

EmmanuelLife

Newsletter of Emmanuel United Church of Christ



Rev. Kenneth D. Peterkin, Pastor

September 2024

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Calendar Highlights

Sundays, September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
*10 am—Worship in person and
livestreamed on YouTube*

Sundays, September 1
6 pm—Monthly Mindfulness Session

Monday, September 2
Office Closed for Labor Day

Thursdays, September 5 & 19
*1:30-4 pm—Afternoon of Games
in King Auditorium*

Thursdays, September 5, 12, 19, 26
*Weekly music rehearsals begin:
6 pm—Hand Bells • 7 pm—Choir*

Sunday, September 8
Worship in the Sanctuary—See Page 2

Mondays, September 9, 16, 23, 30
1 pm—Compassionate Crafters

Friday-Saturday, September 13-14
9 am both days—Indoor Yard Sale

Sundays, September 15, 22, 29
*8 am—Adult Learning Hour in Bowers
Chapel and by Zoom*

COMPLETE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

From the desk of Rev. Ken . . .

This December we will celebrate the finish of 3 years together as Pastor/Teacher and Congregation. I am so pleased with the vast majority of your positive reactions towards my worship leading, our Fellowship, administration, and my pastoral care. One offer I always hope you will receive and utilize is my pastoral care. What is that? In the vast number of instances, pastoral care is me being your most devoted listener. I won't just hear you, but I will listen intently and offer the kind of reaction that you and I discuss prior to your revelations to me. I want you to be afforded to be heard and acknowledged for your importance. Maybe you just need to stop life for a moment and have a loving ear that won't judge you, but rather be in your corner for assurance and hope. How we deal with all the expression of ideas and expenditure of emotions will be cared-for with the entirety of confidence for privacy. A fair warning regarding certain topics will be spoken before you say a thing. There *are* certain actions that cannot go unaccounted for, those things being few but important. Yet, even those things would be dealt with the ultimate amount of compassion and direction.

A "Spiritual Life" class will be offered this fall as well as a Bible Study. Signup sheets will be in King Auditorium and the church office. Gathering groups together in this day and age can be difficult, so, you will be asked whether you can "Zoom," whether you can gather personally, what days and times are best for you, and once signed up I will send you some questions for you to answer that will assist me in refining our approach to best serve your experiences.

I am hoping at some time this fall to start a Podcast. This is in the earliest of stages of thought and planning. My initial desire is to be very open to a broad understanding and sharing of spiritual, religious, ritualistic, atheistic, New-Age, indigenous, or humanistic practices – all in a manner to relate to Christianity first but to offer a welcome to practices which advance self-integrity, love, compassion, and positive self-esteem. Podcasts are most often interview-friendly and information and entertainment heavy. FYI! Be patient with me on this one please. I'll fill you in.

See Rev. Ken, Page 10

Anew Amidst Amens

September at Emmanuel

This month marks the beginning of a new year of learning, music and activities and is a time to reassemble after the relative quiet of the summer months.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

September 8

Worship returns to the sanctuary

A service at 10 am will featuring music from the Chancel Choir. During the Time for Children we will recognize Sunday School Teachers and Sunday School for children will resume.

Member Appreciation Sunday

Fellowship Hour will be a celebration of the congregation hosted by the Church Growth team featuring a Hawaiian-themed coffee hour with giveaways, a raffle for Hanover Little Theatre tickets and meet-and-greets with committee chairs.

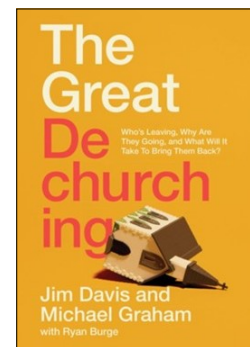
Children's Sunday School

Students age 4 to 7th grade adjourn to the classroom after the Time for Children to review the Children's Message and read the Gospel passage for the week followed by a discussion. Sessions conclude with a game, craft or other activity.

