

The Worship Service
Sunday, May 31, 2026

**Remember,
Immanuel,
Always!**

Shenkel United Church of Christ

1580 Shenkel Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

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Shenkel's UCC's Vision Statement

Shenkel United Church of Christ extends a heartfelt welcome to all unbound by physical structure or geography and grounded in creative worship, active spirituality, community action, love and service.

Welcome to Shenkel United Church of Christ!
An Open and Affirming congregation since 2018

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

~Gathering Together~

Prelude "Souer Monique" (Couperin)

Welcome

Choral Introit "Allelu, Allelu" Church School Children
"I've Got the Joy"

Call to Worship

L: O God, our God, how glorious is your name in all the earth!

C: Your glory is sung by all of your creation!

L: When we look to the heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, we wonder --

C: Who are we that you care for us and for this world?

All: You are the God of life, crowning us with glory and honor to serve you all our days. O God, our God, how glorious is your name in all the earth!

Opening Hymn "We Worship You, God" (NCH#26)

~Coming Alive in Community~

Call to Confession

Let us make our confession together.

Prayer of Confession

O God, our God, we celebrate the new life which you have given us. We have experienced broken lives made whole, old wounds of alienation healed over, and tired spirits rejuvenated with new vision. Gracious God, we are so grateful for the purpose and possibilities you have placed before us. Yet there are times when doubt has overcome hope, cynicism has replaced dedication, the world's values have captured us more than yours. Forgive us those times, we pray. Help us let go of the past that we might move joyfully into a new future that points to your love and justice. Amen.

Silence for Prayer and Meditation

Assurance of Pardon:

In steadfast love God forgives us and restores us to right relationship.

~We Hear God's Word~

Scripture Lessons

Genesis 1:1-2:4

Psalm 8

Matt. 28:16-20

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection:

“Colorful Creator”

(NCH#30)

Affirmation of Ministry; Installation of New Consistory 2026

P: Affirmation of ministry is the act whereby a local church of the United Church of Christ recognizes the diverse gifts of its members and celebrates the particular ministry of each person in the life of the church.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

C: There are different ways of serving. But the same God is served.

P: There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our particular service.

C: The Spirit’s presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.

P: Christ is like a single body, which has many parts.

C: It is still one body even though it is made up of different parts.

P: If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness.

C: All of us are Christ’s body, and each one is part of it.

P: These people have been called by God, in accordance with the faith and order of this church, to serve among us. They have accepted their call and are before us in witness to their willingness to serve.

* (Randy Berriker, president, Sandy Rowe, vice-president, Dan Jenkins, secretary, Sue Stultz, Barry Miller, Gary McDermit, Brian McShane, Erika Manetti) *

Sisters and brothers in Christ, it is an honor to be entrusted with responsibility for particular service in the ministry of the church, whether gathered or scattered. Having prayerfully considered the duties and responsibilities of your ministry, are you prepared to serve with the help of God in Christ’s name and for the glory of God?

(I am)

Do you promise to exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, showing forth the love of Christ?

(I do, relying on God’s grace.)

P: Members of this household of faith, you have heard the promises of our brothers and sisters in Christ who have answered God’s call to service. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with them. Will those who are able, rise and witness to the commitment we now make?

C: We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.

P: Let us pray. Eternal God, you have called these people to serve you in this household of faith and in the world, which you have entrusted to our care and keeping. Send your Holy Spirit on them that they may serve among us with honor and faithfulness. Help them to be diligent in their duties so that your church may prosper

in the mission you place before it. May their example prove worthy for all of us to follow, as we are united in Christ's ministry, to the glory of your name. Amen.

P: In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of the people of Shenkel United Church of Christ I rejoice to announce: You are installed as the Consistory.

~Sharing Blessings with Others~

Prayers of the People/Lord's Prayer

Our Mother/Father, who are in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering our Gifts – Thank you for your faithful support of Shenkel's ongoing ministries.
June's Special Offering – Coventry Food Pantry

Offertory "Elevation" (Guilmant)

Offering Response "God Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

**Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred;
Ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel Word.
Open wide our hands in sharing as we heed Christ's ageless call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, honoring you by loving all.**

Prayer of Dedication

~Going out in Joy~

Sending Hymn "O Holy God, Whose Gracious Power" (NCH#535)

Benediction

Postlude "Introduction to Suite Gothique" (Boellman)

Pastor: Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding Music Director: Dan Wolgemuth
Email: shenkelpastor@gmail.com Organist: Susan Royer
Sexton: Stacy Keim Secretary: Danielle Petersen
Ministers: All Members of the Church

Announcements:

~Sunday, May 31, 2026~

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

Sun, 5/31/26 ~ Reflective Worship Service at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary.
~ Traditionalish Worship Service at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary.
~ Chancel Choir rehearsal at 11:00 am.

