



**Conyngham United Methodist Church**  
**PO Box AB, 411 Main Street,**  
**Conyngham, PA 18219**  
**570-788-3960**  
**[conynghamumc@ptd.net](mailto:conynghamumc@ptd.net)**  
**[www.conynghamumc.org](http://www.conynghamumc.org)**  
**May 2024**

Dear Church Friends and Family,

It is with bittersweet feelings that I realize I have only a little more than a month left with you. June 16 is my last Sunday here, and after that I will begin my move to Quakertown. The bitter half of my bittersweet feelings is because I will miss you all so much. I will shed tears missing you. The sweet half is because I know you are all headed in a good direction, and I can't wait to see what God has in store for you all. I will have a sweet smile on my face as I hear news about what God has done in you and through you in the coming years. Because despite my leaving, God is still here, and he won't leave you behind. Though things are changing, God is still working.

That goes double for the situation in our denomination. Recently, the general conference of the United Methodist Church, voted to lift a ban on the ordination of gay, trans, or queer clergy with a 93% vote. The general conference is made up of members elected from each annual conference of the UMC from all around the world, and every 4 years they come together to discern where they earnestly believe God is leading us. Part of this legislation is that no church or pastor will be punished if they refuse to perform a same sex wedding, nor will they be punished if they choose to do one. And to help some of you with your worries, as of this point, I don't think a vote on where we stand is required.

This definitely feels like change, both for us, and our denomination. Change is hard because we do not know what is coming. An unknown future can be a scary future, especially if we assume the worst.

Jesus' disciples too faced an unknown future, when Jesus told them he was going to die and go away. They complained to Jesus "we don't know where you're going." (John 14:5). The disciples don't know what the future holds. And what they can assume is the worst. Jesus says they will be persecuted and killed by people who believe they are doing God's work, even when they are clearly not following the love of God. So if we are nervous, oh boy the disciples were really nervous.

Then Jesus says this to them: I say these things to you so that you will have peace in me. In the world you have distress. But be encouraged! I have overcome the world." Whatever change is going on, whatever uncertainty there might be, you can be encouraged. Because there is something bigger than us, or pastoral changes, or any denominational policy, or uncertain futures at work here. That is Jesus Christ, who loves each and every one of us, and each and every person. Jesus will be at work in

# Lectioary

**02—May**

**National Day of Prayer**

**03—May**

**Friendship Day**

**05—May**

**6th Sunday of Easter**

Acts 10:44-48

Psalms 98 (UMH 818)

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

**09—May**

**Ascension of the Lord**

Acts 1:1-11

Psalms 47 (UMH 781)

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

**12—May**

**7th Sunday of Easter**

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalms 1 (UMH738)

1 John 5:9-13

John 17:6-19

**Ascension Sunday**

Acts 1:1-11

Psalms 47 (UMH 781)

Luke 24:44-53

**Mother's Day/Festival of the  
Christian Home**

**19—May**

**Day of Pentecost**

Acts 2:2-21

Psalms 104:24-34, 35b (UMH 826)

Romans 8:22-27

John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

**Heritage Sunday**

**26—May**

**Trinity Sunday**

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalms 29 (UMH 761)

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

**Peace with Justice Sunday  
(offering)**

**27—May**

**Memorial Day**

## **Valley Interfaith Council Prayer List**

**Please pray for the following in your daily devotions.**

**Kayla Baucum, Edee Boyer, Kaylee Barbush, June Blamey, Joanne Mumie, Irene and Robert Burger Family, Pastor Tom Cvammen, Arty Deis, Ron Eckrote, Mike Fellin, Pat Ferrari, Jennifer Flores, Food Pantry Families, Barbara Gavel, Irene Healey, Ron Hofmann, Theresa Howley, Kelly Family, Mary and Robert Kisansky, Rose Luethy, Mark and Theresa Marinock, Cristina and David Matthey, Kim Murphy, Carl Roberts, Danny Sampson, Carol Siewell, Maureen Susa, Valerie Sutton, 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, War in Isreal/Gaza, Mary Nora Wallace, Melody, a 9 year old, Jay Wetzel, Edie Larsen, Madelyn Lawson, Fred Polmounter, Larry Generose, Kyle, Don Zufall, Edie Larsen, Madelyn Lawson, Mary Nora Wallace, Jim Fisher, Henry Parks, Amy Kock Bergstrom, Tarone Veglia, Gretchen Brightaupt, Diane Griffith, Karen Smith and Tim Harter.**

