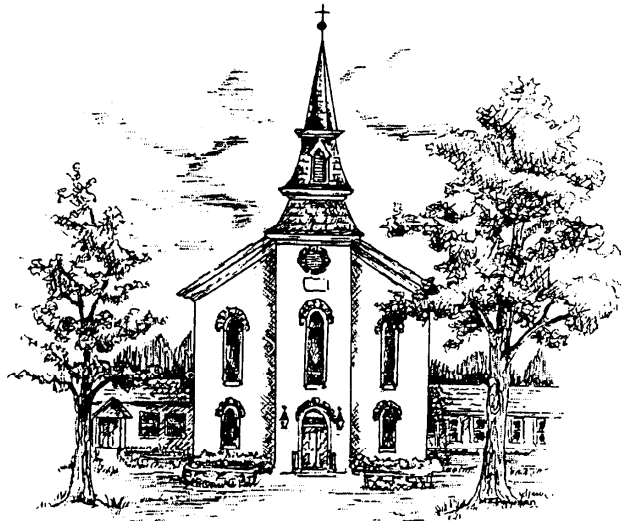




Inside Wentz's 2018



Would you like your Newsletter emailed to you? If so, please contact the church office. Not only will you receive the monthly newsletter, but also weekly reminders. If you do not wish us to email you, you can visit our website: www.wentzsucc.org and view the newsletter online, OR pick up a copy at the Welcome Desk.

Please send your email address to: office@wentzsucc.org
Thank you.

From Pastor Tony



“When Jesus had received the wine, he said, ‘It is finished.’” (John 19:30)

At the time of this writing, we are about only one-third of the way through the season of Lent. The busyness of the time makes us wonder when it will be completed, when will we finish with the extra Lent mid-week services, the preparations for Easter and all the activities that surround this time of the year? After all it is Lent, with all of its preparations, self-examinations and plans.

I imagine that there was some impatience among the disciples, too. Here they were, following Jesus through his journey and constantly learning about the Kingdom of Heaven. In addition, Jesus kept saying key to it all was his being betrayed, bound and then crucified in order for this Kingdom to come. As they got further along the road, it didn't seem to them to be what they had hoped would occur.

And now, at the end of his crucifixion, Jesus declares with his last words that it, the whole journey and teaching and Kingdom speaking, is finished. Imagine the startled look on the face of his followers. People had given up much to be on this journey, their livelihood for a time, their families so they could roam the countryside, and even their identity.

We may understand their feelings; at times we also feel that we have given up a lot to follow this Jesus. We may wonder if it's really worth what's required to be a part of this Kingdom of which Jesus speaks. As we look around the world, as did the disciples, we see little has changed: people of power continue to grasp onto that power, sometimes abusing their positions; others being oppressed because of their skin color, their gender or their economic class; still others suffering from violence and hatred as people wage war on one another; children and youth afraid to go to school because they worry they may find themselves on the nightly news broadcast as victims of the latest shooting spree. Yes, as we look around, just as the disciple did we may wonder is it worth it?

But, as the disciples were to discover later, we know that Jesus' proclamation of "it is finished" isn't an end, but just the beginning. We know that at the end of this Lenten journey we will gather to joyously proclaim the resurrection of Jesus Christ on the first Sunday of April, and it's not an April Fool's joke. We know that in spite of all the world tries to do to prevent it, the Kingdom of Heaven is indeed breaking in among us, through the raising of Jesus from the dead!

We know the journey is worth it indeed! We know that showing the love of the gospel, even to a world that tries everything to convince us differently, is revealing the Kingdom in our lives each and every day. We know that following Jesus into this Kingdom living of grace, love and forgiveness demonstrates the Kingdom living to others. We know that this Kingdom for which Jesus suffered and died creates us into a new life.

So, as we take our steps one by one through the season of Lent, let us rejoice as we get nearer to the Easter Day! Let us rejoice as we move closer to the unfolding of the Kingdom of Heaven in our lives for which Jesus completed his task!



