## The SchwenKEY Connections

CENT RAL

MAY 2024 MONTHLY EDITION

LOVE GOD. SERVE OTHERS. GROW DISCIPLES.

## "Renovate the Building / Renovate Our Hearts"

### Dear Church Family,

This is a very exciting – and unique – time in the life of our church. We begin this month by celebrating the completion of a year-plus renovation project which was over 5 years in the making. This is a tremendous accomplishment which is stirring up great joy in our hearts. It's exciting because our church building – God's building – is now better designed to meet ministry needs of the present and future. As a congregation, it's important to remember that this Renovation Celebration does not mark the end of what we're called to do. God is glorified and will be honored through this renovation of our building. But God's primary renovation project – the one He is most concerned about – is in the hearts of His people. Each and every day, God wants to renovate my heart to make me look more and more like Jesus. Often, this isn't just a fresh coat of paint. He needs to rip down the walls of my heart to the studs and rebuild them. God made you and me for a purpose, and as He renovates (sanctifies) me, I become better suited to fulfill the purpose He has planned for me, much like our renovated building.

In God's amazing and sovereign design, God desires to work through each of us to renovate the hearts of our neighbors. God's purpose for us as individuals (and as a church) is to let the power of the Holy Spirit move in us and through us so that many in our community would place their trust in Jesus. To be faithful to this calling, three things are required of us on a daily basis: 1) Submit to God's will for our lives 2) Be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit as it pertains to the spiritual needs of others and 3) Have true compassion and genuine concern for the lost. As God renovates my heart, I know that all three of these are on His "job board". That is why I'm so excited that as you read this our congregation is in the midst of this "Ask Me to Pray for You" campaign. I truly believe God will use this season in a mighty way. We will all be stretched and challenged, but that is a good thing. If we offer God open minds and hearts this campaign will bear much fruit - renovated hearts within our congregation, and renovated hearts within our community. Testimonies are part of this campaign so I encourage you to read the "Ask Me to Pray For You" section of this newsletter.

God Bless, Peter Colvin, Moderator

## **CHURCH NEWS**

## longratulations to...

Paige & Phil Cipolone, who welcomed their third little boy, Edwin Donald, on Wednesday, March 27th. Brian & Angela Gunning, who welcomed their second daughter, Leah Violet on Monday, April 15th. Grandparents are David & Donna Gunning.

Shaw, Bill & Lynda who will celebrate their 56th anniversary on Saturday, May 4th. Koehler, Al who will celebrate his 93rd birthday on Wednesday, May 22nd. Zambella, Guy who will celebrate his 91st birthday on Thursday, May 30th. Werley, Llew & Wilma who will celebrate their 71st anniversary on Thursday, May 30th.

## Our Sympathies go to...

**Dan Jaycox and family**, on the passing of his brother John on Sunday, March 10th. **Jerome & Beverly Potter**, on the passing of his sister, Gail Bennett on Monday, April 15th.

Notes of Appreciation

"I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the members of the church for their cards and remembrances of me. A very special thank you for the lovely pink tulips I received at Easter." Anita Schwendt

"Thank you so much for the beautiful Easter lily that was delivered to me by Bill and Gail Simons. It is nice to be remembered and I appreciate it." Pat Rumkevicius

"Thank you so much for the pretty lily that Bonnie Bergey delivered to me!"

Noy Tha

"Thank you very much for the flowers that I received at Easter time and in April. I really appreciated them!" Dick Ditzler

"Dear Central Schwenkfelder Church Family, Thank you so much for the beautiful, very colorful, and very healthy daffodils! Eric Schmitz very thoughtfully delivered them to us and they were such a lovely surprise and reminder of our very special congregation and Flower Committee! Eric was so kind and I enjoyed speaking to him so much. Thank you so much for remembering us in such a beautiful way!" Fondly, David & Janice Lamphere

"Thank you to our church for the beautiful Easter Lily. Thanks to Cheryl Walborn who delivered the lily. Thanks for prayers and remembering Phil as he is going through cancer treatments." Love Noreen & Phil Heisey

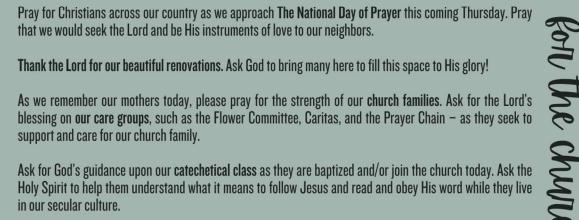
"Dear Church Family, thank you for the beautiful tulips, Easter cards and your prayers. We appreciated Fran Witte's visit and her delivery of the flower. Your thoughtfulness touched our hearts." Jim & Carolyn Channell

