

FRIENDLY NEWSCASTER

September 2025 (V15-9)

- 1 Message from Pastor Dave**
- 2 Scripture Readings**
- 3 Events & Announcements**
- 5 Nurses Notes**
- 7 Monthly Mission Offering**
- 7 Prayer List**
- 8 Contact Information**

YA newsletter Calendar

We are gathered together as a family of faith to share God's love by: Inviting and welcoming all people of God's creation. Worshiping and praising God. Teaching and preaching the Good News. Caring for the needs of one another, the community, and the world.

September 2025 Newscaster

Peace with Creation



This year's Season of Creation theme is "Peace with Creation" inspired by Isaiah 32:14-18:

"For the palace will be forsaken, the populous city deserted; the hill and the watchtower will become dens forever, the joy of wild asses, a pasture for flocks. Until a spirit from on high is poured out on us, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is deemed a forest. Then justice will dwell in the wilderness and righteousness abide in the fruitful field. The effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness, and trust forever. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places." (NRSVUE)

The prophet Isaiah portrays a desolate Creation, devoid of peace due to injustice and the broken relationship between God and humankind. Devastated cities and wastelands reflect the destructive impact that human activities can have on Earth. Animals readily move in and claim parts of what was once an exclusively human habitat, as if human settlement had deprived them of sufficient space. While the joy of a pasture for animals (Isaiah 32:14) is undoubtedly a good thing in itself, it comes at the cost of human displacement due to conflict.

Though God's plan for Creation is rooted in justice and peace, human sin disrupts this, leaving Creation in ruin—from wealthy palaces to poor farmlands, forests, and oceans. Isaiah vividly describes the results of human estrangement from Creation. Moreover, the abandoned and ruined watchtower and palace (or citadel, in some translations) suggest that warfare is ultimately frustrated by God.

Peace is more than just the absence of war. In the Hebrew Bible, shalom represents a far deeper concept—one that extends beyond the absence of

conflict to the full restoration of broken relationships, as illustrated in Isaiah's vision. This restoration encompasses our relationship with God, ourselves, the human family, and the rest of Creation.

Throughout history, many human activities have contributed to the destruction of Creation. Yet today, more than ever, some human activities take the form of a war against Creation. Our impact has expanded from local to global, manifesting in unsustainable lifestyles, excessive consumption, lasting pollution, and a throwaway culture.

Saint Francis of Assisi's Canticle of the Creatures calls the Earth our sister and mother. How can Mother Earth nurture us if we fail to contemplate, learn from, and love her? Ignoring our interconnectedness undermines this vital relationship.

Our Church's Faith

(from our church's Constitution)

This church acknowledges as its sole Head, Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Savior of mankind. It acknowledges as sisters and brothers in Christ all who share in this confession. It looks to the Word of God in the Scriptures, and to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, to prosper its creative and redemptive work in the world. It claims as its own the faith of the historic Church expressed in the ancient creeds and reclaimed in the basic insights of the Protestant Reformers. *It affirms the responsibility of the Church in each generation to make this faith its own.* In accordance with the teaching of our Lord and the practice prevailing among evangelical Christians, it recognizes two Sacraments: Baptism and the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion.

Peace, *Pastor Dave*

Season of Creation

Scripture Readings for September

Date (YC)	Notes	Scriptures
Sept. 7	A New Identity	Deuteronomy 15-20; Psalm 139:1-18; Luke 14:25-33
Sept. 14	Growing in God's Love, Faith Formation Sunday	Jer. 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14; Luke 15:1-10
Sept. 21	Con-man for the Kingdom; Harvest Home Sunday	Jer 8:18-9:1; Psalm 79:1-9; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13
Sept. 28	Investing in Peace, AIM Sunday	Jer 32:1-3, 6-15; Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19; Luke 16:19-31

Worship Helpers, September 2025

If you would like to serve in worship as a Scripture reader, please let Pastor Dave know. And if you would like to help with our audio-visual system, please talk with Chip Hoover. We would love to have your assistance.

Date	Acolyte	AV & Streaming	Read Scripture	Greeter	Head Usher	Communion Preparation
Sept. 7	Grant H.	Chip H. Terry M.	Tom Howard		Steve M.	na
Sept. 14	Lauren H.	Chip H. Terry M.	Pat. J.		Steve M.	na
Sept. 21	Josh B.	Chip H. Terry M.	Sally K.		Steve M.	na
Sept. 28	Emily H.	Chip H. Terry M.	Bonnie M.		Steve M.	na

Events & Announcements

Harvest Home Donations Requested: On Sunday, September 21 we will celebrate Harvest Home. Life Path Ministry will receive our gifts. Their greatest need currently is paper towels. Their other requests are canned vegetables, pasta sauce, mashed potatoes, salt, pepper, and spices. Life Path is also our Mission project for September. Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, please see Maryann.

