



The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington

601 Fifth Avenue
New Kensington, PA 15068-6508
724-339-6618

E-mail: churchoffice@tupcnk.org

Website: tupcnk.org



July 2024
Newsletter



Our Mission

is to serve God by:
Preaching God's Word,
Teaching God's Love,
Healing God's People

Our Staff

The Rev. Becca Siddle Covenant Pastor
pastoroffice@tupcnk.org

Holly Lightner Organist/Choir Director

Mary Ellen Hicks Secretary
churchoffice@tupcnk.org

Lynn Crumley Custodian
Bob Berisko Custodian

Deacons Food Bank

Office Hours:
Monday — Thursday
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Summer Worship Hours:
10:00 am

Note from the pastor

Hello friends, and Happy Summer!

As I write, we are coming off our first week-long heat wave of the season and I must admit, I've already been tempted to count how many days till falls arrives! But I didn't and I won't, because I'm determined to let each passing day have its moment in the sun (no pun intended). Time does indeed have a life of its own, and how it moves so quickly is beyond me!

Believe it or not, we're already starting our second year together (and I hope you'll join us in the chapel after church **July 14** so we can kick it off right)! Before moving ahead, however, I took some time to reflect on this past year. Through the grace of the Holy Spirit (and I do mean that), we've been able to scratch quite a few items off the church's ever-growing maintenance and upkeep list. Without a doubt, a church this large and this old has significant needs! While these tangible improvements have been important, however, they are not what come to mind first when I think of some of the changes I've observed over the past year.

Instead, I'm seeing and hearing **YOU** actively taking on more ownership. Ownership over committee discussions and ideas, ownership over planning and brainstorming for the future, and ownership over what we could call a ministry of encouragement. Real encouragement is one of the most authentic ways to experience real community together. And that kind of community, *regardless of its size*, is not life-draining but life-nurturing; it's not aloof but involved; and it's not based on criticizing but on strengthening.

Frederick Buechner penned one of my all-time favorite quotes about community, and I share it with you here, not because we have "arrived" but because authentic community continually strives, intentionally, toward this end:

WHEREVER PEOPLE LOVE EACH
OTHER AND ARE TRUE TO EACH
OTHER AND TAKE RISKS FOR EACH
OTHER, GOD IS WITH THEM AND
THEY ARE DOING GOD'S WILL.

So just as Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians, let us continue to encourage one another and build one another up. Great seeds are sown from this simple action!

Grace and peace to you,

Becca

Becca

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Book Club Schedule 6:30 pm, Library

July 24 *The Ocean Between Us* by Susan Wiggs
 Aug. 28 *The Diamond Eye* by Kate Quinn
 Sept. 25 *Chasing Fireflies* by Charles Martin



The **Prayer Shawl Group** is meeting **Wednesday, July 3rd at 1:00** in the Library. We don't just knit, we fellowship! Come, enjoy some treats and renew old friendships (or make new ones)!

July Birthdays

Malvin Zellefrow	7/1
Susan Peiffer	7/1
Steve Anisko	7/2
John Yeamans	7/3
Randall Kaczor	7/5
Benjamin Swetof	7/9
Joan Conte	7/10
Aubrey Pistinzi	7/14
David Joseph, Jr.	7/14
Marie Davis	7/16
Donna McLaughlin	7/18
H. Preston Showman, Jr.	7/21
Amanda Slagle	7/23
Andrew Whitacre	7/24
Stacey Oden	7/28
Alexa Sorch	7/30

Summer Bible Study Fellowship News



The last gathering of Part 1 of our summer group will be **July 3** at 5:30 p.m. We will break for the remainder of the summer and reconvene in early September. The topic for the first half has been "How God Forgives Us" and the second half will focus on "How We Forgive Others"..... and yes, you can absolutely participate in Part 2 without Part 1, so go ahead and put it on your radar now !

Let's Celebrate Another Year of Ministry Together!

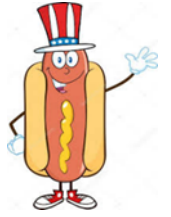
Session is pleased to announce that Pastor Becca will be remaining with TUPCNK, as our Covenant Pastor, for at least one more year. Please join us in the library for refreshments **after Worship on Sunday July 14** to wish Pastor Becca a happy one-year anniversary and to thank her for the work, motivation, and encouragement she has given TUPCNK's members throughout the past twelve months. (Also, there will be cake!!)



Holiday Hot Dogs with the Slow Roll Bicycle Crew July 2



Join us as we will be providing the neighborhood bike riders with hotdogs and all the fixin's AND providing them with patriotic gear for their bikes! If you'd like to donate some snack-size bags of chips, bottled water, and/or "Little Debbie" type dessert (in patriotic colors, of course!), we would be grateful. Better yet, COME BE A PART OF THE FUN, starting around 6pm in the church's back parking lot!!



July Adult Meet-up

We're doing things a little bit differently this month! Instead of a full dinner, let's get together for ICE CREAM!!!