"We would like to thank our church family for the flowers that were delivered to us on the occasion of our 55th anniversary." Dick & Donna Clemens

"A heartfelt thank you to Christopher and the Awana kids for their lovely Valentine card in February and Jen Churches and the Flower Committee for the beautiful 7-bloom lily delivered Easter week in torrential rains. May the Lord bless you and keep you (Numbers 6:24-26)." Karen Klein

"Thank you for the lovely Easter flowers brought to me by Ron Allebach and also to the pastors, Choir Director, singers and musicians for the beautiful Holy Week services via livestreaming. A blessing for me." Sincerely Bev Lewis

"Dear church members, it is a pleasure for my son and I to have a church who cares about their members. My son and I appreciate the beautiful Easter lily that was given at Easter time. Thank you very much for your kindness. Thank you also to Ken Kriebel for delivering the beautiful lily." Marilyn G. Alderfer



Thank the Lord for our beautiful renovations. Ask God to bring many here to fill this space to His glory!

As we remember our mothers today, please pray for the strength of our church families. Ask for the Lord's blessing on our care groups, such as the Flower Committee, Caritas, and the Praver Chain - as they seek to support and care for our church family.

Ask for God's guidance upon our catechetical class as they are baptized and/or join the church today. Ask the Holy Spirit to help them understand what it means to follow Jesus and read and obey His word while they live in our secular culture.

Pray for our Mission Board and for Sandy Desirey as she chairs that board. Ask God to grant them wisdom as they oversee the mission outreach of our church.

Pray for Craig and Katie Young and the Chapelle de Fuveau Church. Pray they have answers and a resolution to the challenges of completing the purchase of the property to extend the legacy of God's work. Pray God opens the eyes and hearts of those in position to assist the sale and grants wisdom in communications to open the door and complete the acquisition.

Pray for **CURE International** as it provides life-changing surgery to children living with disabilities around the world and as they share the love of Jesus with them and their families. The eight hospitals in Africa and the Philippines also provide surgical care to children from 23 additional countries. Pray every child has the access to this healthcare they desperately need.

Pray for Joy Ranch as they continue to serve children and their families in crisis. Pray for their funding through faith donations. Pray for all involved in providing a safe, loving and structured home for children in need of a place of refuge. Pray for the continuation of trauma-informed care, empowerment and protection for all the children.

Pray for **Timothy Liombe** and his wife to be able to complete the necessary procedures to visit with Central in the near future. Pray for the opportunity for their work in Cameroon to be shared with an audience who will be enriched to hear more about their ministry. Pray for them to have this chance to enhance their support and continue the necessary ministry of God's plan for them.

Pray for Tim and Donna Sirinides and their team's safety as they go out each week and for God's grace to share God's word. Pray for the people they minister to and that the Lord will illuminate the eyes of their hearts to see their need for Jesus.

## MISSION MOMENTS

#### **THE SHIRAKAWAS**

The Shirakawas are settling in on their return to Japan. They have found an apartment close to their Little Light Church. This allows them to have a space where church members can gather and share hospitality as they live out the love of Christ. They are discipling several young people and continue to share the good news of Christ with many new brothers and sisters. Taka has started translating youth ministry material into Japanese and preached at the Church Easter event.

## FAMILY PROMISE

Family Promise shares the story of success in their program. A mother and child were unable to find housing. After spending months living out of their car, they entered the shelter of Family Promise. They were so relieved to have a place to stay and people who could guide them from homelessness to housing. They are now in their own home. She has started a new job and the child is enrolled in school and can participate in all school activities.

## **EUROPEAN CHRISTIAN MISSION**

European Christian Mission shares news of a Romanian team who held a unique Bible conference for gypsy Pastors and workers in southern Romania. For three days 28 men gathered to be taught, encouraged and equipped for ministry. Pastors from North Carolina brought the conference message and helped create an invitation to conduct a youth conference this summer. Ministry in the gypsy communities is often difficult and challenging. It takes a special heart and determination to work in these circumstances. Ongoing is the major concern of the conquering of Europe by Islamic influences who are replacing the fabric of Western European society. The majority of the under 18 populations is Muslim. ECM will continue to evangelize Muslims for Christ.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD CRUSADES**

Neighborhood Crusades has shared that they were awarded the Martin Luther King Association for Non-Violence Drum Major Award for their Friday Night Anti-Violence Crusades and Kensington Outreaches. They were thrilled to represent Jesus at the Luncheon and share that the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is what transforms lives. On April 4th, the 51st Class of the Mel Floyd School of Evangelism will begin. This is a free 8-week course taught by physicians who also work in the ministry. Students will have the opportunity to participate in the Good Friday Outreach in Kensington and a Friday Night Anti-Violence, Anti-Drug Crusade.



