

Youth Sunday



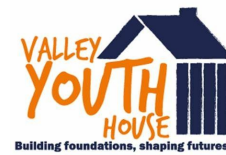
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



June 2026



Love Christ First



### Mission Project for the Month of June

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 June.



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



## Teacher Appreciation



Thank you to teachers: Beth Shelly, Charles Knecht, Melissa Spear and Brenda Miller for their dedication in teaching the children of our church.

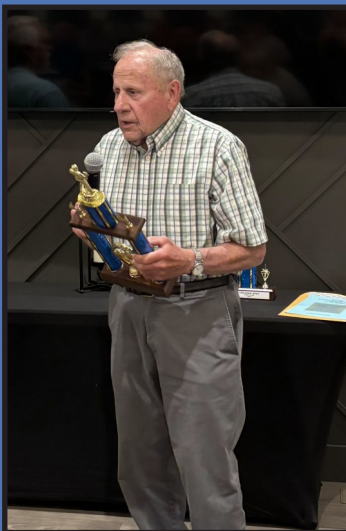
## Tuesday Morning Fun

Our resident craftsman, Doug Miller brought in puzzles he crafted to challenge the staff and Tuesday Morning Group. Each week they tried to see who could be the first to put the same puzzle together.

What great fun!!!!  
Thanks, Doug!



Congratulations to our Dart Team who placed third this season. They celebrated at a banquet held in Heintzelman's Carriage House on Monday, May 18th.



## Sundaes on Sunday



## Youth Sunday





April 17, 2026

Dear Members of First UCC,

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$500.00 on 3/31/26 to New Bethany! Your gift allows us to offer wrap around services designed to remove barriers and families in reaching self-sufficiency.

We start with a meal and meet people where they are with street-level human services, including showers, laundry services, mailing address, and monthly access to our food pantry, and continue with housing assistance, job search support and tools, and case management.

New Bethany offers hope and support to our neighbors who experience poverty, food insecurity, and homelessness. We believe that all people, regardless of circumstances, should be treated with dignity and care without judgement. No one who seeks help is turned away.

Each year, New Bethany serves 40,000 hot meals through our Southside Drop-in Center; provides 2,000 showers, and mail and laundry services to over 200 households; distributes nutritious groceries to create over 230, 000 meals through our Choice Food Pantry; shelters and offers supportive services to over 35 families and 25 individuals experiencing the trauma of homelessness through our supportive housing programming; prevents hundreds of households from losing their home through Housing Advocates and Assistance; keeps over 90 people stably housed with Representative Payee services; and helps over 20 households avoid the crisis of homelessness through permanent housing units operated by New Bethany.

You are a crucial partner in this work. Thank you again on behalf of New Bethany's board, staff, and most importantly, our neighbors who need assistance!

Sincerely,  
Cyrstal Williams, Development Director  
cwilliams@newbethany.org

## Upcoming Fundraisers

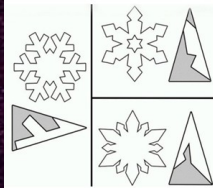
July 23 (5-8pm) - Rita's Fundraiser  
(Summer Date TBD)—Fresh Baked Pies

## SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL needs you!



We need a few sleds, set of old skis, ice skates, outdoor snowpeople (that don't look Christmassy) to turn our church in to winter playland for VBS July 20-24. If you are willing to lend any of these items, put your name on the underside and bring them in! Your items will be decorative. They will not be used. You may take them back home on Sunday, July 26.



We also need snowflakes! Anyone willing to cut out snowflakes, please see Marji or come to the office for white paper. The more the better! All sizes accepted.

There is also a sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex for snack needs.



