

During the Summer



Marji Hughes and her sister, Peggy Frazine, performed a duet at the 6/29/25 worship service.



Andy Spear led the worship service on 7/6/25.



Marji performed a solo on 7/6/25.



Susan Lishman led worship for us on 7-13-25.



Dave Frey provided special music on 7-13-25



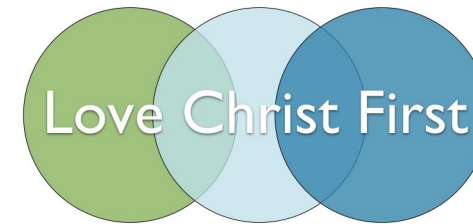
Our Choir Sang for Anniversary Sunday



Women's Chorus leads the congregation in a sing-a-long on 7-27-25.



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



August 2025



Mission Project for August Valley Youth House

Valley Youth House (VYH) began in 1973 as a single shelter in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley. **Valley Youth House** was open day and night, ensuring that vulnerable, abused and homeless young people in the community had access to shelter and counseling. Even then, they represented more than just a roof and beds; they were an organization committed to building a solid foundation for every individual who came through their doors.

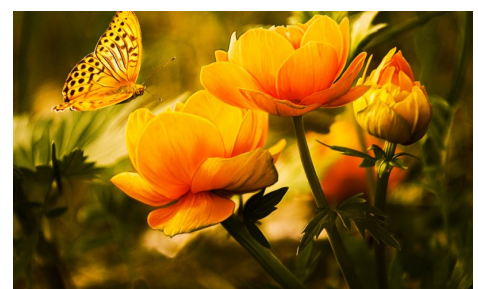
That same dedication still drives them today, as they have grown from that first house in the Valley to over 300 residential sites throughout Pennsylvania. Though their reach and programming has vastly expanded, their mission remains the same.

For over 50 years, they have been proud to be there for generations. **VYH** stand ready to be there for the next generation as well. Their doors remain open – they just have more of them now.

You may add your donations to **Valley Youth House** with your contributions to First UCC. Indicate the amount you wish to go to **VYH** and we will send a single check to them at the end of the month of August.



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





General Synod was, as always, an amazing experience. The amount of energy that is in the air as hundreds of people of faith come together for worship, dialogue, and decision making is remarkable. The worship was uplifting, spirit-inspired, and it challenged us to deepen our faith. Many of the conversations were emotional as we listened and prayed with each other. I was reminded multiple times of why that UCC motto is so important. "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here."

I speak a lot about how divided we feel right now and encourage us to come together. Over the last few years, whenever I get overwhelmed by the tension caused by this division, someone or something reminds me of how very important it is that we have conversations and listen with our hearts. Jesus took the time to listen to people, to get to know people. He opened his heart to everyone. We must begin to go deeper with our faith and with our relationships. We must begin to listen with our hearts and hear each other. While we may have differences, we are all essential parts of the body of Christ and those differences are something that should be celebrated.

In light and love,
Pastor Becky



**SUNDAY,
AUGUST 24, 2025**

10:30 am worship

**For all those going back to school in
the fall— children, youth and adult!
Don't forget to bring your backpack to
church with you!**



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

Our monthly crew visits 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 being put on a sub list??
Contact : Jeannie Miller 610.838.9704
Elsie Stout 610.838.6470 Jane Joyce 610.838.7593



Scholarship Awards



July 2025

Dear First UCC Church,

Thank you very much for choosing me as one of the recipients of the 2025 Dan Deysher Music Scholarship!

I look forward to using the scholarship to further my violin studies and playing at future services!!

Sarah Beers

To: Jim Santo & the Scholarship Committee,

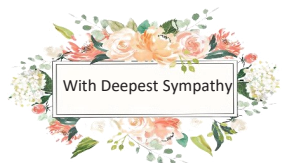
I am so incredibly grateful for this scholarship opportunity. It has always been my dream to complete further education and with this generous gift, I am a little closer to that dream.

Many thanks,

Rachel Panick

Scholarship were awarded on June 29th. Scholarships for on-going higher education were awarded to Paige Rosenberger, Owen Ross, Rachel Panick, and Pastor Becky Thomas. Scholarships for music education were awarded to Sarah Beers, Emma and Carson Petrino.

Congratulations to all!