## 9:00am Patriotic Service in Fellowship Hall where we will honor our servicemen and women and veterans. 10:30am Join us for our Connect Service which combines both our Traditional and Contemporary

NATIONAL

2024 at 7:00pm

our Sanctuar

11:45am Fellowship with us after church for our All Church picnic at the Anders Pavillion. Please bring something to share!

Services.



The Men's Christian Fellowship invites our church family (and friends) to join us for our annual trip to the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs. The game is on Saturday, July 13th at 6:35 p.m. against the Buffalo Bison, and will be followed by post-game fireworks. <u>The deadline to order tickets is Sunday, June</u> <u>30th</u>. Tickets for group seating are \$12 each, which includes a \$2 food credit. Note that we will meet at the ballpark, and transportation will not be coordinated. We've already sold most of our initial ticket block of 40 seats, so please sign-up soon and we'll reserve more. Please contact Peter Colvin (267-664-5923, pcolvin33@gmail.com) to order tickets or for questions.

The Schwenkfelder congregations will gather for the Spring General Conference meeting at the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center (105 Seminary Street, Pennsburg). All members of Central Schwenkfelder Church are invited to attend the meeting in person or virtually. Snacks and desserts will be provided. Candace Perry will be making a presentation - How the Pretzel Survived Prohibition. Please join us!

SPRING GENERAL CONFERENCE May 19, 2024 3:00pm

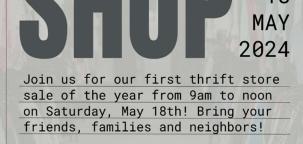
May 19, 2024

3:00pm

Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center

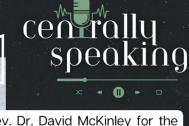
## Saturday Morning Work-In May 4th 9AM to Noon

As many of you are already aware, the Third Saturday Thrift Shops sales have become a vital resource for raising mission funds. Last year the TSTS sales brought in \$28,000 for the WCF's mission efforts. But, as this wonderful ministry has grown, so has the need for more workers. And so we are going to set up Saturday Morning Work-Ins. On the first Saturday of each month, we will gather to work in all sale areas in the Barn and Granary: Clothing Reruns, Children's Toys and Clothing, Books and Attic Treasures. From 9AM until Noon folks will be sorting, pricing, and setting out donations. Please, please consider joining this dedicated group. We hope that by making the work hours of all areas standardized, it will make it easier for people to remember when we are working and to plan to come out and help. We cannot emphasize enough what an incredible undertaking these sales are, and what a phenomenal blessing it is to be able to help so many. This is important mission work that everyone in the congregation should consider helping with. Absolutely everyone is welcome. Let us join as the loving church family that we are and serve our Savior together. We truly hope to see you there!



Do you have any nice hangers you no longer need? Clothing Reruns might be able to use them. We are specifically looking for longer, plastic ones – 17 inches or longer. Clip pants hangers would also be gratefully received. Please just drop any suitable hangers off on any Sunday as you would your clothing donations. Thank you so much for all your generosity!!!





We interviewed Rev. Dr. David McKinley for the podcast: The Renovation of the Central Schwenkfelder Church: How the Church Building Intersects with the Community. This would be a good podcast to share with others as we approach the Dedication Weekend on May 3-5.

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We interviewed Rev. Dr. Andrew Brunson on practical differences between Islam and Christianity. Dr. Brunson and his wife Norine, planted a church in Turkey for 20 years. While in Turkey, he was imprisoned for two years for his faith. During this time, he was in a prison cell with 21 Muslims, but the cell was designed only for 8. He is the author of God's Hostage: A True Story of Persecution, Imprisonment, and Perseverance, a book that is a testimony of his time imprisoned in Turkey. This, too, would be a good podcast to share with friends and family. Come join the fun! The 10th WCF Yard & Bake Sale will be held on June 8, 2024, from 8 am to 1 pm in the church parking lot. A \$10 fee will be charged for each space. Sellers can supply their own tables or rent 8-foot tables for \$5 each. Cars can be parked behind or next to the assigned space. Sellers keep their profits. Contact Barbara Bucher at 215-896-1346 or email to bkaybuch@aol.com to make your reservation for a space! Baked items are requested for the bake sale. Please deliver baked items to the church kitchen on the morning of June 7 or to the sale on June 8.

## DEDICATION WEIEKEND

R4 "Wish List"

SCAN ME

As the R4 project nears completion, the committee has identified a few items which would further enhance our newly renovated church building...

