

SHENKEL HAPPENINGS – APRIL, 2024

Greetings, Shenkel Friends and Family!

It's April, and you know what that means! If the last few days are any indication of the abundance of May's flowers, we're all going to have Longwood Gardens- worthy floral displays this year.

We have so much to celebrate here at Shenkel, including the uplifting Easter Service complete with the Easter hymns we all love, amazing organ pieces played by our talented Susan Royer, and an uplifting, energetic choir piece that I am still trying to get out of my head! Many thanks to our Director of Music, Dan Wogelmuth, and Susan for blessing us with their musical talents.

As an aside, Shenkel Happenings is an evolving publication. At your request, we have added birthdays and who we are praying for each week. Thanks for letting your needs be known!

Now, let me catch you up on what is happening in your church.

WEBSITE

If you haven't checked out our website, please do! Julie Zachesky, Chris Gray, and I met with our own Abby Dise, who is a website wiz. She very patiently walked us through the processes we need to continue to make our website relevant and current. Many, many thanks to Abby for her much needed help. We're not finished with it, but are well on our way!

ONLINE GIVING

I went into a longer explanation last month of how you can be sure to do your part to keep our church alive financially. So let me just remind you of some of the key points.

We have two easy ways to donate if you are unable to join us for worship:

1. WEBSITE

Use this link <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZJNX/home> or head to www.shenkelucc.org, go to Online Giving, and choose how you want your offering distributed. Choose whether you want it to be a single donation or recurring. If you want to vary what you give each month or how the funds are distributed, this is a good option. PLEASE NOTE: VANCO, the company that supports this program, charges a small fee for using a credit card, as most businesses do. If you do not choose to absorb the fee (it's fine if you do), Shenkel has to, which means we get slightly less than you intended. If you choose the option to pay the fee, we get the full amount you would like us to receive.

2. MONTHLY ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER (EFT)

Use this option if you would like to donate the same amount each month. Once you choose an amount, you cannot vary it, but you can designate how much goes into each of the accounts: Current, OCWM, and Property. Each of those amounts is also the same throughout the year.

We need you to help keep our church functioning and to do good in the world through our OCWM contributions. Thank you for doing your part!

AGAPE GROUP REORGANIZATION

The Agape group is re-organizing and will now become the **SHENKEL PRAYER GROUP**. It will be a time for prayer requests, meditation, fellowship, and a way to explore prayer. All are welcome, including new faces! The group will meet the first Thursday of each month at 10:00 AM at Freda Warner's home starting in May. Please refer to the church directory for her address or call the church office. Enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and celebrate the Spirit of God moving among us. If you have any questions, please talk to Tootie or Louise.

SPEAKER SERIES SURVEY

We had a few people respond to the online survey, and we'd love to hear from everyone! There will be a paper survey in the narthex if you haven't already filled one out. One of the questions asked if you would be willing to help get this up and running, and OOPS!, we forgot to ask for your name. So if you are one of the 4 people who were excited to be a part of this, please let Julie Zachesky know.

PROPERTY REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS

We need a facelift! It doesn't require the skills of a plastic surgeon, but we will get a new face! We've done the legwork and we're ready to move forward on various repairs and refreshes, both inside and out. So keep your eyes open!

PLEASE NOTE: We have a property that is beautiful and large! Look for a date in the near future when you can help clean up the outside. The Daisy Troop will be putting in some sweat equity in May sometime, but we may have a few things to take care of that will require a bit more muscle than a 6—year-old can provide! Please consider helping out!

SUMMER CONCERT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! We are partnering with First Baptist Church in Pottstown to bring **BOBBY JO VALENTINE** to our outdoor concert venue on **AUGUST 10**. He doesn't have Taylor Swift's name recognition, but reports are he puts on a good show! Google him! And listen for one or two of his songs to be played during worship.

HOW YOU CAN HELP: We need 3-5 people to come up with a plan to market and promote this. Don't worry if concert promotion is not in your wheelhouse. Bobby Jo sent us information that will be a big help in making it easier for you. **Contact Pastor Suzanne** if you can be part of this important team!

THANK YOUs

Many thanks to everyone who baked goodies, set up the dining room, served, cleaned up and washed tablecloths for the funerals of our beloved friends. Your help has been greatly appreciated. From Louise Hine, Sue Stultz, and "The Kitchen Crew"

Easter Sunday morning found the Sanctuary decorated with the beautiful flowers of Spring. Thank you to all who purchased flowers that turned our sanctuary into a garden. From Louise and Tootie Hine

PRAYER LIST

Praying for others has been foundational to our church for decades. Please join us in prayer for these friends and members of Shenkel:

- 4/7 Marie Bade
Joan Granger
Kelly Strunk, Steve, Jacoby, and Madeline Mest
Rebecca, Joe, Grace, and Cole Major
Brooke Miller
- 4/14 Don Laverty
Robin and Mike Martin
Judy Gergle
Antony Gulotta
- 4/21 Freda Wanner
Susan and Homer Royer
Erika Price
Sarah Neff, Emmit, Shane, and Iris Glatfelter
Drew Sweinhart
- 4/28 Gloria Mest
Barbara Brown
Lexi Foss
Gary McDermit
Matthew Scharneck
Stephanie Viti
Mindy, Isabella, and Sela Chidwan

BIRTHDAYS

By popular request, here they are!

- 4/04 Scott Meehan
4/07 James White
04/10 Debbie Hoff

04/10 Scott Kutz
04/10 Gloria Mest
04/11 Sandy Rowe
04/12 Gary Stultz
04/12 Julianne Wanner
04/16 Drew Sweinhart
04/16 Angeline Viti
04/16 Rosemary Wogelmuth
04/18 Jennifer Braley
04/19 Kelly Strunk
04/21 Barbara Brown
04/24 Kaelyn Kline
04/25 Sarah Neff Glatfelter
04/28 Joan Palubinski
04/29 Don Laverty

Enjoy these beautiful Spring days!

Your Shenkel Happenings Editor,

Brenda Berriker