

HUFF'S CHURCH CHATTER



NOVEMBER, 2022

Church Address: 540 Conrad Rd., Alburty, 18011

Church office: 610-845-2626 Church & Chapel: 610-845-2541

Rev. John S. Steitz

Pastor Home Office: 215-820-1650

Office email: office@huffschurch.com

Website: www.huffschurch.com

Facebook Page: Huff's Union Church, Inc.

Facebook Group: Huff's Union Church

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the members of Huff's Union Church, desiring to be blessed together with Word and Sacrament and to become evermore the Body of Christ in our world, do hereby commit ourselves to a ministry which includes increasingly meaningful worship, creative Christian Education, intentional witnessing, dedicated service, and responsible support.

Huff's slogan: Making Disciples: Inside and Out. UCC slogan: God is still speaking. ELCA slogan: God's work, our hands.

ALL SAINT'S REMEMBRANCE

On Sunday, November 6, 2022, at both our 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services, we will remember those members of our congregation who have died since our last All Saints' Day Service. Each person who has died will have a candle lit for them during the worship service as their name is read. Families will be invited to take home the candle after the worship service.

COMBINED THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

On Wednesday, November 23, 2022, we will have a combined Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. Peter's at 7:00 p.m.

LOOKING AHEAD

On **Christmas Eve**, Saturday, December 24, 2022, we will have a candlelight and communion service at both 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. We will also have our online service.

There will be **NO** 8:30 services on the following Sundays:

Christmas Day Service will be held at 10:30 a.m. only.

January 1, 2023 Service will be held at 10:30 a.m. only.

Christmas Carol Hymn Sing - **NO** Communion in January.

January 8, 2023 Langschwammer Nei Yaahrs Wunsch will be held at 10:30 a.m. only

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

Red Poinsettias will again adorn the Sanctuary of the Church for the Christmas Season. Order forms are due by December 4th. Use the order form included in this newsletter to order. Price is \$10.00.

CHURCH CHOIR

We are happy to announce that our Church Choir will be starting very soon. If you have sung in the choir in the past, you are welcome to join us again. For those who have never been in the choir and have been interested in possibly becoming a choir member, please call Gloria Adams, Music Director. It is a wonderful way to share your God-given talents with others and to make our Sunday services extra enjoyable.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR NOVEMBER

The special offering opportunity for November is the ELCA Disaster Relief Fund. This fund enables the ELCA to respond to any national or international disaster and to remain involved with people in that area after the tragedy.

FRIEND, INC. FOOD TRUCK AT HUFF'S

Friend Inc. food distribution will be in Huff's Church parking lot on Thursday, November 3, 2022, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. If you can volunteer (age 12 and older) any month to carry items from the Food Truck to vehicles, contact Tom Mitchell at 610-845-2978.

SMALL BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Small Bible Study Group will meet on Saturday, November 5, 2022, in the lower level of the Church at 10:30 a.m. Come with your Bible. If you'd like to stay for lunch, please feel free to bring something to share and eat with us from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

To be honest, I do not remember being baptized. I was two months old and I only know that I have been baptized because my parents, and my grandmother, told me. I was only ten when I was confirmed. There were at least twenty people in the class, including several adults. My main memory of this was struggling to memorize and recite the Nicene Creed. I never could get it right. Then at the next session the Episcopal priest told us, oops, he meant the Apostle's Creed.

Through the centuries many confirmation programs have emphasized memorization and reciting church doctrine. Now as a pastor I lead confirmation classes. I am much more concerned that confirmands embrace being Jesus' disciple as their authentic faith practice than that they are able to memorize and recite church doctrine. My hope is that they can: 1. Affirm their faith in God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit; and 2. Understand the importance of practicing love – loving God with their whole selves, loving neighbor as ourselves, loving one another as Jesus loves us, and living Jesus' Way of Love – as a daily faith practice.

CONFIRMATION NEWS

We will begin the second year of the Confirmation class on Sunday, November 6, 2022. We will meet on "odd" Sundays (1st, 3rd, 5th), right after worship services. Each class session will take about 75 minutes. We should finish by June 2023. Each confirmand will be getting a Bible and the curriculum guide for the next 13 sessions. As a class we will read Luke's Gospel together. Each confirmand will write a credo – a statement of belief about God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit,

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

We will be holding two sessions, a half hour each, for First Communion, on November 27th and December 11th. This will allow participants to join in Holy Communion on Christmas Eve as their First Communion. If these First Communion dates do not work for you, please speak with Pastor John directly.