Also this month

Adult Sunday School

Adult Learning Hour meets for lively book discussions at 8:30 am Sunday mornings in Bowers Chapel and by Zoom. The next session begins September 15 and will feature "The Great Dechurching: Who's Leaving, Why Are They Going, and What Will It Take to Bring Them Back?" Authors Jim Davis, Michael Graham and Ryan P. Burge take insights from the largest and most comprehensive study of dechurching in America and drill down on how exactly people are dechurching with respect to beliefs, behavior and belonging. Books are available in the church office. To sign up or for more info, email Brian at brianfrederick44@gmail.com.



Stewardship Committee potluck suppers

The Stewardship Committee will host potluck suppers for fellowship and education on two Sundays, September 22 and 29. Rev. Ken will have an enlightening and no doubt entertaining presentation! Each one will be different, and folks are encouraged to join both sessions. Since it is the start of our new "season"...it's a great way for all of us to catch up and reconnect after summer. Watch for a signup sheet.



In Music

- Calling ringers and singers: Thursday music rehearsals begin September 5, with the Emmanuel Ringers at 6 pm and the Chancel Choir at 7 pm. All returning and new musicians welcome!
- A dedication of the vintage Steinway piano, which was donated by the McLin family, is tentatively scheduled for September 29. The worship service will feature all piano music by Amy Kwon.



EUCC 2024-2025 Community Concert Series

Our annual concert series serves as an outreach to Hanover and the surrounding communities and to introduce all to the beauty of Emmanuel and offer them the gift of music presented here.

All concerts are free and open to the public – made possible by generous sponsors. To support the Concert Series, use the form below. Thank you to those who have already contributed!

SCHEDULE

Five Voices II | *Vocal Recital*

Sunday, November 10, 2024 – 3 pm

A program of Classical, Opera, Gospel, Broadway, and more, featuring Soprano Amy KeeSun Kwon, Mezzo Soprano Diana Cantrelle, Baritone Rev. Ken Peterkin, Baritone Colin James, and Baritone YoungSoo An, accompanied by Pianist Sophie Hong.

114th Annual Carol Sing

A Hanover Tradition

Sunday, December 22, 2024 – 7 pm

Join in this Christmas carol singalong, with stories of the carols narrated by Steve McKonly and Landy Grimm, accompanied by a live 30-piece community orchestra.

John Maurer | *Trumpet*

March 2, 2025 – 3 pm

John Maurer will present a program of standards, jazz and original compositions for trumpet and piano. Maurer is a critically acclaimed trumpet and flugelhorn artist as well as a highly respected music educator. His highly-praised debut album, “Songs For My Son,” was released in 2018.



Encore Chamber Winds

Wind Ensemble

April 6, 2025 – 3 pm

These virtuoso musicians – Paulella Burchill, Flute, David Duree, Clarinet, Mindy Niles, Oboe, and Rob Sirois, Bassoon – add flute to the vibrant oboe, mellow clarinet and deep bassoon voices to perform traditional woodwind quartet repertoire and selections from various genres.



Simple Gifts | *Folk Duo*

May 4, 2025 – 3 pm

Based in the hills of central Pennsylvania, Linda Littleton and Karen Hirshon play an amazing array of instruments, switching with ease among fiddle, mandolin, banjo, guitar, guitjo, recorders, bowed psaltery, hammered dulcimer, baritone fiddle, guitar, and percussion. This award-winning duo plays everything from lively Irish jigs and down-home American reels to haunting Gypsy melodies, rhythmic of Balkan dance music, and original compositions written in a traditional style.



2024-2025 CONCERT SERIES Sponsor • Please list my contribution as follows:

Name _____

Address _____

Level of Support:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend (\$25-\$49) | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron (\$50-\$99) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Patron (\$100) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor (\$150) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainer (\$250) | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor-Named Concert (\$500) |

Please make checks to EUCC. Place this form in the offering or mail it to:
Emmanuel UCC Concerts, 124 Broadway, Hanover PA 17331

Emmanuel grows greener

On August 18 we launched Emmanuel's "Care for the Earth," to help us find new ways to celebrate and nurture the natural world.