Women's Bible Study: Our Women's Bible Study group will resume on September 16 at 1:00. If you have questions, please contact either Joyce Kain at 717-817-0914 or Jane Bankert at 717-225-3738.

Upcoming Fellowship Events

August 31: **Potluck Picnic** following our outdoor worship. If the weather is poor, we will eat in our Fellowship Hall. Pulled pork, corn on the cob, and beverages provided. Bring whatever dish the Spirit moves you to bring.

September 7, Noon: **2nd Annual Covenant Potluck Picnic** at North Codorus Township Park with our friends from St. Paul's Lutheran (Stoverstown). Games and Bingo to follow. If the weather is poor, we will eat in their Fellowship Hall. Water and paper goods provided. Bring whatever dish the Spirit moves you to bring.

Undie Sunday Time! The Stewardship Committee has set the months of August and September to collect new underwear for use by residents of Bell Socialization Services. Needed most are men's t-shirts and briefs, and women's underwear. Your gift is appreciated!

Intergenerational Confirmation Faith Discussions

You probably have not heard of Intergenerational Confirmation Faith Discussions. It's a clunky phrase the Worship and Christian Education Committee came up with in late August to describe a way to for our small church to address the needs of diverse youth and adults seeking to grow in faith and to be confirmed. What had been in the past separate Sunday morning groups, a youth-focused Confirmation program, and an Intergenerational Faith Discussion group, *will be fused together, but with two tracks over the next two program years*: a high commitment track for those seeking to be confirmed, or to have a renewed confirmation experience, and a low commitment track for those who seek enjoyable and compelling faith conversations and fellowship, including those who wish to be able to come when they can. Our Confirmation Faith Discussions will run from September 14, 2025 to May 17, 2026, and continue from September 13, 2026 to May 9, 2027. We will not meet during the Season of Christmas, or Easter Sunday.

Many of our Sunday discussions will have video, music, art, or small group components, but our experiences will be framed for the most part by the outline of an engagingly written book called, "To Begin at the Beginning" by Martin Copenhaver, a retired UCC pastor and seminary president. (Its chapters average about 20 pages in length (discussed over several weeks). Those who wish stay on the low commitment track do *not* need to read the book.) Below is the currently planned outline.

<i>Fall, 2025</i>	Introduction: Sharing Stories and Setting Expectations of Encounters with the Living God The God of Creation and Covenant The Jesus of Incarnation The Jesus of Resurrection
<i>Advent, 2025</i>	Advent focus
<i>Spring, 2026</i>	The Continuing Presence of the Holy Spirit Life Together as God's People The Church's Book The Church at Worship Baptism With Water and the Spirit
<i>Fall, 2026</i>	Eating At Christ's Table Conversing With God Resurrection To Eternal Life
<i>Advent, 2025</i>	Advent Focus
<i>Spring, 2026</i>	Doing Faith Sharing The News The Invitation
<i>Pentecost, 2026</i>	Rite of Confirmation

Other curriculum resources will include re:form, which Pastor Dave has used in the past, and addresses questions of faith using brief videos and creative engagement under the rubrics of Bible, Creed, Discipleship, Jesus, Other Beliefs, and Tough Questions; Animate Practices, the next segment of the curriculum we used last year, which focuses on practices of faith such as prayer, service, and sacraments; as well as resources on UCC and local church history that Pastor Dave has put together.

Confirmation track commitments will probably include participating in 80 percent of the sessions, reading "To Begin at the Beginning", contributing to an evolving group faith statement, regularly participating in worship, serve in the church or community (e.g. acolyting, service projects), a few field trips, and a final group faith statement. Each person on the confirmation track will also have a sponsor or sponsors.

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Dave, or just come and enjoy our first session on September 14 at 9:00 am!

Crafters Needed

Crafters Needed for Craft Show at St. Paul's Lutheran (Stoverstown) on *Saturday, September 13th*, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. INSIDE and OUTSIDE spaces are available. "That Pig Place" food truck as well as other food items will be here for purchase. Please come and support our local craft businesses! Contact Sharon Slagel for more information: 717-873-2490.

