

HUFF'S CHURCH CHATTER



March 2022

Church Address: 540 Conrad Rd., Alburdis, 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
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Facebook Page: Huff's Union Church, Inc.

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.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Huff's Union Church will hold its Ash Wednesday Service on March 2, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, the 40 days that precede Holy Week and Easter.

The Season of Lent is a time of renewal and a time to prepare ourselves for Easter through deeper disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Ashes are the traditional sign of sorrow and repentance and are also a sign of "mortality".

Come join us for a service of prayer, confession, and reflection: we are but dust and to dust we shall return.

MARCH CONGREGATION MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

A special simultaneous meeting of Huffs Union, Huffs Evangelical Lutheran, and Huff's United Church of Christ corporations will be held on Sunday, March 6, 2022, within the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with second date of March 13, 2022. No 8:00 a.m. Worship Service on date of Congregation Meeting; however, if the Meeting agenda and voting is completed on March 6, then we will have regular worship service schedule on March 13 at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

The required quorum to hold the meeting is 70 Active Members. In the event that 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, March 13, 2022, within the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. Those Active Members who attend the meeting on March 13, 2022, shall constitute a quorum and are authorized to act on all items on the agenda even if less than 70 are in attendance. If the voting is done on March 6, then the March 13 meeting will not be held.

In order to provide opportunity for all members to participate in one discussion and vote on these important matters, there will be no 8 a.m. Service on either March 6 or March 13 however, if the Meeting agenda and voting is completed on March 6, then we will have regular worship service schedule on March 13 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 the following items:

-To vote on acceptance of the 2021 Annual Report that details the ways Huff's Union Church has done ministry and mission in 2021. Majority approval by those who vote is required.

-To vote on approving the proposed new Constitution and By-laws of Huff's Union Church Inc to be effective as of the opening of the Union Council meeting on May 9, 2022. Two thirds approval by those who vote is required.

Since October 2021 a complete draft has been available for review by congregation members and Penn Southeast UCC Conference and Penn Northeast ELCA Synod. Input received was considered by Council and with slight revisions, Huff's Union Council recommends the final proposed version dated January 10, 2022, for congregation approval. This is the first step to legally merge Huff's ELCA and Huff's UCC corporations into one remaining Huff's Union Church Corporation.

-To nominate and elect 12 Union Council members who will begin terms and operate under the new Constitution and By-laws as of the opening of the Union Council meeting on Monday May 9, 2022. Candidates are elected by majority approval of those who vote. Anyone interested in serving on Council, contact Nominating Committee members Michael Diehl, Jane Leeser or Tess Woloszanski.

Proposed Constitution & Bylaws and 2021 Annual Report are available on Huff's Church website www.huffschurch.com. Paper copies of both documents are available at Church or call the church office 610-845-2626 to arrange a time to pick up copies (one per household please.)

Questions about the meetings, proposal, details of slight revisions to proposed Bylaws from previous draft, or the vote, contact Joanne Benfield at jobenfield1213@gmail.com or call 610-845-2978 and please leave message.

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, 2022, for this \$1,000 scholarship.

FRIEND, INC. - FOOD TRUCK FOR THE NEEDY

Friend, Inc. 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. Next distribution will be **Thursday, March 3rd, from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Bible Study Group will meet on Saturday, March 19, 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.

HUFFS CHURCH AUXILIARY MEETING

The next meeting of the Huff's Church Auxiliary is scheduled for Monday, March 21, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. in the downstairs of the Chapel. Everyone is invited to attend these meetings to help plan ways to support our church.

OYSTER PIE SALE

Save the date for our next Oyster Pie Sale fundraiser. It is scheduled for Saturday, April 30, 2022.

SEED TREE

Our Annual Seed Tree will be placed in the upper Narthex from March 6 to March 27, 2022. Collected seeds will be sent 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 and donations.

Sincerely, Carl Arner

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.

FOOD PANTRY

At the beginning of the New Year, Elvin Keiser and Bob and Sue Stockdale emptied the food pantry of 196 items and transported them to Open Link.

Open Link serves the Upper Perkiomen School District. They partner with Weis, Redners, Walmart and Philabundance to bring food to approximately 150 families a month. Food can be accessed Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at their store or through online order.

CHURCH FAMILY

FUNERALS

Please pray for the family and friends of Gloria Romig, who passed away on January 1, 2022.

Please pray for the family and friends of Teresa Derr, who passed away on January 16, 2022.

Please pray for the family and friends of Joyce A. Schantz, who passed away on January 29, 2022.

Please pray for the family and friends of Michael J. Acker, who passed away on February 1, 2022.