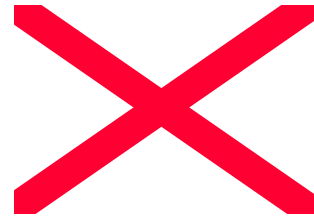
**Please pray daily for your church, its leaders and staff, Pastor Graham Truscott, the Red Bird Mission Clinic, the Red Bird Mission School, the Salvation Army, United Children's Homes, Hazleton Enlarged Ministry, Heartwood Center, Emmaus Road Travelers and Drivers and the Hazleton/Valley Mission Connection.**

### *May Birthdays*

06-May Cassidy Bicking  
08-May Judy Whitaker  
12-May Joseph Racho  
13-May Rita Washick  
13-May Kirsten Young  
15-May Gerry Cromley  
15-May Ruth Huey  
17-May James Ancharski  
21-May John Selby  
22-May Megan Flaim  
27-May Bonnie Racho  
31-May Patti Ancharski  
31-May Mary Lou Legg

### *May Anniversaries*

08 May John & Deborah Cara  
26 May Chris & Bethany Gogola  
27 May John & Beverly Selby



### **June Birthdays**

02-June Brandon Bicking  
03-June Logan Wetzel  
08-June Beverly Kraft  
09-June Dianne French  
09 June Louise Boyle  
13-June Betty Duffy  
15-June Matthew Cara  
20-June Bethany Gogola  
24-June Dr. Robert Washick  
24-June Jessica Morgan  
25-June Scott Luchi  
25-June Rev. Joseph Healey  
25-June Rebecca Rossi  
29-June Jeremy Bicking  
29-June Vanessa Cara  
30-June Noah Ancharski

### **June Anniversaries**

01- June Rev. Joe & Irene Healey  
04-June Charlie & Karen Lingenfelter  
07-June Bruce & Beverly Hilliard  
08-June Steve & Tamara Huey  
08-June Fred & Heather Groce  
09-June Gerry & Nancy Cromley  
10-June Craig & Keelyn Radzwich  
19-June Joe & Bonnie Racho  
28-June Charles & Rosemary Mandrick  
29-June Tom & Jane Burns

## May Worship Leaders

### May 05

Greeter: Rodney Hawk  
Head Usher: Isabel Kinsler  
Liturgist: Kate Flaim  
Singer: Joe Racho  
Children's Message: Billie Shaffer  
Sound Board: Malcolm Wiley and Joey Dretzel  
Acolyte: Hazel DeBalko

### May 12

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

### May 19

Greeter: Rodney Hawk  
Head Usher: Isabel Kinsler  
Liturgist: Eamon Wiley  
Singer: Rena Bicking  
Children's Message: Carrie Wiley  
Sound Board: Nancy Stark and Jay Morgan  
Acolyte: Joey Dretzel

### May 26

Greeter: Rodney Hawk  
Head Usher: Isabel Kinsler  
Liturgist: Tammy McCauley  
Singer: Joe Racho  
Children's Message: Pastor Graham  
Sound Board: Joey Dretzel and Eamon Wiley  
Acolyte: Malcolm Wiley



