

**WHAT'S UP**

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*Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Luke 23: 32-34*

I remember a friend of mine was deeply angry with another church member, to the point where she couldn't be around her. She refused to come to Bible study because she knew this woman would be there.

I knew a man who felt uncomfortable being in the same room with one of my friends because of an incident they had years before.

It took me a long time to be able to empathize with them. Part of me thought, "Where is the forgiveness?"

We will talk about forgiveness and mercy in the weeks leading up to Advent. As Jesus was hanging on the cross, the first thing Luke has him say is "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Jesus never retaliates against them, never yells back at them. As one of the criminals hanging with him asks Jesus to remember him when he gets to his kingdom, Jesus assures him that "Today you will be with me in Paradise."

Jesus says, "They know not what they do." I don't know - they seem to know exactly what they're doing. They're purposely putting an innocent man on a cross. Pilate knows it. Herod knows it. And yet, Jesus says that they don't know what they're doing. They don't understand the implications of what they're doing. They have no idea the consequences of what they're doing. They don't know the impact of what they're doing.

My friends who were angry and uncomfortable were affected for a long time by the actions of others, who probably had no idea. When we can't forgive, we are the ones who suffer. When we learn to forgive, we set ourselves free. It doesn't mean people shouldn't be held accountable. They should. It doesn't mean that once we've forgiven, we will automatically feel better. There will still be healing to be done. It isn't easy. But once we let people off the hook, once we forgive, that is the first step in healing, in freeing ourselves. Jesus shows us the Way. Come and see.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Beth

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**2022 CONSISTORY**

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Bob Walters,  
V. President  
Kristen Serina,  
Secretary  
James Friemann  
Ken Raspen  
Laura Walters  
Susan Myers  
Charlotte Fiedler

Officers:  
Tom Mogel, Financial Sec.  
Margie Schweitzer,  
Historian  
Nancy Ewing, Treasurer

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## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

### VOTE!

Dear St. James family,  
Please remember to VOTE on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8! Whatever your political leanings, it is important that everyone exercises their right to vote. If you need a ride to your polling place, please call the office at 610-489-0990. Thank you!

With love in Christ,  
Pastor Beth

### BETHANY CHILDREN'S HOME CHRISTMAS

Once again, we will be sending Christmas gifts to the children at Bethany. A list of the items will be on the bulletin board as well as when items will have to be at the church. Charlotte Fiedler

### PROJECT OUTREACH

As St. James' representative to Project Outreach, I would like to pass along the information shared at the September meeting.

Fuel Oil: Project Outreach has purchased fuel oil from Oehlert Brothers for 25 families with 125 gallons per family for distribution this winter.

Pantry: The Royersford pantry has averaged 50 families/125 people served during June-August this year.

Social Services: During June/August 2022 the following services were rendered –

Rental Assistance – 9 families, Hotel Assistance – 4 families, 2 Beds for children, 9 Electric bills paid, 1 phone bill paid, 1 car payment paid, 1 car repair paid, 120 children received supplies through the Back-to-School drive and 3 bins of extras were donated to Royersford Elementary.

All of the above is made possible by donations to Project Outreach. Thank you for your continued support.

Nancy Ewing

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, there will be a St James Congregational Meeting after worship, to vote on our budget for next year, members for Consistory and Endowment Committee, Treasurer and Financial Secretary.

Please plan to attend, as it is essential that we have a quorum of the congregation present.

### POTLUCK DINNERS

Our potluck dinners have been a success and we are pleased to see so many people participating in coming and suppling food.

Just as a reminder if you are unable to bring anything we still want you to join in this fellowship time. We always put out a free will offering if anyone would like to give to it.

We meet every second Saturday. On December 10 we hope to be able to cook a dinner at the church for an early Christmas celebration.

Hope to see you there!

The Hospitality Committee

## NOVEMBER

### Birthday

8.....Donna Earnshaw  
8.....Celeste Friemann  
20....Mazie Myers  
24....Lisa Nuccitelli  
24....Eric Kramer  
24....James Valerio  
26....C. Wendel Koenig  
27....Charles Hentz

### Anniversary

26....Tony & Linda Nuccitelli



Congratulations and best wishes  
from your church family!

## PRAYER CONCERNS

For our friends Betty Wines, Heather Yates, Melissa Moore, Sang Hi Crater, Joan Rosen, Betty Himes, Millie Alderfer, Evelyn Phelen *and others who are in long term care or unable to leave their homes. We pray for comfort, peace, healing, and companionship for each of them.*

For our friends Van S, Michelle, Ken, Betsy R, Sue J, Charlotte F, Bobbie T, Paul M, Chet M, Dottie, Bonnie, BJ, Diane, Ric F, Sharon R, Linda S, John K, Jessica, Jay P, Tabby, Karen, George N, Marianne K, Joy W, Karen, Carl H, Phil, Nancy B, Ken G, Ginny *and all cancer survivors, we pray for treatment where it is possible and release from suffering where it is needed.*



For our friends Fred R, Joan R, Tom G, Nancy B, Vincenzo, Margaret S, Franklin R *and others with ongoing health concerns and challenging life of God's presence through the support of our congregation.*

*Prayers for all veterans that are still suffering from PTSD and all other side effects from their service in the military.*

*Lord, we come giving you praise and thanksgiving for all the blessings you give us. We thank you for the prayers you have answered and continue to pray for those that continue to struggle with illness and other health issues. We pray for comfort and peace for those that have lost loved ones as they struggle through this difficult time. We pray for peace for our world and pray that the gun violence ends that are taking so many lives. We pray for health and wholeness of mind, body and spirit upon all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

Please note that we will remove names on the prayer list after one month, except for homebound and hospitalized members. Let us know if you would like to add or renew a request by office phone or email.

