



## The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington

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

E-mail: [churchoffice@tupcnk.org](mailto:churchoffice@tupcnk.org)

Website: [tupcnk.org](http://tupcnk.org)



September 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](mailto:pastoroffice@tupcnk.org)

Holly Lightner    Organist/Choir Director

Mary Ellen Hicks    Secretary  
[churchoffice@tupcnk.org](mailto: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

Dear friends in Christ,

Blessings upon you as your daily routines begin to change, whether from “back to school” activities in your home, less daylight filling your evenings, or cooler temperatures shaping how you spend your mornings. I’m going to use this space to reiterate much of what I wrote to you in the previous newsletter – not only because I know our mental schedules are now returning to “normal,” but because the time is now upon us!

Last month I explained that, as we move through autumn, we would be engaging the process of discernment for the future of The United Presbyterian Church of New Ken. I asked you then to begin really thinking and praying 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.). If you haven’t already started, I encourage you to actually jot down the items that come to mind, and please, intentionally think about both the attributes AND the challenges at hand, as well as our potential opportunities AND the obstacles. And if an item raises questions or thoughts for you, keep pulling that thread and write down where those questions lead!

Before any real discerning for the future can take place, however, an understanding of our present is crucial. Because 80 percent of our collective activity these days takes place in the sanctuary and/or upstairs rooms, we’ve scheduled two different dates for you to “tour” the downstairs and little used parts of the church property: **Sept. 18 at 4pm** and **Sept. 29, immediately following worship**. Believe me, I understand this may sound a bit redundant to some of you! But I also realize we have many members and friends of the church who may be unaware of both the opportunities and the difficulties we’re facing with the building itself – and the more transparent we are, the healthier our discussions will be. I have no doubt, our Creator God has plans for this church! But we can’t pretend to know what they are without doing the honest work of prayerful discernment and using the resources we’ve been given to the best of our abilities.

As we continue to move forward, dear friends, 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



**TUPCNK'S ANNUAL WORSHIP AND PICNIC ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 4TH AT MEMORIAL PARK**



| September Birthdays |      |
|---------------------|------|
| Emma Conte          | 9/1  |
| Wilbur DeLancey     | 9/1  |
| Janet Howsare       | 9/4  |
| Robin Sorch         | 9/6  |
| Maeby Pistininzi    | 9/7  |
| Jill Allan          | 9/11 |
| Christopher Peiffer | 9/13 |
| Joshua Swetof       | 9/14 |
| William Davis       | 9/14 |
| Erika Manges        | 9/15 |
| Mary Beth Yeamans   | 9/16 |
| Timothy Guido       | 9/17 |
| David Keys          | 9/23 |
| Robert Deringer     | 9/25 |
| Emily Deringer      | 9/25 |



The Fellowship  
of Christ We Share

# Looking Ahead...

## September Adult Meet-up

The group will meet Friday, September 20, 6:00 pm at Gunny's, 902 McCandless St., New Kensington. Catch up with new and old friends and enjoy a delicious meal together!



## Book Club Schedule 6:30 pm, Church Library

Sept. 25 *Chasing Fireflies* by Charles Martin  
Oct. 23 *The Women* by Kristin Hannah

The *Prayer Shawl Group* is meeting **Wednesday, September 4th 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)!



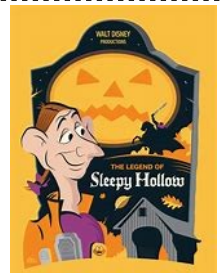
**REMINDER: Worship will return to the 11 a.m. start time, beginning Sept. 8 and Adult Sunday School also will resume; class will start at 10 a.m. Come be a part of the discussion!**



## 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](mailto:churchoffice@tupcnk.org) and let us know!

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 by organ, but narration and dance as well. Mark your calendars: Friday, **Oct. 18 at 7pm**, Diccico Hall, Cogswell Music Bldg. at IUP.





## SESSION MEETING

There was no session meeting in August, so no report this month. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 10th at 6:30 pm.

