

HUFF'S CHURCH CHATTER



JUNE 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 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.

SPECIAL MUSIC AT WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE PARK

Invite friends and neighbors to enjoy country and blue grass music at the 10:30 Worship Services in the Park on June 23, July 14, and August 25. If inclement weather, the Worship Service will be moved into the Sanctuary.



June 23 - Scott Marshall
July 14 - Hannah Violet
August 25 - Mike & Linda Hertzog

WORSHIP IN THE PARK

We will again offer Worship in the Park during June, July, and August. The first and third Sunday worship services (June 2, June 16, July 7, July 21, August 4, August 18) will be held in the sanctuary. The second, fourth and fifth Sunday worship services (June 9, June 23, June 30, July 14, July 28, August 11, August 25) will be held in the park. Our first outdoor worship service will be held on Sunday, June 9, at 10:30 a.m.

LUNCH FOLLOWING JUNE 23RD OUTDOOR SERVICE

Following the June 23 worship service in the park with special music by Scott Marshall, there will be a limited menu lunch available for donation. We hope you will join us for lunch in the park.



NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR

The Music Director Search Committee, consisting of Ann Taylor, Roberta Windish, Pastor John, and Kay Kriebel, announces that a new music director has been hired. Kathy Anthony, from the Bethlehem area, will begin her new position in mid-summer. She is an accomplished pianist, singer, and organist with excellent credentials, and has many years of experience as a music director at various churches in the area. We are very fortunate to have Kathy join the staff and look forward to working with her in our music ministry here at Huff's Church.

THOSE WHO ARE GRADUATING



We would like to honor our members who are graduating from high school, college, or any special programs. Please get the information to the church office or place it in Edwina's mailbox at the church. We are proud of **ALL** our graduates!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for articles to go in the July Newsletter is Monday, June 17th, by 8:00 a.m.

SAVE-A-TAPE PROGRAM

For 33 years, Huff's Church has been participating in the Radcliffe and Redner Save-A-Tape Program, which gives us 1% back on all receipts we collect from their stores. The total cash back we have received through 2023 comes to \$47,448! That's an amazing amount of money for merely saving receipts when grocery shopping!

Unfortunately, Radcliffe's new owners have informed us that they will no longer participate in the Save-A-Tape program, but we encourage everyone who shops at Redner's stores to continue saving your receipts. A basket to collect your tapes is located on the table next to the elevator by the coat rack.

A huge THANK YOU for taking care of this project all these many years goes out to Bea Miller for all her work thus far and for continuing to take care of the Save-A-Tape program!

JULY 27TH CHURCH PICNIC

Huffs Union Church is having a **picnic on Saturday, July 27, 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 preparation beforehand and serving food & drink during the event. Two shifts: 3:30-6:00 p.m. and 6:00-8:30 p.m. There is a helper sign-up sheet in the church or contact: Tess Woloszanski or Lisa Kauffman.

Prep work will begin in the Chapel on:

Wednesday, July 24 - 9:00 a.m. Make Pie Crust Crumbs

11:00 a.m. Cut Turkey for Barbecue

Thursday, July 25 - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. - Make pie shells

Friday, July 26 - 7:00 to Noon - Bake Pies and Prepare Food.

Friday, July 26 - 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. - Bag Pies - Wash Dishes

Saturday, July 27 - 7:00 a.m. to Noon - Prepare Food

Prep in Park

Baked goods for the cake walk and bake sale are needed and can be brought to the chapel or park on the morning of July 27 or at the beginning of the picnic.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you are available to help. Thank you for volunteering your time!

FOOD TRUCK AT HUFF'S

Friend, Inc. will bring a truck on Thursday, June 6, 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, June 1, 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, June 10, 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, June 17, 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 Church are welcome to join us for lunch on Thursday, June 20, at 12:00 noon at a new place: Liberty at Dryville (formerly the Dryville Hotel) at 110 Lyons Rd., Mertztown, PA. We will meet in their separate dining room. Please park behind the building. Parking in the lot across the street requires crossing Fredericksville Road and that is hazardous. We choose and purchase our own lunches from the regular menu. We need a headcount so the restaurant can comfortably host us. If you would like to come to Lunch Bunch on June 20, please call or text Tom Mitchell **by Sunday, June 16**. See you at Liberty at Dryville to share a lot of good fellowship and laughter!

