

# GOOD NEWS NOTES

The United Church of Christ East Goshen  
1201 North Chester Road, West Chester, PA 19380  
Worship 5:30 Saturday & 10:00 am Sunday

610-692-2951  
www.ucceastgoshen.org  
**September 2019**

Rev. Angelee Benner-Smith, Pastor  
Rev. Douglas Holder, Director of Music Ministry  
Phyllis Kinser, Administrative Assistant

## *From Our Pastor...*

### **A Mindful Spirit of Hope**

One of the huge areas of healing in body, spirit, mind and distress is to be mindful of surroundings, our bodies, the air, the people, the colors, the smells, bells and whistles. When we are mindful we can often move into a process of gratitude, graciously remembering what we have, who is with us, and the tangible and intangible blessings which fill our lives.

Recently I filled out a gratitude journal which asked me to write down 3 friends I am grateful for, 3 opportunities I have had which I am grateful for, 3 blue things which I am grateful for, 3 books which I am grateful for, 3 things which make me laugh which I am grateful for, 3 fond memories I love to retell which make me grateful.

Each time I think over the answers, they are somewhat different, although my blue 1972 VW Super Beetle automatic shift is always on the blue list. But there is so much we can be grateful for and the list is never complete. And the mindfulness of gratitude always lifts our spirit for the moment, the hour, the day, or maybe the week.

In 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:18, Paul writes, *“Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will for you who belong to Christ.”*

Always thinking of a compliment, a word of praise a positive affirmation is a very appealing attribute of a friend. Ed Riley, who was a former boss of mine, told me the secret to his management style was for each minute he had to criticize, he gave 5 minutes of praise. Never linger on the criticism, but linger on the praise.

What would be three things God would be grateful for in each of us? And three things in our congregation? Our denomination? The wider Church?

Do we make God smile through the day as we live out our wise and courageous faith? I hope so. Do we seek to write down our daily gratitudes and sing God’s praise, giving thanks as we live out our circumstances, both harsh and joyful, struggling and optimistic, difficult and bursting with light? Are we the people who shine a light on the eco-anxiety of our culture (the generalized sense that the ecological foundations of existence are in the process of collapse), or give hope to all which seems barren, plastic-coated and isolating?

Where are our grateful words, images and scriptures? Pull them out, read and share the mantras of faith and the courage of the cloud of witnesses around, behind and before us. Let’s begin this fall with an overwhelming sense of extravagant gratitude – of a most extravagant God.

Look at: Hebrews 12:1-2, Philippians 4:6-7, Romans 12:2, Proverbs 4:23.

In gratitude for our church, our faith and you,

*Pastor Angelee*



## Our Volunteers for Sunday Service

Where there are open spots, members are encouraged to volunteer! Use [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com)

SEPTEMBER	1 – Communion	8 Rally Day	15– Family	22	29
<b>Greeters</b>	Sue Ogram		Cole B-Smith	Michelle, Anna Lubnow	
<b>Acolyte</b>					
<b>Children’s Chat</b>	n/a		Bonnie Yost	Al Benner- Smith	Chuck Gosselink
<b>Scripture</b>					
<b>Hospitality</b>	Bunny Watts & Lucy Barber	Congregation	Steve & Bonnie Yost	Gosselink & Mahard Families	Suzan Ogram & Ann Boohar
<b>Counters</b>	Linda Ardao, Lucy Barber	Bart Yost, Leslie Siebert	Beth Saylor, Tina Larsen	Bonnie Yost, Todd Speece	_____ Al Benner-Smith

**9/1 Comm. Servers:** Tina Larsen, Bart Yost, Todd Speece,

## Our Saturday Roots & Roofs Worship Service

At United Church of Christ East Goshen meets on Saturdays at 5:30 pm. We pray that folks seeking a Saturday evening worship experience can come to know the unconditional love of



God that is presented every Sunday morning from our pulpit! For all those looking for a new time of day to sing God’s praise; a more informal setting (we gather in Fellowship Hall), come and share a pot luck meal together and discussion and presentations on our theme which, beginning in September, will be all about uncovering family dynamics, graces, challenges and loving faith for the journey! All Invited! Single and multi-families are encouraged to attend.

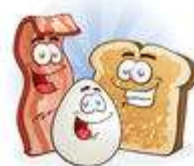
**Follow us on Facebook. Search for Roots and Roofs**

### Join Us!

A New Members class, for those considering UCCEG as their church home, will be held Saturday, October 19 at 10:00 a.m. Those who attend the Saturday service will join that evening, those who attend Sundays on the 20<sup>th</sup> at the 10:00 service.