We began during Fellowship Hour by celebrating "All things Birds." We enjoyed deviled eggs, bird nest cookies and "bird seed." We shared bird magazines, a bird word puzzle, and found a home for a bluebird house. Best of all, we shared some powerful stories of birds – from Karen Unger's story of a lasting friendship with a cardinal to Jenny Myers's longtime connection with doves, and Judy Dubs's devastation over seeing a bird's nest destroyed by tree trimmers. For more stories, try checking with Cheryl Fritz, Cathy Reck, Peg Moulton, Henry McLin, Judy Morris, and other members of our flock.

Our green table appeared for the first time on August 18. Six members "planted" suggestions for discussion topics and projects in the flowerpot, and three signed up for our Green Team, which will implement suggestions and consider steps we can take to become a UCC Creation Justice Church. Look for the Green Table in the auditorium during Fellowship Hour. Contact Jean Gralley or Carol Gieseey for more info.

We also look forward to participating in the Season of Creation, September 1 to October 4, when Christians around the world pray and act to protect creation.



• • •

 An ongoing green project at Emmanuel is caring for the church's flower beds. Research tells us that gardening can have a calming effect, and repetitive tasks such as weeding can be meditative, allowing the mind to focus and unwind. Exposure to sunlight boosts mood, and caring for plants can provide a sense of purpose and satisfaction. You don't have to have a garden of your own, or be an expert gardener, to join in helping to weed and water our church flower beds. If two volunteers sign up for each month of the growing season, you can set up your own schedule to share the work. We still need garden volunteers for September and October. Sign up on the clipboard, or find me at church.

~Carol Gieseey

Mental health is a
universal human right

"God will not falter or lose heart until justice prevails throughout the earth." (Isaiah 42:9)



Neighbors in Need special offering

Through the Neighbors in Need special missions offering, the UCC helps its members live out their faith with acts of service and ministries of justice and compassion.

In 2024, the Neighbors in Need theme is "**Mental Health Justice For All**" In 2015, the General Synod of the UCC passed a resolution to become WISE – Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged – for mental health. A just world for all is a world where the human rights and well-being of people with mental health challenges are respected, no matter who you are or where you are in life's mental health journey.

Two-thirds of your donation to NIN funds a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. They include support of health care, voting rights, civil liberties and environmental justice.

One-third supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Forbears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota and other Indian tribes in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin and Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal congregation in Minneapolis.

The offering will be taken October 6. Make checks to Emmanuel UCC with "NIN" in the memo or use an offering envelope.

EUCC Annual Yard Sale: September 13-14

The Missions Committee is organizing a Yard Sale to be held in King Auditorium. The event benefits two students in southeast Asia through the UCC's Child Sponsorship Program.



When: September 13 and 14. Sale hours are 9 am-4 pm Friday; 9 am-1 pm Saturday.

Donations: We're looking for household items and other good stuff from your attic, garage and basement. (No clothing or books, please. Electronics must be functioning.) Do not bring items to the church until early September.

Helpers: You are needed for set up 9 am-1 pm Wednesday and Thursday, September 11-12; for the sale days; and for cleanup 9 am-1 pm on Monday, September 16.

For questions, info or to volunteer: Contact Estelle King at 717-487-1906 or by email at estellebking@icloud.com.

Hanover's multicultural celebration

The Hanover Area Diversity Alliance will hold its annual Diversity Festival 11 am-5 pm, Saturday, September 28, in Wirt Park, Hanover. The family-



friendly celebration will feature music and entertainment, multi-ethnic food trucks, nonprofits, service providers and other vendors, and an area for children's activities. Stop by Emmanuel's table and say "Hi!" to the Church Growth Team. To volunteer, sign up on the purple clipboard or call the office.

Coffee ER

Rev. Ken's informal gatherings will resume this month at Little Fox Coffee & Books, 125 Broadway, across the street from the church. The date is TBD as we anxiously await for Little Fox to complete renovations in the space. Participants will meet for coffee and conversation 9:15-10:30 am Fridays and Saturdays. Stay tuned for details! Coffee ER's name pays homage to Emmanuel's Evangelical and Reformed roots.



