. Faith's email is [brown.faith922@gmail.com](mailto:brown.faith922@gmail.com).

The **Chancel Choir** will have their first rehearsal on Thursday, September 5 at 7:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

The **Women's Choir** will rehearse in the Sanctuary immediately following the Chancel Choir rehearsal during the choir season.

The **Men's Choir** will have their first rehearsal on Sunday, September 8 at 9:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

**A-pealing Praise** and **A-pealing Too** will have their first rehearsals in the ASSR on Sunday, September 8, with A-pealing Too at 6:15 p.m. and A-pealing Praise at 7 p.m.

### **THE MEMBERS ASSISTANCE FUND**

The amount of Deposits and Disbursements for the months of July & August 2019

Balance as of June 17, 2019-757.07

No. of Deposits- 3

◆ Amount of Deposits- \$954.96

◆ No. of Disbursements- 3

◆ Amount of Disbursements- \$1,100.00

◆ Balance as of August 8, 2019- \$612.03

I want to thank all who have made personal contributions. Please continue to support this fund as best you can. It is a blessing to be able to help those in need in our Church Family and beyond.

Blessing's,  
Sarah Kempf

### **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JULY 28, 2019**

The meeting was called to order after the worship service on this date by Ruth Dunnewold, Consistory President. The purpose of the called meeting was to make decisions about the allocation of funds remaining from the sale of the Community Ministry Center.

Consistory had previously studied the balance of \$298,524.03 and had, based on a recommendation from the Stewardship Committee, voted to allocate the money as follows:

\$100,000 to the Endowment Fund

\$6,000 to the Memorial Fund

\$150,000 to the a new account for building repairs and improvement with the church's heating system to be the primary improvement on the list and the remainder as Consistory finds appropriate.

## \$10,000 to Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM)

The church has already paid the loan in the amount of \$100,000 to the UCC Cornerstone Fund which we borrowed to assist us in meeting our financial obligations until the sale of the Community Ministry Center. A contingency of the loan was that we conduct a Capital Campaign

The recommendation put forward by the Consistory was approved during the meeting on a motion by Richard Heiss and seconded by Ann Bailey.

An amendment was added to the original motion by Robin Wheeler and seconded by Richard Heiss which stated that, under the new accounts for Building Repairs and Improvements, funds be allocated for improvements with repairs of the heating system with the understanding that Consistory has the approval to seek bids and move forward with these repairs, with the remainder of the funds to be held until Consistory develops a plan with a prioritized list the will be presented to the congregation for their approval

The motion with its amendment passed by the majority of those in attendance at the meeting.

## CONFIRMATION CLASS

Beginning in the fall, Pastor Brian will be conducting a Confirmation class for anyone 7th grade and older. Please contact him if you are interested.

## EVER WANTED TO LEARN TO RING HANDBELLS?

Beginning on September 8, 2019, hand bell rehearsals will be back in full swing! A-pealing Too, the group for learners, ringing simpler music, meets at 6:15 on Sunday evenings and there is room for YOU! If you feel you need a little tutoring ahead of time, we can probably arrange that. Interested? Please let Ruth Dunnewold know, either by *appealing* to her at church or *ringing* her at 717-599-1606.

## BOSCOV'S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

Again this year Boscov's Friends Helping Friends \$5.00 shopping pass is available from Ann Bailey. This \$5.00 shopping pass gets you a 25% discount on almost everything in the Boscov's store on Wednesday October 16, 2019. Our church makes \$5.00 on each shopping pass sold.

## PUCC EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Penbrook United Church of Christ is currently seeking to fill part-time position of an Organist.

– Personnel Committee, Penbrook United Church of Christ

P.S. Should this opportunity not speak to you directly, kindly share this information with any person or association you feel may have a genuine interest in filling this vacancy.

Please find a link to the Job Description below...

[Organist Job Description](#)

# Harmony Walk

Celebrating Unity in our Diversity, Rain or Shine



Hinduism



Baha'i



Islam



Sikhism



Buddhism



Judaism



Unitarianism



Christianity

The event is held in conjunction with the United Nations International Day of Peace

Harmony Walk, a celebration of cooperation among religions in the Harrisburg area, will **begin** at 2:00 pm on Sunday, September 15, 2019, at the entrance to Goodwin Memorial Baptist Church & **end** at Hadee Mosque. The walk brings together people of many faiths in harmony and peace.

The Harmony Walk route includes Jewish, Christian, and Islamic houses of worship. At the library entrance, walkers will be greeted by leaders of additional faiths. At each stop, a leader will share words of wisdom about the values of unity and harmony.

People of all religions, including Buddhist, Baha'i, Hindu, Sikh, and those of no specific faith are invited. A bus will be provided at Goodwin Memorial for individuals with walking difficulty. Parking is available at Goodwin Memorial and Hadee Mosque.

A light early dinner will be provided by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, at the end of the walk.

