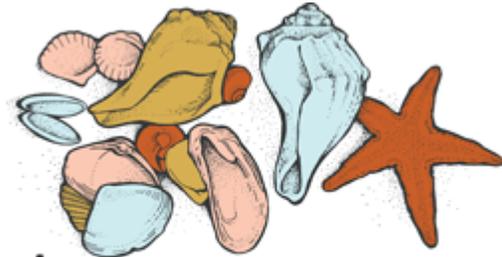




Shenkel United Church of Christ



August

2021

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



2021

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1</p> <p>Reflective Service 8:30 am Traditional service 9:45 am in grove Communion</p> | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| <p>8</p> <p>Reflective Service 8:30 am Traditional service 9:45 am in grove</p> | 9 | <p>10</p> <p>Consistory 6:30 pm</p> | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| <p>15</p> <p>Reflective Service 8:30 am Traditional service 9:45 am in grove</p> | 16 | <p>17</p> <p>Mid-Day Dinner Club – St. Peter’s Inn noon</p> | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| <p>22</p> <p>Reflective Service 8:30 am Traditional service 9:45 am in grove</p> | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | <p>28</p> <p>Corn & Doggie Roast</p> |
| <p>29</p> <p>Reflective Service 8:30 am Traditional service 9:45 am in grove</p> | 30 | 31 | | | | |

Shenkel United Church of Christ

1580 Shenkel Road, Pottstown PA 19465 610.326.3535

Email: shenkelucc@aol.com www.shenkelucc.org

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

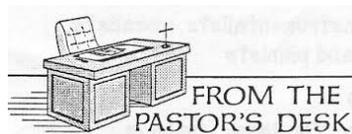
Randy Berriker

Deacons:

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

MINISTERS

All the members
of the church



Some thoughts on relaxing into faith from Peter Marty, editor/publisher of *The Christian Century*.

In a pool she always found to be too cold, our daughter may not have received the full benefit of swim lessons. Still, her purple lips chattered happily every time she jumped into the water. In one of our favorite home videos, this wiry little four-year-old learns how to float on her back – or tries to learn. The teacher puts one hand beneath her spine and the other behind her legs as he coaches her to relax. His promptings for her to stay in a flat position seem to have little effect. Every time he withdraws his arms, her tense little body reverts to a V-shape and sinks in panic.

It's a lot to expect a four-year-old to understand the physics of water enough to know that the human body can float on its surface. Yet for this buoyancy to work, one has to be relaxed enough to trust the capacity of the water to keep one's body mass afloat. This is hard to do when you fear going down. Fear of drowning can cause anyone to tense up and thrash in the water.

As a pastor, I've noticed a lot of people over the years turning an otherwise significant faith life into a mostly panic-driven affair. It happens especially when anxiety is high or some diagnosis has brought one low. But it can happen anytime. The slightest new situation will twist a relaxed disposition of faith into one of mental strain and spiritual expenditure. *If I believe hard enough or plead urgently enough, maybe God will come through.*

We see the naturalness and ease with which this twist occurs when we envision Jesus' disciples acting frantically in a storm-tossed boat one night, or Jairus anxious about his dying daughter, or Mary and Martha distraught over Jesus' delay in visiting their dying brother. A relaxed attitude isn't first instinct in a crisis.

But here's the deal: the Greek word *pistis*, customarily translated as *faith* or *belief*, would serve us better if it were translated more often as trust. Trust is the deeper meaning behind the word. *Pistis* is the relaxed attitude of receiving what God has given us in the first place. It's the antidote to panic.

The leading word for faith during the Middle Ages – *fides*, or intellectual assent to certain propositions – was displaced by Martin Luther when he popularized the word *fiducia*, or personal trust. We know its English counterpart well: *fiduciary*. If I deposit my money in a bank and trust company, I trust the owners of that company with my assets. I may believe all kinds of things about their goodness as an organization, and I may smile approvingly at their solvency as an institution, but I don't have a fiduciary relationship with them until I invest my money there.

Faith is investing in or trusting the totality of our lives to God. It's what theologian James Alison refers to as relaxing in the presence of someone whom

Continued from Page 3

we're confident is fond of us. More than a superstitious bag of tricks or an achievement born out of desperate flailing, faith is a gift to relax into and receive confidence from.

Our little Rachel eventually learned how to lessen her panic enough to begin floating more easily. It didn't happen because she strained harder. It happened because she loved that strong, friendly guy in the pool and knew that he was fond of her.

May we all be able to relax into faith because we know that God is not only fond of us but loves us beyond all measure!

Grace and peace,
Pastor Suzanne

Consistory Highlights

- ◆ Pastor Suzanne has begun the Reflective Service at 8:30 Sunday mornings based on requests from the individuals who worship at that time.
- ◆ The corn and doggie roast has been scheduled for Saturday, August 28th. Watch for more details about expanded plans for it this year.
- ◆ We approved monies from the Property Fund to replace the dishwasher and icemaker at the parsonage.
- ◆ We will create our list of members to be considered for our Search Team at our next meeting. Let Randy know if you have a name of someone for consideration.
- ◆ 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.

This Month at Shenkel UCC



Mid-Day Dinner Club *Our next event will be on August 17th at St. Peter's Inn*

The Mid-day Dinner Club meets at 12 noon on the third Tuesday of each month and you're invited! It is open to young-at-heart adults of any age who enjoy eating out and would like to get to know other Shenkel members a little better. If you are attending, please add your name and phone number on the plate on the table no later than the Sunday before the lunch so your reservation can be made on time or you may call Sharon Sabo at 610-326-1945 by Sunday, July 18 or let her know at the Sunday service if you are able to attend.

