

THE ABBEY REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Abbey Reformed United Church of Christ is to fulfill the Gospel of Jesus Christ by sharing in the experience of worship; by the care, nurture and Christian education of all people doing all these things in the spirit of love, compassion and concern, for all God's Creation.

A Message from Pastor Suzanne Morelli

Summer days are becoming shorter as we soon enter Autumn. The changing seasons are a reminder of our human need to maintain good rhythm in our lives, even amidst demands! Much activity fills up our calendars as we move forward. There is the anticipation of new beginnings as in this next school year. Christian Education and the mission the Abbey is called to, becomes more focused in the Fall season. We are grateful for the opportunities before us at the Abbey for all ages of learning; for the new school year ahead at Jack and Jill and within the schools of our communities. May the joy and blessings in learning be with students and teachers throughout this school year and within this faith community. **May we know your ways, O Lord; teach us your paths. Psalm 25:4**

We are a part of a community that helps to provide a place of healing and rest; learning and serving. Sunday worship continues to be that opportunity of welcome, renewal and friendship as well. This helps us enter good rhythm amidst the activity of life.

Be sure to come and see....You are welcome to be a part of Bible studies, choir, service opportunities, visitation outreach, Confirmation beginnings and more here at the Abbey.

These changing seasons from summer to fall remind us of what is constant through all our days. May we continue to experience the enduring presence and compassion of Christ in our lives, and in reaching out to others. The unbreakable, sustaining promises of God are for us now, as is the guidance of the Spirit. We do not take for granted these gifts given to sustain and strengthen us; as together we nurture life and faith in a challenging world.

Here is to a great Fall, full of learning;
embraced by the lasting love and promises of our Lord!

Pr. Suzanne Morelli

The Abbey Reformed UCC

515 6th Street
Huntingdon, PA 16652
814-643-1340

Email:

abbeyreformed@gmail.com

Website:

abbeyreformed.org

Facebook:

The Abbey Reformed UCC

YouTube:

The Abbey Reformed U.C.C.

PWC Site:

www.pennwest.org

UCC National Site:

www.ucc.org

Confirmation Beginnings

Soon the Abbey is planning to begin a confirmation process. This is a journey learning to say and to live a bold 'Yes' to God! It is based in our Lord's great "Yes" of forgiveness, grace, love and purpose in our lives! Maybe you have wondered about, or hoped for this type of process for your daughter and/or son? Parents, you and your son/daughter are invited to an informational gathering on **Sunday, September 11th, just after worship**, so that we can learn more about this opportunity.

The confirmation process will include core faith-based, Biblical teaching, service opportunities and learning about God's active work near and far. This may include a mission trip as well.

Please call the church office and let us know of your interest, and if the day/time of Sunday, September 11th after worship is a good time for your schedule. Pastor Suzanne looks forward to this time with parents and participants. It will be great to get together, and explore these possibilities as we soon enter the fall season, 2022.

Choir Rehearsal Resumes

Choir rehearsal will resume on Wednesday, September 7 at 6:00 pm. Anyone who is interested in joining the choir is welcome to attend.

Adult Sunday School Classes Resume

Sunday, September 11 at 9:30 am the Adult Sunday School Class will resume. They will be studying the Gospel of John. Any and all are invited to attend!



The fall schedule will begin September 11 with the worship service starting at 10:30 am.

Worship Leaders

We are looking for volunteers to serve as worship leaders for our Sunday morning worship service. Anyone interested please call the church office for details.



Special Thanks to Penny Hindman for the beautiful new fall banner hanging in the altar area of the sanctuary!

Coffee Hour/Fellowship Meeting

The Fellowship Committee will be hosting Coffee Hour after the worship service on September 11. There will also be a Fellowship Committee meeting in the Parlor during or after coffee hour on that day.

Lay Visitation Meeting

There will be a Lay Visitation meeting on Sunday, September 18 after the worship service in the Pastor's Study. Anyone who is interested in helping with lay visitation is welcome to attend.

Juniata College Faith Quest

Sunday, September 18 Juniata College students who are interested in finding a church in Huntingdon to worship is invited to attend the Abbey's service on that day. If you notice any younger folks in attendance be sure to give a hardy Abbey welcome to all in attendance.

