



PEACENOTES



November

Peace United Church of Christ, 37 East Swartzville Road, Denver, PA 17517

PASTOR'S PAGE

When I was a boy, thanksgiving morning was a flurry of activity. Mom and Dad were busy getting things ready. Mom would mix the stuffing, Dad would stuff the bird. Potatoes were mashed and set in water so that there would be one last item to deal with at the last moments. At some point during the preparations Dad would leave to pick up my grandmother. She had preparations of her own. She would bring the coleslaw and my favorite cookies. These cookies were basically fried pieces of dough which were then covered with powdered sugar. These cookies always arrived in brown paper bag that had absorbed some of the grease from the cookies.

Dinner was always about 2:00. For a kid the rest of the day was pretty boring. There was nothing to do and nowhere to go – unless you were a football fan. This did not change for a long time. Even when Janis and I were first married, the routine was pretty much the same, except that her family were football fans. Still there was no other place to go and nothing else to do.

But, when we were with Janis' family Thanksgiving afternoon and evening had its own activity. It was the time to plan the next day's activities. Dads would be taking the kids to a museum or something and Moms would be going shopping!!!! But that was only on Friday.

Things began to slowly change. Stores opened earlier and earlier until many were soon opening on Thanksgiving Day itself. And suddenly there was something to do on Thanksgiving afternoon and evening. This of course was all at the expense of family time. Even if you didn't go shopping, some

one had to leave in order to work and welcome in the Christmas shopping season!!!

This year I am noticing that a new trend may be developing!!!! A few stores are now opting to be closed on Thanksgiving Day!!! **Game Stop** and **Staples** are leading the way and employees can stay home and be with family.

I don't know if the trend will ever be completely reversed, but it is good to see that a little bit more focus is being placed on **being** with family rather than **buying for** family.

Whatever you do and wherever you go this Thanksgiving, may you do what the name implies – Give Thanks. And may you find peace and joy in being together!

I know I will – even if there is no grease soaked paper bag filled with little bits of fried dough!

Pastor Bill

► Check it out!

To e-mail the pastor, use

pastor@peaceunitedchurch.org

To e-mail items to the secretary, use

secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org

Church Council Officers

2015

John Haldeman, *Council President*
Bobbi Porter-Kunkel, *Council Vice-President*
Jim Anthony, *Council Secretary*
Margaret Harting, *Financial Secretary*
Mike Madara, *Treasurer*
John Haldeman, *Administrator*

ELDERS

John Haldeman484-2510
Bobbie Porter-Kunkel.....610-678-0543
Pat Acebo.....575-1155
Chris Fitterling.....336-3038
Mary Getz.....484-2216
Pat Hall.....484-4658

DEACONS

Cindy Anthony.....335-2643
Jim Anthony.....314-2208
Vaye Freeman.....445-7601
Fran Hollen.....725-0751
Amy Miller.....484-1948
Art Pannebecker336-6983
Vickie Schweitzer.....808-9823

HEAD USHER

Art Pannebecker

ALTAR GUILD

Sylvia Leach
Linda Coventry

GREETERS

November 1 Ed & Sue McIlmoyle
November 8 Margaret Harting
November 15 Ray Wolverton
November 22 Harvey and Esther Schlouch
November 29 Mardel Lausch

ALTAR FLOWERS

November 1 Bobbie Porter-Kunkel
and family
November 8 Mr. and Mrs. Randy Good
November 15 Jean Trostle
November 22 Pauline Firestone
November 29 Dixie Schweitzer

The deadline for submitting articles for the December issue of Peace Notes is November 20th. Please put your information in the hanging folder labeled "Peace Notes" located on the Secretary's desk or email it to: secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org
Thank you!
Note: This email address can also be used for information to be printed in the Sunday bulletin.

November Birthdays

- November 2 **Kathryn Light****
Greg Good
- November 3 **Dick Palsgrove****
- November 7 Grace Firestone
- November 9 Keith Hoffert
- November 11 Sherry Moyer
- November 12 Sheree Wolf
Drew Wolf
- November 13 Myles Shollenberger
- November 14 Fred Romich
Amy Wolf
- November 17 Marianne Little
- November 18 **Sally Fasnacht****
- November 19 **Dianne Tothero****
Brad Wolf
- November 20 Bobbie Porter-Kunkel
- November 23 Barry Harting
Jodi Freeman
- November 24 Michael Hoffert
- November 25 Esther Schlouch
Mark Weaver
- November 30 Pauline Firestone

**** Special Care and Concern Member**
Please remember these members with a card that can be placed in the birthday box in the Narthex.

