

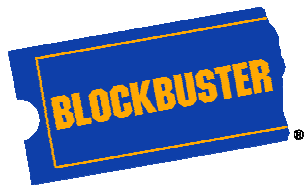


Wentz's United Church of Christ

October 2018

The Challenge Before Us

In 2000, Reed Hastings and Marc Randolph the founders of a new young start-up—Netflix flew to Dallas, Texas to propose a partnership with the movie and video rental services giant—Blockbuster. Blockbuster at its peak had a market value of \$5 billion dollars, 60,000 employees, and over 9000 stores; they subsequently scoffed at the suggestion from Netflix. Blockbuster had the infrastructure, the network, and a governance structure to run a very profitable organization. They also declined to acquire Netflix that same year, thinking it was a niche business. In September of 2010, a mere ten years later, Blockbuster filed for bankruptcy and Netflix was worth \$28 billion in 2014. The very foundation and platform Blockbuster was founded on evaporated within a decade.



Sunday Gatherings in October

8:30 & 10:45 am

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| October 7 — Unbound Generosity | Matthew 22:15-22 |
| October 14—GDD Epidemic | Luke 17:11-19 |
| October 21—Reading, Writing & Arithmetic | Ecclesiastes 12:9-14 |
| October 28—Working for the Common Good | Isaiah 56:1-3 |

Likewise, mainline churches are also being eclipsed and displaced by sports, entertainment, and other activities. For generations churches were often at the center of community life. That is no longer the case. The fruits of the church—truth, beauty, the sacred, community—now take third and fourth place to self care and hedonism.

Wentz is not immune to these changes. The Presbyterian Church (USA) has lost 47% of its members since 1983, while the United Church of Christ has lost 49% since 1974 and the Disciples of Christ have lost a staggering 64% during the same time period. Similar declines have occurred in Rotary, Lions and other service organizations. Furthermore, even empires—Roman, Mayan, or Ottoman all declined over a short period of time. Sadly, they did not understand they were in decline before it was too late. We are once again experiencing a time of great disruption in technology, education, medicine, politics, and religion.

Organizations have several choices in how they respond: do nothing, close, merge, relocate; manage their decline or commit to bold and significant structural changes. Disney, Bank America, Nordstrom's, and 3M all experienced a significant decline and were able to retool and innovated for a changing landscape. The church has been resilient over the last two thousand years, weathering empires, monarchies, revolutions, and governments. Writer and futurist Alvin Toffler wrote that if you do not have a strategy you end up being part of someone else's strategy. Our test moving forward at Wentz will be how well we understand the changing world and adapt. In order for us to be the beacon on the hill will require us to step into unknown spaces. Our time has come to step forward once again to be a community leader and be a dynamic, resilient, nimble faith community.



Let me know your thoughts. I am available for a spot of tea and a good conversation.

Scott

Sad News from Minnesota

The Pillsbury Doughboy died yesterday of a yeast infection and trauma complications from repeated pokes in the belly. He was 75.

Doughboy was buried in a lightly greased coffin. Dozens of celebrities turned out to pay the respects including Mrs. Butterworth, Hungry Jack, the California Raisins, Betty Crocker, the Hostess Twinkies, and Captain Crunch.

The grave site was piled high with may flours. Aunt Jemima delivered the eulogy and lovingly described Doughboy as a man who never knew how much he was kneaded.

Born and bread in Minnesota, Doughboy rose quickly in show business, but his later life was filled with turnovers. He was not considered a very smart cookie, wasting much of his dough on half-baked schemes.

Despite being a little flaky at times, he still was a crusty old man and was considered a positive roll model for millions.

Doughboy is survived by his wife Play Dough, three children: John Dough, Jane Dough and Dosey Dough, plus they had one in the oven. He is also survived by his elderly father, Pop Tart.

The funeral was held at 3:50 for about 20 minutes.

If you smiled while reading this, please rise to the occasion and pass it on to someone have a crumby day and kneading a lift.



Helping

There are many opportunities for you to help at Wentz's UCC. We are looking for help with:

- Folders for the newsletter & bulletin
- Greeters
- Reader for Sunday morning
- Worship planners

Please contact the church office if you wish to help.

Email and anonymous letters

In our digital age, it is easy to devolve into arguments and name calling over the internet via email or Facebook.

The staff encourages you to not use the internet as your primary means of communicating with people whom you disagree with.