*Wentz's Family
Please keep these
members
and family and friends of
members in
your prayers:*

Bill Detwiler	Pauline Thacker	Betty Emma Wells
Nancy Domurat	Barbara Reed	Norm Nelson
Robert Darde	John J. Grebe	Jay Fenstermacher
Irene Ferguson	Rachel Minnick	Fran & Mark (friends of the Wenners); Jeff Alisauckas (nephew of the Rubery's); Danny Applewhite (stepson of Gordon Todd, Jr.); Barbie Augustine (friend of Nancy Domurat); Karen Barrett (friend of the Todd's); David L. Boyer, Sr. (brother-in-law of Patti Pursell); Michael Corazon (friend of Gail Reilley); Debbie Deily (aunt of Nichole Ostrowski); Deb Derstine and Dawn Rush (friends of Allison and Peter Cipriano); Kathy Evelhock (friend of Betsy Villareal); Bill Fisher (Brother-in-law of Denise Granlun); Susan Fritsch (wife of Rev. Sterling Fritz); Seth Fulmer (friend of Lisa Yoworsky); Edward Gresch & Family (Son & family of Bev Gresch); Doug Grunkley (friend of the Domurats); Linda Hauck (friend of the Rubery's); Kathy Heinz (friend of the DuBree family); Bill Heuer, Jr. (friend of the Rubery's); Rich & Shirley Higgins (friend of Bev Gresch); The Hunter Family (family of Pastor Tony's Aunt); Judy & Julie (friends of the Wenners); Jessica Jannenga (Laura McLennan's sister-in-law); Mary Lou Johnson (Mom of Craig Johnson); Nancy Johnson (friend of Nancy Domurat); Jamie Jordan (niece of the Rubery's); Dick Klees (friend of Mark Landis); Dorothy Klock (friend of Jackie Wolfe); Edith Kallensee (Mother of Georgia Slater); Don Krapf (friend of Kim Klines's); Don Kreger (friend of Craig & Melissa Johnson); Kari Kurtz (daughter of Henrietta & Carl Kurtz); Agnes Lafiat (friend of Frank Engro & Paige Wolfe); The family of Mary Lawn (friend of Kim Kocsi); Dave and Mary Livezey (friends of the Mower family); Brian, Tracy & Sophia Lukens (friend of the Rubery's); Marlee Mintzer-Shaner (friend of the Reed family); The family of Pat Montenegro (friends of the Bickle family); Nathan Morton (Nephew of Stacy Morton); The Moyer Family (family of Carl & Henrietta Kurtz); Mia Nguyen (friend of June Wright); Nunes Family (friend of the Rader's); Gale Parton (friend of Allison Vogt); Brian Peterson (friend of the Congregation); Beth Ann Phipps (niece of Craig Johnson); David Roper (nephew of Bev Wilkie); Mary Jane Roth (mother of Megan Roth); Matt Scott (friend of Michelle Darde & Denise Leach); Lisa Serrao (friend of the Kessler family); Stephanie Simak (friend of Kim Kocsi); Diane Stehman (Mom of Tiffani Todd); Brian Tew (friend of Debi Kinsky); Mabel Weidman (friend of Betty Wilkie); Ty White (friend of Stacy Morton); Wayne Wilkie (nephew of Bev Wilkie); Harry Wilmore (friend of June Wright); Iva Zanoni (friend of the Snyders)

Births ~

*Owen Anthony Mower, February 3, 2018
Son of Chris & Lindsay Mower*

Baptisms, February 11, 2018 ~

*Logan James Karwoski
Son of Sean & Jenna Karwoski*

Deaths ~

Kathryn Eshbach, February 11, 2018

The Newsletter is published 11 times per year. **The deadline is always the 15th of every month.** To ensure communication throughout the entire Wentz's family, please contact the church office with your newsletter articles. Should you need assistance, please call us at 610-584-4855 and we'll take care of you. Your contribution to this newsletter is appreciated.