Laity Sunday participants sought

Emmanuel will observe Laity Sunday at 10 am October 20 by celebrating *your* ministry, with lay persons leading all parts of the worship service. Many people are needed! To participate, contact Cheryl Fritz at 717-698-1153, candmfritz@aol.com, or Charlotte Pinette at 717-227-0262, charlottepinette@gmail.com.

Events & Activities

Monthly Mindfulness

6 pm, September 1

Join Karen Jones every first Sunday for a free 45-minute Monthly Mindfulness Drop-In session, now held in the auditorium. The stress-reduction practices are open to everyone, whether you are a beginner or an experienced practitioner. Use the courtyard door. For a Zoom link or questions, email Karen at kjones@mindfulnessandmotion.com.

Afternoon of Games

1:30-4 pm, September 5 & 19

Join us in King Auditorium first and third Thursdays for Scrabble, cards, board games, snacks and fellowship. New players are always welcome! For info, call Carol Giesey at 717-632-2665.

Lunch Bunch

12 pm, Second Sundays

The group will gather for food and fellowship after worship on September 8 at Avalon Ale House in their new location, 1418 Baltimore St., Hanover. RSVP to Sandy Rebert, 717-586-2136.

Compassionate Crafters

1-4 pm Mondays

(No meeting September 2)

All crafters are welcome to bring a project, swap techniques and enjoy fellowship. For info, call Sandy Rebert at 717-586-2136.

Homewood golf tourney

Thursday, September 19

The Homewood Golf Classic fundraiser will be held at Musket Ridge Golf Club in Myersville, Md., with an 18-hole shotgun start at 1 pm. For info or to register, visit homewood.com/golf.

CONSISTORY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

*June minutes were approved August 19;
there was no meeting in July.*

Consistory Minutes — June 17

- Treasurer's Report: Brian Frederick noted that May expenses saw an increase due to donations to local charities. A motion to approve Treasurer's Report pending audit was made by Bill Wertzberger and seconded by Charlotte Pinette.
- Personnel: Consistory voted unanimously to approve the creation of a flat pay rate for a backup person for both the Sexton Position and the Livestream Technician in the event of an absence.
- Consistory approved either date proposed by Missions for its Annual Yard Sale fundraiser, either September 13-14 or September 27-28.
- A Use of Facility Request was unanimously approved for a member to hold a 50th birthday celebration in the courtyard. The fee was waived as the member will do her own set up and clean up.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Church Growth Committee — August 13

- Charlotte P. welcomed new member Karen Jones. Events
 - Pride Fest, June 29: Rev. Ken was pleased with how many people approached the booth and took our information.
 - Snack Town, July 13: Lots of people signed up to help! Diversity Alliance asked to place an A frame with their materials at the side of our tent.
 - Walk-A-Mile, August 9: The EUCC team had 14 participants.
- Upcoming events
- Congregation Appreciation Day, September 8.

Missions Committee — August 14

- God's Meal Barrel distributed 200 backpacks and school supplies. They served 186 families in June and 215 in July, the highest numbers in over 5 years. Their pantry is low on nonperishable items. Missions voted to donate \$1,000 from Missions funds and to raise our donation to GMB to \$2,000 on Missions Sunday in 2025.
- Emmanuel's next times for PAL Lunch will be Oct. 15 and Dec. 31. Security clearances are required for all volunteers. Contact Estelle King. Judy Dubs, our rep to HACC, will attend an informational meeting about this year's CROP Walk, scheduled for Oct. 13. We need a coordinator from Emmanuel for CROP, or we may to join another church.
- The Hoffman Homes' fundraising Gala is scheduled for Nov. 1. Monetary donations, rather than auction items, are encouraged.

