

ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

CROP HUNGER WALK

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"UNBINDING THE GOSPEL"

Fall Event

HELP STRENGTEN OUR CONGREGATION AND

Build a closer relationship with God and fellow Christians!

EVERYONE is invited to join in.

Beginning October 6th, 40 days of prayer and scripture reading plus a weekly small group discussion group. Sign up in the narthex.

Contact Jay Smith at (215) 256-4071 or jsmith378@comcast.net for more information.

END HUNGER

October 20, 2013 is Bread for the World Sunday. This nation-wide effort is an opportunity to engage as a congregation in God's work to end hunger. Taking

part in Bread for the World Sunday is one step we can take to end hunger.

Another step (literally) we can take is to participate in the 35th annual Royersford/ Spring City CROP Hunger

Walk, also on October 20, 2013 at 1:30 pm, preceded by on-site registration and an Opening Ceremony at 1:00 pm. The walk will begin and end at First United Church of Christ in Spring City (145 Chestnut Street, Spring City).

Sponsorship of the CROP Walk will support the struggle locally, with 25% going back to our local community, and 75% going around the world.

Walkers will have the opportunity to walk two different trails (maps will be provided) with lots of refreshment provided on the walk. Please consider walking for this excellent cause!

FALL RUMMAGE SALE

The Fall Rummage sale is being held on October 19th from 8am to 1pm. This event is sponsored by the Women's Fellowship.

The best time to bring donations for the sale is after 3pm on Friday the 18th during set-up. If you would like to bring in large amounts of items early, please contact Cindy Valerio. All other donations of smaller items can be placed in the storage room between the family bathroom and YMCA classroom.

What a great way to donate unused items, or find new treasures for yourself! Invite your friends to join us for a day of fun and fellowship.

Proceeds will benefit the ministries of St. James UCC and local charities.

CONTACT THE CHURCH

321 South Limerick Rd. Limerick, PA 19468 610-489-0990 www.stjames-ucc.org

Pastor: John Steitz revsteitz@gmail.com 484-437-2648

Minister of Music: Donna Pinto music@stjames-ucc.org

Office Assistant: Sandy Chang Mon. & Thurs. 10am-2pm office@stjames-ucc.org for Newsletters: news@stjames-ucc.org

2013 CONSISTORY

Rich Fiedler, President Rugene Caldwell, VP Kristen Serina, Secretary

Nancy Ewing, Treasurer Tom Mogel, Financial Sec. Ruth Borneman, Historian Betty Lou Wilson, Sexton

"Like" us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/ stjamesucc

HELPFUL WEBSITES

www.psec.org www.ucc.org

Worship & Faith Formation

THE BELLS OF HOLY TRINITY

The Bells of Holy Trinity is a five-octave handbell choir comprised of members of Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Abington, PA. The bell choir rings in worship at Holy Trinity twice a month in addition to performing at special services and concerts at the church. They have also performed concerts at Ann's Choice in Warminster, at churches in Norristown and Hatboro, and as part of the annual Harp Festival at West Chester University. Next spring they will perform at Spring House Estates. The choir has a wonderful family feel with young teenage members and adults



up to many decades older. Several of the ringers also are very fine instrumentalists, and their offerings give variety and beauty to the bell choir concerts. Jacqueline Smith, Director of Music at Holy Trinity, conducts the Bells of Holy Trinity.

St. James will host this superb ensemble in concert on Sunday, October 13, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. We welcome all members and visitors to attend. A free-will offering will be taken. Light refreshments will be served immediately following the performance.

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

The Welcoming Committee met in September and made plans to add mums and decorative cabbages to the Entrance Garden for the fall.

We are working on gift bags for visitors and their child(ren) which the greeters can distribute on Sundays. We will also be forming a study group with "Unbinding the Gospel" at Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Pastor John will be leading the group. Other folks are invited to join us for these six week sessions of bible study and prayer. We bid a fond adieux to Marion Hentz who has been a faithful member of the committee since its inception and has been such a driving force in getting things done! We will miss her positive outlook on life. We wish both Charley and Marion God's blessings as they begin this new chapter in their lives in Garden Spot Village.

QUIET DAYS

Oct 1 at New Goshenhoppen UCC, 1070 Church Rd., East Greenville 18041. (Mark these additional dates on your calendar: November 5, and December 3.)

Do you long for peace and quiet? An opportunity to just breathe and be? A chance to enjoy God's creation and listen for God's voice away from the usual noise of everyday life - but not so far away, that you can't get there easily in the middle of the week? Then Quiet Days might be just be for you.

On the first Tuesday of the month from 9:30 am to 1 pm, a wonderful variety of folks - lay people and clergy, young, older and in between - gather to reflect, journal, worship, commune, rest, pray and fellowship together. If you've been to Quiet Days before, consider going again, and take a car full of others with you. If you have never experienced this oasis in the desert, the next time a first Tuesday comes around. You'll be glad you did!

