

# UCCEG Newsletter

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST EAST GOSHEN – OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2021

## Mark Your Calendars

### SUNDAY WORSHIP 10 AM

**Oct. 3** – World Communion  
Sunday, Indoor Worship

**Oct. 10** – Pastor Angelee's  
LAST Sunday at UCCEG

**Oct. 17** – Indoor Worship

**Oct. 24** – Indoor Worship

**Oct. 31** – Reformation  
Sunday, Indoor Worship

**Nov. 7** – Communion

**Nov. 14** – Indoor Worship

**Nov. 21** – Indoor Worship

**Nov. 28** – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of  
Advent, Indoor Worship

### MEETINGS

**Oct. 11** – Finance – 7 pm

**Oct. 13** - Staff Mtg. – 7 pm

**Oct. 18** – Council – 7 pm

**Nov. 8** – Finance – 7 pm

**Nov. 10** – Staff Mtg – 7 pm

**Nov. 15** – Council - 7 pm



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## Pastor Angelee's Words

*October 10th is only two Sundays away, as I write this, I am thinking of lots of memories, people, church events, notes, letters, prayers, weddings, baptisms, struggles and joys; and the literally thousands of Sundays, and special sermons / meditations I have written for UCCEG.*

*Our oldest Son Ritter asked: "If you wrote a book of the one or two-line points of your sermons what would be listed there?" Pretty kind of him to be so encouraging as any good pastor wants to believe he or she has left the pulpit with a few words to hang onto and help get the worshipping community through the week. So, in MY book I will list:*

- "Never be ashamed of your best effort" (really a Mary Betty verse, not scripture),
- If God can raise Jesus, from the dead, what other great things can God do?
- Let's be about sewing seed of micro-Love they will take root and multiply into places of love and shelter for the world!
- A crisis is a dangerous opportunity
- May we know the truth of God's hands over crisis and believe even if there is danger, with Jesus in the boat, there are opportunities.
- Faith is a verb
- We cannot say we don't need you, all the parts of Christ' body are indispensable and valued!
- Knowing everyone would be able to see it, what would your bumper sticker say?
- Pray that you and I would be the salt of the earth for someone else!
- Where are the needs and how can I secure resources to fill that need?
- Jesus' power was visible through Tabatha's ministry and people were able to know the Lord's presence through her acts of mercy.

- I met Jesus at The Well
- Mary is the bright thread of hope on the color wheel
- When was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you? When were you thirsty and hungry and we gave you something to eat and drink?—Matthew 25:38
- "Reworked, replenished, revitalization"
- Which of your belongings would fit in this small bag? Think quickly, you are a refugee!
- Weeping may endure for the night, but Joy comes in the morning!
- Make a world fit for the children
- When you go on the journey, pack lightly
- Never cut what you can untie
- Do you have a well-worn bible, like Mother Theresa left when she died?
- Jesus stood in line with the sinners.
- Travel on the fringes
- Love expands
- We are, all of us, angels with only one wing, we can only fly while embracing each other (Luciano de Crescenzo)
- Do not neglect hospitality to strangers, for by doing this, many have entertained angels without recognizing it.
- And the fruits of the Holy Spirit, you will see and experience will be: love, Joy, peace, patience, kindness, Gentleness, goodness, and self-control., This is how you will know you are on the right path.

*In dedication to all the ears which heard and the hearts who lived them,*

*Pastor Rev. Angelee C. Benner-Smith*



## Church Directory

An updated version of the UCCEG church directory can now be accessed online via our website. It is password protected, so if you'd like the password please send an email to [office@ucceastgoshen.org](mailto:office@ucceastgoshen.org)



## Flower Sponsors

Now that we will be resuming some indoor services, it would be great if we can have fresh flowers in the sanctuary again! The cost is \$15 for one vase and \$25 for two vases. Your dedication will appear in the bulletin/power point for that week. [Please sign up here.](#) [Any questions can be directed to Bonnie Yost.](#)



## Christian Education Corner

We are still assessing when to return to in-person Sunday School. Parents, please pass on your feelings about this decision.

Chuck Gosselink would like to offer several sessions of adult education on the history of the church. Possible topics include mission programs in the Middle East or the forgotten history of the Christian churches of the eastern world. Sessions would likely be scheduled after church but whether to meet in person or online has to be decided.



Please contact Carol Swingle about anything to do with Christian Education. [Cswingle@aol.com](mailto:Cswingle@aol.com)

## Financial Reports

Your third quarter giving statements will go out in early October. Please review your statement and direct any questions and concerns to Don Rising ([donrising@gmail.com](mailto:donrising@gmail.com)). Thank you so much for your continued support of the church and its ministry.



