



Shenkel United Church of Christ

2021



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2	3 Bible Study 7 pm	4	5	6
7 Virtual service with Communion Sunday School 11:30 am—Zoom	8	9 Consistory 6:30 pm	10 Bible Study 7 pm	11	12	13
14 Virtual service Sunday School 11:30 am—Zoom	15	16	17 Ash Wednesday	18	19	20
21 Virtual service Sunday School 11:30 am—Zoom	22	23	24 Bible Study 7 pm	25	26	27
28 Virtual service Sunday School 11:30 am—Zoom						

Shenkel United Church of Christ

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:
Dan Jenkins

Treasurer:
Ken Bevan

Financial Secretary:
Joan Palubinsky

Elders:
Randy Berriker
Joan Palubinsky
Sandy Rowe

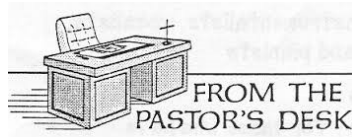
Deacons:
Dan Jenkins
Gary McDermitt
Pat Kuestner
Tony Gulotta

MINISTERS

All the members
of the church

1580 Shenkel Road, Pottstown PA 19465 610.326.3535

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



In Bible study the other night we talked about the various kinds of grace. We especially noted saving grace because we are studying Romans and Paul talks in chapter 5 about sin abounding but grace abounding even more. Thinking about different types of grace then led me to consider that there are also different types of grief and the fact that many of us are experiencing various types of grief right now.

One type of grief is that of loss through death. Shenkel as a faith community has suffered this type of grief in the deaths of parents, spouses, siblings, dear friends and acquaintances. There is also the grief of separation because of the pandemic and our inability to be in one another's presence, to give hugs, shake hands, and share our common tears.

Another type of grief is the loss of a cherished storyline. As you watched news coverage of the events at the Capitol on January 6th you may have experienced this grief. To see the Capitol Building broken into and 'desecrated' in the manner in which it was may have ended the storyline that most of us grew up with; that America is an exceptional place and that those actions are not part of our history. It is difficult to lose a cherished story. We experience grief when painful truths are suddenly revealed.

During this time of many layers of grief, be kind to yourself. Grief is a process, one that continues for as long as it continues. There is no set timeline for anyone's grief. The grieving process is often one we don't like. It is thrust upon us and we wish to refuse it. The only way to the other side of grief is through it. So cry, rage, journal your grief, remember, talk with people you trust, cry, take naps and be gentle with yourself. You are a beloved child of God and with you God is well-pleased. The God who took on our flesh and blood and was born in that manger at Christmas is still here, walking with us and granting grace for each day.

I leave you with words from a song by Marty Haugen, "Healer of Our Every Ill"

*Healer of our every ill,
light of each tomorrow,
Give us peace beyond our fear,
and hope beyond our sorrow.*

In God's grace and peace,
Pastor Suzanne

Seeking Willing Participants!

Do you have a regular Lenten Practice? A Lenten Practice is anything you try to do every day, or regularly, during the season of Lent which is 40 days. It is a "practice" that helps you to grow spiritually, or at least to intentionally pause on a regular basis and think about this time of Jesus' journey to the cross.

Traditionally people have given up something for Lent; often a food or something significant to them. The idea has been to fast from that thing and, in so doing, be reminded of Jesus giving his whole self for us. Some people find it more helpful to add a spiritual practice during Lent; perhaps an intentional time for extra prayer or Scripture reading or reading specific types of books. There is no set list or rule; the idea is to allow it to be something that will cause you to pause and remember; to be intentional about this journey we make with Jesus toward Calvary.

If you have a regular Lenten Practice I would like to hear from you. I would like for you to share a couple of minutes in a video recording, what your practice is and what makes it meaningful to you. Then the recording will be shared with the Shenkel family in our Sunday morning recorded services during Lent. I am hoping that this is one way to foster community while we cannot worship in the same space. Once I hear from you regarding your interest in participating, then we'll work on the technical side of things. Thank you in advance for your willingness to participate and to share your helpful Lenten practices with your faith community. I look forward to hearing from you. You may either contact me at shenkelpastor@gmail.com or call the church office. Please do so by Tuesday February 16.

In God's grace,
Pastor Suzanne



December/January Consistory Highlights

At our December Meeting:

- The Pottstown Meal Ministry has moved to bag lunches during the pandemic vs. the in-person meal. We learned that members have been buying the lunch materials from their own pockets. After discussion with them, we authorized \$200/month for the next 6 months from the Program and Mission 2018 Allocation to cover the cost of the meals. We plan to review the allocation every other month to determine how we need to adjust it and continue it after the 6 months.
- We consolidated small-balance, named memorial funds into the General Memorial Fund. This will help streamline Ken's Memorial Fund Reporting.
- January 31st at 1pm has been set as the time for our annual Congregational Meeting. This will be a virtual meeting via zoom. The zoom link and materials about the meeting will be sent to members the week before that date. Please submit any topics for discussion to the church office or Randy Berriker in advance of that date.

