

1844

# 175th Anniversary

small church with a big heart

2019

# The Link

Unionville Presbyterian Church

**JANUARY/  
FEBRUARY 2019**

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## Our Dodransbicentennial!

Psalm 100:5 (NRSV) – *For the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations.*

2019 is a big year for UPC! We will celebrate our "dodransbicentennial" – the fancy, hard to pronounce Latin for 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

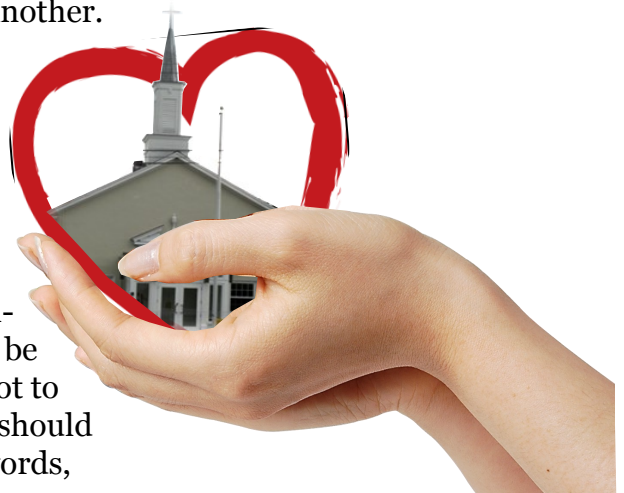
This anniversary is a time for reflection and an occasion for thanksgiving for God's steadfast love and kindness upon us. As we look back, we should try to learn from our past; trust God for the present and looking ahead to the future. We should not rest on our "laurels" so to speak, nor wallow in the mire of regrets, keeping in mind that what we do now, we are doing it for the future generations. We must stay relevant, vibrant and healthy so that we could be "sincere and without offence till the day of Christ" (Phil. 1:10b). In order to do that, we should abound in the following practices:

**1. PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER.** A praying church is a powerful church. The church at Philippi was born out of prayers. Their first two converts came to Christ through the power of prayers (see Acts 16).

**2. ENCOURAGE.** Paul believed so strongly in mutual encouragement to the extent that he exhorted the Thessalonians believers three times in his letter to them (1 Thess. 4:18, 5:11, 14). Of course, there are many ways that we could encourage one another. We could do so by words, simple acts of love, or empathizing with one another.

**3. SUPPORT.** When we encourage, we are also giving support. However, support usually show itself in more concrete ways than encouragement. Faith without works is dead.

**4. BE ACCOUNTABLE.** As a community of believers, we need to be one another's keeper. We are not to be each other's "police" but we should be his or her keeper. In other words,



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we should be accountable to one another. We should look not on our own things, but also on the things of others (Phil. 2:4).

5. **SERVE.** Finally, we should serve one another with love. Instead of envying and criticizing one another, we should bear one another's burdens and in so doing we fulfill the law of Christ (Gal.

6:2). Jesus set the supreme example by washing his disciples' feet (see John 13).

In this way we continue to show to the world that we are truly disciples. May God help us to be that kind of church as we continue to be the church God called us to be all those years ago.

Blessings, Pastor Annalie

## 175th Anniversary

This will be a year of celebration, but the big party will be on May 5, 2019. We will celebrate communion using our antique pewter communion ware, honor our heritage with a Service of the Scottish Rite, and enjoy a fabulous catered brunch following worship.



This celebration will not be possible without your help. If you are interested in helping us celebrate, please let Pastor Annalie know. This is a great opportunity for those who like short-term projects – any and all gifts can be used!

## On The Pastor's Night Stand

This month I re-read Lies We Believe About God, by William Paul Young in preparation for a group study. He is the author of the twenty million plus copy bestselling novel The Shack and the New York Times bestsellers Cross Roads and Eve comes a compelling, conversational exploration of the wrong-headed ideas we sometimes have and share about God.

William Paul Young vividly portrays God's love through his novels. Here he shares twenty-eight commonly uttered and sometimes seemingly innocuous things we say about God. Paul exposes these as lies that keep us from having a full, loving relationship with our Creator.

With personal anecdotes and sharing the compassion readers felt from the "Papa" portrayed

in The Shack, Paul encourages readers to think anew about important issues including sin, religion, hell, politics, identity, creation, human rights, and helping us discover God's deep and abiding love.

