



NEWS of the 24 Churches of the York Association

Partners in Blessing - Cooperative Mission,
Cooperative Ministry

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FEBRUARY 2024 – Newsletter

Mission Statement

We, the members of the York Association of the United Church of Christ, are called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to represent Christ by:

- supporting one another in our covenantal relationship;
- calling clergy and laity to mutual accountability to the faith and order of the church;
- witnessing together to God's redeeming love. (Adopted April 28, 1991)

“How Is God Reshaping the Church?”

Lenten Services for the York Association

“*How Is God Reshaping the Church?*” is the theme for mid-week Lenten Services about a dozen York Association churches are teaming up to offer for the whole church! Leadership is provided by a group of persons who are currently Members in Discernment (MIDs), are serving in various ways among us right now, and could be described as “*The Next Generation of Pastors*”...

- **Equilla Curry** (member of and doing an internship at Faith) will offer her testimony during a “Dinner/Communion” service.
- **Spring Davidson** (member of Dover) will offer her testimony during a “Taizé” service.
- **Joslin Kears** (member of Heidelberg and serving at Emmanuel) will offer her testimony in a “Spoken Word” service.
- **Stephanie Oelrich** (member of Faith and doing an internship at Heidelberg) will offer her testimony during a “Traditional” service.
- **Cam Richesson** (member of Heidelberg and serving at Dover) will offer her testimony in a “Prayer” service.
- **Kellie Turner** (member of and serving at Trinity in York) will offer her testimony in a “Music & Art” service along with Kara Young (from Trinity in Gettysburg).

In-Person Services will be offered on Thursday afternoons and evenings at various association churches, with a light lunch provided. Since the

schedule is not finalized in time for this newsletter, an email providing the complete schedule of themes and locations will be sent to pastors and churches of the York Association by the end of January.

Virtual Services will be offered on the York Association Facebook page. The in-person services will be recorded so that all will be able to benefit from the testimonies and the worship offerings, as we ponder together, “*How Is God Reshaping the Church?*” Submitted by: *Ron Oelrich*

Committee on Ministry - Save the Dates

We have several people in the process of preparing for ministry in the York Association. The Committee on Ministry, realizing that we may need several Ecclesiastical Councils in the next year, have set the following dates:

- February 4
- March 3
- May 5
- September 22

We are looking at the possibility of having two candidates on each date. Please mark these dates on your church's calendar as we need all clergy and two delegates from each church to attend.

Attn: York Association UCC Clergy

The next meeting is February 14, at 11am, at Lion's Pride Restaurant, Red Lion. **Conference Minister Carrie Call will be our Special Guest.** She will join us for lunch at the Lion's Pride in Red Lion at 11, then at 12:30 pm, she will speak to us at St. John's United Church of Christ, 161 N. Main Street in Red Lion.

News from Penn Central Conference

ACM Nora Foust has a full slate of Boundary Trainings and other educational programs planned for 2024. Boundary Trainings will be the third Tuesday of most months, with a 10AM and 6PM Zoom option. Many of the topics from the first half of 2024 will be repeated in the second half. Find links on the calendar:

<https://pccucc.org/calendar/>

Other events to look forward to in 2024 are Clergy Convocation on May 7 - 9, a statewide Annual Meeting on June 7 - 9 and the return of Hartman Center Spirit Week on June 28 - August 3.

Blessings,

C. Paul Keller, Office Manager

Google Workspace

In 2005 I was introduced to an online package called Writely. It was a web-based word processor. WOW! I was blown away – a free word processor on the Internet. Up to that point, the Internet was mostly like a library. You could read things from the web, but you certainly didn't have any input! That was the same year YouTube started. The following year, Facebook and Twitter went online. Wikipedia was released in 2001 but it was pretty difficult to edit, and people were pretty wary of it.

The Internet was becoming interactive – we used terms like Web 2.0, describing that users could now create as well as consume. It was really exciting. Google bought Writely in 2006 and updated it and turned it into Google Docs (if you have a Gmail account, once you are logged into your account, open a new tab and you can go to Docs.Google.com and access your free online editor.)

Google changed the name to Google Workspace and added to Docs. Now it has Sheets (like Excel), Slides (like PowerPoint.), Draw (simple drawing program), Form (online surveys and quizzes) and Meet (like Zoom.) They do not have a database (but most people do not use one.) And, of course, email.

While it is free to individual users, companies still must purchase Google Workspace. It is competitive in pricing to Microsoft Office. However, when Microsoft sold their products at a steep discounted price to school districts, Google gave their product to schools for FREE! Most schools now use Chromebooks for students and each student has a Google Workspace account.

And even better, they give it to non-profits for free as well! To get Google Workspace, you would need to have your own Domain (see January's newsletter) and an account at Tech Soup (September's newsletter.) Once you have proven you are a non-profit you can use the

entire suite. I will say that you should find someone who is tech savvy to run the account.

Yes, our secretary, pastor and ELC director still use Microsoft office, but we have branched off on some documents. In another article I will discuss how Google Workspace is perfect for most uses.

If you need help getting started with Google Workspace, please contact me at Admin@YorkAssociationUCC.org

Submitted by: Jaron Flickinger

Around the Association

St. John's Blymire's UCC

1009 Blymire Road, Dallastown

What: "Messy Church"

When: Friday February 16, 6:00 PM

The night includes story time, a meal, crafts and fun for the whole family.

Faith UCC, 509 Pacific Ave, York PA



A Valentines Dinner for Everyone!



Join your Faith family (and invite your family and friends) on February 17th from 4:00pm to 6:00pm for a "Valentines themed dinner for everyone"! This is NOT just a couples event, it's for families, kids, singles, couples, etc . and it's our last Valentine's event with Pastor Ron and the Oelrichs!

For \$10 per person (\$5 for kids 10 and under) we'll enjoy Pasta with Marinara or Alfredo sauce, Meatballs or Veggieballs, Garlic or Italian bread, Salad and assorted Desserts. (and chicken nuggets or mac & cheese for kids!)

We do need a count to prepare the proper food amounts so by Feb 14th please email Larry Bean (larrybean@aol.com) with the number of persons attending (indicate if any are kids 10 and under). Also please advise Larry if you can bring a dessert to share.



The next newsletter, MARCH, will be emailed February 15, 2024.

Please send articles to

news@yorkassociationucc.org

by February 12. Thank You!