To the Family and Friends of
Alice Yuille
July 15, 2025

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.



To the Family and Friends of
Mark C. Lorah
July 15, 2025

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 him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.

CONFERENCE NEWS

CONTEST TO NAME OUR ASSOCIATION

Penn Northeast Conference will become an Association of the Keystone Conference on January 1, 2026. **We need a name for the new Association** (cannot include our current name or the name "North Penn" which is an Association in PSEC). Please send your suggesting to Cecilia Baxter at ceciliafbaxter@gmail.com by September 1, 2025. There will be a prize for the winning name!



Congratulations to:
Ory & Kristi Ball
on the birth of their daughter, **Kelsie Abigail**.
She was born on **Monday, July 14th..**
Her proud grandparents are:
Thomas & Donna Ball
and
Gary & Mary Lou Young



SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

Throughout the summer, the **Nursery** is open for young children during Sunday worship as needed. An adult is required to remain in the nursery when anyone under age 14 is present. Adults may still listen to the service while in the nursery.

Worship bags are available in the coat room area for children during worship. Please remember to return the bags to the shelf following the service.

Sunday School returns on September 14!

Watch for more information over the summer.

Blessing of the Backpacks – during worship August 24th



**Women's Breakfast at the
Hellertown Diner**
Second Tuesday of each month
August 12, 2025

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

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>.



Every Sunday morning
9:45 AM
before worship
in the Wimmer Room



Sunday morning Bible Study --

In the Youth room upstairs

Sundays 9:15am

Please contact Tricia Shelly for more
information, or just join us!



Bibles & Brunch

There has been interest in returning to Monday
mornings instead of the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.
Please let Marji know your preference.

1 Day Women's Retreat

IMAGES OF GOD

for 1st UCC, Lower Saucon UCC and friends
breakfast and lunch provided

September 27, 2025. 9am-3pm
at Lower Saucon UCC



What does God look like?

A time of community,
learning, worship and
fun.

Where do you see
God in your life?

Who is God to you?

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex
or call the office 610-838-8811

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.

Week of Aug 3—9 —Marji Hughes

Week of Aug 10-16 — Andy Spear

Week of Aug 17-23—Lisa Fenon

Week of Aug 24-30—Ann Brown

Week of Aug 31-Sept 6—Sandy Panick

Week of Sept 7-13—Amy Mixa

Week of Sept 14-20 – Phyllis Scherer

Week of Sept 21-27—Tammie Vosburg

Week of Sept 28-Oct 4—Georgie Stuempfle

Week of Oct 5—11—Letty Petrundo

Week of Oct 12– 18— Carlann Broglie

Week of Oct 19-25—Doug Miller



July 18, 2025

Dear Friends at First UCC,

There are certain people we thank in our
prayers and one of those groups is you at
First UCC.

And this comes to say, "May God bless you
forever for all you so thoughtfully do!"

Thank you for your cards, prayers, and
concern in the passing of my grandson in
North Carolina. Your thoughts and kindness
are very much appreciated.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for
the kindness to Kevin.

Betty Parsons
Grandmother to
Kevin Frankenfield

PENNY PARTY

We are excited to announce the return of the Penny Party! This year
we'll be having a penny party along with a 50/50 raffle. We will be
accepting donations of items after August 8th. (Vacation Bible
School will have just ended) We are looking for **new** items of any
kind, food (watch the expiration date), personal care items, beauty
items, toys, art supplies, kitchen items, garage items, paper goods,
almost anything that is **new** – any value item will work. This is a
great time to re-gift any dusty Christmas presents you received, but
aren't using (*but please keep the fruit cake!*). We are of course
looking for lots of helpers the day of the event to help with the
kitchen, clean-up, selling tickets, runners to hand out items won and
more. We will also be selling baked goods, along with other food
items and are asking our bakers to sign-up on the sheets in the
Narthex Bulletin Board. So, start collecting your change, think about
friends and neighbors you can invite, look around your house or
shop for items to donate.

Watch for more information in upcoming Newsletters.

