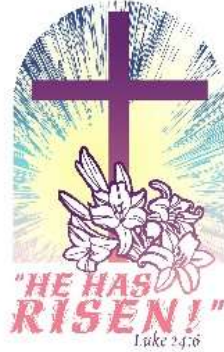


HUFF'S CHURCH CHATTER



MARCH 2024

Church Address: 540 Conrad Rd., Alburtis, PA 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.

ELCA slogan: God's work, our hands.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES:

Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.

Good Friday, March 29, 2024, at 12:00 Noon

Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. Come join us to celebrate Christ's Resurrection with Holy Communion.

THE EASTER STORY EGG HUNT

The Egg Hunt will be held at Huff's Church on Saturday, March 23, 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 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 is moved into the Church.

Monetary donations to be used toward costs of Egg Hunt may be dropped in special Bunny Container at Church or mailed to Church Office.

Help needed for Egg Hunt: 4 set-up crew and greeters (10:15 to 11:00), 5-6 egg hidiers (10:00-11:20, window of time depends on temperature), 2 coloring station attendants (cannot double as egg hidiers), 1 prize table attendant, 5 clean-up crew (11:45 - done). Please contact Tess Woloszanski.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR MARCH

In March we will receive the United Church of Christ One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, which 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 it the offering plate or mail it to Huff's Union Church. Include your name if you wish to be credited for this gift on your giving statement.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Council will meet in the lower level of the church on Monday, March 11, at 7:00 p.m. Contact the Council President or Ministry Assistant for Zoom link.

TWO COUNCIL MEMBER POSITIONS ARE OPEN FOR 3 YEAR TERMS

Anyone who is interested in serving on Council, contact a member of the Nominating Committee: Jim Meitzler Sr, Scott Swackhamer, Lori Lanahan, or contact the Office. Council members shall be an Active member of this Congregation for a minimum of 2 years and at least 18 years of age.

OYSTER PIE SALE

Oyster pie sale will be held on **Saturday, April 13**, with pick-up between **9:00 a.m. and 12 noon** in the lower level of the chapel. Orders are due by Sunday, March 31, 2024. 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, April 11 at 6:00 p.m.** - Make pie crust crumbs. (This is an easy job of mixing Crisco into flour.)
- **Friday, April 12 at 9:00 a.m.** - Peel and dice potatoes. (This is a sit-down job.)
- **Friday, April 12 at 6:00 p.m.** - Make pie crusts and place the bottom crust in the pie tins.
- **Saturday, April 13 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.

SEED TREE

Our Annual Seed Tree will be placed in the upper Narthex from **March 3 through March 24**. Collected seeds will be donated 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.

HANDBELL CHOIR

Huff's Church Handbell Choir rehearses Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. Contact Roberta Windish if interested.

SENIOR CHOIR

Huff's Church Senior Choir rehearses Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. Contact Gloria Adams if interested.

HUFFS CHURCH AUXILIARY MEETING

The next meeting of the Huff's Church Auxiliary is scheduled for Monday, March 18, 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.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Bible Study Group will meet on Saturday, March 2, at 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel. We will stay to have lunch together from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Bring something to share and join us. If you have any questions, call Lea Kline.

FOOD TRUCK AT HUFF'S

Friend, Inc. will bring a truck on Thursday, March 7, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. to Huff's Church parking lot for food distribution to those in need. If you can volunteer (age 12 and older) to carry items from the Food Truck to vehicles, contact Tom Mitchell. The Friend, Inc. Food Truck reported dispersing food to a record 54 families the first Thursday in February. Dog and cat food distributions were appreciated by many.

LUNCH BUNCH

Members and friends of Huff's Church are welcome to join us for lunch on Thursday, March 21, at 12:00 noon at the Main Street Pub in Bally, PA. We choose and purchase our own lunches from the regular menu. We need a head count so the Main Street Pub can comfortably host us. If you would like to come to Lunch Bunch on March 21, please call or text Tom Mitchell by Sunday, March 17. See you at the Main Street Pub to share a lot of good fellowship and laughter!

WEEKLY EBLAST EMAIL

The eBlast can be delivered to your inbox every Thursday. In it, you will find a quick reference to the important events going on at Huff's Union Church. If you'd like to be added to our weekly eBlast list, please email Angela, our new Ministry Assistant, at ministry@huffschurch.com and ask to be added to the list.