"Wish List" Items for the Interior:

- Installation of Additional Monitors (TV Screens) and their Components in the following areas:
  - Meeting Room in the Hub
  - Two Children's Classrooms
  - Two in the Balcony

 White Boards for Lower Level Classrooms

ay, May 3 - 6:30-9pm

Join our Reunion! Saturday, May 4 -11am-2pm *Community Day* Sunday, May 5 - 9am-Noon *Rejoice with Us!* 

- Six Clocks
- · Additional Interior Signage
- Industrial Carpet Cleaning Machine

#### "Wish List" Items for the Exterior:

- Octagonal Polywood Picnic Table Set
- Exterior Directional Sign

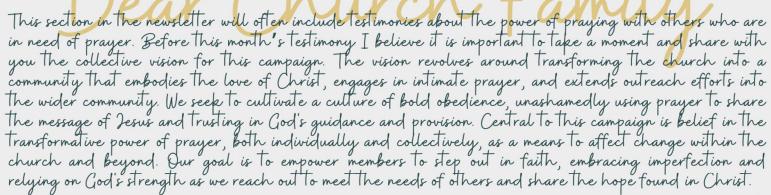
If you would like to learn more about these "Wish List" items or offer support towards the purchase of any of them, please contact Sue McGinnis at suestrats@gmail.com or (215) 680-8582.

R4 Campaign Update \$6,566,205

Although the original fundraising goal of \$6.5 million has been met, project costs are now anticipated to be up to \$6.6 million. The committee is grateful for the generosity which has already been shown for the R4 project and will appreciate additional financial support as they work to bring this project to a successful conclusion.



## ASK ME TO PRAY FOR YOU



Your Brother in Christ, Rev. Julian A. Scavetti



### Testimony by Anonymous female church member

In April 2023, I picked up one of those "Ask Me To Pray For You" shirts in Fellowship Hall during the Manna Race to End Hunger event. Honestly, I hadn't prayed for many people in need before, so I felt nervous about it. But I've experienced firsthand how impactful prayer can be and I wanted to be available to others in the same way. The shirt caught my eye with its quality and color, but more importantly, I wanted to wear it to honor God's call to pray for those who need it.

The first two times I wore the shirt, nothing happened, and no one approached me. It felt like I was just wearing any other shirt. Because of this, the third time I wore it I wasn't even thinking about it and headed off to Dorney Park with my family. As I walked past the first aid station, I was startled by a woman who ran up to me and started begging for prayer. It was then that I realized I was wearing the shirt. I assured her that I would be glad to pray for her, and asked for her name and what she needed prayer for.

She faced a crisis as her sister and two friends ingested several THC gummies (Cannabis) before visiting the park, resulting in severe mental and physiological reactions. They were in serious condition and about to be medevacked to the hospital. I comforted her and prayed for her, her sister, and her friends. She was grateful and began to open her heart to me regarding other concerns in her life that needed prayer, including a court date in which she was fighting for custody of her child. I prayed again, then encouraged her to lean on Jesus, who is real and who loves her.

Though uncertain of the impact, I left knowing God had worked in both our hearts. This encounter stretched me beyond my comfort zone, deepened my reliance on God, and instilled a renewed sense of purpose. I realized that the thrill of a theme park paled in comparison to being a vessel for God's redemptive work.



We invite you to join us for our week long study of Early Church History for the week of June 3–7. The class meets: Monday 1–4 pm; Tuesday 9–2pm; Wednesday 9–3 pm; Thursday 9–1 pm; Friday 9–12 pm.

Dr. Drake Williams and Dr. David McKinley will be leading the class with contributions from others. On Wednesday afternoon, we will be joined by notable church historian Dr. Donald Fairbairn as we discuss early creeds and councils that day.

Anyone is welcome to join us. The class will be held in person in Fellowship Hall but also by Zoom. Cost for each day is \$60 in person (lunch included on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday). Cost for joining by Zoom is \$50 per day. Please contact Dr. Drake Williams for registration by Tuesday, May 28. You can also see upcoming details at our website: https://www.congregationalinstitute.com/.



## UPCOMING TOURS

As part of our upcoming Congregational Institute, we will travel to St. Philip Orthodox Church on **Tuesday**, **June** 4 for a tour from 3:00–4:30. At the Orthodox Church, we will receive a tour about the influence that the early church fathers have had on the church. (website: https://www.st-philip.net/).

On **Thursday, June 6**, we will travel to Christ Church in Philadelphia (https://christchurchphila.org/) for a tour from 3:15-4:30. The members at Christ Church in the seventeen hundreds were intimately involved in the Revolutionary War. Likely our group will find a restaurant in Philadelphia for a cheese steak afterwards!

