

Philadelphia United Methodist Church United Methodist Church United Methodist Church

Telling the PUMC Story every Month | November 2023 | Vol. 6, No.10

OFFERINGS & REFLECTIONS

OVERCOMING FEAR



Dear Friends.

The prophet Isaiah reminds us, "Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." (Isaiah 41:10 NSV)

I am constantly reminded by news articles that as a society we should be living in fear. Fear of the economy, fear of war, fear of the direction our country maybe heading, fear of not having enough money, time, or faith, etc, etc. Let's be honest, we all afraid of something. Yet in the same breath, we profess our Christian faith. We profess to believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son, our LORD! When we say those words. Do we believe them? If so, why and what are we fearful of?

Sisters and brothers, as we enter this time of Thanksgiving, my we be reminded that Our God has always provided for us. He is the consistent calming presence in the midst of the storm, reaching down to pull us out of the water in which we may find ourselves sinking. God is the one who always strengthens us, helps us, and uphold us in his mighty right hand, regardless of who we are, what we have done or deserve. Grace, gratitude, blessings, thankfulness, thanksgiving...that is our Lord, Jesus Christ.

We are nearing the end of 2023, but before we jump into Christmas and New Year, let us take a pause to remember how grateful we are for God's blessings. Let us rejoice every day in HIS promise to always be with us, strengthen us and uphold us. When we practice gratitude and thanksgiving for all God's blessings, it can drive out the fears and negative voices that are living in our mind.

I pray that you and your family will have a blessed Thanksgiving, feeling grateful for all you have, and sharing it with others. Remember the prophet Isaiah reminds us "Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

See you in the pews. Meet you at the altar.

CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Trunk R Treat

We had a great turn-out from both the church and community to the annual PUMC Trunk R Treat. Twenty-one trunks were decorated and we had some outstanding creativity this year! Costumes were worn, candy was doled out, hot dogs were consumed, our community was engaged, and the kids and





David Jugar



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EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Evangelism had a busy October! We hosted the PUMC annual Fall Festival on 10/7 followed by greeting the community and sharing the love of Christ on 10/14 at the Catawba Fest in Tega Cay. Through these two events, we personally spoke to hundreds of people in the community about PUMC and it's ministries. Thanks to all who volunteered and supported our ministries - a huge thanks to Jack Smith for spearheading the Fall Festival.

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PUMC FALL FESTIVAL 2023: A TASTE OF THE SOUTH



EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

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We are already brainstorming what we might do for community events next year. If anyone is interested or has suggestions please email Amanda Burns at amandalpburns@gmail.com

We rebranded the yellow pew visitor cards to "Connect" card, we simplified the information on the cards and added a QR code for those who prefer paperless. We ask and encourage you all to share these cards if you notice or encounter a visitor; completed cards can go in the offering plate. And there are red "welcome bags" on the table outside of the sanctuary. Feel free to give these to visitors as well. Lastly, we are looking for more friendly faces to greet just before the 9am service. If you are interested, please contact Jan Manring at jmanring.jm@gmail.com.





CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES

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young families had a lot of fun. The Children's and Family Ministries would like to thank all those who helped with this year's event. Philadelphia church welcomed the community with open arms as they asked attendees about where they were from, how long they've been here, and whether they attend church. They also discussed our ministries, discipleship opportunities, worship services, and upcoming events. Again, we greatly appreciate everyone who gave their time, talents, and tithes.



December 3rd
Children's Christmas Concert ~ @ 4:00pm
Cookies with Santa ~ 5:00 - 6:00pm

Please bring a new, unwrapped toy for children in the community.





A Christmas service for children and families, celebrating the birth of Jesus.

Sunday, December 24 4:00PM



WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Worshipping In Love: Side: On October 22nd, Marshall David Burns II was baptized into the family of Christ. Proud parents Marshall and Amanda, big sisters, Charlotte and Caroline.

Below:

Two of our young musical groups shared their love of God. Joyful Noize sang "I Want to Be a Christian" and Youth Handchimes performed "Jesus Loves Me"









UNITED WOMEN in FAITH (UWF)

PANCAKE PACKING PARTY for Operation Christmas Child - Wednesday, November 8th, 4:30-6:30pm

Invite your friends and neighbors to pack boxes. You are still welcome to bring donations of toys, school supplies, games, etc to go in the boxes.

