

NEWSLETTER // OCTOBER 2026

ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



A Letter From The Pastor

8 *The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” John 3:8*

Dear St. James family,

It is with a sense of peace but also sadness that I share the news that, due to an inability to come to reasonable terms in updating my call agreement with Consistory, that I shall resign as your pastor effective November 22, 2026.

I think this is an appropriate time to depart, as it comes the week before Thanksgiving, a time when we can give thanks for the ministry we shared together.

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As you carry on with your ministry into Advent, may the Advent season be a season of reflection, prayer, and listening for the Spirit in terms of what is next. May you take comfort in the idea that God is with you always, ready and willing to be in relationship with you, to talk with you, listen to you, comfort you, strengthen you, and challenge you to offer love, compassion and justice for all God's people – including yourselves.

For myself, it has been the honor and pleasure of my life to be your pastor. To feel God's call to go to seminary and actually lead a congregation in discipleship and creating the kingdom of heaven here on earth has been a challenging and very joyful time. I have loved my time here, and I will miss St. James.

I am grateful for the partnerships that we have created in the last couple of years, with POWER Interfaith and Limerick Parks and Recs. We are also in talks to have a preschool move into our building. I believe there's no reason these relationships can't continue. I wish I could be there to watch this part of the ministry grow.

I have felt a call by God to move back to my hometown of Pittsburgh, which I intend to do in early spring of 2027. I have three of my four older siblings, nieces and great nephews, and most of all, my son and his partner, living there. I feel a need to go home. I trust that God is not through with me by a long shot, and that my ministry will continue. Just how is yet to be seen, but I trust in the slow work of God.

The St. James Consistory has met with Rev. Kevin McLemore, our Transitional Regional Conference Minister, to arrange for pulpit supply and figure out what course to take from there. I will do what I can to help you through the transition, although you now have many decisions to make on your own.

Please don't hesitate to come to me with questions or comments, although I reserve the right to keep some details to myself. Thank you for taking a chance on a new pastor and allowing me to worship God with you, to sing and dance with you, to study the Bible and other books together, to learn with you, to make mistakes with you, for your grace and forgiveness, to share joyful times and difficult times together with you. I wish you many blessings as you navigate this new period of your ministry with the Spirit.

With all my love and the love of Christ,

Pastor Beth

St. James Happenings

You Are Changing the World class

Our midweek study is on Wednesdays at 1 o'clock in person and on Zoom! We are reading *You Are Changing the World* by David LaMotte. For those of us who believe it is impossible to have a positive impact in today's world, LaMotte will show us that this is a myth. This class will run for seven weeks until November 4 except for October 7 due to Pastor Beth's vacation and October 21 (Pastor Beth clergy event).

David LaMotte is an author, speaker and musician from Black Mountain, North Carolina. He is also a cofounder of Senderos, a nonprofit supporting arts, education and mentoring for children in Guatemala. Pastor Beth had the pleasure of meeting David a few years ago. He is a lovely and talented man. We will also hear some of his music and watch a Ted talk that he delivered. Any questions see Pastor Beth.



The Chosen Season 5 This Fall



Our Thursday study of the TV series, *The Chosen* takes place at 1 o'clock in person and on Zoom! We will watch season five of this innovative series about Jesus and his disciples. Pastor Beth will send a link to the show and questions on Sunday or Monday the week of. This class will run eight weeks until November 12 except for October 8 when Pastor Beth will be on vacation. Any questions see Pastor Beth.

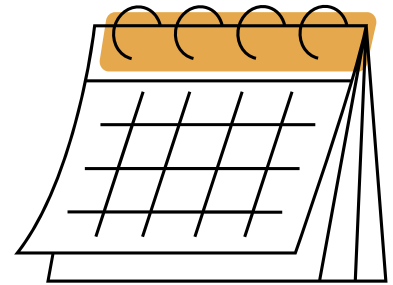
Consistory News and Updates

Sue Myers is the Consistory President. Consistory met on September 27, and met with Kevin McLemore from the conference on September 29. The next steps for St. James were discussed. You will be updated regularly.

