

Chestnut Hill Church UCC

Newsletter

We have several Upcoming Events as we go into the Fall season. Check out the Women Working Wonders events. Plus the Special Event section. Help would be greatly appreciated with the events.

Plus, there are happenings going on doing upgrades around the church. See Church Updates.

Church services will be back upstairs in September.

Supply Pastor:

Pastor Ernie Diefenderfer will be with us for September. Please introduce yourself to him and his wife Barbara during fellowship hour after service.

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Finance Team

The Finance Team is looking for weekly Sunday Counters and people to join the finance team. The finance team reviews and sets the annual budget and then the budget is presented to Council in November for approval. If interested, please contact Debbie Koder 610-390-9026

Volunteer Opportunities

There are many opportunities within the church to share your time and talents to help the church with its mission in this world. We are looking for folks to serve on the Board of Trustees (building and maintenance team). If you are interested in helping, please contact Trustee – Debbie Koder.

Communion Assistants

We are looking for volunteers to help set up, serve, and break down the monthly communion elements on the first Sunday of each month. If you have never done this, someone will gladly show you where everything is and how to set it up.

You only need to arrive at church around 9:15 am, it takes about ½ hour to set up.

If you are interested, please let Marj Trinkle know. A sign-up sheet is available on the Lower Narthex bulletin board with detailed instructions.

Refreshments & Altar Flowers

Anyone who is interested in providing Refreshments or the Altar Flowers for any Sunday, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board on the Lower Narthex. When services are being held in the Fellowship Hall during the summer months, sign-up sheets are on back tables.

Refreshments are served after the Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall downstairs. Coffee, tea and water are provided.

The Altar Flowers, you provide for the Sunday Worship Service and take them home with you. Please indicate if they are in dedication for someone.

OUTSIDE THE CHURCH

Women Working Wonders!

WWW Meetings is held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 1 pm, at the church, either in the Sunday School Room or the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to join us with ideas or help.

Next hoagie sale will be October 24th. I will be sending the hoagie flyer out in near future. Copies will be in the Fellowship Hall also. Help is always welcome.

Some of our upcoming Dine to Donate Events:

Thursday, September 10th: 4-8 pm – Red Robin, Promenade Shoppes,
Center Valley (Must show flyer)

Thursday, October 29th: 5-9 pm – Copperhead Grille, 5737 Route 378
Center Valley (must show flyer)

We will be holding a **Cash Bingo/Basket Raffle on Saturday, October 3rd**. Doors open at 12, Bingo starts at 1 pm. We are holding it at Faith UCC Church, 5995 Route 378, Center Valley. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available for purchase.

We'll be needing lots of help from the congregation for set up and tear down, as well as donations of gift cards and monetary to purchase food items, pay rental fee, and buy prizes. Plus we need baked goods for bake sale.

Basket raffle will be held at the end of the bingo games. We will be preselling bingo sheets ahead of the event. \$25 in advance, \$30 at door. Save \$5 with pre-purchase. Contact Karen Billger 484-358-1957 or treasurer@chcucc.org

WWW Fundraiser!! - Burgers For A Cause @ Applebee's

Don't forget about the WWW's partnership with Applebee's. We have burger certificates available for purchase (\$10 each). Each certificate is good for a burger off their handcrafted burger section of their menu. These certificates are good at any Applebee's in PA and nearby states and they NEVER expire. Chestnut Hill Church earns \$6.50 for each certificate sold which goes towards our fuel purchases to keep us warm while we worship! To obtain certificates, please email our Treasurer, Karen Billger at treasurer@chcucc.org OR ask any WWW member before or after Sunday service. They are stored in the Church office.

So far, we have raised a total of \$1,775.00 towards our fuel bills.

Betty Lou's Pantry

Any and all donations are more than welcome. Thank you to such a generous congregation. We are little but we are mighty!

Betty Lou's Pantry is always appreciative of any donations for people dealing with food insecurities. BLP is in need of meat helper, tuna helper, non-grape jelly/jam, and always, always toilet paper.

There is a cart in the Lower Narthex to place your donations and they will be delivered to BLP weekly. Thank you so much for your thoughtful tax deductible donations to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Winter Coat Drive

Betty Lou's Pantry is collecting New and Gently Used Winter Coats for neighbors in need. Our collection deadline will be October 25th for transport to BLP. They want all the coats by October 31st. A plastic bin will be in the Lower Narthex for coats.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Yoga News!

