



**Conyngham United Methodist Church**  
**PO Box AB, 411 Main Street,**  
**Conyngham, PA 18219**  
**570-788-3960**  
**conynghamumc@ptd.net**  
**www.conynghamumc.org**  
**July 2023**

Dear Church Friends and Family,

Every year I absolutely love to volunteer at Gretna Glen, one of our four United Methodist summer camps in Eastern PA. A few people ask me every year, "why do you like to volunteer there each year?" My answer is always simple. I encounter and work with God there. Ever since I was a summer camp counselor at Bear Creek Camp, about half an hour north of here in Bear Creek, I have learned that summer camp in the woods is one place I always see, experience, and feel God working. And I get to work right beside God there. I remember one year a camper lost his grandfather the week before summer camp. He brought it up to me one night while we were stargazing. We ended up talking about where his grandfather was, about grief, and life, and resurrection; all as we looked up at the stars. At the end of our conversation, in the small hours of the morning, he said he felt like God was with us. And I got to be part of that work, that moment with God! That's why I do summer camp ministry. The same kind of experiences continue to happen at Gretna Glen each year.

We all need those times, places, and practices where we can see, experience, feel, and even work with God. We all need spaces, time, and practices to have an encounter with the Divine who loves you and your neighbor. In the media, those times are depicted as something infrequent, an expectation to the normal rhythms of life. But that does not have to be the case.

Look at Moses. Exodus 33 tells us that he regularly encountered our God in miraculous ways and talked with him face to face, like with a friend. Exodus 33:9-11 "9 When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the Lord would speak with Moses. 10 When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would rise and bow down, all of them, at the entrance of their tent. 11 Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Then he would return to the camp, but his young assistant, Joshua son of Nun, would not leave the tent."

It's clear in the scripture reading that this was Moses' habit. His place to have an experience with our God was the tent of the tabernacle, which is like a mobile Jewish temple. Every few days Moses would enter that tent, God would come down looking like a pillar of clouds stretching up to the sky, and Moses and God would talk as friends. That's so miraculous to experience God in that way. That's so ordinary too, because for Moses that was a regular part of life.

For our relationship with God to deepen, we all need those times, places, and practices where we can see, experience, feel, and even work with God. We all need spaces, time, and practices to have an encounter with the Divine. The Bible shows us these are meant to be regular occurrences, not just exceptions to the rhythms of life. We can regularly walk with God in ways where we are in awe and say "Wow God you are amazing". Moses did that by visiting God's tent. I do that at summer camp, and every time I take a walk in the woods. I do that a few times a week when I pray in front of the altar in the sanctuary. What about you? Where is your place for miraculous but ordinary encounters with the Divine? This summer, and schedules shift and change, continue to seek that place, time, or practice out. It might be prayer, it might be Bible study, it might be a walk in the woods, or working in your garden, it might be helping somebody in need, or supporting a friend. Whatever it is for you, keep going back to that time, place, or practice and let's make our awe-inspiring meetings with God a regular part of our rhythms of life.

# Lectionary

## 02—July

### 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 22:1-14

Psalms 13 (UMH 746)

Romans 6:12-23

Matthew 10:40-42

## 09—July

### 6th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-29, 58-67

Psalms 45:10-17 or Psalms 72 (UMH 795)

Romans 7:15-25a

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

## 16—July

### 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 25:19-34

Psalms 119:105-112 or Psalms 25 (UMH 756)

Romans 8:1-11

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

## 23—July

### 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 28:P10-19a

Psalms 139:1-12, 23-24 (UMH 854)

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

## 30—July

### 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 29:15-28

Psalms 105:1-11, 45b (UMH 828)

Romans 8:26-39

Matthew 12:31-33, 44-52

## Valley Interfaith Council Prayer List

Please pray for the following in your daily devotions.