November Anniversaries

- November 14 Greg and Kathi Good
- November 17 Cliff and Audrey Youndt

Did we miss your birthday or anniversary this month? Was your information incorrect? If so, please send the correct information to secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org or place a note in the Peace Notes envelope on the secretary's desk.

thank you

The youth group would like to send out a huge thank you to the congregation of Peace UCC for the continued support of our activities.

PEACE PANTRY



In November the Peace Pantry will be collecting small gift items for the residents at Colonial Lodge, some suggestions are tissues, socks, gloves, candy, snacks, jewelry or any personal

items such as shampoo or soap. These gifts will be wrapped and put into Santa's bag for when the Health and Welfare committee visits Colonial Lodge for a Christmas Party.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

The Health and Welfare Committee will be meeting Tuesday, November 3rd at 6:30 pm.

WINTER AND CHURCH CLOSING



As you know I am always hesitant to close the church. Even when the snow flies, if I can be at the church – I will! And if someone shows up – we will worship. **HOWEVER,**

just because that is my choice it does not have to be your choice. If the roads are questionable for you, I do not expect you to be here!! If you feel that the parking lot conditions will be risky for you, please stay at home. I don't expect anyone to take unnecessary risks!!

But in the event that the weather and road conditions are so bad and we have no choice, church and other activities will be canceled. Cancellations will be posted in the following ways:

· **WGAL** – depending on how many cancellation they are dealing with they may or may not post church cancellations – this is their policy. If they are not posted on TV, they will be posted on the WGAL website under cancellations.

· **CHURCH WEBSITE** and **CHURCH FACEBOOK** will be used to post closings.

· **EMAIL** mass email will be sent out to all members for whom we have current email addresses. If we do not have your email or a current email, please provide those to the church office and you will be included on any mass emails. Because these will be mass emails, on Sundays where the weather is questionable, please check your inbox and your junk or spam boxes just to be sure they have not been detoured.

Thank you!!
Pastor Bill

WHAT GIFTS WILL YOU BRING?

We are fast approaching Christmas, the day which we have set aside to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the savior of the world. This is a joyous time where we celebrate with decorating, fellowshiping with one

another, eating delicious foods and the giving of gifts. We remind ourselves often that Jesus is the reason for the season. But we go merrily about giving gifts to one another without ever considering what gift we will give to the one whose birthday we are celebrating.

But..., what do you give to God; a God who has everything? What does God want from us?

How about our lives? The greatest gift you can give to God is yourself. The greatest gift you can give to God is to say, "Lord, I give You my life. I give You my talents. I give You my time. I give You my weaknesses. I give you my hands, my mind to grow, a loving heart, a forgiving spirit, a will to obey. I offer myself to You. Here is my gift to You."

As we approach the Advent season reflect upon these questions and consider what changes you can make in your own life. On Sunday November 29th and Sunday December 6th there will be a table in the church narthex with tags on it, write your gift/gifts to Jesus on them, with or without your name. At Hanging of the Greens on Sunday December 6th after worship help decorate the church Christmas trees with the tags and bring your gift to Jesus.

The Bible tells us that the Wise Men gave Jesus gifts fit for a king!

"They bowed down and worshiped him. They opened their gifts and gave him treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." Matthew 2:11

They didn't give Jesus their leftovers when they visited him on the first Christmas but instead gave three very significant and valuable gifts: **WHAT GIFTS WILL YOU BRING?**



This year the Community Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service will be hosted at

Peace Church. Worship will begin at 7 pm. We will be joined by the people of Muddy Creek and St. Paul's Lutheran Churches. Pastor Sandi Gideon will offer the evening message.

ADVENT EVENTS



November 29th – First Sunday of Advent

December 6th – Hanging of the Greens – please gather with family and friends as we prepare the church

for the Christmas Season. Help decorate and then join in a pot luck dinner!

December 13th – Christmas Program

December 24th – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 7:30 pm

ALTAR GUILD

Christmas poinsettias can be ordered before and after the 10:30 worship service on Sunday November 29th, December 6th, and December 13th. The poinsettias will be placed in the church on Friday December 18th and will be there for Christmas Eve and Sunday the December 20th. The poinsettias are red, 1 branch, 5 bloom and cost \$7.00 and can be taken home after the Christmas Eve service.



In November the Peace Pantry will be collecting small gift items to be placed in Santa's bag when the Health and Welfare committee visits the residents at Colonial Lodge. Some suggestions are tissues, socks, gloves, candy, snacks, jewelry or any personal items such as shampoo or soap.