There are presently three positions that need to be filled on Consistory. Please give prayerful thought and consider serving. You may call me (484-941-3946) or email me (susanmyers3@hotmail.com) if you have questions.

St. James has faced many challenges in the past together with courage, strength, caring, understanding and faith. Please pray for all of us now.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:
October 25 - budget review
November 15 - vote on budget



Functional fitness with Bethanne Smith
October 18 and 25

Please plan to stay after worship as we welcome Bethanne Smith, personal trainer and owner of BFit in Schwenksville! If you are interested in getting stronger, so that you can get up off the floor, carry groceries, travel and/or play with your grandkids, Bethanne can help. Class 1 focuses on strength, balance, and mobility, while Class 2 focuses on cardiovascular health, coordination, core strength, and maintaining independence. Each class combines a little education with exercises participants can realistically continue at home. Each class will be beginner friendly and last 30 minutes.

Potluck Dinner

Welcome back to our potluck dinners! On October 10th our potluck dinner will be at 5:00p.m. and all are welcome to attend. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex and the Hospitality Committee looks forward to seeing everyone.

POWER Interfaith Candidate Forum

Candidate Forum October 17

Join us for the POWER Interfaith Candidate Forum, where members of our community will hear from candidates seeking to represent Senate District 24, learn about their priorities, and better understand their vision for serving the district. All Candidates for Senate District 24 have been invited to attend.

POWER Interfaith is Pennsylvania's largest multiracial, multifaith, multigenerational organizing entity. Thousands of Pennsylvanians of faith and moral courage are part of this growing movement, coming together across differences to fight for racial and economic justice, a healthy planet, and a stronger democracy. Through faith-rooted organizing, public action, and community-building, we're working towards a Pennsylvania where everyone has what they need to live and thrive. POWER Interfaith is a 501c(3) non-profit organization. We are non-partisan and not aligned explicitly or implicitly with any candidate or party. We do not endorse or support candidates for office.

Cards for Rev. Dave Akers

We are happy to report that Rev. Dave is in good spirits after surgery!!

If you would like to send him a card or well wishes, you can mail them to him at:

**3006 Timothy Trail
Audubon, PA 19403**

POWER Interfaith Candidate Forum

Date: Saturday,
October 17th

Time: 2:30–4:30 PM

Location: St. James
United Church of
Christ

[321 South Limerick
Road, Limerick, PA
19468](#)

REGISTRATION





Again this year, St. James will be participating in the Royersford Spring City Crop Walk, occurring at **1:30 pm on October 25th.**

If you have questions, contact Jay Smith or Kristen Serina.

Neighbors in Need

The Neighbors in Need offering supports ministries of justice and compassion, with one-third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries and the remaining two-thirds supporting UCC justice ministries. In 2025 the Neighbors in Need Offering supported 26 grant recipients across the UCC who were engaged in projects of direct service and advocacy. We will be having this Missions Offering in conjunction with World Communion Sunday, on October 4th.



Registration Details:

To join the St. James team, go to [Royersford/Spring City CROP Hunger Walk](#), click on “the list of teams” near the bottom of the page, click on “St James UCC Limerick” and then “Join the Team”.

To Donate:

To donate in support of a member of the St. James team, go to [Royersford/Spring City CROP Hunger Walk](#), click on “Make a Donation”, and start typing “Jay Smith” or another member who has registered under “Is this in support of a particular participant in the CROP Hunger Walk?”

Harvest Home

Harvest Home will be celebrated on **Sunday, October 18th**.

We will be collecting canned goods and imperishable items
for Project Outreach.

A sign up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board in
the Narthex to volunteer to decorate a window sill in the
sanctuary for Harvest Home. The windows can be
decorated any time after October 1st and cleaned up by
October 27th. We can't wait to see your Autumn creativity!



Women's Fellowship Event

Please support Women's
Fellowship in this fundraiser by
purchasing a ticket and/or signing
up to man a table on Wednesday,
October 21st from 8 am- 8 pm.
The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin
board in the Narthex.

