



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

Pastor's Pen

Dear Church friends and family,

I have no fancy or captivating stories for you this month. Just a simply question. Whether you have attended church every single week these past few years or not, when you do come to church, what has kept you coming back? Throughout all the sleepy Sunday morning, inconveniences, scheduling difficulties, and more why did you keep coming back? What makes church, being an active part of the body of Christ, so valuable?

Before Jesus was arrested, interrogated, tortured, and crucified he prayed for his disciples. I want to share with you part of this prayer from my preferred translation for this prayer, The Message: "I'm praying not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me because of them and their witness about me. The goal is for all of them to become one heart and mind – just as you, Father, are in me and I in you. All so they might be one heart and mind with us. Then the world might believe that you, in fact, sent me. The same glory you gave me, I gave them, so they'll be unified and together as we are – I in them and you in me. Then they'll be mature in this oneness, and give this godless world evidence that you've sent me and love them in the same way you loved me." (John 17:20-23).

Jesus' prayer for us is that we would be bonded to one another in a bond that goes deeper than political divide, busy-ness in life, and the many differences between us. Jesus' prayer is that we would have a beautiful and strong bond with one another, unified. And his prayer is that we share this same kind of bond with God all together, like one big family.

I see this prayer of Jesus come true so often. It's what always keeps me coming back to church. I see us bonded together in Jesus every time we sit down for a meal as a church together, especially after worship. I see God with us all, unified with us whenever we earnestly sing a beautiful hymn together. I see God present with us, bringing us together every Sunday morning, every Bible study and Sunday school class, every service to the community or trip to the heartwood center. I see God bringing his children together, united in love with our God and each other. United in a love that surpasses differences or inconveniences. That is what keeps me coming back to church. God is with us all, gathering us together, making us united, bonded together. What immense joy there is in that! Is that the same for you? What keeps you coming back? Back to church day, when we start up children's Sunday school and after worship fellowship for the fall is September 17. I hope to see you there!

May God's joy and peace be with you!

Pastor Graham

Lectionary

03—September

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 3:1-15 Psalms 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b (UMH 828)

Romans 12:9-21

Matthew 16:21-28

10—September

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 12:1-4

Psalms 149 or Psalms 148 (UMH 861)

Romans 13:8-14

Matthew 18:15-20

17—September

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 14:19-31

Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21 (UMH 135)

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

24—September

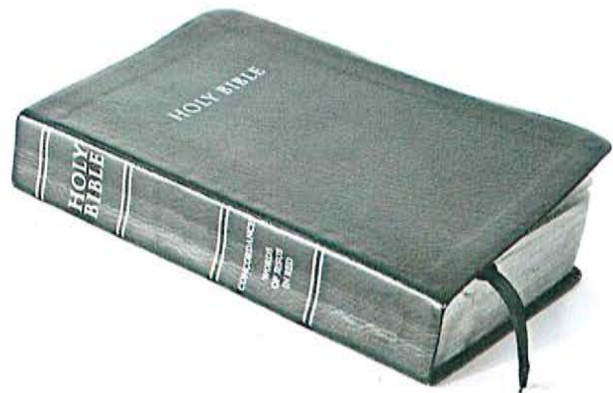
17th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-15

Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45 or Psalms 78 (UMH799)

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16



Valley Interfaith Council Prayer List

Please pray for the following in your daily devotions.

Cheryl Pecora, Joe Tomcheck, Jean Ann Weich, Kayla Baucum, Edee Boyer, Kaylee Bar-bush, June Blamey, Joanne Mumie, Irene and Robert Burger Family, Pastor Tom Cvammen, Arty Deis, Ron Eckrote, Collette Eskin, Mike Fellin, Jennifer Flores, Food Pantry Families, Barbara Gavel, Irene Healey, Ron 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, Jacqueline Walker, all cancer and COVID patients, our military personnel, as well as leaders of our country, the Russia/Ukraine situation, families of addicts, Pat Ferrari, Jay Wetzel, Edie Larsen, Madelyn Lawson, Fred Polmounter, Larry Generose, Kyle, Don Zufall, 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, Emmaus Road Travelers and Drivers and the Hazleton/Valley Mission Connection.