Neighbors in Need

The United Church of Christ Neighbors in Need (NIN) special offering will be Sunday, October 2. With your generous gifts, this special mission offering supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. If you are able, please contribute.

Hometown Hearts/Soup Kitchen

We are looking for volunteers for The Abbey's final scheduled date of service for 2022 for the Hometown Hearts/Soup Kitchen on Thursday, October 20 at St. James Lutheran Church. We will need volunteers for cooking, serving/clean-up and to make desserts. Please contact Kelly Maffia or call the church office if you are able to help.

Search Committee Update

It's been a rather quiet summer regarding activity for the Search Committee; we had received no ministerial profiles since April which resulted in a period of stagnation. We have been in close contact with the Juniata Association Committee on Ministry, as well as our conference minister from Penn West Conference regarding creative ways to generate interest in our search. As with many other professions, there is currently a shortage of pastoral candidates which leaves us at a small disadvantage. However, the good news is that we continue to be hopeful and encouraged that our pastoral position will be filled. We remain grateful that Pastor Suzanne has agreed to continue serving as our Interim Pastor through 2023.

The Search Committee will continue to meet as we remain committed to our purpose of search and call for the next minister of the Abbey congregation. We ask that you would please pray for our next pastor, for the committee and for our church, that God will give us spirits of faithfulness and discernment, and provide guidance and wisdom as we seek to do His will. By working together, we can bring life to the work of Christ!

Fall Basement Sale

The Abbey's Fall Basement Sale is scheduled for Saturday, October 22 from 9 am to 1 pm. Donations for the sale can be dropped off downstairs in the social hall. Anyone who is able to help the day of the sale, please contact Sue Sharpless or Loida Woomeer.

Graduate Recognition Sunday was June 12 where we honored six of our high school and college grads!

Payton Casner

Payton attended Bloomsburg University for four years and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Over the four years, she was a part of the Honors College and maintained leadership roles in the Women's Choir and the Concert Choir. Additionally, she did her internship at Diversified Treatment Alternative Centers Outpatient Facility in Danville with youth who struggle with mental illness. She graduated from Bloomsburg University with an overall 3.98 GPA and made the Dean's List. Following graduation, she will be working at Mainstream Counseling under their Afterschool Program as an After School Facilitator for a year and then pursuing a master's degree in Clinical Mental Health and become an LPC (Licensed Professional Counselor).



Brook Hollibaugh

Brook Eva Hollibaugh graduated from Altoona Beauty School in October of 2019 as a Salon & Spa Professional. She has been a PA State Licensed Cosmetologist since 2020. She was working locally in Huntingdon but now is employed at The Chop Shop in Cresson, PA. She has clientele from all over Central PA! Her specialty is known as a color stylist and has been very busy with the Prom & Wedding season. You can check out the salon on their Facebook page or follow on Instagram.



Ryan States

Ryan graduated from the Huntingdon Area High School on June 2. He is now attending Lock Haven University majoring in communications with a sports broadcasting emphasis.





Paige Hollibaugh
Paige Renee Hollibaugh graduated cum laude from Juniata College this year with a bachelors degree in Environmental Science & Conservation. The Sunday after her ceremony, she & sister packed up the car to drive across country. She has relocated to accept a position at Yellowstone National Park as a GS5 Federal Interpretive Ranger. Her station for this season thru October will be at Old Faithful Visitor's Center. Her hope with this opportunity will be to float from season to season at various Parks across the country. She is considering our state's park system and other governmental programs or agencies for her permanent carrier!



Barend Werner
Barend M. Werner received his Associate of Applied Science Degree in Business Management from the Pennsylvania College of Technology on May 13th. He is employed by HomeWaters Fishing Club in Spruce Creek as an Assistant Manager of the Fly Shop, Manager of the Shooting Range, and a Licensed Fishing Guide.



Lowen Werner
Lowen F. Werner received his HVAC-R Certification from the Huntingdon County Career and Technology Center on May 19th and his diploma from Huntingdon Area High School on June 2nd. He plans to pursue a career in Residential Construction and Remodeling. He is currently employed by Mel's Concrete where he is honing more skills of the trade.