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## PRAYING FOR ST. JAMES MEMBERS

Initiated by St. James Prayer Team, each Sunday two church families are being included in the Sunday worship prayer time. You are invited to include these members and their families in your prayers throughout that week.

### November

6 Theodore (Ted) Conner  
Jim and Dorothy Cossaboon


13 Sang Hi Crater  
Patricia Dalina

20 Nancy Dunning  
Donna Earnshaw

27 William Espenship  
Nancy Ewing

# CALENDAR

# November 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Midweek Study 1pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Men's Breakfast 8:00am
<b>6</b> Bible Study 9am Worship service 10:15am	<b>7</b> Boy Scouts 7pm	<b>8</b> Consistory 7pm	<b>9</b> Midweek Study 1pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Fellowship Dinner 5pm
Pastor Beth is off November 13 <sup>th</sup> but will be working November 7-11						
<b>13</b> NO Bible Study Worship service 10:15am Cindy Valerio will deliver the message.	<b>14</b> Boy Scouts 7pm	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Midweek Study 1pm	<b>17</b> Endowment 7pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Bible Study 9am Worship service 10:15am Congregational Meeting 11:30am Pastor Beth Installation Service 3:00pm	<b>21</b> Boy Scouts 7pm	<b>22</b> AA District Meeting 7pm	<b>23</b> Midweek Study 1pm	<b>24</b> 	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Advent Decorating
<b>27</b> Bible Study 9am Worship service 10:15am	<b>28</b> Boy Scouts 7pm	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Midweek Study 1pm			

## CONFERENCE & LOCAL NEWS

### POTTSTOWN DIAPER BANK OPENS WITH PSEC GRANT HELP

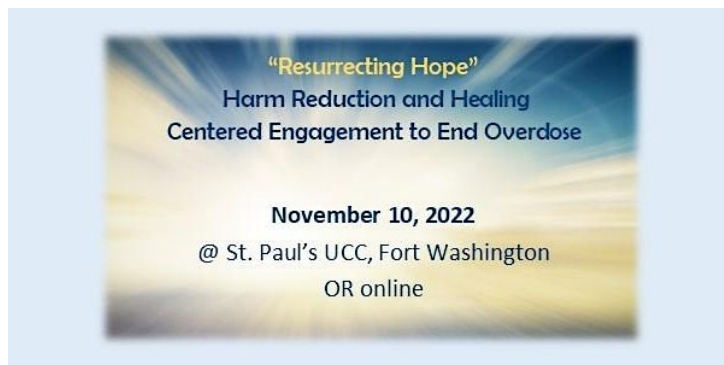
St. Paul's UCC, 927 N. Franklin St., Pottstown, is launching a Diaper Bank. Beginning Nov. 2, the Diaper Bank will be open every Wednesday from 10am-12pm. Volunteers will assist Pottstown families in obtaining diapers, wipes and other baby essentials, at no-cost. St. Paul's Diaper Bank will be the first of its kind for the Pottstown area and we look forward to serving local families experiencing financial hardship. Alert families you know who may benefit from the services. The only requirement is that the families reside in Pottstown. For a flyer to share, [Diaper Bank Announcement \(constantcontact.com\)](https://www.constantcontact.com). Contact [reverendlaurencain@gmail.com](mailto:reverendlaurencain@gmail.com) with any further questions.

This ministry was funded in part by a PSEC New Ministries Grant.

### POEM BY HELEN STEINER RICE

It's easy to say, "In God we trust"  
When life is radiant and fair, But the test of faith is only found  
When there are burdens bear –  
For our claim to faith in the "sunshine"  
Is really no faith at all  
For when roads are smooth, and days are bright  
Our need for God is so small,  
And no one discovers the fullness  
Or the greatness of God's love,  
Unless he has walked in the "darkness"  
With only a light from Above –  
For the faith to endure whatever comes  
Is born of sorrow and trials,  
And strengthened only by discipline  
And nurtured by self-denials –  
So be not disheartened by troubles,  
For trials are the "building blocks"  
On which to erect a fortress of faith  
Secure on God's "ageless rocks."

### ADDICTION AND RECOVERY TASKFORCE HYBRID EVENT



Join the Addiction & Recovery Taskforce on Nov. 10 3:30—6:30 pm. either online or in Fort Washington for "Resurrecting Hope: Harm Reduction and Healing Centered Engagement to End Overdose."

The mission of the PSEC Addiction & Recovery Task Force is to share God's love with people suffering from the destructive disease of addiction and their affected family members and friends.

Join us as we examine harm reduction in practice and principle, and its spiritual impact. Together we will illustrate the gospel of harm reduction, the power of language in shaping liberation, make connections with harm reduction movements for social, racial, and economic justice, and explore opportunities for faith communities to co-create healing with people who use drugs and their loved ones.

Register at: <https://pseccresurrecthope.eventbrite.com>

There is no fee for this class due to your OCWM contributions

St. James United Church of Christ  
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Limerick, PA 19468

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November 2022 NEWSLETTER

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## Notes & Reminders

Materials for the December Newsletter are due on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

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### DECORATING FOR ADVENT

Join us as we decorate and prepare for Christmas!  
Saturday, November 26.



### CHORAL CONCERT

All are welcome to attend a sacred music concert presented by the Wayne Oratorio Society, featuring 100+ singers and a professional orchestra. No tickets needed, free-will offering will be collected.

Program:

Gabriel Fauré – “Requiem”

Dan Forrest – “Jubilate Deo”

(a 2016 composition, sung in 7 different languages)

When:

Sat. Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m.

Sun. Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m.

Location:

Wayne Presbyterian Church

125 E. Lancaster Ave.

Wayne, PA 19087