

The Worship Service

Sunday, May 25, 2025



Shenkel United Church of Christ

1580 Shenkel Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

610-326-3535 ~ www.shenkelucc.org ~ shenkelucc@aol.com ~

Shenkel's UCC's Covenant Statement

So reach out and welcome one another to God's glory. Jesus did it, now you do it!

(Romans 15:7, The Message)

We are aware of pain organized religion has inflicted on many; and we are aware many places of worship have not given the extravagant welcome God offers to us all. Therefore, Shenkel United Church of Christ covenants to extend heartfelt hospitality to ALL. Shenkel UCC affirms all persons are created in the image of God, so we offer full inclusion (communion, life, and ministries) in the faith journey of this congregation, regardless of differences: whether religious background, economic status, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, national origin, immigration and refugee status, age, ethnicity, relationship status, addiction/recovery, physical or mental ability, and political affiliation. We proclaim this statement: **no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.**

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 I Will Lift Mine Eyes (Powell)

Welcome

Invocation

Silence for Meditation

Call to Worship

L: This is the season for hoes and hoes, for greening grass and growing gardens, for busy hands.

C: May our hands also be active working in the ground of our faith.

L: This is the season for absorbing the sun's bright warmth.

C: May our hearts and minds soak up the wisdom of God's will and ways.

L: This is the season for launching kites into the breeze.

C: May our spirits soar free upon the winds of hope yet be tethered by love to the hand of our Creator.

Opening Hymn "Shall We Gather At The River" (NCH#597)

~Coming Alive in Community~

Call to Confession

Let us join together to make our confession:

Prayer of Confession

God of birth, God of joy, God of life, we come to you as a people hungry for good news. We have been so dead to miracles that we have missed the world's rebirth. We have preoccupied ourselves with pleasures and have overlooked the joy you offer us. We have been so concerned with making a living that we have missed the Life you set among us. Forgive us, gracious God. Open our eyes and our hearts to receive your gift; open our lips and our hands to share it with all humanity, in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silence for Prayer and Meditation

Assurance of Pardon

With great mercy and grace God hears our prayer and restores us to right relationship. Thanks be to God.

Special Music

Deep Peace, Chancel Choir, Sue Stultz, Flutist

~We Hear God's Word~

Scripture Lessons Maddie Mest

Acts 16:9-15

Psalm 67

John 14:23-29

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

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection: "Peace I Leave With You, My Friends"

(NCH#249)

~Sharing Blessings with Others~

Prayers of the People

The Prayer of Our Savior

All: 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. May's Special Offering – Creative Health Services

Offertory

Holy Spirit, Come, Confirm Us

(Copes)

Offering Response

"Joy Dawned Again On Easter Day"

O Jesus, Savior, Gentle One, come take our hearts to be your own.
That we may give you all our days the willing tribute of our praise.

Prayer of Dedication

~Going out in Joy~

Sending Hymn

"Part In Peace"

(NCH#78)

Benediction

Postlude

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

(Steffe)

Pastor: Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Email: shenkelpastor@gmail.com

Sexton: Stacy Keim

Ministers: All Members of the Church

Music Director: Dan Wolgemuth

Organist: Susan Royer

Secretary: Danielle Petersen

Special Music: (Kirk Dearman, lyric based on ancient Celtic blessing/2nd vs by DW)

Announcements:

Sunday, May 25, 2025

~This Sunday at Shenkel UCC~

Sun, 5/25/25 ~ Reflective Worship Service at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary

~ Traditionalish Worship Service at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

Sun, 6/1/25 ~ Reflective Worship Service with communion at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary

~ Traditionalish Worship Service with communion at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary

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



Scripture Reading for June 1st

Acts 16:16-34

Psalm 97

John 17:20-26

Cluster donations for May: Dish soap & multi-purpose cleaners

Qigong classes at Shenkel!: Thursday mornings 11AM-noon. No experience necessary--All are welcome! Cost is \$12/class, cash or check payable to Shenkel UCC. Hope you'll join us!

PRIDE FEST 2025: The current date for the Pride Festival to be held in Shenkel's grove is **JULY 26 from 1:00 to 5:00 PM with a rain date of AUGUST 9**. Contact Pastor Suzanne for more info or to volunteer to help.

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 meets the first Wednesday of the month 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 Yocum, 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 will be in September.

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:

Barry Yocom

Elizabeth, James, Zoey, Henry and Molly Carr

Aaron Gray and Angela Araque

Kelly Strunk, Steve, Madeline and Jacoby Mest

Tesia Craner

Birthdays in the month of May:

Robin Martin	5/3/25
Malcolm Snyder	5/4/25
Emily Trego	5/7/25
Connor O'Drain	5/8/25
Brooke Miller	5/10/25
Olivia Sanseverino	5/11/25
Matthew Scharneck	5/12/25
Jordan Hartzell	5/15/25
Patricia Kuestner	5/18/25
Michaela Craner	5/20/25
Lynn Derman	5/20/25
Randy Berriker	5/21/25
Christina Hauze	5/21/25
Bob Mocarski	5/23/25
Andrew Foss	5/29/25

