

# Newsletter

United Church of Christ East Goshen

November 2020

In this issue:

Pastor's Message P. 1

Announcements & AUCTION P. 2

Financial Update & A Note From Council P. 3

Coat Drive, Prayer Group & NIN Special Offering P. 4

WCU Resource Pantry Drive & Cooking AppleButter P. 5

Worship & Office Details P. 6

## "for such a time is this...?"

*This morning I asked my Café script participates what were their favorite scriptures/themes from the bible which they held onto as life mantras, helping to unearth God's call in our life. They were insightful, from Matthew 6:25-34 "the lilies of the field which neither toil nor spin, or worry," and Psalm 100: "make a joyful noise, O be glad," and Psalm 23: "the Lord is my Shepard I shall not want," and psalm 62: "He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken" and Isaiah 41:13: "For I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, 'Fear not, I will help you. '"*

*Where do you get comfort? What words do you hold onto from the bible as you find your feet in quicksand? Your heart broken? Your dreams sideswiped? Your plans completely devastated?*

*During these months of covid, making choices and plans for any parts of life, while uncertainty is lurking around each corner, has taken all the courage we can muster. We have all been called to find our strongest resilience, our better angels, and cling to that which we know is sure, certain, alive and comforting. As we are waiting for some cure for this pandemic, opening to be safe, lower numbers of those infected and more civil conversations, what is God offering to us from ancient sources? Could there be some promise and power in the words which moved our hearts in the past that come to mind when the days are not ordinary or common? Could we have Our Bible "for just a time as this?" That line comes to us from the book in the bible called Esther chapter 4 verse 14.*

*Author Kristen Brown writes this: "For such a time as this" - the phrase alone invokes courage and hope among believers. From the time we're first introduced*

*to it from the book of Esther, these six simple words inspire us toward that one defining moment we all long for—our chance to make a difference." A moment like Queen Esther's when it didn't seem that she was being called to bring healing, perspective, and energy to a whole people while they were under direst." We can learn how to discover our own "for such a time as this" by reflecting on these words, it involves so much more than one pivotal moment. It also involves trusting God right where we are."*

*So, what is the Good News you remember from Sunday school, or at a family meal when prayers have been said? What were the first scriptures, statement of faith, or words of liturgy which you remember? What are the refrains God has placed in your heart to keep you going and "fear not" as you have lived since March? Where will your strength come from as we look forward to many more months of caution, distancing, health scares and living in these times?*

*Don't keep your precious gems of Light and hope to yourself, write them, send them, say them, repeat them, pray them, remember them.*

*For such a time  
is this...  
"We've got this!"*

*With prayers for  
strength on the  
journey,*

*~ Pastor Angelee  
(she/her/hers)*



### Mark Your Calendars

Nov 1 – All  
Saints Sunday

Nov 8 – Harper  
Yost Baptism

Nov 9 – 6 PM  
Roots & Roofs  
Planning Mtg

Nov 16 – 7 PM  
Church  
Council  
Meeting

Nov 26 –  
Thanksgiving

Nov 29 – Advent  
Begins

## Altar Flowers

You can sponsor altar flowers for \$15 for one vase or \$25 for two vases. If you are interested in sponsoring a Sunday, please contact [Jen Troutman](#). Arrangements can be made to pick up the flowers after worship, if you desire.



## Café Script!

Our Café Script Bible study meets using Zoom at **11 AM on Wednesdays**. All are welcome!

(No meeting Nov. 18)

[Click here to join the Café Script Zoom meeting.](#)



## Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request, please [email it to the church office](#) and we will be sure to add it to the prayer list!



## Worship Help

Our music and worship team is in need of a few willing people to help run the video and audio equipment during the virtual service each Sunday at 10:00

AM. Bart and Al are more than willing to work with and teach any volunteers how the system works. Please consider this awesome opportunity to be a vital part of our virtual worship team! If you are interested please contact [Al Benner-Smith](#) or [Bart Yost](#).



## Children & Youth

Pastor Angelee invites the children and youth to a special Zoom session with her on Wednesday, November 11 4 PM – 5 PM. Keep an eye on your email for the Zoom link.