St. Paul's Lutheran Yard Sale: St Paul's Lutheran is having a yard sale in conjunction with a craft show happening on Sept. 13. Proceeds for our yard sale will support our free pre-school. If anyone has any household items they are looking to part with, we would love to have them to sell. Please no clothing, unless you have some to donate to our free clothing bank. Items can be brought to the church the day of the joint picnic, Sept. 7. Thank you! Email Steph Jacoby if you have any questions!

Save the Date! Christmas Progressive Dinner on *Saturday, December 13, 2025*

Get ready to deck the halls, jingle all the way, and enjoy a night of delicious food and holiday cheer! We'll travel from home to home, savoring a different course at each stop—while enjoying sparkling lights, festive music, and plenty of Christmas spirit.

We could use some help to make it merry! If you'd like to host (or co-host by helping with set-up or cooking), please let us know as soon as possible so we can firm up the plans. Whether you love setting a cozy table, whipping up your signature dish, or simply spreading cheer, there's a spot for you!

Mark your calendars now for the evening of Dec. 13. More details to follow!



RSVP

*Location: St Paul's United Church of Christ
2175 Stoverstown, PA, 17362
From 6-9pm*

RULES: Absolutely NO ALCOHOL is permitted on or in the fire hall! If you have alcohol you will be asked to leave.
You will not get into our wedding without a virtual invitation or paper invitation.
Plus ones are welcome!
However, we need to be careful how many plus ones we allow due to us only being able to have a limit of people we can have.
If you come to our wedding to cause any problems or say anything negative you will be asked to leave!
Please be respectful!
No coming preintoxicated

**To RSVP by July 25th call my mom @
(717)797-7474 or email me at
kaylathoman9@gmail.com**

September 7, 5:00 pm: Thoman Gross Gazebo Wedding and (potluck) Reception in Fellowship Hall. You are invited. *Please let Becky Thoman know by Aug. 31 if you plan to attend.* Bring a lawn chair for the wedding and a potluck dish for the reception.

Our September Birthdays

Our September birthdays include the following: Our September birthdays include the following: Amanda Carmichael (1), Sara Hartman, Averleigh Fake (2), Caitlin Hoffman (4), Kevin Baum (6), Kira Hull (8), Denise Harlacker, Isaac Young (10), Michael Fake, Michael Senft (12), Drue Allison (14), Chris Wilhide (20), Thatcher Stough (21), Ameira Pritt (25), Joshua Brenneman (27), Kayce Webb (28), Mike Bollinger (29)

Mark your calendars! On September 25 and 26, we will be making soup for our annual sale which will be held September 27. We will need help both days. There will be a signup sheet posted early in September. Thank you. Please see Maryann if you have any questions.

Volunteers Needed to Plan 2026 Keystone Conference meeting

Plans are underway for the next statewide gathering of the soon to be Keystone Conference. The event will be held on *Friday, June 5 through Sunday, June 7 in 2026*. Some of the planning team will arrive the afternoon of Thursday, June 4 for set up. Our gathering will be held at *Millersville University* in Lancaster County. This will be a time of worship, Being the Church, meeting new friends, and forming new relationships.

Several committees are forming to plan details for the 2026 event. If you are interested in serving on one of the following committees, please forward your contact information (name, current Conference, and email address) to Shirley Keith Knox at skeithknox@comcast.net. All meetings are held ONLINE.

Volunteers ARE Needed for the Following Conference Planning Areas:

Worship - Volunteers needed in the following key areas: Visual arts – designing and preparing the worship and prayer spaces, music leaders.

Workshops - Assistance needed to identify and schedule workshop presenters.

Display and Vendor Space - Volunteers needed to identify and coordinate vendors and exhibits.

Technology - Volunteers needed to identify, operate, and obtain technology for worship, hybrid business meetings, and workshops.

Mission/Service Project - Volunteers needed to coordinate a Conference-wide mission project that occurs at this summer gathering.

Registration Volunteers - Volunteers needed to prepare registration materials and assist at registration table at the university.

Youth and Children - Volunteers needed to identify childcare coverage and youth programming.

Fun & Hospitality - Volunteers needed to coordinate a strong welcome upon arrival at the venue, as well as ideas for fun.

Accessibility - Volunteers needed to arrange signage and coordinate local arrangements for golf carts, scooters and other accommodations that assure all attendees can fully participate in all events.



Dear Friends,

September is Healthy Aging Month. It is a national observance dedicated to promoting a positive view of growing older and encouraging adults, particularly those 45 and above to focus on improving their physical, social, and financial well-being.



