

HUFF'S CHURCH CHATTER



SEPTEMBER 2023

Church Address: 540 Conrad Rd., Alburtis, 18011

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

Pastor: Rev. John 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

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.

JEAN REINERT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

On behalf of the Huff's Union Church Scholarship Committee, Kara Benfield was awarded the Jean Reinert \$1000 Memorial Scholarship to further her education. She will be attending Kutztown University starting this fall, studying to be an elementary school teacher. Kara has been very involved with lay reader and worship service support, VBS, Sunday School, and baking for fundraisers here at the church, and she plans to continue to stay involved in the future.

GLORIA ADAMS RETIREMENT

After 40 years of faithful service in music ministry at Huff's Union Church, Gloria Adams has tendered her letter of retirement, effective Sunday, September 10, 2023. We are planning a covered dish meal (with a special cake) following the 10:30 worship service on that date to show our appreciation to her. Please plan on joining us for this special day!

If you would like to contribute to a gift for Gloria's retirement, please put cash or a check (made out to Theresa Woloszanski) in an envelope and mark it with your name and "Retirement Gift." You may drop the envelope in the offering plate, give it to Martin Kriebel or Tess, or mail it to Tess at 738 Topton Road, Kutztown, PA 19530. We will collect donations until September 3.

FOOD PANTRY

We recently packed and delivered 150 food items to the Allentown Rescue Mission. This mission always held a soft spot in Carl Arner's heart. He enjoyed talking with the men during one of the annual meals he helped coordinate with the Rescue Mission.

We welcomed the help of Earl Derr carrying out the heavy boxes of canned goods. The Mission is always grateful for the food and occasional clothing we deliver to them. Thank you to all the church members who share in this endeavor.

Submitted by volunteers Sue and Bob Stockdale, Elvin Keiser, and Earl Derr.

OYSTER PIE SALE

Save the date, Saturday, October 21, 2023, for our next Oyster Pie Sale fundraiser.

FOOD TRUCK AT HUFF'S

Friend, Inc. will bring a truck on Thursday, September 7, 2023, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. to Huff's Church parking lot for food distribution. If you can volunteer (age 12 and older) any month to carry items from the Food Truck to vehicles, contact Tom Mitchell.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Bible Study will begin meeting on Saturday, September 2, at 10:30 a.m. in the downstairs of the Church. 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.

SPECIAL OFFERING OPPORTUNITY FOR SEPTEMBER

Our new offering opportunity for September is the ELCA Special Needs Retirement Fund. This offering is the ELCA equivalent of the UCC Christmas Fund offering, and supplements the income of those retired pastors, rostered ministers, lay employees and surviving spouses living on a low income. This offering also helps with health contributions for recipients who have ELCA health benefits.

Please mark your church envelope "ELCA Special Needs" or mark a "Welcome" envelope (available next to the offering basket).

HUFFS CHURCH AUXILIARY MEETING

The next meeting of the Huff's Church Auxiliary is scheduled for Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the downstairs of the Chapel. Everyone is invited to attend these meetings to help plan ways to support our church.

CHURCH FAMILY



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.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9/4 - Christine Henson	9/6 - Carl Drasher
9/8 - William Moser	9/10 - Ethel Funk
9/23 - Mary Szilli	9/27 - Nancy Hoffman



SEPTEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

9/15 - Jerome & Judith Barnes



God's blessing on Paul Robert Giangiacomo, baptism on Sunday, August 6, 2023.

NEW MEMBER

Welcome to Paul Robert Giangiacomo who joined the church on Sunday, August 6, 2023.

PASTOR'S REPORT DREAM MODEL

Dignity. Respect. Empathy. Acceptance. Mutuality.

What are the qualities of a loving, healthy and compassionate relationship?

About twenty years ago I developed the DREAM model as one way to think about this.

Dignity:

I am able to acknowledge that I am somebody - a child of God with in trinsic value and worth. I am able to acknowledge that my partner is also a child of God with intrinsic value and worth, and to treat this person with equal regard.

Respect:

I am able to share my true self, - my feelings, thoughts, and needs with my partner without wanting to manipulate this person. I am able to listen to and hear my partner share their true self without fear of being manipulated.

Empathy:

I am able to show interest in, respond to, and understand the world-view of my partner, while maintaining a separate sense of self. I am able to express caring and compassion as I seek connection with my partner.