Each participant is asked to bring a Bible, journal, pen and a bag lunch. Come and see what God has in store for you! There is no formal registration, but a minimum donation of \$5 is requested on Quiet Day.

Calendar

OCTOBER 2013

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Missions 7:00 pm	2 Stewardship 7:00 pm	3 Choir 7:00 pm	4	5
6 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Service of the Word Worship Team #3 Communion	7	8 Consistory 7:00 pm	9 Choir 7:00 pm	10	11	12
13 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Service of the Word Holy Trinity Bell Concert 4:00 pm Worship Team #4	14	15	Fellowship Dinner 5:30 pm	Choir 7:00 pm	18	Women's Fellowship Rummage Sale
20 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Service of the Word Bread of the World Sunday Crop Hunger Walk Worship Team #5	Great Strides 7:30 pm	22	23	Choir 7:00 pm	25	26
27 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Service of the Word Worship Team #6	28	29	30 Choir 7:00 pm	31		

Evangelism

URBAN PROMISE ANNUAL BANQUET WITH DR. BRUCE MAIN

Come and Celebrate 26 Years of Promise In Camden!

An inspiring program of personal testimony, a word from Dr. Bruce Main, dance, music, and more by Urban-Promise youth; and a gourmet dinner prepared by local chefs and restaurant owners. The banquet is being held at Scottish Rite Auditorium (315 White Horse Pike Collingswood, NJ) on Thursday October 24, 2013, Appetizers at 5:30 dinner and program at 6:30 - 9:00. Ticket are \$45 for general admission.

If interested or need further information contact Pam Marino at 610-489-3411 or pamjae@gmail.com

PRAYER CONCERNS

For our friends Shirley Major, Melissa Moore and others who are a long-term care residence, we pray for comfort and peace.

For our friends Steve & Mary Barnaik, Earl Ziegler, Betty Wines, Doris Frain, Pat McFarland, and others who are not easily able to leave their residence, we pray for companionship, healing, and respite from pain.

For our friends Charlotte Fiedler, Cindy Valerio, Donna, Jan, Tori Pacan and others with ongoing health concerns and challenging life circumstances, we pray for caring hands, hope to live each new day, and the reassurance of God's presence through the support of our congregation.

For our friends Richard, Tony Hillegas, Alfreda, Carl and all cancer survivors, we pray for treatment where it is possible and release from suffering where it is needed.

For the friends and family of Kevin, son of Bob Weidner and for all who grieve at the deaths of those they deeply love and dearly miss, we ask that they might know the comfort God offers through the community of faith as we surround them with our prayers.

For the friends and family of Joe Higham, friend of one of our congregation and for all who grieve at the deaths of those they deeply love and dearly miss, we ask that they might know the comfort God offers through the community of faith as we surround them with our prayers.

Hear our prayers, and guide us in our healing and in our Christian discipleship. Amen.

Please note that we will remove names on the prayer list after one month, except for homebound and hospitalized members. Let us know if you would like to add or renew a request by office phone or email.

BIRTHDAYS/October

- 1....Liliana Myers
- 2....George Banyai
- 4....Betty Meyers
- 4....Dave Douglass
- 6....Lori Stauffer
- 7....Frank Miller, Jr.
- 8....Stephen Lightcap
- 9....Keith Schell
- 10....Tony Hillegass
- 10....Kyle Heath
- 12....Rugene Caldwell
- 13....Faye Sweigart
- 13....Jennifer Taylor

- 13....Michelle Major
- 21....Sang Hi Crater
- 21....Beth Miller
- 21....John McMenamin
- 22....Diego Taylor
- 24....Jackie Ireland
- 25....Tim Little
- 26....Heather Morris
- 27....Paul Meyers
- 27....Dianne Savitsky
- 28...Linda Bevan
- 29....Bob Smith
- 30....Kevin Brightbill

ANNIVERSARIES/October

- 2....Chad & Elizabeth Capetola
- 3....Richard & Amy Sarfert
- 7....George & Mary Banyai
- 12....John & Megan McMenamin
- 15....Robert & Cora Smith
- 24....Michael & Kelli Markoski
- 25....James & Cynthia Valerio
- 26.....Mark & Donna Pinto
- 31....Bob & Laura Walters

From the Pastor's Desk...

BE TRANSFORMED THROUGH PRAYER

The point of this short article is to encourage you to make PRAYER a daily habit. Praying each day for the congregation, the community, and the world is a key Mark of Discipleship.

How does one make Prayer a daily habit? Practice! In fact practicing a new habit for twenty-one (21) days is usually the minimum time needed to learn a new habit.

We now include in each week's worship bulletin a guide to Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer. These are now also included in the monthly newsletter. Simply use these prayers as a guide to engage in Prayer each day for the coming month. Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer was a daily practice of Jesus. We know this because this was a daily practice kept by all faithful people in Jesus' time.