We provide a yummy pancake dinner and monetary donations go to cover the \$10/box shipping costs. Contact Cindi Cahaly, cahaly@comporium.net with any questions

ANNUAL HARVEST DINNER Thursday, November 16th, 5:30pm Fellowship Hall

All women and young women are welcome to enjoy a fellowship dinner as we break bread together in thanksgiving of God's many blessings. Childcare is provided.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE
Sunday, December 10th

DATES TO REMEMBER

NOV 5TH ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

NOV 12TH VETERAN'S DAY RECOGNITION

NOV 30[™] ADVENT STUDY VIA ZOOM

DEC 3RD 4^{PM} CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

DEC 3RD ADVENT BEGINS

DEC 10TH 9^{AM} RENEW CHRISTMAS CANTATA

11AM TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS CANTATA

DEC 24TH 11^{AM} ONE MORNING SERVICE

4^{PM} CHRISTMAS EVE: FAMILY SERVICE

6^{PM} & 11^{PM} CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

NURTURE COMMITTEE

Senior Friends

Tuesday, November 14th, 11:30am

Join us for our annual Thanksgiving dinner. Meats and drinks will be provided but please bring side dishes and /or sweets. For more info contact Linda Honeycutt, honey6239@comporium.net.

Single Ladies' Lunch Bunch Saturday, November 18th, 11:30am

Meet other single women for food and fellowship. Salmeri's Italian Restaurant. Contact Donna Schaefer at nordon50@aol.com.

Illness Meal Team

PUMC has a team that organizes meals for congregants who are sick, injured, or just home from the hospital. It's truely a blessing for these persons not to worry about food while they recover. Please consider volunteering to be a part of this ministry. You will receive an email with a sign up whenever meals are needed. You are not expected to sign up every time, just when you're able. The meals don't have to be home cooked and you don't have to attend any meetings! Email Eve Chapman, evechapman0306@gmail.com, to be serve on the "meal team".



Kelly led the group in a game about Halloween. We then went to Black's Peaches for lunch and fellowship and more fresh vegetables.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Serving at Bethel Men's Night Shelter -



"My Grandmamie has been gone for years, but she was here tonight." This one one of the endearing comments Bethel Shelters from the 48 men who enjoyed our

country style meal at Bethel Men's Night Shelter in October. The ham, beans, cabbage, creamed corn, cinnamon apples, fig. preserves, cayenne peppers, cornbread, onions, tea and lemonade were devoured!! Thanks to all who served behind the scenes in the donation center and those who, pray prepare food and donate



Special thanks to items. Jimmy Price and Taste of the South for donating leftover corn from the Fall Festival. The corn was

Serving In Love: Youth joined the missions team to work in the donation closet at the Bethel Men's Night Shelter.

creamed and made enough for two meals.

We will work in the Donation Center only on Monday, November the 27th from 6-7PM. Please sign up in the Coffee Connections room if you are not on the current distribution list.

Spread the Warmth -**Annual Coat Drive** Now thru November 26th

PUMC is once again collecting new and gently used (and clean) winter coats and outer wear. Now is a good time to clean out those closets and stores are already starting "black Friday" sales, so if you would like to purchase an item(s), we would be over-



joyed. Leave in the Coffee Connections Room These items will be donated to Haven Men's Shelter and Tender Hearts, both located in Rock Hill. Thank you for your generosity.

LAY LEADER MOMENT

Tom Goebel

Hello my sisters and brothers. What do you think makes you happy? We're all chasing happiness in some way. We sometimes think that if we get that one thing we've been waiting for, we'd be happy. When happiness depends on what we want, we make what we want the god of our life. If we don't think we'll be happy without that one thing, we're giving our longing control of our head.

What if instead, we align our desires in light of the Lord? What if instead of wanting that one thing, we hunger for God and trust Him with our ultimate happiness? I want to share a passage from my Bible study this week. From Psalm 37:4 - "Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart."

When we finally understand that we'll never be truly happy without Him, everything else will fade in the background, and we'll find that happiness is within our reach!

I pray for you regularly, and I encourage you to also pray for me and one another. Remember, "The Best is yet to come!" See you soon.

TRUSTESS COMMITEE

The outside of the church has received a fresh coat of paint. Old, chipped paint was removed and rotted fascia boards were replaced with new boards. Thank you, Bobby Burgess, for supervising this project to completion. Also, the Trustees want to thank Greg Millett for his work on developing a plan to improve the security at our access doors and to improve the security of our Wi-Fi system.

JANUARY JOURNEY

Mark your calendars for January 21st & 28th for January Journey. Take a journey through the various ministries of PUMC and find where God is calling you to serve in 2024. More information to come.