**“Café Script,”** Beginning September 3 we’re back. The Pastor’s discussion group meets on Tuesday mornings from 10:30 to 12:00 noon. Please come out and share in this opportunity for in-depth discussion. As we share where we each are in our life, we seek together to hear God’s voice and direction on our journey,. Out time includes prayer, support and listening for God’s insight as we hear each other’s stories and read our week’s scripture text.

### **Breakfast- Tuesday Sept 10**



From 8:30 to 10:00 am, join others of all ages for breakfast and fellowship. We meet at the West Chester Senior Center on East Union Street to enjoy a full breakfast. Price is \$4.00 per person.

Please join others for this fun outing!

### **Greetings from Growth Committee! - September**

As we move into one of the busiest and most exciting months for UCC East Goshen, we can perhaps more easily accept the challenges it demands by thinking about how important September is to our wonderful church. There are many opportunities to get to know each other better as we make apple butter, we prepare a basket for the silent auction, we volunteer at a festival booth, and we invite our friends to attend the Festival or buy a ticket for the golf ball drop raffle. Apple Butter Festival gives us a reason to “talk up” our church—to proudly display that we are a family and that we welcome everyone “no matter where they are on life’s journey”!

Let's take full advantage of this opportunity. Spread the word about the Apple Butter Festival! Invite people! Ask them to bring a friend or two. We will have 2 food trucks: **Scoops'N Smiles**, serving ice cream, and **Sabatino's of West Chester**, serving some hot foods and salads. We have some really colorful flyers to advertise the festival. Please take one and post it in the break room at work. If you have businesses you frequent, share the information about the event with them.

I think it's fairly safe to say that most of us love UCC East Goshen because of its warmth, its unconditional welcome, the message it imparts, and the care it offers for all. Let's share that as widely as possible!

It's really easy! Make sure you "LIKE" our FaceBook Page. Same for Roots and Roofs. When you see new events, thoughts, or pictures, share them with your friends. It's a great way to say, "I LOVE MY CHURCH"! Attach whatever emoji or cute symbols seem appropriate. When the Weekly E-Mail hits your in-box, send it on to a friend. It's nice to get a personal note, and a personal invitation. What a wonderful way to show folks you're thinking of them.

From the perspective of Growth Committee, Apple Butter Festival offers us the chance to bring new people onto our lovely property. It allows us to show off what makes us unique and special—our unconditional love for this place and each other. If your friends do come, please show them the Sanctuary while they are here. It's a chance to demonstrate the beautiful, simple openness of the space and how comforting it is to sit in a pew, listen to an inspiring service, and look out at the nature beyond.

See you at Apple Butter Festival, my friends, and hoping to meet your friends too!

## **Christian Education**

### **Family Education**

The ever talented Linda Ardao will be presenting 2 weekly sessions, titled "Family Roles- Unpacking your family's backpack." This program is appropriate for teenagers and older, and will be held on September 29 and October 6, following Church. It should bring lots of discussion! Put it on your calendar!

### **Rally Day -- September 8**

Let's kick off the school year on September 8th as we celebrate Rally Day! We welcome everyone back

from the hot days of summer, hoping everyone has enjoyed some time away or relaxation at home. The children will begin the new year of Sunday School, and they are invited to bring their backpacks along, as Pastor Angelee will have a special blessing for them. We will also acknowledge the dedicated Sunday School teachers who give their time to help our children learn what it means to be a Christian.

### **Rally Day also features a pot luck meal!**

This event, sponsored by Congregational Life, has been scheduled to coincide with Rally Day this year. After we celebrate the beginning of the Church school year during the 10:00 AM service, we will gather for a delicious variety of main dishes, vegetables and desserts. Drinks will be provided, but please bring something to share. Join us for the Rally Day service and gathering afterward!

### **Church Financial Update**

Thank you for your consistent and generous giving to UCC East Goshen. This summer members have been very faithful in remembering their pledges and tithes while on vacation. Thank you!

*Your Church Council*

### **Music Ministry**

Greetings Friends in Christ,

The tempo of this summer has been PRESTO! It hardly seems possible that it is time to rehearse and share music for this fall.

The singing choir and hand bell choir met on August 25 for the first time. The choir is hoping to add to the festivities of Rally Day on September 8<sup>th</sup>. They are looking forward to sharing a wonderful Christmas Cantata, "Were You There on That Christmas Night?" The hand bell choir will begin rehearsals in October. We will be working on pieces for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

John and I have been excited to meet so many of you over the summer. Some were friends we had known previously, and it was a joy to reconnect with them. It has been a blessing to make so many new friends, too.

Please feel free to make yourself at home in either or both choir. We would be glad to have you join us.

Enjoy the remaining days of summer, and will look forward to an autumn of great, great music.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Doug (Our Director of Music Ministry)



## GOLF BALL DROP

### AN APPLE BUTTER FESTIVAL FAVORITE

Indeed, 100's of golf balls will be dropped from atop East Goshen's ladder truck again this year! With balls bouncing everywhere, which three will be closest to the pin? This exciting event will take place at the end of the day while getting ready to jar the freshly made apple butter.