## Online Auction – Nov. 6-12 Going, going...gone!

Calling all friends and members of UCCEG, No matter how far or close you live to Church: You are invited to Bid and Outbid for the opportunity to win unique and exceptional items and experiences!

You can bid on a ski trip, a week at a resort in Florida, Zumba classes, Piano lessons, a curio cabinet, a batik handmade scarf, a miniature fairy garden, dance class certificate, pumpkin laced dishes, bottles of wine, caricatures, a wine tasting, a quilted wrap, an evening of astronomy with telescope and teacher, antique tools, lottery tickets, a ride to school on a firetruck, and many other occasions for fun!

Invite all your friends, family, co-workers, and school personal, to register today at [charityauction.bid/UCCEGAuction](https://charityauction.bid/UCCEGAuction) And don't forget to register yourself! You don't want to miss this first for UCCEG!

*Our on line auction team includes Beth Sayler, Michelle Lubnow, Bonnie Jackson, Candice Keith, Todd Layser, Jen Troutman, and Pastor Angelee*

## Baptism

On November 8th, Sunday we will have the joy of sharing in the baptism of Harper Yost, Nina and Adam Yost's new daughter. This will be an inside, in-person service, with family and worship leaders present, because of the size of our sanctuary, others will need to worship with us on Live stream that day.





## Financial Update

Thank you again for your continued support of UCC East Goshen. It has been a different year, for sure. With our building being closed, we have lost a significant portion of our expected "use of the building" income. Our PPP loan has covered that loss through October and we expect that loan to be forgiven. Offering has leveled off. Our Apple Butter Festival was canceled. This has made October a challenge.

Fortunately, expenses have been below budget. Although some programs have spent little or no money, others have spent more as we moved from in-person to online services. Licensing for music used and a Zoom account for remote meetings are two examples. We have kept current with our OCWM pledge. Major building repairs were paid for from existing funds and recent donations given for that purpose.

We have an exciting online auction coming up November 6-12. We have already raised over \$3,000.00 in cash donations and we have an assortment of items to bid on! Please register for the auction at [charityauction.bid/UCCEGAuction](https://charityauction.bid/UCCEGAuction) so that you are ready to bid on November 6. Share the link with family and friends, post it on your facebook page or share United Church of Christ East Goshen's facebook post.

I look forward to seeing many, if not all, of you when we resume in-person worship. Thank you for your offerings delivered in person, mailed, sent through Paypal and bank checks. Because of you, UCCEG continues to share in God's Love.

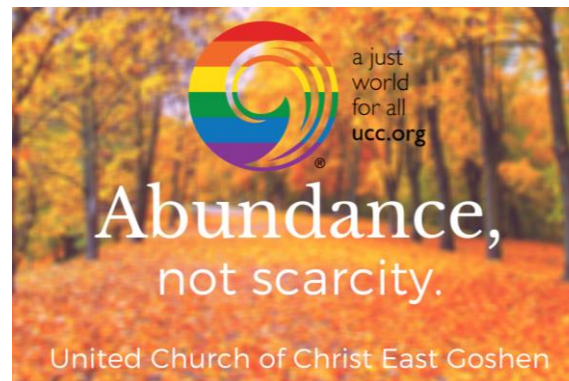
*Beth Saylor,*  
Treasurer

### Giving Statements

You should have received your third quarter giving statement. If you have not yet received it or have questions, please [contact Todd Speece](#).



## A Note From Council



In the beginning of 2020, the Council of UCCEG adopted "abundance" as their focus word. Not bounteousness, or gobs, or oodles or prevalence, but abundance.

Abundance mentality says that there is enough for everyone, so someone else's gain is not your loss. Its opposite, scarcity mentality, means there is only a fixed amount of reward, so another's gain is your loss.

In the spiritual context, abundance is less about material gains or losses (after basic needs are met) and instead focuses on appreciation of life in its fullness, joy, and strength of mind, body and soul. This word was chosen to help us focus on all that we have here at UCC East Goshen. To remind us that we have enough to share with each other and those who are not yet part of our circles.

This year has been difficult for most, if not all of us. We have changed the way we work, play, learn, meet, commiserate, comfort and worship, to name just a few. We have less of some things and more of others. Join the Council in our focus of abundance! By sharing, others thrive!



