

The Worship Service

Sunday, May 10, 2026

*I will not leave
you orphaned. -
Jesus*

Shenkel United Church of Christ

1580 Shenkel Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

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

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 "Ode to Music" (Handel)

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: A magnetic power invisible and far away draws the compass needle toward the north, pointing it in a reliably consistent direction.

C: An attractive spray of rainbow draws our eyes toward a beautiful intrusion of colors tinting the sky.

L: An inviting smell of cookies baking in the oven draws memories toward joyous kitchen moments, and pantry excursions.

C: A potent love - magnetic, attractive, inviting - has drawn us toward this place. It is here we worship the loving God who fills life with direction, beauty, and joy. We worship the God who draws us near.

Opening Hymn "I Sing The Mighty Power Of God" (NCH#12)

~Coming Alive in Community~

Call to Confession

Trusting in God's grace let us make our confession together.

Prayer of Confession

We confess, O God, that when left to our own devices as followers of our own ways, we become self-centered and spiritually off-center. Draw us toward you, that we may know the heart of things. Center us.

We confess that our vision of people and events gets distorted by prejudice and self-interest. Grant us the ability to view the world with eyes of faith. Help us to see with a clarity that only your love can give. Focus us.

We confess that in our lives we give great weight to the insignificant and take too lightly the things that matter most. Enable us to make wiser judgments and to set our priorities with the help of your discerning Spirit. Balance us.

We offer this prayer with confidence in your power to heal, and to guide. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Silence for Prayer and Meditation

Assurance of Pardon:

God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. Know that you are forgiven and restored to right relationship with God.

Special Music

~We Hear God's Word~

Scripture Lessons

Maddie Mest

Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20
John 14:15-21

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

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection:

“Holy Spirit, Truth Divine”

(NCH#63)

~Sharing Blessings with Others~

Prayers of the People

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

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

(Mason)

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

“God Our Author and Creator”

(NCH#530)

Benediction

Postlude

“Sing and Rejoice”

(Smith)

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

Announcements:

~Sunday, May 10, 2026~

- Sun, 5/10/26 ~ 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.

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

- Sun, 5/17/26 ~ One Worship Service at 9:45 am in the Social Hall.
- ~ Church School at 11:00 am.
- ~ Chancel Choir rehearsal at 11:00 am.

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



Scripture Reading for May 17th

Susan Royer

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
John 17:1-11

Cluster donations for May: Pasta Sauce

Qigong classes at Shenkel!: Classes will resume Thursday mornings starting on 5/7/26 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!

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!

Mental Health Awareness Program: Mark your calendars and invite your friends to the upcoming, "**Finding Peace in the Chaos: An Invitation to Sanity in These Times**" Saturday, May 30, 10AM-12 noon. Flyers are available in the narthex to share with friends, neighbors, and community.

Coventry Woods Festival: May 17th, 1:00 – 5:00 pm. Opportunity to be out in our community, meeting people and sharing why Shenkel is important to you.

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 February 4th 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. Our next church school is on May 17th.

Shenkel Prayer Group: Meets at 9:00 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:

Matthew Scharneck
Glen Bradley
Aaron Gray and Angela Araque
TJ Augustine

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 Berriker	5/21/26
Christina Hauze	5/21/26
Bob 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.