I invite you to obtain your own copy and join me over a cup of coffee (or ice cream) and talk about it or join one of the groups. If you need assistance purchasing the book, just let me know. Happy reading to you! If you need assistance purchasing the book, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Annalie.



## Symptoms of Inner Peace—Annalie's Wish for 2019

1. The tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than from fears
2. The ability to enjoy each moment
3. Loss of interest in judging self and others
4. Loss of interest in conflict
5. Disinterest in interpreting the actions of others
6. Loss of the ability to worry
7. Frequent episodes of appreciation
8. Feeling connected to others and nature
9. Frequent attacks of smiling through the eyes of the heart
10. The increasing tendency to let things happen rather than to make them happen

If you have all or even most of the above symptoms your condition of peace may be so far advanced as to not be treatable!

We usually associate the word "symptom" with something ominous, an indication of illness or disease perhaps; symptoms are symptomatic of something - and it's usually not good. This is also true of words like "diagnosis" and "prognosis" - it's best when none of these words apply to us.

But, as the above list indicates, there can be positive as well as negative symptoms, signs not only of illness but also of health. Symptoms of inner

peace are an indication of spiritual vitality, a delicate state of being in which we are at one with life, ourselves, others, and nature.

Because nothing can disrupt inner peace as quickly as the awareness of our faults, it is important to be both nonjudgmental and compassionate toward ourselves as people who are flawed. French mathematician and philosopher Blaise Pascal once stated, "The unhappiness of a person resides in one thing, to be unable to remain peacefully in a room." Until we learn to accept our less-than-perfect selves, both peace and happiness will elude us and we will create havoc, not peace, for those around us.

Inner peace can be contagious. When we spend time quietly acknowledging and accepting ourselves, others, and the world as both broken and blessed, that peace can be fanned into a full-blown disease, an untreatable and incurable affliction that will make the world a healthier place.





# LOVING OURSELVES

## Deacon's Corner

Thank you all for the Poinsettia orders and dedications. They add to the beauty of our church during the Christmas holidays. Thank you to the Deacons for placing each Poinsettia.

As we begin a new year, and they come to the end of their term in office, a special thank you goes out to Laura Angell and Betty

Hughes for their faithful service. Welcome to Mardette Alexander, JoAnn Fisher and Marlel Holloway, our new Deacons going forward. We are blessed with such a wonderful congregation to serve.

Blessings to all from your Deacons!



## Fellowship Activities in the New Year



### Coffee Fellowship

There will be a Fellowship Coffee Event after Worship on January 13. Mark your calendar for this first social event of the new year!

Bowling is back! February 10, we will go bowling at the Palace Bowling Center in Downingtown. Pizza and unlimited soft drinks, bowling shoes, and all the bowling you can manage in 2 hours! \$10/person. There is always lots of laughter and fun at this event! Don't let a lack of bowling finesse hold you back...most of us demonstrate some rather unique bowling styles!