If you are interested in being a part of either tour, contact Dr. Drake Williams at the church office. Price for each tour is \$25. (Food afterwards is not included in the price).



Our upcoming Salford Pilgrimage will take place at the Salford Meetinghouse on Fretz Road on June 2nd at 6:00pm. It is always a lovely service to reconnect with our heritage and sing in the wonderful acoustics of the Salford Meeting House (Fretz Road, Lower Salford Township, Montgomery County, PA). Rev. Leslie Mamas from Olivet Schwenkfelder will be bringing the message. Rick Kriebel will be giving the historical piece following the service. This will focus on the Rev. George Weiss catechism which several from our congregation are involved in transliterating and translating with the help of Dr. Allen Viehmeyer. Afterwards, we will have an ice cream social.

## Special Guests from Cameroon

The mission board is sponsoring Rev. Timothy and Colette Liombe from Cameroon to join us from the end of May through June 23. The Liombes are ministering in the middle of a civil war in Cameroon, planting churches. They also are helping children acquire birth certificates so that they can get an education. Rev. Liombe was a student of Dr. Drake's at Tyndale Theological Seminary in the Netherlands. Together he and Dr. Drake served as interim pastors at Trinity International Baptist Church in Leidschendam, the Netherlands for 18 months.

Rev. Liombe will be preaching at our June 9 services and then leading Sunday School on June 16. If you would like to connect with the Liombes outside of these times for coffee or a meal, they would be open to meeting you. Please let Drake or Andrea Williams know, as they will be arranging their schedules while they are with us.





ISK RAY

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Thanks to our many volunteers and supporters, our Manna Run was a great success! We had 35 participants from Central at the race to run, walk, and engage our community. Our volunteers distributed over 100 flyers for our Community Day on May 4 and handed out over 2 dozen invites to VBS. We had over 20 individuals submit a prayer request card or complete our community engagement survey. We hope you will join us next year!



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## **VBS 2024** JULY 7 - 11 | 6:15 - 8:30 PM CENTRAL SCHWENKFELDER CHURCH

JOIN US THIS SUMMER FOR A VBS FILLED WITH GOD'S TRUTH AND SEASIDE FUN!



GOD'S ROCK-SOLID TRUTH IN A WORLD OF SHIFTING SANDS AGE 3\* - 5TH GRADE \*MUST BE POTTY TRAINED



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We need your help to make VBS happen! We need volunteers to help prepare VBS and to help during the week of. Please contact Angela Colvin

at childrensministry@cscfamily.org to find out where your gifts and talents

ACCEPT

can be used.

HAPPY TO!

REGISTER

CODE ->

FOR VBS WITH THE QR







# Adult Managements of the second secon



SATURDAY JUNE 15TH | 11AM-2PM | FISCHER'S PARK

All Central young families (families with youngest in 5th grade or younger) and families who don't have a church are encouraged to come. This playdate will have all sorts of fun summer activities! Central will provide some food and Julian will send out an email with a list of items parents can provide to help make this a great time.



All divorced men and widowers are warmly invited to a soup social on the 2nd Thursday of most months from 12-2pm in Fellowship Hall. Enjoy lunch, fellowship, encouragement, and a talk regarding a topic of interest. You are also welcome to bring a friend!

To RSVP for the next Soup's On which will be on May 9th, please contact the church office at 610-584-4480 or email pastorsassistant@cscfamily.org on or before May 3rd.

Ladies – if you are willing help by serving, or preparing or bringing food for these events, please contact Ruth Baltozer at gbaltoze@verizon.net.

## YOUNG ADULT LUNCH

Young adult guys and girls are encouraged to come out and enjoy lunch together on May 19th at 12PM (location TBD). Please contact Pastor Julian to let him know you are coming and to ask any questions!

## Shmooze, News & Views

The spring series of Shmooze, News, and Views continues every other Tuesday through June 11 with a 3:00-4:30 session and an identical 7:00-8:30 session each time.

Now in its tenth year at Central Schwenkfelder Church, SNV (as it is abbreviated) or just "Shmooze" (as it is affectionately known) is an informal gettogether which includes chit-chat and fellowship ("shmooze") while "noshing" on Jewish baked goods home-made by Phyllis Wambold, "news" updates from Israel, the Jewish world, and Jewish Gospel ministry, and "views" of the Old Testament Scriptures and their relevance for us today and in the future, focusing this term on the Old Testament Book of Judges in a series of studies entitled "Stout-Hearted Men and Women."

A cordial invitation is extended for everyone to attend. Each session is a stand-alone designed to benefit those able to attend only one, several, or all of the gatherings. It is not necessary to register or sign up; just show up!

