

9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Saxophones
 10:00 am Medley Ringers
 ☀ 10:15 am Worship Service
 Kid's Choir following Children's Message
 ☩ Summer Schedule: 9:00 am Worship Service



Wentz's United Church of Christ

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1☀ Communion & Journey Service	2 6:30pm AA (Women Only)	3 7:30pm AA	4 6pm Tai Chi 7:30pm Community Lenten Service- Wellspring Church of Skippack 8pm AA	5 7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm AA	6 8pm AA (Men)	7
8☀	9 6:30pm AA (Women Only)	10 7:30pm AA	11 6pm Tai Chi 7:30pm Community Lenten Service- Olivet Schwenkfelder UCC 8pm AA	12 7pm Consistory Mtg 7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm AA	13 8pm AA (Men)	14
15☀ Articles for April Newsletter are due today.	16 6:30pm AA (Women Only)	17 7pm Resounding Ringers 7:30pm AA	18 6pm Tai Chi 7:30pm Community Lenten Service— Skippack Church of the Brethren 8pm AA	19 7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm AA	20 8pm AA (Men)	21
22☀	23 6:30pm AA (Women Only)	24 7:30pm AA	25 6pm Tai Chi 7:30pm Community Lenten Service— Wentz's UCC 8pm AA	26 7:30pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm AA	27 8pm AA (Men)	28
29☀	30 6:30pm AA (Women Only)	31 7:30pm AA				

“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope” Jeremiah 29:11

Phyllis Tickle, founding editor of the Religion Department of *Publishers Weekly*, writes about how the Church appears to undergo an enormous shift about every five hundred years. The last perceptible shift was the “Protestant Reformation” during the 1500’s. Before that it was the “Great Schism” of 1054 when Constantine’s Roman Church excommunicated the Greek/Eastern Orthodoxy of Constantinople, who in turn excommunicated the Roman Church, both actions resulting in a severing of the Eastern and Western Church. Five hundred years before that “Gregory the Great” helped to guide Christianity toward organized monasticism aiding in the Church’s preservation for the next five hundred years.

The decline of American churches, in particular mainline Protestant churches, has been well documented and experienced. We are once again in a new era. As theologian Douglas John Hall pointed out, “*Our identity as Christians is no longer given us, or preserved for us, by external agencies....no state, legal machinery, nor even strong cultural conventions, that will step in and cause Christians to clarify, purify, and unify their faith.*”

Today we are once again facing a seismic shift within Christianity and the Church. Five hundred years is a long time; and so it’s particularly difficult for us to know how to move forward when so much seemed so stable for so long.

We know from scripture that God is prone to do “a new thing.” These words from the prophet Isaiah point to this aspect of God. “I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” (Isaiah 43:19) Sometimes the hard part is the perceiving!

Our focus for worship as we move closer to the season of Lent is based on the book *Weird Church* by Beth Ann Estock and Paul Nixon.

One of the incredibly tough things to do as church leaders is to help people absorb, understand, and navigate these changes without overwhelming them. At the same time we are called to share that, as I believe, God is “doing a new thing.” We are likewise called to share that hope. Isaiah 43:19 goes on to say that God, “will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. This series is a focus on how we make a way forward in the current wilderness as God’s people!

Douglas John Hall, *Confessing the Faith* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1996) pp. 6-7

Our Gatherings in March

March 1	"From Insider to All: Who is my Neighbor?"	Luke 10:25-37
March 8	"From Head Trip to Warmed Heart: Shine Like Stars in the World"	Philippians 2:1-16
March 15	"From Broadcast Control to Social Collaboration: Do You See this Woman?"	Luke 7:36-50
March 22	"From Corporate Officers to Incarnational Leaders: For I Have set you an Example"	John 13:12-17
March 29	"From Professionals to Disciples-Ordinary People"	Acts 4:13-22



Please join Dale on Sunday, March 1st at 9 am in the Guild Room. It is a time to catch up about the happenings of Wentz's UCC.

Adult Faith Formation

Lessons from Elijah— 9:00 am

By John Grebe

John Grebe continues his adult Sunday School class on the life and legacy of Elijah. The class is based upon material prepared by John, with an emphasis upon not only learning about Elijah but how we can apply what we learn to the betterment of ourselves and others.

Ecumenical Lenten Schedule

Every year our church joins with other local congregations to worship together during Lent. Each week we gather at a different local church. A time of fellowship follows each service. Please join us for this wonderful opportunity to meet and fellowship with neighboring Christians! This year's sermon series theme is "Jesus' Healing Miracles." Offerings will go to Cradles to Crayons.

Feb 26 - Trinity Christian UCC

2009 Church Road, Skippack
Rev. Larry O'Neill preaching
6:00pm Ash Wednesday soup dinner/7:30pm worship

Mar 4 - Wellspring Church of Skippack -7:30pm

1183 Cressman Road, Skippack
Rev. Dale Davis preaching

Mar 11 - Olivet-Schwenkfelder UCC-7:30pm

619 Township Line Road, Eagleville
Rev. Sandy Drescher-Lehman preaching

Mar 18 - Skippack Church of the Brethren-7:30pm

520 Collegeville Road, Collegeville
Rev. Leslie Mamas preaching

Mar 25 - Wentz's UCC -7:30pm

3246 Skippack Pike, Lansdale (Worcester Township)
Rev. Sue Ketterer preaching

Apr 1 - Methacton Mennonite-7:30pm

3081 Mill Road, Norristown
Rev. Amelie Sell preaching



Palm Sunday—April 5 at 10:15 am

No communion

Maundy Thursday—April 9 at 7:30 pm

Communion

Easter Sunday—April 12 at

8:00 am & 10:15 pm

Communion

Stars of Tomorrow Cabaret
We perform today, to give families their tomorrow

AUDITIONS

MARCH 20th (6:30-9:30pm) & 21st (9:30-12:30pm)

ALL SHOOK UP

A NEW MUSICAL COMEDY

The story is all new...
The hits are all ELVIS!

WENTZ UCC CHURCH
3246 Skippack Pike - Lansdale, PA
Reserve day email: info@starsof tomorrowcabaret.org Website: starsof tomorrowcabaret.org

*Singing - 15 bars - bring your music
*Acting - sides will be provided
*Dancing - wear clothing to dance in

Wentz's UCC 9th Annual Stewardship Auction



Saturday, April 25, 2020

Preview: 8am

Auction begins: 9am

Collectibles, Tools, Furniture, Services, Household Merchandise,

Food & Beverages served

Please contact Rick Wilkie for details or questions

215.855.6541

Bowl-A-Thon

Sunday March 22nd

WE'RE LOOKING FOR BOWLERS!
REGISTER YOUR TEAM, GATHER YOUR PLEDGES AND JOIN US!

2 SESSIONS:
Wentz's has signed up for the later session.
3:00 - 5:00

Questions? Please see Donna Broderick
dbroderick59@gmail.com
610-584-8850

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO MARY'S SHELTER

Youth Group News

Wentz's Youth Group is fostering a commitment to community service for the 2020 year. We would like to broaden our involvement by inviting all members of the congregation to join us for intergenerational activities!

Upcoming events for 2020:

Mary's Shelter Bowling Fundraiser – Sunday, March 22 from 3—5 pm Lunch Included.

Beach Retreat—July 13—15

UCC National Youth Event 2020 – July 22-25,

Perdue University, Indiana

<http://www.uccpages.org/nye2020/>

Look for details in weekly bulletin announcements! Ideas? Suggestions?

Share your thoughts with youth group coordinator: Donna Broderick at dbroderick59@gmail.com or 610-584-8850