It is always best to meet face to face to work out issues like people do with families. It allows people to read facial cues and tone.

Moreover, the office and consistory members will not respond to anonymous email or letters sent to the office, nor will the Conference. It is our desire that people openly and freely share with one another as a body or people who follow the teaching so Jesus.

Thank you



World Communion Sunday



World Communion Sunday is October 7. We also collect our Neighbors in Need (NIN) Offering, a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry. Two thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. NIN grants are awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice.

Adult Faith Exploration

Bible Study

Sunday, 9:30 am—Fellowship Hall

John Grebe continues a Bible study on the book of Ecclesiastics.

Sunday Morning Café

Sunday, 9:30 am—Pastor's Office

Join Scott Lovaas any Sunday morning in October at 9:30 am as we read and discuss Steven L. McKenzie's book: *How to Read the Bible: History, Prophecy, Literature —Why Modern Readers need to Know the Difference and What It Means for Faith Today.*

Copies can be purchased on Amazon or ordered through your local bookstore.

Coffee & Conversation

Wednesdays at 10:30 am

The Italian Market in Skippack Village

Every Wednesday in October join us at the Italian Market in Skippack for a cup of coffee and conversation. This is open to any and there is no agenda—simple conversation about life, love, church, sports, travel, prayer, and family.



Wentz on Tap

Thursdays at 7 pm

Pizza Time Saloon, West Point



Reaganomics, Southwest Airlines, Pet Rocks, the Protestant Reformation. All these things can trace their origins to a good conversation in a pub. Join us at Pizza Time Saloon, 1900 West Point Pike, in West Point and see what we come up with next.

Come in for a pint and good conversation at our weekly gathering.

Garage Tour

Sunday, October 14—12:30 pm

Skippack Village



The Stewardship Committee has organized a Garage Tour Event in Skippack Village on **October 14**.

Tickets are limited and cost \$50 per person, which includes a buffet.

We will meet behind *Sunny Nails* in Skippack promptly at 12:30pm. We will tour 6 of Dave's Garages.

Our tour concludes at Kershner Brothers Brewery for a buffet and cash bar.

For additional information and for tickets to this fun event, please contact Gerald Rader: 610.613.2766

Cookie Baking & Packing for our

Christmas Bazaar

Beginning Monday, October 22

Wentz's UCC



Wentz's Annual Christmas Bazaar is on Saturday, December 1. To help prepare for the Bazaar, we will begin our cookie baking (8am—noon) and packing (6-7:30 pm) on **October 22** and continue on the following dates: October 23, 29, 30, and November 5, 7, 12, 13, and possibly the 14 if needed. *Please contact Rita Cipriano if you are interested in volunteering to bake cookies: rjcup@yahoo.com or Betty Wilkie if you are interested in volunteering to pack cookies: bwilkie22@aol.com*

Health and Wellness

Walking 5—6 pm

Join us Wednesday evenings at Wentz's parking lot as we walk for one hour along Zacharias Creek Trail and in Heebner Park.



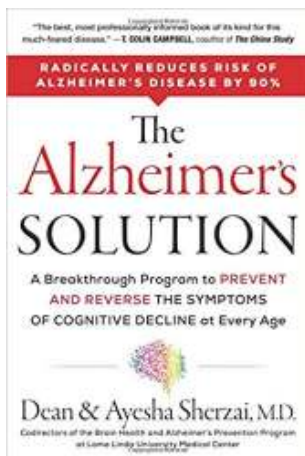
Above all, do not lose your desire to walk: every day I walk myself into a state of well-being and walk away from every illness; I have walked myself into my best thoughts and I know of no thought so burdensome that one cannot walk away from it.

— Søren Kierkegaard, *philosopher, theologian*

Alzheimer's Discussion

October 17 6:30 pm

Guild Room



Join us for a night of discussion and reflection on a new book by two neurologists:

The Alzheimer's Solution: A Breakthrough Program to Prevent and Reverse the Symptoms of Cognitive Decline at Every Age, by Dean & Ayesha Sherzai. In brief, the book is about preventing, slowing the progression of Alzheimer's, and improving quality of life for those who are diagnosed. Alzheimer's is the sixth leading cause of death in 2016 and two thirds are women. It is the most expensive disease to manage and most costly researched with poor outcomes. The author's claim 90% can avoid getting Alzheimer's. Their solution is lifestyle based. We encourage you to read the book ahead of time, but it is not necessary for you to come and listen.