UCC East Goshen Mission and Outreach Team invites any additional offerings to support our wider UCC collection for Neighbors in Need. **Neighbors in Need (NIN)** is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice.

Please make your offering in your normal way, labelled for Neighbors in Need. Another way to donate to this collection (and any other) is via Paypal [here](#) or on the church website making a note that your donation is for Neighbors in Need.

Thank you for sharing in your abundance in this time, when so many of our Neighbors are in such great Need.

## NEW ZOOM LINKS!

Reminder:  
There are new Zoom links for  
Café Script  
Roots & Roofs  
and  
Sunday Fellowship.

Please be sure you have updated your bookmarks if you have not yet done so!



**ONE WARM COAT®**

Drop off any new or gently used coats, hats, gloves and scarves now through 11/20 at the [WEGO Police Department](#) or [East Goshen Township](#) building.

With your help we collected over 2,100 coats and an abundance of hats, gloves and scarves in 2019!

Learn more at [www.onewarmcoat.org](http://www.onewarmcoat.org)

### East Goshen Township:

Monday through Friday  
8:00 am - 5:00 pm  
1580 Paoli Pike,  
West Chester,  
PA 19380

### WEGO PD:

Monday through Friday  
8:30 am- 4:30pm  
1041 Wilmington Pike,  
West Chester,  
PA 19382

## New Prayer Group!

In this time in the world and in our personal lives we need to remember the gift to pray. Pastor Angelee would like to invite you to be a part of a new group to pray on line for joys, concerns, struggles, challenges, blessings and new opportunities.

We will meet once a week, anyone can [join in by clicking this Zoom link](#), all you need is a heart open to God's prodding and people's prayers.

Our first gathering will be at 6-6:45 PM on Tuesday November 3<sup>rd</sup> (Election Day!)

Please bring names of any you would like prayer for. Here is who we have so far:

Lynette L.  
Kyle W.  
Bonnie Y. and family  
Tom J.  
Julio A.  
Sam T.  
Todd L.  
Guy P.





UCCEG agreed as a congregation to support the West Chester University Resource Pantry. They still need our help – especially in this time where many students part-time jobs have been lost. The WCU Resource Pantry

continues to rely on donations from community partner organizations, corporations, individuals, and the community. They are in need of many personal care and food items, particularly those listed below. They are particularly interested in receiving nutritious and healthy food items, to help maintain the health and well-being of the students.

Collection boxes will be at UCCEG, outside on the porch for drop off at your convenience, during the following times:

**Friday October 30<sup>th</sup> to Monday November 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
(Including the outdoor Roots and Roofs Service)

**Friday November 9<sup>th</sup> to Monday November 12<sup>th</sup>.**

There will a contactless "trunk-fill drop off" between  
**9:30am and 10:30am on Monday November 12<sup>th</sup>**  
in the parking lot at Church.

You can also utilize their [Amazon Wish List](#) to have items sent directly to the University.

[Financial donations \(through the WCU Foundation\)](#) are always helpful and necessary for maintaining daily Pantry operations, and also go toward food/supply purchases.

Thanks for your generosity! Any queries, please contact Lucy Barber – Mission and Outreach

### **Items Needed:**

#### **Winter Clothes**

Winter coats, Hats, Scarves, Mittens/gloves

#### **Shelf Stable Foods**

Oatmeal, Rice/grains (quinoa, lentils, etc.), Hearty soups, Snack items (crackers, nuts, raisins, popcorn, etc.), Peanut butter, Jelly/jam, Macaroni & Cheese, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Granola bars Canned vegetables (green beans, peas, corn, tomatoes, carrots, etc.), Canned tuna, Canned chicken, Canned fruits, Condiments (ketchup, mustard, relish, salad dressing, etc.), Applesauce Meal kits, Ramen noodles, Oil (canola/vegetable, olive, etc.), Chili

#### **Personal care Items**

Reusable shopping bags, Lotion, Body wash, Deodorant, Shampoo & conditioner, Laundry pods, Dryer sheets, Dish soap Paper towels, Toilet paper, Toothbrushes/oral care, Soap (bar and pump), Shaving lotion

## **Cooking Applebutter This Fall**



Making Applebutter has been a "fun-raiser" for more than twenty years here at UCC East Goshen. it's not safe to have the festival, but by golly, we can have some fun! The week of November 7, we're going

to be making applesauce (which my Pennsylvania Dutch grandma called "snitzing" and cooking twenty-some-odd gallons of applebutter the old-fashioned way, over an open fire in the yard out front of church.

