

# HUFF'S CHURCH CHATTER



**March 2023**

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Church Address: 540 Conrad Rd., Alburty, 18011  
Church office: 610-845-2626 Church & Chapel: 610-845-2541  
Pastor: Rev. John Steitz  
Pastor Home Office: 610-820-1650  
Office email: [office@huffschurch.com](mailto:office@huffschurch.com)  
Website: [www.huffschurch.com](http://www.huffschurch.com)  
Facebook Page: Huff's Union Church, Inc.

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## 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.**

## EASTER LILIES

If you would like to place an Easter Lily in church on Easter (April 9), please fill out a form from the March newsletter or available on the Bulletin table in the back of the sanctuary. Include it and your payment in an envelope and mark it "Easter Flowers". You may either drop off your order at the office or place in the offering plate or mail to Robin Diehl. Orders are due by Sunday, March 12th.

## **ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING**

**The Annual Meeting of Huff's Union Corporation will be held Sunday, April 16, 2023 within the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with second date of April 23, 2023.**

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 23, 2023, within the 10:30AM Worship Service. Those Active Members who attend the meeting on April 23, shall constitute a quorum and are authorized to act on this matter even if less than 50 are in attendance. If the voting is done on April 16, then the April 23 meeting will not be held.

Any Huff's Church Active Member may vote (including confirmed teenagers). Zoom links will be provided in the E-Blast 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 the following items:**

-To vote on acceptance of the 2022 Annual Report that details the ways Huff's Union Church has done ministry and mission in 2022. Majority approval by those who vote is required. By April 2, the 2022 Annual Report will be available on Huff's Church website [www.huffschurch.com](http://www.huffschurch.com), 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).

- 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:

Martin Kriebel

[martin.kriebel.315@gmail.com](mailto:martin.kriebel.315@gmail.com)

## **FRIEND INC. FOOD TRUCK**

Friend Inc. food truck distribution will be in Huff's Church parking lot on Thursday, March 2, from 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

## OYSTER PIE SALE

Oyster pie sale will be held on **Saturday, March 25, 2023**, with pick-up between **9:00 a.m. and 12 noon** in the lower level of the chapel. Orders are due by Sunday, March 12, 2023. Cost is \$8.50.

Order forms are on the downstairs bulletin board of the church, or you may call the church office.

Help is needed for making the pies. Please contact Tess Woloszanski or Lisa Kauffman.

- **Thursday, March 23rd at 6:00 p.m.** - Make pie crust crumbs. (This is an easy job of mixing Crisco into flour.)
- **Friday, March 24th at 9:00 a.m.** - Peel and dice potatoes. (This is a sit-down job.)
- **Friday, March 24th at 6:00 p.m.** - Make pie crusts and place the bottom crust in the pie tins.
- **Saturday, March 25th at 7:00 a.m.** - Assemble the pies and bag them. (This can be a sit-down job.)

No experience is needed for any of these jobs, Confirmation credits given (1 credit for 2 hours work).

## EASTER STORY EGG HUNT

The Easter Story Egg Hunt will be held at Huff's Church on Saturday, April 1, at 11:00 a.m. – Rain or Shine

Families with children of all ages are welcome to the Easter Story Egg Hunt. **We'll gather in the Huff's Church Park** and hear the story of Jesus' week before Easter, and all children receive a special gift bag. Then hunt eggs! If too wet or stormy, everything will be moved into the Church.

**Your monetary donation towards costs of the egg hunt** may be dropped in the special Bunny Container at Church or mailed to the Church Office.

**Egg Hunt Help needed:** Craft preparation ahead of time; Morning of Egg Hunt-set up and greeters, egg hiders, craft helpers, and cleanup. If you can help, please Tess email [tess314@windstream.net](mailto:tess314@windstream.net).

## **BIBLE STUDY GROUP**

The Bible Study Group will meet on Saturday, March 4, 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.

## **JEAN REINERT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

The Jean Reinert Memorial Scholarship information and application is available from the Church office by calling 610-845-2626 or by contacting Michele Boyer Reed at 610-790-3289. 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. The deadline to apply is June 30, 2023, for this \$1,000 scholarship.

## **SPECIAL OFFERING FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH**

In March we will receive the United Church of Christ One Great Hour of Sharing offering. This offering provides developmental and emergency relief to people throughout the world. Offering envelopes are in the pew racks, or simply use a blank envelope, mark it UCC One Great Hour of Sharing, and place filled envelope in the offering plate or mail it to Huff's Church. Include your name if you wish to be credited for this gift on your giving statement.