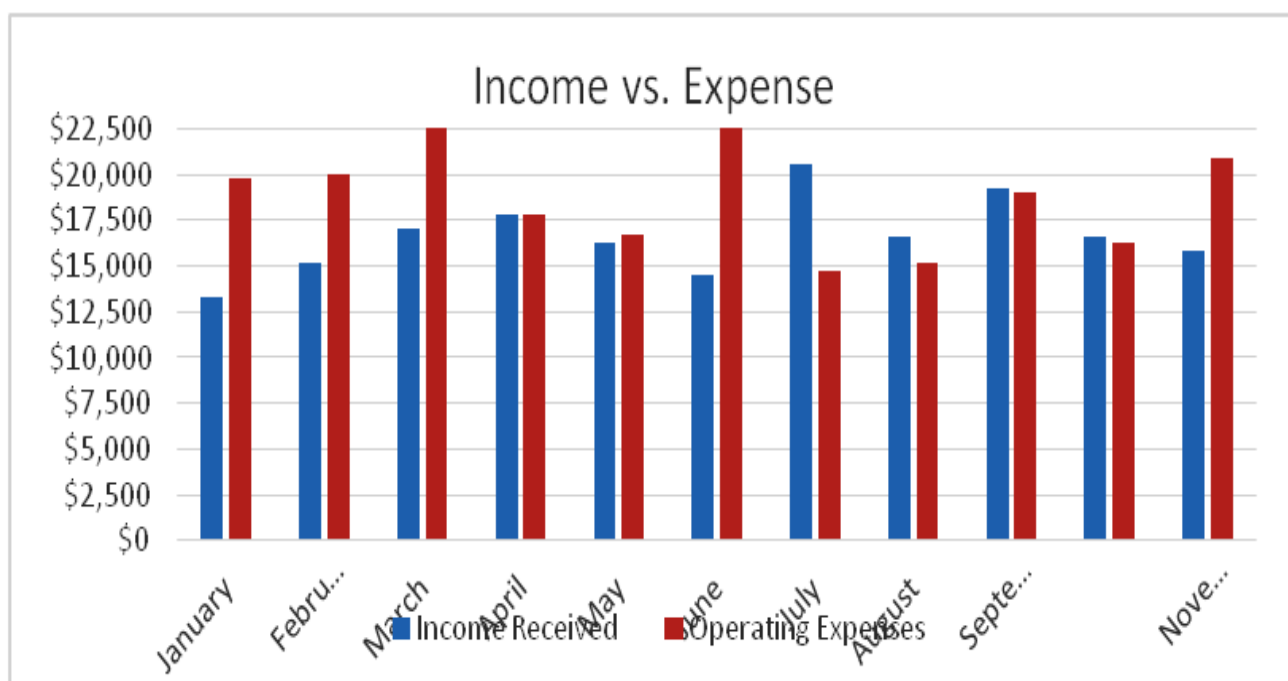
# Finance Ministry Team Update

*Remember the church  
in your will!*

## Income and Expenses

As of November 30, 2018, income received (\$183,015) was less than operating expenses incurred (\$206,519). A withdrawal from the UPC Fund of \$10,000 was made in January 2018 to support the capital expenses from 2017. Two additional withdrawals of \$15,000 each were made in March and June 2018 to help offset increased operating expenses.

Thank you for your continued support. Ideally, offerings each week should be about \$4,500 to support our budget; we are currently averaging \$3,738. Please see the chart below for a comparison of income received to operating expenses by month.



## Team Actions

The Finance Ministry Team will continue to monitor and report income and expenses on a monthly basis and look for ways to control expenses. The 2019 budget will be presented at the congregational meeting in January.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or comments for the FMT, please feel free to contact its chair, Rob MacPherson. You can do so in person, by phone (610-742-7941), or email (macsupc@outlook.com). You may also contact the church treasurer, Mary Hewes, by phone at 610-347-2327 or by email at hewesmb@aol.com.



# COMMUNITY

## Girl Scouts Enjoy Christmas Festivities



## A Letter from a Troop 22 Scout

On November 30th our troop went to Camp Horseshoe for our annual Rifle and Shotgun camping trip where all the cooking is completed by our Eagle Scouts.

On Saturday morning we had a delicious breakfast meal of pancakes, sausages, and eggs cooked by an Eagle Scout and his father, then we headed out for a nice hike. We crossed over the Order of the Arrow Bridge and kept walking. We passed a rocky hill on our hike and Mr. McCabe created a challenge to the scouts. The first person to run up and down the hill wins, which I thought was pretty fun. Then, we saw the Mason-Dixon line, separating Maryland from Pennsylvania.

After lunch, we went to the rifle/shotgun range, which was awesome! I myself tried the 12 and 20 gauge shotguns which had a kick but were still awesome.

Overall, this was one of my favorites trips.

Written by Mihir

## Community is Invited



You are invited to “Chanting and Chocolate in Chester County,” a FREE monthly Sunday evening program at Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center in West Chester.

Using old and new melodies, we will chant together, and then have chocolate. Simple, right?

Music is known as the universal language. We will chant wordless melodies, together, for the pleasure of being together and creating sound in community.

Facilitated by Rabbi Elyse Seidner-Joseph, “Chanting and Chocolate in Chester County” is open to everyone, teens and up. There will be no religious teaching or prayer, people of all faiths or of no faith or of multiple faiths are welcome.

A free-will offering to support local charities is requested, not required. A different charitable organization will be sponsored each month.

Come and experience the heart-opening potential of chanting. And then there’s chocolate!

Join us Sunday January 6 at 7pm in the Univest Room at Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center.

**SIGN-UP IS HELPFUL BUT NOT REQUIRED!**

<https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?class=uea>

Additional dates, all Sunday at 7pm: February 10, March 3, April 7.