Message from the Moderator-Carol Wenner

Blessings and Peace to the Abbey Congregation,

It's hard to believe that the summer months are slipping by so quickly! We have continued to work together to keep things going at the Abbey through the summer and have had many blessings in the process.

We are grateful for our first summer of enjoying the cool air provided by the new heating/cooling system. It has made our in-person worship very pleasant including lingering after church to connect with one another in fellowship.

We have also been blessed with supply pastors who have led our worship services with a spirit of commitment to helping us grow in our faith. In addition, we have had several of our young musicians with us, providing uplifting music through instrumental and vocal contributions to the worship service – thank you Erin and Payton!!

I continue to hear conversations about the blessings (and sometimes challenges!) of participating in the “Read the Bible in a Year” group. I believe many of us are learning new things, putting pieces together, and growing through the experience of spending time in the Word. Many thanks to Sue Knepp for being our fearless leader and providing comprehensive summaries to pull it all together for us!

Many of our congregation members have had the pleasure of finally enjoying family reunions, vacations, and many other activities of summer which we had lost over the past two years. Although there is a sense that “COVID is here to stay”, we are continuing to find ways to reconnect and forge ahead despite the challenges.

As we move ahead in anticipation of cooler temperatures and the beauty of the fall season, I would like to provide a few updates regarding the life of the Abbey and what we have to look forward to.

Pastor Suzanne Morelli has returned to lead our worship services beginning August 21. We are grateful that she can commit to being with us through the end of the year, and into 2023 if the needs are still there. She has been a stabilizing presence for us during this interim time of transition and we are delighted to have her, and her family, Nick and Skylar, worshipping with us.

Despite a period of inactivity, the Pastoral Search Committee remains connected and is forging ahead as best we can. We would ask that each of you please continue to pray for wisdom, guidance, and obedience for the committee in the process of search and call for our next pastor.

The hope is that, with the fall season arriving, other activities will resume including the adult Sunday School class (which I strongly encourage you to consider becoming a part of) and Choir! We are always looking for ways to have members become more involved; if you would like to serve as Lector or Worship Leader, please let Loida know and we will work you into the schedule.

And don't forget about the other ways you can be the hands and feet of Christ...being intentional about the Abbey Acts of Kindness; working in the Soup Kitchen and helping with other Mission projects (including making any suggestions you may have!); sending cards or making phone calls/visits with our shut-ins; and keeping an active prayer life for those on our prayer list. Put your faith into action!!! There is work to be done and we are blessed to be the servants of Christ.

And finally, there was a wonderful article in The Daily News on Friday, August 5 about our beautiful church; hoping you have had the opportunity to read it. If you haven't, we have a copy at the church and can pass it along! As always, I welcome any feedback, comments, or suggestions you may have. We are ALL ministers and have much to offer in the different ways we can contribute to the spiritual life of the Abbey. It is a joy to work together with our church family in the name of serving our Lord.

Enjoy the remaining days of summer – many blessings and peace to all.

In His Service, Carol, Abbey Moderator

August 2022						
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September 2022



October 2022						
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Worship 9:30 am	5 Labor Day Office Closed	6 AA Meeting 7 pm	7 Choir Rehearsal 6 pm	8	9	10
11 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Good Samaritan Off.	12	13 AA Meeting 7 pm	14 Choir Rehearsal 6 pm	15	16	17
18 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Food Pantry Off. Lay Visitation	19	20 AA Meeting 7 pm	21 Choir Rehearsal 6 pm	22	23	24
25 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Building Fund	26	27 AA Meeting 7 pm	28 Choir Rehearsal 6 pm	29	30	

September 2022						
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October 2022



November 2022						
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Neighbors in Need Offering	3	4 AA Meeting 7 pm	5 Choir Rehearsal 6 pm	6	7	8
9 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Good Samaritan Off.	10	11 AA Meeting 7 pm	12 Choir Rehearsal 6 pm	13	14	15
16 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 Food Pantry Off.	17	18 AA Meeting 7 pm	19 Choir Rehearsal 6 pm	20	21	22 Fall Basement Sale 9 am to 1 pm
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30 Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30	31					