

HUFF'S CHURCH CHATTER



March 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.

LENTEN OFFERINGS:

Online Video Series with Pastor Mike, "How the Bible Actually Works" - Every Wednesday, February 25 through March 25 at 7:00 p.m.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES:

Palm Sunday, March 29, at 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 1, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Peter's

Good Friday, April 3, at 12:00 Noon at Huff's

Easter Sunday, April 5 at 10:30 a.m. Come join us as we celebrate Christ's Resurrection with Holy Communion.

CLEAN UP BRANCHES IN THE PARK

On Sunday, March 22, plan to stay after church for about an hour to pick up sticks to prepare the Park for the Egg Hunt and help with other Egg Hunt preparations.

THE EASTER STORY EGG HUNT

The annual Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 28, at 11:00 a.m. - Rain or Shine.

Families with children of all ages are welcome to our Easter Story Egg Hunt. We will gather in Huff's Church Park to hear the story of Jesus' week before Easter, and children will make a craft to take along. Then hunt for eggs! If it is too wet or stormy that morning, everything will be moved into the Church.

Monetary donations toward costs of the Egg Hunt may be dropped in the special Bunny Container in church during March or mailed to the church office.

Help is needed for Egg Hunt: 4 set-up crew & greeters (10:15 to 11:00), 5-6 egg hidiers (10:00-11:20, window of time depends on temperature), 2 craft station attendants (cannot double as egg hidiers), 1 prize table attendant, 5 clean-up crew (11:45- done).

If you can help, please contact Tess Woloszanski. Clearances are required! (If you need help with these, let Tess or Kara Benfield know.)

FOOD TRUCK AT HUFF'S

Friend, Inc. will bring a truck on Thursday, March 5, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. to 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, March 9, at 7:00 p.m. Contact the Council President or Ministry Assistant for Zoom link.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The next Bible Study Group meeting will be held on Saturday, March 14, at 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel. Call Lea Kline with questions.

HUFF'S CHURCH AUXILIARY MEETING

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

SEED BASKET

Our Annual Seed Basket will be placed in the upper Narthex from February 22 through March 29. Collected seeds will be donated to St. Vincent's Mission in David, Kentucky. Their planting season begins earlier than ours, and most of the families have gardens to help supply their need for fresh vegetables. Thank you for your support.

SENIOR CHOIR AND HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSALS

Senior Choir and Handbell Choir rehearse on Tuesdays. Senior Choir begins at 6:00 p.m. and Handbell Choir sets up at 7:15 p.m. to be ready to play at 7:30 p.m. If you are interested in joining, please speak to Kathy Anthony.

LUNCH BUNCH

Members and friends of Huff's are welcome to join us for lunch on Thursday, March 19, at 12:00 Noon, at Chino's, Chestnut Street (Route 100/29), Zionsville. We choose and purchase our own lunches. If you would like to come to Lunch Bunch, call or text Tom Mitchell by Sunday, January 15.

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."

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

As we continue through Lent and our proverbial journey to Jerusalem with Jesus and his disciples, let's also remember that it is Women's History Month. Jesus' ministry, and the subsequent evangelizing of the apostles, would not have been possible without the support of many women, most of whom go unnamed in the Bible and many others who are merely identified as the daughter or wife of some man. We'd like to think how much more evolved we are now, but 2,000 years later the stories of so many women who were instrumental in the formation of our country remain unknown to most people.

Take Mary Pickersgill for instance. We are all familiar with our national anthem also known as "The Star-Spangled Banner," and most of us have heard how Francis Scott Key wrote the poem in the morning after the Battle of Baltimore when, despite massive damage from the British Navy, he was still able to make out the American Flag proudly waving over the harbor. But how many know that the flag he was able to see was created by seamstress Mary Pickersgill. With the help of her daughter, nieces, and a few other seamstresses working late into the night, Pickersgill was able to create the 30' by 42' banner in just six weeks. It weighed 50lbs. and took nine men to hoist it over Fort McHenry. So, before every sporting event, and at every celebration that will be occurring this 250th anniversary year, when you hear "The Star-Spangled Banner," remember that Key would not have had a flag to write about without the contribution of Mary Pickersgill and the other women who made it possible. And remember that the church of Jesus Christ has always been and will always be indebted to the women who keep it running. Thank you and God bless you to all the mothers and daughters in our lives and those in the communion of the saints who have gone before!

Blessings, Pastor Mike Todd

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR MARCH

The special offering for the month of March is the United Church of Christ One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. This offering supports a variety of ministries that give aid to those in need throughout the world. Use the special envelopes in the pew racks or mail your donation, marked “One Great Hour of Sharing”.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School is held every Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in the lower level of the Church. All are welcome to drop in any Sunday morning for this time of learning, discussion, and fellowship.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

If weather conditions are unsafe, we will cancel church and post the notice on WFMZ TV Channel 69. You can also go to our Facebook page or website, www.huffschurch.com or you may call a council member. We will make our decision by 8:00 a.m. on Sunday morning. If there are more than two inches of snow Saturday night or Sunday morning, Adult Sunday School Class is cancelled. If unsure of conditions, please put your safety first and join in our online worship.