For additional information, please contact Rev. Cynthia Mara at [interfaithcenter@juno.com](mailto:interfaithcenter@juno.com) or Behzad Zandieh at [bzandieh@hotmail.com](mailto:bzandieh@hotmail.com)

## Harmony Walk Route

*Goodwin Memorial Baptist Church - 2447 Green St.*

*St Paul Episcopal Church  
248 Seneca St.*

*Madeline L. Olewine Library  
2410 N 3rd St.*

*Our Lady of the Blessed  
Sacrament Church.  
2121 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.*

*Wesley Union AME Zion  
Church – 5th & Camp St.*

*Kesher Israel Congregation  
2500 N 3rd St.*

*Ahmadiyya Muslim  
Community, Hadee Mosque  
245 Division St.*

## THE HARMONY WALK IS SPONSORED BY

- The InterReligious Forum of Greater Harrisburg
- The Interfaith Center of Greater Harrisburg



# Walking With Each Other Learning about Gender and Orientation

A workshop to learn about research and respectful engagement  
with all generations of the LGBTQ community

**Presenter:** Carol Wise, *Exec Dir, Brethren and Mennonite Concerned for LGBTQ Interests*

**Sat, Sept 21, 2019; 9:00am - noon**  
PA Capitol Area: Ridgeway Church of the Brethren  
525 N Progress Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17109

- or -

**Sun, Sept 22, 2019; 2:00pm - 5:00pm**  
PA Philly Area: Ambler Church of the Brethren  
351 E Butler Avenue, Ambler, PA 19002

**\$5.00/person at the door** (*subsidized by the Lynn Leavenworth Fund*)

## **Workshop Outline in Three Sections:**

- 1 - Gleaning insights from recent research about gender and orientation; exploring myths and misperceptions about the LGBTQ community.
- 2 - Unpacking generational statistics, including rates of depression and suicide, social obstacles for young and middle-aged adults, and challenges encountered by the elder LGBTQ community.
- 3 - Applying learnings from the first two sections to inform how we might work with, and learn from, the LGBTQ community in a mutual commitment to create a more just and humane church and society.

## **Sponsors:**

- \* Ambler Church of the Brethren (Ambler, PA)
- \* Ridgeway Church of the Brethren (Harrisburg, PA)
- \* Congregation Beth Or (Ambler, PA)
- \* *and several others . . .*

0.3 CEUs (Continuing Education Units) available  
For more information, contact [workshop@AmblerCOB.org](mailto:workshop@AmblerCOB.org)

The poster features a background of red stars on a dark red field, with a vertical strip of blue stars on the left. A white rectangular box contains the following text:

**Free Screening**

September 24, 2019  
7:00 pm

Penbrook United Church of Christ  
56 Banks St,  
Harrisburg, PA, 17103

Co-sponsored by:  
Fair Districts, Dauphin County  
Common Cause  
League of Women Voters, Harrisburg  
Penbrook United Church of Christ

Panel discussion and  
Meet the film makers,  
Robert and Rachel Millman

To the right of the text box is a graphic of the Pennsylvania state outline. The left portion of the outline is white and contains a detailed illustration of the Pennsylvania State Capitol dome. The right portion of the outline is black and contains the text "LINE IN THE STREET" in white, stacked vertically.

**A film about  
gerrymandering**

Line in the Street trailer link...  
<https://vimeo.com/312547780>



**HOUSE BOUND**

- **Walda Ansel**, Church of God Home, Personal Care Unit, Rm 223, 801 N Hanover St, Carlisle, PA 17013
- **Tammy Brehm**, Room 122, Spring Creek Rehabilitation and Health Center, 1205 South 28th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17111
- **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

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**



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

Richard Heiss	2 September
Alvaro Domingos	15 September
Kimberly Evanoff	15 September
Eva O'Diam	19 September
Keith Weinhold, Jr	22 September
India Garnett	25 September
Samuel McElheny	26 September
Robin Wheeler	27 September
Betty Nye	28 September

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

**PUCC WORSHIP FOR SEPTEMBER**

Communion Sunday 9/1/2019	Liturgist: Greeter: Carol Proper Acolyte: Ann Bailey Head Usher: David Salapa
Sunday 9/8/2019	Liturgist: Linda Grier Greeter: Lorna Owens Acolyte: Head Usher: David Salapa
Sunday 9/15/2019	Liturgist: Greeter: Carol Proper Acolyte: Harvey Bailey Head Usher: David Salapa
Sunday 9/22/2019	Liturgist: Ann Bailey Greeter: Lorna Owens Acolyte: Head Usher: David Salapa
Sunday 9/29/2019	Liturgist: Greeter: Acolyte: Harvey Bailey Head Usher: David Salapa

SEPTEMBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>NA = Narcotics Anonymous</p> <p>8:15 am: Faith Formation</p> <p>10:30 am: Worship</p>	<p>(ASSR) = Adult Faith Formation Room</p> <p>(DSS) = Downstairs Faith Formation Rooms</p> <p><b>LABOR DAY</b></p>	<p>(FH) = Fellowship Hall</p> <p>(RR) = Ross Room</p>	<p>(OC) = Off Campus</p> <p>(TBD) = To Be Determined</p>			
<p><b>COMMUNION 1</b></p> <p>8:15 am: Faith Formation</p> <p>10:30 am: Worship</p>	<p>10:30 am: Manna Bread Delivery</p> <p>7:00 pm: Meditation (RR)</p> <p>7:00 pm: Manna Board (ASSR)</p>	<p>10:30 am: Manna Bread Delivery</p> <p>7:00 pm: Meditation (RR)</p> <p>7:00 pm: Crafters</p>	<p>7:00 pm: NA (FH)</p>	<p>9:30 am: Manna Preparation</p> <p>6:00 pm: Manna Food Pantry (FH)</p> <p>7:15 pm: Chancel and Women's Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>9:30 am: Manna Preparation</p>	<p>9:00 am: Manna Preparation</p>
<p>8:15 am: Faith Formation</p> <p>9:15 am: Men's Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10:30 am: Worship</p> <p>6:15 pm: A-pealing Too</p> <p>7:00 pm: A-pealing Praise</p>	<p>3:30 pm: Piano Lessons</p> <p>7:00 pm: River City Singers (ASSR)</p>	<p>10:30 am: Manna Bread Delivery</p> <p>4:00 pm: Piano Lessons</p> <p>7:00 pm: Meditation (RR)</p> <p>7:00 pm: Crafters</p>	<p>7:00 pm: Consistory (ASSR)</p> <p>7:00 pm: NA (FH)</p>	<p>9:30 am: Manna Preparation</p> <p>6:00 pm: Manna Food Pantry (FH)</p> <p>7:15 pm: Chancel and Women's Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>9:30 am: Manna Preparation</p>	<p>8:00 am: Private Party</p>
<p>8:15 am: Faith Formation</p> <p>9:15 am: Men's Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10:30 am: Worship</p> <p>2:00 pm: Harmony Walk</p> <p>6:15 pm: A-pealing Too</p> <p>7:00 pm: A-pealing Praise</p>	<p>3:30 pm: Piano Lessons</p> <p>7:00 pm: River City Singers (ASSR)</p>	<p>10:30 am: Manna Bread Delivery</p> <p>4:00 pm: Piano Lessons</p> <p>7:00 pm: Meditation (RR)</p>	<p>7:00 pm: NA (FH)</p>	<p>9:30 am: Manna Preparation</p> <p>6:00 pm: Manna Food Pantry (FH)</p> <p>7:15 pm: Chancel and Women's Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>9:30 am: Manna Preparation</p>	<p>9:00 am: Walking With Each Other (Ridgeway Church of the Brethren)</p>
<p>8:15 am: Faith Formation</p> <p>9:15 am: Men's Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10:30 am: Worship</p> <p>6:15 pm: A-pealing Too</p> <p>7:00 pm: A-pealing Praise</p>	<p>7:00 pm: River City Singers (ASSR)</p>	<p>REPORTER ARTICLES DUE</p> <p>7:00 pm: Meditation (RR)</p> <p>7:00 pm: Crafters</p> <p>7:00 pm: Free Film Screening "Line in the Street" (FH)</p>	<p>7:00 pm: NA (FH)</p>	<p>7:15 pm: Chancel and Women's Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>9:30 am: Manna Preparation</p>	<p>9:00 am to 11:00 am: Manna Training (FH)</p>
<p>8:15 am: Faith Formation</p> <p>9:15 am: Men's Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10:30 am: Worship</p> <p>6:15 pm: A-pealing Too</p> <p>7:00 pm: A-pealing Praise</p>	<p>3:30 pm: Piano Lessons</p> <p>7:00 pm: River City Singers (ASSR)</p>					

## FACTS AND FIGURES

### JULY 2019

General Fund	July	YTD
Offering Envelopes	\$9,236.96	\$68,824.96
Budgeted Amount	\$9,616.00	\$72,116.00
Surplus (Deficit)	\$379.04	(\$3,291.04)

### July Missions:

Manna Food Pantry	\$831.00
Member Assistance Fund	\$884.96

### MEMBERS ASSISTANCE FUND

### SECOND CENTURY BRICKS

### MEMORIAL BRICK FUND

### MEMORIAL FUND

## STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Minister: Rev. Brian Damrow  
 Music Director: Faith Brown  
 Organist: Rita Oberman  
 Bell Choir Director: Ruth Dunnewold  
 Office Staff: George Long  
 Manna Food Pantry Director: Susan Mulford  
 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](mailto:office@penbrookucc.org)

Website: [www.penbrookucc.org](http://www.penbrookucc.org)

### OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Articles for the September Reporter are due to the church office by **SEPTEMBER 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](mailto: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.

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

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