Acceptance:

I am able to accept my partner for who they are. I am able to nurture both myself and my partner as we grow in life and faith. I am able to be honest, open and direct in communicating with my partner.

Mutuality:

I am able to engage in true dialogue with my partner, caring for each other and the relationship as a whole. I am able to cooperate and share power with my partner, loving one another, and celebrating reciprocity of our communion with each other.

Pastor John Steitz



SOUP AND SANDWICH SALE

Huffs Union Church is having a soup and sandwich sale on Wednesday, September 27th. **BOTH SANDWICHES AND SOUP NEED TO BE PRE-ORDERED AND NEED TO BE PAID UPON ORDERING.** Sandwiches are being made by R & K Subs, while the soup will be homemade.

Order forms can be found in the upper and lower levels of the church.

Orders can also be made through Edwina in the church office, but payment needs to be arranged with her. The number is 610-845-2626. If you want to collect orders outside of church, see Edwina or Tess for order forms of your own.

There will be 3 choices of subs, which cost \$6.50 each, and 6 choices of pretzel sandwiches, which cost \$5.50 each.

3 choices of soup can be ordered – Butternut Squash, Chicken Corn Noodle, and Cheeseburger Chowder. Pints are \$5 each and quarts are \$9 each. There may also be some extra soup available in the Chapel during the pick-up time.

Orders and payment are due by Sunday, September 17th. Pick-up will need to be made in the lower level of the Chapel between 3:30 pm and 5:30 pm on September 27th.

Please help support our church and take a yummy meal home with you!

LUNCH BUNCH STARTS AGAIN

All are welcome to Lunch Bunch on Thursday, September 21, at 12 Noon at Main Street Pub, 505 Main St., Bally. Members and friends of Huff's Church are welcome to join us for a monthly lunch (we choose and purchase our own lunches from the regular menu) and a lot of good fellowship and laughter. We are planning to gather monthly on the third Thursday at different restaurants in the area. With restaurant staff shortages, we want to provide a head count so restaurants kind enough to host us can plan ahead. **If you would like to come to lunch, call or text Tom Mitchell by Sunday, September 17, email diligas1213@gmail.com.**

JOB OPENINGS AT HUFF'S CHURCH

Church Music Director - We are looking to fill the responsibilities of part-time (about 20 hours/week) Church Music Director which includes worship service accompanist and directing choirs (currently adult, children, and handbell choirs). Job description at: https://www.huffschurch.com/_files/ugd/381929_11390ffffc13459487d3f5b7a542b3ac.pdf.

Qualified candidate should have high school degree, exhibit above average musicianship, be proficient in voice and piano, and have some experience directing choirs. Compensation commensurate to qualifications and experience.

Apply via e-mail (pamij6@gmail.com) or mail to Personnel Committee, Huff's Union Church, 540 Conrad Road, Alburtis, PA 18011

Ministry Assistant - We are searching for a qualified person to fill the position of part time (20 hours/week) Ministry Assistant to support Pastor, office manager, and congregation volunteers in providing effective and consistent communication, organization, procedures, and recordkeeping. Job description at:

https://www.huffschurch.com/_files/ugd/381929_8e71e72bb0b04884a1d263c731dfaa3f.pdf.

Responsibilities may be revised as ministry needs require.

Qualified candidate should have high school diploma, good written and verbal communication and listening skills, experience with Microsoft Office, and social media and web page maintenance. Compensation commensurate to qualifications and experience.

Apply via e-mail (pamij6@gmail.com) or mail to Personnel Committee, Huff's Union Church, 540 Conrad Road, Alburtis, PA 18011.

Financial Report

	YTD		
	Actual	Budget	Variance
Giving	105,951	94,448	11,503
All other income	29,161	21,304	7,857
Total income	135,112	115,753	19,360
Expenses	192,429	208,282	(15,854)
Operating income (loss)	(57,317)	(92,530)	35,213
Capital expenditures	-	(46,667)	46,667
Transfers from Investments	87,500	134,717	(47,217)
Net income (loss)	30,183	(4,479)	34,662

	7/31/23	6/30/23	12/31/22
Balance Sheet			
Designated funds	104,127	99,231	73,887
General funds	6,388	7,790	5,011
Sunday School CDs	4,389	4,389	4,385
Total assets (a)	114,905	111,410	83,283

(a) excludes investments managed by Youngs