Numbered golf balls are being sold now and three lucky winners will receive cash prizes if their ball is one of the nearest to the pin.

Our goal is to sell 800 "chances" with as many as possible sold prior to the Festival. It is great fun to watch and an even better way to support the church. Your council members have already accepted the challenge of selling 400 chances which is a great start. Now it is your turn to help us reach our goal. We would like members and friends of UCCEG to not only buy tickets for themselves but also sell tickets to other friends, family, and coworkers. "With a little help from our friends" (that is Beatles talk) we can easily attain this goal.

Golf Ball tickets will be available after most church services or by contacting Steve Yost. So how about joining in on the excitement and imagining your ball closet to the pin for a tap in and the grand prize! Your support is truly appreciated!

### Boscov's Coupons

Once again, we are participating in Boscov's "Friend Helping Friends." This program helps non-profits by having a special sale day in October. Boscov's offers 20% off coupons good on that day, which are available for a \$5 contribution to the non-profit. UCC east Goshen has coupons available. Please see Beth Sayler to purchase or help sell these coupons. Thank you.



### Mission Opportunity

Many of you know that we are supporting a young woman named Nataly from Peru, so she can pursue a nursing degree.



Any donations should be noted specifically for Nataly when placed in the offering plate. Thank you

for your consideration of this worthwhile outreach. To those who have already donated, thank you!

### Apple Butter Festival Is Coming!

On September 28, 2019 we'll gather for a tradition that is a community favorite -- our annual Apple Butter Festival. This is the biggest, most important fundraiser of the year for our church and there are opportunities for all to join in the fun and share in the festivities. Our committee will continue to meet each week this month following worship to keep us on schedule. We will need lots of help on that date and ask you to check the sign-up sheets in the Narthex to indicate the areas where you can volunteer for a time. Talk to Todd Speece (610) 639-9269 if you have any questions. We hope to see you there!



### Wanted Bakers/Candy/Craft Makers:

Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex to bring some item(s) for our bake table at the Apple Butter Festival on September 28. We need all types of baked goods/candies/crafts - in addition to regular food items, our customers look for sugar free, glucose free, nut free. Please be sure to have the item(s) covered and labeled as to what it is. Individual servings as well platefuls are needed. (Some people look for craft items to use for teacher gifts) Also, needed are people to sit at table to sell these items. Any questions, please call me. Thank you. Avalon Wittig 610-436-8651



### Food and Grocery Donations

The Mission and Outreach team at UCCEG have agreed that going forward all food and grocery donations will be given to the **West Chester University Resource Pantry**. Our collection focus will change every few months to match their needs. As we prepare for fall, the focus shifts to **School Supplies**. Bring the kinds of things college students might need but can't afford, to the box in the narthex. Thank you for your continued support of those in need in our community!

### Flowers at the front of the Sanctuary

If you are interested in sponsoring flowers in memory of a loved one or in celebration of an event, please pick a date and sign up on the sheet hanging on the bulletin board in the Narthex! The cost is \$15.00 for one vase or \$25.00 for two vases.



## **A Message from Your Council President**

Summer is waning, but not the temps! UCCEG is getting ready for autumn. On September 8 we will celebrate Rally Day and bless your backpacks and briefcases for another year of growth. Both young adults (age 15 and over) and adults are invited to join me after the September 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> services for an interactive presentation about our “Family Roles” ... “unpacking your family backpack.” This is a two part series occurring at 11:30 am, following services on September 15 and 29.

Of course, you know we are known as the “Apple butter Church”! Our apple butter festival will be held on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. Please consider helping the 2 weeks in advance by helping peel apples and making applesauce before our Al Benner-Smith adds his secret ingredients.

Roots and Roofs, our Saturday service which we advertise as a “different way to worship” starts up again on Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> beginning its new “Family Series” of services. Come and pray, eat and experience R&R. R&R has developed a devoted following and has added significant contributions to our general fund.

Your church council has been very busy all year coordinating the services of all our standing committees to serve our church and its mission. At our council retreat last February, committee groups set goals for the year. We have increased opportunities for renting our church space. Surrey Services has had a very successful start and has increased its offerings to include services on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. This has helped bring in additional funds to our church and also additional folks attending our Sunday service. We have increased our offerings to rent space to other groups as well.

The church council is also looking at setting goals for the future. Remember our council minutes are available to you in the church office so you may keep abreast of our committee activities and council decisions.