HUFF'S CHURCH AUXILIARY

The Huff's Church Auxiliary will meet on Monday, November 7, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel. Everyone is welcome to be part of this ministry of Huff's Church.

SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETINGS SUMMARY:

The three Special Meetings of Huff's Union, Huff's United Church of Christ, and Huff's ELCA were held on September 25 to vote on the Plan of Merger for Huff's UCC Inc and Huff's Lutheran Inc to merge into one remaining Huff's Union Inc. A quorum was present for each meeting. A time for questions and discussion was provided. A motion was made and seconded at each meeting to approve the Plan of Merger and to authorize the President and Secretary of each corporation to sign the Plan of Merger on behalf of the corporation. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously at each meeting. Attorney Strohl will submit the Plan to the PA Dept of State. We anticipate approval in about 6 months when all assets of Huffs UCC and ELCA will then be moved to Huff's Union Church.

DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

Please come out to help decorate the church for Christmas on Saturday, November 26, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

THANK YOU NOTE

Dear Congregation Members,

We would like to extend our deepest thanks for all the kindness we received during this difficult time. We appreciate more than words can express the phone calls, cards, beautiful flowers, thoughts & prayers, those that were able to attend and celebrate the life of Dennis, and for your support. It has all been a comfort during our greatest sadness.

A special thank you to those who helped serve the luncheon after the service.

Your words have comforted us, your support has strengthened us, and your love has sustained us. And it will always be remembered.

In Loving Memory of Dennis Miller June 6, 1937 - October 1, 2022

Bea Miller & Family

CHURCH FAMILY

FUNERALS

Please pray for the family and friends of Dennis Miller, who passed away on October 1, 2022.

Memorial Donations for Dennis Miller

Eric & Robin Diehl	Mary Szilli
Joyce Kemp	Karen Bucks
Fern M. Kline	Pearl Hoffman
John & Jane Leeser	Martin & Kay Kriebel
Donald & Linda Zentner	Lucille Grampp
Ruth Reinhard	Robert & Diana Virus
Sandra Alleman	Raymond & Linda Lorish
Robert & Sue Stockdale	Patricia Mertz
Sharon Hess	Mary Barto
Mike & Kay Virus	Jack & Karen Schultz
Joe & Connie Szilli	Minerva Arner
Timmy Shinall	Melvin & Marilyn Adam

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

We are honoring our members who celebrate their 80th birthday or older and also honoring those members who celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary or more. Please let us know if we missed anyone.

Birthdays

11/15 - Roy Bitting	11/18 - Jean Norris
11/28 - Shirley Fluck	11/29 - Joyce Diehl
11/29 - Judith Barnes	

Wedding Anniversary

11/1 - John & Kathy Moll

HEATING THE CHURCH

Because of the enormous increase in heating oil costs, Church Council has decided that the church will be heated to a lower temperature this winter season. Therefore, when attending a church service or other activity in the building, please come prepared to wear warmer clothing.

This is subject to approval at the next Council Meeting on November 14, 2022.

Financial Report

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance	Annual Budget
Giving	111,680	128,680	(17,000)	175,740
All other income	56,576	46,858	9,718	58,991
Total income	168,256	175,538	(7,282)	234,731
Expenses	234,459	252,135	(17,676)	336,095
Operating income (loss)	(66,203)	(76,597)	10,394	(101,364)
Transfers from Investments	54,750	76,050	(21,300)	101,400
Net income (loss)	(11,453)	(547)	(10,906)	36

	9/30/22	8/31/22	12/31/21
Balance Sheet			
Designated funds	83,116	93,330	116,006
General funds	9,771	12,609	23,251
Sunday School CDs	4,384	4,384	4,379
Total assets (a)	97,270	110,322	143,635

(a) excludes investments managed by Youngs



Red Poinsettias will again adorn the Sanctuary of the Church for the Christmas Season. If you would like to order a plant(s), please complete the order form and, along with payment, give or mail to Robin Diehl at 50 Eric Lane, Alburdis, PA 18011, or put it in an envelope marked POINSETTIAS and place in the offering plate. Please make checks payable to HUFF'S UNION CHURCH. Orders must be received by December 4, 2022. Cost is \$10.00 per plant.

NAME: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

NUMBER OF PLANTS: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

**REMEMBER
TO SET YOUR
CLOCKS BACK!**



November 6, 2022 at 2:00 a.m.