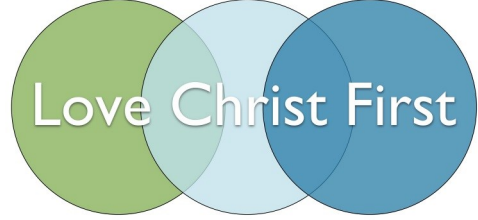


Pancake Fun



First Fruits



May Mission Project  
Heifer Project International

Heifer International works to end hunger and poverty in partnership with the communities it serves. Their programs support entrepreneurs around the world, creating lasting change from the ground up.

It begins with a seed investment of livestock or agriculture, followed by mentorship to help project participants build a business, and ultimately to gain access to supply chains and markets.

These families are able to earn a living income and continuously lift up their communities as they train the next generation of leaders. By supporting and training the world's farmers, ranchers, and female business owners, Heifer is investing in a new breed of success.



First United Church of Christ  
Pastor Becky Thomas  
501 Northampton Street  
Hellertown PA 18055  
(610)838-8811  
office@firstucchellertown.org





**Easter Sunday**



Pat O'Connell.



**Spring Clean-Up**



To the Family and Friends of  
**Aileen Werner**  
April 12, 2024

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, sheep of your own fold, lamb of your own flock, sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints. in light. Amen.

*The Trustees of the Remembrance Fund  
have received and gratefully acknowledged  
a gift given in loving memory of Catherine Underkoffler:*

<i>John &amp; Sharon Musgnung</i>	<i>Diane S. Doll</i>	<i>Joanne Wert</i>
<i>Tammie Vosburg</i>	<i>Catherine Miller</i>	<i>Alice Totenbier</i>
<i>Bill Roth</i>	<i>Norine Haas</i>	

*a gift given in loving memory of Claire Moran:  
Robert & Ronnie Freedberg*

*a gift given in loving memory of Aileen Werner:  
Lloyd G. Jackson III      John & Sharon Musgnung      Carlann Broglie  
Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation*

Like us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/hellertownucc](http://www.facebook.com/hellertownucc)

# Blessing Box Schedule



Our Blessing Box Food Pantry is being used heavily. We are blessed to be able to help. Obviously, there are many in our community who are aided by your generosity. We need to replenish our emergency supply. Always needed are: breakfast foods, tomato sauce, spaghetti noodles, soup, vegetables, canned tuna, other pasta, etc. However, please do not purchase large boxes of cereal or extra large jars of tomato sauce because they do not fit in the box. We suggest buying items in cans and plastic containers.

- Week of April 28—May 4—Diane French
- Week of May 5—11 —Tammie Vosburg
- Week of May 12-18—Georgie Stuempfle
- Week of May 19—25 - Letty Petrundo
- Week of May 26– June 1— Carlann Broglie
- Week of June 2– 8—Doug Miller
- Week of June 9-15 —Marji Hughes
- Week of June 16-22 — Andy Spear
- Week of June 23-29—Phyllis Scherer
- Week of June 30-July 6 —Ann Brown
- Week of July 7—13 —Sandy Panick
- Week of July 14-20 - Amy Mixa



April 1, 2024

Dear members of First United Church of Christ,

*Grace and peace be with you in this beautiful Easter season!*

On behalf of the congregation and the growing community that we serve, I would like to extend a sincere “thank you” for your recent donation of Easter baskets to the food bank at New Jerusalem. Your partnership in this outreach ministry is so very much appreciated as provisions are given to those who are experiencing more of a challenge putting meals on their tables.

Your expression of generosity in financial donations, contributions of Easter baskets, and ongoing prayers has abundantly blessed many in our immediate community and for that, we remain grateful.

With heartfelt appreciation,

**Pastor Lisa**

The Rev. Lisa K. Borrell



We are in the middle of those rainy Spring months where the grass seems to be growing faster than anyone can really keep up with and allergies are out of control. If I'm going to be honest, I have to admit that lately I find myself longing for a pause. I've been craving time to just sit and breathe. It is still almost two months away. Yet, I'm looking forward to my summer vacation with eager anticipation. I can't wait to just put everything aside for a few days, and relax. It feels like all of us are going almost non-stop, barely taking the time to breathe when we finish one thing before starting the next. Rarely, do we actually take the time to pause.

