

MAY 2018

THE UNION PRESS

“To know Him and make Him known”

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A LETTER FROM YOUR SESSION

Dismissal Process Update

The results of the advisory vote at the congregational meeting on April 22, 2018, were 49 votes to join EPC, 7 votes to join ECO and 1 vote to “stay where we are.” With the majority voting that we should join EPC the Session is submitting an Acceptance Application to EPC. PCUSA requires that a congregation must be accepted by a Reformed Presbytery Denomination in order to request dismissal.

PCUSA will be giving a presentation and answering any questions you may have about PCUSA on May 10, 2018 at 7 PM in the Fellowship hall.

Anyone needing or wanting transportation to and from this meeting, please contact one of the session members or the Church office prior to the meeting.

On Sunday, May 20th there will be a congregational meeting, after the morning worship service, for the purpose of voting to determine if Union should request dismissal from PCUSA. The vote will be a written ballot. A quorum of 25% of the official membership is required. A majority of 75% of those voting is needed for Union to request dismissal from PCUSA. If a 75% or a greater majority votes to request dismissal from PCUSA, on May 20th, 2018, the requirements of the existing dismissal contract between Union and Donegal Presbytery / PCUSA that expires June of 2018 will have been met.

The Session has been and is committed that regardless of how the vote goes on Sunday, May 20th it will be the end of the process and a time for healing. You, the congregation will have directed Union in the path God is calling and we, the session, with God's guidance will lead you in that direction.

Seeking God's Direction For Union

Your Session

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS**

May 20th



**Please remember
to watch your
bulletin calendar
for any scheduled
Office Hour
changes.**

SESSION HAPPENINGS

Your new Session feels it is important to keep the congregation informed on what is going on at Union. To this end we will add highlights of our monthly meetings to the “Press” from now on. We also highly desire your feedback on anything “Union”.

At the March 28th meeting much of the conversation revolved around the PC(USA) dismissal process. Please see the article concerning this process elsewhere in this issue. In other business:

Our custodians agreed to a new contract outlining their duties and at a lower salary. They will clean the church once per week on Fridays and get paid monthly.

Deceased Trustee Scott Greenleaf’s grandson has requested to continue mowing the grass. He had been helping Scott for several years. Session agreed to let him continue on a trial basis.

The trustees reported repairing the broken rope on the bell and greasing it.

A new HVAC maintenance contract with JK Mechanical was signed. They have taken care of our systems for the past three years very satisfactorily and had a very small price increase for the new contract. They will be servicing our air conditioning systems in late April.

We approved expenditure of funds for the Trustees to repair or replace the emergency lights. During the recent electrical outage, it was noted that most didn’t work. (Most have already been repaired.)

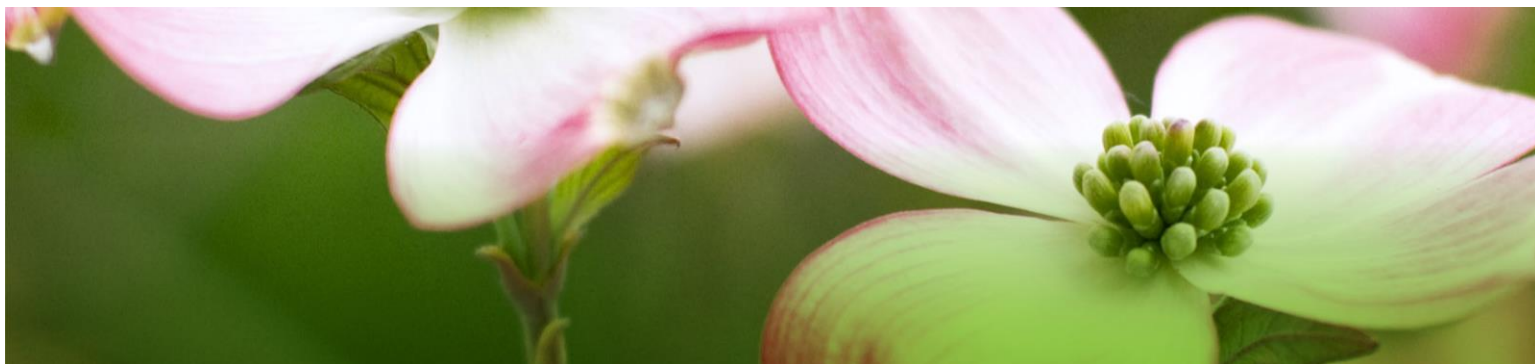
We voted to pay Elaine Swinehart the same rate for “pulpit supply” as the ministers from Presbytery.

The cost to repair the wind damage to the chimney and heater was over \$5,000. It will be covered by insurance with a \$500 deductible.

Reverends Brondyke and Swinehart will be covering most of our services in May and June. Reverend Wirt is applying for full-time positions and is generally unavailable.

FINANCIAL REPORT

March Giving \$9,312.88 March Expenses \$9,966.03



“PASSING OF THE PEACE” / “MEET & GREET” ON SUNDAYS

At the April 12th ECO presentation, the session used the opportunity to poll the 40 attendees on their opinions on resuming the “Passing of the Peace” time during Sunday service which had been suspended recently. Of the 37 people casting a written ballot, 30 voted to resume the practice and 3 voted NO. Four had no preference. Of the 30 yes voters, 23 also added a comment that it should be stopped or modified during flu season. Following are some pertinent comments that we call all use to make that time in the service more useful:

“Meet and greet, don't conduct business in the aisle”

“Bump elbows in flu season” (4)

“It is fine, but keep it short and just use for greeting”

“It makes people feel welcome”

“If you need to have a long discussion, do it in the pews or after the service”

“Keep moving !!!!”