Church Staff

Rev. Antonio L. Villareal
Pastor

Cianne Landis
Church Secretary

June Wright
Organist

Steven Reilley
Chorister

Laura McLennan
Handbell Director

Megan Darde
Sexton

Bob Detwiler
Groundskeeper

610-584-4855 (phone)
610-584-1666 (fax)
office@wentzsucc.org



*Have you GoodSearched Today?
Don't forget to use
GoodSearch, GoodShop,
and GoodDining
to help support our church.*



STEWARDSHIP AUCTION: Saturday, April 28 If you are ready to begin your Spring Cleaning...please remember the Stewardship Auction and consider donating items that you believe would sell. Our auction has been a great source of adding to our General Fund. Please contact Gerald Rader, 610.613.2766 if you have items to donate.

2018 COMMUNITY LENT WORSHIP SERVICES

Theme: The Passion in the Face of Injustice



MANNA ON MAIN STREET

We will collect non-perishable food items (boxed cereals, canned meats, canned fruits, canned vegetables, rice, pasta, canned beans, peanut butter, jelly, soups), and toiletries (toilet paper, paper towels, soap, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, baby diapers and wipes) for the local Lansdale foodbank thru Easter Sunday. Please place your donations in the designated box in the Guild Room.

Date	Theme	Preacher	Location
Feb 28	Religious Injustice: The Pharisees	Rev. Larry O'Neill	Wentz's UCC 3246 Skippack Pike, Lansdale
Mar 7	Relational Injustice: Betrayal of Friends	Rev. Antonio L. Villareal	Bethel Hill UMC 2000 Bethel Hill Rd, Lansdale
Mar 14	Retributional Injustice: Violence in the Garden	Rev. Sue Ketterer	Skippack Church of the Brethren, 520 Collegeville Rd, Collegeville
Mar 21	Bullying Injustice: The Mocking of Jesus	Rev. Wanda Schwandt	Methacton Mennonite, 3081 Mill Rd, Norristown

All services begin at 7:30 p.m.

The offerings will be going to hurricane relief for Puerto Rico.



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS in the hospital or may need to talk with the Pastor? If so, please inform the church office, or contact Pastor Tony: pastortony@wentzsucc.org



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: On March 11th we will collect the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. OGHS is the special ecumenical mission offering that carries God's message of love and hope to people in more than eighty countries. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water and food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, emergency relief, and advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.



Holy Week

**Sunday, March 25 ~
Confirmation Sunday/Palm Sunday**

**March 29 at 7:30pm ~
Maundy Thursday Service**

**Sunday, April 1 at 6:30am,
8am & 10:45 am ~
Easter Services & Communion**



GRADUATE SUNDAY: If you are graduating from high school, college, or other higher education, please contact the church office so that we can prepare for our Graduate Sunday. December 2017 graduates will also be celebrated. Graduate Sunday is May 20th.



ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS! The 2018 Women's Guild Scholarships are now available for all senior students who are planning to continue their education. PLEASE pick up your Women's Guild \$500 Application in the Women's Guild box by the office. All applications should be submitted to Barb Bustard by May 1, 2018.



Easter Egg Hunt: There will be a box set up in the Guild Room for the collection of plastic Easter eggs and candy/toys to fill the eggs for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. If you are making a contribution of candy/toys, please remember that only individually-wrapped items can be placed in the eggs. The Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Palm Sunday, March 25th, and the eggs will be filled that morning, so please have your contributions in the box by then. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Debi Kinsky.



College Care Packages: For the next several weeks the Christian Education Committee will be collecting items for College Student Care Packages. Please place your donations in the appropriate box in the Guild Room. The care packages will be boxed on Sunday, April 15, giving the packages enough time to get to the students for exam time at their schools. Some suggestions for donations are: licorice, gum, popcorn, granola bars, cookies, candy, chips, pretzels.

DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT COLLEGE ADDRESS? PLEASE EMAIL THE CHURCH OFFICE WITH YOUR ADDRESS IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO. THANK YOU!

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

Flowers to grace the altar on Easter Sunday are now being ordered. The cost of the flowers is **\$10.00** each. Or you may contact the church office. **DEADLINE FOR ALL ORDERS (Including other contributions) IS SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018.** Make checks payable to *Wentz's United Church of Christ.*

Your Name _____

Telephone Number _____ email: _____

I would like to order the following number of plants:

_____ Easter Lilies _____ Yellow Daffodils _____ Red Tulips _____ Pink Tulips
_____ Purple Tulips

In Memory Of _____

In Honor Of _____

Thanks, but I prefer to make a special Easter gift to one of the special funds at Wentz's Church.