*I've always been the type of person that enjoys slowing down and looking at the world around me. Whether I am people watching or laying in the grass looking up at the clouds as they drift by, I always find that I feel closer to God when I allow myself time to notice. Every now and then I allow myself the luxury of pausing to watch a random bird and nearly every time I see a butterfly I allow myself to take the time to watch in wonder as it flits from here to there. Whenever I pause to notice the wonders of creation, my mood shifts and I suddenly feel a bit more peaceful.*

*One of my favorite projects I assign to the youth in confirmation class is to take a few pictures of things they notice over the summer that remind them of God. I am always amazed at the images that are returned to me when they come back to class at the end of summer. The truth is, I think we could all benefit from intentionally taking the time to pause and notice God's work in this world. I encourage you, as the summer approaches and you begin to plan your vacations to pencil in a little bit of time to watch the clouds roll by or to listen to the sound of birdsong. Perhaps if you take that time to practice you will naturally begin to notice God more and more often.*

*In light and love,  
Pastor Becky*



## SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

Sunday School is taking a break for the summer.

Children of all ages are (as always) welcome in worship.

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

July 20-24 – Snowball Mountain Challenge Vacation Bible School

August 30 – Sunday School resumes

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 16 is present. Adults may still listen to the service while in the nursery.

Contact Marji Hughes - [redacted] - if you have any questions at all about Faith Formation at 1<sup>st</sup> UCC

## YOUTH GROUP

for grades 5 - high school

Watch for dates on Pickleball and Mini-Golf in June and July!

No church affiliation is required. Bring your friends!

Questions:

Pastor Becky - [astorbeck 1121 mail.com](mailto:astorbeck@firstucc.org) 610-297-2295

Ashlynn Mixa - [redacted]

Marji Hughes - [redacted]



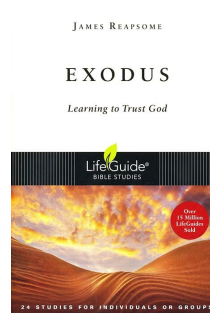
# Coffee & Conversation

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



## Sunday morning Adult Bible Study --

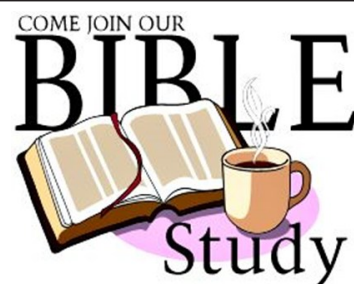
Sunday Bible Study will be studying the book of Exodus in the Fall.



Class meets at 9:15 am in the YA Café Room upstairs.

Please come and join us.

Please see Tricia Shelly if you have questions.



## BIBLES AND BRUNCH

Women's Bible Study

will take a summer break until August.  
We will meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month 10:30am beginning August 3.

Don't hesitate to drop in



Confirmation class schedule:

11:30am – 1:00pm in the Youth/Young Adult Room

May 31, and June 14, we continue through the Old Testament

Plans are in the works for summer dates/service projects (mentors included)

Questions, please contact Marji Hughes or Pastor Becky

## 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. We are very low on spaghetti sauce and we need a variety of soups and breakfast foods to keep our pantry stocked. Please—no glass jars.

- Week of May 31—June 6—Tammie Vosburg
- Week of June 7-13—Georgie Stuempfle
- Week of June 14-20—Letty Petrino
- Week of June 21-27 — Carlann Broglie
- Week of June 28-July 4—Doug Miller
- Week of July 5-11—Marji Hughes
- Week of July 12-18— Andy Spear
- Week of July 19-25—Lisa Fenon
- Week of July 26-Aug 1—Ann Brown
- Week of Aug 2-8—Sandy Panick
- Week of Aug 9-15—Amy Mixa
- Week of Aug 16- 22- Phyllis Scherer
- Week of Aug 23-29—Tammie Vosburg



**Thank you** to everyone who helped make this year's Yard Sale a big success. Thank you to those who volunteered their time, those who donated items for the sale, and those who baked yummy items for the bake sale!!!

## We are looking for Flower Sponsors for 2026.

Sign-up sheet for the Flower Chart is on the door to the Church Office closet. Please stop in or call to put your name on the list for sponsoring flowers. Cost is \$40.00/week.