Friday, July 19th at 6:30 pm

Emmerling Ice Cream
932 Route 910
Indian Township, PA



Christmas in July

Thursday, July 25th, Sonward Summer Program will be celebrating Christmas in July and Miss Stacey will be managing the manger. This is a daytime event during Sonward summer Program hours of 11:30 am—2:00 pm. There will be activity stations with fun learning about the birth of Jesus. If you are interested in helping with a station

the day of the event, or helping with supplies/snacks in advance for the event, please let Stacey know so we can coordinate with Sonward.

The Session of The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington met for a Stated Meeting on Monday, June 10, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

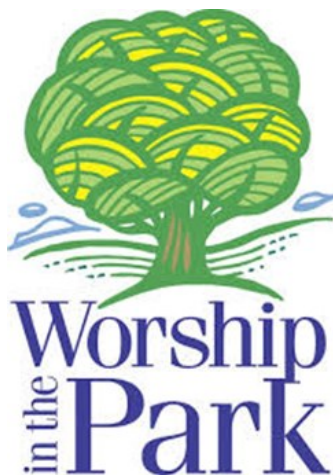
- ♦ There are 138 members on the Active Roll.
- ♦ Session extended Pastor Becca's Covenant Contract until June 1, 2025.
- ♦ The Community Outreach and Engagement Committee has exciting several activities planned.
- ♦ An AED has been mounted on the wall outside of the sanctuary.
- ♦ On July, 2, 2024, TUPCNK will serve hot dogs, drinks, and watermelon (provided by Neil Walker) to the Slow-Roll Bicycle Ride participants. Red, white, and blue streamers will also be made available to decorate the bikes.
- ♦ Volunteers (not counting Andrea Guido and Julia Yockey) are needed as servers at Knead Café on Thursday, July 18, 2024. So far, Pastor Becca, Tim Beckes, Bill Davis, and Stacey Oden have volunteered from Session and several Deacons will be asked as well.

The next Stated Session Meeting will be on Monday, July 8, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie S. Davis

Marie S. Davis, Clerk of Session



Our Annual Tradition Continues!

On **August 4**, we will worship and fellowship together at Memorial Park (Lion Pavilion), beginning at 10:00 a.m. Afterward, we'll enjoy lunch together!

Our deacons will provide the fried chicken, paper products, and set-up. We just need YOU to bring yourself (and a friend or family members) and some kind of **side dish or dessert** to share. It will be wonderful to be together outdoors!



Deacons Meeting

June 8th Food Bank

- 86 Households: 4 New, 28 Senior Boxes,
- 12 Doubles
- 1 Birthday Bag
- We had 23 volunteers, working a total of 72 hours.

July 2024 Food Bank

Truck Delivery - July 3
Distribution - July 6

Food Pantry / Cooler Ministry Wish List

- Peanut Butter and Jelly (plastic jars)
- Canned potatoes • Canned Ravioli, Spaghetti O's, Beef-a-Roni (~15 oz)
- Instant Lunch, Cup of Noodles, Cup of Soup, Ramen Noodles
- Individually packaged crackers, chips

Funeral Dinners - None

Next Deacon Meeting: July 9, 2024
@6:30pm

Prayer List: Please keep in mind that we will keep folks on the prayer list for six weeks unless otherwise notified.

Gary Chickerella	Jackie Chickerella
Lou Ann Burford*	Betty Tylinski*
Betty Lou Sharick*	Ed Yockey
Foster families	

Military personnel & first responders
Young adult "children" of TUPCNK
Kasey Lipinski—daughter of Robin Sorch's friend
Jennifer Mace—former co-worker of Robin Sorch

*Denotes those who are home bound and nursing home residents.

Please call the office to let us know if anyone is in the hospital OR if you would like to receive a pastoral visit from either a deacon or Pastor Becca.

If you would like to add someone to the prayer chain, please call the church at 724-339-6618 with your request. You may also notify any of the following:




Sandy Mozzy
Charlotte Claypool
Cheri Mosley
Gloria Lauffer
Robin Sorch

At a Glance...

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| July 2 | Holiday Hot Dogs with the Slow Roll Bicycle Crew |
| July 3 | Last day for first half of Bible Study |
| July 4 | Happy Independence Day! |
| July 14 | Happy One Year Anniversary Pastor Becca! |
| July 24 | Book Club |
| August 4 | Worship in the Park |



July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 10:00 Care Group 6:30 AA	2 6:00 Holiday Hot Dogs with the Slow Roll Bicycle Crew	3 9:00 Food Truck Delivery 1:00 Shawl Group 5:30 Summer Bible Study	4 	5	6 9:00 Food Bank Clients
7 10:00 Worship	8 10:00 Care Group 6:30 Session 6:30 AA	9 6:30 Deacons	10	11	12	13
14 10:00 Worship 12:00 Celebrate Pastor Becca's one-year anniv.	15 10:00 Care Group 10:00 Garden Club 6:30 AA	16	17	18	19 6:30 Adult Meet -up Emmerling Ice Cream	20
21 10:00 Worship	22 10:00 Care Group 6:30 AA	23	24 Book Club The Ocean Between Us by Susan Wiggs	25 11:00-2:30 Christmas in July Sonward Summer Program	26	27
28 10:00 Worship	29 10:00 Care Group 6:30 AA	30	31			Sunday, August 4, Worship at the Park

**The United Presbyterian Church
Of New Kensington
601 Fifth Avenue
New Kensington, PA 15068-6508**