September Birthdays

09/07	Michael Fabrizio
09/10	Gary Skuba
09/11	Jessica Washick
09/13	Haley Yost
09/14	Heidi Klein
09/16	Billie Shaffer
09/21	Alexandria Lilley
09/22	Sally Kijanka
09/23	Carl Flaim
09/24	Thomas Wiley
09/28	Eamon Wiley
09/29	Robert Kalinehok
09/30	Scott Phillips

September Anniversaries

09/06	Dr. Robert and Rita Washick
09/12	Rodney and Jill Hawk
09/30	Jay and Julie Morgan



October Birthdays

06-Oct	Don Matthey
08-Oct	Lindsay Washick
08-Oct	Rosemary Mandrick
12 Oct	Irene Healey
14-Oct	Jean Luchi
16-Oct	Carrie Wiley
16 Oct	Patsy Brutosky
17-Oct	Pat Foley
18 Oct	Alyssa Cara
19-Oct	Barry Jones
22-Oct	Sharon Farver
24-Oct	Vicky Wolfe
24-Oct	Jill Hawk
24-Oct	Jeff Klein
29 Oct	Willie Lingenfelter
31 Oct	Wyatt Mumich

October Anniversaries

08 Oct	Roy and Lisa Schuetz
09 Oct	Jeff and Vicky Wolfe
19 Oct	Jonathan and Brittany DeBalko

September Worship Leaders

September 3

Greeter: Rodney Hawk
Head Usher: Bev Selby
Liturgist: Kate Flaim
Singer: Less Shupp
Children's Message: Billie Shaffer
Sound Board: Heidi and Jay
Acolyte: Hazel DeBalko

September 10

Greeter: Rodney Hawk
Head Usher: Bev Selby
Liturgist: Barry Jones
Singer: Rena Bicking
Children's Message: Pastor Graham
Sound Board: Tammy and Jay
Acolyte: Freddy Jacob

September 17

Greeter: Rodney Hawk
Head Usher: Bev Selby
Liturgist: Malcolm Wiley
Singer: Les Shupp
Children's Message: Carrie Wiley
Sound Board: Wiley Family
Acolyte: Malcolm Wiley

September 24

Greeter: Rodney Hawk
Head Usher: Bev Selby
Liturgist: Billie Shaffer
Singer: Joe Racho
Children's Message: Carrie Wiley
Sound Board: Wiley Family
Acolyte: Eamon Wiley

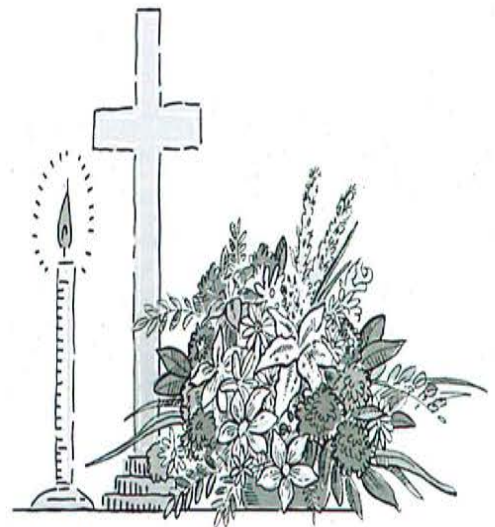
September Altar Flowers

09/03—John and Debbie Cara have given a donation to the General Fund in honor of Tamara's Birthday.

09/10—OPEN

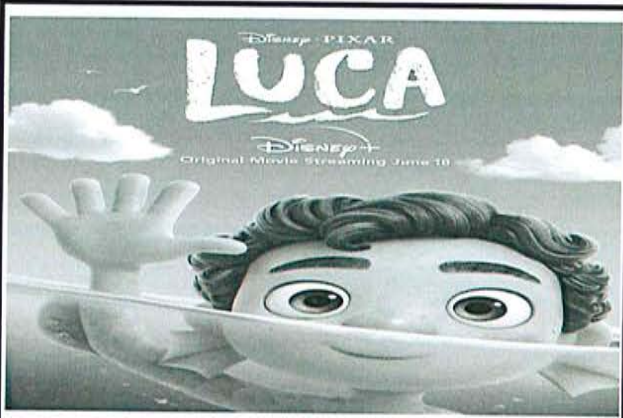
09/17—John and Debbie Cara have giving a donation to the General Fund.

09/24—OPEN



Altar Flowers

NEWS FROM THE PEWS



Outdoor Movie in the Park

Our last outdoor movie of the season featuring Luca will be held on Friday, September 1st at 7:45 pm. Come join us, bring a blanket or chair and enjoy a movie under the stars!

BACK TO CHURCH

Back to church day is Sunday, September 17th! This is the day we transition from our summer schedules at church back into our normal routines of our church. That means this is the time we start coming back to worship regularly. This is the time we start up our Sunday School classes for the year. This is the time we begin after worship fellowship again. This is the time to get back into our fall routines as a church, uniting with one another and God. **Adult Sunday School will begin Sunday, September 10th at 9:15 am.* I hope to see you all there of the 17th for a full and joyful Sunday!



