

# Weekly News from United Church of Christ of Robesonia

301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551  
610-621-5770 -- office@sprucc.org -- www.sprucc.org  
Sunday Worship 10:15am



## Sunday, February 5, 2023

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### ††† Worship Participants & Sponsorships †††

Thank you to all who have made this worship experience possible.

	<u>This Sunday - Feb 5<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Next Sunday - Feb 12<sup>th</sup></u>
Usher Captain	Beth M.	Geri G.
Usher Co-Captain	Marianne K.	Elsa W.
Usher/Greeter	John E.	George M.
Usher/Greeter	Diane M.	Dottie M.
Usher/Greeter: Downstairs	Cory P.	Cory P.
Acolyte	Ethan M.	Lily O.
Welcome/Announcements	Elsa W.	Dale M.
Layreader	Terry P.	Sheri R.
Cantor	Brian K.	Wanda M.
Children's Message	Pastor Ben	Pastor Mary Etta
Nursery	TBD	TBD
Junior Worship	TBD	TBD
AV Tech	Kirk A.	Kirk A.
G3 Group Helper	Robin H.	Sue H.
Koffee Klatch	Group B	Group A - Sue H.
St. Paul's Counter	Jon H.	Jon H.
St. Paul's Counter	Carl U.	Carl U.
Bulletin Sponsor	-	-
Altar Flowers Sponsor	-	-

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### ††† General Announcements †††

#### Visitation Care Team

Our Visitation Care Team (VCT) is composed of lay members who have been trained for visitation. If you are in need of prayer, a visit, or just a listening ear, they are here to be of support to you. To contact the Visitation Care Team with a visitation request or to share information about a potential care need email the VCT at [CareTeam@sprucc.org](mailto:CareTeam@sprucc.org). For more information, go to our "[Visitation Care Ministries](http://www.sprucc.org)" page at [www.sprucc.org](http://www.sprucc.org) under the "ministries" tab.

#### Do We Have Your Email Address?

It is extremely helpful to us if we can communicate with you by email! Please consider sharing your email address with us.

#### Baptism Today

Today Fletcher Palmer, infant son of Akira & Joel, and brother to Garrett & Baylor, will be baptized in the fellowship hall near the end of the service. The baptism family, sponsors and the pastors will leave the sanctuary at the beginning of the last hymn. The choir will recess as usual during the last hymn. When the hymn is finished, the congregation shall please follow the choir to the Miller Fellowship Hall and be seated as much as possible, facing the stage, to begin the baptism of Fletcher, using the same Baptismal Font that was used for the baptisms of Garrett and Baylor. Please bring your bulletins with you. Thank you!

### **Membership in Our Newly Unified Church**

From January 1, 2023 to April 30, 2023 we will have an "Open Charter." Those joining during that period will be "Charter Members" (Founding Members) of our newly unified church. Membership vows may be affirmed during one of the following worship services:

*Sunday, February 12, 2023 at 10:15am*  
*Wednesday, February 22 at 6:30pm*  
*Sunday, March 12, 2023 at 10:15am*  
*Wednesday, March 29, 2023 at 6:30pm*  
*Sunday, April 30, 2023 at 10:15am*

Those who would like to affirm their membership on one of the dates listed above may do so by participating in the worship service by either coming in-person or via Zoom. If you plan to participate via Zoom, please contact the church office and let us know when you will be affirming your vows so that we may watch for your presence and admit you in to the worship service. Please use the following Zoom information:

Meeting ID: 104 401 368 Passcode: 301301

To log in either use the Zoom app; or go to Zoom.com and click "Join A Meeting;" or use the following address:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/104401368?pwd=WGs0YnlEYXVGTWl2ZDJCa1NrSkI0UT09;>

or use a telephone by calling: +1 301 715 8592 (Washington DC).

### **Tuesday Morning Bible Study**

The weekly Tuesday morning Zoom Bible study is at 9:00am. It is based on the scripture passages for the coming Sunday. We hope you will consider joining the study group. Please contact Pastor Mary Etta. She will email you the Zoom numbers used each week.

### **Getting to Know the Pastors - Small Group Gatherings**

Pastor Ben and Pastor Mary Etta are scheduling small group gathering times for you to meet with them, for you to get to know them a little better and for them to get to know you a little better, as well as to hear from you your hopes, dreams, ideas, etc for our new church.