ALSO, studies presented in previous sessions by Rev. Roger L. Wambold, along with his "Bagel-Side Chats" about subjects related to Israel and the Jewish people, can now be heard regularly on the Hebrew Christian Fellowship podcast, "Ancient Words, Modern Message," now available from your favorite podcast platform or simply by google-ing the podcast name.

For additional information, contact Roger at 610-564-5387 or by e-mail at RLWPMW@aol.com.



We are asking all students and leaders (and even parents) involved in the Union from Central, Renew and First Baptist to kindly help out at Central's Community Day on May 4th. You are welcome to wear your Union shirts or shirts with your church's name on it if you would like.

If you look at the sign-ups you will notice there is a short shift for set-up and two shifts during the time of the event which will officially take place between 11am-2pm. We have split the shifts so that volunteers can serve for half the event and enjoy the rest. There will be some quality free food for everyone who attends!

This event isn't about Central, it's about Christ and community including other churches! We want our community youth group (The Union) to be on brilliant display on May 4th. Please signup and help us out and have some fun.



SCAN

## MISSION & BEACH OVERNIGHT July 16th-17th

ioin us!

Come serve with us at Cecil and Grace Bean's Soup Kitchen on Tuesday, July 16th. We will have a sleepover at the Community Center afterwards, and all head to Ocean City, NJ beach for a day on Wednesday. More details to follow. *Cost.* \$65



All families, youth and young adults should mark your calendars for Agape Festival 2024. Agape Festival is 4 nights of outdoor camping and 3 days and nights of worship music, inspired speakers and kids area in Mount Union, PA.

Please contact Pastor Julian or scan the QR code for more information. You can purchase tickets for free, the cost is to cover church expenses for the trip. Please RSVP to Pastor Julian if you plan to attend!







Join us for the Schwenkfelder Missionary Church's soup kitchen outreach on Wayne Avenue in Germantown. This outreach takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.



Happy Hollow has been and is an ongoing ministry of the Schwenkfelder Missionary Church and Rev. Alfred Duncan. This program continues to support an increasing number of needy people. Donations have been very appreciated. However, it has become increasingly necessary to support this ministry through monetary donations to assure Rev. Duncan has the proper items for this outreach. The collection of items in the church is too big a challenge and the completed renovations do not include a good collection site. Donations would serve the needs better if they come in a monetary form. The best way to assist is to designate Happy Hollow on a check or cash with this designation also on the envelope. Volunteers are also very welcome on the fourth Saturday each month and individual desserts for the meal are also needed. Please be in touch with Sandy Desirey for either of these needs or any questions: sandydesirey@verizon.net or 610-220-9434. Thank you and please continue to pray for these needs.



American Red Cross

Community of Giving

Monday, June 10th | 1:00-6:00pm

Let's roll up our sleeves in Fellowship Hall! Contact Sue McGinnis with questions at 215-680-8582. For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | Download the Blood Donor App

Moderator's Musings

As I write this, it's an absolutely beautiful spring day. Angela and I took advantage of the weather by working in the yard. Honestly, I'm not a fan of yardwork. Other than cutting the grass, I really don't stay on top of it. I know some of you enjoy yardwork, but count me out. While Angela trimmed the rose bush, I was trying to clean up some mangy bushes at the back of our property. I actually can't tell you what type of bushes they are. One, because I don't really care to study horticulture. But more so because vines had taken over these bushes so severely that it obscured their identity.

I knew these vines were there at the back of the yard, but I let them grow unchecked. Too much other stuff to deal with, and these vines weren't a priority. Soon, they were growing up both the fence and the bushes. By the time I decided I needed to deal with these vines, they had completely entangled the bushes. Of course, since I waited so long to deal with this problem, it wasn't a simple "snip snip". The vines had wrapped around so tightly that entire branches needed to be pruned. What a mess! I didn't necessarily want to trim off so many branches, but the vines were wound to the point where they were essentially choking the branches. Removing some branches was the only way I could truly get rid of every last inch of vine and let the bushes recover their true identity.

After removing the vines from my bushes, I experienced such a feeling of satisfaction, and even relief. Yes, I had to severely trim these bushes, but it was done out of care and concern. But now they can hopefully grow as they were designed to and recover their identity.

As I was snipping and cutting, the Holy Spirit let me see the analogy between my vine-choked bushes and sin. When we let our sin go unchecked, it will rapidly take over. It will wrap itself tightly around our heart and mind to try to choke the life of the Spirit within us. Like the vines attacking my fence, our sin often results in collateral damage. Thankfully, God desires to help us deal with our sin problem more promptly than I dealt with my bushes and vines. The Bible teaches us that the Word of God is like a double-edged sword. Thankfully, we have pastors who are trained and equipped to preach the Word to us so that God can bring us to confession and repentance.

