



## Longswamp United Church of Christ

September 17, 2023 ~ 10:15 AM

200 Clay Road, Mertztown, PA 19539 Phone - 610-682-6230

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Hospital Code 451

CCLI #2341826

Facebook page: **Longswamp UCC**

Wi-Fi Guest Password: Christ200

Rev. Kimberly Berenotto, Pastor

Ann Mabry Miller, Organist

Ministry Partners: Head Usher, Reader- Vern Shade

Greeters-Moser Family

### *Holy Communion Sunday*

*\*Indicates to rise as you are able in body and spirit.*

#### **MUSIC PREPARES US FOR WORSHIP**

*"Gavotte"*

*Camidge*

*"Cornet Voluntary"*

*Goodwin*

*"Come, We That Love The Lord"*

*Williams*

#### **RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS**

#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Sing and rejoice! The Lord reaches out to you with healing love!

**People: The Lord is our strength and our power!**

Leader: Dance before the Lord, a dance of joy and hope!

**People: The Lord brings us joy and lifts us up in hope.**

Leader: Come, let us worship God who is always with us.

**People: Let us celebrate the good news God brings to us each day. Amen.**

#### **\*HYMN**

*O Worship The King*

**#29**

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

#### **CONFESSION**

**All: Lord, we confess that we don't always turn to you in our troubles. Sometimes we are paralyzed by fear and anxiety. We cannot see "the light at the end of the tunnel". For us, there is too often ongoing darkness and hopelessness. Clear our sight, O Lord. Bind up our wounded spirits. Fill us with your mercy and love. Forgive us when we stray; when we fear; when we falter. Pick us up and place us on pathways of peace and hope, for we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

## MOMENT OF SILENCE

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: No matter what befalls us, the Lord walks with us on the path, bringing us courage, hope, and forgiveness.

**People: No matter what, we belong to the Lord, now and forever.**

## \*PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you**

## LOFT CHOIR ANTHEM

*Canon of Praise*

*Pachelbel, Arr. Hopson*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*Kids are then welcome to follow the teachers to Children's Church Sunday School classes.*

## \*HYMN

***Take My Life, Lead Me, Lord***

**#566**

## SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 14:1-12

## SERMON

"Eating Burgers for God"

Pastor Kim

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine*  
*Glenn Fisher, flute solo*

*Arr. Gary Lanier*

## ***Sacrament of Holy Communion***

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

## COMMUNION PRAYERS

Leader: God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to God.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: We give you thanks and praise O God.....with our hearts lifted high, and with Christians in all times and places, we offer you our song:

## SUNG RESPONSE

#2

***Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!***

***All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea.***

***Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!***

***God in three persons, blessed Trinity!***

## REMEMBERING THE STORY

Leader: On the night before Jesus died, he gathered his friends.....By eating this bread and drinking this cup we participate in the mystery of our faith:

**People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

## PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever, Amen.**

## SHARING THE MEAL

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**All: Thank you, Holy God, for setting this table and inviting us to eat with you. Thank you for this celebration of bread and wine, for food that nourishes us with your Spirit and fills us with your love. You have fueled us to go out into the world with Christ's passion for justice, mercy, and peace. Help us to set the table for all those who need a place to sit, a place to eat, and a place to feel welcomed. Amen.**

## CALL TO OFFERING

## OFFERING & MISSION MOMENT

## \*DOXOLOGY

#809

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below***  
***Praise God above, you heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.***

## \*OFFERING PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Lord, you have blessed our lives in so many ways. In gratitude for all these blessings, and in confidence that our gifts will be used for ministries of peace and hope, we dedicate these gifts to you. Use what we give, and use us God, for your holy purposes. Amen.**

**\*HYMN** *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* #562

**\*BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING MUSIC** *"Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven"* Goss

*Portions of worship adapted from this week's Worship Connection on Ministry Matters by Nancy C. Townley. Communion inspired by prayers by Nathan Nettleton.*

## WELCOME TO LONGSWAMP UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST!

This is our Weekly Beacon September 17th-23rd, 2023

**Altar and Bulletins are given to the glory of God and are in honor of Laurie Heagy's Birthday, given by Leo Desrosiers.**

Thank you for worshiping with us today as we complete our mini-series, Love Letters to the Romans, and celebrate communion together. NEXT SUNDAY September 24th is our 275th Anniversary Celebration! Join us for worship at 10:15 am and for our Anniversary Festival from 2pm to 5pm.

**Children are welcome at worship!** The noises of kids in worship are celebrated at Longswamp UCC. Elementary aged children are welcome to join the Children's Church program and younger kids are welcome in the nursery program, both running during worship after the children's message.

### Sharing Our Faith

**Fellowship time is back!** Directly following the 10:15am church services on the **first Sunday of each month**, we will have a fellowship time! This is a time in the Pre School/Sunday School Room to mingle and get to know your church family (and have some yummy snacks). We are in need of people to host fellowship for each first Sunday. If you're interested, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex or let the Church office know!

**The 275th Anniversary Festival** is NEXT WEEK! Your 275th committee has been hard at work preparing for the festival. We have lots of yummy food sponsored by the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and LLC; lots of fun crafts, live music from the Boyertown Band and 70 Something, a "Fall Frolic Dance," a basket raffle, a bake sale, cake walk and more! It's sure to be a fun and exciting day so please join us any time from 2-5pm and/or for a special historical church service at 10:15. If you're interested in volunteering at the festival, please let the church office know. See you there!

