



ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

LIMERICK, PA

NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

St. James United Church of Christ in Limerick, PA is called to be disciples of Christ providing a caring, supportive, welcoming and inclusive community. We seek to faithfully spread the good news of Jesus Christ through generous mission, loving fellowship and curiosity about the Bible and our faith, with the help of God.

¹Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! ⁴Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! *Psalms 98: 1, 4*

Dear St. James family,

In one of the messages I will share in November, we will be spending time talking about hope. I will be sharing a number of stories, including this one, from Steve Hartman's On the Road series on CBS: In Glen Lake Elementary school in Hopkins, MN, they have a number of disabled children, for whom the playground was inaccessible. In Betsy Julian's fifth grade class, the kids were so bothered by this that they decided to raise money to buy accessible playground equipment themselves – to the tune of \$300,000!– They did it using everything from spare change to bake sales to asking local restaurants to share some of their proceeds to knocking on doors. It took months but the kids did it, raising the bar of equity for their wheelchair bound classmates. This is a great example of God's justice!

When we hear a story like that, that is something to praise God for – to make a joyful noise for. In these times, we need to surround ourselves with stories of hope. Not that we should shut out the world. No, no, we can't do that. We still have to stay informed. We still have to pray and listen and act on what we hear for the betterment of the world.

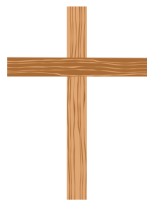
But we don't have to be bombarded with all the terrible news stories out there. I hear from some of you how overwhelmed you are. But we all have the power to limit what we see and hear on the news. It may mean turning off the TV, putting down our phones and the newspaper, putting down boundaries with people, but it can be done. We can achieve peace in our lives. Let's use the power we have to do that. Let's read a book instead, or take a walk, or talk with a loved one, or listen to music. Whatever brings us joy.

We still have to discern how we can be like Betsy Julian and her fifth graders, to bring God's righteousness and salvation to the world, in big ways and small, and keep singing a new song, because God is doing a new thing here. I believe part of my call is to be a part of the new thing that God is doing. To be a partner of justice, to be a partner of kindness, to be a partner of love, to be a partner of peace, with the God who offers us hope, patience, goodness, and grace that can be shared with the world. Let's be a part of the good news!

With love in Christ,

Pastor Beth

Thank you so much to everyone who helped with the fall rummage sale by volunteering time and/or donated items to sell!



Join us on Thursdays where we watch and discuss season three of *The Chosen*. We meet at 1:00PM in person in the Consistory Room, as well as on Zoom.

Project Outreach Drive - As many of you know, due to the government shutdown, SNAP benefits (also known as food stamps) are going to run out of funding as of November 1. We would like to do a drive for Project Outreach to help our neighbors in need at this difficult time. I was wondering what items Project Outreach needs that they don't always receive. They mentioned toiletries - body wash, men's and women's razors, shampoo and conditioner. Please bring in these items as you are able for the next couple of weeks. We will also put out a basket for them in the back of the sanctuary if you would like to make a cash donation. Thank you so much for your usual kindness and generosity! —Pastor Beth



Charlotte Fiedler will post the Wish List for the Bethany Children's Home Christmas on the board in the narthex. This has always been a rewarding time of year for us to help with this mission. If you have any questions, please contact

Daylight Savings Time Ends on **Saturday, November 1!** Please remember to set your clocks **BACK** one hour. Otherwise you'll be quite early for worship!



All Saints Sunday - We will acknowledge and remember our saints who have gone on to the next life on **Sunday, November 2**. We will remember and support each other through liturgy, candles and love.

The final meeting of the PA Southeast Conference before the Keystone Conference is born in January 2026 will take place on **Saturday, November 8** at St. Paul's in Amityville. Reception at 1:00pm, program beings at 2:00, we anticipate worship at 3:30ish.

On **Saturday, November 8** we will be having our next potluck dinner. There will be a sign-up sheet on the board. Hope to see you all there for fun and fellowship.