For further information, contact Rabbi Elyse Seidner-Joseph: [thejfcc@gmail.com](mailto:thejfcc@gmail.com)

Generously sponsored by The Lasko Family Foundation



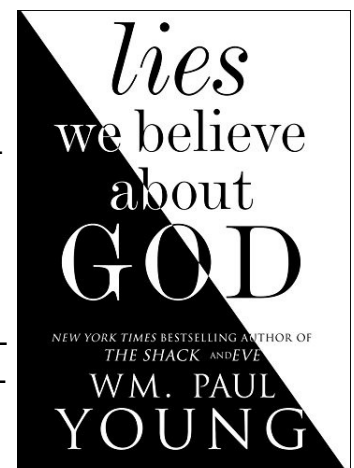
**LOVING GOD**

## Adult Discipleship

I really enjoyed reading “Lies We Believe About God” by William Paul Young a couple of years ago. I discovered new things when I re-read it over Christmas. Even though there are parts I do not agree with, I think it lends itself to group discussion and study.

Beginning in February there will be two opportunities to join this

8 week study. The Wednesday group will meet from 9:30-11:00AM and the Thursday group will meet from 7:00-8:30PM. The cost for the books is \$15 (scholarships are available). Please let Rev. Annalie know of your interest.



## From the Desk of the DCM



*Jesus said "Let the children come to me".*

Come join us for Nursery Care and Sunday school in the Sunday school room. Sunday school is open to children, ages 0-3<sup>rd</sup> grade!

Bring your neighbors, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Children may come to the Sunday school room before worship begins or join us after the Children's chat. We are there to welcome your children each Sunday from 8:45am through worship. This is a relaxed safe environment for the children to begin their Sunday morning experience. Our curriculum activities are flexible, so we can change or add activities for our little students. Sometimes we enjoy more art activities and sometimes more games. We want everyone to know that God made and God loves each one!

First Sundays of the month:

It is a joy to watch the children in their childlike faith accept communion on the first Sunday of the month. Pastor Annalie brings the elements back to the nursery and offers them to the children.



*"Jesus used his helping hands and so can I."*

Serving Sunday: January 27, 2019 & February 24, 2019

Serving Sundays are special Sundays. Children of all ages are invited to have jobs during the worship service.



These jobs include Greeter, Acolyte, Worship Leader and receiving offering. Each Serving Sunday is a chance to

sign the children up for a job. They are precious and everyone loves to see them in worship.

Fun in the kitchen:

This winter we will create some tasty treats in the kitchen. Watch your emails and I'll let you know which recipe we will try! Hope we can share our treats with our church friends at Coffee Fellowship.

In January and February we will focus on love: God's love for us, as we are children of God and our love for family and friends. We look forward to enjoying your children and helping them grow in knowing how much God loves each one!



**PCUSA CORNER**

## How to be a Faithful Presbyterian

- ✚ Enjoy fellowship. You can find fellowship with many opportunities at UPC.
- ✚ Join us for Prayer and Praise (January 30 at 3:30)
- ✚ Household worship (in prayer, song, Scripture reading, devotionals).
- ✚ Participating in mission projects and outreach in the community.



## Stated Clerk Looks to Challenges, Opportunities

### ...facing the Church in 2019

*Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson says change is needed for 21st century church*

*Rick Jones | Office of the General Assembly - January 2, 2019*



For two and a half years, the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, has listened to the heartbeat of the church. The Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has been on the road for most of his tenure, meeting with presbytery and synod leaders and listening and worshipping with churches facing difficult times.

Nelson says one of the challenges is the continued need to lift the spirits of those who have been through trauma over the past 30 years in the life of the denomination.

“Congregations that are representative of splits from larger congregations that existed and the struggles that we’ve had in becoming an all-inclusive church are among those challenges,” he said. “There have also been struggles in addressing or not addressing some of the contextual realities that we are dealing with in the world.”

Nelson says the political atmosphere in recent years has impacted everyone.

“I don’t think all of us are wholly conservative, liberal or moderate. I believe we are free thinkers who have an ability to do great things when we allow our minds to be expanded,” he said. “And yet these categories, even in the life in the church, have caused us to categorize ourselves. Interestingly, Jesus doesn’t mention any of that in the Bible and does not carry those labels.”

As membership declines in some churches, congregations are searching for direction, says Nelson.

“We see families in the denomination who are split and in different churches. The way in which we resolve these internal struggles is going to be a continued emphasis in the life of this denomination,” he said. “The quicker we learn how to resolve that and be the community that we are, rather than lamenting over what we used to be, will have a great deal to do with how we are projecting our future.”

Nelson also says the church needs to be recharged.