Confirmation & Class

Our Confirmation Class will meet during our Sunday School hour this year. That means we will be meeting each Sunday from 9:15-10:15 in our youth room. The Confirmation class is for our teens 6th grade and up. It is a time to explore their faith and relationship with Jesus, to deepen that relationship, and to prepare themselves for the commitments they will need to make as adult disciples and members of the church. And also a time to have fun. Confirmation will begin with a fun intro day on September 17th and our first official class will be on Sunday, September 24th. We will meet throughout the fall, winter, and spring, with a break in classes during the season of advent. Then Confirmation Sunday will be in the late spring on Pentecost. Weekly attendance is required, and we are always willing to show grace for absences.



Sisters

Sisters will begin again on Tuesday, September 12th at 10:00 am. They will start a 4-week series by Andy Stanley entitled "You'll Be Glad You Did" All women of the community are welcome to join them!

Dinners and Devotions

Our dinners and devotions are returning this fall! These are a time to have dinner together, hear a devotion to guide our lives with God, and have a brief time of worship. They will be every two weeks on Thursdays at 5:30. Our first one will be **Thursday, September 21 at 5:30pm**. Before we can start these up again, we need your help with two things. 1 we need people in our church who can prepare the meals! If you can make a home-cooked meal for us or just get something from the store, we would greatly appreciate it. Usually, 25-30 people attend dinners and devotions.

2. We need people from our church or community to lead the devotions. You can write your own devotion, share a Bible story that means a lot to you and tell us the story why, or simply share a devotion that spoke to you in your daily readings. If you can help out with either of these please let pastor Graham or Heidi know.



We will be collecting applesauce for the Food Pantry Thanksgiving baskets.

Deadline is 11/12

Older citizens can obtain lots of information by calling the Department of Aging, Luzerne County 570-822-1158

Spread the word!



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will begin meeting once again on September 7, 2023 at 9:30 AM.

The ladies have been busy not only making prayer shawls, but knitting and crocheting baby blankets for the Pregnancy Resource Center in Hazleton. So far we have contributed over 20 baby blankets to this group.

For our first meeting, we will be visiting the Center in its new home. The director, Valerie White, will be giving us a tour of the facility and a presentation of what the Center offers the pregnant women in the area. Any one who would like to join us can. We will meet at the church at 9:30 and then car pool to the Center.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry ladies meet on the first and third Thursday of each month at 9:30 AM in the church library. Even if you don't know how to knit or crochet, and would like to join us for fellowship, someone would love to teach you. Gentlemen are also welcome.

If you know of someone who needs the loving hug that these shawls bring, contact Dottie at 570-788-6398 or the church office. Blessings.

BOOK SALE & AUTHOR SIGNING

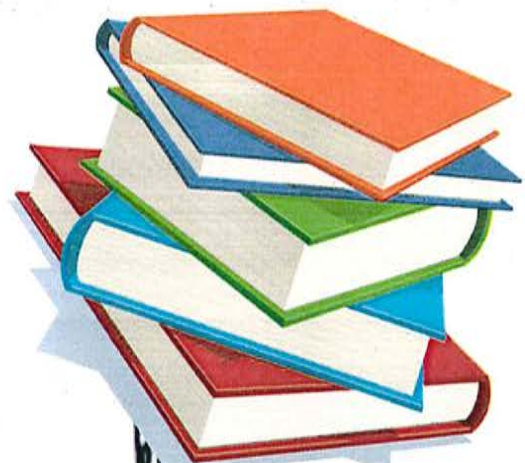
October 5, 2023 – Noon to 5 PM

October 6, 2023 – 10 AM to 2 PM

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

- Local Author - D'Andre Alexandre
 - Local Author - Mia McGlynn
- Both Authors will be signing.

Hundreds of books:
Paperbacks \$.50
Hardcovers \$ 1.00
(Few exceptions)





Ladies and Lassies Tea

**Sunday, October 15th
2:00-4:00 pm
Church Social Hall**

Our Secret Sisters group invites all ladies and girls to join us for an afternoon of tea and friendship.

We ask that you bring your favorite tea cup, saucer and if you wish, some tea bags to share. We will provide tea and hot apple cider. Also, if you would like to help with finger food/ dessert, it would be greatly appreciated.

A sign up sheet is in the social hall, so sign up friends and family by October 8th. All ladies and lassies are welcome.

We will also have a beautiful fall and relaxation gift basket to be auctioned off, if you would like to try to win it!

Please join us for a relaxing , fun friendship and enjoyable afternoon. We deserve it!