EASTER TULIPS AVAILABLE

Easter Tulips will adorn the Nave of the church for our Easter Worship Service. Orders and payment are due by Sunday, March 3rd. The cost is \$8.50. Make checks payable to Huff's Union Church.

FRIEND INC.

Jim Reese, Executive Director of Friend Inc. based in Kutztown, will give a special presentation during our Worship Service on March 10. Focusing on serving rural areas of Northeastern Berks County, every month Friend, Inc. serves over 600 individuals through their food and pet pantry, 400 students through Kutztown University Student Pantry, and at least 90 people from Alburts Mobile Market at Huff's Church. Over 550 individuals are impacted through utility and housing support along with medical assistance, budget counseling, and career education.

PASTORS ARTICLE

Lenten Bible Study

There is still time to join the Lenten Bible Study on Wednesdays at 12 noon, February 28 through April 3. Please let Pastor John know if you are interested so he can order a study book for you.

Community Engagement Team - Huff's Church Park

Are you interested in reaching out to our neighbors? Do you hope that Huff's Church might be a center for our local community? During the summer we have a wonderful resource in the Huff's Church Park! This summer we will be holding several community gatherings in the Park on Wednesday evenings. This will be a time for children to safely play and for adults to gather and get to know their neighbors better. If you are interested in helping us reach out to our neighbors, please contact Pastor John.

CONFIRMATION NEWS

March 3: Making Disciples class immediately after worship.

March 10: Jim Reese, executive director at Friend, Inc.

March 17: Making Disciples class immediately after worship.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONGREGATION MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Huff's Union Church Inc. will be held on Sunday, April 21, 2024, within the 10:30 a.m. worship service with a second date of April 28, 2024.

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 28, 2024, within the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Those Active Members who attend the meeting on April 28 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 21, then the April 28 meeting will not be held.

Any Huff's Church Active Member may vote, including our confirmed teenagers. Although in-person attendance is encouraged, contact the Church office for Zoom link information. Bylaws do not allow for absentee or proxy voting.

The agenda for the meeting is the following:

*To vote on acceptance of the 2023 Annual Report that details the ways Huff's Union Church has done ministry and mission in 2023. Majority approval by those who vote is required.

By April 7, the 2023 Annual Report will be available on Huff's Church website 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 a copy (one per household please).

*Nomination and election of two open Council member positions. Anyone interested in serving on Council, contact Nominating Committee: Jim Meitzler Sr, Scott Swackhamer, or Lori Lanahan.

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 Theresa Woloszanski.

CHURCH FAMILY

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

We are honoring our members who will 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.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

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

MEMORIALS:

In Memory of Michael Acker

Ruth Acker

In Memory of Sterling Acker

Ruth Acker

In Memory of Marion Miller

Bea Miller

John & Jane Leeser

Pat Crossley

Dena Lebo-Funk

In Memory of Jane Arndt:

Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Schantz

Marilyn Fenstermacher

Terry & Tammy Schantz

Rosalie & Timothy Gallagher

Ann Taylor

Miriam Flexer & Family

Lew & Maura Dryfoos

Glenn Schantz

Barb & Bob McDonald

Liz & Barry Karver

Marilyn Rau

John & Jane Leeser

Lea & Wayne Kline

Financial Report

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Giving	13,160	14,614	(1,454)
All other income	6,873	6,243	630
Total income	20,033	20,857	(824)
Expenses	32,917	33,801	(885)
Operating deficit	(12,884)	(12,944)	60
Capital expenditures	(16,114)	(16,114)	-
Transfers from Investments	12,500	12,500	-
Net income (loss)	(16,498)	(16,558)	60

Balance Sheet

	1/31/24	12/31/23
Designated funds	100,403	118,828
General funds	928	7,405
Sunday School CDs	4,478	4,478
Total assets (a)	105,809	130,711

(a) excludes investments managed by Tiller Wealth

PRAYER PARTNERS

We will be putting prayer partner sign-up sheets in the bulletins on April 8 through May 28. Please fill out and place in the offering plate. Prayer partners pray for one another throughout the year. John Leeser will match people and have the list ready for Sunday, June 10.

Name: _____