## Food Drive

The West Chester University (WCU) Resource Pantry is open for the fall semester! Your gifts of canned food as well as some produce from our church gleaning garden are donated to the Resource Pantry by the Mission & Outreach Committee. Please leave your food donations in the plastic bin on the front porch of the church. To ensure that items are collected and donated promptly, please send an email to Pam Onyx ([abtface@aol.com](mailto:abtface@aol.com)) to notify that you have left a donation and what it is. Produce will be collected and delivered ASAP! Canned goods will be delivered regularly but with less urgency.

Your food gifts are very much appreciated! Thank you so much for your consideration and action!



## Giant Gift Cards For Sale!

Do you shop at Giant? Buy gift cards from us. Your card is worth the amount you paid and the church gets 5%. A win-win! Order and pay for them by the end of the month and we will have them ready for pickup by the second Sunday of the next month. See or contact Beth Saylor at [bethwsaylor@gmail.com](mailto:bethwsaylor@gmail.com) to order your cards.



## Women's Group Election Day Bake Sale

It's back!!! The Women's Group will be holding an Election Day Bake Sale on November 2nd! All the voters will be happy to see all our wonderful baked goods. There will be a signup sheet in the Narthex for both baking and volunteers to sell the goodies on Election Day. Any questions, please see or call Bonnie Yost ([sbbaa@me.com](mailto:sbbaa@me.com)).



## UCCEG's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!



September 12, 2021 marked the kickoff of our year-long 50th Anniversary celebration. We enjoyed a wonderful service with Rev. Bill Worley as our guest speaker. Rev. Worley highlighted many of our experiences over the years, as well as all the talent that our Congregation has to offer and presented us with a plaque commemorating our accomplishments. Many thanks to Rev. Angelee Benner-Smith for planning and orchestrating the service.

Music abounded throughout the service with Caroline Dunleavy and Bette Halberg leading the musical selections including vocalists, our choir, our bell choir and an organ/piano duet.

Beth Sayler provided us with little known and interesting facts originating from the time our church was just a dream up until 1972. The second Sunday of every month will bring more interesting tidbits. Stay tuned...

After the service all attendees enjoyed a picnic courtesy of Jane and Frank Resides. Children played games outside on the lawn in the beautiful September weather. Many thanks, Jane and Frank! You helped bring our church family back together after such a long time apart due to COVID.

So many thanks to all who planned and participated in the service - and to all who attended to kick off a year of celebration.

October brings the sale of 50th Anniversary commemorative Christmas tree ornaments. [Order yours today on our website.](#)

November holds a food drive for those in need. December will host a Clothing Drive for Old First Reformed Mission in Philadelphia. Look for how you can help in the next Newsletter.

Come and join us for our in-person services! We follow strict guidelines as suggested by the CDC. It's a great time to be part of our growing and active church. ALL ARE WELCOME!

## Apple Butter Festival!



We had a wonderful festival on September 25th. The weather was perfect and we made 157 pints of delicious apple butter! Added to the batch made the week before (122 pints) we had a "bumper crop." The first batch was completely sold out by the end of the day and over 40 of the second batch was pre-sold. But that means we have plenty more! So if you want to buy apple butter just contact anyone on the ABF Committee (Don and Gloria Rising, Todd Speece or Carol Swingle). Apple butter will be available for sale after Sunday services for several weeks.

There were 16 crafters, a bake sale table, raffle items, dancers from A Time to Leap, and a pizza and ice cream food truck! Our first ABF online auction went smoothly. The highlight of the day for many was the exciting Golf Ball Drop. Although we won't know the total raised for some time it was a successful day thanks to the help from so many members and friends and our supportive local community. Look for more information in the next newsletter.

## Worship & Music News!

We are sending our continued love to Pastor Angelee, Al, Cole, Ritter and Andrei and their families.

Pastor Angelee, Al, and Cole have worked tirelessly and with good spirit behind the scenes to make our UCCEG Mission and Sunday Services happen. As a congregation, each one of us is important in continuing our programs. Please remember – a church needs lay people (a/k/a – each of us) to attend services, offer prayers, volunteer for committees and programs and contribute financially to continue the joyful spirit and message of Jesus Christ through UCCEG.

We are asking for help with the live feed of our Sunday morning services. If you want to learn how this works and are interested in helping to send our UCCEG message to those here and around the world, please contact Bart Yost at [bcyost@verizon.net](mailto:bcyost@verizon.net).

Gentle reminder to use [Sign Up Genius](#) to volunteer for Sunday morning greeting, scripture reading, and/or Children's Chat.