Please pray for the family and friends of Sheila Minnich, who passed away on February 1, 2022.

Please pray for the family and friends of Ernest Haas, who passed away on February 12, 2022.

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



- 3/5 - Annabelle Stegman
- 3/16 - Pearl Hoffman
- 3/17 - Evelyn Hladchuk
- 3/19 - Neil Gery
- 3/26 - Raymond Lorish
- 3/31 - Lorraine Hunter

Anniversaries



- 3/1 - Leonard & Jane Rozanski
- 3/9 - Robert & Nancy Schleicher
- 3/17 - Donald & Elizabeth Heimbach

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

This year we will be journeying with the Children of Israel as they leave Egypt, enter the Wilderness and reach the edge of the Promised Land. Their story is a story of transformation and transition, as they encounter God in new ways and in new places. They get to whine and complain every step of the way, while the parents – Moses and God – pull out their hair in frustration. Think worst family vacation ever! It is amazing that they ever made it through the Wilderness. It is a story rich in insights and lessons for us all, and has much to offer us during our time of transition.

I will be summarizing various parts of the story each Sunday (otherwise we would spend the hour just reading the text), so I invite you to read or re-read the Exodus story on your own. Go back and find out how they got to Egypt in the first place. What changed for them and what finally spurred them to leave. Start reading around Chapter 37 of Genesis, thru all of Exodus and then skip ahead to the first chapter or two of Deuteronomy. You can also watch the movie but remember that Hollywood did take liberties with some parts of the story.

When you've read the story, find a Confirmand to talk to about what they saw in the story (they read it in February). Find out what they see as important and see how it compares to your impressions.

**And yes, I did just assign all of you homework for Lent!
And yes, there will be a quiz!**

This year, let Lent be a time to connect with others and talk about your faith, your questions, your doubts, your struggles, and your hopes for the future of Huff's and your own future.

Peace,
Pastor Jennifer

RADCLIFFE AND REDNER TAPES PROGRAM

Since 1990, Huff's has been participating in the Radcliffe's and Redner's cash register tapes program, which gives back 1% of the totals to our church. Thus far we have received \$46,428.74!! We will continue to participate in this worthwhile fundraiser, so please save your tapes from these 2 stores. A big THANK YOU goes out to Bea Miller, who takes care of this money-making project!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Huff's Church needs volunteers who will organize the various support and outreach programs and projects within our church. Volunteers are needed in the areas of Caring and Sharing, Greeters, Hospitality, Pastor and Parish, Building and Grounds, and Youth Group. This is a wonderful opportunity to share your organizing skills in the support of your church. If you, or someone you know, is interested in these opportunities, please call the church office and leave a message, or speak with one of our council members.

ST. VINCENT'S MISSION TOILETRY ITEMS NEEDED

Please consider donating new toiletry items to St. Vincent's Mission in eastern Appalachia Kentucky. There is a labeled box in the upstairs vestibule. Maisy Funk and Dena Lebo-Funk will deliver the items to St. Vincent's while volunteering there in early March. If you have any larger items or supplies you might want to donate, please contact Dena at 610-845-3813 and leave a message.

EASTER STORY EGG HUNT AT HUFF'S CHURCH SATURDAY, APRIL 9, AT 11:00 AM - 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! To allow for social distancing, we plan to hold everything in the Park, so dress for the weather, including cool temperatures or light rain. But if it's too stormy, everything will be moved into the Church.

This year we will not collect candy donations, but your cash donation towards costs of the egg hunt may be dropped in the special Bunny Container at Church or mailed to the Church Office. If you can help with preparation or at the event, please call/text Tess Woloszanski at 610-618-6399 or email tess314@windstream.net.

ALL ARRANGEMENTS ON THE CEMETERY

All arrangements on the cemeteries must be removed by March 1, 2022.

Financial Report

	Jan-22 Actual	Jan-22 Budget	Variance	Annual Budget
Giving	8,762	14,870	(6,108)	175,740
All other income	15,081	14,267	814	58,991
Total income	23,843	29,137	(5,295)	234,731
Expenses	27,531	27,271	261	336,095
Operating income (loss)	(3,689)	1,866	(5,555)	(101,364)
Transfers from Investments	5,250	8,450	(3,200)	101,400
Net income (loss)	1,561	10,316	(8,755)	36

	1/31/22	12/31/21	12/31/21
Balance Sheet			
Designated funds	126,057	116,006	116,006
General funds	14,622	23,251	23,251
Sunday School CDs	4,379	4,379	4,379
Total assets (a)	145,057	143,635	143,635

(a) excludes investments managed by Youngs