



Beyond The Red Doors

Conshohocken United Methodist Church

August/September 2010 Newsletter

“Conshohocken UMC exists to reach people of all ages, teach them Christ’s values and guide them as deeply committed Christians to show the world that God lives”

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Dear CUMC Family,

A wise person once said, “How can we know where we’re heading if don’t know where we’ve been?” In order for Conshohocken UMC to reflect on and answer this question, we are taking a break from our current “Courage to Care Stewardship Series” and present to you this year’s three-week sermon series titled, ***“The Brook: God’s Providence!”***

On Sunday, **September 19th** (during both services), we are presenting *“The Brook: Where were we? A look at our Past”* – our accomplishments, challenges and key learning insights. We hope you’ll be interested to learn where our brothers and sisters in Christ first worshipped in Conshohocken; what they had to go through in order to build our current church structure; what happened in 1992 and 1999 (to mention a few).

Many of you know we (as a church body) are going through a transition. After 11 years of leasing our facilities, Jubilee Korean Presbyterian Church moved to their new worship center in West Norriton. Therefore, on **September 26**, we will present *“The Brook: Where are we?...a look at our Present”*. Come and hear what God is doing in our midst (right here, right now) as it relates to our financial situation, worship services, attendance, outreach programs, children/youth ministries, etc.

To close out the series on Sunday, **October 3**, there will be a special combined worship service at **10:30 a.m.** with the sermon titled, *“The Brook: Where is God leading us?...a look into our Future”* It will be a joyful service of praise and thanksgiving and will give you the opportunity to see and hear the church’s vision. We will make our financial commitments to support our church’s outreach and programs for the coming year.

(Note: Our office will be mailing out the commitment cards by Wednesday, September 29th). In addition to receiving the commitment cards during the service, we will also be offering Holy Communion. *NOTE:* Our wonderful Ministry Team will provide an **All-Church-Breakfast beginning at 9:30 a.m.** (No Sunday School). Bring your family and friends!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jose “Ricky” Ayala

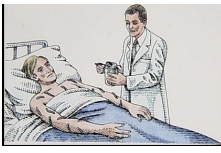
**MARK YOUR CALENDAR,
BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 19, 2010**

9:30 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service & Sunday School

10:15 a.m. – Fellowship Time in Wesley Hall

10:45 a.m. – Contemporary Worship Service





A NOTE ABOUT HOSPITAL VISITS

Please call our office (610) 828-1250 or the Pastor's cell phone (267) 438-4234 if you or a loved one is in the hospital in order to get a visit. The Pastor fully understands your privacy and does not want to simply "show up" uninvited. If it's someone special to you that you'd like the Pastor to visit, please make arrangements for you and the Pastor to go together

Thinking of You

Each month, Ginny Teaford will be highlighting a homebound member of our church family. Please consider sending a personal note or a "Thinking of You" card to brighten that persons spirits.

This month's member is:

Roland Yoder
c/o Cambridge Bright Field (Rm A-3)
1800 Walnut Street
Lansdale, PA 19446



NEED A HALL TO RENT?

**Church Members, Special Guests,
Families, Friends:**

- **BIRTHDAY PARTIES**
- **BRIDAL SHOWERS**
- **BABY SHOWERS**
- **WEDDING PARTIES**
- **MEETINGS**

For more details, contact Joni McCormick, our Facility Coordinator at 610-828-1250 or jonimcc@verizon.net



Thank You

We want to inform you that in this section, you can write a "Thank You" note to be included in our monthly newsletters. You can do so in the following manner.

- Call our office at **610-828-1250**
- Mail it in to **Conshohocken UMC, 20 W. 6th Ave, Conshohocken, PA 19428, Attn: BTRD** (Short for "Beyond the Red Doors")
- E-mail it to Anna Hoffman at amhoffman507@comcast.net

The following shows examples of what you can share your "Thanks" for:

- ❖ Cards sent to you by our members
- ❖ Phone calls received while in hospital
- ❖ Pastor's visit
- ❖ Keeping you and/or your family in prayers
- ❖ Care packages
- ❖ Graduation/Mother's/Father's Day gifts received

Please make sure you send in your article before the 15th of month to be included in the following month's newsletter. This cut-off date will allow for the newsletter to be printed before the last Sunday of the month. Thank you!

About Administrative Council

Our Administrative Council is the governing body of our Church, where we discuss all the activities of our local church. Our council is an `all members` council. This means that each member of our church has a vote on Council matters.

At meetings we have reports from each committee chairperson of past, current, and future activities. Everyone has an opportunity to join in the discussions..Meetings start promptly at 7:30PM. We strive to end each meeting by no later than 9PM. Dates for meetings this year are April 13th, June 9th, September 8th or 15th, and November 10th.

It would be great to see you, and appreciated by all our chairpersons, if you could plan to attend at least one meeting this year. Come see `our` Church at work.

