

HUFF'S CHURCH CHATTER



September 2025

Church Address: 540 Conrad Rd., Alburtis, PA 18011

Church office: 610-845-2626

Church & Chapel: 610-845-2541

Bridge Pastor: Pastor Mike Todd, 484-965-0300

Office email: office@huffschurch.com

Website: www.huffschurch.com

Facebook Public Page: Huff's Union Church, Inc.

Facebook Group Page: Huff's Union Church Member Group

(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.

HARVEST HOME

September 14 will be our annual Harvest Home Sunday. This is a time when we can celebrate our blessings in the form of food, especially bountiful produce provided by local gardens. Please bring something that day that can be given to the Food Pantry. If you have an abundance of home-grown fresh vegetables or fruits that you would be willing to share, please bring them to church that Sunday. We will also accept canned or boxed goods if you are able to provide those instead. This is a nice local outreach for our congregation as it shares its many blessings with those in need.

NEW MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Our new Ministry Assistant has a familiar face. That's because she is a very active member of our church. Let's welcome Miss Kara Benfield as part of the Huff's Church staff!

You probably have seen Kara in action around church, leading the Christmas program, helping teach Sunday School and being involved in VBS. You may be aware that she is attending college for a future in Education. So it may seem surprising that she would apply for this position. But it's simple – this will be a part-time job for her. Also, as a devoted member, she wanted to help our church in a time of need. Despite her busy school schedule, Kara feels she can make this job work because much of it will be completed remotely.

Kara is familiar with most of the technical skills that are required for the position and is confident about her ability to learn any new tasks quickly. A big plus is that she is very familiar with our church, congregation, and its many activities, which will make it easier for her when collecting and distributing information.

Good luck to Kara as she takes on this new endeavor!

HEY KIDS! COME TO SUNDAY SCHOOL DURING THE 10:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

After the Children's Message, children 6th grade and younger gather with their teachers and helpers to go downstairs for a time of activities and learning until the end of the Worship Service. The first Sunday of each month and some special Services, children stay in the Sanctuary with their families for Worship and Communion. The Sunday School lesson is often based on one of the Scripture readings so parents and children can share what they learned about the same Bible Story. No signup – children just join in after the Children's Message.

FOOD TRUCK AT HUFF'S

Friend, Inc. will bring a truck on Thursday, September 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 to vehicles, contact Tom Mitchell.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The next Bible Study Group meeting will be held on Saturday, September 6, at 10:30 a.m. in the chapel. Call Lea Kline with questions.

CHURCH CALENDAR LINK

To stay up to date on Huff's Church events, check out the following link for the Church Calendar on our website.
www.huffschurch.com/calendar

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

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

HUFFS CHURCH AUXILIARY MEETING

The next meeting of the Huff's Church Auxiliary is scheduled for Monday, September 15, 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.

LUNCH BUNCH

Members and friends of Huff's are welcome to join us for lunch on Thursday, September 18, at 12:00 Noon, at Main Street Pub, 505 Main St., Bally. We choose and purchase our own lunches. If you would like to come to Lunch Bunch, call or text Pat Crossley by Sunday, September 14.

OYSTER PIE SALE - SAVE THE DATE

Plans are being made for the next Oyster Pie Sale on Saturday, October 25. Details will be included in upcoming bulletins, eBlast, and the October Newsletter. Please mark your calendars to help with this great fundraiser because lots of volunteers are needed.

DO YOU RECEIVE THE 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 Church. If you'd like to be added to our weekly eBlast list, please email the Ministry Assistant at ministry@huffschurch.com and ask to be added to the email list.

PASTOR MIKE'S ARTICLE

As the kids are returning to school, I thought we could all work on our educations by starting a new sermon series that I am calling "What Does That Mean? Ancient Texts for a Modern World." During the month of September, we will explore prayers and creeds that we use in our liturgies. We will examine them in their original social and historical contexts, seek to understand why they were written in the first place, and reflect on how they are applied (positively and sometimes negatively) by contemporary Christians.

Sunday, September 7th:	The Lord's Prayer
Sunday, September 14th:	The Nicene Creed
Sunday, September 21st:	The Apostle's Creed
Sunday, September 28th:	The UCC Statement of Faith

Since volumes have been written about each one of these, this series will be a very high-level overview, but I will do my best to hit the key points while still keeping it engaging. So join me in September, invite a friend, and let's learn more together about what it means to be a Christian and why we practice our faith the way we do--for better or for worse.

Blessings,
Pastor Mike



Choir Rehearsals Resume

SENIOR CHOIR / BELL CHOIR REHEARSALS

If you enjoy music, consider being part of Huff's Church music ministry on the Senior Choir and/or Handbell Choir.

Senior Choir rehearsals begin on Tuesday, September 9th at 6:00 p.m. and Handbell Choir begins on Tuesday, September 9th with set-up at 7:15 p.m. to be ready to play at 7:30 p.m.

Our music director, Kathy Anthony is usually available after Sunday Worship Services to talk with anyone interested in joining either choirs or both.

CHURCH FAMILY

DEATHS:

Please pray for the family and friends of Nancy L. Meitzler, who passed away on July 14, 2025.