Kayla Baucum, Edee Boyer, Kaylee Barbush, Gil Bittenbender, June Blamey, Joanne Mumie, Irene and Robert Burger Family, Pastor Tom Cvammen, Arty Deis, Janette Eckrote, Ron Eckrote, Collette Eskin, Mike Fellin, Jennifer Flores, Food Pantry Families, Barbara Gavel, Irene Healey, Ron and Connie Hofmann, Theresa Howley, Glen Kirshner, Mary and Robert Kisansky, Aggie Kisenweather, Rose Luethy, Mark and Theresa Marinock, Cristina and David Matthey, Kim Murphy, Carl Roberts, Danny Sampson, Carol Siewell, Maureen Susa, Valerie Sutton, Frank Tarselli, Marilyn Tedesco, Jacqueline Walker, Marie Waschko, all cancer and COVID patients, our military personnel, as well as leaders of our country, the Russia/Ukraine situation, families of addicts, Clyde Van Horn, Pat Ferrari, Jay Wetzell, Ediw Larsen, Madelyn Lawson, Fred Polmounter, Larry Generose, Mary Lou Legg, Kyle, Jim Fisher, Don Zufall, Dorothy Stotomeyer and the Kelly Family.

Please pray daily for your church, its leaders and staff, Pastor Graham Truscott, the Red Bird Mission Clinic, the Red Bird Mission School, the Salvation Army, United Children's Homes, Hazleton Enlarged Ministry, Heartwood Center and the Hazleton/Valley Mission Connection.

## July Birthdays

01-Jul	Caroline Schuetz
01-Jul	Alison Schuetz
03-Jul	Robert Yost
04 Jul	Les Shupp
05-Jul	Beverly Selby
07 Jul	Teagan Hughes
08-Jul	Sean Healey
08-Jul	Margaret Flores
10-Jul	Joann Burger
11-Jul	Portia Ervin
13-Jul	Brittany DeBalko
15-Jul	Alex Klein
16-Jul	Brent Radzwich
16-Jul	Craig Radzwich
22-Jul	Christopher Shaffer
25-Jul	Jane Burns
29-Jul	Nancy Stark

## July Anniversaries

02-July	Rich and Billie Shaffer
03-July	Matt and Vanessa Cara
22 July	Les and Sally Shupp



## August Birthdays

01-Aug	Bruce Hilliard
04-Aug	Sloane Hughes
06-Aug	Thomas Burns
06-Aug	Josh Flaim
10-Aug	Bryce Radzwich
10-Aug	Malcolm Wiley
12-Aug	Darryl Cara
14-Aug	Kathryn Healey
17-Aug	Brennan Malenovitch
18-Aug	Jonathan DeBalko
19-Aug	Richard Piacenti
19-Aug	Eric Legg
23-Aug	Cody Bannon
27-Aug	Sharon Kalinchok
28-Aug	Mia Cundro
28-Aug	Rena Bicking
30-Aug	Tamara Huey
31-Aug	Christine Hilliard

## August Anniversaries

08 Aug	Robert and Sharon Kalinchok
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## July Worship Leaders

### July 2

Greeter: Rodney Hawk  
Head Usher: Rosemary Mandrick  
Liturgist: Malcolm Wiley  
Singer: Carrie Joy Wiley  
Children's Message: Chris Gogola  
Sound Board: Wiley Family  
Acolyte: Eamon Wiley

### July 9

Greeter: Rodney Hawk  
Head Usher: Rosemary Mandrick  
Liturgist: Kate Flaim  
Singer: Denise Wetzel  
Children's Message: Kate Flaim  
Sound Board: Wiley Family  
Acolyte: Hazel DeBalko

### July 18

Greeter: Rodney Hawk  
Head Usher: Rosemary Mandrick  
Liturgist: Sadie DeBalko  
Singer: Joe Racho  
Children's Message: Billie Shaffer  
Sound Board: Wiley Family  
Acolyte: Malcolm Wiley