Continued on next page

2024 CONSISTORY OFFICERS

Interim President

Alec Sivel 717-451-3450
alecsivel@hotmail.com

Interim VP

Charlotte Pinette 717-227-0262
charlottepinette@gmail.com

Secretary

Jeff Hopkins 410-446-5985
jeffhopkins1991@comcast.net

Treasurer

Brian Frederick 717-451-3977
brianfrederick44@gmail.com

CONSISTORY MEMBERS

Megan Alcott, Dave Jones,
Sean Moore, Judy Morris,
Sandy Topper, Bill Wertzberger

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Altar Guild Mary Bair 717-870-5597

Caring Judy Morris 717-968-6998

Christian Education

Cheryl Fritz 717-698-1153

Church Growth

Charlotte Pinette 717-227-0262
Alec Sivel 717-451-3450

Fellowship Hour Coordinator

Susan Hoke 717-817-1265

Investment

Brian Frederick 717-451-3977

Missions

Carol Giesey 717-632-2665
Estelle King 717-487-1906
Consistory Rep: Bill Wertzberger

Pastor-Parish Relations

Estelle King 717-487-1906

Personnel

Megan Alcott 717-451-5401

Property and Safety

Sean Moore 443-618-7481

Stewardship

Judy Morris 717-968-6998

Worship and Music

Charlotte Pinette 717-227-0262

Committee Highlights, continued from Page 6

- Information will be forthcoming regarding the Fall Membership Drive for the Homewood Auxiliary. Pull tabs and prizes for Bingo continue to be collected. Contact Peg Moulton.
- New Hope Ministries distributed school backpacks in early August. The Feed-A-Friend marathon will take place this year Dec. 5-6.
- July donations for Communion Gifts totaled 32.8 pounds of food and 10 hygiene items. August totaled 40 pounds of food, 3 cleaning, and 14 hygiene items. Donations from the collection basket (on the table during Fellowship Hour) total \$10.25 for the year. Please mark your calendar for Sept. 1, the next date to bring in food, cleaning and hygiene items for distribution.
- The Crafters are working on scarves and hats, and encourage the purchase of gloves for winter distribution. They currently have a surplus of wool yarn, and suggest anyone availing themselves of it could make a donation to Missions.
- We continue with our aim to "Care for the Earth" by celebrating and nurturing the natural world. Starting Aug. 18 we will maintain a "green table" where Emmanuel members can offer suggestions on possible environmental efforts, and sign up to become part of a Green Team.
- This year's UCC Neighbors in Need collection takes place Oct. 6. This year's theme is "Mental Health is a Universal Human Right."
- Missions voted to make a donation of \$100 from Missions funds to Zwingli UCC in East Berlin, in memory of the Rev. Julia Beall, who contributed so much to the refugee resettlement effort.

Worship & Music Committee — July 30

- Music Director's Report: The Steinway piano is at the shop for repairs, the company requests a 50 percent down payment.

Upcoming services

- 10/6: Communion.
- 10/13: Confirmands presented.
- 10/20: Laity Sunday. Charlotte has spoken with Cheryl Fritz, they will be meeting in early August to construct a service and hope to include many persons.
- 10/27: All Saints Day.

Follow ups

- Amy plans to have the bells assessed and repaired in August.
- Rev. Ken will seek someone to aid in updating our music library, Amy may use other assistance as she desires.
- Amy has planned a concert series of five events with tentative dates, she will plan around holidays and known existing concerts.

First Sunday Communion Gifts

Did you know?

- Did you know that the average amount of food collected each month from our congregation was 53.5 pounds, and an average of 19 items of cleaning and hygiene products, from February 2023 through January 2024?
- Did you know that a total of 640 pounds was collected for that fiscal year?
- Did you know that this is approximately 8 pounds more given each month over last year?
- Did you know how thankful hungry people are for your giving?
- Did you know?

~Marilyn Van Lenten

Your First Sunday Communion Gifts of pantry foods, cleaning products and personal hygiene items are distributed among God's Meal Barrel, the Hanover Area Council of Churches and New Hope Ministries. Upcoming offering dates include September 1 and October 6.



Join - THE - Choirs!

All returning and new musicians are welcome to join the choirs!

Thursday rehearsals begin Sept. 5:

[Emmanuel Ringers: 6-7 pm]
[Chancel Choir: 7-8:30 pm]

For questions, contact Music Director
Amy Kwon at 410-262-3031 or
akskwon@yahoo.com.