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



## June Sponsors/Volunteers

### June 7

Counting Team.....	Team 1
Ushers.....	Team 1
Acolyte .....	Madyson Schrammel
Altar Flowers.....	Bill Roth
Bulletins .....	Doug & Brenda Miller
Lay Reader .....	Ashlynn Mixa

### June 21

Counting Team.....	Team 3
Ushers.....	Team 3
Acolyte.....	
Altar Flowers.....	Tammie Vosburg
Bulletins .....	Jane Parenti
Lay Reader.....	Sara Beers

### June 14

Counting Team.....	Team 2
Ushers.....	Team 2
Acolyte .....	
Altar Flowers.....	Teitsworth Family
Bulletins .....	Wayne & Nadine Pavlinsky
Lay Reader .....	Dave Stuempfle

### June 28

Counting Team.....	Team 4
Ushers .....	Team 4
Acolyte.....	
Altar Flowers.....	Minga & Jack Ferencin
Bulletins... Wayne Packer/Andrea Danner	
Lay Reader .....	

The June Newsletter  
has been sponsored by:  
Janice Csrnko

Put this on your calendar:

*Women's  
Retreat*

April 2-4, 2027

At Mariawald Retreat House, Reading

Offerings may be made anytime electronically at [www.firstucchellertown.org/give](http://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.

## SOUP KITCHEN

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



Women's Breakfast at the  
Hellertown Diner

Second Tuesday of each month– 8 AM

June 9, 2026

*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



Snowball Mountain Challenge Vacation Bible School

VBS Leaders and Helpers meeting

June 1, 2026 at 6:30pm

in the Wimmer Room for all station leaders, crew  
leaders and assistants of all kinds and ages!

Feel free to start looking for  
wintery decorations, sleds, etc!

Don't hesitate to contact Marji with questions or ideas.

Marji Hughes 610-984-5053 [mphughes22@gmail.com](mailto:mphughes22@gmail.com)





## 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.

June 2026	10:30 AM	7	Worship
	10:30 AM	14	Worship
	10:30 AM	21	Worship
	10:30 AM	28	Worship
July 2026	10:30 AM	5	Worship
	10:30 AM	12	Worship
	10:30 AM	19	Anniversary Sunday Worship/Communion
	10:30 AM	26	Worship
Aug 2026	10:30 AM	2	Worship/Communion
	10:30 AM	9	Worship
	10:30 AM	16	Worship
	10:30 AM	23	Worship
	10:30 AM	30	Worship/Sunday School Begins

### 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.

### Join us Online!

To view website, go to: [firstucchellertown.org](http://firstucchellertown.org)

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>.

## Staff

Rev. Becky Thomas, Pastor

610-297- [REDACTED]

Marji Hughes, Minister of Faith Formation

Pat O'Connell, Minister of Music

Phyllis Scherer, Administrative Asst.

Tammie Vosburg, Church Treasurer

Budd Frankenfield, Sexton

## Consistory Members

Email address

Phone Number

### Elders

Jane Hoff

Joan Kiak

Amy Mixa

Tricia Shelly

### Deacons

Karen Frankenfield

Ashlynn Mixa

Sandy Panick

### Trustees

Keith Lentz--Pres.

Doug Major-Vice Pres.

Wayne Packer

Chip Wagner

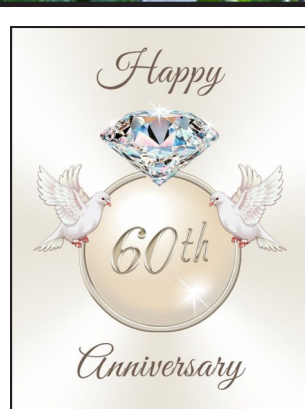
June Birthdays

- 6/3 Minga Ferencin
- 6/4 Nancy Heintzelman
- 6/6 John Harvey
- 6/6 Cindy Searfoss
- 6/7 Michael Mullen
- 6/8 William Mills
- 6/10 Jody Miller
- 6/12 Richard Shook
- 6/13 Ory Ball
- 6/16 Carlann Broglie
- 6/16 Greta Geisinger
- 6/16 Emma Rose Petruno
- 6/17 Robert Scherer
- 6/19 Owen Ross
- 6/21 Brian Chapman
- 6/22 Logan Weaver
- 6/22 Charles Weaver
- 6/23 Melissa Mullen
- 6/24 Melissa Mills
- 6/24 Helen Ross
- 6/27 John Chapman
- 6/28 Gretchen Diehl
- 6/28 Diane Matey
- 6/29 Justin DeRenzis
- 6/30 Phyllis Heil-Henry
- 6/30 Morgan Mixa