### July 23

Greeter: Rodney Hawk  
Head Usher: Rosemary Mandrick  
Liturgist: Rosemary Mandrick  
Singer: Denise Wetzel  
Children's Message: Carrie Wiley  
Sound Board: Wiley Family  
Acolyte: Freddie Jacob

### July 30

Greeter: Rodney Hawk  
Head Usher: Rosemary Mandrick  
Liturgist: Billie Shaffer  
Singer: Joe Racho  
Children's Message: Chris Gogola  
Sound Board: Wiley Family  
Acolyte: Eamon Wiley

## July Altar Flowers

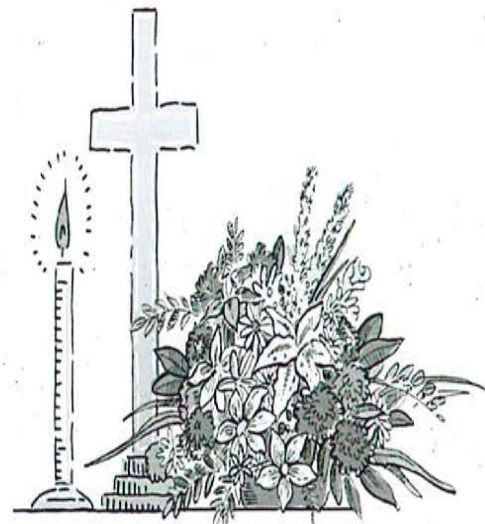
07/02—Beverly Selby and Kelly will give a donation to the Building Fund in memory of Bob Mace.

07/09—Mr. and Mrs. Richard Shaffer will give a donation to the Building Fund in honor of our hard working church friends.

07/16—Robert and Nancy Stark will give a donation to the General Fund in memory of their parents.

07/23—Mary Lou Legg will give a donation to the General Fund in memory off Loved Ones.

07/30—John and Debbie Cara will give a donation to the General Fund.



## Altar Flowers

## NEWS FROM THE PEWS



Summertime is a time to relax, travel and spend time outside. However, we need your continued support, even if you're away from worship. **Remember the work of the church continues everyday.** Thank you!

Pastor Graham will be on vacation from **July 17th through July 30th.** Should you have a pastoral emergency please call Heidi at 570-788-3960 or 570-233-0273 and she will put you in touch with the Pastor covering for Pastor Graham.



Join Our

**B L O C K P A R T Y**

**DATE:** Saturday, July 15th (rain date July 16th)

**TIME:** 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

**PLACE:** CUMC Parking Lot

Jesus said that the second of our commandments is to love our neighbors. What a better way to do that than by hosting a **BLOCK PARTY!** It's a great way to socialize with others, especially for the children. There will be plenty of good food, music, games, prizes, a pet parade/contest, a dunk tank (dunk the Pastor), snow cone machine, cornhole, a bake sale and much more.

Remember this party is not just for our neighbors, it is for our church family and any extended family and friends.

**\*\*Our block party will also be a fund raiser, we will have a bake sale (please bake if you can) and many food items at a very reasonable price. Also, we are looking for someone to handle the Pet Parade/Contest, someone to run the snow cone, bubble and cotton candy machine. If you are willing to help in one of these areas, please see Bob Kalinchok or Pastor Graham.**

**Please come out and join in the fun and fellowship!**

# **CHRISMON CRAFT NIGHT**

**Come join us as we make new  
Chrismon's for our tree. Learn  
about the history behind them  
and what each symbol means.**

**Free for all ages both children  
and adults are welcome!**

**July 5 @ 6:00 PM**

**July 26th @ 6:00 PM**

**August 23th @ 6:00 PM**

**Conyngham United Methodist Church  
411 Main Street  
Conyngham**



## Secret Sisters Luncheon

Attention all Secret Sisters!  
Please join us for our next  
luncheon at Sugar and Loaf  
Bakery, 26 Pecora Road, Drums  
Thursday, July 13th at 12:30 pm.

