



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



October 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

Regular Worship Hours:
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship

Pastor's Message

Happy "Pumpkin Spice & All Things Nice" season!

What wonderful changes await us around every corner now. As we open the door to October, each day greets us with new surprises just waiting to be noticed. A leaf that was yellow just yesterday is now orange. Squirrels are transitioning from summer play mode to scavenger mode; they make me laugh every day when I see them carrying giant walnuts to newfound hiding places. The changes are subtle, to be sure - yet each one leads to the next change, and then on to yet another.

Finding joy in change is not typically a human tendency, is it? In fact, most of us try to resist it at every turn. We can't even begin to quantify how much time and emotional energy we throw away trying to manipulate what isn't even ours, only because we fear change.

But one of the most over-quoted statements about life reflects this very predicament: "nothing in life stays the same *except* change." Centuries before even the birth of Christ, the book of Ecclesiastes articulated for the ancients, *"For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven"* (3:1).

Since that's indeed true, do we really need to go through life trying to dodge it, minimize it, control it, or defeat it? The answer is an emphatic NO!! As each of our lives change daily and as many of our churches continue to change significantly, I encourage you to consider incorporating the following approaches instead:

- Trust that the Holy Spirit will equip you with what you need, when you need it!
- Be curious about the change; explore why it's happening and what alternatives may present themselves (in sometimes surprising ways).
- Anticipate change so you can prepare for it.
- Resist viewing it as a failure, but imagine where the opportunities are instead!
- Don't simply accept that it's happening; take some ownership over it so you can make the most of it.
- Stay true to your sense of mission; when that's your priority, you can trust that it will happen regardless of potential change.

Like the changes between the first day of October and the last, I cannot know exactly where all the "next steps" are leading, but I can tell you with certainty and gratitude that our Creator God IS present with us, both as individuals and collectively as The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington!

May all of our seasons of change be ones of blessings and joy,

Becca

Pastor Becca

What's Happening



REQUEST FOR DEHUMIDIFIER(S)



Do you happen to have a dehumidifier at home that you no longer use? We would gratefully take it off your hands! The downstairs areas at church would benefit tremendously from 2-3 dehumidifiers keeping

the moisture at bay. If you have one you might be willing to donate to TUPCNK, please let Lynn Crumley know and we will happily pick it up and transport. Thank you!!

October Birthdays

Becca Siddle	10/1
Julia Yockey	10/1
Victoria Dameron	10/1
Alyssa Dameron	10/1
Kathy Davis	10/2
Amelia Dzierzynski	10/4
Hope Matyas	10/5
Emily Hartz	10/6
Emilee Sorch	10/9
Matthew Grillo	10/13
Kathryn Dzierzynski	10/22
Christian Yates	10/25
Olivia Guido	10/26
Robert Thomas	10/26
Deonte Bondra	10/28
Edward Dzierzynski	10/30
Katie McGinnis	10/30
Marian Nixon	10/31

Happy belated birthday to Evelyn (Evey) Waltonbaugh who's birthday was September 9th!

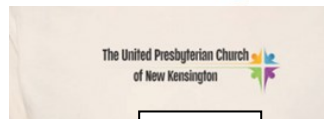
TRADEMARK
Threads



Antique Sapphire



Metro Blue



Ivory



Heather Purple

Our New T-Shirts Look Fantastic!!

Be sure to order yours in the narthex while at church OR call Mary Ellen in the office with your size and color choice (view colors on the church website – go to “newsletter” - or request the newsletter be emailed to you).

The three colored choices are \$16.00 each and the ivory one is \$22.80 (it's a heavier weight cotton). Samples are available at the church so check them out!

We will place the order by **Oct. 14** so please don't wait! Make checks payable to *The United Presbyterian Church*.

Looking Ahead...

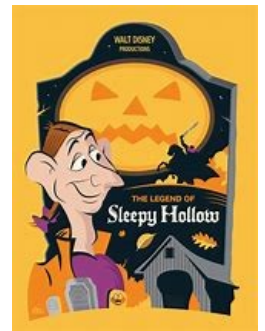
October Adult MeeTUP, Friday, October 18

The Adult MeeTUP Group will gather for pizza, wings, wraps, etc. at Phillippi's Restaurant, 2105 Freeport Rd, Natrona Heights. There is a graveled parking area in the rear. Our group had a small but very enjoyable September gathering in the back room at Gunny's and some folks even got to see Lisa and Larry Alberts who happened to be there enjoying a pizza!



The **Prayer Shawl Group** is meeting **Wednesday, October 2nd 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)!

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow is coming to IUP's music department, and our own **Holly Lightner** will be performing one of the eleven movements. The organ score is perfect for the Halloween season! This traditional tale will be captured not only by organ, but narration and dance as well. Mark your calendars: Friday, **Oct. 18 at 7pm**, Diccico Hall, Cogswell Music Bldg. at IUP.



Heritage Sunday October 20th



We will celebrate Heritage Sunday during worship. The celebration will continue downstairs in the fellowship hall following worship with a luncheon and some fun trivia.

There are two sign-up sheets in the narthex for folks to sign up for this event. The first is to sign up if you plan on attending the luncheon. The second sign up sheet is asking if anyone would like to bake a batch of either scones or shortbread.

Don't forget to wear your plaid if you have it!

The Worship Committee

Trick or Treat on the Church Steps

On Thursday, October 31st, the Out & About Committee will be handing out Halloween treats from 3:00-4:00 pm. We plan to give treats to all the kiddos who use the bus stop and/or participate in the Sonward Program in our church basement.