Keystone Conference

Four Pa. conferences move toward merger

Earlier this year, the four United Church of Christ conferences in Pennsylvania gathered for their first shared annual meetings. It was one step toward the possibility of forming a new, combined conference from the Penn West, Penn Central, Pennsylvania Southeast, and Penn Northeast Conferences.

The theme – “Together we are stronger” – was echoed throughout the visual displays and collective worship at their June 7-9 gathering in State College.



“It was one the most amazing experiences I’ve had in the course of my life in ministry,” said the Rev. David Ackerman, Penn West Conference minister. “It was a tremendous experience – the energy, the Spirit was present. Whether the Keystone vote in November is affirmative or not, we’ll always have that.”

The gathering of 436 people in-person and 140 online delved into the details of a proposed Keystone conference – items like governance, staffing and finance – and collected feedback from attendees, which will be further addressed in town hall-style meetings this fall.

“What I heard from folks is that they felt connection in ways that they hadn’t felt across the conferences in the past. There was energy and hope,” said the Rev. Bonnie Bates, conference minister of Penn Northeast.

The official motion that proposes dissolving the current four conferences and creating a new, combined Keystone Conference will be voted on by delegates at each respective conference’s gathering in November.

If the motion passes in all four conferences, it will be presented as a resolution to the Governance Committee of the UCC Board of Directors for a delegate vote at the 2025 General Synod in Kansas City.

Town Hall Meetings

The Penn Central Conference will host three online town hall meetings when you can learn more about the proposed Keystone Conference and have the opportunity to ask questions. The meeting schedule includes:

- 6:30 pm Monday, September 23
Topics: Timeline, staffing, finance
- 6:30 pm Tuesday, October 1
Topics: Timeline, Pennsylvania mission focus
- 3 pm Wednesday, October 23
Topics: Timeline, associations

For registration links, email the church office at office@eucchanover.org.

‘Fresh expressions of faith’

Ideas for a “Keystone” Conference – the name a reference to Pennsylvania’s state nickname – have been about two years in the making.

It originated with conversation between the conference ministers, who established a study group in October of 2022. This quickly became the Keystone Working Group, consisting of five representatives from each conference who have met regularly since.

“We were all looking at ways to optimize the resources we had and to help our congregations feel better supported and more connected in a time when donations were going down in some places and the church really needs a strong voice,” Bates said.

The Keystone resolution describes how “these current times require fresh expressions of faith, rituals, discipleship, and leadership.”

“We believe that if we are to encourage and transform the church we know, we must

Continued on next page

For complete details on the Keystone Project visit <https://psec.org/keystone>

Keystone Conference, Continued from Page 8

transform ourselves and the denominational structures and expectations we have of them and each other,” it states.

The four Pennsylvania conferences have significantly declined in the number of churches, pastors, and funds since their beginnings – factors that the working group believe can be better met by sharing and combining resources. Conference leaders have also witnessed the 2019 establishment of the Southern New England Conference, created when General Synod approved the dissolution of Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island Conferences to form the new conference.

“We were talking to our churches about now being the time for shared ministry and realized we need to be talking about this at the conference level too,” said the Rev. Carrie Call, Penn Central Conference minister.

While the working group initially considered several different forms for sharing resources, they overwhelmingly opted for fully combining the conferences as the best way to serve congregations, conferences, and pastors, Bates said.

‘Together we are stronger’

Given that each conference has its unique attributes and offerings, each could experience different impacts in merging into one.

For instance, the Rev. William Worley, Pennsylvania Southeast Conference minister, described how he can travel anywhere within his conference within an hour and a half, and with the proposal of a statewide geographical area, he has heard fears about losing a sense of intimacy. Others have expressed worries about the mostly small churches that make up each conference getting lost in the mix. And questions have arisen around what shared identity means when churches embody a wide range of perspectives.

And yet, surveys conducted by the working group on topics like theological perspectives, connection to the broader UCC, and how pastors relate to their congregations have revealed that the four conferences are more similar than they are different, according to Bates.