Importance of Healthy Aging Month

- *Combat negative stereotypes about aging: It challenges the notion that aging is solely associated with decline and difficulty, highlighting the potential for continued vitality and purpose in later life
- *Encourages healthy habits: The month provides a platform to share practical advice and resources on various aspects of health, including nutrition, physical activity, brain health and social engagement.
- *Promotes a sense of purpose and engagement: It inspires older adults to explore new interests, learn new skills, and remain connected with their communities, which can enhance their overall well-being and life satisfaction.

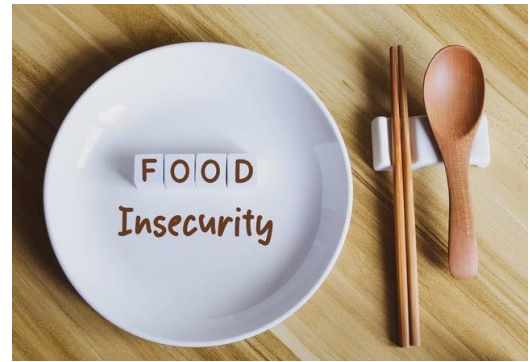
Key themes and activities

- *Physical Activity: Regular exercise, even moderate activities like walking, helps prevent and manage chronic diseases, improves balance and stamina, reduces the risk of falls, and enhances brain health.
- *Healthy Eating: A balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, and low-fat dairy can support overall health and address changing dietary needs as we age.
- *Brain Health: Engaging in mentally stimulating activities like learning new skills, reading, and puzzles, alongside social interaction and sufficient sleep, can help reduce cognitive decline and manage conditions like dementia.
- *Social Engagement: maintaining strong social connections with family and friends, participating in community activities, staying connected with one's religious community, and volunteering can improve mood, reduce feelings of loneliness, and promote a sense of belonging.

The month serves as a reminder that it's never too late to start making positive changes and that there are always opportunities to learn new things, pursue passions, and enjoy life to the fullest.

Enjoy the cooler weather.

God Bless Maryann



Panel Presentation on Hunger in Hanover

Food insecurity is not an issue relegated only to third-world countries, affecting people we don't know. Our hearts break daily when we see pictures on the screens of children dying in far-off lands from lack of food. However, we recognize that hunger is a widespread issue in all communities, both locally and globally.

On Thursday, September 4, 2025, at 4 pm, Hanover Against Hunger will be sponsoring the *first-of-its-kind panel discussion on the challenges of food insecurities facing many in our community* — young and old. Thanks to the generous cooperation of the Borough of Hanover, this special educational event will be held in the Community Room at the new Borough Building.

The public is asked to join us to learn about the often unseen and overlooked struggles many in our community face daily. God's Meal Barrel, Ruth's Harvest, the Hanover Area Council of Churches (through Provide a Lunch and Meals on Wheels), and New Hope Ministries, all dedicated local food relief organizations, will be there to share their missions and answer your questions. Come learn how you can help to make Hanover an even more welcoming and caring place than it already is.

You don't need to register, but you can let us know you plan to attend by visiting <https://foodinsecurity.eventbrite.com>. Need more information? Contact info@hanoveragainsthunger.org.



The next Meal Packing event is set for November 1 at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Hanover, PA.

We are beginning to receive donations toward our goal of raising \$44,000, which will enable us to pack 100,000 meals, but many more dollars and hands are needed.

You can help by going to
<https://riseagainsthunger.org/register/>

Regardless of how you choose to help — by packing, donating, or both — we NEED you.



Texas Roadhouse will generously donate 10% of your tab (at no additional cost to you) to support **Local Food Relief Organizations** and the **Hanover Against Hunger Meal Packing Event** and their efforts to alleviate hunger in our community and around the globe. See the reverse side for the dates this applies.

To learn more visit hanoveragainsthunger.org. Our next **Community Meal Packing Event** is **November 1, 2025**.



When dining at the Roadhouse on these dates, please tell your server you would like 10% of your tab donated to support local food relief organizations and Hanover Against Hunger. Then, join us to pack 100,000 meals on Nov. 1, 2025. Visit facebook.com/HanoverAgainstHunger.

Dates Roadhouse 10% Donation Applies

Feb 16 & 17
Mar 2 & 3; 16 & 17
Apr 6 & 7; 21 & 22
May 4 & 5; 18 & 19
Jun 1 & 2; 15 & 16
Jul 6 & 7; 21 & 22
Aug 3 & 4; 17 & 18
Sep 7 & 8; 21 & 22
Oct 5 & 6; 19 & 20



Please pray with us!

Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all God's benefits— Who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion. —Psalm 103:2-4

Holy One, we pray for:

Those shut in their homes/assisted living:

Liz Chubb, Clair Fritz, Fay Herman, Sarah Senft

Those who need healing:

Sara Bare, Rick Beck, Tom Bering, Bob Brenneman, Rylan Borys, Ken Church, Robin Gentzler, Sue Howes, David Klinedinst, Leonard Mansfield, Erin Trayer

Those recovering from hospitalization or surgery:

John Brenneman

All those longing for peace in the world, refugees escaping terror, people suffering from disasters

All those struggling to pay their utility bills, rent, mortgage, and groceries.

All soldiers serving their country in the military, especially:

Our college and graduate students:

Mackenzie Fritz, Darren Gobrecht, Hannah Mansfield, Rachel Miller, Emily Ramsay, Bryce Thoman

pray

Monthly Mission Offering: LifePath Christian Ministries

LifePath aims to love, honor, and serve every person who walks through their doors. The ultimate goal is transformation from the inside out. They start by meeting the immediate needs for daily living and then encourage guests to take in their life-changing programs and services.

Thank Yous to...

Our VBS planners: Joy Gobrecht, Sara Grove, Chip Hoover, Rachel Miller, Rev. Alan Watt of St. Paul's Lutheran

Our VBS helpers: Maryann Brenneman, Mackenzie Fritz, Braden, Darren and Holden Gobrecht, Scott Gross, Darlene Hoover, Pat Joseph, Hannah Mansfield, Bonnie Martin, Jen Miller, Luke Miller, Mark and Kathy Sterrett, Becky Thoman, Kayla Thoman, donations from Missy Leonard.

Our Sanctuary Renovation Committee: Chip Hoover, Terry Gruver, Darren Gobrecht, Joy Gobrecht, Terry Miller, Barb Senft

Our sanctuary renovation helpers: Bill and Jane Bankert, Kevin Baum, Josh Brenneman, Maryann Brenneman, Steve Brooks, Braden Gobrecht, Holden Gobrecht, Matt Gobrecht, Cindy Gruver, Tom Harlacker, Darlene Hoover, Grant Howard, Tom Howard, Pat Joseph (and Dave), Steve and Sally Kern, Dave Klinedinst, Gary and Sue Miller, Jen and Steve Miller, Luke Miller, Mike Senft, Sharon Smith, Mark and Kathy Sterrett, Ginny Thoman, Kayla and Rebecca Thoman; Everyone who helped Sunday June 28th when we removed much of the contents of the sanctuary, and again this past Sunday, when AV components were moved back.



Contact Information

Church Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9 - 11:30 am.

Pastor's Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings.

Prayer Chain Contact Pastor Dave (716-946-7349), Jane Bankert (717-225-3738), or Darlene Hoover (717-792-3153) to begin the prayer chain. To add a name to our printed prayer list, contact the church office.

Emergency Pastoral Needs For more immediate care, please contact Pastor Dave at 716-946-7349 (cell).

Ways to Support St. Paul's UCC

Grocery Cards Giant, Weis and Kennie's cards are available in amounts from \$10 to \$100. The church receives 5% of your purchase toward our expenses. Call Maryann Brenneman (717-225-4497) for additional information.

Submission due dates:

Newsletter:

Refer to Calendar

Sunday bulletin requests:

Tuesday of each week

Committee minutes:

Tuesday prior to Consistory meeting

Requests for use of the church building:

Forms are in the narthex tray.



ADDRESS: St. Paul's United Church of Christ Stoverstown
2173 Stoverstown Rd, Spring Grove PA 17362-7829
WEBSITE: www.stpaulsstoverstown.org
E-MAIL: stpaulsstoverstown@comcast.net
FACEBOOK PAGE: <https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsucc>
CHURCH CALENDAR: <http://tinyurl.com/spucccalendar>
CHURCH OFFICE E-MAIL: stpaulsstoverstown@comcast.net
CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: (717) 225-6357

Please "like" us on Facebook and refer us to your friends.