You are welcome to come and hear Mark and Donna Pinto sing in the choir The Wayne Oratorio Society's 2025-26 Season begins on **November 8 & 9** with a powerful pairing of the timeless "Requiem" of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and "Illuminare" – a work composed in 2020 by renowned American composer, Elaine Hagenberg. For more information visit <https://waynepres.org/wos-requiem/>

Women's Fellowship will be filling the stockings (bags) for the Salvation Army on **Saturday, November 15** at 10am at the church. Thank you to everyone who donated for this cause.



Please plan to stay for our Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, November 16** after worship. This is the meeting where we elect officers and approve our budget.

BE A HERO
DONATE BLOOD
SAVE A LIFE

Our next blood drive is scheduled with Miller Keystone on **Tuesday, November 18**, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Donors can register online at Donor Portal – Miller-Keystone Blood Center, Pennsylvania & New Jersey (giveapint.org), or by going to www.GIVEaPINT.org, click on "Donate", then "Schedule Now" and enter Limerick's Zip Code (19468). There will also be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Please mark your calendars on **Tuesday, November 25** at 7:00, as we have been invited by Rev. Caroline Bashore, pastor of First UCC in Royersford and Linfield UCC to celebrate Thanksgiving with a service at First UCC, 367 Washington St. You may recall that we hosted them last year. It would be advisable to carpool as parking is on the street, but there is a marked handicapped spot and a handicap accessible entrance. Let's celebrate together!



Advent decorating will be **Saturday, November 29** at 9:30AM. Please let Sue Myers know if you can help. 484-941-3946

What Will Give Me True Joy? From the book “Be Like Jesus” by Randy Frazee

Remember Eeyore and Tigger in the Winnie the Pooh books? For Eeyore, everything was doom and gloom, no matter what good circumstances came his way. For Tigger, everything was a carefree bounce through life, no matter what setbacks came his way. In our daily lives, it is easy to have the attitude of Eeyore while wishing we could have the outlook of Tigger - two extreme viewpoints of life. Yet the biblical



brand of joy is not simply overcoming our inner Eeyore, nor is it strolling through life in ignorant bliss like our inner Tigger. Rather, biblical joy is to be found in facing each day's ups and downs through the contentment that Christ offers.

Submitted by Charlotte Fiedler

**The Boy and the Starfish Anecdote**

A little boy was walking along the beach, stopping every few steps to bend over, pick up a starfish and gently throw it back into the ocean. He repeated this action over and over again, with focus and determination. An older man, who had been watching the boy, finally approached him. A mix of curiosity and suspicion appeared on his face. “What are you doing?” he asked the boy. The boy didn't stop what he was doing. He picked up another starfish, threw it into the waves and said, “I'm saving starfish.” The man laughed, shaking his head. “There are thousands of starfish on this beach. You can't save them all. What you are doing doesn't really make a difference.”



The boy paused for a moment, then bent down to pick up another starfish. He gently tossed it back into the ocean and turned to the man. With quiet conviction, he said, “It made a difference to him.” The man stood there, stunned by the boy's simple but profound response. He realized the wisdom in the boy's actions – that even small, seemingly insignificant acts can make a meaningful difference, one life at a time. Inspired, the man bent down and began helping the boy toss the starfish back into the ocean. Together, they made a change, one starfish at a time.



Submitted by Hannah Iannozzi

For our friends Ruth B, Heather Yates, Melissa Moore, Sang Hi Crater and others who are in long term care or unable to leave their homes. We pray for comfort, peace, healing, and companionship for each of them.

For our friends Steve R, Kile S, John R, Rob W, Michael, Scott, Judy R, Bonnie, Ruth Ann W, Vickie K, Debarah B, Daran B, Barb G, Shirley, Van S, Ken M, Cheryl, Jim S, Alison L, Jackie, Dee L, Betsy R, Ginny T, JC, Paul M, Barb M, Christine J, Barb G, Jean S, Paul M, Bonnie, BJ, Linda S, John K, Karen, Phil, Dodie S, Carol T, Kork M, Don G, and all cancer survivors, we pray for treatment where it is possible and release from suffering where it is needed.