How to get in on it:

We'll need 5-8 volunteers on two or three days that week to snitz. It involves cutting the apples, cooking them, cooling the sauce and jarring it til Applebutter day.

We'll definitely snitz on Sunday, November 8 and Monday, the 9<sup>th</sup>. If we need another day, it'll probably be a weeknight that week, as you're available.

On Saturday, the 14<sup>th</sup>, we get up early and get the kettle on the fire by 8:00 a.m. This is where the "kibitzing" comes in. (that's PA Dutch for good-natured, perhaps a little funny, socializing) A handful of folks sit around, taking turns stirring the applesauce as it turns a fragrant brown and thickens to a heady, "mmmmm-inducing" delight. In the afternoon, we have to make sure that ten or so folks are around to do the canning. That's a half hour of organized chaos and then the best part: using thick, crusty bread to clean out the kettle. And yes, you eat it.

If you've been involved in the festival over the years but were so busy that you've never stirred, this year's for you! If you're curious about the recipe, we can't wait to see you. If you only have time for a part of the day, we sure need whatever you can do. Sign up [HERE](#) for what should be a wonderful, relaxed week of fall fun at UCC East Goshen.

[Click here to signup.](#)



## ROOT AND ROOFS

Roots and Roofs is an interactive worship service that we have been able to continue via Zoom throughout the pandemic. This is a great opportunity to reflect, pray, listen, discuss, and share in our faith. We usually get to see a powerful video conversation starter. And always there are musical selections which enhance our emotional and spiritual connection to the theme.

We look forward to having you  
[join us, every Saturday at 5:30 pm!](#)



Follow us on  
[Facebook.com/RootsandRoofs](https://Facebook.com/RootsandRoofs)

## OFFICE HOURS UPDATE!

- A Friendly Reminder: during this pandemic time when we are mostly working from home, we are attempting to keep up some semblance of normalcy just like everyone else. If you need something taken care of for church, [please email](#) our Office Administrator, Jen Troutman, Tuesday-Thursday between 9am and 1pm. *Requests received at other times may NOT be read or responded to until regular office hours.*
- Pastor Angelee can be reached by church phone or personal cell phone which is on the church machine. Most days, except Friday, she will return your call that same day. Emails are read and responded to as she receives them. Pastor Angelee is available to meet with you outside church, in the gazebo weather permitting. Please call or email her to make an appointment. *Note: Pastor Angelee will be away in New York on respite/retreat November 18-23.*

## Virtual Worship – Sundays @ 10 AM

The words to prayers and hymns will be displayed on the screen so everyone can join in while you watch worship. Invite your friends and family to join us online!

[Click here to join worship via FB Live.](#)

Join us for Zoom Fellowship each week after our virtual service – [click here to join Zoom Fellowship!](#)

## Newsletter Submissions

The UCCEG newsetter is published bi-monthly. Submissions are due by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month prior to publication to  
[office@ucceastgoshe.org](mailto:office@ucceastgoshe.org).

## Your Church Council

President - Linda Ardao  
Vice President - Don Rising  
Secretary - Leslie Siebert  
Treasurer - Beth Sayler  
Assistant Treasurer - open  
Financial Secretary - Todd Speece  
Building & Grounds - open  
Christian Education - Dawn Lawhon  
Church Growth - Al Benner-Smith  
Congregational Life – Bonnie Jackson  
Mission & Outreach - Lucy Barber  
Worship & Music - Bunny Watts

## United Church of Christ East Goshen

1201 NORTH CHESTER ROAD  
WEST CHESTER, PA 19380

610-692-2951

[www.UCCEastGoshen.org](http://www.UCCEastGoshen.org)



[\*Rev. Angelee Benner-Smith, Pastor\*](#)

[\*Maxwell Staley, Roots & Roofs Worship Leader\*](#)

[\*Michael Hatala, Director of Music Ministry\*](#)

[\*Jen Troutman, Office Administrator\*](#)