**Partners in Blessing - Cooperative Mission,
Cooperative Ministry**

NEWS of the 24 Churches of the York Association

Like us on Facebook: [yorkucc](#)

Website: www.yorkassociationucc.org

YA Email: info@yorkassociationucc.org

SEPTEMBER 2025 – Newsletter

Mission Statement

We, the members of the York Association of the United Church of Christ, are called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to represent Christ by:

- supporting one another in our covenantal relationship;
- calling clergy and laity to mutual accountability to the faith and order of the church;
- witnessing together to God's redeeming love. (Adopted April 28, 1991)

Worship in Motion

We are thrilled to invite you to **Worship in Motion**, a dynamic, spirit-filled initiative exploring the vitality of worship in the 21st century. Sponsored by the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship and facilitated by Rev. Dr. Dominique Denman, Director of Christian Education and Community Outreach at Trinity United Church of Christ – York, this project brings together the sacred and the cinematic.

Through a series of film screenings, community discussions, interviews, filming, and interfaith engagement, Worship in Motion offers an opportunity for reflection, connection, and creative expression.

This journey will culminate in a documentary film, capturing our shared insights, hopes, and experiences as we imagine what vibrant, transformative worship looks like today and for generations to come.

Location:

Trinity United Church of Christ – York

32 W. Market Street, York, PA 17401

Event Dates:

**Sundays, August 17th, September 14th, October 19th at 2:30 pm and Friday December 5th at 6:30 pm
Documentary Screening.**

We warmly encourage pastors, ministry teams, youth leaders, creatives, and seekers from all walks of life to join us in this bold exploration of faith and story. Your voice matters, and your presence is welcome.

Let's put **Worship in Motion—together.**

For questions and additional information contact

Dr. Dominique at outreachandeducation@trinityucc-york.org

The Gathering Community (aka Parish Life Committee)

What was Parish Life Committee? According to our bylaws, the responsibility of the Committee was to disseminate information from the Association, Conference, and National offices. With immediate access to this information via e-mail, websites, social media, and other media, this function is redundant.

For many years, the primary responsibility was planning gathering activities for the Association. One of the favorites was the Annual Leadership Banquet. Due to waning interest and Covid, social gatherings came to a halt. It is felt these activities should again resume, especially with the General Synod vote to approve the Keystone Conference in 2026.

First, we feel it is important to change this leadership team to better reflect the nature of the focus. We are proposing the Parish Life Committee be known, moving forward, as The Gathering Community Team.

It is felt that all gatherings have an educational component to them. For example, if we were to hold an Association Cook-Off, food insecurity would be our focus (just an example at this time).

We are proposing the following event to kick off the Fall. The Association will be hosting a watch party (venue will be announced as soon as it has been secured, it will be a church in the York Association.)

September 25-26th, UCC Building & Lead Fund are sponsoring a virtual workshop entitled "Beyond Sunday – 2025 Partners in Building Virtual Conference." It is described as an immersive experience designed to equip you with the tools and

inspiration to extend your impact beyond Sunday.
Please reach out to Lisa Young –
itsaboutme0503@comcast.net – about the event if
you have any questions. A formal registration form
will be sent as soon as all the details have been
ironed out.

The Gathering Community team is an initiative to
gather the York Association and beyond. Please reach
out to, Lisa Young and Rev. Equilla Curry with ideas
for gathering events.

Agenda

Beyond Sundays –

Thursday, September 25 – 11:00am-3:15pm

Welcome & Vision Casting: The Power of Partnership

Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson

Keynote: Prayer: A Unified Blessing

Rev. Rachel Pryor, SCN

Morning Reflection: Anchoring Our Purpose

Rev. Dr. Patrick Duggan

From Pulpit to Pavement: Unleashing Community Potential

Rev. Hodari Williams, Pastor, New Life Presbyterian Church

Panel: Innovators' Showcase

Adese Church: Pioneering New Pathways

Panelists: Carla Leon, Sandra Acosta and Rev. Dr. Greg Smith
Q&A

LUNCH BREAK

WORKSHOPS

Pioneering New Pathways

Adese "Entrepreneurial" Church

Building Bridges Home: Strategies for Affordable Housing Solutions

Affordable Housing

Revitalizing Spaces, Empowering People

Community Facilities & Economic Development

WORKSHOPS IMPACT HUB Q&A

Charge: "Go Forth and Transform"