HELP NEEDED FOR SNOW REMOVAL

We are in need of people who can help shovel the walkways around the church property on Sunday mornings, as well as on Saturdays and weekdays. If you can help, please contact Jim Meitzler, Sr.

WORSHIP SERVICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Many volunteers are needed to support the worship services every Sunday, including greeters, worship assistants (lay readers), acolytes, operating the camera to record services, ushers to serve communion, communion preparation and cleanup. If you could occasionally assist in any of these ways, email ministry@huffschurch.com or call the office 610-845-2626. Those who assisted in the past will be contacted again to schedule. New volunteers are always welcome!

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS & HELPERS NEEDED

The curriculum is easy to use online and designed for a multi-age group including suggestions for telling the Bible Story, crafts, games, etc. Join a team of teachers who sign up to teach one, two, or three months spread out through the year as works best for your schedule. Helpers are also needed to ensure we have 2 adults with PA Child Protection Clearances every Sunday. Contact the ministry assistant at ministry@huffschurch.com for more information.

CURRENT CHILD PROTECTION CLEARANCES NEEDED

For the protection of our youth and volunteers, Huff's complies with Pennsylvania Child Abuse regulations. PA State regulation requires volunteers 18 years or older interacting with Huff's youth must have current PA Clearances on record with Huff's Church Office. If you are leading, teaching, or helping with any activity involving interacting with Huffs youth even occasionally, please work with the ministry assistant to provide the required information to obtain new or redo Clearances older than 5 years. Many Clearances are provided free by the State and the Church reimburses any fees that may apply in a few special situations.

SCAMMERS ARE TARGETING CHURCHES

If you receive a text message, email, or Facebook message from someone claiming to be your pastor asking you to reply about something urgent or to purchase gifts cards... don't fall for it. It's not your pastor. It's a scam! Churches all around the country have become targets for scammers to trick members into parting with their cash. Scammers may direct folks to purchase gift cards and then provide the scammer with the gift card numbers so the scammer has immediate access to the money. Or if you reply to an "urgent" vague text or email, you could be linking directly to a scammer. Your pastor or other church leader will never contact you directly with an emergency request for cash or gift cards or send a vague email or text with no info demanding an urgent reply. If you receive a text or email that seems suspicious, don't reply. Contact the pastor, church office, or a church leader directly to verify the message.

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.

CHURCH FAMILY

DEATHS:

Please pray for the family and friends of Carol Reinert, who passed away on January 27, 2026.

Please pray for the family and friends of Barbara Kline, who passed away on February 2, 2026.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Pearl Hoffman	3/16
Evelyn Hladchuck	3/17
Neil Gery	3/19
Carol Greiss	3/21
Raymond Lorish	3/26

MARCH WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Leonard & Jane Rozanski	3/1
Robert & Nancy Schleicher	3/9

REMOVING FLOWERS FROM THE CEMETERY

Huffs Union Cemetery Committee is requesting all Winter and Christmas floral arrangements be removed from the cemeteries by March 29.

MOWERS NEEDED

Part Time Mowing Job: We are looking for part-time mowers to mow and string trim the church lawn, park, and cemeteries. At least 18 years old, male or female, 10-15 flexible hours per week. All equipment/fuel provided. If interested, email or call the church office.

DO YOU FOLLOW HUFF’S CHURCH ON FACEBOOK?

Huff’s has two Facebook pages, a Members Group page (*Huff’s Union Church Member Group*), and a public page (*Huff’s Union Church Inc*). We post upcoming events and announcements on these pages several times per week. You can ‘share’ posts from our public page. ‘Like’ our public page or request to ‘join’ the Member Group page.

DO YOU RECEIVE THE WEEKLY EBLAST EMAIL?

The eBlast can be delivered to your inbox every Thursday. In it you will find a quick reference of the important events going on here at Huff’s Church. If you’d like to be added to our weekly eBlast list, please email the Ministry Assistant at ministry@huffschurch.com and ask to be added to the list.

CHURCH CALENDAR LINK

To stay up to date on Church events, check out the following link for the Church calendar on our website: www.huffschurch.com/calendar.

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Active (Voting) Membership with Huff’s Church is maintained by having either communion or a contribution on record with this Congregation during the past 24 months. Simply complete a communion card once/year (call the Office if you commune with the online Huff’s Church Service) and/or contribute in an envelope marked with your name and address or contact the office to set up electronic giving. Communion cards are completed for those receiving home communion. Please let the pastor know if there are other special needs or concerns. **If you are interested in Active Membership with Huff’s, contact the pastor.**

YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Please remember that it is helpful for us to have your correct contact information. If you have changed your phone number, mailing address, or e-mail address, please let us know by contacting the church office.

UPDATING OUR LIST OF HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

If you know of a church member who is no longer able to get to church, please call the office to have that person added to our Homebound List. For the sake of confidentiality, we no longer publicize our homebound list in the newsletter. However, if you'd like to have a copy, contact the church office.

