

The Messenger

October 2019

COMMUNION SUNDAY AND COFFEE HOUR

OCTOBER 6

We will celebrate Holy Communion during our worship service on October 6, followed by a coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a delicious delectable to share and have a relaxing morning with us.

HARVEST HOME

OCTOBER 13

We will have our church decorated for Harvest Home Sunday on October 13. As we have in the past, we will collect canned/boxed goods for the food bank. There are suggested items on the poster in the narthex as we replenish the food bank for the people who need our assistance.

ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17 TO SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

It's time for our annual Turkey Supper. Please see the article in this issue for dates and times where your help will be needed.



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From the Pastor's Desk

On behalf of myself and the congregation of Emmanuel United Church of Christ, I am proud to say that we are celebrating 150 years of worship and service to our communities, and the world!

Starting in 1845, religious services were held in a school-house on the lot which Emmanuel's church now stands, Rev Isaac Shellhammer, a minister of the Reformed Church, living in Black Creek Township, came and preached about once every four weeks. He preached altogether in the German language, and his records are in the same language. As the congregation was small, and the people poor, his salary was from \$10-\$15 per anum. Even though this salary seems small, it was the custom of the day to supplement the payment with goods-often farm produce. He died in 1873, and is buried in the cemetery adjoin a church which is called in honor of his name, the Shellhammer church, in Black Creek Township. Our history continues throughout the centuries leading to this present day. The cornerstone of our present church was laid November 1868 and the church was dedicated Sunday, August 15th 1869. 150 years, and many ministers later, Emmanuel UCC still standing Dorrance, PA, still worshipping, and still contributing to our local and global communities.

In our present time, we see a changing world with churches of all denominations attempting to keep up with this rapid change.

Tod Bolsinger, author of "Canoeing the Mountains" is going to be our main speaker at our Penn Northeast Conference Annual Meeting in November. His above mentioned book deals with this rapid change. A quote from this book which stands out to me is, "For Christian leaders this means that ministry is not only the means to bring the gospel to the world, ministry together is how God makes a congregation into a corps that is ready to continually bring the gospel in new ways to a changing world." Tod Bolsinger, [Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory](#).

After reading this my thoughts turned to the congregation building this church 150 years ago with the "dream of continually bringing the Gospel in new ways to a changing world." We can be the fulfillment of that dream and carry on the work of our ancestors. Tell others about the church you attend. We are a full service church because we believe in that dream and will continuing to bring the Good News to our communities and the world.

The world does change rapidly. It was changing in 1869 and continues to change in 2019. We breath in the tenacity and bravery of our ancestors in faith and say that we are ready and able to meet the challenges faced in keeping Emmanuel UCC alive for another 150 years and beyond.

May God be with you all, Pastor Lou



UPCOMING DATES

Nov. 3 Daylight Savings Time Ends



COMMITTEE MEETINGS

CONSISTORY

The next Consistory meeting will be on Thursday, October 24, at 6:30 pm.

KITCHEN COMMITTEE

The next Kitchen committee meeting will be on Friday, October 11, at 9:00 am.

Turkey Dinner Dates

October 17 to 19

Please remember that it is not necessary to be at the dinner “forever”. If everyone takes a turn, we can all help each other and feel good about volunteering to support our church.

See Steve Moyer or Allen Dennis for tickets to sell. There's plenty for everyone, so get them and sell, sell, sell. The fall Dinner is usually our best dinner fundraiser and is easy to promote. Why? Because people love to eat – especially good food!! And we've been complimented again and again about how really good it is!

We need people to cook the turkeys. Allen Dennis is the person to see if you can volunteer your time for this important item (what's a Turkey Supper without turkey, right?) The turkeys arrive either at your home or at the church (depending on how you arrange it with Allen).

On Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m., walls are taken down and tables are set up. Then there is the cleaning and cutting up of the vegetables and for making the pickled cabbage.

Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. we make the stuffing which takes strong arms to mix thoroughly. **Please come out Friday night if you can help.**

Saturday morning at 8:00 am is when we clean the meat off the turkeys, which is easier to do if the turkeys are warm. Those of you who clean your own turkeys and then deliver them really help to speed up this process. **Please remember to bring the turkey broth to make**

the gravy. After a short break, workers gather again at 2:30 pm to start heating everything up so it's good and hot for serving our guests at 3:00 pm..

Then, of course, the actual event begins at 3:00 and goes to about 7:00 p.m. By the end of the supper at 7:00 p.m., the workers, (many of whom have been there since 2:30 p.m. so that everything is all set to serve at 3:00 p.m.) are ready for a rest. That's when it's nice to have a clean-up crew come in. The area needs to be cleaned up and Sunday School rooms put back in order and the walls put back up. The large roasters and cook pots are washed and put away until the next supper. The kitchen cleaned and floors washed and vacuumed.

There's a lot to do to hold a dinner, but the work's not hard when you're having fun. And we do have a lot of fun, even if we are a bit frantic while serving our guests. It's all part of the experience and we'd love for you to experience it, too.

PICTURE PERFECT

Check the front entrance bulletin board for the following pictures:

Nick Aita and Robert Duffy have a great time horsing around on the inflatable slide as their friend **Leah Dietrich** watches at their recent Rally Day held on Sunday September 8.