Rev. Dr. Jamesetta Ferguson

ADJOURNMENT

Friday, September 26 – 11:00am-3:15pm

Welcome & Vision Casting: Charting our Collective Future

Rev. Terrill Murff, Interim IL Conf Minister

Morning Reflection: Anchoring Our Purpose

Rev. Dr. Patrick Duggan

Prayer: A Unified Blessing

Rev. Dr. Patrick Duggan

KEYNOTES

The Dual Engine of Growth: Community Engagement & Capital Fundraising

Rev. Staci Marrese-Wheeler, Common Grace

Rev. James Pennington, Back Bay Mission

LUNCH BREAK

KEYNOTE IMPACT HUB Q&A

Rev. Staci Marrese-Wheeler, Common Grace

Rev. James Pennington, Back Bay Mission

WORKSHOPS

It's Hard to Love Your Neighbors if You Don't Know
Them! Using MissionInsite tools to connect with your
community

MissionInsite

Engaging Transform Church Transform Community 2.0

Congregations

Engaging Community through Digital Ministry

WORKSHOPS IMPACT HUB Q&A

Emily Reece, Jill White, Jim Keat

Charge: "Go Forth and Transform"

Rev. Dr. Jamesetta Ferguson

ADJOURNMENT

Love in Action: Servants Work Camp

Hello friends,

On Sunday, July 27th, Starview UCC had the honor of being
the music ministry recipients of Faye Schaeffer and Wayne Bear.
One of their songs was *The Jesus Way*, a popular piece by Phil
Wickham. The lyrics are exactly about that: living and loving in
the same way as Jesus: the Way of self-giving love. Of mercy and
justice. Of walking toward those the world walks away from.

That Way—the Jesus Way—isn't always glamorous or easy.
Nor is it always the loudest, flashiest, or most comfortable path.
But it *is* the path where life is made whole. It's where healing
happens. Where the goodness of God is made manifest in real-
time. Where Christ's LOVE becomes ACTION.

From July 22 - July 25, a local community of Christians didn't
just sing about *The Jesus Way*. They lived it...with drywall screws
and paintbrushes, lawn rakes and peanut butter sandwiches,
and shared prayers and patient hands. Love was present in
smiles passed across dusty rooms and in tears that flowed when
hope was restored.

Those four days were a living parable of God's goodness -
Christ's love made tangible. It was a story written not in ink, but
in muscle and mercy, in community, in grace.

This was LOVE in ACTION.

We witnessed it in the teenager staining deck boards beside
a retiree she just met. In the church members up before sunrise
scrambling eggs and making sausage gravy and French toast. In
the volunteer who knelt beside a homeowner to listen as she
told stories of her late husband.

We witnessed it ripple through driveways, porches, kitchens,
and daily devotions. And in those moments, the sacred and the
ordinary became one.

Over just four days, 79 volunteers—ranging in age from 8 to
83—came together from over 20 churches and
denominations. Together, they donated a combined 14,069
hours of labor.

All of the building supplies, paint, and materials
were donated.

If contractors had completed this work instead, the cost of
LABOR alone would have exceeded \$58,000—but it wasn't
contractors. It was neighbors. People of faith. People moved by
compassion. They formed one body, bound not by uniformity,
but by a shared desire to live out the love of God.

This was The Jesus Way. This IS what the goodness of the Living God looks like in motion.

And it began long before Tuesday morning. People from Starview and Hayshire UCC sold sandwiches and subs to raise funds and St. John's Lutheran, Mt. Wolf, gave a generous financial gift. Those funds became breakfast spreads, lunches packed with care, and dinner tables of shared laughter. Joining us, at Starview UCC to prepare and serve meals was Quickel Lutheran, Hayshire UCC, and Pleasureville Church.

Each day started with devotions. Work crews prayed before heading out, then spent the day hammering, painting, raking, sawing, fixing, cleaning, caring. Some stayed back to prep meals and wash dirty dishes. Some delivered forgotten supplies and extra water coolers. Some listened and prayed. Some simply showed up.

And every single moment of it—was worship! Because this wasn't just a work project. It was a witness to what love looks like when it puts on work gloves and kitchen aprons. It wasn't about pity. It was about presence. It was about showing up and loving the way Jesus does.

And that kind of presence flows from the very heart of the Living God. This was Christ's LOVE in ACTION.

Thanks be to God!

Pastor Laura Baker, Starview UCC, Mt. Wolf

Around the Association

Locust Grove UCC, 1035 Locust Grove Rd, York

will have a **Chicken BBQ Dinner and Bake Sale on Saturday, September 6, 2025, at 11am**. Dinner consists of ½ BBQ chicken, a baked potato, applesauce, roll & butter, cupcake, and a bottle of water. Dinners are served downstairs from the Social Hall, and we have a chair lift. Dinners may be Eaten In or Carried Out. Cost is \$12. You may pre-order by calling 717-755-1318, please leave your name, phone number, and the number of dinners you wish to purchase. SERVING UNTIL 1PM OR SOLD OUT. RAIN OR SHINE.