OYSTER PIE SALE

The Oyster Pie Sale Fundraiser is Saturday, April 25, with pick-up between 9:00 a.m. and 12 noon in the lower level of the chapel. Cost is \$9.00. Orders are due by Sunday, April 12. The order form will be on the downstairs bulletin board or on the table outside the Sanctuary or you can call the church office.

Oyster Pie making dates are: Thursday: April 23, Friday, April 24, and Saturday, April 25. We can always use help making oyster pies:

Thursday, 6:00 p.m. - Make pie crust crumbs.

Friday, 9:00 a.m. - Peel and cut potatoes (sit down job).

Friday, 6:00 p.m. - Make pie crusts and put into pans.

Saturday, 7:00 a.m. - Assemble pies and bag.

Come for all or part of the time. If you like, bring a snack to share. If you are new to Huff's, or want to bring a friend, this is a great way to get to know our folks while they work on one of our big fund-raising projects. No experience is needed.

HEY KIDS! COME TO SUNDAY SCHOOL DURING THE 10:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE. After the Children's Message, children 6th grade and younger gather with their teachers and helpers to go downstairs for a time of activities and learning until the end of the Worship Service. The first Sunday of each month and some special Services, children stay in the Sanctuary with their families for Worship and Communion. The Sunday School lesson is often based on one of the Scripture readings so parents and children can share what they learned about the same Bible Story. No signup – children just join in after the Children's Message.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONGREGATION MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Huff's Union Church Inc. will be held on Sunday, April 19, 2026, within the 10:30a.m. worship service with a second date of April 26, 2026.

The required quorum to hold the meeting is 50 Active Members. In the event that the business of the meeting cannot be completed for any reason including but not limited to inclement weather, provision of additional information, or lack of quorum, the meeting will be continued to Sunday, April 26, 2026, within the 10:30a.m. Worship Service. Those Active Members who attend the meeting on April 26, shall constitute a quorum and are authorized to act on these matters even if less than 50 are in attendance. If the voting is done on April 19, then the April 26 meeting will not be held.

Any Huff's Church Active Member may vote including our confirmed teenagers. Although in person attendance is encouraged, contact the Church office by Noon on Tuesday April 14 for Zoom link information if needed. Bylaws do not allow for absentee or proxy voting.

The agenda for the meeting will be the following:

*To vote on acceptance of the 2025 Annual Report that details the ways Huff's Union Church has done ministry and mission in 2025. Majority approval by those who vote is required. By April 5, the 2025 Annual Report will be available on Huff's Church website www.huffschurch.com, in the eBlast, and paper copies will be available at Church or call the church office 610-845-2626 to arrange a time to pick up copies (one per household please).

*Nomination and election to fill open Council member position.

Any item may be presented from the floor at the Annual Meeting; however, only proposed resolutions included in the Notice of Meeting may be voted on.

Questions about the meeting or the vote, contact Tess Woloszanski.

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MEMBERSHIP ROLL REVIEW

Our Constitution and Bylaws requires the Membership Rolls be reviewed annually. Council reviews membership records with the assistance of a Membership Review Committee in Spring and contacts those who have no record of communion or contribution for 2 years or more. If there has been no indication by an individual that they have an interest in Active membership at Huffs, Council updates the membership status in Fall.

Following is a **brief** summary of Membership of Huff's Union Church. *Refer to Chapter 8: Membership in Huff's Union Church Constitution and Bylaws for complete information.*)

Active (Voting) Membership Roll - Members who have either Communion or a contribution on record with Huff's Church during the previous 2 years. Communion or contributions at other churches are not recorded by Huff's Church. Only Active members have both voice and vote at Congregation Meetings and other benefits as determined by Council.

Associate (Non-Voting) Membership Roll - Members who do not have either Communion or a contribution on record with Huff's Church during the previous 2 years (or a member whose contact information or whereabouts is unknown for the previous year) may be moved with Council approval to the Associate (Non-Voting) Membership Roll.

Associate members have no vote at Congregation meetings, do not regularly receive printed newsletters and have increased donation/costs for use of facilities, cemetery lots, and services such as weddings and funerals, etc. as determined by Council.

Associate members desiring to request reinstatement to Active Membership shall consult with the Pastor.

Friend of this Congregation (not on Membership Roll) - An individual who does not have either Communion or a contribution on record with Huff’s Church during the previous 5 years or a member whose contact information or whereabouts is unknown for the previous 2 years may be removed with Council approval from the Membership Roll of this Congregation and documented as a Friend of this Congregation. Requests to become a member are made to the Pastor.

Financial Report

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Giving for operating expenses	8,857	14,235	(5,378)
All other income	3,771	3,872	(101)
Total income	12,628	18,107	(5,479)
Expenses	32,760	32,972	(212)
Operating deficit	(20,132)	(14,865)	(5,267)
Giving for capital improvements	21	125	(104)
Estate gift	-	-	-
Capital expenditures	-	(11,500)	11,500
Transfers from Investments	12,500	26,240	(13,740)
Net change in cash	(7,611)	-	(7,611)

Balance Sheet	1/31/26	12/31/25
Designated funds	75,596	78,665
General funds	1,920	5,198
Total assets (a)	77,516	83,863

(a) excludes investments managed by Tiller