



# *Shenkel United Church of Christ*



SHENKEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
1580 Shenkel Road  
Pottstown, PA 19465

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



# March 2020

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Reflective service 8:30 am Traditional service 9:45 am Communion H. Shelter 1-5</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Lunch Bunch 11:30 am  Choir</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> 
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Reflective service 8:30 am Traditional service 9:45 am</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Sewing Circle 9:30 am  Consistory 6 pm</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Choir</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Reflective service 8:30 am Traditional service 9:45 am</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Midday dinner club - 12 pm  Profile Team 6:30 pm</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>PRC 5 pm Agape at Freda Wanner's 7 pm</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Card making class 10 am  Choir</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Reflective service 8:30 am Traditional service 9:45 am</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Community Meal at Christ Episcopal 12pm</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Choir</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Reflective service 8:30 am Traditional service 9:45 am</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	<p>Thursdays: Chime Choir at 6:30 pm Chancel Choir at 7:30 pm</p>			

# Shenkel United Church of Christ

1580 Shenkel Road, Pottstown PA 19465 610.326.3535

Email: shenkelucc@aol.com www.shenkelucc.org

## CHURCH STAFF

### Pastor

Rev. Suzanne Spaulding

### Organist:

Susan Royer

### Music Director

Dan Wolgemuth

### Office Administrator:

Lisa Dice

### Sexton:

Stacey Keim

## COVENANTED MINISTER IN MISSION

Rev. Wanda D. Craner,  
Gestalt Pastoral Care  
Minister and Trainer  
Gestalt Pastoral Care  
Associates

## CONSISTORY

### President:

Randy Berriker

### Vice President:

Sandy Rowe

### Secretary:

Dave Derman

### Treasurer:

Ken Bevan

### Financial Secretary:

Joan Palubinsky

### Elders:

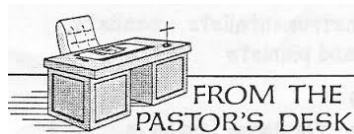
Randy Berriker  
Joan Palubinsky  
Sandy Rowe

### Deacons:

Dave Derman  
Gary McDermit  
Pat Kuestner  
Tony Gulotta

## MINISTERS

All the members  
of the church



Lent, who started it and why? When I was growing up all I knew about Lent was that my Catholic classmates got ashes on their foreheads on Ash Wednesday and were expected to give up something for Lent and I noted that the (public) school cafeteria only served fish on Fridays. Even questioning my classmates about it wasn't very enlightening; kids often don't know why their families do what they do.

There are writings from St. Irenaeus who lived from around 130 – 200 AD, that Christians observed a time of fasting before the celebration of Easter. At that time it was a fast of one or two days or 40 hours. The Council of Nicaea held in the year 325 AD talked about a 40 day period of fasting before Easter. So the idea of Lent has been around for a few years!

The word 'Lent' is actually another word for 'spring' and in ancient times for the month of March which is when Lent usually occurs. The season of Lent moves around in accordance with when Easter falls. Sundays are not counted in the forty days because we always celebrate the resurrection on Sunday.

The period of forty days is significant in several Biblical stories. Moses was on the mountain 40 days and nights to receive the Law (Ex 34:28). Elijah walked 40 days and nights to the mountain of the Lord, Mt. Horeb, another name for Mt. Sinai (I Kings 19:8). Jesus fasted in the wilderness 40 days before beginning his public ministry.

So, since we have this 40 day period to prepare for the great Celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday; how do you plan to spend this time? What will be helpful for you to prepare your heart and mind for the Mystery of the Resurrection? Will it help you to 'give up' some food or habit? Will it help you to add a spiritual practice for a little more than a month? That is how I see Lent, as an opportunity to prepare my heart, not a chore to be done or endured. What will help you the most? Then do or don't do that thing!

May you be blessed in your Lenten Practice,  
Pastor Suzanne

Newsletter Editor: Lisa Dice

## PROFILE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Shenkel's Profile Committee met recently to start the process of creating our Church Profile. This is the document that prospective pastors will see when they decide whether or not to submit their profiles (basically their resumes) for consideration. Its task is to answer three questions: Who are we now? Who is our neighbor? Who is God calling us to become? Penn Southeast Conference has requested that all churches keep an updated profile on hand for future pastoral changes.

