

HUFF'S CHURCH CHATTER



May 2026

Church Address: 540 Conrad Rd., Alburtis, PA 18011
Church office: 610-845-2626
Church & Chapel: 610-845-2541
Pastor: Mike Todd, 484-965-0300, miketodd1968@gmail.com
Office email: office@huffschurch.com
Website: www.huffschurch.com
Facebook Public Page: Huff's Union Church, Inc.
Facebook Group Page: Huff's Union Church Member Group
(Request to join and we will add you to this group.)

MISSION STATEMENT

To reach out to the world around us and share the everlasting love of Jesus Christ!

Making Disciples: Inside and Out.

UCC slogan: God is still speaking.

ELCA slogan: God's work, our hands.



MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION

On Sunday, May 24th, following the 10:30 a.m. worship service, the Topton American Legion Honor Guard will come to Huff's Church to help in honoring our veterans. Please join us for this special remembrance.

UPPER PERKIOMEN HIGH SCHOOL A CHOIR

On Sunday, May 17, Upper Perkiomen High School A Choir, directed by Mark Thomas, will sing during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Come and hear the music of this select choir of students from our area.

JEAN REINERT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Jean Reinert Memorial Scholarship applications are available by calling the church office or going on-line. Any high school senior, who will pursue additional education (vocational training or college) and has remained an active member of Huff's Union Church since confirmation, is welcome to apply. Deadline is June 29 for this \$1,000 scholarship.

WORSHIP IN THE PARK WITH SPECIAL MUSIC

We will again offer Worship in the Park during June, July, and August. **The first, third and fifth Sunday worship services** (June 7, June 21, July 5, July 19, August 2, August 16, and August 30) will be held **in the sanctuary**. **The second and fourth Sunday worship services** (June 14, June 28, July 12, July 26, August 9, and August 23) will be held **in the park** at 10:30 a.m. If inclement weather, worship Services will be moved into the Sanctuary.

Invite friends and neighbors to enjoy live music at the 10:30 Worship Services in the Park on June 28, July 12, and August 9.



June 28	Vintage Brass Quintet
July 12	Wyomissing Band
August 9	Expressions Sax Quartet

FOOD TRUCK AT HUFF'S

Friend, Inc. will bring a truck on Thursday, May 7, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Huff's Church parking lot for food distribution to those in need. If you can volunteer to carry items to vehicles, contact Tom Mitchell.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Council will meet in the lower level of the church on Monday, May 11, at 7:00 p.m. Contact the Council President or Ministry Assistant for Zoom link.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Bible Study will meet on Saturday, May 9, **in the Church** beginning at 10:30 a.m. We will stay to have lunch together from 11:30 to 12:30. Bring something to share and join us. If you have any questions, call Lea Kline.

HUFF'S CHURCH AUXILIARY MEETING

The next meeting of the Huff's Church Auxiliary will be held on Monday, May 4, at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

NEW CONFIRMATION CLASS

We are interested in forming a new catechetical class in the fall and need to know who may be interested and eligible to join. Students need to be in 6th grade or higher. The pastor is researching a 6-8 session curriculum that will be comprehensive, yet also respectful of busy family schedules. Please call or email the church office to let us know if you have a child who is interested and eligible. If you have any questions, please call or text Pastor Mike at 484-965-0300 or email at miketodd1968@gmail.com. To register, call Edwina at 610-845-2626 or email her at office@huffschurch.com.

LUNCH BUNCH

Members and friends of Huff's are welcome for a time of fun and fellowship for lunch on Thursday, May 21, at 11:45 a.m. at PC's Pub, 468 Pottstown Ave., Pennsburg, in the Weis Market Shopping Center. We choose and purchase our own lunches. If you would like to come to Lunch Bunch, text or call Tom Mitchell by Sunday, May 17.

PASTOR'S REPORT

*Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.*

Most of May takes place during the final weeks of the Easter season as we continue to praise and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. But Sunday, May 24th marks the beginning of Pentecost in which the people recognize the presence of the Holy Spirit in our own lives. Jesus told his disciples that, after his ascent into heaven, a helper would come and dwell among us. It is that helper, the Holy Spirit, that works within us and through us that points people to God. Church members and leaders will often fret about what WE can do to attract new people and bring others to God. It is important to remember that we do not change peoples' hearts. Only the Holy Spirit can do that. We are just helpless vessels called to be God's hands and feet. Pentecost reminds us that we are never alone, because our God abides with us.

PICKLED RED BEETS

The Auxiliary Committee will be canning red beets on the morning of Wednesday, May 20th. Could you help? We'll start about 9:00 a.m., but if you can't arrive until later, or can't stay the entire time, that's okay! We probably won't finish until 1:30 p.m. or so, depending on how much help there is. Some jobs can be done sitting down. Lunch will even be provided! Let Tess know if you're available.

If you have quart jars from last year, please bring them to church for us to reuse.

The pickled beets will be available for sale following church services beginning May 26th or during summer events like picnics. Quarts will cost \$9 and pints will be \$5.