Persons interested in assisting with sanctuary and/or communion set up are asked to contact Bunny Watts at [daywatts@aol.com](mailto:daywatts@aol.com) or Ann Boohar at [aboohar@comcast.net](mailto:aboohar@comcast.net).

The search for a Director of Music is progressing.

October schedule:

Oct 3 – Pastor Angelee, Communion

Oct 10 – Pastor Angelee, Celebration of her years of loving service to UCCEG. Rev. Susan Minasian, PSEC, and special friends to attend.

Supply pastors until an interim pastor is hired.

Oct 17 – Rev. Wanda Craner

Oct 24 – Maxwell Staley

Oct 31 – Rev Martha Kriebel, Reformation Sunday

Blessings to all.

## Celebrate Pastor Angelee

Let the celebrations continue! Join us on Sunday, October 10 as Pastor Angelee gives her last sermon after 28 years of service to the United Church of Christ, East Goshen.

In addition to joining us on the 10th, you are invited to email pictures, anecdotes, and memories to [celebrateangelee@gmail.com](mailto:celebrateangelee@gmail.com) (no later than by Sunday, October 3) or contributing towards a monetary gift in honor of Pastor Angelee (either via check (made out to the Church) or PayPal (these gifts are not tax deductible and should be received by Sunday, October 3). Following the service, we will honor and celebrate Pastor Angelee during a reception.

Please share this information with others near and far who have been touched and impacted by Pastor Angelee – we'd love to hear from everyone!



Now that the Apple Butter Festival is done, we are CALLING for pictures and memories to be shared in celebration of Pastor Angelee's 28 years at the United Church of Christ,

Email us at:  
[celebrateangelee@gmail.com](mailto:celebrateangelee@gmail.com)



## Transition Team Report

Over the past 17 months we have been faced with probably the greatest challenge that our church has faced in the As most of you are aware by now, our pastor, Angelee Benner-Smith will be retiring from her ministry with our congregation after 28 years of service. One of the immediate tasks that the congregation has is to fill a position for a temporary pastor, so that the ongoing spiritual needs of the congregation can be met, until a settled, or permanent pastor can be called. For this task, a Transition Team has been working together since we learned of this news. The Transition Team consists of Ann Boohar, Scott Burkhart, and Leslie Siebert.

We the Team would like to keep the UCCEG members and community updated to the search process as we transition to an Interim stage, and moving through to a settled pastor. We are told that the entire process may take 12 - 18 months.

The Transition Team has been guided by Rev. Dr. Susan A. Minasian, Interim Associate Conference Minister for Search and Call Pennsylvania Southeast Conference, United Church of Christ.

The Transition Team has met together and also with the Finance Committee specifically to develop a draft Position Paper that outlines what our church is seeking in an Interim Pastor, and what we are able to offer as a salary package based on our current budget.

The UCCEG Position Paper draft was approved by Rev. Minasian on Sept 9th. It was then sent to Council and approved on Sept 15th. The Position Paper was posted on the UCC position portal on September 16th, where interested candidates may view it.

The Transition Team will continue to work with Rev. Minasian and Brea Rarick, PSEC Registrar & Assistant for Search and Call, for guidance about the next steps in the Search and Call process.

Stay tuned for further updates. The congregation will be actively engaged in the discernment for a settled pastor. Please feel free to reach out to anyone on Council, or the Transition Team if you have further questions or concerns.

## ROOT AND ROOFS

We look forward to having you join us at Roots & Roofs on Saturdays at 5:30 PM in person with a Zoom option. Zoom Link is on our website and in the weekly email.

October we will look into the arts and spirituality.

November's series is yet to be determined

so any requests or

recommendations are welcome.

All are welcome!

Follow us on

[Facebook.com/RootsandRoofs](https://www.facebook.com/RootsandRoofs)

Roots & Roofs Leader: Max Staley, Seminarian



## Boscov's Coupons



A reminder that we still have Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Shopping Passes available. They entitle you to up to 25% off purchases in store (with some restrictions) on October 20, 2021. Great if you are planning on some Christmas shopping! Please reach out to Beth Sayler at [bethwsayler@gmail.com](mailto:bethwsayler@gmail.com). The passes are available for a minimum donation of \$5, which goes directly to church funds.

## THANK YOU! – A Note From Council

What an amazing day we had! It was a warm & bright, sunshiny day, and you could just feel that God was smiling on us as we made apple butter, laughed and danced and enjoyed being together helping the church... and help the church we did! We are still waiting to reconcile all the receipts, but just a few days after the event, we have a partial count of over \$5400 raised, and an estimated total of close to \$7000!



These are funds that will be coming into the church at a time when we need them the most! It has been a long, hard pandemic for nearly every aspect of our functioning church, and few areas have been hit harder than our church's finances.