I know it's not pleasant when we have to confront our sin, either during a private quiet time or during a Sunday worship service. However, it's part of God's redemptive plan to use His Word and pastors to remove sin's snare on us. The next time we're faced with our sin, let's avoid the temptation to ignore it. Instead, let's thank God for using the Word, His Spirit, our pastors, or a brother or sister in Christ to remind us of who He created us to be.

May God's grace be upon you as He refines and sanctifies you,

Peter



We'd love to **cccelebrate** with you! Did you know that you can rent out the Central Community Center (CCC) to host your next family gathering, birthday party, baby shower, kid's basketball team, Community Book Club? Look no further-church members get a 50% discount! For more details or to check availability about renting the CCC for your next event, email Jess Belani at ccc@cscfamily.org.



Questions? Contact the director at: happydayspreschool.director@gmail.com to learn more!

## Sunday Mornings



9:00 Traditional Service (Sanctuary and Livestream)\*
10:30 Adult Sunday School (see calendar for locations)
10:45 Contemporary Service (Fellowship Hall and Livestream)\*
(\*Sunday School for children during services, nursery open)

#### May 5, 2024 9:00am - Rejoice! Connect Service 10:15am - R4 Dedication & Brunch

May 26, 2024 9:00am - Patriotic Program 10:30am - Connect Service 11:45am - All Church Picnic

Join Peter and the Pastors for Prayer Meeting! Tuesdays at noon in the Anders Youth Suite and on Zoom! For more information, please contact Dr. Drake at dwilliams@cscfamily.org Meeting ID: 604 761 7826. No Password. Join Zoom Meeting by the link below: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6047617826</u>

## GENERAL INFORMATION

#### **CONNECT WITH THE CHURCH!**

WORD FM

1370 AM Pottstown 103.5 FM Pottstown 97.1 FM Lansdale



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Devotionals from the pastors are posted twice a week on Central's Webpage, our Facebook, YouTube and Twitter accounts.

#### **CHURCH LEADERS AND BOARD CHAIRS**

ModeratorPeter A. ColvinVice ModeratorAndrew J. RamseyBoard of Christian EducationTodd M. ColomboBoard of DeaconsBruce W. RothenbergerBoard of MinistriesGary E. BaltozerBoard of MissionsSandy R. DesireyBoard of TrusteesTony G. CinelliGarden of Memories PresidentJim R. Faber

#### **ONLINE RESOURCES**

Find us on the following platforms!



Our church website is: www.cscfamily.org

If you need help finding these platforms, please feel free to call the church office.



If you have something for the church office, we currently have a white wire mesh container towards the upper right side of the church mail boxes! Thank you!