**Longswamp UCC is doing a memorial brick fundraiser** in honor of the 275th anniversary! These bricks will be used to create a small pathway in front of the church. They can say almost anything-in memory of a loved one, in honor of someone, or even just your family name. Order forms are available in the narthex and can be returned to the church office. If you have any questions, please contact the church office- [secretary@longswampucc.org](mailto:secretary@longswampucc.org).

**Are you interested in joining Longswamp UCC?** We will be welcoming new members into our community in October - likely Sunday October 22nd. If you are interested in joining our church, please speak with Pastor Kim. There are info sheets available about membership in the Narthex.

**SAVE THE DATE: Homecoming Sunday. Sunday October 29th will be Homecoming Sunday** - a day to continue to celebrate our church's history and invite folks to "come home to Longswamp UCC". **At 8:30 am, the Confirmation Class will be having a special lesson on Longswamp UCC's history and anyone is welcome to attend. Worship is at 10:15 am and after church there will be a covered dish lunch and an intergenerational scavenger hunt in the cemetery.** We will also be inviting the confirmation class that was confirmed 50 years ago to join us for all the fun. We encourage you to invite family and friends to "come home to Longswamp" whether they are church members from the past or folks looking for a new church home!

### Teaching What We Believe

**Children's Church:** All kids start in worship at 10:15 am and, after the Children's Message, follow the teachers to the Sunday School rooms for games, stories, crafts, and more. The elementary students meet in the large Preschool room right after the bathrooms, and the little ones meet in the Nursery Room down the hall. Kids are also welcome to stay in worship. We ask all parents to fill out permission forms for the new Sunday School year - available on our website or from Pastor Kim. If you want to help with Children's Church please contact Pastor Kim or sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please note: next Sunday Sept. 24th, families will stay in worship together for our 275th Anniversary Celebration.

### Acting on Jesus' Teachings

**September 2023 - Local Mission for the benefit of the Food Pantry at Brandywine Heights Intermediate and Middle Schools (Sunday, September 10 - Saturday, September 30, 2023)** - Let's help the food insecure students in grades 4 - 8 at the Brandywine Heights Area School District by providing specific healthy grab-and-go snacks that they can eat during the school day. Please consider donating the following food items which were specifically requested by the schools: **fruit snacks (small individual pouches), granola bars (Chewy brand is preferred), cracker sandwich packs (such as Ritz with cheese or peanut butter - 6 cracker sandwiches per pack), and fruit cups (in 100% juice or water).** The donated items will be delivered to the schools and distributed in their Food Pantry. Please put all food donations in the appropriate boxes on the table in front of the television in the left front corner of the sanctuary. Mission

offerings will be used to purchase additional items for the schools' Food Pantry. Please put your monetary offerings in the September mission envelope (dated September 17, 2023) or put them in a plain white envelope with your name and "September 2023 mission" marked on it. Please contact Jill Shade (484-894-0636; [jill.shade@longswampucc.org](mailto:jill.shade@longswampucc.org); ) if you have any questions about our September 2023 mission. Thank you in advance for your support of the food insecure students at Brandywine Heights Intermediate and Middle Schools!

**Brandywine Food Pantry needs your help!** Please consider donating personal care items (body wash, soap bars, shampoo, individually wrapped toothbrushes, toothpaste), paper products (paper towels, tissues, toilet tissue), and household supplies (dish detergent, laundry detergent) in support of the underprivileged patrons of the Brandywine Food Pantry. The disadvantaged patrons, who come to the Food Pantry once a month, appreciate it very much when the Pantry has these items for them. The Food Pantry Board is only providing food for our patrons. Please put your donations in the wicker tote box marked "Brandywine Food Pantry" in the bell room or give them directly to Jill Shade. Thank you for your continued support of our underprivileged patrons at the Brandywine Food Pantry!

**Trunk or Treat is coming!** Longswamp Learning Center is hosting their annual Trunk or Treat event on Friday October 20th from 6pm to 7pm (rain date Monday October 23rd). All church families are welcome to attend for fun, games, treats, and more! We will have a church table at the event and are looking for volunteers to hand out treats to the kids on behalf of the church. Anyone is welcome to decorate their own trunk for the event too. Registration forms are in the Narthex and see Pastor Kim or Maggie with any questions.

### Longswamp UCC Business

**Hard copies of our monthly newsletter** are available on the table on the left side by the front door when leaving the sanctuary. Online copies are available on our website or email the office to be on the email list.

**If you're interested in sponsoring altar flowers and bulletins**, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.



**LONGSWAMP**  
**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
*275th Anniversary Day*  
OLD FASHIONED FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

FREE TO ATTEND!  
**SEPTEMBER 24, 2023**  
**2PM-5PM**  
200 Clay Rd  
Mertztown, PA 19539



*Basket Raffle*  
*Cake Walk*  
*Horse & Buggy Rides*  
*Penny Candy Stand*  
*Bake Sale*  
*Historical Displays*

**LIVE MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT**  
**2:00PM - BOYERTOWN ALUMNI BAND**  
**3:00PM - FALL FROLIC DANCE PERFORMANCE**  
**3:30 PM - 70 SOMETHING**

**FOOD FOR SALE:**  
sausage sandwiches, meatball subs, pulled pork, burgers & hotdogs, chow chow, red beet eggs, cider, drinks & more

**CRAFTS FOR ALL**  
-Fall Flower Crowns  
-Corn Husk Dolls  
-Succulent Planters

For more info contact: [secretary@longswampucc.org](mailto:secretary@longswampucc.org)  
610-682-6230 [www.longswampucc.org](http://www.longswampucc.org)

