

# NEWSLETTER

FOR MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF FALKNER SWAMP UCC



***See inside for:***

- Letter from Consistory President, Matt Brown*
- Ladies Night Pictures*
- October Calendar*
- Prayer List*

As a reminder, we stream live every Sunday, 10 AM, on Facebook. Contrary to popular belief, you don't need a Facebook account to watch. Here's how to access it: Type: [facebook.com/falknerswampucc](https://facebook.com/falknerswampucc) in your computer browser. Scroll past the opening screen that asks for a log in. The livestream should be the first, and you can keep scrolling to see past videos. They look like boxes with a triangle in the middle.



More walks planned through the fall!  
Hope you'll join us for some fellowship  
and a little exercise too!

❖ Thursday, October 28 at 6pm  
Congo Road Open Space  
475 Congo Rd, Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Greetings Falkner Swamp Faith Community,

As time marches on and we are still adapting to the changing landscape presented by the COVID 19 pandemic, everyone it seems, is getting back into a routine with their own version of a “new normal”.

Consistory is no exception and I wanted to highlight some of our initiatives from our most recent meeting.

There are 168 hours in a week and our building sits unoccupied and dormant for a majority of them. In an effort to let our presence be felt in our extended community Consistory has approved the use of our church for two upcoming events. We will be a voting location for Precinct 2 on November 2. We have also reached out to Giant Pharmacy in the hopes of being an off-site clinic location for Flu vaccinations for this upcoming Flu season.\* This clinic will function very similarly to the Red Cross blood drives that we have hosted in the past. Both events will allow members of the community to see our church building and hopefully get a feel for the great faith community that we have in place at Falkner Swamp UCC.

In that same spirit of community, Consistory, in collaboration with Music and Worship, has decided on a full return to masking during our worship services. Masking is not necessarily comfortable, convenient, or conducive to personal interaction, but it is a great way to “love your neighbor” by providing a barrier of transmission of the many viruses being passed around as we all return to more in person interactions.

Lastly, and most importantly, I would like to thank each and every member of our faith community that took time to vote via Flocknote or in person at our congregational meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> in the approval of our new heating system. The new system will allow us to share our faith community with our neighbors for years to come. We covered the “Who”, “What”, “Where”, and “When”.

The only question that remains is the one that is most important...” Why”. I would challenge everyone to think about the why as we make decisions and grow our faith community. It’s just like the song says...” We are the church, TOGETHER.”

Health, Happiness, and Safety to Each and Every one,

Matthew Brown  
Consistory President

\*Flu Clinic is scheduled for Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10 AM – 2 PM



<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
10 AM/Worship w/Communion  7 PM/AA Mtg.		Rev. Frances' & Sharon's office hours 9 – 12 PM	Sharon's office hours 9:30 – 1:30 PM  Choir 7 PM	Rev. Frances' office hours 9:30 – 4 PM		
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
10 AM/Worship  7 PM/AA Mtg.	Budget Meeting 7 PM	Rev. Frances's & Sharon's office hours 9 – 12 PM	Sharon's office hours 9:30 – 1:30 PM  Choir 7 PM	Rev. Frances' office hours 9:30 – 4 PM		
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
10 AM/Worship  7 PM/AA Mtg.	Covenant COM mtg. 1-3:30 PM  Consistory 7 PM	Rev. Frances's & Sharon's office hours 9 – 12 PM	Sharon's office hours 9:30 – 1:30 PM  Choir 7 PM	Rev. Frances' office hours 9:30 – 4 PM		Flu Shot Clinic 10 AM – 2 PM
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
10 AM/Worship 7 PM/AA Mtg.		Rev. Frances's & Sharon's office hours 9 – 12 PM	Sharon's office hours 9:30 – 1:30 PM  Choir 7 PM	Rev. Frances' office hours 9:30 – 4 PM  Congo Road Open Space Walk 6 PM		
<b>31</b>						
10 AM/Worship 7 PM/AA Mtg.						



*Prayer requests will be kept on the prayer list for 3 weeks.*

- for all managing destruction in the wake of Hurricane Ida, particularly Sue D., Joan F., and all their neighbors in the Stuart Creek Farms neighborhood in Ambler
- Doris M., recovery from surgery
- Charles (Bud) Cattell, (brother-in-law to Bob Erb) and his family
- Sharon S., recovery from surgery

## A Public Service Announcement

From your Pastor, Rev. Frances  
Think of COVID Protection like layers  
of Swiss Cheese:

See all the holes?

Each of our “layers” have holes, too.

Layer One: Vaccines

Layer Two: Masks

Layer Three: Social distancing 3-6 feet  
with people not in your household while  
indoors.

Layer Four: Wash and sanitize your  
hands. This goes for anytime after you  
touch your mask.



We need multiple layers to protect against COVID-19 and the Delta variant, which ”has proven capable of infecting a higher proportion of vaccinated people than its predecessors. ... While the original coronavirus took up to seven days to cause symptoms, Delta can cause symptoms two to three days faster, giving the immune system less time to respond and mount a defense.” (Source: Reuters Press at <https://www.reuters.com/world/india/beyond-delta-scientists-are-watching-new-coronavirus-variants-2021-08-08/>) (My underlining added.)

Now....put all those layers on top of each other and....see?



The holes in one slice are covered by another slice....best protection!

Please – care for yourself & others: Get vaccinated, wear your mask indoors, social distance, wash and sanitize hands often.

Thanks to Matt Brown for the Swiss cheese concept!

Whatever happened to .....

Remember the Baceanu family? This Roma family, a mother and father and their 2 sons, came into sight of Pastor Jonathan Hauze in the summer of 2017. (Recall that he is the son of Rev. Gary Hauze, pastor of Falkner Swamp from 1975-1980.)

Within a few months Rev. Jonathan sought Conference-wide support for the family's asylum case. He set up a GoFundMe account online for rent and living expenses while the family worked with immigrations lawyers. Our church aided with household goods for their apartment.

Within a year, the Baceanu family lost their case and with the remaining GoFundMe money, bought one-way tickets back to Romania.

I asked Rev. Jonathan recently if he knew how their saga continued. He replied that they keep in touch via the cell phone app called WhatsApp, and that the family is now in England, hoping to find residency there. COVID has complicated things, he added.

As you are in prayer this week, consider offering a prayer for the Baceanu family as they attempt to build new lives.

**Faithful Giving: Falkner Swamp by the (financial) numbers:**

This financial information is for the month of August 2021.

Total general fund intake and outgoing is:

General Funds Income:	\$8,764.59
General Funds Expenses:	\$10,681.59
General Fund Loss for Aug:	(\$1,917.00)



Restricted Funds Income:	\$1,366.13
Restricted Funds Expenses:	\$658.63

For more information see Vivian's Treasurer's Report on the bulletin board outside the church office.

***We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”***

– Winston Churchill

# Ladies NIGHT

Ladies Night was a huge success! All who attended had a wonderful evening. Much appreciation to Women's Ministries for all their efforts in planning and preparing the event. A special thank you to Lee Heffner, Dave Sell, Ken Sell, and Todd Stevens for their work in the kitchen and clean up!



Chalk Talk picture