Some information can be answered by individuals—i.e., Ken Bevan will be our go to man for the financials—but other areas need the entire congregation's input. And this is where we need your help.

Today, you have your first opportunity to let us know how you experience Shenkel life! Please fill out the survey on Page 9 and email it to [Shenkelucc@aol.com](mailto:Shenkelucc@aol.com) by **February 23**. Our office administrator, Lisa Dice, will forward it to the Committee so we can get to work on the Profile.

If you are receiving this through the newsletter, please fill out and return it to the church office or drop it in the Profile Committee Survey box in the narthex immediately.

Thank you for your commitment to Shenkel 's future!

Your Profile Committee:

Lori Scharneck, Gary McDermit, Dan Jenkins,  
Brenda Berriker

### Consistory Highlights

- Approved the installation of grab bars in the Fellowship Hall restrooms;
- Revised the Funeral Fee Schedule to add a \$50 payment to the secretary for preparing bulletins and coordinating with funeral director;
- Approved the purchase of music creation software and external hard drive from Music Fund;
- Sent letters to 48 Inactive Members to determine their future affiliation with Shenkel

### Adult Sunday School Sessions

March 1 and 8—Keeping the Sabbath Wholly: Ceasing, Resting, Embracing, Feasting led by Pastor Wanda

March 15—Pasta Dinner - no adult Sunday School

March 22—Conversation about the Cross led by Pastor Suzanne

March 29—Conversation about the Cross led by Pastor Suzanne

# This Month at Shenkel UCC



## Mid-Day Dinner Club

*Our next event will be on*

*Tuesday,  
March 17th at Longhorn  
Steakhouse*

The Mid-day Dinner Club meets at 12 noon on the third Tuesday of each month and you're invited! It is open to young-at-heart adults of any age who enjoy eating out and would like to get to know other Shenkel members a little better. If you are a "regular," please check off your name on the plate in the narthex no later than the Sunday before the lunch so your reservation can be made on time. If you are a "newbie," please call the church office (or just add your name to the plate) if you're able to join us!

## Lunch Bunch

*Thursday, March 5th*

*at 11:30 am*

The Boombadeers will be entertaining us. This is an interactive music group.

Please join us for this unique entertainment.

Lunch will be cabbage or baked potato soup, salad and rolls.

**All participants are asked to contribute \$7.00 to cover the cost of the lunch and the program. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex, or call the Shenkel UCC office at 610-326-3535 by the Monday prior to the program to reserve your spot. For more information, please call Linda Foss at 610-741-6949 or Sam Wilson at 610-323-1637.**



## Special Offering for March —

*One Great Hour of Sharing*

*One Great Hour of Sharing provides disaster relief and community development all around the world. You can read more about OGHS at [www.oghs@ucc.org](http://www.oghs@ucc.org).*

# Monthly Meets

## **The Agape group**

Third Wednesday of the Month, 7 pm

Showing love through prayer, this group's time together is spent with a quiet time for centering and meditation with sharing prayer concerns. They meet at the home of Freda Wanner, 1752 Temple Road, Pottstown.

## **Card Making Class**

Third Thursday, 10 am in Social hall

Each class participants make three beautiful cards. Cost is \$8. If you plan to attend the class or have any questions, please call Connie Armbruster at 610-326-6516 to insure there will be enough materials.

## **Community Lunch Bunch**

First Thursday, 11:30 am in Social hall

Open to the community, this monthly get together offers lunch followed by a short program that changes every month. The cost is \$7. Look for the sign up sheet in the Narthex. Look on page 5 for this month's program. For more info, please call Linda Foss at 610-741-6949 or Sam Wilson at 610-323-1637.

## **Mid-day Dinner Club**

Third Tuesday, 12 pm

Open to young-at-heart adults of any age who enjoy eating out and would like to get to know other Shenkel members a little better. Meeting place changes every month. Look for the dinner plate sign up sheet in the Narthex. Please call the church office at 610-326-3535 with questions or RSVPs.

## **Shenkel Sewing Circle**

Second & Fourth Tuesday, 9:30 am in Social hall

We are a small group of very friendly ladies who love to visit and sew. We are currently not working on any big project, so bring what you love to do or just come for the fun conversation. We love to share ideas for sewing, cross stitch, quilting and knitting, etc. We also offer help with any of your projects. We would love to expand our group, so please spread the word. For more information or If the weather is questionable, please call Margie Allen at 610-326-1519.