But, pausing is what we need to do to feed our spirits. Because it is in that pause that we are most likely to notice God's movement. It is in that pause when we are able to actually see the blessings that God has given us. It is in that pause that we are able to truly see the gifts that come from the people that God has put in our lives. Soon we will all be busy with summer vacations. I encourage you, as you are planning, to set aside time just to breathe. Allow yourselves time to just sit with God.

*In light and love,  
Pastor Becky*

## SUNDAES ON SUNDAY MAY 19

Immediately following worship  
Outside on the lawn - weather permitting  
Join us for Make-Your-Own Ice Cream  
Sundaes to welcome the warm summer season!



May

19th



10:30 AM

Join us as our **youth** lead us in our Pentecost worship celebration on **May 19th!**  
All children and youth in the church participate in the worship service.



# SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR Children's Ministry

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

Children pre-K through grade 6 leave for classes following the Children's Message in worship. 3-6 year old children may play in the nursery or come to worship prior to the Children's Message.

**May 19 –Children and Youth Sunday** All children participate in the Worship service at 10:30am

**May 19 - Sundaes on Sunday following worship** – on the front lawn weather permitting

Final classes until the Fall.

*Check for special family activities throughout the summer!*

Contact Marji Hughes - [mphughes22@gmail.com](mailto:mphughes22@gmail.com) 610-984-5053 if you have any questions at all about Faith Formation at 1<sup>st</sup> UCC.



*We are looking for volunteers 16 years and up to help staff the nursery on Sunday mornings. Please contact the office 610-838-8811 or Tricia Shelly if you'd like to sign up. With enough helpers it would be not more than once a month.*

Child care is currently not available on Sunday mornings during worship in our nursery. However, the nursery is open and available for parents to stay with their child during worship. Adults may listen to the service while in the nursery. There is a child-



## Confirmation Class

Confirmation class for 7th and 8th graders meets two Sundays a month 11:30-1pm

Upcoming classes are:

**May 5 – 11:30-1pm**

**May 19 – 9am- Noon Youth Sunday**

**June 2 – 11:30-1pm**

We will have special required activities over the summer.

Questions, please contact Marji Hughes or Pastor Becky



## May - Sponsors/Volunteers

### May 5

Counting Team.....	Team 4
Ushers.....	Team 2
Altar Flowers.....	Teitsworth Family
Bulletins .....	Jim & Linda Exley
Lay Reader .....	Doug Miller

### May 12

Counting Team.....	Team 1
Ushers.....	Team 3
Altar Flowers.....	Letty Petruno
Bulletins.....	Jane Parenti
Lay Reader.....	Sandy Panick

### May 19

Counting Team.....	Team 2
Ushers .....	Team 4
Altar Flowers.....	Daphne Rodriguez
Bulletins .....	Doug & Brenda Miller
Lay Reader .....	Dave Stuempfle

### May 26

Counting Team.....	Team 3
Ushers .....	Team 5
Altar Flowers .....	Denise Keen
Organ Flowers.....	Larry Muldowney
Bulletins.....	Sandy Belletti
Lay Reader.....	Sandy Bender

The May Newsletter

has been sponsored by:

*Daphne Rodriguez*



**Thank you to everyone who came to help with our Annual Spring Yard Clean Up**



## Staff

Rev. Becky Thomas, Pastor	610-297-2295
Marji Hughes, Minister of Faith Formation	610-984-5053
Pat O'Connell, Minister of Music	[REDACTED]
Phyllis Scherer, Administrative Asst.	[REDACTED]
Tammie Vosburg, Church Treasurer	[REDACTED]
Sherwood Stauffer, Sexton	[REDACTED]

## Consistory Members

	Email address	Phone Number
<b><u>Elders</u></b>		
Sandy Bender	purplepeep@rcn.com	[REDACTED]
Amy Mixa	athomeamy@hotmail.com	[REDACTED]
Georgie Stuempfle	gdflea@yahoo.com	[REDACTED]
<b><u>Deacons</u></b>		
Karen Frankenfield	gumbycat1@gmail.com	[REDACTED]
Diane French— Pres.	dcfrench48@gmail.com	[REDACTED]
Ashlynn Mixa	ashlynnmixa@gmail.com	[REDACTED]
Sandy Panick	hygienist2000@msn.com	[REDACTED]
<b><u>Trustees</u></b>		
Ann Brown—Sec.	forglan@verizon.net	[REDACTED]
Keith Lentz-Vice-Pres.	keithlen56@gmail.com	[REDACTED]
Doug Major	pamajors@rcn.com	[REDACTED]

## Join us Online!

To watch on Facebook, go to <https://www.facebook.com/hellertownucc> and you will see the live stream as the top post.  
 To watch on YouTube, go to <https://www.youtube.com/@firstucchellertown/streams>.  
 To view a playlist of our choir anthems, go to <https://tinyurl.com/FirstUCCMusicMonday>.

