



# *Shenkel United Church of Christ*



**2021**

SHENKEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
1580 Shenkel Road  
Pottstown, PA 19465

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



# 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Bible Study 7 pm	3 Lisa on vacation	4	5
		8 Consistory 6:30 pm	9 Bible Study 7 pm	10	11	12
6 Traditional service with Communion at 9:45 am in grove with new members	7					
13 Traditional service 9:45 am in grove	14	15	16 Bible Study 7 pm	17	18	19
20 Traditional service 9:45 am in grove	21	22	23 Bible Study 7 pm	24	25	26
27 Traditional service 9:45 am in grove	28	29	30 Bible Study 7 pm			

# Shenkel United Church of Christ

## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Suzanne Spaulding

Organist:

Susan Royer

Music Director

Dan Wolgemuth

Office Administrator:

Lisa Dice

Sexton:

Stacey Keim

## COVENANTED MINISTER IN MISSION

Rev. Wanda D. Craner,  
Gestalt Pastoral Care  
Minister and Trainer  
Gestalt Pastoral Care  
Associates

## CONSISTORY

President:

Randy Berriker

Vice President:

Gary McDermit

Secretary:

Dan Jenkins

Treasurer:

Ken Bevan

Financial Secretary:

Joan Palubinsky

Elder

Randy Berriker

Deacons:

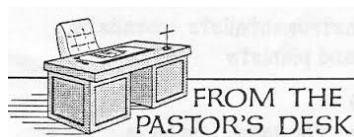
Dan Jenkins  
Gary McDermit  
Pat Kuestner  
Tony Gulotta  
Chris Gray  
Kelly Strunk

## MINISTERS

All the members  
of the church

1580 Shenkel Road, Pottstown PA 19465 610.326.3535

Email: [shenkelucc@aol.com](mailto:shenkelucc@aol.com) [www.shenkelucc.org](http://www.shenkelucc.org)



*"In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;  
In cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,  
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see."*

I'm often reminded of this song in the spring because of all the apparently dead or at least dormant plants that suddenly come to life and burst into flower. My rhododendron bush whose leaves curled in on themselves during the cold of winter is now ablaze with round pinkish-purple blossoms. The iris whose rhizomes stick out of the ground, causing me to wonder how they survive the freezing temperatures of winter, this week are opening their showy blossoms of white and deep purple.

As we move our worship services to the grove and more people feel comfortable gathering in an outdoor space, it can feel like the coming-to-life of spring. We'll be able to sing a bit, we'll not have to wear masks outside when we meet. It will be wonderful to see some people who we haven't seen for a long time! I think it will be great to see smiles and not just a bunch of masks.

And, as we 'come back to life' there is fear as well. Will the vaccine keep me safe? Will there be more surges of the virus? Will we be susceptible to the variant strains of the virus?  
What if...?

What if...?

What if...?

It's OK to feel afraid, that is normal, we have all been traumatized by the pandemic. As difficult as the shut-down was, we became accustomed to it. We adapted to the masks and social distancing and now we're a bit hesitant to return to what used to be normal!

As more of us gather outdoors for worship let's keep in mind that we may all be at different stages of comfort with gathering again. Let's give one another room to be where we are and work to respect those differences.

I think maybe resurrection is not quite so easy as it looks in Jesus' case. There must be a period of adjustment to life again! Butterflies have to take time to unfurl and let their wings dry when they emerge from the cocoon. We need to give ourselves time and space in our return to more

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Newsletter Editor: Lisa Dice

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‘normal’ church activities too. Thankfully we don’t take the journey into the unknown future alone. We journey as a faith community with the knowledge that God is leading us and accompanying us all along the way.

Grateful to be journeying with you all,  
Pastor Suzanne

## May Consistory Highlights

- We welcomed Kelly Strunk and Chris Gray as our newest Consistory Members. The following Consistory Officers were named for the upcoming year: Randy Berriker (President), Gary McDermit (Vice President); and Dan Jenkins (Secretary).
- Worship will be moved to the Grove starting June 6<sup>th</sup>. Revised COVID-19 Protocols for Outdoor Worship, Indoor Worship or Meetings, and Funerals/Special Events were developed. All members will receive the updated Protocols and they will be available on our website.
- Consistory Liaisons were selected for each standing Committee. Contact any Consistory member for those Liaisons.
- Pastor Suzanne was given the go ahead to explore the possibility of a joint Labor Day Service with Temple and Cedarville Methodist churches. We will decide by our July meeting whether to host this service or not.
- We are still looking for a volunteer to be a backup to the Cemetery Superintendent as well as volunteers as Youth Advisors. If interested in learning more, please contact Randy Berriker.

The A/V team is looking for additional videographers to help with recording worship services and other church-related events and posting the videos online. If you like working with a computer and video equipment and are interested in helping in this effort please contact Gary McDermit.