Heartwood Center News:

Every Thursday morning Pastor Graham takes folks from the Center on a hike/nature walk or they play basketball. If you would like to join in on a hike or basketball game please let Pastor Graham know, anyone is welcome to join them. **Also, we are looking for folks willing to make some food for us to serve once a month. (4th Sunday of each month)** We usually serve around 25 people. Main dish, a side or two and a dessert. It's a great way to be a part of this wonderful ministry. If you can help with food, please contact Heidi @ 570-233-0273 or church office.

There will be a Car Wash to benefit the Center on September 9th at the Hazle Township Fire Station. From 12-4 pm. They are looking for people or groups to volunteer even if it is only for an hour. If you or your group would be willing to donate some time to this worthy cause please contact Pastor Graham or the Church Office.



Secret Sisters Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, September 13 at 12:30 pm. Tom's Kitchen. All Secrets Sisters are welcome!



**RED CROSS
BLOOD
DRIVE**

We will host a Blood Drive here in our Social Hall on October 17th from 1-6 pm. Call 1-800-733-2767 to schedule an appointment.

Trunk or Treat will take place on **October 31st 6:00-8:00 pm**. If you would like to be a part of this year's trunk-or-treat, there will be a sign up poster in the social hall on the bulletin board. **Candy donations are desperately needed** and there will be a box located in the social hall for the candy donations. Also, this year we are thinking about selling hot dogs, soda/water and a bag of chips or snack.



Watch for more information soon!

DECK THE HALLS BAZAAR



Our annual bazaar, "**Deck The Halls**" is scheduled for **Saturday, November 4, 2023 from 9am until 3pm**. We look forward to a fun and profitable time, but we will need your help. The following individuals will be taking responsibility for the following areas:

Kitchen—Jean Luchi

Basket Auction—Sharon Kalinchok

Decorations—Billie Shaffer and Beverly Selby

Vendors—Mary Lou Legg

Be sure to set aside the date and see Mary Lou Legg if you can assist in any way from helping in the kitchen to making baskets for the Basket Auction.

Thank you in advance for your assistance,
Mary Lou

HEARTWOOD CENTER CAR WASH



Sept. 9th
12:00 -
4:00 pm

(Raindate Sept. 16th)

Location:

Hazle Twp. Fire Station #1
1113 North Church Street
Hazleton

\$5

(Between McDonalds & Fairway Subaru)

All proceeds will go to:
Heartwood Center
100 S Wyoming St - Hazleton
to assist those experiencing homelessness or near homelessness.

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

September:

9th—St. John's Lutheran Yard Sale

9th—Christ Lutheran Celebration of Franciscan Vocation

30th—CUCC Pumpkin Fest from 10am-3pm/Tricky Trays, Bake Sale, Homemade Food, Money Tree Raffle, Crafters and more!

October:

14th—Christ Lutheran Apple Fest

November:

7th—Saint John Bosco Pasta Dinner

11th—St. John's UCC Chinese Auction and Tricky Trays



Global Ministries/UMCOR
United Methodist Church

"When you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me." Jesus (Matthew 25:40 CEB)

Dear Friends in Mission;

Thank you!

The dear people you just helped with your gifts to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be—Thank you!

And through your financial support you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships in the US and in more than 60 countries in which UMCOR and partnering agencies engage in direct ministry to persons in need.

May we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate the healing power of the gospel with those who suffer.

Grace and Peace,
Roland Fernandes, General Secretary

Supporting UMCOR-Where most needed
Amount \$71.00/ 07/14/23

September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 10:30am Worship Service	4 6:00pm Zumba Class	5 6:00pm Zumba Class 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	6 6:30pm Christian Conversations	7 9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry	8 7:45pm Outdoor Movie Night	9
10 9:15am Adult Sunday School Begins 10:30am Worship Service	11 6:00pm Zumba Class	12 10:00am Sisters 5:30pm Trustees Meeting 6:00pm Zumba Class	13 12:30pm Secret Sister Luncheon @ Tom's	14 9:30am Plastic Mat Ministry	15	16
17 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 12:00pm Finance Meeting	18 6:00pm Zumba Class	19 10:00am Sisters 6:00pm Zumba Class	20 6:30pm Christian Conversations	21 9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:30pm Dinner and Devotions	22	23
24 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 12:00pm Heartwood Center	25 6:00pm Zumba Class	26 Order Christmas Bulletins 10:00am Sisters 6:00pm Zumba Class	27	28 9:30am Plastic Mat Ministry	29	30

The Conyngham United Methodist Church

Inspiring People to Love and Serve God

Pastor

Lay Leader

Sunday School Superintendent:

Administrative Assistant

Graham Truscott

Kate Flaim

Sunday School Worship Team

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.

Sunday School for all ages begins at 9:15 am

Our Worship Service begins at 10:30 am.

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570-788-3960, 570-788-4887

Change Service Requested

Conyngham, PA 18219

PO Box AB

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