Please sign up either by emailing/calling the church office or using the sign up sheet in the hallway. So that this can be a small group experience, we are limiting the number of people for each gathering. As the groups fill up, we will add more dates/times for gathering. Their goal is to meet in small groups with every able-bodied member who lives in the area.

Open time slots are as follows:

- *Tuesday, February 7 at 6:30pm*
- *Tuesday, February 28 at 6:30pm*

To sign up for a time slot, simply email or call the church office at [office@sprucc.org](mailto:office@sprucc.org) or 610-621-5770; or use the sign up sheet on the table in the upstairs sanctuary hallway.

### **Book of Acts Evening Bible Study**

The Bible study of the Book of Acts will be on **Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm**. If you have not yet joined this study, please consider doing so. Nothing is needed other than a Bible. You may join in person or by Zoom. Contact Pastor Mary Etta if you plan to join by Zoom; she will supply you with the information that you need.

### **Women's Lunch**

The Women's Luncheon will take place this **Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am** at Country Fare Restaurant, Myerstown. All women are invited to attend. Please let Pastor Mary Etta know if you can come by tomorrow, Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. Her contact information is [mestme@aol.com](mailto:mestme@aol.com) or 610-659-2775.

### **Singing Choir Rehearsal**

The choir will practice on Thursday evening at 6:00pm.

### **Youth Group**

The Youth Group will meet **this Thursday evening at 6:00pm**. Babysitting and Lock-In plans will be finalized.

### **Handbell Choir Rehearsal**

The handbells will practice on Thursday evening at 7:00pm.

### **Babysitting**

The Youth Group (along with adult helpers) is offering babysitting on **Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-9:00pm**. Make plans to enjoy a Saturday evening without the kids! The cost is \$10 for the first child. Each additional child would be \$5 more. Example: If you had 3 children it would cost \$20 for the evening which includes a meal and activities. A bargain!! We provide you with a much needed break and you help the Youth Group with their future projects and activities. Call or email the church office by 3:00pm Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> to make your reservation. There is a limit of 10 children (ages 2 to 11) for this evening. Sign up early to save a spot. Drop off and pick up times are flexible; your child does not need to stay the entire time.

### **Burning of the Palms**

On **February 12<sup>th</sup>** during the Sunday School hour, the palms will be burned to make ashes for Ash Wednesday. Pastor Ben will demonstrate and explain to all who attend, what he is doing and why. If you would like to donate your old palms to be burned, please drop off them off at the church prior to February 12<sup>th</sup>. You may leave them with Geri Gammel, Pastor Ben, or Pastor Mary Etta. Thank you!

### **One of Our Favorite Times of the Year!**

**February 12<sup>th</sup> is SOUPERBOWL Sunday!** Immediately following worship, we will be having a soup luncheon in Miller Fellowship Hall. **EVERYONE is invited!** Please make your favorite crockpot meal (soup, chili or whatever) and bring it in to church. Make sure it is labeled with your name and kind of soup or creation, and place it in the kitchen area. It will be plugged in and stay warm during the worship service. After worship we will gather to enjoy the variety of crockpot delicacies. Large bowls and small bowls will be available so that you may sample as many or as few items as you wish. Our best year was when we had 19 crockpots of soup/chili. Let's try to beat that this year!

If you don't have a crockpot or you're not much of a cook, you may instead bring in crackers or bread or a dessert.

You will have plenty of time to enjoy this meal and still see the real Super Bowl! Game time is set for 6:30pm ET. So no excuses. Please plan to attend. The food is always good and the fellowship is GREAT! Please sign the sign-up sheet in the vestibule or call the church office prior to February 5<sup>th</sup> so that we may better plan this event.

### **Care Packages**

The Fellowship Committee is currently collecting funds to purchase food, goodies and school supplies for the college kids for a **Valentine's Day Care Package**. If you would like to help by donating some funds to this cause, please put your money in the round plastic heart container on the table in the hallway. Thank you!

### **Chicken Pot Pie Dinner**

The Men's Group is planning a Chicken Pot Pie Dinner for **Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-6:30pm**. It will be a dine-in or take-out meal. Quarts of pot pie will also be available for purchase. If you would like more information or would like to help, please contact Brian Keppley or Steve Miller.