Jessica Moser	03/01
Diane Reinert	03/01
Karl Metka	03/02
Joan Granger	03/03
Faye Pedrick	03/04
Stephen Wanner	03/05
Brenda Berriker	03/06
Patricia Laverty	03/06
Sela Chidawu	03/11
Thomas Klein	03/14
Steven Craner	03/15
Lynne Moyer	03/19
Lilly Keim	03/20
Cara Bevan	03/22
Madelyn Murphy	03/23
Ethel Miller	03/24
Stauffer Kutz	03/30
Stephanie Viti	03/30

During the month of March, Shenkel UCC will be praying for these randomly selected members and friends of our congregation:

- 3/1 Karen Metka and Joe Zogheib  
Lynne Moyer  
Marie Bade  
Robin and Mike Martine  
Diane and David Reinert
- 3/8 Gina Halteman and Dan Wolgemuth  
Erika Burhans Price  
Tootie Hine  
Kim and Steven Bade  
Lilly Keim
- 3/15 Linda, Andrew, Brandon, Aaron, Michael and AJ Foss and Christine Hauze  
Kathy, Joe, Joelle, Magen and Jay Perelli  
Emily Lloyd  
Tami and David Bade  
Kathy Snyder
- 3/22 Maryln Rohrbach  
Chris and Ted Gray  
Julie, Bill and Lucas Zachesky  
Tesia Craner  
Rachel Lloyd
- 3/29 Scott Kutz  
Cara Bevan  
Jaden Viti  
Kelly Martin  
Ashlyn Augustine

## Holy Communion

Shenkel UCC celebrates the sacrament of Holy Communion at both services on the first Sunday of the month. We go to the Villa to share communion with folks there on Sunday, March 15 at noon!



The Pottstown Cluster Food collection at Shenkel UCC is the **1st Sunday of each month.**



Please place your items in the plastic bins in the narthex. Thank you for your support!

The Cluster welcomes all cash and food donations 8:30am to 12pm Monday thru Friday. They are at 57 N. Franklin Street in Pottstown. Items such as coffee, tea, peanut butter, sugar, artificial sweetener and baking products are *always needed*. Current cluster needs:

- tomato products, canned soup
- jelly, canned fruit
- laundry detergent and all purpose cleaner (small containers)
- dish soap
- toiletries
- paper towels
- twin and queen size sheets new/used (must be clean)
- blankets, comforters
- pots and pans

They are not accepting any clothing at this time.

As of January 31, 2020	Current Fund	
ACTUAL	Month	YTD
Opening Bal.	8,784	8,784
Giving	7,956	7,956
Expenses	(15,621)	(15,621)
Subtotal	1,119	1,119
Rent Income	1,700	1,700
Other	(170)	(170)
Ending Balance	2,649	2,649
<b>BUDGET</b>	Month	YTD
Giving	14,707	14,707
Over (Under)	(6,751)	(6,751)



Our Church's Wider Mission		
January 31, 2020	Month	YTD
Actual	434.00	434.00
Budget	958.33	958.33
Over (under)	(524.33)	(524.33)

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROFILE COMMITTEE SURVEY:**

**WHO ARE WE NOW?**

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AS COMPLETELY AS POSSIBLE AND PLACE THIS SHEET IN THE MARKED BOX IN THE NARTHEX THE NEXT TIME YOU ARE IN CHURCH. WE WOULD LIKE YOUR RESPONSES BY FEBRUARY 23. IF A QUESTION ASKS SOMETHING YOU ARE UNABLE TO ANSWER, JUST LEAVE IT BLANK OR EXPLAIN WHAT YOU ARE STRUGGLING WITH. REMEMBER: THERE ARE NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWERS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

Do you practice any communal spiritual practices, like walking the labyrinth or meditation or regular prayer groups? Please mention all that apply.

Do you rely on the Pastor to pray at meetings?    Yes    No

Have you ever prayed out loud with others?        Yes    No

Would you feel comfortable doing so?                Yes    No

What is prayer to you?    Do you have an active personal prayer life?

Do you feel comfortable expressing your doubts surrounding your faith?

Yes    No

If not, what would help you to do that?

Do you think our congregation's faith life should have something to say about social and community issues? Explain.

Or do you believe that the life of the church should be a restful and quiet place away from the cares of the world? Explain.