## For the month of MAY

**05/05**—John and Debbie Cara have given a donation to the General Fund

**05/12**—Matt, Vanessa and Children will have flowers in memory of Ryanne's Birthday.

**05/19**—John and Debbie Cara have given a donation to the General Fund

**05/26**—Jay and Julie Morgan will have flowers in memory of CPL William D. Morgan USMC/MOH Recipient

# NEWS FROM THE PEWS



John Schol, Bishop

## THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Eastern Pennsylvania Conference

### Appointment Announcement

**It is my joy to share with you today that Bishop John R. Schol has appointed Rev. Sheena Mylecraine as the new pastor of our congregation. Rev. Sheena will begin her new responsibilities on July 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. As a United Methodist Church we are a part of an appointment system. Our congregation's Staff Parish Relations Committee has met with the district superintendent to identify our congregation's needs and the needed skills in a pastor. We have also met with Pastor Sheena to better get to know her and to ask questions.**

**Sheena Mylecraine is passionate to follow as her Lord and Savior leads her, and she is passionate to share the love of Christ with all she meets. Sheena has been serving as a laity supply pastor and is currently working towards becoming a licensed local pastor. She is anticipating her licensing in May of this year. She is blessed to be in ministry with her husband, Pastor John, and together they have been serving the faithful and loving congregations in Quakake, Nesquehoning, and Summit Hill. She is also a musician and highly values how music can enhance worship and bring people closer to God. Sheena is a grateful mom of two sons, Henry who is 13, and Jack who is 10. She also has a dog and a rabbit who she is happy to spoil. She is excited to continue her education in ministry, as she always seeks to learn and grow.**

**Our new pastor will work with us and the conference so that we continue to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Bishop Schol and the leaders of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference will work with us to continue to grow as a vital congregation. I know you will join the bishop, our new pastor, and me in helping to make new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.**

# LEILANI CHESONIS CONCERT

CONYNGHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
411 Main Street - Conyngham

**Sunday - MAY 19, 2024 - 2 PM**



Leilani will be performing lively renditions of beloved country classics, spirited Southern gospel, and crowd favorites.

All ages will enjoy this energetic, engaging, unique show!

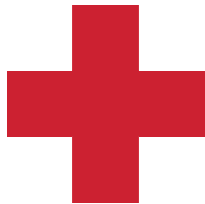
*Light refreshments following concert.*

*A Good-will offering will be taken.*

## **SISTERS**

THE NEXT SESSION WILL START  
ON MAY 7TH THROUGH THE  
21ST. THEY WILL BE WATCHING  
WOMEN OF FAITH.

ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME TO  
JOIN THEM.



**American Red Cross**

*Together, we can save a life*

**CUMC is hosting a blood drive!**

**Thursday, May 16th**

**1:00-6:00 PM**

**Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS**

**To schedule your appointment time**

## **Secret Sisters Luncheon**

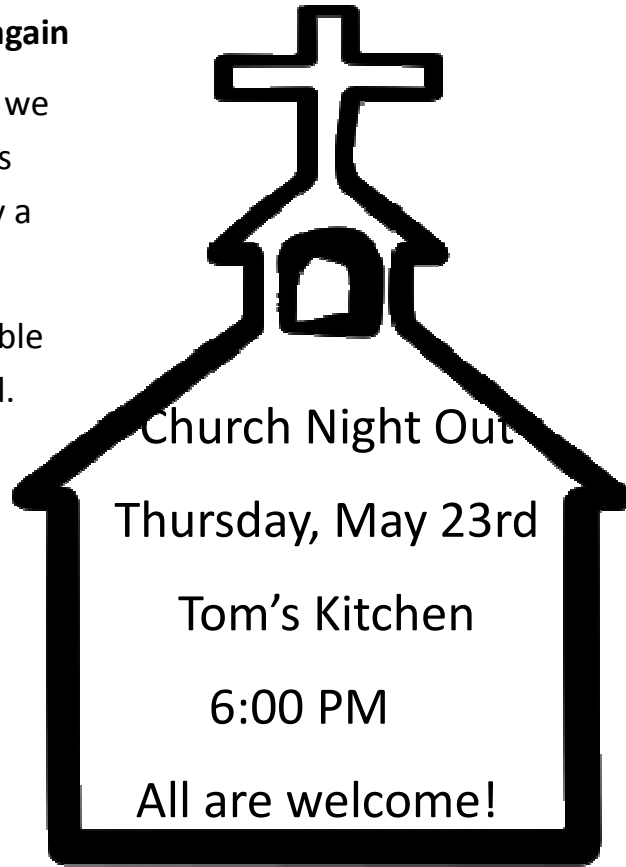
Our next luncheon will be on  
Thursday, May 16th at Fratelli's for 12:30  
PM. Please let Mary Lou know if you will  
be attending.