For our friends Robert B, Barbra B, Franklin R, Sherry K, Jenna H, D, Lorraine, Jenna H, Sang Hi C, Diane, Barbara B, Ruth B, Laura M, Dianne S, Wendel K, Marion H, Mary Lou B, and others with ongoing health concerns and challenging life circumstances. May they be reassured of God's presence through the support of our congregation.

Prayers for all veterans that are still suffering from PTSD and all other side effects from their service in the military.

Lord, we thank you for the healing you have given many, not only on our prayer list but beyond. We ask that you continue to heal those that are still struggling with health issues, concerns and fears. Continue to be with those that have lost loved ones, comfort them and give them peace. We ask healing for our country as well as those who are enduring wars. Lord, we give you thanksgiving for all your many blessings, many we take for granted. Continue to walk and guide us through our greatest needs. We pray for wholeness and healing of mind, body and spirit upon us all. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Please note that we will remove names on the prayer list after one month, except for homebound and hospitalized members. Let us know if you would like to add or renew a request by contacting Charlotte Fiedler by phone or email.

PRAYING FOR OUR FELLOW MEMBERS OF ST. JAMES

Initiated by St. James Prayer Team, each Sunday two church families are being included in the Sunday worship prayer time. You are invited to include these members and their families in your prayers throughout that week.

November 2 - Linda and Tony Nuccitelli & Diane and Evelyn Phelen

November 9 - Donna Pinto & Diane and Ken Raspen

November 16 - Joy Rubeo & Douglas Santeramo-Mead

November 23 - Amy and Richard Sarfert & Dianne Savitsky

November 30 - Margaret Schweitzer & Donna Serina

CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2025

							1 Men's breakfast
2 All Saints Day Worship 10:15 with Pastor Beth	3 Girl Scouts 5:30 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm	4 VOTING	5	6 The Chosen 1 pm	7	8 Potluck Dinner	
9 Worship 10:15 with James Johnson preaching	10 Boy Scouts 7 pm	11 Consistory Meeting 7 pm	12	13	14	15 Women's Fellowship stocking filling 10 am	
16 Worship 10:15 with Pastor Beth Congregational Meeting	17 Girl Scouts 5:30 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm	18 Blood Drive 1—6 pm	19	20	21	22	
23 Worship 10:15 with Pastor Beth Sermon Chat	24 Boy Scouts 7 pm	25	26	27	28	29 Advent Decorating	



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

None this month

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Colin Homa
- 8 Donna Earnshaw
- 20 Mazie Myers
- 24 Eric Kramer
Lisa Nuccitelli
- 26 C. Wendell Koenig
- 27 Charles Hentz
- 29 Douglas Santeramo-Mead



2025 CONSISTORY

Richard Fiedler, President
Cindy Valerio, Vice. President
Kristen Serina, Secretary
Jay Smith,
Marilyn Jorgensen
Bob Walters
Susan Myers
Paul Meyers

Officers:

Tom Mogel, Financial Sec.
Jay Smith, Treasurer

***Materials for the December 2025
Newsletter are due to the office on
November 20th, 2025.**

CONTACT THE CHURCH

321 South Limerick Rd.
Limerick, PA 19468
610-489-0990

www.stjames-ucc.org
Rev. Beth Eustis
pastor@stjames-ucc.org
Music Director/Organist:
Donna Pinto, mu-
sic@stjames-ucc.org

Church email
office@stjames-ucc.org

“Like” us on Facebook!

CHANGE

“I believe we are here on the planet Earth to live, grow up and do what we can to make this world a better place for all people to enjoy freedom.”

-Rosa Parks

“One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world.”

-Malala Yousafzai

“I am no longer accepting the things I cannot change. I am changing the things I cannot accept.”

-Angela Davis

Submitted by Hannah Iannozzi

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