**1 day service project opportunity:** Hurricane Isaias heavily impacted the Eastwick section of Philadelphia last year and an opportunity exists for volunteers to do some repair work. You must be at least 18 years old to participate. The work will be indoors (with windows and doors open) and volunteers could be required to use ladders. Volunteers may be installing insulation, framing, drywalling (walls and ceilings), replacing damaged flooring, painting; replacing doors and windows, and installing finish trim. Your abilities will be matched to the job. We are looking at coordinating Saturday work dates depending on your availability. Shenkel already has one work group interested; would you like to join us? Contact Gary McDermit (610-385-3584) if interested. For additional information see <https://psec.org/disaster-response-help-needed-rebuilding-in-philadelphia>



# JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Barry Yocom 06/01

Ruth Brewer 06/02

Barbara Painter 06/03

Margie Allen 06/07

Sharon Sabo 06/09

Dawn Yocom 06/13

Tootie Hine 06/14

Elizabeth Carr 06/16

David Derman 06/16

Marie Bade 06/18

Ken Bevan Jr. 06/25

William Keim Jr. 06/25

Dan Jenkins 06/29

Michael Foss 06/30

**During the month of June, Shenkel UCC will be praying for these randomly selected members and friends of our congregation:**

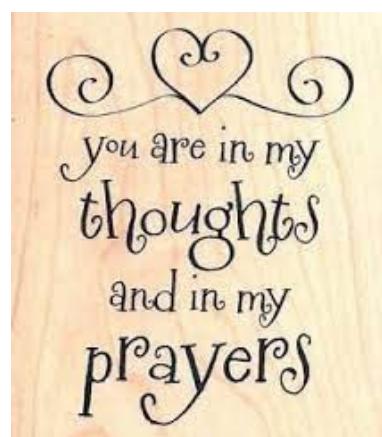
6/6 Brooke Miller  
Morgan Scharneck  
Stacia and Joe Bradley  
Kathy Murphy  
Barb and Jesse Painter

6/13 Celia Phillips  
Mary Lou Smith  
Gene, Emily and Nick Takach and Eric Croom

Marie Bade  
Collin Gray

6/20 Judy Gergle  
Lori and Tom Klein  
Kay Ellis  
Dan Jenkins  
Kaleena Sweinhart

6/27 Betsy and Ken Bevan  
Aaron Gray  
Joel Sweinhart  
Stacey, Bill and Aurora Keim  
Carol and Ron Pearson



# Holy Communion

Shenkel UCC celebrates the sacrament of Holy Communion at both services on the first Sunday of the month.



## Giant and Redner's Gift Cards

Giant gift cards in \$50 or \$100 increments and Redner's gift cards in \$50 and \$100 increments can be purchased in the church office on Tuesdays, Wednesday or Thursdays from 9 am to 2 pm.

As of April 30, 2021		Current Fund	
ACTUAL		Month	YTD
Opening Bal.	(3,870)	6,546	
Giving	12,877	39,841	
Expenses	(13,606)	(56,088)	
Subtotal	(4,599)	(9,701)	
Rent Income	1,700	6,800	
Other	1	2	
Ending Balance	(2,899)	(2,899)	
Net Chg	972	(9,445)	
BUDGET			
Giving	14,591	58,364	
Over (Under)	(1,714)	(18,523)	



Our Church's Wider Mission		
April 30, 2021	Month	YTD
Actual	1,970.00	3,395.00
Budget	1,000.00	4,000.00
Over (under)	970.00	(605.00)

# Laugh.



Harold and the Purple Crayon

## It's good for the soul.

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom as the children drew pictures. The teacher would occasionally walk around and see each child's artwork. As she approached one little girl who was working especially hard, she asked what the drawing was.

The little girl told her: "I'm drawing God!"

"But sweetie," the teacher replied, "no one actually knows what God looks like."

Automatically, the little girl continued drawing and said: "well, they certainly will in a minute!"

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class. As she ran she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!" As she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late... But please don't shove me either!"

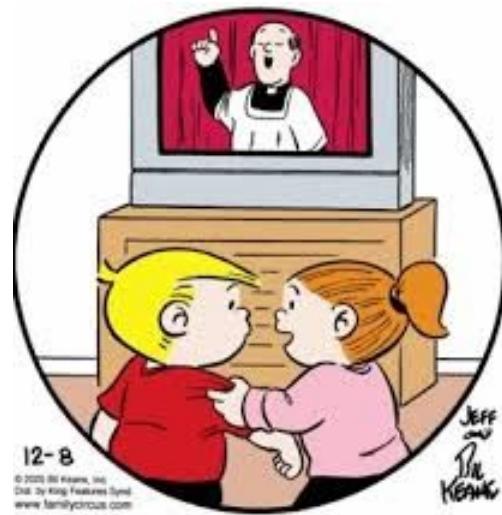
A priest, an evangelist, and a minister were in a row boat in the middle of a pond fishing. None of them had caught anything all morning.

Then the evangelist stands up and says he needs to go to the bathroom so he climbs out of the boat and walks on the water to shore. He comes back ten minutes later the same way.

Then the minister decides he needs to go to the bathroom, too, so he climbs out of the boat and walks on the water to shore. He, too, comes back the same way ten minutes later.

The priest looks at both of them and decides that his faith is just as strong as his fishing buddies and that he can walk on water, too. He stands up and excuses himself. As he steps out, he makes a big splash down into the water.

The evangelist looks at the minister and says, "I suppose we should have told him where the rocks were."



**"Hear that? People in heaven have ever-laughing life."**