Christmas Pageant Director

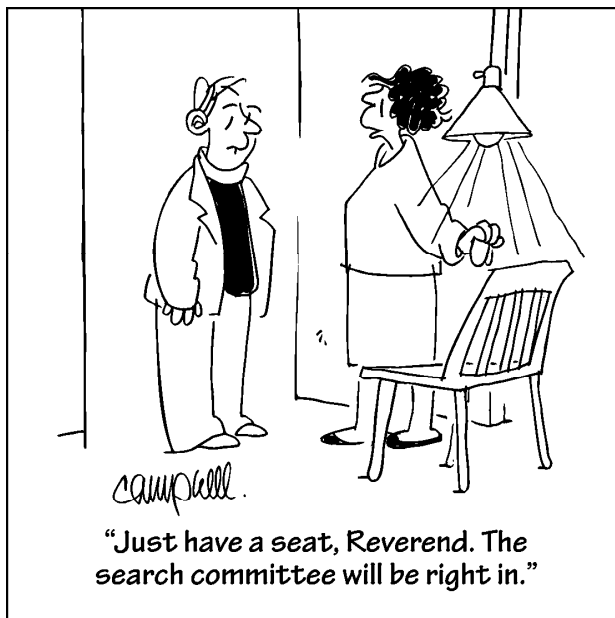
We are in need of someone to direct the Christmas Pageant this year. If interested, please contact Debi Kinsky in church or call: 215-872-0951. We need to select the pageant and order it soon so that we can prepare.

Our Christian Education Committee Needs You

Christian Ed is looking for a new committee member. If you are interested, or need additional information, please contact Debi Kinsky: 215-872-0951.

Become a Mentor

We have six youth who are going through Confirmation this year. If you are interested in being a mentor, please contact Scott Lovaas.



CHOIR: Our Chancel Choir has gotten off to a great start with some fabulous music. If you are interested in joining please see Steve Reilly.

LET'S MAKE SOME NOISE TOGETHER FOR A GREAT CAUSE!

NOCHE MEXICANA

Fundraiser
PARTNERSHIPS WITH A PURPOSE

Wednesday 10-17-18-ALL DAY

Present this to your server to have
20% of your dinner bill donated to

Wentz's United Church of Christ



1650 Sumneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA 19448

The Stewardship Committee has planned a Dining-out at Margarita's on **Wednesday, October 17** anytime between 11 am & 10 pm. Wentz's UCC will receive 20% of your dinner bill. On Wednesdays at 7 pm they have Trivia which is always fun.



Please keep in your Prayers

Robert Darde, Bill Detwiler, Nancy Domurat, Jay Fenstermacher, Donna Kriebel, Claire Metzger, Pauline Thacker, Betty Emma Wells



Welcome New Member

Please extend a warm Welcome to Boo (Elizabeth) Murray. Boo grew up in Glenside, but spent most of her adult life in New England. She has worked as a teacher, occupational therapist, and researcher in educational technology. Having retired, she has moved back to this area to be closer to her family but continues to spend summers in Maine. She enjoys knitting, paper crafts, video games, and (almost) anything related to technology.



Thank You

Heartfelt thanks are sent to the members of Wentz's UCC from Gerri

Nelson and sons, Norm, Erik, and Larry, for the kind remembrances of sympathy expressed to my dear husband, Norm, and father of my sons. Words can't express the deep loss we feel as Norm was such a gentle, loving and compassionate man, with a tremendous handshake.



Jewelry Booth for Our Christmas Bazaar

Please remember there is a box in the Guild Room for costume jewelry donations for the Christmas Bazaar. Any condition of jewelry is accepted as we can sell broken things or single earrings to crafters. Old jewelry boxes in any condition sell well, along with men's jewelry. We have also had good luck selling evening bags. Time to clean out! We will also pick up items if needed. If you want some of your jewelry evaluated we will tell you what the value is before you make the decision to donate. Any questions call Ann Kulp.

Please Join
Towamencin Chapter
Daughters of the American Revolution

Plaque Dedication in Memory
of 32 Revolutionary War Patriots

Saturday, October 13, 2018
10:00 AM

Wentz United Church of Christ
3246 W Skippack Pike
Lansdale, PA 19446

If you wish to help with this event,
please contact Rick Wilkie:
rickewilkie@aol.com
215.859.1171



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.