As each conference anticipates its upcoming vote

By the Numbers

- **MEMBERSHIP:** The United Church of Christ overall declined by 286,100 members from 2012 to 2022, according to the 2023 Statistical Report released by the UCC’s Center for Analytics, Research & Development and Data. They currently report approximately 712,000 members nationwide. At its peak in the late 1950s, membership was more than 2.2 million.
- **CONGREGATIONS:** The Center for Analytics also reports a loss of 551 congregations in recent years. From 2012 to 2022, the UCC went from 5,154 congregations to 4,603 congregations.
- **IN PENNSYLVANIA:** The state has 549 congregations, or 11.9 percent of all UCC congregations nationwide, the most congregations of any state. PA has approximately 97,000 UCC members, or 13.6 percent of members nationwide.
- **IN THE PCC:** The Penn Central Conference has 184 congregations and approximately 25,000 members.

Next Step

Saturday, November 9, all four Conferences will meet in their regions to vote on the Keystone Conference Resolution. Stay tuned for details about a Gettysburg Association meeting.

- A 2/3 majority is required for the resolution to pass.
- All 4 Conferences must vote “yes” for the merger to move forward.

in November, the joint annual meeting offered a glimpse of how a Keystone Conference could offer new opportunities.

“The connections that occurred at our joint meeting demonstrated that bringing worship resources, workshop resources, question and answer resources, and gathering people together, we really were stronger than we could have been alone,” said Bates. “We really are committed to the ‘together we are stronger’ vision of who we can be.”

~by Kayla Berkey, a digital content specialist in the Marketing & Communications department at the UCC’s headquarters in Cleveland.

Thank You



GIRL SCOUT OLYMPICS

- Girl Scout Daisy Troop 80119 hosted some sister Daisies (above) for an Olympics-themed night on July 30 at Emmanuel, wrapping up their scouting year. The troop formed in March and meets two Wednesdays a month.
- Troop leader Ashley Miller writes, “Thank you so much for providing the space for us to have a very successful first year. We are beyond grateful.” The scouts will start a new year in September. Girl Scouts discover their strengths, try new things, nurture friendships and get to be themselves!
- For information or to join, contact Ashley at 717-698-4706 ashley.en.brown@gmail.com.

► Thanks for supporting Walk A Mile

A great big “Thank You” to everyone participating in the YWCA Walk A Mile In Her Shoes event on August 9. Those who walked, sat or prayed for success had a role in supporting this cause. Thank You! ~The Church Growth Team

Homewood Auxiliary 2024 Membership Drive

The Homewood at Plum Creek Auxiliary Annual Membership Campaign will soon be starting at Emmanuel UCC. This



continuing care retirement community in Hanover is a mission of the United Church of Christ. Details about this year’s campaign will be revealed in the October EmmanueLife and posted in the King Auditorium.

We are very grateful for the continued support by Emmanuel’s congregation. Together with 37 other UCC churches in our area, the financial contributions from membership drives help to purchase many Wish List items, directly benefiting residents in Personal Care and Nursing Care at Plum Creek.

With over \$5,900 raised during the 2024 membership campaign, the Auxiliary purchased 48 VOITH phones, 2 robotic therapy pets, a cotton candy machine, and 5 TV headsets, just to name a few of the dozens of items requested.

We are looking forward to continuing in-person Auxiliary fundraising events and programs in 2025. Although the Plum Creek Auxiliary Annual Tea was cancelled this year due to a high number of COVID cases, we are optimistic that this very popular fundraiser, which has been the largest source of Auxiliary donations each year, will be held again next summer.

Please contact Peg Moulton at 443-904-0234 or peggy2@comcast.net for more information about Homewood and the Auxiliary programs.

Rev. Ken, continued from Page 1

We start to worship in the Sanctuary once more on September 8. I hope to see you there that week and weeks after. If you’re a YouTube viewer, I’d love to hear from you – really! I’d like to hear about your experience online, and, I’d be happy to make a visit to you in person. My visits are kind and easy, just a chance to say hi and offer you a friendship. Please, let me know!