“I don’t believe we are a poor church. I believe we still are a church of wealth. A few studies make it clear we have an enormous amount of money within the denomination,” said Nelson. “I do believe the self-image of the PC(USA) is now challenged in how we see ourselves. We have a lot, but we see ourselves in a much smaller picture because of what we’ve been through and the decline we’ve faced over the years.”

Nelson says he finds churches asking what to do now.

“We are not the church we used to be and not necessarily in the same community we used to be,” he said. “We are an aging church and younger people are not in church as they once were, and we don’t

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know how to get them here. What we need to do as older people is to try and help them be part of the church.”

According to Nelson, the great evangelism challenge is learning to talk about Jesus and speak to the authority of the scriptures and faith.

“As Presbyterians, we can no longer sit back and not have a faith that speaks of Jesus and speaks to the power of Jesus in our own lives. We can’t sit back and refuse to tell our stories of what our faith has done for us because somehow, we’ve framed that as private,” he said. “Our faith is not private, it is very public. And Jesus had a public ministry not a private ministry. If we’re modeling the behavior of the one we follow, we too have to be about the business of publicly expressing who we are in Jesus Christ.”

Nelson says the PC(USA) has attempted to model that at the national level around faith, justice and contextual issues.

“We are putting scripture, rationale with regards to faith in Jesus Christ, and the Old Testament prophets to give declaration to fact that this is biblically grounded, and it is a part of who we are as a people called Presbyterians, not just something we read and adopt in our own language,” he said.

“This is our Lord and Savior and we are going to have to learn how to talk about Jesus again.”

## Leadership of Unionville Presbyterian Church

### ELDERS

Moderator: Rev. Annalie Korengel  
Clerk of Session: Sue Minarchi

### DEACONS

Moderator:

#### Class of 2019

Randy Boltz  
Susan Minarchi  
Greg Permar

#### Class of 2020

Carol Buckley  
Curt McCray  
vacant

#### Class of 2019

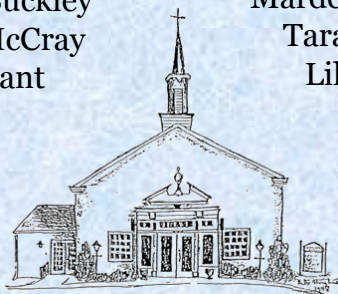
Mardette Alexander  
Tara Dickinson  
Lillian Ryan

#### Class of 2020

Betty Bryer  
Judy Jackson  
Brian Roberts

#### Class of 2021

Fred Hoge  
J R Nelson  
Brooke Wren



#### Class of 2021

JoAnn Fisher  
Marlel Holloway  
Pam Woodford

### STAFF

Pastor/Head of Staff: Rev. Annalie Korengel  
Director of Children’s Ministry: Lizabeth G. Connors  
Secretary: Judy Krug

Financial Secretary/ Treasurer: Mary Hewes  
Director of Music Ministry: Bill Johnson  
Nursery Attendant: Olivia Finkey



# January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 LIFE 9:30	4  AA 7:00	5
6 COMMUNION Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00 Bake Sale 10:00	7	8  Choir 7:00	9	10 LIFE 9:30	11  AA 7:00	12
13 Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00 Coffee 10:00	14 Finance 10:00	15  Choir 7:00	16	17 LIFE 9:30	18  AA 7:00	19
20 Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00	21	22  Choir 7:00	23	24 LIFE 9:30	25  AA 7:00	26
27 SERVING SUNDAY Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00 Congregational Mtg 10:00 Fellowship Coffee	28 Session 7:00	29  Choir 7:00	30 Prayer/Praise 3:30	31 LIFE 9:30		

# FEBRUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1  AA 7:00	2
3 COMMUNION Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00 Bake Sale 10:00	4	5  Choir 7:00	6 Adult Study 9:30	7 LIFE 9:30  Adult Study 7:00	8  AA 7:00	9
10 Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00 Bowling	11 Finance 10:00	12  Choir 7:00	13 Adult Study 9:30	14 LIFE 9:30  Adult Study 7:00	15  AA 7:00	16
17 Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00	18	19  Choir 7:00	20 Adult Study 9:30	21 LIFE 9:30  Adult Study 7:00	22  AA 7:00	23
24 SERVING SUNDAY Worship 9:00 Discipleship 9:00 Bowling 11:00	25 Session 7:00	26  Choir 7:00	27 Adult Study 9:30 Prayer/Praise 3:30	28 LIFE 9:30  Adult Study 7:00		



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*Loving God and our neighbors as ourselves*