## “Bibles and “Brunch”

**for all 1<sup>st</sup> UCC women members & friends!**  
 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays – 10:30am



May 6

We will finish *On the Road to the Cross* by Rob Burkhart

June 10



Coffee, tea, cold beverages and light snacks are available. Participants are not required to attend every session. Drop-ins are welcome!

Join us in the Wimmer Room

For more information, speak with Marji Hughes [mphughes22@gmail.com](mailto:mphughes22@gmail.com) 610-984-5053

## Sunday Morning Study 9:15 each week

in the YA Café. Just come and join any Sunday

Speak with Tricia Shelly 610-657-3828 for more information.



*Every Sunday morning*

**9:45 AM**

*before worship*

*in the Wimmer Room*



## Women's Breakfast at the Hellertown Diner

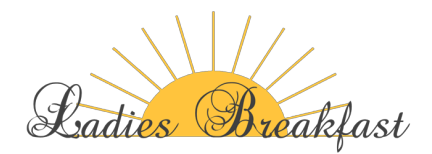
**May 14, 2024 (Second Tuesday of each month.)**

*Come as you are!*

*Come whenever you are able!*

*First one there, grabs a table!*

*Please feel free to join us !*



## Tuesday Morning Men's Group

**Every Tuesday at 8:00 AM**

**At the Hellertown Diner**

After breakfast they come to the church to do various jobs or projects

All men are welcome to join this group



## Upcoming Schedule of Services

You will be notified by Facebook or One Call of any changes to the schedule listed below. If you are not receiving messages by One Call, please contact the Church Office with your contact information. If you have recently changed your email address, or phone number, please update your information in the church office. Thank you.

May 2024	10:30 AM	5	Worship/Sunday School
	10:30 AM	12	Worship/Sunday School
	10:30 AM	19	Children & Youth Sunday/ Sundaes on Sunday
	10:30 AM	26	Worship/No Sunday School
June 2024	10:30 AM	2	Worship
	10:30 AM	9	Worship
	10:30 AM	16	Worship
	10:30 AM	23	Worship
	10:30 AM	30	Worship
July 2024	10:30 AM	7	Worship
	10:30 AM	14	Worship/Anniversary Sunday
	10:30 AM	21	Worship
	10:30 AM	28	Worship

Always inform the church office if you are hospitalized. Please do not trust that word will get to the office through the grapevine. **Our hospital code is 428.** You can mention that if you are admitted.

**Church Office Hours:** — The Office will be open **9:00 am to 1:30 pm**, Monday thru Friday. Please make your calls to 610-838-8811 and conduct your business during those hours. Other calls will be recorded on voicemail. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and cooperation.

## May Birthdays

- 5/5 Sarah Snyder
- 5/6 Alice Totenbier
- 5/8 James Exley
- 5/8 Richard Teitsworth
- 5/9 Chris Scherer
- 5/10 Kathleen Chapman
- 5/12 Jane Joyce
- 5/14 Ryan Williams
- 5/15 Sarah Beers
- 5/19 Piper Policare
- 5/22 Rosemarie Buss
- 5/24 Kate Ross
- 5/26 Gwen Singer
- 5/31 Scott Henry



## May Anniversaries

- 5/2 Wayne & Nadine Pavlinsky
- 5/8 Michael & Michele DeRenzis
- 5/15 James & Linda Exley
- 5/15 Joe & Kim Johnson
- 5/20 Leroy Wagner & Gretchen Diehl
- 5/22 William & Melissa Mills
- 5/25 Donald & Maryann Gingles