The Youth Group will meet on **Sunday, October 7th and October 21 at 6:30pm**. Come and join us as we finalize plans for future fun events, fundraisers, and outreach.



The Collegeville Trap CROP Walk begins at 1 pm on Sunday, October 21. More details to follow.

Please contact Chip Kinsky: chip8691@gmail.com if you have any questions.



Happy October from the Preschool!

This month we have the Worcester Fire Company visiting us with their fire truck to talk about fire safety! We will be able to tell Firefighter Pam that we know how to Stop Drop and Roll, and that our meeting place during a fire drill is out front by the tree with the birdfeeder! We will be collecting cash and checks

to donate to the fire company, and if you would like to add to our total, please let us know.

We also have our annual trip to the pumpkin patch! It's an exciting day on a hayride, picking pumpkins, going through the corn maze, and of course – ending with an ice cream cone!

Again, we appreciate the love and support you have shown us as we gear up for our 60th year!! (WOW!) Please mark your calendars for Saturday June 8, 2019. We will be celebrating this milestone anniversary with a reunion picnic for everyone who has been a student, parent, teacher, director, pastor, board member, or supporter of our school! (That includes YOU!)

Thank you again for everything!

The Wentz Kidz and
Kim Bauer, Director of Wentz's Preschool



Looking Forward...



**Help raise money for Wentz's by visiting
Uno Pizzeria & Grill in Oaks on Thursday November 1st!**

Uno will donate 15-20% of the sales from Wentz's supporters.



**Lunch and dinner
Curbside take-out and alcohol
Local lunch delivery (schools and businesses)**



Back by popular demand.....The Stewardship Committee is planning
Designer Bag Bingo on **Friday, November 2.**



November 11 at 3 pm

Patriotic Concert
at Wentz's UCC

Saturday December 1st is our Christmas Bazaar

9:30 am—2 pm

See Hilda McFarland for details.



☼ 8:30am & 10:45 a.m. Worship Service
 9:30am Sunday School 9am Saxophones
 Cherub Choir/Junior Choir/following Children's Message at
 the 10:45am Service of Worship; 10:30am Prelude chimes
 & Allegro Ringers
 †Summer Schedule: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service

October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30 pm AA (Women Only)	2 6pm Flute Choir 7pm Resounding Ringers 7:30pm AA	3 10:30am Coffee at the Italian Market, Skippack 5pm Walking 8 pm AA	4 7pm Wentz on Tap 7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm AA	5 8pm AA (Men)	6
7☼ Communion 9:30am Bible Study 9:30am Sunday Morning Cafe 6:30pm Youth Group Mtg	8 6:30 pm AA (Women Only) 7pm Confirmation Orientation	9 6pm Flute Choir 7pm Resounding Ringers 7:30pm AA	10 10:30am Coffee at the Italian Market, Skippack 5pm Walking 6pm Elders Mtg 7:00pm Consistory Mtg 8 pm AA	11 7:30pm Wentz on Tap 7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm AA	12 8pm AA (Men)	13
14☼ 9:30am Bible Study 9:30am Sunday Morning Cafe 12:30pm Stewardship Garage Tour	15 6:30 pm AA (Women Only) <u>ARTICLES for November Newsletter Due</u>	16 6pm Flute Choir 7pm Resounding Ringers 7:30pm AA	17 Dining-Out Margaritas 10:30am Coffee at the Italian Market, Skippack 5pm Walking 6:30pm Alzheimer's Discussion 8 pm AA	18 7pm Wentz on Tap 7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm AA	19 8pm AA (Men)	20
21☼ 9:30am Bible Study 9:30am Sunday Morning Cafe 1pm CROP Walk 6:30pm Youth Group Mtg	22 8am Cookie Baking 6pm Cookie Packing 6:30pm AA (Women Only)	23 8am Cookie Baking 6pm Cookie Packing 6pm Flute Choir 7pm Resounding Ringers 7:30 Christian Ed 7:30pm AA	24 10:30am Coffee at the Italian Market, Skippack 5pm Walking 8 pm AA	25 7pm Wentz on Tap 7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm AA	26 8pm AA (Men)	27
28☼ 9:30am Bible Study 9:30am Sunday Morning Cafe	29 8am Cookie Baking 6pm Cookie Packing 6:30pm AA (Women Only)	30 8am Cookie Baking 6pm Cookie Packing 6pm Flute Choir 7pm Resounding Ringers 7:30pm AA				