For any questions, please contact
Donna Serina.



ONE DAY ONLY
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2026

Shop from 8am - 11pm

DONATE \$5 AND ENJOY:

- **25% OFF DISCOUNT SHOPPING PASS***
- **REGISTER TO WIN A \$100 BOSCOV'S GIFT CARD**
- 100% OF YOUR DONATION GOES TO OUR ORGANIZATION**

*Exclusions apply. For more details visit [boscovs.com/category/friends-helping-friends-event](https://www.boscovs.com/category/friends-helping-friends-event)

Musicially in Tune

Upcoming Concerts

Mark & Donna Pinto will again be singing with the Wayne Oratorio Society this 2026-27 season. About 200 singers will be accompanied by a professional orchestra and soloists. First up is November 7th (Sat.) & 8th (Sun.) at 7:00 p.m. On the program are two beautiful works written in memory of a friend of the composers. Franz von Suppe's "Requiem" was composed in 1855, but the score disappeared until it was rediscovered in 1984, and finally published in 1994. Thus we will be one of the few choral groups to perform this magnificent work in the U.S. It is coupled with Johannes Brahms' "Nänie, Op. 82", another deeply moving memorial.

The concert is free, but a free-will offering will be taken.

Wayne Presbyterian Church
125 East Lancaster Ave.
Wayne, PA 19087

St. John's Lutheran Church Organist Concert

St. John's Lutheran Church, 355 St. John's Circle
Phoenixville, PA 19460 is pleased to present
Dr. Carol Williams, an internationally
acclaimed concert organist, composer and
educator from a Welsh musical family.
Renowned for her captivating performances,
Dr. Carol combines virtuoso artistry with an
engaging stage presence, and a subtle
straight-faced British wit that has delighted
audiences around the world.

Tickets are not required but a freewill offering,
with a suggested donation of \$10, will be
received.

Sunday, October 11th 4:00pm

internationally known organist

DR. CAROL WILLIAMS



October 11, 2026 - 4:00 pm

St. John's Lutheran Church, 355 St. John's Circle, Phoenixville, PA

Freewill offering: Suggested donation \$10

Questions? Call 610.933.3947
stjohnluthphoenixville.org



Donna Pinto
Director of Music
St. James United
Church of Christ
321 S Limerick Rd
Royersford, PA 19468



Tom Snyder
Director of Music
St. John's Lutheran
Church
355 St. John's Circle
Phoenixville, PA
19460

Prayer Concerns

For our friends Eugene Caldwell, 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 Larry F, Steve, Kile, Millie A, 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, Mattie L, Bob A, *and all cancer survivors, we pray for treatment where it is possible and release from suffering where it is needed.*

For our friends Donna H., Mathew, Louise, Gus G, Franklin R, Sherry K, Dianne S, Wendel K, Marion H, Mary Lou B, Vickie K., Ken *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 come to you with praises and thanksgiving for all you have given us and the healing you have done for so many people. We still have many that still need your healing, many that are struggling with long term illness. We pray for those who have lost loved ones and ask that you give them comfort and peace.

We pray for our church and the issues we are facing.

Continue to walk with us through our greatest needs. We pray for wholeness and healing of mind, body and spirit upon us all. In Jesus's 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 Sandy Koenig or Charlotte Fiedler by phone or email.

October Birthdays & Anniversaries!

Birthdays!

4 - Betty Meyers
11 - Kiera Serina
12 - Rugene Caldwell
21 - Sang Hi Crater
21 - Beth Miller
23 - Hannah Serina
27 - Paul Meyers
27 - Dianne Savitsky
28 - Linda Bevan
30 - Kevin Brightbill

Happy Anniversary!