At the December 20 Congregational Meeting, both the Current and OCWM Budgets were unanimously approved with over 50 proxy and in-person votes. We thank our members for their financial support.

At our January Meeting:

- We approved transferring \$394 from our General Memorial fund to complete our 2020 OCWM commitment.
- Since we no longer have any church camps nor young people that are going to these former camps, we consolidated the Camper Scholarship Fund into the Wholeness Ministry. If we have a later request for assistance from a young person for a church camp, we will use those or other funds for the help.
- We learned that our PPP Loan has been completely forgiven by the SBA. Since Conference had sent us \$1,000 from their Rainy Day Fund in the spring which we had applied to our Current Fund, we elected to return that amount to Conference for their Rainy Day Fund from the PPP Proceeds. Over the next few months we're asking the congregation to submit their thoughts on appropriate uses for the remaining PPP proceeds.
- We learned that \$10,000 has been contributed by the family towards a William Burhans Scholarship Fund to be used for a Shenkel youth who plans to study music or history. The mechanics of the fund are being finalized and will be presented to the Congregation at a later date.
- We have been investigating ways to improve our streaming/recorded worship experience. In addition, we've concluded that even after the pandemic has subsided and we can meet in person on a regular basis that we will still provide this worship option to our members. Audiobahn, the group that has supported our sanctuary sound system, has presented two options on how Shenkel can accomplish this. Gary McDermitt will be the Consistory liaison with our music/worship/technology team to review these and other options. Watch for details on their recommendation
- We are still looking for a member to volunteer to be a backup to the Cemetery Superintendent. If interested in learning more, please contact Randy Berriker.



Britnee Sanseverino	02/02
Barry Miller	02/04
Jesse Painter	02/04
Sandra Peterman	02/05
Ronald Christman	02/08
Nicole Meehan	02/10
Doug Allen	02/11
Lori Skulski	02/15
Bill Sanseverino	02/24
Erika Lessig	02/25
Gary McDermit	02/26
Kathy Murphy	02/27

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

- 2/7 Rebecca, Joe, Grace, Cole Major and
Seth Dawicki
TJ Augustine
Barbara Brown
Julie and Bill Zachesky
David and Timothy Klein
- 2/14 Louise Hine
Richard, Ricky and Ryan Golden
Stephanie Viti
Sheree and Rick Scheler
Stauffer Kutz
- 2/21 Tesia Craner
BJ Peterman
Brenda and Randy Berriker
Lindsay Hoff
Clair and Jim Faust
- 2/28 Lynne and Cody Moyer
Sue and Barry Miller
Julianne Wanner
Chris and Ted Gray
Matthew Scharneck



Here are the January birthdays in case you want to send belated birthday wishes.



Yocom, Kimberly	01/04
Zodroga, Jenny	01/04
Apgar, Noah	01/05
Miller, Susan	01/05
Dushanko, Olivia	01/09
Heath, James	01/10
Foss, Brandon	01/13
Wanner, Freda	01/13
Woodman, Adelynn	01/17
Sanseverino, Delia	01/18
Martin, Mike	01/21
Painter, Kailyn	01/21
Keim, Aurora	01/22
Klein, David	01/24
Devine, Jared	01/25
Klein, Eric	01/27
Hudick, Jill	01/30
Spaulding, Suzanne	01/30



Carol Lykens would like to thank everyone for the cards and the poinsettia.

Thank you to everyone who sent birthday wishes to my Mother! She enjoyed all your cards and birthday wishes! I REALLY appreciate your kindness!

Carol Pearson



Giant and Redner's Gift Cards

Giant gift cards in \$25, \$50 or \$100 increments and Redner's gift cards in \$50 and \$100 increments can be purchased in the church office on Tuesdays, Wednesday or Thursdays from 9 am to 2 pm.



Holy Communion

Shenkel UCC celebrates the sacrament of Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month.



As of December 31, 2020	Current Fund	
ACTUAL	Month	YTD
Opening Bal.	(3,006)	8,784
Giving	21,743	146,493
Expenses	(13,892)	(168,986)
Subtotal	4,845	(13,709)
Rent Income	1,700	20,400
Other	1	(145)
Ending Balance	6,546	6,546
Net Chg	9,552	(2,238)
BUDGET		
Giving	14,707	176,480
Over (Under)	7,036	(29,987)



Our Church's Wider Mission		
December 31, 2020	Month	YTD
Actual	1,590.00	11,106.00
Budget	958.33	11,500.00
Over (under)	631.67	(394.00)