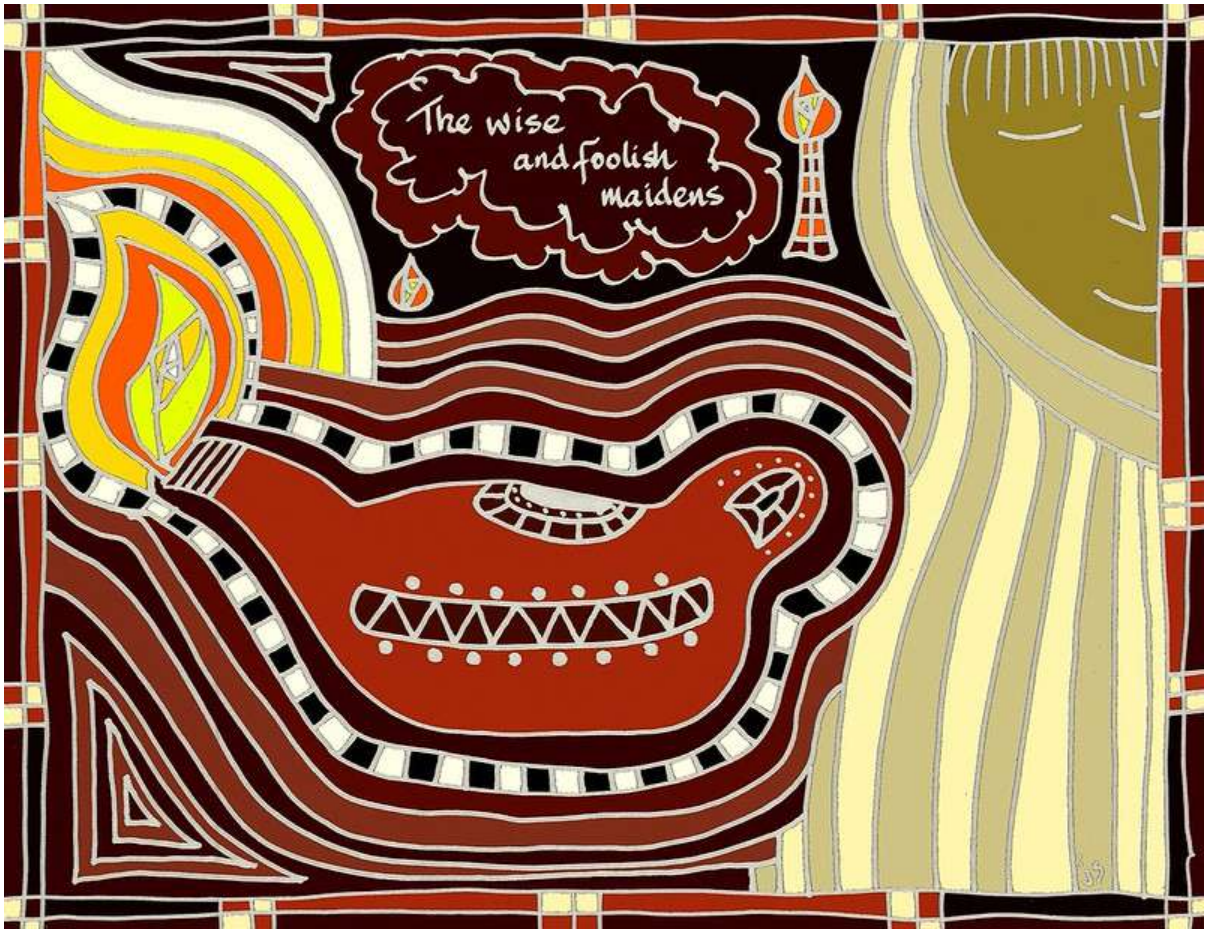
The Worship Service
Sunday, November 8, 2026



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 "The Church's One Foundation" (Wesley, arr. Berry)
"Give Thanks with "For the Beauty of the Earth" (Smith, arr. Wyrtzen)

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

One: Who can express the mighty work of the Holy One?
Many: We who gather praise the Holy One for God is good. God's steadfast love endures forever!
One: Who can proclaim the redemptive acts of the Holy One?
Many: We who gather praise the Holy One for justice and righteousness. God shows favor and mercy toward the people.
One: Who can declare the wondrous and awesome deeds of the Holy One?
Many: We who gather praise the Holy One! Praise the Holy One!

Opening Hymn "Awake, Awake to Love and Work" (NCH#89)

~Coming Alive in Community~

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

God of Mystery,
we want to stay awake
and be ready for your surprises,
but we are tired and overcome
with the usual routine.
We want to wait patiently
for the fulfillment of your kingdom,
but we are frustrated by our need
for immediate gratification.
We want to believe your promises from ancient days,
but we are overwhelmed with postmodern doubts.
Come to us again, O God.
Awaken us with your unexpected grace.
Shock us with your daring mercy.
Lift us up from lethargy
and set our feet on your path once more.

We pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

Time for reflection and silent meditation

Words of Grace

> Siblings in Christ, the Holy One is near and responds to your prayer. Remember, "Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you." (Philippians 4:8-9)

STORYTIME "Eveready, Energized and Duracelled!"
Written by Eloise Smyrl

Scripture Readings Sandy Rowe

Joshua 23:1-3, 14-15
Psalm 78:1-7
Matthew 25:1-13

Sermon "Always a Bridesmaid" Rev. Pam McShane

~We Hear God's Word~

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

Hymn for Reflection: "O Jesus I Have Promised" (NCH#493)

~Sharing Blessings with Others~

Prayers of the People/Lord's Prayer

> **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.**

Invitation to Generosity

Offering our Gifts – Thank you for your faithful support of Shenkel's ongoing ministries.
November's Special Offering – All Saints, Keystone Retired Clergy

Offertory **"**God and God Alone" (McHugh)

Offering Response "Doxology"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

Prayer of Dedication

~Going out in Joy~

Sending Hymn "Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed" (NCH#537)

Benediction

Postlude "How Firm a Foundation" (Funk, arr. Berry)

Pastor: Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding
Email: shenkelpastor@gmail.com
Sexton: Stacy Keim
Ministers: All Members of the Church
Music Director: Dan Wolgemuth
Organist/Interim Music Director: Susan Royer
Secretary: Danielle Petersen

Today we welcome Pamela Trimbur as our guest musician and Rev. Pam McShane as our preacher.

Thanks to the cast of the Storytime for their worship leadership today! Cast included: Connie Armbruster, Dan Jenkins, Pam McShane, Brian McShane, Sandy Rowe, Tootie Hine.

Announcements:

~Sunday, November 8, 2026~

Sun, 11/8 ~Reflective Worship Service at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary.
~ Traditionalish Worship Service at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary.
~ No Choir Rehearsal after Worship.

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

Sun, 11/15 ~ Reflective Worship Service at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary.
~ Traditionalish Worship Service at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary
~ Choir Rehearsal after Worship at 11:15 am in the Sanctuary, all are welcome.
Tues, 11/17 ~ Midday Dinner at Limerick Diner at 12:00 pm.

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

Scripture Reading for November 15th **Brian McShane**

I Thessalonians 5:1-11
Psalm 123
Matthew 25:14-30

Cluster donations for November: Pasta sauce and broth

Illumine in concert – November 14, 2026, 3:00 p.m.
Featuring Kaitlyn Waterson, David M. Brown, Jodie Levine
Listen to a world-class trio play works from Saint-Saens, Spohr, Falla, Whitacre
Maidencreek Church, 261 Main St., Blandon PA
No tickets needed. Free will offering benefits the church's organ fund.

Mission First Holiday Meal: We are collecting 6oz packages of fried onions. Our goal is 40.

Community Thanksgiving Meal: The meal will start at 5:30 pm on November 22nd. There will be a sign up sheet to bring either a soup, bread or dessert.

Poinsettia Time: Louise and Tootie are taking orders for poinsettias from Levengoods, the cost is $12.00 per pot. They will need a preliminary count by November 29th and a final count by December 6th.

Carol Lykens Giving Challenge: We're receiving gifts for our Carol Lykens Fill-The-Hat Challenge! You're encouraged to make an additional contribution to the Current Fund beyond your usual giving. Contributions can be made to Shenkel UCC with "Carol Challenge" in the memo line, or donate online through our website. Thank you!

Qigong classes at Shenkel!: Classes are on Thursday mornings 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! **Qigong classes will now be held upstairs in the Sanctuary.**

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 December 2nd 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 November 15th.

Shenkel Prayer Group: Meets at 10:00 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:

Joel Sweinhart
Bill, Britnee, Olivia and Delia Sanseverino
David Klein
Connie Armbruster

Birthdays in the month of November:

Cole Major	11/5/26
Louise Hine	11/6/26
Alex Mocarski	11/6/26
Joe Palubinsky	11/7/26
Homer Royer	11/8/26
Kaleena Sweinhart	11/8/26
Madeline Mest	11/15/26
John Sabo	11/16/26
Peter Wanner	11/17/26
Clair Faust	11/19/26
Ben Mocarski	11/21/26
Tracy Dise	11/25/26

AJ Foss	11/25/26
Linda Foss	11/28/26
Mindy Chidawu	11/30/26

Mission Statement

Shenkel UCC

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