**We all had so much fun last month, we decided to try it again**

Lots of laughs, lots of fun and we even learned a few new things about each other. Come enjoy a night out, bring a friend.

\*Each person will be responsible to pay for his or her own meal.



**Our cups overflowed with blessings.**  
Here are some photos of our Ladies and Lassies Spring Tea Party. It was a beautiful day, enjoyed by all!







Let's celebrate!!!

Pastor Graham in being ordained, this is a big accomplishment, and we want to support him and celebrate with him. His ordination will take place on Tuesday, May 21st in Ocean City, NJ. Since we can't be there, we thought it would be nice to watch his ordination together as a church family and celebrate! Please join us for a "WATCH PARTY" on the night of May 21st at 6:30 PM.

### **SPECIAL CHARGE CONFERENCE**

A special Charge Conference will be held immediately following Worship Service on Sunday, June 2nd.

The purpose of this Special Charge Conference is to adjust appointment time as Conyngham UMC will transition from a full-time pastor to 3/4 time.

### **Valley Food Pantry**

**Help fill our shelves back up! We are in need of cereal, chili and jelly.**

**Items can be placed in the shopping cart in the social hall.**

### **Community Events**

Conyngham Valley Historical Society would like you to join them for a **Mother's Day Afternoon Tea, Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM.** Conyngham Borough Building. Tickets are \$15.00 and must be purchased in advance. Call 570-582-9028.

**Saint John Bosco Church will host a Flea Market on Saturday, May 11 from 7:00-3:00 and Sunday, May 12 from 12:30-2:30.** Shop for treasures, enjoy breakfast or lunch, take home desserts, tricky trays and cash raffle!

## May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 10:00am Religious Studies 6:30pm Church Health Team Meeting	<b>2</b> 9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	<b>6</b> 6:00pm Zumba 6:30pm Trustees Meeting	<b>7</b> 10:00am Sister 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	<b>8</b> 10:00am Religious Studies 6:30pm Christian Conversations	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	<b>13</b> 6:00pm Zumba	<b>14</b> 10:00am Sister	<b>15</b> 10:00am Religious Studies 6:30pm Church Health Team Leadership Meeting	<b>16</b> 9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry 12:30pm Secret Sisters Luncheon at Fratelli's 1:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 3:00pm Spring Concert	<b>20</b> 6:00pm Zumba	<b>21</b> 10:00am Sister 6:30pm Watch Party for Pastor Graham	<b>22</b> 10:00am Religious Studies 6:30pm Christian Conversations	<b>23</b> 6:00pm Church Night Out Tom Kitchen	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	<b>27</b> 6:00pm Zumba	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10:00am Religious Studies 6:30pm Church Health Team Meeting	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	

# The Conyngham United Methodist Church

## Inspiring People to Love and Serve God

Pastor:	Graham Truscott
Lay Leader:	Kate Flaim
Secretary:	Heidi Klein

### Vision Statement

Conyngham United Methodist Church is a Christ centered, warm and caring congregation which welcomes, nurtures, and equips people to follow Jesus Christ. As servants of the Gospel, we value the essentials of Holy Scripture, joyful praise, prayer and worship and developing personal faith in Jesus Christ. We accomplish this through a dynamic musical ministry, exciting youth programs, inspiring young adult and adult programs, fellowship of small groups, outreach to the community, strength through personal support, and the shared ministry of our laity and its pastor. We realize all this by being a church where God's Holy Word is a source of nourishment and strength.

**You are cordially invited to worship with us.  
Our Worship Service begins at 10:30 am**

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