So have an incredible end of the Summer (boo-hoo, he says) and know that a positive attitude is held in place – right here and with lots of hope as well.

~Rev. Ken

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

The following members and friends of Emmanuel celebrate birthdays in **September**. We extend to each of you best wishes and many happy returns. May God bless you!

- 1—Emily Groft
- 2—Theresa Giesey
- 3—Amy Anderson
- 4—John McLin
- 6—Beth Loscomb, Glenda Robinson, John Giesey
- 9—Janet Bamford
- 10—Brian Frederick
- 12—Dot Cooper
- 13—Steven Garrett
- 18—Gregory Bair II
- 21—Kathy Auchey
- 24—Debbie Teal, Alec Sivel
- 27—Mike Fritz
- 28—Michael Gessner
- 29—Estelle King, Jane Cooper
- 30—Win Phillips, Brynt Little

Remembering ♦ Caring ♦ Reaching Out

Terri Alcott (Care South)
Barbara Coledge
Julia Greth (Terrace E371)
 Homewood, 425 Westminster Avenue,
 Hanover PA 17331

Ed & AnnaMae Frederick
 3 Regal Drive, Hanover PA 17331

Becci Little
 2990 Carlisle Pike, Room 4528, New Oxford PA 17350

Doris Unger (Room 214A)
 Hanover Hall, 267 Frederick St., Hanover PA 17331

► **Have some news?**

Change of address?
 New email? Let us know!
 office@eucchanover.org
 124 Broadway, Hanover PA 17331



Call the office for info on Coffee with Rev. Ken

September 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 10 am—Worship w/ Holy Communion in King Auditorium 6 pm—Mindfulness in King Auditorium	2 ~ Office Closed ~	3 4 pm—Worship & Music Committee	4	5 1:30-4 pm—Afternoon of Games 6—Handbells 7—Choir	6	7
8 Congregation Appreciation Sunday 10 am—Worship in the sanctuary Children's SS 12pm—Lunch Bunch	9 1-4 pm—Crafters in the Pastor's Parlor	10 12-Church Growth Zoom	11 12-1 pm Bowers Chapel Open 1 pm—Missions Committee meeting 7 pm—Property Committee meeting	12 6—Handbells 7—Choir	13 Yard Sale 9 am-4pm in King Auditorium	14 Yard Sale 9 am-4pm
15 8:30 am—Adult SS 10 am—Worship Children's SS	16 1-4 pm—Crafters in the Pastor's Parlor 7 pm—Consistory	17	18 12-1 pm Bowers Chapel Open	19 1:30-4 pm—Afternoon of Games 6—Handbells 7—Choir	20	21
22 8:30 am—Adult SS 10 am—Worship Children's SS	23 1-4 pm—Crafters in the Pastor's Parlor	24	25 12-1 pm Bowers Chapel Open	26 6—Handbells 7—Choir	27	28
29 8:30 am—Adult SS 10 am—Worship Children's SS	30 1-4 pm—Crafters in the Pastor's Parlor	1 October	2 12-1 pm Bowers Chapel Open	3 6—Handbells 7—Choir	4	5

Emmanuel United Church of Christ
124 Broadway
Hanover, PA 17331
(Return Service Requested)

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September 2024

Emmanuel United Church of Christ, 124 Broadway, Hanover, PA 17331



Worship Services
10 am Sunday

Rev. Ken Peterkin
860-581-0869
pastor@eucchanover.org

Church Office
9 am-1 pm, Mon-Fri
717-632-8281
office@eucchanover.org

Visit Online
www.emmanuelucc.org

Inside

■ **Concert Series Schedule**

Enjoy five concerts featuring a variety of programs from vocalists and instrumentalists.
~Details, Page 3



■ **September at Emmanuel**

A new year of music, learning and activities kicks off this month ~See Page 2

■ **Fall Yard Sale**

The annual Yard Sale will be held at church ~See Page 4

• Our church is an OPEN AND AFFIRMING congregation •