There are some open dates for sponsors for Sunday Altar flowers. The cost is \$25.00 for the two Altar vases and the dates are in February, March and July.

SPECIAL CARE AND CONCERN

We always remember our SCC Members at Christmas and on their birthdays. Christmas cards for each SCC Member can be placed in the Christmas box in the Narthex. We also invite you to bring a plate of your favorite Christmas cookies to Hanging of the Greens on Sunday, December 6th to share with our SCC members when the Health and Welfare Committee packs their Christmas bags.

We also invite you to sign a birthday card for each SCC member and place it in the box in the Narthex so that their sponsor may deliver the cards in time for their birthdays. No postage or stamp is needed, place your cards in the box and the Health and Welfare Committee will separate and pack them.

CHRISTMAS CARD LIST

- Jean Dehart
- Shirley Endy
- Sally Fasnacht
- Marvin & Kathryn Fitterling
- Leonore Fitterling
- Paul Freeman
- Betty Good
- Lori Hartranft
- Gene Huston
- Alverta Kilhefner
- Betty Leisey
- Pierce & Ethel Leshner
- Kathryn Light
- Stewart Mohn
- Dorothy Nye
- Richard and Robinette Palsgrove
- Betty Schweitzer
- Jane Schweitzer
- Arlene Styer
- Mary Lou Sweigart
- Dianne Tothero
- Dolly Youndt

BIRTHDAY CARD LIST

Shirley Endy	January 1
Jane Schweitzer	January 1
Stewart Mohn	January 13
Pierce Leshner	January 24
Alverta Kilhefner	January 30
Robinette Palsgrove	February 8
Betty Schweitzer	March 14
Arlene Styer	March 28
Gene Huston	March 30
Betty Good	April 7
Mary Lou Sweigart	June 6
Marvin Fitterling	June 22
Dolly Youndt	July 13
Dorothy Nye	September 6
Lori Hartranft	September 12
Ethel Leshner	September 20
Leonore Fitterling	October 14
Kathryn Fitterling	October 20
Kathryn Light	November 2
Richard Palsgrove	November 3
Sally Fasnacht	November 18
Dianne Tothoro	November 19
Jean DeHart	December 1
Paul Freeman	December 25
Betty Leisey	December 31

EPHRATA MANOR VISIT

On Thursday, November 5th the Health and Welfare Committee, and anyone else who would like to join in, will be going to Ephrata



Manor to host a program for the residents with a patriotic slide show by Jim Gress. You can meet at the Manor by 6:45 or join the group which will be leaving the church by 6:00. If you are unable to attend and would like to bake cookies for refreshments after the slide presentation please see Erla Hartranft 484-4573.

DISASTER KITS



The United Church of Christ is offering matching grants of \$250 to congregations to assemble Church World Service

(CWS) disaster kits. Since our youth have decided to go to the National Youth Event instead of a mission trip, we have decided to apply for this grant to assemble disaster kits for those in need. Even though we will not be helping someone directly as we have done on previous mission trips, we still want to provide service. By assembling these disaster kits, we can still help people less fortunate.

I'm pleased to announce that we were awarded the \$250 grant. Over the next few months, the youth will be collecting items to assemble the disaster kits. More information will follow shortly. There are 4 types of kits that we can choose to assemble. For more information about the disaster kits, see link: <http://www.cwsglobal.org/get-involved/kits/>

MYSTERY DINNER



The Peace UCC Youth are hosting their 4th annual mystery dinner on November 14th at 5:00pm. This year's theme is Music Throughout the Years. Everyone is welcome to

come out for fun and fellowship. Things may get messy but be assured that your belly will be full. Cost is by donation. All proceeds will go toward the youth's trip to the National Youth Event in Florida. Please register by signing up on the sheet on the secretary's window or by going online to the church website Peaceunitedchurch.org.

**PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COUNCIL MEETING - October 13, 2015**

Attendees: Pastor Bill Hoch, John Haldeman, Bobbie Porter-Kunkel, Chris Fitterling, Pat Acebo, Mary Getz, Cindy Anthony, Art Pannebecker, Amy Miller, Greg Grill, Fran Hollen, Jim Anthony, Mike Madara.

Excused: Vickie Schweitzer, Vaye Freeman

Unexcused: Pat Hall

President John Haldeman brought the council meeting of Peace United Church of Christ to order on Tuesday, October 13, 2015. Pastor Bill started the meeting off with devotions and prayer.