Pottstown Cluster. We will be starting to collect items again for the Pottstown Cluster. This month's items are body wash (adults and kids), shampoo, conditioner and bar soap. Please place your items in the bin marked for the Cluster. We will be collecting each week and items will change on a monthly basis. Items for September will be adult lotion, deodorant, feminine tampons, laundry detergent.



Special Offering for August—North Coventry Meals on Wheels program

Meals on Wheels of Chester County (MOWCC) serves hundreds of homebound citizens throughout the county, including members from our own church family. For more information, go to www.mowcc.org.



We will be starting a new newsletter feature. Each month we will be including a favorite recipe. If you have a recipe you would like shared in the newsletter, please email it to the church office at shenkelucc@aol.com or send it to the church in care of Lisa.

Thanks in advance.

Now that the covid restrictions are easing, the Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) has resumed meeting. The group consists of Joan Palubinsky, Sandy Rowe, Brenda Berriker, and Dave Derman. This committee will meet with Pastor Suzanne once a quarter to help facilitate a healthy relationship between her and the congregation. Our next meeting will be on October 24th. If you have any comments, questions, or concerns you would like to express about the pastor, please don't hesitate to reach out to one of the PRC members or Pastor Suzanne herself. Any input brought to the committee will be kept confidential.

Blessings,

Shenkel PRC

Holy Communion

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





| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| Bade, Steven | 08/03 |
| Gray, Ted | 08/04 |
| Wolgemuth, Dan | 08/06 |
| Rohrbach, Maryln | 08/08 |
| Derman, Katherine | 08/09 |
| Bevan, Jim | 08/10 |
| Sweinhart, Barbara | 08/10 |
| Bevan, Elaine | 08/12 |
| Major, Grace | 08/12 |
| Martin-Dunn, Lindsey | 08/16 |
| Scharneck, Morgan | 08/16 |
| Dyott, Jennifer | 08/17 |
| Rowe, Ray | 08/17 |
| Pearson, Carol | 08/18 |
| Augustine, Ashlyn | 08/21 |
| Kulp, Sue | 08/21 |
| Skulski, Kaya | 08/27 |
| Dyott, Jeffrey | 08/28 |
| Hudick, Karl | 08/28 |
| Scharneck, Lori | 08/28 |
| Pashley, Joyce | 08/29 |
| Bradley, Noah | 08/30 |
| Golden, Christian | 08/31 |
| Klein, Wayne | 08/31 |

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

SHENKEL WILL BE PRAYING FOR:

- 8/1 Olivia Dushanko
Charlene Logan
Roberta Peterman
Gloria Mest
Mindy, Isabella and Sela Chidawu
- 8/8 David and Timothy Klein
BJ Peterman
Barb and Jesse Painter
Tesia Craner
Barb Burhans
- 8/15 Glen Bradley
Connie and Sam Armbruster
Freda Wanner
Lois Iezzi
Linda and John Jonides
- 8/22 Lynne and Cody Moyer
Collin Gray
Elaine and Jim Bevan
Lori and Tom Klein
Ron Christman
- 8/29 Pat Kuestner
Chris and Ted Gray
Forrest Kreiger
Sandy and Ray Rowe
Stephanie Viti





EASY APPLE CAKE

INGREDIENTS

2 EGGS
 $\frac{3}{4}$ CUP VEGETABLE OIL
2 CUPS SUGAR
1 TEASPOON VANILLA
2 CUPS FLOUR
2 TEASPOONS CINNAMON
1 TEASPOON BAKING SODA
 $\frac{1}{2}$ TEASPOON SALT
4 CUPS PEELED CHOPPED APPLES

DIRECTIONS

IN LARGE BOWL, BEAT EGGS AND OIL UNTIL SMOOTH.
ADD NEXT 6 INGREDIENTS AND MIX WELL.
FOLD IN APPLES.
POUR INTO GREASED 9X13 PAN.
BAKE AT 350 DEGREES FOR 50-55 MINUTES.

MY NOTES:

I DON'T PEEL THE APPLES, JUST SCRUB. USED PINK LADY APPLES.
DOUGH IS THICK AND CRUMBLY SO I ADD A SPLASH OF MILK.
I ALSO ADD ABOUT A CUP OF BROKEN WALNUT PIECES.
I USED A GLASS DISH AND 45-50 MIN WAS ENOUGH.
LET IT COOL COMPLETELY, THEN DUST WITH POWDERED SUGAR BEFORE SERVING.

-Kelli Sorg, 2021

Pastor Suzanne will be on vacation August 9th through August 22nd. We will have a Hymn Sing on Sunday, August 15 and the Reverend Scott Hutchinson will be the guest preacher on Sunday, August 22.

Please contact any Consistory member with any concerns.



| As of June 30, 2021 | Current Fund | |
|---------------------|--------------|----------|
| ACTUAL | Month | YTD |
| Opening Bal. | 786 | 6,546 |
| Giving | 9,717 | 65,500 |
| Expenses | (13,571) | (83,617) |
| Subtotal | (3,068) | (11,571) |
| Rent Income | 1,700 | 10,200 |
| Other | 1 | 4 |
| Ending Balance | (1,367) | (1,367) |
| Net Chg | (2,153) | (7,913) |
| BUDGET | | |
| Giving | 14,591 | 87,546 |
| Over (Under) | (4,874) | (22,046) |

| Our Church's Wider Mission | | |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| June 30, 2021 | Month | YTD |
| Actual | 1,525.00 | 5,780.00 |
| Budget | 1,000.00 | 6,000.00 |
| Over (under) | 525.00 | (220.00) |