Endowment Fund

Music Fund

Handbell Fund

Outreach Fund

Improvement Fund

Memorial Fund

Youth Fund

General Fund

OCWM

Electronic Equipment

Benner Endowment Fund

2016 Addition

Women's Guild

Other _____ *Please specify*

In Memory Of _____

In Honor Of _____

Received \$ _____

Cash

Check # _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.
YOU MAY USE THE BACK OF THIS FORM IF
NECESSARY.
PLEASE INCLUDE CONTACT INFORMATION.
THANK YOU.



Youth Group News

All youth group members need to complete the Wentz's UCC Information Sheet with your insurance information in order to participate in youth group events. This form can be found online at: www.wentzsucc.org and on the youth group bulletin board outside of Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, March 4th - Youth Group Meeting at 6:30pm



Sunday, March 8 1:30pm—6pm ~ Mary's Shelter Bowling Activity (lunch included) .



Sunday, March 25—Palm Sunday, Youth help with the Easter Egg Hunt after the 10:45 Service.



THANK YOU: The Youth Group wishes to thank the Congregation for your support of our Annual Dessert Competition and Luncheon. We raised \$370. This year's winners are: Most Beautiful: Kinsky Family "Strawberry Cake"; Most Artistic: Rouse Family "Pancake Cake"; Most Original and the Cutest: Bickle Family "Unicorn Eggs"; and Best Tasting: Kristen Taragna "Pineapple Coconut Cake".

The Youth Group raised \$500 from our Souper Bowl Sunday collection for Manna on Main Street. We thank the Congregation for your continued generosity!

Please see Chip Kinsky if you have any questions.



From The Preschool:

Our most recent unannounced state inspection went well. After operating for 6 months on a provisional license, we have been granted our Certificate of Compliance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and are considered:

“Fully Licensed!”

The Wentz Kidz!

☀ 8:30am Journey Service (first of the month) & then Regular Service the Sundays following, 9:30am Sunday School; Allegro Ringers during Offertory; Cherub Choir/Junior Choir/Youth Choir, Flute Choir & Youth Band following Children's Message at the 10:45am Service of Worship; 10:30am Prelude chimes 10:45am church service

✝ Summer Schedule: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7pm Confirmation 7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm AA	2 8pm AA (Men)	3
4 ☀ Communion at both services 10:45am Blended Service 6:30pm Youth Group Meeting	5 6:30 pm AA (Women Only)	6 7:30pm AA	7 7:30pm Community Lenten Service/Bethel Hill UMC, Lansdale 8 pm AA	8 7pm Confirmation 7:30pm Consistory 7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm AA	9 8pm AA (Men)	10
11 ☀ One Great Hour of Sharing	12 6:30 pm AA (Women Only)	13 7:30pm AA	14 7:30pm Community Lenten Service / Skip-pack Church of the Brethren, Collegeville 8 pm AA	15 7pm Confirmation 7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm AA 8pm Church & Ministry <u>Articles for April Newsletter Due</u>	16 8pm AA (Men)	17
18 ☀ 1:30pm Youth Group Bowling @ Mary's Shelter	19 6:30 pm AA (Women Only)	20 7:30pm AA	21 7:30pm Community Lenten Service/ Methacton Mennonite/ Norristown 8 pm AA	22 7pm Elders Mtg/ Confirmation Exam 7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm AA	23 8pm AA (Men)	22
25 ☀ Palm Sunday Confirmation Sunday @ 10:45am 12 noon Easter Egg Hunt	26 6:30pm AA (Women Only)	27 7:30pm AA 7:30pm Christian Ed Committee Meeting	28 8 pm AA	29 7:30pm Maundy Thursday w/ Communion 7:30pm AA	30 Good Friday Easter Flowers Delivered 8pm AA (Men)	31 9am Decorating the Sanctuary