

HUFF'S CHURCH CHATTER



AUGUST, 2021

Church Address: 540 Conrad Rd., Alburty, 18011
Church office: 610-845-2626 Church & Chapel: 610-845-2541
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jennifer Bannerman
Pastor 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.

COVID 19 GUIDELINES

In all buildings on campus, face masks are optional for everyone who is fully vaccinated but still required for everyone else. Any activities taking place outdoors will not require masks. Communion will be offered in the pews, with ushers who are masked distributing the elements.

WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST

As each of us moves through the many decisions that Covid has forced upon us, Huff's continues to offer a variety of ways to participate in worship and fellowship.

1st and 3rd Sundays - Both services in church building

August 1 and 15

2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays- 8:00 In church building/10:30 In Park

August 8, 22, and 29

Inclement weather- park service moves to church building.

In the Park, you may use bandshell benches or bring your own lawn chairs to set up under the bandshell or on the lawn. You may also listen to the service on your car radio in the park.

Online Worship Services continue at www.huffschurch.com and on Facebook: Huff's Union Church.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Huff's Church is planning to start a confirmation class in September. Please contact the church office at 610-845-2626 if you have a child who is ready to begin confirmation class. General age is 7th grade or older.

For the youth joining the confirmation class, you will need to volunteer at various church events throughout your time in class. If you wish to begin earning volunteer points now, you may do so by helping at the church picnic on Saturday, August 14th. Please contact Lisa Kauffman at kauffmanschildcare@msn.com to sign up. Work shifts are available for 3:30 to 6:00pm or for 6:00 to 8:00pm.





Vacation Bible School

We will be holding Vacation Bible School starting on August 2nd through August 6th, 2021. We will be meeting from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin

board in the lower narthex. Please fill out the registration form and send or bring back to the church.

Covid 19 Guidelines at VBS: Outdoors- masks not required.

Indoors - Since most of our students are not eligible for vaccine, we ask all students and staff wear masks for the protection of all. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Rachel Welch at 484-226-0333.

COMMUNION CARD UPDATE

Please remember to complete a communion card for 2021 and place it in the offering plate. To remain an active member of Huff's Church, we require that you either contribute or commune at least once every two years. Please contact the church office if you wish to remain an active member but have a special circumstance which prevents you from meeting that requirement.

DATE AND TIME CHANGE FOR FRIEND, INC.

FOOD FOR NEEDY TRUCK AT HUFF'S CHURCH

Friend, Inc. was alerted of a food need in our area. They will bring a mobile food truck to Huff's Union Church parking lot on the **first Thursday** of each month to distribute food on a regular monthly basis. The organization will start the first distribution beginning **August 5th** in the afternoon from **3:30 to 5:00 p.m.** Berks County residents in need should contact Friend, Inc. 610-683-7790 for more information. If any parishioners know of needy families, please direct them to contact Friend, Inc. Volunteers are welcome.

IT'S PICNIC TIME ONCE AGAIN!

Huffs Church is planning a **picnic on August 14, 2021, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** The Majestics will provide the entertainment from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. We are looking for many volunteers to assist with food prep beforehand and serving food & drink during the event. There is a helper sign-up sheet in church, or contact: Lisa Kauffman at 610-413-9283 or email: kauffmanschild-care@msn.com.

The amount of help we get will determine how many different foods can be offered and how successful the picnic will be. Baked goods are also requested and can be brought to the chapel or park on the morning of the 14th, or even at the beginning of the picnic.

Prep work will begin in the Chapel on:

Thursday August 12th - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday August 13th & 14th 7:00 a.m. to Noon

We will need lots of volunteers to serve and fry foods during the picnic as well. Two shifts: 3:30-6:00 and 6:00-8:30 p. m.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you are available to help so we know what foods we need to order! Thank you for your time.

AUGUST SMALL BIBLE GROUP



The Small Bible Study Group will meet on Saturday, August 7th, 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.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR AUGUST

The special offering for August is our own congregation's mission and ministry. Please pray for our outreach into our community, and our ability to help people connect to God's loving presence through the Holy Spirit. Please continue to support us as we try to live out Christ's call to love God with our heart, mind, soul and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

CHURCH FAMILY

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

- 8/4 - Patricia Zentner
- 8/10 - Jean Britton
- 8/12 - Marvin Diehl
- 8/17 - Ruth Acker
- 8/22 - Fern Hoffman
- 8/29 - Joyce Kemp



ANNIVERSARIES

- 8/7 - David & Katherine Miller
- 8/8 - Paul & Nancy Meitzler
- 8/15 - Charles & Carol Zwoyer
- 8/19 - Alfred & Christine Henson
- 8/21 - Robert & Susan Stockdale
- 8/25 - Melvin & Norma Greiss
- 8/29 - Joseph & Connie Szilli

FOOD PANTRY

Elvin Keiser, Bob and Sue Stockdale recently boxed 294 articles of food from our new pantry cabinet and donated them to the Rescue Mission in Allentown. They were very appreciative to receive them. Thank you to all who generously helped fill the cabinet.

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

The mystic Meister Eckhart said *preach God always, use words when necessary*. What does that look like, to preach God without words? I think it is something we all know how to do and something that many of us do every day, we just may not think about it as preaching God.

In June, I talked about planting our garden of faith in the world. Doing the work of preparing the soil, planting the seeds or seedlings, and then watering them and tending them as they grow, is the same process we follow when we plant the seeds of faith within ourselves and within our community.

This month I invite you to reflect even more on that process. If you can, take some time to sit outside or by a window, where you can see more of God's beautiful creation. Ask yourself how you can show all you see what God means to you. See if you can see God in all the creation, for Eckhart also said that if you study a caterpillar, you will have a sermon about God. It is a reminder that ALL of creation is called to celebrate the Divine by their very being.

Sometimes, learning to live out our faith is as simple as paying attention to what we do and how we do it. It means paying attention to who we are. As another mystic, Hildegard of Bingen said: *When a forest does not green vigorously, then it is no longer a forest. When a tree does not blossom, it cannot bear fruit. Likewise, a person cannot be fruitful without the greening power of faith, and an understanding of scripture.*

Today, pay attention to your actions. See how you can show God and God's great love to every person you interact with, to your pets and to all creation around you. Show that love without saying a word.

I will leave you with a Benediction from Hildegard.

Pastor Jennifer

*Good People, most ryal greening verdancy, rooted in the sun,
you shine with radiant light.*

*In this circle of earthly existence, you shine so finely,
it surpasses understanding.*

*God hugs you; you are encircled by the arms of the mystery
of God.*

Financial Report

	Jun 2021 Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance	Annual Budget
Giving	13,455	63,410	89,407	(25,997)	180,845
All other income	1	31,408	33,048	(1,639)	47,595
Total income	13,457	94,819	122,455	(27,637)	228,440
Expenses	16,600	119,747	143,685	(23,938)	291,369
Operating income (loss)	(3,143)	(24,929)	(21,230)	(3,699)	(62,929)
Transfers from Investments	10,500	36,750	31,500	5,250	63,000
Net income (loss)	7,357	11,821	10,271	1,551	71

	6/30/21	5/31/21	12/31/20
Balance Sheet			
Designated funds	117,489	106,942	107,283
General funds	16,292	13,134	14,896
Sunday School CDs	4,378	4,377	4,373
Total assets (a)	<u>138,159</u>	<u>124,454</u>	<u>126,552</u>

(a) excludes investments managed by Youngs