August Sponsors/Volunteers

August 3

Counting Team.....	Team 1
Ushers.....	Team 4
Altar Flowers.....	Larry Muldowney
Bulletins	Doug & Brenda Miller
Lay Reader	Bob Scherer

August 10

Counting Team.....	Team 2
Ushers.....	Team 5
Altar Flowers.....	Teitsworth Family
Bulletins.....	Teitsworth Family
Lay Reader.....	Marji Hughes

August 17

Counting Team.....	Team 3
Ushers	Team 1
Altar Flowers	Carlann Broglie
Organ Flowers.....	Bob & Phyllis Scherer
Bulletins.....	Janice Csrnko
Lay Reader.....	Becky Rosenberger

August 24

Counting Team.....	Team 4
Ushers	Team 2
Altar Flowers.....	Daphne Rodriguez
Bulletins	Daphne Rodriguez
Lay Reader	Phyllis Scherer

August 31

Counting Team.....	Team 1
Ushers	Team 3
Altar Flowers	Janice Csrnko
Bulletins.....	Bob Kervin
Lay Reader.....	Phyllis Heil-Henry

The August Newsletter
has been sponsored by:

Pat Zelko

Offerings may be made anytime electronically at www.firstucchellertown.org/give This allows you to make a one time or repeating gift from your bank account or credit/debit card. You may also elect to give directly from your bank through a Bill-Pay option or mail your gifts and envelopes to the church office. The Church office is open Monday through Friday 9am to 1 pm if you care to drop off your gifts.

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.

August 2025	10:30 AM	3	Worship/Communion/No Sunday School
	10:30 AM	10	Worship/No Sunday School
	10:30 AM	17	Worship/No Sunday School
	10:30 AM	24	Worship/No Sunday School
	10:30 AM	31	Worship/No Sunday School
Sept 2025	10:30 AM	7	Worship/Communion/No Sunday School
	10:30 AM	14	Worship/First Day of Sunday School
	10:30 AM	21	Worship/Sunday School
	10:30 AM	28	Worship/Sunday School
Oct 2025	10:30 AM	5	Worship/World Communion/ Sunday School
	10:30 AM	12	Worship/Sunday School
	10:30 AM	19	Worship/Sunday School
	10:30 AM	26	Worship/Sunday School

PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION NEEDED

Discussions of church business should be reserved for after services on Sundays or during office business hours. Please allow our members and staff to prepare their hearts for worship.

THANK YOU

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.

August Fundraiser

First UCC T-Shirt

FORMS DUE 8/4

PICKUP AT COMMUNITY DAY OR SUNDAY 8/17

Youth and Adult sizes are available.

Order forms available in the church office.



Flowers and More Gift Card Fundraiser

Arnold’s Market
1776 Friedensville Rd. Bethlehem, PA 18015

For more information see the order form included with this Newsletter,



September Hoagie Fundraiser

Hoagies will be made by Gerrity (Valley Farm Market)

Our September fundraiser is 9” hoagies - all come with lettuce, tomato, and side condiments (no onions) . You can order: Italian, American, Roast Beef, Turkey or Ham & Cheese. The price is \$8.00/hoagie.

*Orders must be in by Friday, September 12th
Pick-up will be Saturday, September 20st from 12-2 pm
in the Wimmer Room.*

HOLIDAY NUT ROLL SALE

We will be again selling Nutrolls as a fundraiser. More information will be available in upcoming Newsletters. Pick-up will be in November, before Thanksgiving.



Staff

Rev. Becky Thomas, Pastor	610-297-2295
Marji Hughes, Minister of Faith Formation	610-984-5053
Pat O 'Connell, Minister of Music	484-357-9764
Phyllis Scherer, Administrative Asst.	610-554-6223
Tammie Vosburg, Church Treasurer	610-533-8009
Budd Frankenfield, Sexton	610-360-7859

Consistory Members

	Email address	Phone Number
Elders		
Sandy Bender	purplepeep@rcn.com	610-248-4978
Jane Joyce	djanejoyce@verizon.net	610-248-2337
Joan Kiak	njbk77@gmail.com	610-704-6904
Amy Mixa	athomeamy@hotmail.com	610-428-0583
Deacons		
Karen Frankenfield	gumbycat1@gmail.com	484-554-6621
Diane French	dcfrench48@gmail.com	610-360-8897
Ashlynn Mixa	ashlynnmixa@gmail.com	610-730-3334
Sandy Panick	hygienist2000@msn.com	610-838-1695
Trustees		
Keith Lentz--Pres.	keithlen56@gmail.com	610-838-1171
Doug Major-Vice Pres.	pamajors@rcn.com	610-392-0503
Wayne Packer	wayne.t.packer@gmail.com	610-731-4559
Chip Wagner	rdmax723@hotmail.com	717-708-6660