### **Ash Wednesday**

This year the Season of Lent begins on Wednesday, **February 22** with our 6:30pm Ash Wednesday worship service. This will be an in person and virtual worship service. Those attending in-person will be given the option of receiving ashes on their forehead, back of the hand, or not at all. Holy Communion was also celebrated. Those joining us via streaming, are invited to have bread and wine or grape juice available as the ministers bless the elements. The service will include a children's message, and the choir will be singing as well.

### **Lenten Wednesdays**

For the Wednesdays during Lent, we will have a short evening prayer service beginning at 6:30pm. These services will be offered in-person, and via live stream, phone stream and Facebook Live. This year the series being offered is entitled, "*Couples in the Bible*". These services will take place every Wednesday from March 1 to April 5 at 6:30pm.

**If you would like to participate in one of the dialogues for the weekly Lenten service, please tell Pastor Mary Etta ([mestme@aol.com](mailto:mestme@aol.com)). The parts are pre-written. One rehearsal is required.**

### **PLARN = Plastic Yarn**

Completed PLARN mats are delivered to Philadelphia where they are used by homeless people. If you would like to help with this mission project please contact Pastor Mary Etta. She will meet with you to give you what you need, or receive what you have done, or if you have any questions. There are good teaching videos available if you are interested in helping, but are unsure of what is involved. Pastor Mary Etta's contact information is [mestme@aol.com](mailto:mestme@aol.com) or 610-659-2775.

## **Offerings and Donations**

Please note that although we are now *United Church of Christ of Robesonia*, until we close out St. Paul's account and open a new account as *United Church of Christ of Robesonia*, checks need to be made out to St. Paul's UCC. We will announce when that process has been completed and checks should be made out to the new *United Church of Christ of Robesonia*.

*Please lift up those listed here in your prayers this week.  
"Pray for one another, so that you may be healed.  
The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." ~ James 5:16b*

### **† United's Prayer List †**

#### **Medical Concerns, Healing, Help & God's Assuring Presence:**

Tina A.  
Jeanette B.  
MaryAnne B. (friend of Greer Z.)  
Michael B.  
Scott B.  
Linwood B.  
Audra B.  
Charlie D.  
Rich D.  
John E.  
Eloise  
Evie  
Jimmy F.  
Sharon F.  
Erma G.  
Dolores H.  
Betty H.  
Wynn H.  
Joni H.  
Dolly I.  
Sandie K.  
Carol K.  
Lelynna L.  
Caitlin L.  
Maggie L.  
Ella L.  
Peg M.  
Leon M.  
Rozy M.

#### **Medical Concerns, Healing, Help & God's Assuring Presence:**

Bill M.  
Pat N.  
Michelle N.  
Joyce P.  
Claudia S.  
Jim S.  
Rob S.  
Jodi S.  
Ray T.  
Mildred U.  
Wendy W.  
Donna & Turk

#### **All Military People Especially:**

Sgt. Benjamin (Bibs)  
Sr. Airman Sarah (Karen S.)  
MA2 Cody (Wanda M.)  
PO3 Lucas (Wanda M.)  
Cpl Ben (George & Dottie M.)

#### **College People:**

Jonah C.  
Max G.  
Madison H.  
Sara M.  
Steven M.  
Amanda M.  
Jack S.

#### **Thanksgiving:**

For All the People who serve  
faithfully in Worship and on  
Consistories and Committees

#### **Mourning:**

Family & friends of Lawerance Schafter  
Family & friends of Ronnie Sutliff  
Family & friends of the young man who  
recently took his life

#### **Protection & Support:**

People of Ukraine  
People traveling

#### **Peace:**

Peaceful outcome in the Ukraine  
For ALL people everywhere

#### **To Cease:**

Violence by guns

#### **Cooperation:**

Governments working together for the  
greater good  
Governments working together to help  
our environment & climate

#### **Guidance:**

Serving God well together as one  
congregation

*Please let us know if we can be in prayer with you.*

*All are welcome to add names to the prayer list.*

*Names are generally left on the list for about four weeks.*

*Please let us know if you would like a name to remain longer or shorter.*

*If you would like someone's name added to the prayer list,*

*please contact the church office at 610-621-5770 or [office@sprucc.org](mailto:office@sprucc.org) or Pastor Mary Etta.*

**Free WiFi:** StPaulsUCC-Guest & StPaulsUCC-5G-Guest

**Password (for both):** iamheretoserve



www.sprucc.org



Free WiFi



Upcoming Events Link