A series of 8 yoga classes will take us to the end of the year. Beginning on Wednesday, September 2nd and ending on Wednesday, October 21st, both chair and mat yoga classes will be held with chair yoga beginning at 4:00 pm and mat yoga beginning at 5:30 pm. Both classes are one hour in length.

Mark your calendars, now, so you can gain all the benefits yoga has to offer!

For additional information, please call Cindy Buchter at 610-751-1909 or email buchtecl@ptd.net

Gift Cards

Gift card fundraiser – we will again be doing the gift card fundraiser this year. The list will be emailed out the end of October and orders will be due November 29. Copies will also be at the church. You will be able to pick your gift cards up at the church before Christmas.

This will give you a chance to think about the cards you might need. And remember, you can also use the gift cards purchased through out the year to give as birthday, anniversaries or graduation gifts! Hard to believe, I have been doing this since December 2006!! Thank you all who participate in this fundraiser. As always, the money raised goes towards our fuel bill. Debbie Koder

Wreaths Across America

Even though we are less than a year away from this event, we'd like you to SAVE THE DATE (Saturday, December 19, 2026 @ 10:00AM)! Yes, it could be cold and windy on a Saturday in December, but the event itself takes less than 90 minutes (usually). We've gotten very lucky in the past to have a blue sky with the sun shining. Again, in 2026, the HOFF Family is sponsoring all of our 180 wreaths. We are very thankful for their generosity. Your organizers are Jeff Bogert & Karen Billger.

CHURCH UPDATES

New Fellowship Hall Windows

Our new Fellowship Hall windows are being installed on Thursday, September 10th. The Window Blinds will be installed on Monday, September 14th. Thank you to the congregational members who donated for this to happen.

Handicap Parking Spaces

On a bright and sunny day, our 4 handicapped space/markings on the macadam were given a fresh coat of paint. This was at no cost to the church, thanks to Debbie Koder.



Before



After

Parking Lot Repair

We are slowly repairing the large cracks in our macadam parking lot with Aquaphalt. Thank you to Debbie and Brett Koder for spending 3 hours on the patching of these 2 major cracks.

More to be patched in the coming weeks, at no cost to the church.



Before



After



After

Chestnut Hill Grief Support Group

THE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP REFLECTIONS

Greetings Church Family. Blessings to all; blessed to share some thoughts. I was reminded a few days ago, Solomon's wisdom, recorded in the book of Ecclesiastes, you know most of the words. But the refresher course as I reflect on them again, reminds me once again, who wrote the script of our lives.

My cure for insomnia, that I shared in our last newsletter, comes back to me again, from Sinatra, "Summer Wind".

"The autumn wind and the winter winds have come and gone."

Well, the Different wind is now coming back, as reflected in Solomon's words, you know a time for everything! Grief comes in waves. We shared about the triggers that flow back, like waves. These memories can be painful, but I chose to embrace the treasure in them.

I was led in my studies to a book I wasn't familiar with, Tear Soup, Pat Schweibert. Certainly, You-Tube had it. As the woman in the story was preparing, "Tear Soup", the shelf behind her held the ingredients, for her soup. There on the shelf were the many ingredients, we identify as Grief. Some of mine are there, some are not. Remember, everyone's "soup" is different. And so are the ways people grieve and process it. I was blessed by a sermon in Church today. "The story, The Soup, is yours not mine!

The booklet, Living with Loss, Jack Thompson MAAT, from Crossroads Bereavement Company, shared some tools and tips.

Regardless of your Soup ingredients.

Remember to just breathe

Let yourself mourn. Express your thoughts and feelings openly. Roll with the tides of it. Don't try to be brave or strong, even if you're a man. Take time to cry. Tears are cleansing and purifying.

Welcome the respite that laughter brings. Wherever and whenever you can.

Remember that the love you shared is yours to keep forever.

Tools, Tips, Suggestions, not your prescription. Remember this is your story (Soup), not mine.

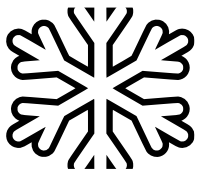
Most importantly, you are not alone!

God bless you and the Waves.

In Christ

Craig

Chestnut Hill Grief Support Group, led by Craig Adams, meets the last Saturday of the month, 1pm, in Fellowship Hall. We have Grief Chair Yoga at 12 pm before the support meeting starts, led by Cindy Buchter.



Church Contact Information:

Pastor :

Pastor Phone: 609-864-8782

Secretary: Gloria Roeder (secretary@chcucc.org)

Treasurer: Karen Billger (treasurer@chcucc.org)

Sexton:

Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation

Church Website: www.chestnuthillchurch.org

Church Phone Number: 610-967-1196