Like us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/hellertownucc



August Birthdays

8/1 Kevin Brown	8/22 Tom Kase
8/1 Kiera Mullen	8/24 Phyllis Herman
8/8 Diane French	8/26 Owen Petruno
8/8 Bob Krill	8/27 Katie Milliren
8/8 Samantha Major	8/27 David Moran
8/9 Sandy Bender	8/28 Sara Heintzelman
8/9 Jane Hoff	8/28 Christopher Hill
8/10 Nick Kiak	8/28 Mark Mixa
8/11 Denise Keen	8/30 Nathan Yonney
8/12 Donna Ball	8/31 Woody Stauffer
8/12 Edna Santo	
8/14 Robert Turner	
8/15 Letty Petruno	
8/17 Lanie Ball	
8/18 Violet Lasko	
8/21 Matt Kiak	
8/22 Emma Harvey	



August Anniversaries

8/5 Paul & Denise Laub
8/5 James & Barb Thatcher
8/12 Tom & Cathy Lechner
8/12 Matt & Andrea Milliren
8/13 Richard & Barbara Shook
8/15 Scott & Phyllis Henry
8/17 Andy & Melissa Spear
8/21 Robert & Phyllis Scherer
8/22 Mike & Edna Santo
8/29 David & Nancy Heintzelman
8/30 Ben & Tanya Clements



The following member is celebrating a 90+ birthday this month. Perhaps you would like to send a birthday card or thinking of you card to brighten her day.

August 18 Violet Lasko
410 E. State Street, Apt 210
Coopersburg, PA 18036



Stewardship of God's People at First Church

Date	Contributions	Attendance		
June 1-Confirmaton	\$3,050.39	109		
June 8-Pentecost	\$1,942.68	56		
June 15-Father's Day	\$3,269.53	65		
June 22	\$2,137.68	46		
June 29	\$7,828.00	61		
Total	\$18,228.28			
Budget	(\$20,000.00)			
Over/Short	-\$1,771.72			

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

ROAD TRIP VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

AUGUST 4-8, 2025
9am – Noon



Register at: <https://1sthellertown2025.mycokesburyvbs.com>

Questions? Call or email: mphughes22@gmail.com 610-838-8811

Join us on August 3rd after worship to decorate the sanctuary for Vacation Bible School. Joshua 1:9 reminds us that God's presence is always near, no matter where the journey of life takes us. **Road Trip** takes us on an exciting journey as we discover new places, new friends, and ways that we can discover God's goodness and presence everywhere.

The Mission Project for Vacation Bible School this year is:

The Center for Animal Health & Welfare

Finding Forever Homes for Homeless Animals

Donate new or gently used items to help homeless animals while they wait for their forever home.

Cat Items

- Purina ONE Indoor Complete Dry Cat Food*
- Purina ONE Dry Kitten Food*
- Wet kitten food*
- Lickable treats (cat churus)
- Catnip interactive treats
- Toy wands
- Crinkle tunnels (large)
- Laser pointers
- Furminators/cat brushes
- Clumping litter*

Dog Items

- Purina ONE Chicken and Rice Formula Dry Dog Food*
- Wet dog food*
- Easy Cheese / Spray cheese
- Nylabone & Benebone toys*
- Rope toys Soft & freeze-dried training treats*
- Tough toys for heavy chewers
- Kongs (large & x-large)*
- Kong Jumbler ball (med-xlarge)
- Double handle leashes
- Snuffle mats
- Dog bones (bully sticks, marrow bones, knuckle bones) NO rawhide
- Poop bags*

Other Items

- Heavy Duty 55 gallon construction trash bags*
- Kitchen trash bags *
- Dawn dish soap*
- Hand soap
- Laundry detergent*
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels*
- Dish sponges
- Bleach*
- Stainless steel pet food/water bowls
- Printer paper Amazon or Chewy gift cards

Items with * are always in constant need

These items can be brought in anytime during the month of August.