### FOOD BANK WISH LIST

Our **Food Bank** continues to serve an increasing number of households each month (and we provide emergency food provision several days per week). Please keep the following items in mind when you're doing your own shopping:

- Canned Potatoes, Peanut Butter (plastic jars)
- Pasta Sauce (cans or plastic jars) and Pasta
- Canned Ravioli Spaghetti O's, Beefaroni, etc. (15 oz. cans)
- Instant-Lunch, Cup-of-Noodles, Cup-of-Soup, Ramen Noodles
- Individually packaged crackers, chips



### Heritage Sunday October 20th

There will be a luncheon and fellowship activity after worship, so put this date on your calendars now!



### SAVE THE DATE Women's Christmas Tea Sunday, December 8th

It's still a little ways away, but this tradition is a wonderful one you won't want to miss!



TUPCNK members Evie, Colette, Kathryn, and Becca have been singing with members of other local congregations that comprise the Allegheny Valley Association of Churches. Both the singing AND the fellowship have been wonderful food for the soul! The mass choir will present a concert **Sept. 14 at 6pm** and we'd love to see you there!! (See right for details)

## You are invited A Gospel Explosion Benefit Concert

Featuring a mass choir from local congregations  
Directed by Roberta Breninghouse

### Special Performances by:

Minister Darryl Manley      Sister Kathy Deeroo  
Minister Connie Allensworth      Sister Jackie Huston  
Rev. Quandra Nickols



Saturday, September 14, 2024 6:00 PM

Trinity United Methodist Church  
847 Tenth Avenue  
Brackenridge, PA 15014

A free will offering will be taken to support  
the many missionary programs of

The  
Allegheny Valley Association  
of Churches

A community ministry helping those in need



There was no Deacon's Meeting in August. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 10th at 6:30 pm

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

- Betty Tylinski\*
- Lou Ann Burford\*
- Betty Lou Sharick\*
- Bobby Long\*
- Lou Ann Burford\*
- Jackie Chickerella
- Gary Chickerella
- Ray Pinson & Marissa

- 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.**

**Updated Student Address Info**  
 We want to make sure the church has the current address of our college students, whether it be new or different from their home address. Please call the office at 724-339-6618 or email churchoffice@tupcnk.org with any address updates. Thank you!



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

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!



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>

# September 2024

| SUN   | MON   | TUE  | WED   | THU                              | FRI   | SAT  |
|---|---|--|---|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1<br>10:00 Worship<br>Communion by<br>Intinction<br>(Last Sunday for<br>summer hours) | 2<br>Labor Day<br>Office closed<br>6:30 AA                            | 3  | 4<br>1:00 Shawl Group<br>Library                                      | 5<br>9:00 Food<br>Truck Delivery | 6<br>9:00 Food Bank<br>Clients                    | 7  |
| 8<br>10:00 Sunday<br>School<br>11:00 Worship  | 9<br>10:00 Care Group<br>11:00 Garden Club<br>6:30 Session<br>6:30 AA | 10<br>12:30 Worship<br>Committee<br>6:30 Deacons | 11  | 12                               | 13  | 14<br>6:00 AVAC<br>Concert, Trinity<br>UMC |
| 15<br>10:00 Sunday<br>School<br>11:00 Worship   | 16<br>10:00 Care Group<br>6:30 AA                                     | 17   | 18<br>4:00 Building Tour  | 19                               | 20<br>Adult Meet-<br>Up at<br>Gunny's,<br>New Ken | 21   |
| 22<br>10:00 Sunday<br>School<br>11:00 Worship   | 23<br>10:00 Care Group<br>10:00 Garden Club<br>6:30 AA                | 24   | 25<br>6:30 Book Club<br><i>Chasing Fireflies</i> by<br>Charles Martin | 26                               | 27  | 28   |
| 29<br>10:00 Sunday<br>School<br>11:00 Worship<br>12:00 Building Tour                  | 30<br>10:00 Care Group<br>6:30 AA                                     |  |   |                                  |   |  |



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 (see the color version online or at the church):

“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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