We only make these once each year, so get them while they last! (Please write out checks to Huffs Union Church.)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are tentatively looking at July 13-17 and will plan to be in the Park 5:30 - 8:00PM. Let us know if you are willing to do any of the following: Storyteller, Arts and Crafts Teacher, Science Teacher, Games/Recreation Leader, Music Leader, or Food/Snack Maker or Donator. The curriculum includes scripted lessons and you don't need to be there the ENTIRE time. Each activity is about 20 minutes. ***Please contact Melissa Benfield if you can help.*** We're hoping to have a volunteer list ASAP to move forward with planning and preparation.

NATIVITY SCENE WORK

As many of you know, our nativity scene was vandalized shortly after the new year. Two figures were damaged beyond repair and have been recreated. The nativity scene figures were made more than 20 years ago and all are in need of repainting. We are trying to find someone who is willing to do the detailed painting work. Paint expenses will be reimbursed with a receipt. If you are interested, please contact Martin Kriebel.

VILLAGE VOLLEYBALL 2026

On Wednesday evenings in June, July and August, Huff's invites its members and the community to come to the church park to play recreational volleyball from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Any age or ability is welcomed. This is a nice time to meet with others and actively have some fun! Ask some friends to join you so we can get some games going! The GaGa ball pit will also be set up, which is a popular activity for kids and teens.

Note that in the past we asked for a greeter to be there to get out the ball and provide water. Since we had difficulty getting people to do that, Tess will now put the volleyball in a bucket at the net and leave bottled water behind the office for players' use.

The net and Gaga pit will be set up the entire summer, so these activities will also be available at the summer picnics and following outdoor worship services.

SENIOR CHOIR AND HANDBELL CHOIR

The last rehearsal for both Senior and Handbell Choirs before summer break will be Tuesday, May 19th.

CONSIDER ELECTRONIC GIVING TO HUFF'S CHURCH



You can set up an automatic regular bank transfer which is convenient for you and saves time and is less costly for the Church than handling offering envelopes and checks. Forms are available in the pews, on the lower level of the Church, or contact the Office. **Use the QR Code** by pointing your cell phone camera on the black and white box and you'll see a website link to tap on which will take you directly to Huff's online donation site. **Online donations** can also be given through the website www.huffschurch.com under the Donate tab and click on "Give now."

HUFF'S CHURCH WORSHIP SERVICES ONLINE

Worship Services in the Sanctuary are broadcast live on Huff's Union Church YouTube under the LIVE tab. Recording of the Service is usually available for replay by 5:00 p.m. under VIDEO tab on Huff's Union Church YouTube channel and Facebook pages.

SPONSORING FLOWERS

Sign-up sheets for sponsoring flowers are posted in the Upper Narthex or contact the church office. **The new cost for sponsoring Flowers is \$33 beginning in May.** More than one bouquet can be ordered for a Sunday. Please sign up with your name and whether this is in memory of or in honor of someone. Payment may be sent to the office or use a pew envelope and mark it flower sponsorship.

THOSE WHO ARE GRADUATING

We would like to honor our members who are graduating from high school, college, or any special programs. Please submit the information to the church office or place it in Edwina's mailbox at the church. We are proud of ALL our graduates!

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CHURCH FAMILY

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

We are honoring our members who will 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.

MEMORIALS:

In Memory of Barbara Kline:

Tina Frey

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Connie Szilli - 5/2 Albert Muth - 5/11 Eugene Bardo - 5/14
Ann Taylor - 5/15 Linda Lorish - 5/21 Sherry Bardo - 5/26

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

5/17 - Paul & Jean Adam 5/27 - Terry & Darlene Shaner

THANKS FOR THE SEEDS!

On May 31, I packed up the donated seed packets and sent them to the Saint Vincent Mission in David, Kentucky. I received a nice thank you note on April 10 from Heather Ousley, their Garden Program Coordinator:

"Thank you so much for your generous donations of seeds to our Garden Program. Your gift arrived at the perfect time, just as our growers are preparing their garden beds for the season ahead. With warmer days finally here, our gardeners are eager to get plants in the ground, and we're excited to welcome eight new families into the program this year. Your generosity truly makes a difference, and we are so thankful for your partnership."

Submitted by Emelie Swackhamer

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR MAY

The special offering for May is UCC Strengthen the Church. It pays to help train lay and ordained church leaders. Special offering envelopes are available in the pews, mark your envelope "Strengthen the Church."

Financial Report

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Giving for operating expenses	38,770	42,254	(3,484)
All other income	4,050	4,266	(216)
Total income	42,820	46,520	(3,700)
Expenses	80,584	84,115	(3,531)
Operating deficit	(37,764)	(37,595)	(170)
Giving for capital improvements	75	375	(300)
Estate gift	14,678	14,250	428
Capital expenditures	(14,000)	(34,500)	20,500
Transfers from Investments	25,000	57,470	(32,470)
Net change in cash	(12,012)	-	(12,012)

Balance Sheet

	3/31/26	2/28/26	12/31/25
Designated funds	65,704	65,644	78,665
General funds	1,984	1,303	5,198
Total assets (a)	67,688	66,947	83,863

(a) excludes investments managed by Tiller