October 3
Richard & Amy Sarfert
October 25
James & Cynthia Valerio
October 26
Mark & Donna Pinto
October 31
Bob & Laura Walters

OCTOBER

2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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				1 Chosen 1 pm	2	3 Men's Breakfast 8:30am
4 Worship with Rev. Beth Eustis 10:15 am	5	6	7	8	9	10 Potluck 5:00pm
11 Worship with Rev. Dennis Keen 10:15 am	12	13 Consistory Meeting 7:00pm	14 Midweek Study 1 pm	15 Chosen 1 pm	16	17 POWER Interfaith Forum 2:00pm- 5:00pm
18 Worship with Rev. Beth Eustis 10:15 am	19	20	21	22 Chosen 1 pm	23	24
25 Worship with Rev. Beth Eustis 10:15am	26	27	28 Midweek Study 1 pm	29 Chosen 1 pm	30	31



Contact The Church

Rev. Beth Eustis – 610.457.3603 or

pastor@stjames-ucc.org

Pastor Beth would love to hear your questions and comments. Please email to make an appointment. Sabbath will be observed on Tuesdays & Saturdays.

Donna Pinto – Minister of Music – 610.792.1679

or music@stjames-ucc.org

Aisha Schaeffer – Office Admin – 610.489.0990

or office@stjames-ucc.org

office hours are Monday & Thursdays 2pm-5pm

Newsletter Contributions?

Would you like to contribute to our monthly newsletter? Please email your submission to the church office prior to the last Thursday of the month. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you and we look forward to reading your submissions!

Find us on Facebook!

[St. James UCC](#)



[Visit our Website!](#)

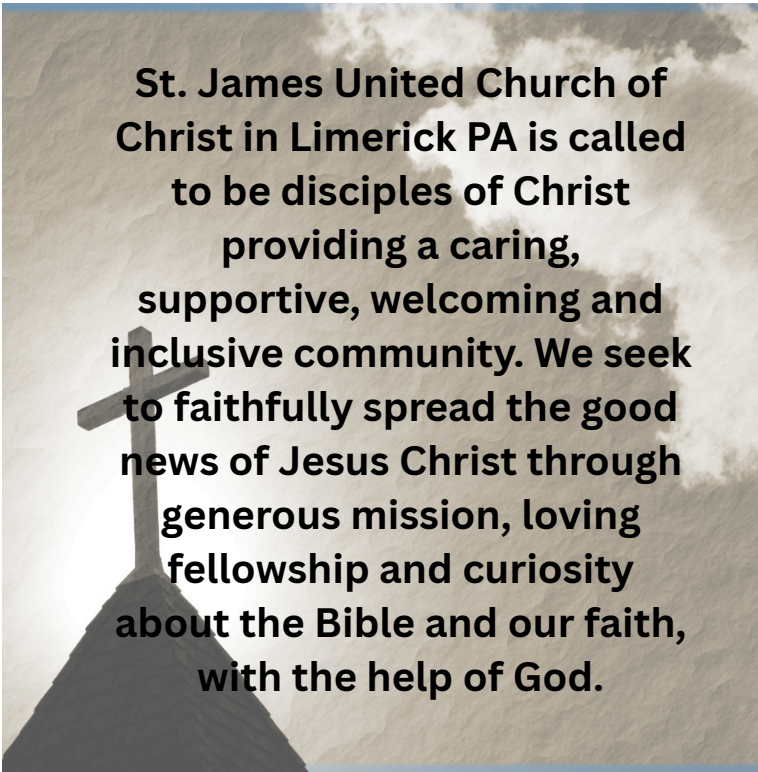


O MASTER, LET ME WALK WITH THREE

From Treasury of Faith and Inspiration
By Washington Gladden

O Master, let me walk with Thee
In lowly paths of service free.
Tell me Thy secret; help me bear
The strain of toil, the fret of care.
Help me the slow of heart to move
By some clear, winning word of love;
Teach me the wayward feet to stay
And guide them in the homeward way.
In hope that sends a shining ray
Far down the future's broadening way,
In peace that only Thou canst give,
With Thee, O Master, let me live!

St. James United Church of Christ
321 S. Limerick Road
Limerick, PA 19468



**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.**