First United Church Hellertown Consistory Minutes

Consistory Minutes July 14, 2025

In attendance: Keith Lentz, Ashlynn Mixa, Amy Mixa, Diane French, Karen Frankenfield, Joan Kiak, Sandy Panick, Tammie Vosburg, Marji Hughes

Meeting opened with prayer at 6:36 pm. Minutes were accepted as read.

Treasurer's Report – Tammie stated that we are currently at a break even standpoint, thanks in part to a “last minute” yearly donation at the end of June, even though member contributions are down (as is normal for summer months) Our investment returns are 4.2% as of July 1. Our financial advisor sees us as in good economic positions and projects investment growth heading forward. There will be a 6 month statement sent out in the next few weeks, using an example from PNEC. It has been suggested that there be an audit to stay up front with our reporting.

Motion carried to repay the general fund \$150 for Pastor Rich's ordination anniversary present from the Wimmer Spiritual fund.

Motion carried to pay \$150 for the VBS ad in Saucon Source from the Wimmer Youth fund.

Pastor's Report – No report—Pastor Becky in Missouri at UCC General Synod

Fath Formation – Marji Hughes - VBS is getting close. Mission project for the week is the Center for Animal Health and Welfare in Easton. Donations will be accepted throughout the month of August. Registrations a bit low, but slowly climbing. Backpack Blessing Sunday – August 24. Sunday School begins Sept 14. 1 day Women's Retreat Sept. 27 (at Lower Saucon UCC)

Elders' Report: Amy Mixa – August mission is Valley Youth House. Next meeting Sept 11.

Deacons' Report: Sandy Panick - Communion for Anniversary Sunday, July 20. Next communion August 3rd.

Trustees' Report: A cleaning and evaluation was done of our air conditioning systems by E.F. Laudenslager on 7/3/25. Repairs were made to the Narthex unit at an additional cost of \$235.60 in addition to the service cost of \$1290.00 Sanctuary system needs additional work, including capacitors and contactors for \$554.53. Motion by Diane French, seconded by Amy Mixa to pay the additional cost. Motion carried

Trustees surveyed the church inside and out to discuss condition and needs for future projects. They are looking into the cost for painting or putting aluminum around windows on the Durham Street side of building. Church grounds were weeded by Doug Major and Wayne Packer. Discussion on whether there are any groups who need to do community service that may weed, etc. in the future. Also on the back burner for the future, more outlets in the Wimmer Room.

Consistory Minutes (cont.)

Committee Reports

Stewardship and Fundraising – Ashlynn Mixa - Church logo T-shirt sale is ongoing. Popcorn Sale at Community Day, August 16 being planned. Sign up sheets will be in Narthex asap. “What's Popping at 1st UCC?” Penny Party being looked into for October. Hoagie sale in September.

Music and Worship: Keith Lentz next meeting is August 11, 2025

Safety and Security: no report

Altar: No Report

Tech Committee: no report

Old Business:

Sandy Panick reported that 6 people so far have said yes to becoming the new Kitchen Committee and she expects enough more to have 2 groups to share the responsibilities.

It is too hot and sticky upstairs to check the door to the youth room as they are all warped and sticky during the summer.

CPR training – September 16. Sign up in the Narthex. If 10 people attend it will be only \$5 each.

New Business:

Motion to approve \$1000 continuing education grant from the Wimmer fund for Pastor Becky's doctorate program. Motion by Amy Mixa, Seconded by Sandy Panick. Motion carried.

Elsie Stout will be requesting \$250 from Wimmer to reserve the Sight and Sound show “Joshua” in September of 2026.

Meeting was adjourned: at 7:41pm. Next meeting, August 11, 2025, 6:30pm

Respectfully submitted, Marji Hughes (substitute note taker for the evening)



Community Day –FUNDRAISER

Saturday, August 16th

WE NEED YOUR HELP

We will be selling Popcorn!

Volunteers are needed to set up, “man” the booths, and break down/return items to the church. Signup sheets are on the Narthex bulletin board with more information on hours for each time of need. **We are also looking for sponsors for items needed to make the popcorn.** If you would like to sponsor these items, please drop off \$\$ donations in the church office. We will be purchasing popcorn kernels, popcorn bags, oil, and seasonings and would appreciate your support in making this fundraiser a huge success.

HUGE thank you to Keith Lentz for donating the popcorn machine for this event and for future church functions.