## Upcoming Mission Projects

- June—Miracle League
- July—New Bethany Ministries
- August—Valley Youth House

## Upcoming Fundraisers

- July—Hoagie Sale

## Stewardship of God's People at First Church

Date	Contributions		Attendance
March 3	\$2,065.53	Fundraiser \$551.25	74
March 10	\$2,766.67	Easter Flowers \$318.00	80
March 17	\$4,758.53	OGHS \$100.00	75
March 24	\$4,028.39	Easter Baskets \$443.94	101—Palm Sunday
March 31	\$2,534.25	Food Bank \$20.00	125-Easter
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,153.37</b>	<b>Interest \$ .71</b>	
<b>Budget</b>	<b>(20,000.00)</b>	<b>\$1,433.90</b>	
<b>Over/Short</b>	<b>(\$3,846.63)</b>		

*Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*  
2 Corinthians 9:6-7

# Saturday, May 4th First UCC Yard & Bake Sale

(9:00 AM to 1:00 PM)



Drop-offs will be accepted in New Fellowship Hall, Tuesday (4/30), Wednesday (5/1), Thursday (5/2), and Friday (5/3) from 10:00-11:30AM. Drop-offs also being accepted in New Fellowship Hall on Thursday (5/2)-6:00-7:30 PM and Friday (5/3)-6:00-7:00 PM. (Please no clothing).

Drop-offs for baked goods will be accepted on 5/3 from 10-11:30 AM or 6-7 PM. Please present individually wrapped baked goods for sale in small increments (1-2-3 dollar size) as opposed to whole cake or pie. 1/2 pie or cake is fine. Volunteers are needed to help on drop-off days, Friday for pricing and set-up, Saturday before, during and after the sale. See sign-up sheets on the Narthex bulletin board.



## 2024 Graduates

If you have 2024 graduates (high school or college) in your family, please notify the Office with their information so that we may acknowledge them in the June Newsletter.



NEW BETHANY HOSPITALITY CENTER BETHLEHEM  
First Wednesday of every month  
10:00 AM – 1:00PM

Our monthly crew visits to the soup kitchen at New Bethany Hospitality Center. First UCC is signed up for the **first Wednesday of every month**. Four members are needed to chop, prepare, and serve meals at noon finishing at 1:00. pm



Interested in starting a second crew or be put on a sub list????

Contact : Jeannie Miller [redacted] Elsie Stout [redacted]  
[redacted]

Coming this Summer—July 29 to August 2

At 1<sup>st</sup> UCC Hellertown

9 AM—12 Noon



## CAMP FIRELIGHT

It's time for a summer camp adventure with God! Explore timeless Bible stories that demonstrate how people trusted God in the face of their own fears and went on to do great things in God's name.

Kids will learn ways they can put their trust in God when they are afraid, challenged, or called to do God's work and share the Good News of God's love through Jesus Christ.

Campers and volunteers **REGISTER** at:

<https://1sthellertowncampers.mycokesburyvbs.com>

Questions? call 610-838-8811

Children Pre-K through grade 6

Leaders and Helpers will be needed.

Youth Group For 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders

Pickleball

JUNE 2 5-7PM at Lower Saucon UCC

No church affiliation is required. Bring your friends!

**Pastor Becky** - [pastorbecky1121@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbecky1121@gmail.com) 610-297-2295

**Ashlynn Mixa** - [ashlynnmixa@gmail.com](mailto:ashlynnmixa@gmail.com) [redacted]

**Marji Hughes** - [mpughes22@gmail.com](mailto:mpughes22@gmail.com) 610-984-5053



Flower Sale Pick-Up for

Flower and Hanging  
Basket Sale.



Orders may be picked up **Friday, May 17th from 4:00 to 6:00 PM**  
in the church parking lot at 501 Northampton Street, Hellertown.

## The Consistory Minutes in Brief April 8, 2024

**Treasurer's Report:** Tammie Vosburg, Treasurer  
Report accepted as presented.

**Highlights:**

- Operating deficit for 2024 YTD ending March 31 is \$732.
- We have had larger-than-expected expenses not funded by remembrance or investments: plumbing, \$1,177, and Electric Repairs, \$347.
- Our investments for the month showed excellent returns.
- We received an additional donation from Norine Haas toward the Scholarship in memory of her husband and son.

**Discussion:** Was the data recorded for years 22 through 24 comparing the exact dates? Tammie explained they all compare the financials for each year's March.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Becky  
Report accepted as presented.