On behalf of UCCEG Church Council and our Finance Team, I wanted to say, "Thank you!" to each of you for making the 2021 Apple Butter Festival one of the best in recent memory. The success of this event is not only a financial blessing for our church, but it is a measure of what we can do when we all pull together as a team. We can all be very proud of the number of people who volunteered their time and talents to make this festival work. The committee members, technical helpers, those who manned the tables, stirred the apple butter, those who helped out by sharing our fliers and Facebook announcements and those who "watched over us" from overseas – there are just too many to begin naming them all, but together with the grace of God, we did it.

As we face the coming months, saying, "Good bye!" to our beloved Pastor Angelee, Al, Cole, Ritter and Andrei, we are faced with an exciting new chapter in the life of our church. We will be re-defining and restructuring ourselves to fit God's plan for today's United Church of Christ East Goshen and our church for the next 50 years! So, let's not lose the enthusiasm that we showed at the Apple Butter Festival. Let's take that energy forward to first, celebrate 28 years of Pastor Angelee' ministry, and second to build our church in God's plan for the coming years.

In God's love and light,

Todd Speece

2021 Church Council President





The Zachariah Walker  
Racial Justice Symposium

**White Supremacy, Racism, & the Christian Church:  
The Call to a Discipleship of Liberation and Justice**

Sponsored by the Racial Justice Initiative of the  
Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ

**October 23-24, 2021**

**Featuring:**



**Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
9:00 am – 12:00 noon EST

**The Rev. Dr. Drew Hart**  
*Theology Professor, Author,  
Church Anti-Racism Leader,  
Social Change Practitioner*  
([Click here for more info](#))



**Sunday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**  
2:00 – 5:00 pm EST

**The Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer**  
*General Minister and President  
of the United Church of Christ,  
Author, Speaker*  
([Click here for more info](#))

Join us **Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>**, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and **Sunday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., as our speakers discuss the church's complicity and history with white supremacy and racism. Explore the entanglements of racism and white supremacy with western Christianity and discover creative anti-racist practices for churches and Christians committed to racial justice. Engage in opportunities for group discussion and Q & A with our speakers.

*Weekend and daily registration options are available. For group rates see registration. For PSEC UCC clergy, **this event is approved for 6 CEU hours of Diversity training** (3 units per day). Register by [clicking here](#).*

\*Scholarships are available if needed. Contact [annecormier@comcast.net](mailto:annecormier@comcast.net) for more information.

**From PFLAG****WE WANT TO HEAR  
FROM PARENTS OF  
LGBQ DAUGHTERS**

We are looking for parents to participate in a one-time virtual focus group to share their thoughts and experiences talking with their LGBQ daughters about sexuality and health. You may be eligible if you speak English or Spanish and if your daughter is between 12 and 24 years old and identifies as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or queer.

**IF ELIGIBLE, YOU WILL EARN A \$50 AMAZON GIFT CARD FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION.**

For more information, please call (215) 573-8253 or email [familyhealthstudies@gmail.com](mailto:familyhealthstudies@gmail.com) or scan the QR code on this flyer. All inquiries are confidential.

**Café Script Continues**

Wednesdays 11am-12:15pm, we will meet in the church fellowship hall or outside as the weather permits! We will be doing something new for the next 6 weeks: gathering and using the book "Do what you have the power to do" by Helen Bruch Pearson. This is a study of 6 biblical characters from the New Testament who encounters Jesus and how they learned to break their silence, develop and invest their gifts and talents to move church and society closer to the community envisioned by Jesus. New and returning members and friends are invited, bring your bible and an open heart! Call Linda Ardao or Beth Sayler with questions or just come at 11 and give it a try.

**Church Office Hours**

More regular weekly church office hours are here.

Please check your weekly email for office hour updates as this is also vacation season.

**Newsletter Submissions**

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

**2021 Church Council**

President – Todd Speece

Vice President – Lucy Barber

Secretary – Beth Keates

Treasurer - Beth Sayler

Financial Secretary – Don Rising

Building & Grounds – Steve Bailey

Christian Education – Carol Swingle

Church Growth - Al Benner-Smith

Congregational Life – Bonnie Jackson

Mission & Outreach – Pam Onyx

Worship & Music - Bunny Watts & Ann Boohar

**United Church of Christ East  
Goshen**

1201 NORTH CHESTER ROAD  
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[www.UCCEastGoshen.org](http://www.UCCEastGoshen.org)  
[UnitedChurchOfChristEastGoshen](http://UnitedChurchOfChristEastGoshen)

*Rev. Angelee Benner-Smith, Pastor*

*Maxwell Staley, Worship Leader, Roots & Roofs*

*Jen Troutman, Office Administrator*