One of our significant goals is to increase our connection to each other. We are a very friendly, supportive and deeply spiritual lot! We are mindful of the ways that we can increase our connection to each other. Something as simple as wearing our name tag can make a new person feel at ease. Attending fellowship after church is another way to do this, and consider serving, even in a small way, on one of our committee activities. Living together in God’s love was our original mission goal, and

extending that love to the community outside our doors shows how committed we are to live that way. As council members, we want you to feel an active part in our community, and there will be opportunities to share in ideas for the future of our church as the council seeks to plan for the future. I hope you will speak up and vision together with us. I pray for the continued loving connection, of our pastor and our dedicated church leaders, our congregation and visitors as we journey on in faith together!

Bless you all, Linda Ardao

### **Committee Chairs**

Al Benner-Smith	Growth
Tina Larsen	Congregational Life
Bart Yost	Building & Grounds
Linda Ardao (temp)	Music & Worship
Lucy Barber	Mission & Outreach
Bonnie Yost	Christian Education
Beth Saylor	Financials

### **Amazon Smile**

Thank you to those who have shopped on Amazon Smile and chosen UCCEG as their charity! Please spread the word and encourage your friends and family to choose UCCEG. Every little bit helps! Amazon’s fundraising program will donate .5% of all qualified purchases directly to UCC EG. Log on to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). Select United Church of Christ East Goshen (spell out full name) as your charity. You will see the same website as amazon.com. So, shop as you normally would and support UCC East Goshen while you shop at smile.amazon.com.

### **Surrey Services at UCCEG**

Surrey Services offers programs and lunch here on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. If you haven’t had a chance to look into their programs, please review the events offered at [www.surreyservices.org](http://www.surreyservices.org).

## **SEPTEMBER CALENDAR**

Sept. 1	10:00 am	<b>Sunday Worship</b> <b>Communion Shared</b>
	11:15 am	Fellowship
Sept. 3	10:30 am	Café Script
	6:30 pm	Worship & Music Cmte
Sept. 5	10:30 am	Salvation Army Meal
Sept. 6	1:00 pm	Lunch Bunch at Oriental Pearl
Sept. 7	1:00 pm	Funeral – George Davis
	5:30 pm	<b>Roots &amp; Roofs Worship</b>
Sept. 8	10:00 am	<b>Sunday Worship,</b> <b>Rally Day</b>
	11:15 am	Fellowship – Pot Luck
	11:30 am	Apple Butter Meeting
Sept. 10	8:30 am	Senior Center Breakfast
	10:30 am	Café Script
Sept. 14	3:30-5pm	New Member Class
	5:30 pm	<b>Roots &amp; Roofs Worship</b>
Sept. 15	10:00 am	<b>Sunday Worship</b>
	11:15 am	Fellowship
	11:30 am	Apple Butter Meeting
Sept. 16	7:00 pm	Church Council Meeting
Sept. 17	10:30 am	Café Script
Sept. 21	5:30 pm	<b>Roots &amp; Roofs Worship</b>
Sept. 22	10:00 am	<b>Sunday Family Worship</b>
	11:15 am	Fellowship
	11:30 am	Apple Butter Meeting
	11:30 am	New Member Meeting
Sept. 28	9-3	Apple Butter Festival
	5:30 pm	<b>Roots &amp; Roofs Worship</b>
Sept. 29	10:00 am	<b>Sunday Worship</b>
	11:15 am	Fellowship
	11:30	Family Roles - Education
	11:30	Apple Butter Meeting

Every Sunday 3:00 – 5:00 pm – Concordia  
Choral Arts

Every Monday 7:00 pm – **AA** Meeting

Every Tuesday 7:30 pm – **GA** Meeting

Every Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 9am-3pm –

**Surrey Services** for Seniors

### **Lunch Bunch – Friday September 6 at 1 PM**

Open to all ages to enjoy lunch Friday at 1 pm!

This month we meet at Oriental Pearl restaurant.

### **\*\*Become a Member of UCC East Goshen\*\***

**New member classes** are scheduled on:

Saturday 9/14, 3:30 – 5 and

Sunday 9/22, 11:30 – 1 pm

Reception of new members:

Sunday, Oct. 6 – for Sunday worshippers and

Saturday, Oct. 5 -- for Saturday worshippers

Please see Pastor Benner-Smith to let her know of your interest!

### **UCCEG Rental Space - Spread the Word!**

Our building is conveniently located and includes areas for a wide variety of groups and events.

Remember, the best advertising is word of mouth!

Brochures with this information are available in the Church Narthex. (*Steve Yost, sbbaa@verizon.net, and Todd Speece, todd.speece@gmail.com, are our church rental contact people.*)

### **Choir**

See Rev. Doug Holder to participate in weekly choir.

We would love to hear your voice!

### **Coming Soon**

Pastor Angelee is forming a new spiritual support group which will meet in the evening. Watch for details in the September bulletins!