

HUFF'S CHURCH CHATTER



APRIL 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 (request to join and we will add you to this group.)

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.

THE UPPER PERKIOMEN HIGH SCHOOL A CHOIR

The Upper Perkiomen High School A Choir, directed by Mark Thomas, will sing during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, April 14. Come and hear the music of this select choir of students from our area.

FOOD TRUCK AT HUFF'S

Friend, Inc. will bring a truck on Thursday, April 4, 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.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Bible Study Group will meet on Saturday, April 6, 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.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Council will meet in the lower level of the church on Monday, April 8, at 7:00 p.m. Contact the Council President or Ministry Assistant for Zoom link.

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.

HUFFS CHURCH AUXILIARY MEETING

The next meeting of the Huff's Church Auxiliary is scheduled for Monday, April 22, 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.

LUNCH BUNCH

Members and friends of Huff's Church are welcome to join us for lunch on Thursday, April 18, at 12:00 noon at the Alburtis Tavern in Alburtis, PA. We choose and purchase our own lunches from the regular menu. We need a head count so the Alburtis Tavern can comfortably host us. If you would like to come to Lunch Bunch on April 18, please call or text Tom Mitchell by Sunday, April 14. See you at the Alburtis Tavern to share a lot of good fellowship and laughter!

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.

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 Ministry Assistant, at ministry@huffschurch.com and ask to be added to the list.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR APRIL

We invite you to contribute to Huff's Mission and Ministry through our General Fund in the month of April. We appreciate all the support you give to our congregation.

**PASTOR’S ARTICLE:
BUILDING CONNECTIONS, BUILDING TRUST**

Building connections with people in the church is one of the most critical tasks of a pastor. As a pastor gets to know people better, and as people get to know their pastor better, trust is built. Everything that a local church does is built on a foundation of trust that is guided by the Holy Spirit.

Over the course of the next several months, I would like to find ways to better connect with the people at Huff’s Church. I am asking for your help in making this happen.

Instead of saying, “this is how we will do this,” I want to invite you to help me co-create how we might go about doing this together. This is a “We” project, not a “Me” project.

To get us started, I would like to share some ideas for people to think and pray about. I’m sure that once you start thinking and praying about this, your ideas will make this even better. So here are some of my initial ideas:

- Hold a monthly “pastor’s meet and greet” immediately after worship. Keep it short - 45 minutes so people can then go to lunch.
 - Create a pastor-parish team to build connections with our older members.
 - Create a pastor-parish team to build connections with families, especially families with children at home.
 - Employ transitional ministry processes to build stronger connections and relationships.
 - How about going over the above list and sharing. Yes, this idea works. Also, which of these ideas might best be retired. (Remember this is a We, not Me, process.)
 - Your idea: _____.
- Blessings, Pastor John

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.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|---------------|------|----------------|------|
| Barbara Kline | 4/2 | Pauline Strunk | 4/19 |
| Jerome Barnes | 4/29 | Jane Geisinger | 4/29 |

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

| | |
|------|------------------------|
| 4/6 | Eugene & Sherry Bardo |
| 4/22 | Raymond & Linda Lorish |

MEMORIALS:

In Memory of Marion Miller

Albert & Carole Felintin

DEATHS:

We pray for family and friends of Jim Lanahan, who passed away on March 5, 2024.

SANDWICH AND SOUP SALE - May 2nd

Do you sometimes need a break from cooking? Well, here is your chance for a pre-made meal! Huffs Union Church is having a sandwich and soup sale again on **Thursday, May 2nd**. Sandwiches must be ordered and paid for ahead of time and are being made by R & K Subs. Order forms will be found in the upper narthex of the church as of April 7th. Orders could also be placed by calling the church office at 610-845-2626.

There are many choices of subs, which cost \$7.00 each, as well as multiple choices of pretzel sandwiches, which cost \$6.00 each. **Orders are due by April 21st. Pick-up will be made in the lower level of the Chapel between 3:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on May 2nd.** If you want to help out by collecting orders outside of church, see Edwina or Tess for an order form of your own.

Now for the soup part of the equation. There will be 3 choices of homemade soup available: Chicken Vegetable, Ham Broccoli Cheese, and Seafood Chowder. Cost is \$5.00 a pint and \$9.00 a quart. We'll take orders to be sure we have plenty available. Soup can be paid for ahead of time or upon pick up.

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

Financial Report

| | YTD Actual | YTD Budget | Variance |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| Giving | 26,076 | 29,143 | (3,068) |
| All other income | 7,177 | 6,486 | 692 |
| Total income | 33,253 | 35,629 | (2,376) |
| Expenses | 52,906 | 56,076 | (3,171) |
| Operating deficit | (19,652) | (20,447) | 795 |
| Capital expenditures | (16,114) | (40,000) | 23,886 |
| Transfers from Investments | 25,000 | 60,447 | (35,447) |
| Net income (loss) | (10,766) | - | (10,766) |

| Balance Sheet | 2/29/24 | 1/31/24 | 12/31/23 |
|----------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| Designated funds | 105,690 | 100,403 | 118,828 |
| General funds | 373 | 928 | 7,405 |
| Sunday School CDs | 4,478 | 4,478 | 4,478 |
| Total assets (a) | 110,541 | 105,809 | 130,711 |

(a) excludes investments managed by Tiller

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. You may also contact John directly.

Name: _____