



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



August 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

Pastor's Message

Dear friends,

We're at the inevitable point in the season when most of us, on a daily basis, either hear (or declare ourselves) "*I can't believe the summer is almost over!*" The irony of the phrase is somewhat comical because, well, if time is anything, it's predictable. Yet it always seems to take us by surprise!

While summer will of course be with us a bit longer, I want to use this space to begin sowing some seeds for you. Seeds for you to think on, but more importantly, seeds for all of us to be praying over. (In keeping with the fact that more of Jesus' parables had to do with seeds than any other topic, it's more than fitting for that to be our continued metaphor as well.) That said, any wise farmer or gardener knows the importance of taking a good hard look at the soil before visualizing potential harvests – and not only the soil, but the many variables that influence its quality and longevity as well!

As we move into and through autumn, we will have opportunities to ask some honest questions together of our "soil" and how we are being called to be the best, most faithful stewards of it. In the time between now and then, I'm asking each of you to really think about the elements that comprise our "soil," (e.g. our current congregation - and its characteristics; the building itself - its size, location, and condition; our resources and assets; current cultural trends, etc.). The list is going to be LONG and it will undoubtedly consist of both challenges and attributes, but please begin jotting items down. And if an item raises questions or thoughts for you, keep pulling that thread and write down where those questions lead!

And most importantly, understand that this taking stock and beginning to plan for the future of TUPCNK is not an exercise for current Session members only! If this church and its ministry is important to you, then *your voice is important too*. I hope you will prioritize being a part of our fall planning discussions, once dates are determined. Look for them in Sunday bulletins, as well as forthcoming newsletters.

In the meantime, brothers and sisters, keep the faith! "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds" (Heb 10:24).

Becca

Pastor Becca

What's Happening



I Scream, You Scream - We All Screamed for Ice Cream! Our **Adult Meet-Up** group had a great time at Emmerling Ice Cream for July's gathering. Fellowship (and the ice cream) are good for the soul!

August Birthdays	
John Conte	8/4
Jackson Dameron	8/6
Ryan Yates	8/9
Paul Yates	8/10
Carter Whitacre	8/11
Jayden Alexander	8/17
Deborah Kaczor	8/17
Joseph Nixon	8/23
Marjorie Landfried	8/29
Eleanor Manley	8/30
Elizabeth Tylinski	8/30
Kelli Williams-Slosky	8/31



Sonward Youth Programs celebrated Christmas in July, and Miss Stacey got to share her chickens. They (the chickens!) enjoyed being hand-fed delicious bugs and cool cups of water and got lots of love! The children heard the nativity story as told by the manger animals. Did you ever wonder if chickens were there too at the birth of baby Jesus, right alongside the sheep and donkeys?



Out And About
 Recognize any of these folks?? They gladly stepped up to help serve the July Breaking Bread meal at KNEAD café! As always, the food was delicious, the fellowship was wonderful, and it was an opportunity for us to serve others out and about in our community!

Looking Ahead...



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), a **chair**, and some kind of **side dish or dessert** to share. It will be wonderful to be together outdoors!

Adult Meet-up

Join us in August at **Mogie's**. We will be out on the patio for dinner at 6 pm on Friday, August 23rd. (3210 Leechburg Road, Lower Burrell)



Book Club Schedule 6:30 pm, Library

Aug. 28 *The Diamond Eye* by Kate Quinn
Sept. 25 *Chasing Fireflies* by Charles Martin

The **Prayer Shawl Group** is meeting **Wednesday, August 7th 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)!



REMINDER: Worship will return to the 11 a.m. start time, beginning Sept. 8 and Adult Sunday School also will resume; class will start at 10 a.m. Come be a part of the discussion!



Any interest in a September All-Church Bowling Event?? Family friendly fun for kiddos and young people too?

If you're interested, contact either Stacey, the church office at 724-339-6618, or churchoffice@tupcnk.org and let us know!



The Session of The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington met for a Stated Session Meeting on Monday, July 8, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

There are 138 members on the Active Roll.

There will not be a Stated Session Meeting in August.

Worship and the Church Picnic at Memorial Park is scheduled for August 4, 2024.

TUPCNK is hoping to host a Joint Worship and Luncheon with Logans Ferry Church sometime in September.

Heritage Sunday will be celebrated with a Luncheon/Activity on October 20, 2024.

The Women's Christmas Tea will be on December 8, 2024.

A new sign will soon be installed at the 6th Avenue parking lot.

Liz Deringer will be training Elders and Deacons on how to use the AED

The next Stated Session Meeting will be on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie S. Davis

Marie S. Davis, Clerk of Session

Sometimes older is better...



And sometimes it's just not!



A new sign in our parking lot is way overdue, and Session approved a replacement several months ago. As you can see, all that remained of the old one was the two flames on either side of our denominational seal – and the message that non-members will be towed! Thanks to Eric Yeamans, whom many of you will remember designed our church logo itself, our new sign actually has our name on it (kind of important!), is welcoming to visitors and neighbors, and is designed to scale. We can't wait to get it installed!



Deacon's Report

July 6th Food Bank

73 Households: 73 New (annual re-sign), 26 Senior Boxes, 9 Doubles
3 Birthday Bags
We had 21 volunteers, working a total of 84.5 hours.

August 2024 Food Bank

Truck Delivery – August 1
Distribution – August 3

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: September 10, 2024 @6:30pm

Submitted by Amy Grillo Dameron

Do you follow United Presbyterian Church on Facebook? If not, would you like to be texted photos of gatherings and events? Let Stacey know!



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

- Betty Tylinski* Jackie Chickerella
- Lou Ann Burford* Gary Chickerella
- Betty Lou Sharick* Gloria Lauffer
- Bobby Long* Ray Pinson & Marissa
- The Family of Sandy Mozzy

- Military personnel & first responders
- Youth and young adults
- First responders and foster families
- 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.



Our Christian sympathies go out to the family of Sandy Mozzy upon her death on Sunday, July 14th. May she rest in eternal peace.

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:



- Charlotte Claypool
- Cheri Mosley
- Gloria Lauffer
- Robin Sorch



THANK YOU!!!
We are grateful to John Zavadak for dismantling and hauling away several unusable and *extremely heavy* appliances/pieces of equipment that went kaput on us!! Thank you, John!

August 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:00 Food Truck Delivery	2	3 9:00 Food Bank Clients
4 10:00 Worship at Memorial Park, Communion by intinction	5 10:00 Care Group 6:30 AA	6	7 1:00 Shawl Group	8	9	10
11 10:00 Worship	12 10:00 Care Group 6:30 AA	13	14	15	16	17
18 10:00 Worship	19 10:00 Care Group 10:00 Garden Club 6:30 AA	20	21	22	23 6:00 Adult Meetup Mogie's Irish Pub 3210 Leechburg Rd, Lower Burrell	24
25 10:00 Worship	26 10:00 Care Group 6:30 AA	27	28 6:30 Book Club <i>The Diamond Eye</i> by Kate Quinn	29	30	31





Between our new parking lot sign and a new round of forthcoming t-shirts, you'll probably be seeing our church logo a bit more often. We found the explanation for its colors and design that Eric Yeamans submitted with it years ago when he first came up with the logo:

“This variation takes an abstract approach to representing people. The figures represent outreach, while the color and form focus your eye to the center which forms a cross in the negative space of the logo. The color represents energy, excitement, and celebration by being unified by one similar aspect, worship. The vibrant colors are also a representation of the diversity that the church represents.”

And there you have it. All these years later, it's still every bit as meaningful!

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