## Our Annual Worship and Picnic in the Park

Will take place, on  
**August 6th.** More  
information will be  
announced  
soon.

Save the date!



## BOOK SALE & AUTHOR SIGNING 2023 – October 4-5-6

Hopefully with the help of our congregation we will be able to have another successful book sale this year. We have learned from our experiences last year and hope to make a few changes. The busy day last year was Friday and not Saturday. This year we will set up on Wednesday and have the sale on Thursday and Friday.

It was interesting having the authors. They spoke with everyone about their adventure with writing and they kept us interested with their stories. We have plans for 2 different authors this year.

When we pack up, a counselor from the West Hazleton Boys Home takes the remaining books. Not sure how this counselor does it but book by book he goes online and tries to sell them. It's a tedious job. The money that he gets he uses for 'extras' for the boys at the home.

Save your paperbacks and hardcovers. We do not want encyclopedias, magazines or records. We will begin accepting books the very beginning of September.

Get involved this year. It is a great way to meet people and to get to know your fellow worshipers. See Beverly or Billie with any questions.





**CONYNGHAM  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
BLOCK PARTY '23**

**\*\*DATE CHANGE\*\***

**July 15th**

**Rain date July 16th**

**1PM-5PM**

**Conyngham United  
Methodist Church  
Parking Lot  
411 Main Street**

**ALL ARE INVITED!**

**COME OUT AND MEET  
YOUR NEIGHBORS**

- ◆ **Fun for the whole family**
- ◆ **Good food and music**
- ◆ **Hamburgers and hotdogs**
- ◆ **Bake Sale**
- ◆ **Face painting 1-4**
- ◆ **Bubble games at 3**
- ◆ **Cornhole and Dunk tank**



### Church Meetings:

We have two church meetings coming up to address questions and curiosities of the congregation.

The first will be Pastor Graham's full report from Annual Conference. He will share what was voted on, what was approved, how these things will affect us, and other things he saw and experienced at Annual Conference in May. This meeting will be **August 13 at noon**, in the social hall, right after worship. Bring a lunch and the pastor will also provide snacks.

The second meeting will be to continue to update people about what is going on in the larger United Methodist Denomination. This will be a time to answer any questions or concerns, as well as to talk openly about our feelings regarding what is going on in the denomination. This meeting will be on **Saturday August 26 at 3pm in the social hall.**

### Bible Study

*We are starting up our Christian Conversations Bible Study once again on **Wednesday August 9 at 6:30pm.** The Bible study will meet every two weeks on Wednesdays at 6:30pm and is led by Pastor Graham. Christian Conversations is a Bible Study that focuses on responding to current events by turning to the Bible. Each session we will look at something in the news that happened in the last few weeks and explore together how that relates to our faith. We call it Christian Conversations because the study feels like one big conversation about the news, our faith, and the Bible, rather than a strict and formal study. If you want some laughs, some learning, some fellowship, and to grow in your faith and walk with God, this is a great Bible study for that. **All are welcome to join us!***

## Pool Parties and Outdoor Movie Nights

**Fun, fellowship, and connection is back at Whispering Willows park this summer. We are having 4 pool parties at the CVCO pool and 3 outdoor movie nights at the pavilion at Whispering Willows park. Each pool party will have pizza and snacks and the church will pay for kids who aren't CVCO members to attend. Each movie night is completely free! Invite friends or family for a good time together!**

**Below are the dates for our summer fun!**

Thursday July 13 5-7 Pool Party at CVCO pool

Tuesday July 25 5-7 Pool Party at CVCO pool

Friday August 11 starting at 6 Pool Party followed by Outdoor Movie Night at 8:15

Friday August 18 starting at 6 Pool Party followed by Outdoor Movie Night at 8:00

Friday Sept 1 Outdoor Movie Night at 7:45

**THANK YOU**

Conyngham United Methodist Church  
411 Main Street  
PO Box AB  
Conyngham, PA 18249

June 26, 2023

Dear Pastor Graham and parishioners:

Thank you so much for your generous monetary donation to United Charities, Inc. and the United Children's Homes. Your generosity is so deeply appreciated and truly demonstrates your commitment to the community and the agency.

