



# NEWS of the 24 Churches of the York Association

Partners in Blessing - Cooperative Mission, Cooperative Ministry

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## JANUARY 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)

### 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. Thank you!

### News from Penn Central Conference

As 2023 comes to a close, PCC is looking ahead to events in 2024!

First - to have OCWM and other remittances counted for 2023 we need them in the office by January 12, 2024.

Second - 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/>

Third - let your youth know about the Winter Youth Retreat, January 12 - 14 at Hartman Center. Learn more, including how to use a 50% Outdoor

Ministries scholarship and register here: <https://penncentralconference.regfox.com/hc-winter-youth-retreat-2024>

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*

### Who You Are

Most of us have some sort of digital footprint on the web. Either a social media presence (i.e. – Facebook) or a website. I already wrote about Facebook, so this article is about your website Domain Name. Where Facebook is good for updated events, it can be hit and miss. Your website can hold your basic information and be always accessible.

Back in the day, to get to a website, you had to remember the IP address of the site, so 18.9.44.47 used to take you to MIT’s website (they are now all behind firewalls and just an IP address rarely works anymore.) When the Internet was first created, it was only used by the government and colleges. When the government handed off the Internet to commercial use, everyone realized that we were not going to memorize all of these numbers to get to websites and thus the Domain Name System was created – called DNS. Instead of lists of numbers, we now just have to remember website names, like Google.com or YorkAssociationUCC.org. There are computers linked around the world that connect these domains to the IP address of the websites, so

you don't need to remember. (IP stands for Internet Protocol.) Most organizations purchase a domain name to create a presence on the web. There are a number of places where you can do this – SquareSpace, EasyDNS, and GoDaddy for example (do a search for Domain Name Registrar.) I am seeing domain name cost starting at \$20 per year and going up from there, depending on the services you request. If you use Weebly or Wix for your website, you can purchase a domain name from them.

It is helpful to have something that is short and easy to remember. Unfortunately, that is not always possible. When we tried to purchase our church's Domain Name, ShilohUCC.org was already owned by Shiloh UCC in Danville, PA. So, we are ShilohUCCYorkPA.org. Not short! Domain names come with two parts – the name and the type of Domain (more correctly called a "Top Level Domain". The most common domain type is dot com, followed by dot org. Only universities and colleges can use dot edu and schools were saddled with .k12.pa.us (the PA would be replaced by the state the district is in.) Some have dropped this because of length. Comcast uses dot net (for network) and dot gov shows that you are on a government website, like dmv.pa.gov – make sure that it isn't dmvipa.com or dmv.org - these are not state sites.

If you would like a web presence but you do not want to deal with a domain name, the York Association can create a webpage for you using our domain. It would look like ChurchName.YorkAssociationUCC.org (it is called a SubDomain.) Just contact me at Admin@YorkAssociationUCC.org. (By the way, usually upper and lowercase does not make a difference in domain names, however, we have learned that WIX, our website provider, does have issues with case. The CoM webpage taught us that!)

*Submitted by: Jaron Flickinger*

### **Attn: York Association UCC Clergy**

The York Association clergy will be holding their monthly meetings on the second Wednesday each month. The next meeting is January 10, at 11am, at Lion's Pride Restaurant, Red Lion.

## **Around the Association**

### **Miller "MAKE MUSIC!" Festival**

On **Saturday, January 6th, 2024, Trinity UCC**, 32 Market St, York, and **Heidelberg UCC**, 47 W Philadelphia St, York, will be participating in the Miller "MAKE MUSIC!" Festival. The festival is sponsored by the York Music Teachers Association (YMTA). The event takes place at various venues around the city of York and runs from 9 am – 5pm.

Visit [yorkmusicteachers.org](http://yorkmusicteachers.org) "Events" for an activities list and more information on how to register for auditions.

*YMTA - An organization dedicated to the encouragement of music instructors and the enrichment of music students.*

### **St. John's Blymire's UCC 1009 Blymire Road, Dallastown**

**What: "Messy Church"**

**When: Friday January 19, 6:00 PM**

Food & fun for the whole family.

### **Live Nativity Rescheduled to Sunday, Dec 17**

**JOIN US ON A JOURNEY TO  
BETHLEHEM**

INSPIRATIONAL STORY

SHEEP & ALPACAS

FREE EVENT

BAKED GOODS

OUTDOOR LIVE NATIVITY AT  
FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
509 PACIFIC AVE. YORK, PA 17404  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10-17  
3:30-5:30 PM

*The next newsletter, FEBRUARY, will be emailed January 20, 2024.*

*Please send articles to [news@yorkassociationucc.org](mailto:news@yorkassociationucc.org) by January 18. Thank You!*