SENIOR CHOIR AND HANDBELL CHOIR

Huff's Church Senior Choir and Handbell Choir will stop rehearsing during the summer months.

PARK CLEAN UP

It's time to clean up the park for all the summer fun! We will begin working on Wednesday, May 29th at 6:00 p.m. and continue on Saturday, June 8th at 9:00 a.m. Please come out to join us in helping to take care of our park. Thanks!

JEAN REINERT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Jean Reinert Memorial Scholarship applications are available by calling the church office. 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. Deadline is June 30 for this \$1,000 scholarship.



VILLAGE VOLLEYBALL CONTINUES

Summer will be here before you know it, and on Wednesday evenings in June, July and August, Huff's invites its members and the community to come to the park to play recreational volleyball from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Any age or ability is welcomed, so please come out to join the fun!! The GaGa ball pit will also be set up, which is a popular activity for kids, tweens and teens!

We like to have volunteer greeters for this activity to help get out the ball, set up a water cooler, open the bathrooms (if needed), and then, of course, welcome players! The net will already be set up. Please sign up on the church bulletin board if you can help, or contact Tess Woloszanski. You should have your background checks on file in the office (or get them done and turned in) in case youngsters want to stay without a parent.

CHURCH FAMILY

DEATHS

Please pray for the family and friends of Stephen E. Kalis, who passed away on January 20, 2024.

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.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/1 - Eleanor Gigler	6/1 - Ruth Leibensperger
6/4 - Wayne Fogel	6/5 - Joyce Grim
6/24 - Dolores Haas	6/27 - Bea Miller
6/30 - Betty Kline	

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

6/6 - Bill & Sharon Stoudt
6/10 - Albert & Donna Muth
6/20 - Bruce & Shirley Cressman
6/24 - Charles & Nancy Hoffman
6/29 - Marvin & Audrey Diehl

PICKLED RED BEET SALE

The pickled beets will be available for sale following church services beginning May 26th or during summer events like the July picnic. Quart jars will cost \$8 and pints \$5. We will probably only be making these one time this year, so get them while they last! Please write out checks to Huffs Union Church.

FOOD PANTRY

Recently, Boyertown Multi-Service received food donations from Huff's Union Church which weighed in at 215 pounds. Paul, a volunteer there, said they serve 60 to 70 families a week. He asked us to thank the congregation at Huff's for their generosity. Submitted by volunteers: Elvin Keiser, Sue and Bob Stockdale.



VACATION BIBLE CAMP

It's time for a summer camp adventure with God! At *Camp Firelight Vacation Bible Camp (VBC)*, your children will explore timeless Bible stories that demonstrate how people trusted God in the face of their own fears and went on to do great things in God's name.

Campers will learn ways they can put their trust in God when they are afraid, challenged, or called to do God's work and share the good news of God's love through Jesus Christ.

The students will expand on what they've discovered by making their own art projects at the Craft

Station, singing new songs at the Music Station, exploring the wonders of God's creation at the

Science Station, playing games at the Recreation Station, and enjoying tasty treats at the Snack Station. Along the way, campers will also learn about our mission project.

Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in you. Psalm 56:3

Join us at Huff's Church Park July 15-19 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

To register or to find out more about *Camp Firelight VBC*, contact Melissa Benfield.

Sincerely,

Your Camp Firelight VBC Team

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

Ice Cream Social

Mark your calendars for July 10, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for the Free Ice Cream Social in the park. You are invited to bring a friend.

Walk for No More/Safe Berks

Pastor John is organizing a team for the Walk for No More in West Reading on June 15. If you are interested, please talk with Pastor John before Sunday, May 26.

Financial Report

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Giving	37,218	44,648	(7,429)
All other income	7,354	6,729	625
Total income	44,572	51,376	(6,805)
Expenses	72,360	78,978	(6,619)
Operating deficit	(27,788)	(27,602)	(186)
Capital expenditures	(35,840)	(60,000)	24,160
Transfers from Investments	37,500	87,602	(50,102)
Net income (loss)	(26,128)	-	(26,128)

Balance Sheet	3/31/24	2/29/24	12/31/23
Designated funds	88,230	105,690	118,828
General funds	2,471	373	7,405
Sunday School CDs	4,478	4,478	4,478
Total assets (a)	95,179	110,541	130,711

(a) excludes investments managed by Tiller