New Hope Fissel's UCC 3426 Fissels Church Rd, Glen Rock

Sharing September musical events:

- Please join us for worship **on September 7, 2025, at 10am**, featuring the gospel group SET FREE! We will have an outdoor service (weather permitting), so please bring your lawn chairs and enjoy the music!
- On Sunday, **September 28, 2025, at 10am** the worship service will feature the *Brodbecks Band* as we celebrate Rally Day. A covered dish meal will follow the service.

St. Paul's UCC

2173 Stoverstown Road, Spring Grove

is having a **Soup Sale on Saturday September 27**. There will be ham and bean soup, chicken corn and gluten free chicken corn soup available.

Pre orders are due by September 20 by calling 717-225-4497 and leave a message. Soup can be picked up at the church from 10 to 12. Please contact Maryann Brenneman 717-515-6359 or email Mbrenneman61@comcast.net. if you have any questions.

CoM - SAVE THE DATES PLEASE

The York Association Council on Ministry requests that churches in the Association reserve Sunday afternoon, **September 14** for possible Ecclesiastical Council,

York Association Council Meetings

Anyone in the York Association UCC is welcome to listen to the York Association Council meetings. If you have an idea for strengthening our Association, and would like to put it on the agenda, at least one week prior to a scheduled meeting contact the Council President, Rev. Dave Martin, at pastorstpaulsstoverstown@comcast.net. The next meetings are on, **September 16, & October 21 at 6:30 pm** at St. Paul's UCC (Stoverstown). A Zoom link will be published the month of each meeting.

YA Church and Leadership Directory

A York Association Church and Leadership Directory is currently being distributed. Copies are being provided for those serving in a pastoral role, those serving as President and Secretary of the Consistory, Council or Coordinating Committee, those serving the Association, and those serving the Conference as part of the Association, as well as to our retired and/or exempt clergy. You are welcome to make more copies for more people.

Attn: York Association UCC Clergy & MIDs

The York Association Clergy and MIDs will meet on **Wednesday, September 10**. We will have our normal brunch at 11am with ACM Nora Foust at Lion's Pride, followed by Boundary Training at 12:30pm at St. John's UCC in Red Lion.

The next newsletter, October, will be emailed Sept 21.

Please send articles to

news@yorkassociationucc.org by Sept 18.

St. Paul's UCC - Stoverstown

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 10:15am Outdoor Worship with Picnic	1 Labor Day Amanda Carmichael Braden Gobrecht	2 Sara Hartman, Averleigh Fake	3 <div>6:00pm Stewardship & Missions Committee</div> <div>6:00pm Fellowship & Outreach Committee</div> <div>7:15pm Shalom Choir</div> Brynn Gruver	4 Caitlin Hoffman	5	6 Kevin Baum
7 10:15am Worship <div>12:00pm Picnic at N. Codorus Township Park</div> <div>5:00pm Gross Thoman Wedding & Reception</div>	8 <div>7:00pm Worship & Christian Education Committee</div> Kira Hull	9 <div>1:30pm Safe Sanctuary Meeting</div>	10 <div>7:15pm Shalom Choir</div> Isaac Young, Denise Harlacker	11	12 Michael Fake, Michael Senft	13
14 9:00am Intergenerational Confirmation Faith Discussion 10:15am Worship - Harvest Home Sunday Drue Allison	15 <div>7:00pm Consistory</div> Steve Miller	16 <div>1:00pm Women's Bible Study</div> <div>6:30pm YA Council Meeting</div> <div>Newsletter deadline</div>	17 <div>7:15pm Shalom Choir</div> Steve & Jayne Harman	18	19 Fay Herman	20 Chris Wilhide
21 9:00am Intergenerational Confirmation Faith Discussion 10:15am Worship Thatcher Stough	22	23	24 <div>1:30pm Pastor Parish Relations Meeting</div> <div>7:15pm Shalom Choir</div>	25 Ameira Pritt Maryann Brenneman Corey & Sami Ripple	26	27 Joshua Brenneman
28 9:00am Intergenerational Confirmation Faith Discussion 10:15am Worship Kayce Webb	29 Mike Bollinger	30 Haley Helf	1 <div>7:15pm Shalom Choir</div>	2 Stephen & Sally Kern Sally Kern	3 Faith Brenneman, Skylar Chinault	4 Jane Bankert