We are also beginning a process, "Unbinding the Gospel" that provides forty (40) days of prayer. Recall that after his baptism Jesus immediately spent forty days in the wilderness engaged in prayer. This centered him for his ministry.

Unbinding also includes meeting with a small group, and involves some additional reading, but it is Prayer that is at the heart of the Unbinding process. The small groups are also key since the process of meeting together weekly and sharing how your daily Prayer practice is challenging you, moving you, and calling you forward also deepens us spiritually.

I am NOT looking at the Unbinding process as something that is going to "revitalize" the church. (Revitalization is a process, not an event.) What I am hoping - and PRAYING - for is that the Unbinding process provides people with the opportunity to be transformed by Prayer. My hope is that several ongoing Prayer Circles will emerge out of this process. A Prayer Circle is a small group that meets weekly to hold in Prayer: those in the Circle, their families and friends, the congregation and the community, and whatever additional prayers arise. Unbinding the Gospel is only one guide for these Prayer Circles. On request I can provide additional Prayer resources and guides.

Several Prayer Circles, each with people who have made Prayer a daily practice, will deepen the spiritual lives of not only those in the Prayer Circles, but also those lives they touch in everyday living. As a pastor I encourage each of you to make Prayer a daily habit as Jesus did, and to join together in Prayer Circles, which we know was one of the key practices of the early church. (See Acts 2:46-47; the early Christians didn't use the term "Prayer Circle," but this is what formed in their homes.) I encourage you to use the Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer guides if this is helpful. And I encourage you to participate in the Unbinding process.

-Pastor John

HOUSEHOLD PRAYERS

These prayers are offered as a guide to Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer.

Each of these prayers is given for a full week, beginning with Sunday.

If however, you find a prayer that deeply resonates with you, continue with this prayer longer than one week.

The Week of October 6th

Household Prayer: Morning

Silent sunrise sanctuary-a dome of shelter for the birth of day. Birds and bugs begin-an opposite of lullaby proclaiming life anew. We wake in wonder-discerning between dream and daylight a mystery ends, another begins. Sunshine scatters shadows-a heathery view melting gray morning mist. Never ceasing, never ending-God's mercies new each morning. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Dusk, to dark, to full moon brightness, blue night sky, speckling of stars and planets, white lights, forever patterned, read and known, but you knew them first, and through them, allowed yourself to become known, Thank you Praise You, and Goodnight. Amen.

The Week of October 13th

Household Prayer: Morning

Glorious God, I praise you. I praise you for who you are-loving, merciful, powerful, and just. I praise you for the ways you act in creation-creating beauty, bringing freedom, making peace, offering healing. Thank you for opportunities I will have today to glorify you in my words and actions.

Household Prayer: Evening

Loving God, I end this day as I began it-in praise of you. Thank you for including me in your great circle of love and care. Thank you for being with us always. Thank you, too, for calling me to love others and to treat everyone as my neighbor. Help me to notice those whose cries for mercy so often go unheard or unanswered, for I am joined to them by being joined to you. I pray in awe of the life you have given me through faith in Jesus Christ. Amen.

HOUSE HOLD PRAYERS: (Continued form page 6)

The Week of October 20th

Household Prayer: Morning

God of justice, you are at work this very day on behalf of those who are poor, marginalized, and disregarded. Fill me with the power of your Holy Spirit so that I can begin this day praying earnestly for someone who faces injustice. Help me to see and to act upon an opportunity to participate in your love and justice. Give me the eyes and ears of faith as I go about my daily routines, walk the paths and hallways of my daily life and attend to news local and global. Then, seeing and hearing through the light of Christ, encourage me relentlessly to pray and work without losing heart. I ask it in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

God of mercy, I come to you now with my energy running low as the lights of the evening. Like stars in the darkness, I send out my prayers for justice to you.

The Week of October 27th

Household Prayer: Morning

God of light, thank you for another day. With each hour, may I be watchful for signs of your grace, ready to show your love, and eager to tell the good news of Jesus Christ. Make me more faithful than I was yesterday, and lead me I the paths of righteousness. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Thank you for the challenges and blessings of this day, O God. If I kept faith with you, thank you for your Spirit's help. If I looked away from you, turn me back around. As night falls, I relinquish my pride and my fear and entrust all whom I love to your care, with prayers for a peaceful rest; in Jesus' name. Amen.



St. James United Church of Christ 321 South Limerick Road Limerick, PA 19468

OCTOBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

Notes & Reminders

Materials for the November newsletter are due November 17.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

All are welcome to the **Fellowship Dinner** Wednesday October 16th at 5:30pm! Come out and

enjoy a meal prepared by our Hospitality Ministry, along with some great conversation. Dessert donations are welcome. Please sign up today in the narthex so we can prepare enough food!

SAVE THE DATE

Many thanks for the 19 donations of blood at the summer Miller Keystone Blood Drive on July 21. According to the thank you we received form



M-K, 57 lives were saved with the gifts from St James.

The next blood drive will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, December 27, 2013 from 2 to 7 pm.