June Anniversaries

- 6/10 Terry & Rebecca Snyder
- 6/11 David & Susan Moran
- 6/11 David & Georgie Stuempfle
- 6/17 Glenn & Ann Brown
- 6/18 Nick & Joan Kiak
- 6/19 Albert & Jane Parenti
- 6/21 Curtis & Tammie Vosburg
- 6/22 Joseph & Heather Searfoss
- 6/23 John & Becky Harvey



Dave & Georgie Stuempfle

Stewardship of God's People at First Church

Date	Contributions	Attendance	Special Offerings	
Apr 5	\$2,250.53	115- Easter	Easter	\$2,280.00
Apr 12	\$1,743.92	71- Holy Humor	Arnold's GC	\$147.00
Apr 19	\$4,114.09	72	OGHS	\$265.00
Apr 26	\$4,079.15	55	Pressed Flowers	\$235.00
			Dine-to-Donate	\$360.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,187.69</b>			
<b>Budget</b>	<b>(\$16,000.00)</b>			
<b>Over/Short</b>	<b>(\$3,812.31)</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

# Snowball Mountain Challenge

## Vacation Bible School

### July 20-24, 2026!



**With God, I Am Strong!**

Kids from Pre-K 3 through grade 7 are invited to an exciting winter sports event, where they become Challengers, gearing up for frosty games, snowy surprises, and hands-on lessons about resilience and faith. Guided by the Activities Director and Ollie the Arctic Seal puppet, challengers won't just play games - they will learn to draw strength from their faith through powerful stories of courage and hope. With a unique winter theme and solid theology at its core, this VBS delivers joy and meaning in equal measure, teaching kids that "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13 NRSV).



Snowball Mountain Challenge is sure to be a mountain-top experience filled with laughter, life lessons, and lasting faith where kids find their strength in God!

please register online at <https://1sthellertown2026.mycokesburyvbs.com>



## Congratulations Graduates!

**High School Graduates:**

**Dylan Keen (Grandson of Denise Keen)** is graduating from Parkland High School and Lehigh Career & Technical Institute. He is pursuing a career as an electrician.

**Ava Major** is graduating from Nazareth High School and continuing her education at Penn State University, majoring in Accounting.

**Aryana Myers Farinhas** is graduating from Saucon Valley High School and will be attending East Stroudsburg University.

**College Graduates:**

**Andrew Harvey** graduated from Northampton Community College with an Associate Degree in Media Production.

**Emma Harvey** graduated from Moravian University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology.

**Julia Major** graduated from Thomas Jefferson University with a degree in Fashion Merchandising and Global Brand Strategy.

**First United Church Hellertown  
Consistory Meeting Minutes  
May 11, 2026**

Absent: Pastor Becky Thomas. New Elder Jane Hoff was welcomed.

Meeting opened at 6:30pm with prayer by Keith Lentz. The minutes of the last meeting were approved with a motion by Doug Major, second by Karen Frankenfield.

**Treasurer's report: Tammie Vosburg.** We have a \$17,800 shortfall as of April 30, 2026. Money will need to be transferred from our Savings account to make payroll. So far this year our income is \$60,480. Expenses were \$78,280.

Offerings have been well below what was budgeted every month to date. Discussion of whether to approach members who usually give that have not done so this year. However, our investments have rebounded and the total is \$1,678, 581 as of April 30, 2026. This month's fundraising efforts totals: Dine to Donate - \$360, Pressed Flowers - \$235, Yard Sale - \$1173.

