

HUFF'S CHURCH CHATTER



June, 2022

Church Address: 540 Conrad Rd., Alburton, 18011
Church office: 610-845-2626 Church & Chapel: 610-845-2541
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jennifer Bannerman
Pastor's Home Office: 570-778-7524
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.

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

RECEPTION FOR PROSPECTIVE PASTOR

Please join us on Saturday, June 25, for a Dessert Reception to meet our prospective new pastor, Rev. John Steitz. Stop in anytime between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. on the lower level of the church to chat with Pastor Steitz and enjoy dessert.

JUNE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

A special simultaneous meeting of Huff's Union, Huff's Evangelical Lutheran, and Huff's United Church of Christ corporations will be held on Sunday, June 26, 2022, within the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with second date of July 3, 2022. **No 8:00 a.m. Worship Service** on date of Congregation Meeting; however, if the Meeting Agenda and voting is completed on June 26, then we will have regular Worship Service schedule on July 3 at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

The required quorum to hold the meeting is 50 Active Members. If 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, July 3, 2022, within the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service.

Those Active Members who attend the meeting on July 3, 2022, shall constitute a quorum and are authorized to act on all items on the agenda even if less than 50 are in attendance. If the voting is done on June 26, then the July 3 meeting will not be held. To provide the opportunity for all members to participate in one discussion and vote on this important matter, there will be no 8 a.m. Service on either June 26 or July 3 however, if the Meeting Agenda and voting is completed on June 26, then we will have regular Worship Service schedule on July 3 at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Anyone who is an Active Member at Huff's may vote (which includes our teenagers who have been confirmed). Zoom links will be provided in the eblast and bulletins closer to the date to remotely connect by computer or phone or you may contact the Church office for the information. Bylaws do not allow for absentee or proxy voting.

The agenda for the meeting will be to vote on acceptance of Rev. John Steitz as the Settled Pastor of Huffs Union Church. Two thirds approval by those who vote is required.

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

Thank you for the opportunity to journey with you these past 2 years. We have had many challenges to face as a congregation and we met each challenge with creative ideas and sheer determination. I've enjoyed leading you through your time of transition.

Here, our pathway's part. I'm heading to new adventures out in the Seattle area, where I'll see if I can learn what it means to be semi-retired. You are moving toward your new settled pastor and all the new opportunities for ministry and adventure that will come with this new relationship.

The world has changed greatly in the last two years, as have all of our lives. Remember to keep your vision to the future. God is creating new opportunities for ministry and mission. Be willing to try new things and do old things in new ways. Challenge yourselves to learn new skills and get out of your comfort zones. Support your new pastor and welcome their ideas. Work together to create a healthy relationship of mutual ministry so that you can thrive.

Above all, let your light shine. Let the love of God shine through you in all that you say and do. Be the witness of God in your community as you help to transform people's lives. Be the blessing that God created you to be.

Blessings on your journey. Until we meet again...

Peace,
Pastor Jennifer

ON-LINE WORSHIP SERVICES

On-line services are transitioning to a new format that includes a video recording of the sermon and other parts of the Sunday morning worship service. During the transition we intend to post the Service on Sunday later afternoon/early evening on www.huffschurch.com and on Facebook: Huff's Union Church.

Sounds like it should work but sometimes the technology we have on hand just doesn't come together easily and we could not get the May 15 Service online that day. We will continue to work on this. In the meantime, please enjoy previous services.

HUFFS CHURCH AUXILIARY

The next meeting of the Huffs Church Auxiliary will be held on Monday, June 27th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Everyone is invited to attend. Please continue to save your Redner's & Radcliffe's receipts. There is a basket for these in the church.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Mark your calendar for August 1 through August 5, 2022, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. We invite you to join us for a week of Fun and Play as Huff's Church will host Food Truck Party, which is based on Matthew 6:11, "*Give us this day our daily bread.*"

Food Truck Party is a fun event, with a unique food truck court and a special food truck called "On A Roll". Our Daily Menu includes Music, Science, Crafts and Games. Playtime and learning about the Bible help children grow. They are an important way for children to interact and use their creativity.

Our 2022 VBS is co-directed by Julie Brought and Kara Benfield. If you have any questions, you can contact Julie by email juliebrought@comcast.net.

We are in need of volunteers! Please let Julie or Kara know if you can help us this year. Please include your contact information along with the VBS Registration Form.

THE CEMETERY BOARD

Part-time mowing (includes trimming) positions available for church and cemetery grounds at \$14.00 an hour. If interested, please contact church office.

JUNE SPECIAL OFFERING

In June we support the ELCA organization that arranges for grief counseling sessions, lay visitor training, and other programs that enhance our Christian witness. Use a pew envelope or mail a contribution marked "ELCA Making Christ Known."

THOSE WHO ARE GRADUATING

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

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Bible Study Group will meet on Saturday, June 4, 2022, 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.