PHILLY YOUTH GROUP (PYG)

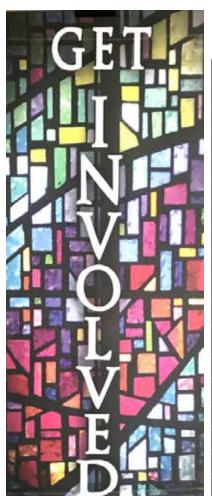
PYG continued with a busy schedule in October. We had many opportunities for fellowship outside of regular PYG hours. 18 youth and adults went to Country Days Corn Maze for games, campfire food, and of course to navigate the maze in the dark! Youth also helped man the drink stations for the Fall Festival. We had youth participation at Bethel Men's Shelter in the donation room filling and delivering needs of the men while they ate dinner. PYG entered a fishing themed trunk or rather boat, for Trunk r Treat and had children fish for candy.

Mission Wednesday came to an end this month. Students created 30 fall gnome door hangers for Ronald McDonald House. We also made paracord keychains for Operation Gratitude which supports our military and first responders.

During PYG, we are reading 1 Thessalonians studying a series titled, *Over The Top*. It focuses on how we can love others by being generous with our time, sharing the good news, caring for each other, and providing encouragement. We will practice these things during the month of November by participating in Operation Christmas Child Pancake Packing Party on 11/8 and Hugaroo on 11/5 which provides stuffed animals to children in need of a hug.

Our fun activity for November will be a Nerf War during PYG at church. Youth will bring a nerf gun and PYG will provide the ammo. Parents are more than welcome to join the fun. After our lesson, students will have the opportunity to play capture the flag! More information on our upcoming activities can be found on our BAND app or feel free to contact Jessica Inman at 910-833-0752, or iessica@pumcfortmill.org.





NOVEMBER - MONTH AT A GLANCE

| Date | Event | Time |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Sun, Nov 5 | Children's Clang Buckets | 9:00 & 11:00am |
| Sun, Nov 5 | All Saints Sunday | 9:00 & 11:00am |
| Wed, Nov 8 | Pancake Packing Party | 4:30 - 6:30pm |
| Sun, Nov 12 | Veteran's Day Recognition | 9:00 & 11:00am |
| Tue, Nov 14 | Sr. Friends Luncheon | 11:30am |
| Thur, Nov 16 | Harvest Dinner | 5:30pm |
| Sat, Nov 18 | Men in the Mirror | 7:30am |
| Sat, Nov 18 | Single Ladies' Lunch Bunch *Salmeri's | 11:30am |
| Sun, Nov 19 | Church Council | 1:30am |
| Sun, Nov 26 | Last Day of Coat Drive | 12:00pm |
| Mon, Nov 27 | Serve at Bethel Men's Shelter | 6:00 - 7:00pm |
| Thur, Nov 30 | Zoom Advent Study Begins | 7:00- 8:00pm |
| Every Sunday | Philly Youth Group (PYG) | 5:00 - 6:30pm |
| Every Wednesday | Joyful Noize (K-5th grade) | 4:30-5:15pm |
| Every Wednesday | Beginner Bells & Philly Chimes | 5:15pm |
| Every Wednesday | CORE Rehersal | 5:30 - 7:00pm |
| Every Wednesday | Jubilate Ringers | 6:00pm |
| Every Wednesday | Chancel Choir | 7:00pm |



THE ANGELS ARE COMING! GIFTS FOR YOU TO PURCHASE WILL BE ON A SIGNUP GENIUS. LOOK FOR A QR CODE IN THE BULLETIN SOON! THE TREE IN THE GATHERING AREA WILL HAVE ANGELS FOR GIFT CARDS ONLY. GIFT CARDS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO LINDA HONEYCUTT OR DENISE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE. PLEASE DO NOT PUT GIFT CARDS UNDER THE TREE, THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCIAL REPORT October 29, 2023

\$14,110 is needed each week to meet our annual budget of \$733,741, we received \$10,557 this week

\$467,543 has been received towards the General and Building Funds

\$483,465 has been spent from the General and Building Funds

\$52,636 Cash Available to Support Church Expenses, Missions & Ministries

\$785,059 Loan balance for Building

Ways to Give

Cash & Checks accepted every Sunday during Offering!
Visit us at www.pumcfortmill.org/give/
Via Zelle App - gifts@pumcfortmill.org
Transfer Stocks, Bonds, Brokerage Assets
Mail or Drop-off your gift during regular office hours
Have questions about giving?

Please contact PUMC's part-time Financial Associate, Mayra Leon at accounting@pumcfortmill.org

Mailing Address

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Staff

Senior Pastor - Rev. David Taylor
Director of Music Ministries - David Hodges
Contemporary Worship Leader - Mark Gannon
Director of Children & Family Ministries - Nic Gold
Director of Youth Ministries - Jessica Inman
Office Manager - Denise Watson
Financial Associate - Mayra Leon

Visit

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