		129	-Ma	y			Morday Morning Mork-In 9AM to Noon
	<u>SUNDAY</u>	MONDAY	<u>TUESDAY</u>	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	<u>FRIDAY</u>	SATURDAY
	Monday Evening Schedule: 5:30pm - 363 (CCC) 7:30pm - Chancel Bells	Wednesday Evening Music: 5:30pm - Cherub/Junior 6:30pm - Celebration Brass 7:00pm - Brasswind 8:00pm - Chancel Choir		1 6:30pm Awana "End of Year Celebration" (CCC)	2 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER 7:00pm Worship Band Rehear. (TBD) 8:30pm Thurs. Night Virt. CG (ZOOM)	3 4 DEDICATION WEEKEND Jaw ave Cammunity Day 11AM - 2PM	
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	REJAICE WITH US! 9:00AM - DEDICATION SERVICE 10:00AM - BRUNCH 11:15AM - RENOVATION CELEBRATION	9:30am Staff Meeting (ZOOM) 6:30pm Union Network Meeting (CCC) 7:15pm "God of All Comfort" CG (ZOOM)	12:00pm Prayer Meeting (AYS/ZOOM) 6:30pm Young Women's Bible Study (OFFSITE) 7:00pm -Young Men's Bible Study (AYS) -Deacons Board Meeting (ACR)		12:00pm Soup's On! (FH) 7:00pm Worship Band Rehear. (FH) 8:30pm Thurs. Night Virt. CG (ZOOM)		9:00am Men's Bible Study (ACR)
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	MOTHER'S DAY 10:10am Dorian Choir (MS) 10:15am Ringers WS (MS) 10:30am -Pastors' Study (CCC/ZOOM) -Potpourri (CHAP) -Family Circle (AYS) *Children's Sunday School during both services	9:30am Staff Meeting (ZOOM) 6:30pm Union Network Meeting (CCC) 7:00pm Board of Ministries (ACR) 7:15pm "God of All Comfort" CG (ZOOM)	10:30am Ministerium (ZOOM) 12:00pm Prayer Meeting (AYS/ZOOM) 3:00pm SNV (CCC) 6:30pm Young Women's Bible Study (OFFSITE) 7:00pm -Young Men's Bible Study (ACR) -SNV (CCC) -Trustees (AYS)		6:30pm Happy Days Meeting (ACR) 7:00pm Worship Band Rehear. (FH) 8:30pm Thurs. Night Virt. CG (ZOOM)		9:00am Men's Bible Study (ACR)
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
18.	10:10am Dorian Choir (MS) 10:30am -Pastors' Study (CCC/ZOOM) -Potpourri (CHAP) -Family Circle (AYS) 12:00pm Young Adult After Church Lunch (TBD) 3:00pm General Conference Meeting (SLHC) 4:00pm New Members Class (ACR) *Children's Sunday School during both services	9:30am Staff Meeting (ZOOM) 6:30pm Union Network Meeting (CCC) 7:00pm Church Council Meeting (AYS) 7:15pm "God of All Comfort" CG (ZOOM)	12:00pm Prayer Meeting (AYS/ZOOM) 6:00pm Renovation Committee (ACR) 6:30pm Young Women's Bible Study (OFFSITE) 7:00pm Young Men's Bible Study (AYS)		7:00pm Worship Band Rehear. (FH) 8:30pm Thurs. Night Virt. CG (ZOOM)		9:00am Men's Bible Study (ACR) 10:30am Meet to go to Happy Hollow
	26	27	28	29	30	31	
A STATEMENT STATEMENT	9:00am Patriotic Service (FH) 10:30am Connect Service (SANC) 11:45am All Church Picnic (PAV)	OFFICE CLOSED	9:30am Staff Meeting (ZOOM) 12:00pm Prayer Meeting (AYS/ZOOM) 3:00pm SNV (CCC) 6:30pm Young Women's Bible Study (OFFSITE) 7:00pm -Young Men's Bible Study (AYS) -SNV (CCC) -Mission Board Meeting (ACR)		7:00pm Worship Band Rehear. (FH) 8:30pm Thurs. Night Virt. CG (ZOOM)	Sunday Worship Schedule: 9:00AM – Traditional in Sanctuary 10:45M – Contemporary in Fellowship Hall *Children's Sunday School is normally available during both services for ages 3 through 5 <sup>th</sup> grade. All children are encouraged to take part in the first part of a worship service with their family. They will then be dismissed together and will have class together. The Nursery is open	
	during the Connect Service		mooting (riorit)			class together. I	· · · ·

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**Please note:** The Monthly SchwenKEY will be available in print and on our church website throughout each month! Please submit any announcements for the next monthly KEY <u>by the 15th of every month</u>. If you need something announced in between months in a shorter, simpler format, please submit information to the office by Wednesday at noon. Thank you!

The office reserves the right to shorten or edit submissions to fit our weekly and monthly publications.

## WHO SHOULD YOU CONTACT FOR WHAT IN THE CHURCH OFFICE?

For all CCC reservations, please contact Jess Belani at ccc@cscfamily.org.

For campus/maintenance issues, please contact Moises Santiago at maintenance@cscfamily.org.

For **financial and Garden of Memories matters**, contact **Joanne Lepping-Irvine** at financialadmin@cscfamily.org.

For pastoral matters, contact Andrea Williams at pastorsassistant@cscfamily.org.

For church office, the scheduling of meetings/church activities/Anders reservations and all publications, please contact Rachael Speirs at receptionist@cscfamily.org.

For general information call 610-584-4480 and we'll be glad to help!

## **Church Staff & Contact Information**

Senior Minister Minister of Missions & Theology Minister of Young Adults & Families **Director of Children's Ministries** Youth Administrator Director of Music Organist Contemporary Worship Team Leader **Bell Choir Director Financial Administrator** CCC Coordinator Pastoral Assistant Office Administrative Specialist Maintenance and Office Support **Tech Supervisor Director of Campus Maintenance** Asst. Director of Campus Maintenance Part Time Sexton of Campus Maintenance

Rev. Dr. David McKinley Rev. Dr. H. Drake Williams, III Rev. Julian A. Scavetti Angela S. Colvin Tara Scavetti Sally L. House Paige S. Cipolone Wayne C. Wurtz Patricia J. Simpson Joanne Lepping-Irvine Jess Belani Andrea J. Williams Rachael L. Speirs **Beverly Chapin** lan (Sam) Williams Moises Santiago, Jr. Carl E. Schwenk Kaitlyn M. Yocum

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