Review of last month's minutes – Bobbie Porter-Kunkel should be marked as excused. Cindy Anthony made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected and Fran Hollen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – The August and September reports were presented. The month of August looked really good for the church. September did not look quite as good, this is because there are a lot of bills that are due in September. In August, donations were up, while in September they were down. Mike received an application for a Church credit card at Council's request and will be submitting it shortly. Bobbie Porter-Kunkel made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented and Chris Fitterling seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ACCOUNT BALANCES as of 08/31/2015	AUGUST
FUNDS SUMMARY	ENDING BAL- ANCE
CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$(2,520.82)
MONEY MARKET AC- COUNT	\$9,377.04
GENERAL FUND AC- COUNT (COMBINED)	\$6,856.22
CAPITAL HOLDING AC- COUNT (LIQUID CD)	\$25,098.49
MEMORIAL FUND (MMA)	\$13,566.19
YOUTH FUND (MMA)	\$2,914.09
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN (MMA) \$104,132.72	\$0.00
PETTY CASH	\$75.00

ACCOUNT BALANCES	\$48,509.88
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT CHECKING	\$3,193.12
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT LIQUID CD	\$16,071.76
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TOTAL	\$19,264.88
ENDOWMENT CHECKING (RESTRICTED USE)	\$3,193.12
ENDOWMENT LIQUID CD (RESTRICTED USE)	\$16,071.76
ENDOWMENT CDS (RE- STRICTED USE)	\$103,989.37
MONEY FUNDS (CETERA)	\$5,713.31
MUTUAL FUNDS (CETERA)	\$159,251.29
ENDOWMENT FUND TO- TAL	\$311,205.60
TOTAL FUNDS BALANCE	\$378,980.47

ACCOUNT BALANCES as of 09/30/2015	SEPTEMBER
FUNDS SUMMARY	ENDING BAL- ANCE
CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$3,566.99
MONEY MARKET AC- COUNT	\$(5,145.38)
GENERAL FUND AC- COUNT (COMBINED)	\$(1,578.39)
CAPITAL HOLDING AC- COUNT (LIQUID CD)	\$25,102.75
MEMORIAL FUND (MMA)	\$12,102.29
YOUTH FUND (MMA)	\$3,314.43
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN (MMA) \$104,132.72	\$0.00
PETTY CASH	\$75.00
ACCOUNT BALANCES	\$39,016.08
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT CHECKING	\$3,193.25
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT LIQUID CD	\$16,074.49
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND TOTAL	\$19,267.74
ENDOWMENT CHECKING (RESTRICTED USE)	\$5,595.41
ENDOWMENT LIQUID CD (RESTRICTED USE)	\$36,662.91
ENDOWMENT CDS (RE- STRICTED USE)	\$104,103.40
MONEY FUNDS (CETERA)	\$5,744.77
MUTUAL FUNDS (CETERA)	\$153,895.41
ENDOWMENT FUND TO- TAL	\$306,001.90
TOTAL FUNDS BALANCE	\$364,285.72

Administrator's Report - The letters Council had originally chosen for the sign are no longer available from the manufacturer. We will need to use 8in letters for the word Peace on the sign, and the smaller letters for United Church of Christ we orig-

inally picked are still available. There were 2 options for 8in letters presented to Council. The first option was a very flat letter, while the second option was letter that was more 3 dimensional and had more character. Art Pannebecker made a motion to go with the second letter option and Cindy Anthony seconded. Motion carried. John McDonough cemented shut the wholes that were left from the old sign in the masonry pillars. The new sign is expected to be installed either the end of October or early November.

Pastor's Report - The library program which Council gave permission to use the Church for is doing well. They have been getting at least 12-15 participants. Pastor Bill gave handouts about Sunday School options at Peace to the parents from the program. We will need a copyright license as our contemporary service continues to grow. The cost of the license is \$208 a year. Pat Acebo made a motion to purchase the license and Mary Getz seconded. Motion carried.

The Horizons Senior Center has concerns about the expense of their current meeting location in Reinholds. They reached out to Pastor Bill and asked to begin a dialogue with the Church about potentially considering the feasibility of using the Church as a temporary meeting place while they are working on finding a new location. They would need a small amount of storage space and they would be willing to accommodate other events in the Church. They meet weekdays, and average 15-25 seniors a day. Pastor Bill is going to ask for more information from the center and report back to Council with exactly what it would entail if we were to consider allowing them the use of our building.

On October 19, Getz Fire Protection will be servicing our fire extinguishers. Peace will be hosting worship on Thanksgiving Eve and Sandy Gideon will be preaching. November 29 is the first Sunday of Advent. December 6 is hanging of the greens, and December 13 there will be a Christmas Pageant/Program.