Motion was made by Sandy Panick, seconded by Amy Mixa to put collection numbers and monies needed weekly back into bulletin with attendance figure. Motion carried.

Reminder that the Wimmer Fund approved a 50% discount to any church member who attends the bus trip to Sight and Sound in the fall.

Treasurer stated that if the 6 week Tai Chi session is sponsored by the church, Rachel Keen will not need separate insurance to hold classes here. Suggestion by Consistory that \$5 is added to the total cost of the session which will go to the church.

The question was asked why the 5 "buckets" in the Wimmer fund are only \$6000 each when we are allowed to have 4% which would add over \$1000 more to each "bucket".

**Pastor's report:** accepted as presented by email.

**Faith Formation – Marji Hughes:** accepted as presented by email. Youth Sunday is this week, May 17. The worship service is followed by Sundaes on Sunday Fellowship Hour. Sunday School will resume August 30. Snowball Mountain Challenge VBS leader meeting June 1. Volunteers and attendees still needed.

**Elders Report – Amy Mixa** Details of the Fall Festival in October were discussed. Question of whether there is interest in restarting the Prayer Shawl ministry. The June mission is Valley Youth House.

**Deacons:** Sandy Panick - Next Communion Sunday is July 19

**Trustees – Keith Lentz and Chip Wagner** – Discussion of the bids for painting and/or aluminum cladding on the Penn St. windows. Costs vary widely. Deciding whether aluminum will be longer lasting in the end.

**Stewardship - Keith Lentz:** Fall Festival, October 17, 2026, 10am-2pm using the entire building. Food, vendors, kids activities, each committee from the church will also have a table, choir may do a concert. Needs to be marketed to the community. Stewardship Campaign theme for this year is "Rooted in gratitude, growing in generosity" using a large tree with roots poster for members to add their names as they pledge support. There will be commitment cards. Discussion of usage of phrase "time, talent, and treasure" traditionally used in stewardship campaigns. Keychains have been donated by Tammie Vosburg. Tree poster to be donated by Jane Hoff.

Consistory Minutes (cont.)

**Executive Committee:** no report

**Music and Worship - Keith Lentz:** a possible combined outdoor worship and picnic with Lower Saucon – at Lower Saucon - on July 5 is being considered. Marji Hughes, Phyllis Scherer, Karen Frankenfield, and Jane Hoff volunteered to be on the committee. If Lower Saucon agrees.

**Safety and Security:** no report – no committee currently  
Question about battery on chair during Yard sale to allow access to the New Fellowship Hall.

**Fundraising – Ashlynn Mixa:** 3 April fundraisers – see treasurer's report Possible Pie fundraiser toward the end of June. July is Rita's.

**Technology: James Rosenburger** is working with Heavenly AVI to install new wiring by the end of May as will the new camera in the center of the balcony. This will give us almost 2 months to learn the new system before VBS.

**Old Business:** Motion by Sandy Panick, second by Joan Kiak, to approve the extra \$5 for each Tai Chi session to go to the church. Motion carried 2 tables plus electricity have been reserved for Community Day Pig Roast in August. Property committee is looking at the Dan Deysher garden to decide how best to re- beautify it and have it conform to Hellertown regulations.

**New Business:** Wayne Packer will be leading the Spring clean up around our building on May 30. Sign up in the Narthex.

Discussion of envelopes in the bulletins for donations to help with monthly needs – tabled  
Wayne Packer reported that the former Quilters Room is being cleaned out. Any committee that has stored items needs to mark them before June 15 in order they are not thrown or donated.  
Discussion of the church's need for an individual EIN and a 501 3c to allow businesses to more easily make donations for our various functions.

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 7:50pm motion by Wayner Packer, second by Karen Frankenfield. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marji Hughes



**Save The Date**

**Saturday, October 24, 2026**

**Bus Trip to Sight & Sound to see  
"Joshua"**

**9:30 AM—Depart from First UC  
12:00 N—Lunch at Hershey Farms**

**3:00 PM—Joshua Show**

**7:00 PM ish—arrive @ First UCC**