Please pray for the family and friends of Jean Britton, who passed away on July 19, 2025.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Memory of Jean Britton to the Cemetery Fund:

Neil & Diane Gery

Faye & Ron Schuler

In Memory of Jean Britton to the General Fund:

Sandra Kemp & Don Fiorillo

In Memory of Donald Moyer to the General Fund:

Martin & Kay Kriebel

Carl & Carolyn Drasher

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.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Carl Drasher 9/6

William Moser 9/8

Mary Szilli 9/23

Nancy Hoffman 9/27

Tom Mitchell 9/27

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIE

Jerome & Judith Barnes - 9/15

CHURCH PANTRY

At the end of June, the church pantry was emptied of 178 food and personal care items by Elvin and Michael Keiser and Sue Stockdale. The articles were delivered to Friend, Inc., a non-profit we support.

Thank you to everyone who donated items to our pantry and to those giving egg cartons for local farmers donating their eggs. Submitted by Sue Stockdale.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL RECAP

This year the VBS theme was “Road Trip – On the Go with God.” Our program was based on the bible verse, “The Lord your God is with you” (Joshua 1:9). The curriculum focused on the fact that God is with us wherever we go and at all times, whether we are joyful, lonely, or go off course. This year’s program was attended by 18 children. It was held outside in the park on the five Wednesdays in July, and we all had an awesome time! Daily activities included storytelling, music, arts and crafts, science, and games. We collected \$55 to support the cost of the program.

A huge thank you to Meghan Richetti, Kerri Longacre, Tess Woloszanski, Jake Longacre, Pastor Mike Todd, Joanne Benfield, Kara Benfield, Jon Benfield, and Melissa Benfield. Youth assisting this year were Ely Longacre, Max Benfield, and Jace Benfield.

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING

Special offering for September is for 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 either mark your envelope “ELCA Special Needs” or mark a “Welcome” envelope (found in pew racks) with this title to give to this special need.

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

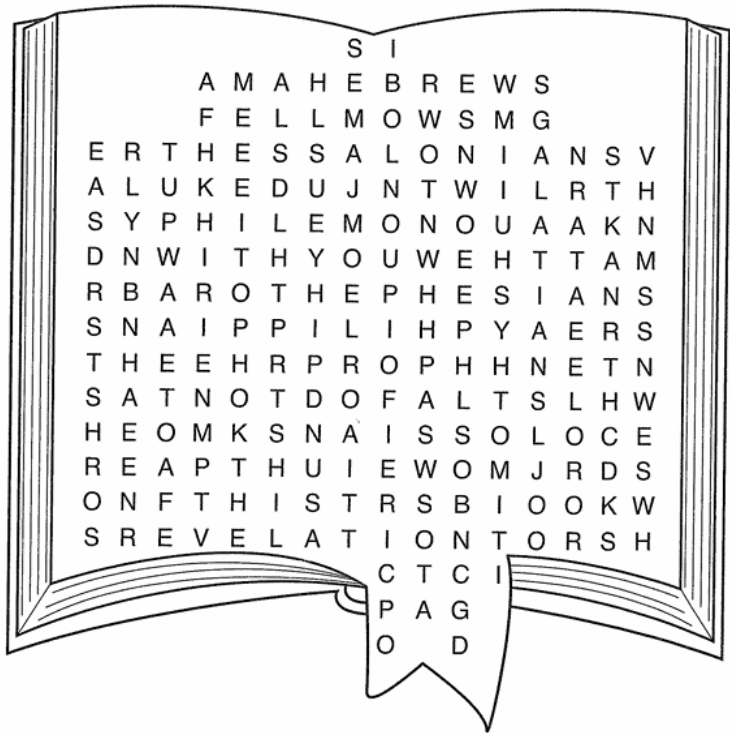
The work of the Search Committee is in full swing. The Committee has considered seven candidates and continues to review three of them. While the remaining candidates are at different stages of the process, all of the them follow the same process until the Committee ends consideration of a candidate or the candidate withdraws from further consideration. The list of candidates will continue to shrink until the Committee finally recommends calling someone as Pastor.

We greatly appreciate the patience of the Congregation as we pursue this very important task and are thankful for your prayers and God’s guidance.

BOOK OF THE GOOD BOOK: NEW TESTAMENT

The books of the New Testament can be found in a straight line, horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. They may read forward or backward.

ACTS	JOHN	PHILIPPIANS
COLOSSIANS	JUDE	REVELATIION
CORINTHIANS	LUKE	ROMANS
EPHESIANS	MARK	THESSALONIANS
GALATIANS	MATTHEW	TIMOTHY
HEBREWS	PETER	TITUS
JAMES	PHILEMON	



Financial Report

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Giving for operating expenses	97,954	97,126	828
All other income	23,350	23,217	134
Total income	121,304	120,343	962
Expenses	147,911	186,607	(38,696)
Operating deficit	(26,606)	(66,264)	39,658
Giving for capital improvements	160	1,750	(1,590)
Estate gift	14,250	13,500	750
Capital expenditures	-	(58,333)	58,333
Transfers from Investments	50,000	109,348	(59,348)
Net change in cash	37,803	-	37,803

Balance Sheet	7/31/25	6/30/25	12/31/24
Designated funds	107,025	117,505	93,454
General funds	5,460	2,275	1,478
Total assets (a)	112,485	119,780	94,931

(a) excludes investments managed by Tiller