“It is important to be able to meet people who are less mobile and not seated near you”

“It helps to promote a “family” atmosphere”

You'll Know Where to Go

During a recent power outage, we realized how many emergency lights and EXIT signs didn't work. The Trustees have been busy replacing batteries and updating fixtures so that you can safely move throughout the church if there is a power outage.



4th of July Organ Concert

SAVE THE DATE!

We will be having a 4th of July Organ Concert again!
It will be held Sunday evening
July 1st, 2018 at 7PM.



Thank You

Union Presbyterian Church Family,
Thanks so very much for the Easter flowers, cards and visits.



God Bless You,
Joe and Helen Pugh

YOUR COMFORT

WARM WEATHER REMINDER!

As summer approaches, please be aware that we have cut our energy use in half over the last couple years with programmable thermostats. This means that you may occasionally come into the building to find the comfort level not exactly to your liking. Help us and yourself by getting all of your events in the building onto the official church calendar. Just let Julie know the day, hours and exact rooms you will be using and we assure you they will be more comfortable.

MAY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
		1 6:30 Girl Scouts	2 9:00 Art Class	3	4	5
6 A Day to Remember 9:00 Sunday School 9:45 Fellowship 10:00 Worship – Elaine Swinehart Geranium Orders Due	7 7:00 NO Trustees	8 1:30 Deacons 6:30 Girl Scouts	9 9:00 Art Class	10 Ascension Day 7:00 PC(USA) Information Session	11	12
13 Mother's Day 9:00 Sunday School 9:45 Fellowship 10:00 Worship – Elaine Swinehart	14 1:00 Circle 1, 2 7:00 Circle #3	15 6:30 Girl Scouts	16 9:00 Art Class 7:00 Session	17	18	19
20 Pentecost Sunday NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 9:00 Sunday School 9:45 Fellowship 10:00 Worship – Rev. Brondyke Congregational Meeting	21	22 6:30 Girl Scouts	23 9:00 Art Class	24	25	26
27 Trinity Sunday 9:00 Sunday School 9:45 Fellowship 10:00 Worship – Elaine Swinehart	28 Memorial Day	29 6:30 Girl Scouts	30 9:00 Art Class	31		

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Jeanne Tucker
Lee Ferguson
Jay N. Hastings
Laura Beth Pyle
Hazel Shoemaker
- 3 Jay A. Hastings
- 5 Kathy Croyle
- 6 Christine Pickel
Kevin Graver
- 8 Donna Law
- 9 Justine Weber
- 10 Paul Shivery, Jr.
Michele Ferguson
- 11 Dana Nixon
Marc Shoemaker
Diane Shoemaker
- 12 Emily Rose Harrington
Jacqueline Miller
- 13 Willem Greer
Gerald Phillips
Riley McCardell
Kenna Mullins
Janet Supplee
- 15 John Pyle
- 16 Rachel deVityr
- 18 Betty Lou Weicksel
Amiee Brice
- 21 Ross Ferguson
- 22 Daryl Supplee, Jr.
- 23 Carolyn Sacks
- 24 Ronald Scotten
- 25 Ken Miller, Jr.
- 28 Edna Yarnall
Joan Whiteside
- 30 Jeffrey Jackson Sr.
Larry Ray



FOOD BANK

Things we need...

Canned Pears 15 oz., Boxed Jello 3 oz.,
Boxed Pudding 3.9 oz., Diapers size 5

LECTIONARY PASSAGES

May 6th - 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98:1-9;
1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

May 13th – 7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1:1-6;
1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

May 20th – Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b;
Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

May 27th – Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29:1-11;
Romans 8:12-17; Gospel John 3:1-17

MAY FLOWERS & GREETERS

Flowers

6 (Still Available)
13 Dwight & Cheryl Wallace
20 Carolyn Sacks
27 (Still Available)

Greeters

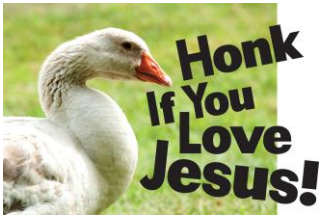
6 Arlene & Elaine Swinehart
13 Verna Mae Walton
20 Bill & Trudy Bard
27 Don & Arlene Hastings

BLANKET CALL

May 13th

Church World Services sponsors a blanket drive every year. Each blanket costs only \$10, but these blankets can be a vital resource for someone needing a little support, warmth and encouragement. You may do this by donating to Blanket Sunday on Sunday, May 13th. Envelopes will be in the bulletin or you may send a donation to the church marked "Blanket Sunday". Many Thanks!

Union Presbyterian Church
5637 Street Road,
Kirkwood, PA 17536



ORDER FORM FOR GERANIUMS

Those who would like to give Geraniums should complete this form and return it by
Sunday, May 6th.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Geraniums are \$2.50 each Number ordered _____ @ \$2.50 = \$ _____



Please make checks payable to Union Presbyterian Church.
Attach your check to this form and mail both to:



**Union Presbyterian Church
5637 Street Road
Kirkwood, PA 17536**

Or you may give your check and order form to Charlotte Stoner.