Sun, 6/7/26 ~ Reflective Worship Service at 8:30 am with Communion in the Sanctuary.
~ Traditionalish Worship Service at 9:45 am with Communion in the Sanctuary.
~ Chancel Choir rehearsal at 11:00 am.

Please feel free to scan this code to donate through our online giving page.



Scripture Reading for June 7th

Pam McShane

Genesis 12:1-9

Psalm 33:1-12

Matt. 9:9-13, 18-26

Cluster donations for June: Canned chicken and ham

Make Music Upper Perk – a community music festival held annually on June 21 at 11:00 am invites the congregations of the Valley to join for a special day of fellowship and musical performances. This year several churches will be host to festivities – the grove at Palm Schwenkfelder, the gazebo and sanctuary at St. Mark Lutheran, the lawn at Pennsburg UCC, the bandshell at New Goshenhoppen UCC – in addition to other venues around the Valley. All performances are free to the public & will feature local musicians, bands, and choirs. The day will be a celebration of music in our local community and will include genres for all ages. All events are free and open to the public, and you are invited! The full schedule will be released in the Town & Country in June as well as at ValleyArtScene.wordpress.com. Printed programs are also available in the church office and throughout the community.

First Outdoor Service: Begins June 14th with one service at 9:45 a.m., celebrating communion and dedication of pavilion renovations with refreshments being served. Only one service during summer.

Pottstown Area Pride Event: Shenkel will be hosting the Pottstown Area Pride Fest again. This is our 3rd year as hosts. **Anyone is welcome to volunteer to help make this event fun and safe for all. Please sign up as a volunteer on the website (pottstownpride.org). By signing up we can know who to count on for help the day of the festival – July 18th.** Hope to see you there as we move fully live into our mission to unconditionally love and accept all and generously serve our community. Mark your calendar for Saturday, July 18th from 1:00 – 5:00 pm in the Grove!

Walk and Pray: In an increasingly complex and troubling world, many of us are wondering what to do. One simple act is to walk and pray for peace and wholeness in our world. You are invited to walk the Labyrinth here at Shenkel from 9 - 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Come as you are able, leave when you are ready. Pam McShane will be at the Labyrinth most weeks to guide those who are new to labyrinth walking. There's power in walking and praying together!

Qigong classes at Shenkel!: Classes are on Thursday mornings from 11AM-noon. Suggested cost is \$12/class or come and pay what you're able. Cash or check payable to Shenkel UCC. Hope you'll join us! No experience necessary--All are welcome!

Grocery run? Consider using Giant and Redner's cards for your grocery store purchases: Shenkel earns \$5 for every \$100 on Giant and Redner's gift cards – which are available every week at church.

Stewardship: Stewardship Committee will meet next on June 3rd at 5:30 pm. The charge of the committee is to: find ways to increase much needed revenue, attract new members, and identify new ways to provide ministry. Please contact members of the committee with your thoughts. Committee members: Chris Gray, Dan Jenkins, Kim Yocom, Julie Zachesky, and Brenda Berriker, Tom & Mo Gallant.

Church School: Children from 3 years through grade 6 are invited to participate in church school on the third Sunday of the month at 11:00 AM. Church school will resume in September. The children are singing in church today.

Shenkel Prayer Group: Meets at 10:00 am on the first Monday of the month. All are welcome to participate. Enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and celebrate the Spirit of God moving among us as we pray together.

Prayer Lottery: Shenkel will be praying for:

Joan and Joe Palubinsky
Dawn Yocom
Michael and Robin Martin
Noah Bradley

Birthdays in the month of May:

Robin Martin	5/3/26
Malcolm Snyder	5/4/26
Tom Gallant	5/6/26
Emily Trego	5/7/26
Connor O'Drain	5/8/26
Brooke Miller	5/10/26
Olivia Sanseverino	5/11/26
Matthew Scharneck	5/12/26
Jordan Hartzell	5/15/26
Patricia Kuestner	5/18/26
Michaela Craner	5/20/26
Lynn Derman	5/20/26
Randy Berrick	5/21/26
Christinia Hauze	5/21/26
Bill Mocarski	5/23/26
Andrew Foss	5/29/26

Mission Statement

Shenkel UCC

- prayerfully and creatively worships God;
- unconditionally loves and accepts all;
- generously gives and serves our community and our world.