

The Worship Service
Sunday, November 16, 2025

**“THIS WILL GIVE YOU AN
OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY”
LUKE 21:13**

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 I Could Sing of Your Love Forever (arr. Tornquist)

Welcome

Invocation

Call to Worship

L: God is not contained by this place or bounded by this hour.

C: Praise to the God of everywhere and always!

L: Yet God is present in this place and active in this hour.

C: Praise to the God of here and now!

L: Our good and gracious Creator calls us to worship, and we have chosen to come together, gladly and openly acknowledging a common need.

All: We affirm our need for God, our Enabler of hope, Advocate of peace, Provider of unlimited love and Source of sustaining faith. All praise be to God now and forever.

Opening Hymn "God, Speak To Me, That I May Speak" (see insert)

~Coming Alive in Community~

Call to Confession

Let us join together in our corporate confession, trusting in God's grace.

Prayer of Confession

Spirit of God, you call each of us. But we are often reluctant to heed the call. The wind of your Spirit blows, at times fiercely, and draws us onward. Yet we cling to the fragile familiarities, to securities, and to safety. Help us to risk letting go, to stand free as your servant people. Help us to capture visions of the future, so that we can joyfully and boldly be the body of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Silence for Prayer and Meditation

Assurance of Pardon

God's Spirit both calls us and empowers us to move forward by faith into God's future. Know that you are the beautiful body of Christ in the world.

Special Music

~We Hear God's Word~

Scripture Lessons

Brian McShane

Isaiah 65:17-25

Isaiah 12

Luke 21:5-19

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

Sermon

Rev. Suzanne M. Spaulding

Hymn for Reflection:

“By Gracious Powers”

(see insert)

~Sharing Blessings with Others~

Prayers of the People

The Prayer of Our Savior

All: 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.

November’s Special Offering – PSEC Retired Clergy

Offertory

God to Guide You

(arr R. Miller)

Offering Response

“I Will Choose Christ” (Sing! Prayer And Praise #148, First complete Phrase)

I WILL CHOOSE CHRIST

Tom Booth



Prayer of Dedication

© 1991 Tom Booth [CCLI #7253883]

~Going out in Joy~

Sending Hymn

“Come, We Who Love God’s Name”

(see insert)

Benediction

Postlude

Autumn from Four Seasons Suite

(Vivaldi)

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, November 9, 2025

~This Sunday at Shenkel UCC~

Sun, 11/16/25 ~ One Worship Service at 9:45 am in the Social Hall.
~ Congregational Meeting after worship service.
~ Church School at 11:00 am.

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

Sun, 11/23/25 ~ Reflective Worship at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary.
~ Traditionalish Worship Service at 9:45 am in the Sanctuary.
~ Thanksgiving Soup Supper at 5:00 pm in the Social Hall.

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



Scripture Reading for November 23rd

Carol Pearson

Jeremiah 23:1-6
Psalm 46
Colossians 1:11-20

Cluster donations for November: Bar soap

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!

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!

Thanksgiving Meal Kits: Shenkel is contributing boxes of instant potatoes to the Cluster's Meal Kits. We are hoping to donate at least 300 boxes. We will collect them until today and display them on the altar rail at the front of the sanctuary.

Thanksgiving Soup Supper and Service: On November 23rd at 5:00 pm. Sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Community Labyrinth Walk: Come experience the calming, centering possibilities of walking the labyrinth in community. The last Sunday of the month (11/30) join us for a labyrinth walk. Will start around 11:00 am following the 9:45 am service.

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 3rd 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.

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 today.

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:

Ron and Carol Pearson
Nicole, Scott and Tully Meehan
Lucas Zachesky
Louise Hine
Josh Palubinsky

Birthdays in the month of November

Cole Major	11/5/25
Louise Hine	11/6/25
Alex Mocarski	11/6/25
Joe Palubinsky	11/7/25
Homer Royer	11/8/25
Kaleena Sweinhart	11/8/25
Madeline Mest	11/15/25
John Sabo	11/16/25
Peter Wanner	11/17/25
Clair Faust	11/19/25
Ben Mocarski	11/21/25
Tracy Dise	11/25/25
AJ Foss	11/25/25
Linda Foss	11/28/25
Mindy Chidawu	11/30/25

**UNITED
CHURCH
OF CHRIST****Communitas****PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE**1441 Laura Lane, Suite 100, Pottstown, PA 19464
484-949-8774

November 2, 2025

Communitas Ending with this Issue

After many years of supplying Communitas to our churches,
today's edition will be the last. We leave you with important
2025 event dates still remaining for the
Pennsylvania Southeast and Keystone Conferences!

PSEC—Saturday, November 8th,

We will gather for the **final meeting of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference**. This will be a moment of worship, gratitude, and holy closure — a time to celebrate the 63 years of ministry we've shared and to give thanks for all that God has done among us. We strongly encourage you to attend. Your presence matters — not just as witnesses to an ending, but as participants in a new beginning. This is a **hybrid meeting at St. Paul's UCC, Amityville**. Reception begins at 1:00pm followed by a 2:00pm start to the program. A worship service will close out the day. Voting is not taking place at this meeting. Delegates are not required.

Free registration can be found at: <https://psecfinal.eventbrite.com>

PSEC—Sunday, January 4th

Rev. Bill Worley and Rev. Cean James will take their **vows of release** along with the rest of the staff at **Reformed Church of the Ascension, Norristown** at 2:00 pm. The staff have worked with faithfulness, skill, and grace through a demanding and transformative time. We hope you will find ways to express your gratitude by attending this service, as they have been the hands and heart of this ministry in countless ways seen and unseen.

Free registration can be found at: <https://psecrelease.eventbrite.com>

Saturday, November 22nd,- QUORUM NEEDED!

We will gather online ONLY to approve the Keystone Conference Budget for 2026. This meeting is online only BUT will require that we, as a Keystone Conference, meet quorum. Below you will see registration information and the number of delegates your church is entitled to under the new Keystone bylaws.



**OFFICIAL CALL— 2026 BUDGET MEETING
w/ Committee Appointments**

Keystone Conference of the United Church of Christ
Mr. Robert Ames, Consistory Secretary

November 22, 2025

9:30 am

Online meeting only

For more information and the link to registration:
<https://keystone2026budget.eventbrite.com>

Welcome to the 2026 Budget Meeting of the Keystone Conference
of the United Church of Christ—
the first business meeting of our historic new Conference!

We will gather online for the purpose of approving the 2026 budget
and approving committee appointees.
Quorum of 150 must be met. Churches will have the following delegates:
Churches with up to 100 members will have two lay delegates
101-300 members will have three lay delegates
301-500 members will have four lay delegates
over 500 members will have five lay delegates
All authorized clergy will also have vote.

Any questions or issues with registration, please contact Susan at
484-949-8774 opt. 1 or at susan@psec.org.