The Boy Scout troop that used our Church last winter asked if they would be able to use our facility over the winter again this year. This is a troop that

caters to a lot of special needs boys in the area. They also expressed interest in celebrating Scout Sunday at Peace. Chris Fitterling made a motion to allow this use of our building and Cindy Anthony seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor Bill requested January 24 and 31 for vacation. He will find a supply pastor for those Sundays.

Children and Youth Ministry Report, Spiritual Council Report, Budget and Finance Report, Benevolence Committee Report – no reports

Turning the Tide Committee Report - There will be a Safe Sanctuary Faith Exploration event Sunday October 18 at 6pm.

Adult Ministry Report - The Pumpkin Cookoff will be held on October 24.

Health and Welfare Report - On November 5 at 7pm they will be hosting a Veterans Day themed event at Ephrata Manor.

Outreach Report - No Report - Looking for a chairperson for 2016

Altar Guild Report - In November, the Peace Pantry will be collecting small gift items to be placed in the Santa's bag when Health and Welfare visits Colonial Lodge in December.

Christmas poinsettias can be ordered before and after the 10:30am worship service on November 29, December 6 and December 13. The poinsettias will be placed in the church on Friday December 18 and will be there for Sunday December 20 as well as Christmas Eve. The poinsettias are red, 1 branch, 5 blooms and cost is \$7.00. They can be taken home after the Christmas Eve Service.

Youth Report - The fall chicken BBQ was a huge success. We cooked 224 chicken halves and sold all of them, for a total profit of around \$600. The first youth lunch was also a huge success. The youth brought in a total of \$371 in donations with expenses of \$89.55 for a total profit of \$281.45. Including the kitchen staff, we served 52 people, and received

nice comments about the dinner from the congregation.

Old Business - We are finalizing a projector selection for the Contemporary Service.

New Business - The Congregational Dinner will be held November 8, and the meal will be Spanish Steak over Mashed Potatoes.

The slate of nominees for the 2015 Council are as follows:

- Elder – Cindy Anthony, Dan Hall, John McDonough
- Deacon – Mark Kline, Amy Miller, Jeff Moyer, Vicki Wissinger

Pat Acebo made a motion to accept the list of nominees as presented and Mary Getz seconded. Motion Carried. The nominees will be voted on at the Congregational meeting on November 8.

The proposed 2016 budget was presented to Council. Overall, we have been running a negative budget the past few years, but it is realistic. Actual Income has been slightly above the budget the past few years. The Sexton is now a salaried position, not hourly and includes a slight increase. The Contemporary Worship leader has been added to the budget as well. Bobbie Porter Kunkel made a motion to approve the budget to present to the congregation at the Annual Meeting on November 8 and Chris Fitterling seconded. Motion carried.

The next council meeting will be Tuesday, November 10, 2015. Being no further business, Chris Fitterling motioned to adjourn and Mary Getz seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Anthony - Council Secretary

MOUNTAINS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

N M W N P H S P H X T Q W D E
T T M O A A J F O O P H S I G
R A Z I M G V W R L N S L K I
K B R T Z S H O E I M H W Q N
R O Z A H I E M B V E H U G O
M R R G R P R J A E K S U D S
M Q V E H A M E L T N L J V S
N D Y R C K O G G N D Y S G Y
W B A G P S N B H J O P O X A
E I A N I S H W L A Q T D O H
M O D O S F S D B I Z P H K Q
S U N C T H H S A A G Q Q P F
P T I X Y M F K H D G L Z G B
B G B V L H N T V Y L P U Z U
K V O K V A X W E C J P F V J

ARARAT
HOREB
CARMEL
CONGREGATION
EBAL
EPHRAIM
GAASH
GERIZIM
GILBOA
HAZOR
HERMON

HOR
MIZAR
MORIAH
NEBO
OLIVET
PISGAH
SEIR
SINAI
SODOM
TABOR

PEACE NOTES

Peace United Church of Christ
37 East Swartzville Road
Denver, PA 17517

Return Service Requested

November Events

November 1st - Totenfest Sunday

November 8th - Congregational Meeting and Dinner – 11:45 am

November 14th - Youth Mystery Dinner – 5 pm

Peace United Church of Christ
37 East Swartzville Road
Denver, PA 17517
(717) 484-4400

Contemporary Service 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.

Rev. William E. Hoch, Pastor
pastor@peaceunitedchurch.org
(717) 335-0387

Beverly Madara, Editor
secretary@peaceunitedchurch.org
(717) 484-0895

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