Your kindness is greatly appreciated. Thanks again for thinking of us!

Jill Zapotocky, BS  
Executive Director



**Conyngham Valley Historical Society** will host a Concert at the Gazebo on **Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup>**. "The Two Of Us" will perform at **6:00 pm** on the borough grounds. This is a free concert and open to the public. A "free will" collection will be taken to help defray the cost.



#### **COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Christ Lutheran Church  
467 Main Street, Conyngham

August 7th-11th from 9 am –12 pm  
Age 4 through completed 4th grade  
Application enclosed

**The Drums Lioness Lions Club** will hold its annual **Craft & Vendor Show** at Faith UCC Church (21 Faith Dr. Hazleton) on **Saturday, July 22nd from 10am -3:30pm in the Church hall**. This indoor, air-conditioned event will feature a variety of original crafts and merchandise, including handmade jewelry, crystals, holiday themed crafts, pet items, wreaths, candles, soaps, and much more! For more information about this event, future events, or how to join DLLC, follow us on Facebook at Drums Lioness Lions.

# COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

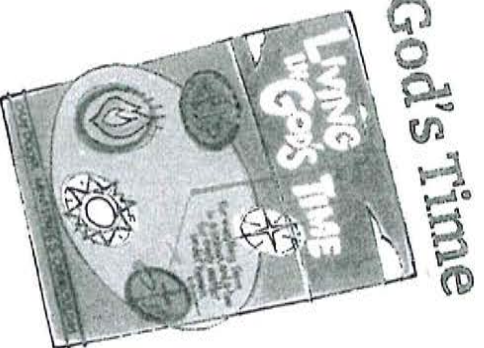
*Living in God's Time*

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church  
467 Main Street P. O. Box 494  
Conyngham, PA 18219  
570-788-1572

e-mail: [clccony@ptd.net](mailto:clccony@ptd.net)  
web: [clcconyngham.org](http://clcconyngham.org)

Facebook: Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church Conyngham

August 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> - 9:00am-12:00pm  
age 4 through completed 4<sup>th</sup> grade



Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ *Grade Just Finished in School* \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or Medications \_\_\_\_\_

Can your child be photographed or videotaped? Y N

# July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10:30am Worship Service	3 6:00pm Zumba Class	4 6:00pm Zumba Class	5 6:00pm Chrismon Craft Night	6 9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry	7	8
9 10:30am Worship Service	10 6:00pm Zumba Class	11 5:30pm Trustees Meeting 6:00pm Zumba Class 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	12 6:30pm Pathways Meeting	13 9:30am Plastic Mat Ministry 12:30pm Secret Sister Luncheon @ Sugar and Loaf Bakery 5:00pm Pool Party @ CVCO Pool	14	15 1:00pm Block Party
16 10:30am Worship Service	17 Pastor Graham on vacation 6:00pm Zumba Class	18 Pastor Graham on vacation 6:00pm Zumba Class	19 Pastor Graham on vacation	20 Pastor Graham on vacation 9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry	21 Pastor Graham on vacation	22 Pastor Graham on vacation
23 Pastor Graham on vacation 10:30am Worship Service 12:00pm Heartwood Center	24 Pastor Graham on vacation 6:00pm Zumba Class	25 Pastor Graham on vacation 5:00pm Pool Party @ CVCO Pool 6:00pm Zumba Class	26 Pastor Graham on vacation 6:00pm Chrismon Craft Night	27 Pastor Graham on vacation 9:30am Plastic Mat Ministry	28 Pastor Graham on vacation	29 Pastor Graham on vacation
30 Pastor Graham on vacation 10:30am Worship Service	31 6:00pm Zumba Class					