**Highlights:**

- Hours Dedicated to Worship: 39, Hours Dedicated to Pastoral Care: 11, Continuing Education Hours: 1, Office Hours: 24, Meetings: 6, Other: • Co-led confirmation class.
- The PNEC Conference meeting will be from 6/7 to 6/9. Andy Spear is preaching on 6/9.
- Vacation 6/24-6/30, Total Hours: 95

**Faith Formation Report:** Marji Hughes  
The report was accepted as presented.

**Highlights:**

- April 7—Holy Humor Sunday. A Pancake brunch and pancake games followed worship. Over 60 people attended.
- In the fall, Sunday School needs at least two teachers for the older class and two teachers for the pre-K class.
- We plan to hold special communion education for children and their families in the fall. The start date for open communion is possibly the first Sunday in October—Worldwide Communion Sunday.
- Camp Firelight VBS is July 29-August 2. Adult and teen leaders are needed. Registration is open online.
- Our youth will lead the Pentecost Sunday Worship Service on May 19 (Youth Sunday) service. No communion.

**Trustees' Report:** Ann Brown

- Acorn Stairlift Service/inspection completed.
- Roof Completed - The Electrician, Plasterer, and Painter are scheduled to begin in April.
- A new timer box that controls front spots and the sign was replaced.
- Church Yard Clean up – April 20 – We need bags of mulch donated.
- A Light Bar to replace the center spotlight in the front is needed to provide more light for the choir and to highlight the lectern speaker. We have requested estimates.

**Tech Committee:**

- Mark Mixa and James Rosenberger have been asked to reset the balcony camera and wiring.
- James Rosenberger completed the installation of the new sound system. We need to plan an education day or days to introduce the new controls to everyone.

## The Consistory Minutes in Brief (cont)

**Tech Committee (cont.)**

After this is completed, we can move everything over to the new system.

**Stewardship/ Fundraising:** Georgie Stuempfle

Stewardship/Fundraising - I met with Pastor Becky on March 25 to discuss sharing 10% of our fundraising profits to special causes.

**Special Causes:**

1. March/April— Autism Society of the Lehigh Valley
2. May—Children's Organ Fund
3. June—Family Promise of Lehigh Valley (families facing homelessness)
4. July—Victory House (homeless veterans)
5. August—Suicide Prevention

**New Business:**

- Scholarships: Tom Snyder (Education), Dan Deysher (Music), and our new Rev. Haas and son, Robert Haas (Education), Scholarships for 2024. Each Scholarship of \$1000 will be offered to our student members in 2024.

- Community Day—Third weekend of August. Keith will spearhead this committee and register paperwork with the Borough for two booths this year. The estimated cost is \$20 a Booth, and Keith suggests we have two booths for more room. Again, we plan to serve Strawberry Shortcake.

**Next Meeting: May13 at 6:30 PM in the Wimmer Room**

**A copy of the full minutes is available in the office upon request.**

## Scholarship Opportunities

We come to another year of scholarship opportunities. The **Dan Deysher Music Scholarship** and the **Tom Snyder Academic Scholarship** are both \$1000 - Scholarships sponsored by Jim Santo, a former member of First UCC. Dan and Tom were mentors to Jim, now living in Florida. Dan and Tom have now passed. Dan and Tom were so dedicated to our church. Dan performed over 3000 tributes to veterans in his playing Taps at their funerals and attended and played Taps at the Arizona Memorial Anniversary in Hawaii. The Music Scholarship is open to any member who is an active participant of First UCC, grades K-12 who is studying voice, instrument, dance, or pursuing music in college. "Uncle Tom", as we called him, was a dedicated Sunday School teacher and church volunteer. The Academic Scholarship is open to any high school senior who is a member and active participant of First UCC pursuing further education after high school, including college, technical school, or business school.

New this year is the **Reverend Theodore and Robert Haas Scholarship**. This scholarship has been established by Mrs. Norine Haas in memory of her late husband and son. Reverend Haas served as Pastor of First UCC from 1955-1975. This scholarship is awarded to assist a student already enrolled in college, trade school or business school. The \$1000 scholarship is awarded annually.

Scholarship Application forms will be available in the Church Office on **May 12th** and are **due by May 31st**. Scholarships will be awarded in June.