

The Worship Service
Sunday, March 8, 2026

The good news is...
together, the impossible is
possible.

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 "Largo from Concerto in D minor" (Vivaldi)

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: If you need good news,

C: settle into this space.

We have good news to share.

L: If you need a word of hope,

C: then trust us when we say,

there is hope enough to go around.

L: If you need a glimmer of joy,

C: then you're in luck!

We have resilient joy abounding.

L: If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,

C: then know that this is God's house.

L: This is the good news of the gospel.

C: God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move.

Let us worship our with-us God!

Opening Hymn "God Of Change And Glory" (NCH#177)

~Coming Alive in Community~

Call to Confession

Friends, we are like the disciples.

The day that Jesus fed 5,000, his disciples could not imagine a solution to the crowd's hunger. They told Jesus to send the crowds away.

We often do the same.

Like the disciples, we try to follow Jesus around, but when we run into issues, we often cannot imagine how we could play a part.

That is why we need the Prayer of Confession.

For in this prayer, we remember that we can make a difference.

So friends, join me in this moment of truth telling.

Join me in prayer:

Prayer of Confession

**Holy God,
with you the impossible is possible.
5,000 can be fed.
The blind can see.**

**The hopeless can find hope.
With you the impossible is possible,
but we are quick to forget that.
We look at our hurting world and tell ourselves that nothing can be done.
We forget that you empowered the disciples to feed the crowd.
We forget that you are always with us.
Forgive our small-minded ways.
Forgive us for doubting that change could ever come.
But even more so, forgive us when we refuse to be a part of it.
With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.**

Silence for Prayer and Meditation

Words of forgiveness:

L: Family of faith, no matter how many mistakes the disciples made,
Jesus still washed their feet. Jesus still fed them. Jesus still called them beloved.
The same is true for you and me, so hear and believe this good news:
**C: today is a new day, and once again, we belong to God.
We are forgiven. We are called. We are not alone.
What good, good news. Amen!**

Special Music

~We Hear God's Word~

Scripture Lessons

Susan Royer

Ephesians 3:20-21

Mark 6:32-44

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

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection:

"Break Now The Bread of Life"

(NCH#321)

~Sharing Blessings with Others~

Prayers of the People

Our Mother/Father, who are in heaven, hallowed by the 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.

March's Special Offering – One Great Hour of Sharing

Offertory

"Amazing Grace"

(arr. Held)

Offering Response

"We Give You But Your Own"

(NCH#785)

Prayer of Dedication

~Going out in Joy~

Sending Hymn “O God In Whom All Life Begins” (NCH#401)

Benediction

Postlude “Our God Has Done Great Things” (Hamm)

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, March 8, 2026~

Sun, 3/8/26 ~ Reflective Worship Service at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary.
~ Traditionalish Worship Service at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary.
~ Chancel Choir rehearsal after worship service.

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

Weds, 3/11/26 ~ Taize Service at 6:30 pm
Sun, 3/15/26 ~ One Worship Service at 9:45 am in the Social Hall.
~ Church School at 11:00 am.
~ Chancel Choir rehearsal after worship service.

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



Scripture Reading for March 15th

Lori Scharneck

Matthew 19:13-15
Deuteronomy 24:17-22

Cluster donations for March: dry milk and crackers (all kinds)

Let's Dance: Join us from 7:00 – 9:00 pm on 3/21/26 in the Social Hall for some line dancing taught by Sandra Dee Guillen of Unity Rhythm Ballroom.

Church Change Changes Churches: Tired of lugging around loose change? Donate it to Shenkel! You can put your change in one of two receptacles at the end of the back pews. We'll have a little contest to see which side of the sanctuary gives the most from 1/11/26 until Easter Sunday 4/5/26.

Qigong classes at Shenkel!: Thursday mornings 11AM-noon. No experience necessary--All are welcome! 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!

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 March 4th at 5:00 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.

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. Our next church school is on March 15th.

Shenkel Prayer Group: Meets at 9:00 am on the first Thursday 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:

Ben Mocarski
Lucas Gray
Collin Gray
Alex Mocarksi

Birthdays in the month of March:

Joan Granger	3/3/26
Kyle Manetti	3/3/26
Faye Pedrick	3/4/26
Brenda Berriker	3/6/26
Sela Chidawu	3/11/26
Clayton Brewer	3/11/26
Steven Craner	3/15/26
Adam Hartzell	3/19/26
Lynne Moyer	3/19/26
Lilly Keim	3/20/26
Cara Bevan	3/22/26
Stephanie Viti	3/30/26
Zoey Carr	3/31/26

Mission Statement

Shenkel UCC

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