FOOD FOR NEEDY TRUCK AT HUFF'S

Thursday, June 2, 2022, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Friend, Inc. monthly brings a truck to Huffs Church parking lot for food distribution on the first Thursday.

Volunteer help is needed for Food Truck at Huff's - About 6 volunteers (age 12 and older) are needed during June, July, and August to assist Friend Inc staff to carry items from Food Truck to vehicles since most Kutztown University student volunteers will not be available during summer months. If you can help any of those months, contact Tom Mitchell at 610-845-2978 and leave your name, phone number and which month(s) you can help. Tom will confirm back to you.

2022 UNION COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Martin Kriebel

Vice-President: Matthew Schantz

Secretary: Rachel Welch

Treasurer: Jon Benfield

Tom Mitchell

Michael Diehl

Conner Isamoyer

Thomas Johnson

Lisa Kauffman

Lori Lanahan

Elaine Witman

Carol Leh

James Meitzler, Sr.

CHURCH GIFT CARD SCAM

Churches have become targets of various types of scams. Recently a scammer pretending to be the Huff's Church pastor texted several congregation members asking that gift cards be purchased for an immediate need of the Church. There is no way the pastor or church leaders know the scammer is using the name of the pastor or Huff's Church.

Since scams change quickly, pay attention to these red flags indicating you could be a target of a scam:

- *A phone call, text or email that looks like it came from the pastor or church leader asking for or verifying your credit card number, bank account, or other personal information.
- *You're asked by phone, email or text to purchase gift cards and promptly provide the gift card number and PIN on the back of the card and/or a photo of the card. Those numbers let the scammer immediately get access to the money on the gift card and in an instant your money and the scammer are gone.
- *The sender uses a different form of their name than usual. An email or text to Huff's Church members would not be signed by the full formal name and title (ex. The Rev. Dr. Donald J. Smith or Mr. James K. Thompson) The scammers copy the name from some source on the internet.
- *There's a sense of urgency behind the request.
- *The message may have confusing grammar and misspellings.

If you receive a phone call, email or text of this type, immediately hang up, or don't open/reply to that email or text. Call the Church Office 610-845-2626. If no answer, leave a message with your name, return phone number and type of message you received; but in addition, promptly call or text the pastor or a church leader using a number you know is correct to advise of this potential scam. Likely several other members are getting that scam message at the same time and the sooner we know about it the better.

Scams involving Huff's Church will be reported to PA State Police and PA Attorney General's Office.

PRAYER PARTNERS

If you would like to be a prayer partner (agreeing to pray for one or two persons in our congregation), please contact the church office or John Leaser. You may also write your name below, tear off that part of the page, and place it in the offering plate. Names are due by June 12th. John will then match names and publish them in the July newsletter. Names can always be added later.

Name: _____

FUNERALS

Please pray for the family and friends of Beverly Hilbert who passed away on April 15, 2022.

MEMORIALS

To the General Fund in memory of Beverly Hilbert:
Longswamp Lions Club
Laurel & Karl Neumuller
Bruce & Dorothy Gressley

BAPTISM

God's blessing on Elsie Adelaide Solt, daughter of Nathan & Alexandra Solt who was baptized on March 27, 2022.

WEDDINGS

Marissa Diachynsky and Eric Becker were married on April 9, 2022.

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

6/1 - Eleanor Gigler	6/1 - Ruth Leibensperger
6/4 - Wayne Fogel	6/5 - Joyce Grim
6/6 - Dennis Miller	6/23 - Marion Miller
6/24 - Dolores Haas	6/30 - Betty Kline

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

6/6 - Bill & Sharon Stoudt
6/10 - Albert & Donna Muth
6/20 - Bruce & Shirley Cressman
6/24 - Charles & Nancy Hoffman
6/29 - Marvin & Audrey Diehl

UKRAINE EMERGENCY APPEAL

Total of \$3,633.51 was equally divided and sent by Huff's Church to Lutheran Disaster Response and the United Church of Christ Ukraine Emergency Appeal. Soup kettle donations were \$1633.51 plus \$1000 each from Huff's Union and Huff's Union Mission Endowment Fund.

Financial Report

	YTD		Variance	Annual Budget
	Actual	Budget		
Giving	44,191	58,830	(14,639)	175,740
All other income	29,948	27,637	2,311	58,991
Total income	74,140	86,467	(12,328)	234,731
Expenses	95,673	98,267	(2,594)	336,095
Operating income (loss)	(21,533)	(11,799)	(9,734)	(101,364)
Transfers from Investments	21,000	33,800	(12,800)	101,400
Net income (loss)	(533)	22,001	(22,534)	36

	4/30/22	3/31/22	12/31/21
Balance Sheet			
Designated funds	114,963	120,277	116,006
General funds	14,714	12,559	23,251
Sunday School CDs	4,379	4,379	4,379
Total assets (a)	134,056	137,214	143,635

(a) excludes investments managed by Youngs