If you would like to donate Halloween candy—Great!
If you would like to help us hand out candy—Great!
If you want to dress up for handing out candy—Great!
If you want to lift our group up in prayer, asking God to help us build bonds in our community—Great!
If you can't participate but would like to see a photo or two, please contact Stacey Oden.



Book Club Schedule 6:30 pm, Church Library

Oct. 23 **The Women** by Kristin Hannah
Dec. 4 No book has been chosen for this date



Highlights from the September 10, 2024 Meeting

The Session of The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington met for a Stated Session Meeting on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

There are 136 members on the Active Roll.

Deaths: Carol Kantorski Powell -- July 10, 2024; Sandra L. Ruffner Mozzy – July 14, 2024

- ◆ The Logans Ferry combined worship service is on hold.
- ◆ Building tours are being scheduled as part of our planning for our future.
- ◆ Heritage Sunday will be celebrated in worship and then with a Luncheon/Activity on October 20, 2024.
- ◆ The Women's Christmas Tea will be on December 8, 2024.
- ◆ A live "Nativity Scene" is coming to TUPCNK on December 14 (see back).
- ◆ The next Stated Session Meeting will be on Monday, October 14, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie S. Davis

World Communion Sunday will be celebrated all over the world on October 6. Followers of Jesus Christ in large churches and small, on farms and in cities, in ornate buildings and under tents, will gather to receive the bread and cup of Holy Communion.

Some will receive cubes of bread. Some will tear from a common loaf. Some will receive a wafer.

Some will drink from a common chalice. Some will dip a piece of bread into the cup. Some will have individual glasses. Some will use wine; some juice. Some will offer both.

Pastors will lead a variety of liturgies, in many languages. Some clergy will dress traditionally and formally, some casually.

Despite the differences in our denominations and traditions, we celebrate our unity in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. In the PCUSA, World Communion Sunday continues to be a special giving Sunday, with the Peace & Global Witness Offering



The Peace & Global Witness Offering supports the peacemaking and reconciliation efforts of the church at every governing body level and provides an opportunity to witness to God's gift of peace in the world. Gifts given to the Offering through a congregation are divided as follows:

(12.5 presbytery/12.5% synod) and 50% to the Mission Agency to provide assistance and resources for congregations to promote the peace of Christ.

We will be receiving this offering on Sunday, October 6. Envelopes are available in the church. Thank you for prayerfully considering and contributing to this offering. *Your Mission Committee*



August

- 77 Households: 22 New, 26 Senior Boxes, 9 Doubles
- 1 Birthday Bag
- We had 22 volunteers, working a total of 75 hours.

September 7th Food Bank

- 84 Households: 20 New, 26 Senior Boxes, 13 Doubles
- 8 Birthday Bag
- We had 19 volunteers, working a total of 67.5 hours.

October Food Bank

Truck Delivery - October 3
Distribution - October 5

Food Pantry / Cooler Ministry Wish List

- Peanut Butter and Jelly (plastic jars)
- Applesauce, Juice (plastic jars)
- Spaghetti Sauce (plastic jars)
- Canned potatoes
- Canned Ravioli, Spaghetti O's, Beef-a-Roni (~15 oz)
- Cereal
- Sloppy Joe / Manwich
- Individually packaged crackers, chips

Funeral Dinners - Sandy Mozzy, 53 served (including volunteers)

Next Deacon Meeting: October 8, 2024 @6:30pm
Submitted by Amy Grillo, Deacon Secretary

Do you follow The United Presbyterian Church on Facebook? If not, please do! The more followers and "likes" our posts receive, the further our information will reach into the public. 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*	Mark Bondra
Lou Ann Burford*	Jackie Chickerella
Betty Lou Sharick*	Gary Chickerella
Bobby Long*	
Lou Ann Burford*	


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

*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.

Prayer is the
key to Heaven, but
Faith
unlocks the door

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
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If you want to see the newsletter in COLOR, make sure the church has your email address OR view it on the "newsletter" tab on the church's website at <https://tupcnk.org>

October 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 1:00 Shawl Group	3 9:00 Food Truck	4	5 9:00 Food Bank Clients 9:00 Knead Café Craft Fair
6 World Communion Sun. 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship	7 10:00 Care Group 11:00 Garden Club 6:30 AA	8 6:30 Deacons	9	10	11	12
13 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship	14 10:00 Care Group 3:15 Fresh Express at St. George's 6:30 Session 6:30 AA	15	16	17	18 6:00 MeeTUP @ Phillippi's in Nat. Hts. 6:30 Sleepy Hollow at IUP, Holly Lightner performing	19
20 Heritage Sunday 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Luncheon & Activity after Worship	21 10:00 Care Group 11:00 Garden Club 6:30 AA	22	23 6:30 Book Club <i>The Women by Kristin Hannah</i>	24	25	26
27 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship	28 10:00 Care Group 6:30 AA	29	30	31 Halloween Trick or Treat at the church steps 3:00-4:00 pm		November 3 Turn clocks back one hour



WE ARE SO EXCITED TO SHARE THE NEWS!! We will be welcoming the band of blessed animals who got to witness the birth of Christ to our church on **Saturday, DECEMBER 14!** Actually, they'll be in the vacant grass lot we own just down the street from the church, but regardless, put it on your calendar now! We're excited for the neighborhood children to visit with the

animals, but we also hope you'll let your own neighbors, children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews – EVERYONE – know! Be sure to watch for more details as we get closer to the time.

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