## **PANTRY DONATIONS**

Thank you to all those who share their food and personal care items with others through our church food pantry. 132 donations went to Friend, Inc. in September. 171 items were packed for Open Link the end of December. Both organizations expressed their gratitude. For those new to this mission, the food pantry cabinet is located in the area of the elevator and restrooms.

## **ALL ARRANGEMENTS ON THE CEMETERY**

All arrangements on the cemeteries must be removed by April 1, 2023.

## CHURCH FAMILY

### BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING 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

3/16 - Pearl Hoffman	3/17 - Evelyn Hladchuk
3/19 - Neil Gery	3/26 - Raymond Lorish
3/31 - Lorraine Hunter	

#### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

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

### PASTOR'S ARTICLE

Praying the Jesus Creed as a Lenten Practice.

For the past several months I have been advocating saying the Jesus Creed with the confirmation class and with the congregation.

During the forty days of Lent I invite you to practice this as a daily Lenten discipline: When you get up, say the Jesus Creed. When you go to bed, say the Jesus Creed again. When you leave your home, say the Jesus Creed. When you enter your house, say the Jesus Creed one more time.

### THE JESUS CREED

Love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind,  
And with all your strength.  
Love your neighbor as yourself.

## **BUDDHIST WHO VISITED HUFF'S CHURCH**

Did you notice the elderly Asian man who worshipped with us recently? His name is Steve and he is visiting from California to the Mituo Village in what had been the Camp Mensch Mill. It's a Buddhist Temple and retreat center. I'm sure he enjoyed the Longswamp New Year's wish and accompanying music and he got to hear Maisy Funk share her violin music with us several times. Steve is Buddhist. Like many of the visitors to the North American Mituo Village, he is of Chinese descent, and he speaks English well. He is also very interested in the history of Mensch Mill as a camp and was surprised to learn about the Hereford Furnace of Thomas Mayberry that preceded the camp. I shared a book with him about the history of the Camp Mensch Mill that had been donated to Huff's in 1962. He treated it with great respect and asked politely if he could share the information with others. He returned it the following Sunday.

They invited the local community to a 2023 Lunar New Year blessing event. Enter the Year of the Rabbit. It was a fun afternoon of celebration with new friends and several folks from Huffs Church and Huffs Village. It was fun seeing how another culture worships and celebrates and I was welcomed by everyone with smiles, adults and children. The differences are mostly subtle. They remove their shoes at the door and wear slippers in their temple. They burn incense and we usually don't. When their children squirm and make noise during the ceremony their parents look embarrassed and annoyed. They took us on a tour of their village and talked about their plans for the many outbuildings and discussed how to use them most effectively. They also talked about things they could do to keep their kids interested in their faith. These are conversations we have had at Huffs many times. Their invitation said that they believe everything in the world is formed by cause and effect. "Therefore, if we want to pursue blessings (effects), we need to accumulate blessings (causes) by ourselves" Isn't that like our "Golden Rule"? They are trying to be good neighbors and their food is great. I wonder if they have a "Ladies Aid Society". I should have asked. I also now have a better idea of how Steve feels when he visits our worship services.

Scott Swackhamer, Historian

# Financial Report

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Giving	22,195	13,728	8,467
All other income	3,098	3,329	(232)
Total income	25,293	17,058	8,235
Expenses	39,457	41,268	(1,811)
Operating income (loss)	(14,164)	(24,210)	10,046
Capital expenditures	-	(6,667)	6,667
Transfers from Investments	12,500	19,245	(6,745)
Net income (loss)	(1,664)	(11,632)	9,968

	1/31/23	12/31/22
<b>Balance Sheet</b>		
Designated funds	68,983	73,887
General funds	7,911	5,011
Sunday School CDs	4,385	4,385
Total assets (a)	81,278	83,283

(a) excludes investments managed by Youngs

## EASTER LILIES AVAILABLE

Easter Lilies will adorn the Nave of the church for our Easter Worship Service. If you'd like to order one, please complete the form below and submit it with your payment to Robin Diehl, 50 Eric Lane, Alburts, PA, (610-845-7092). Orders are due by Sunday, March 12, 2023. The cost is \$11.00 for Lilies.

Please make checks payable to **HUFF'S UNION CHURCH**.

## EASTER LILY ORDER FORM

# of Lily Plants \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$11.00 per plant \$ \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

PRESENTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_