Jake Kriebel
Administrative Council Chairman



Finance Team Corner

Thanks to your pledges and donations to date, CUMC continues to reach out to adults and youth through various programs supported by your financial giving. For example, the Ministry Team recently supported the Ronald McDonald House ministry by cooking and serving breakfast for families in need. Christian Education hosted a Wet and Wild Fun Night in July and had over 20 children attend. The popular 30-Minute Cooking Class was extended by popular demand and has continued all summer, making good use of our kitchen & dining areas and Chef Charles has been gracious with offering tips for cooking delicious meals in under 30 minutes. The church is also hosting a pot-luck lunch

for the Rally Day celebration at Sutcliffe Park on September 12. The church thanks you for your continued support!!

Please consider inquiring at your place of employment to see if they have a matching gift program that includes religious organizations. For example, presently the church is the recipient of a matching donation program from one of our member's employers. The employer matches funds donated by the employee and in addition provides donations to CUMC for volunteer hours spent at CUMC. CUMC has received \$750 related to volunteer hours logged to date in 2010. Also, your donations to CUMC can be earmarked to CUMC through your employer's United Way campaigns. So, as the United Way campaigns ramp up in the fall, please keep CUMC in mind if this option is offered through your employer. Donations can be withheld from your paycheck and remitted quarterly to CUMC. Please check with your employer to see if they offer either of these programs (the volunteer program is also sometimes referred to as "dollars for doers"). If you are interested in more information or would like to discuss further, please contact Jenn Kriebel, 610-828-2039 or jennmyers13@hotmail.com.

2011 Stewardship Campaign:

Our Stewardship Campaign for 2011 will kick off Sunday, September 19 and will culminate with Commitment Sunday, October 3. Note that October 3 is also the date for our 1st All Church Breakfast and Combined Worship of the 2010-2011 worship season.

Our challenge for 2011 will be to replace \$38,000 of annual rental income we have received for the past 11 years from Jubilee Presbyterian Church. Jubilee will begin worshipping in their new worship center in September. While we are happy that Jubilee has a place of worship they can truly call their own, it creates a new challenge for CUMC to replace approximately 20% of our annual budget.

Throughout the fall and into the holiday season, we will be cleaning and upgrading the space vacated by Jubilee and using it for our own use, including for the yard sale and Christian Education. Please contact Carleton Cox or Greg Kriebel if you know of a group that might be interested in renting space from

CUMC. We have office space on the ground floor, as well as other meeting space available.

Summer vacations are in full swing, but please remember that even if you are on vacation or not attending Sunday worship services on a regular basis, our church finances do not take a vacation. The bills still have to get paid. Please make every effort to continue your financial giving throughout the summer and fall months. We have a few pledgers that send their gifts through online banking and are received via mail by the Finance Secretary. If you are interested in this arrangement, please let Bill Pope, the CUMC Finance Secretary, know so he is aware. We are also looking into an option for electronic giving for 2011 through Vanco services, an organization that provides secure online giving for churches. We will be sharing more information on this as it becomes available, however, in order to gauge interest in this, if you think you may be interested in this option, please contact Bill Pope.

The Finance Team is currently working on a draft budget for 2011. If you have any expenses or costs that you would like to have included in the 2011 budget for programs or outreach, or any suggestions for income sources, please contact Jenn Kriebel, 610-828-2039 or jennmyers13@hotmail.com. Please continue to pray for the Finance Team as we continue through this important process.

Fundraising Update:

We need volunteers to help cook & serve food at this year's Conshohocken Fun Fest, Saturday, September 11, from 9:30 am - 6:00 pm. Please contact Carleton Cox, 610-360-1195, or email coxmaps@att.net, or Greg Kriebel, 610-828-2039 if you are able to help out. The FunFest has a "new location". It is now located at the Conshohocken "A" Field at East 11th Avenue and Harry Streets. For more info on the event itself, visit this website: <http://conshyfunfest.com/>

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 25th. Back by popular demand is our annual All Church Yard Sale from 8 am to 1 pm. YOUR help is needed to make it a success. We need you to start setting aside your attic, basement, and garage treasures. Before school starts it is a good time to go thru your closets, cupboards, basements, garages, etc. We are also looking for baked goods, so if you have a favorite recipe or goody that you would like to

donate for the bake table, all are welcome. We are planning to have snacks and lunch available for sale throughout the day. Contact Sue Kriebel at 610-828-6479 or email suekriebel@comcast.net if you are interested in helping out and for more details. Thanks, Sue, for volunteering to run this important fundraiser for the church.

Starting in October, we will be taking orders for Christmas wreaths. This year we are offering 3 options. Carolyn Yakonick will be the point of contact for the wreath fundraiser. Thanks, Carolyn, for volunteering to run this important fundraiser for the church.

Thanks also to Michele Connor for running the gift card sales throughout the year. Please watch for Michele's announcements in the church bulletin about when the gift card sales start and end. Giant Gift Cards are available year-round, so if you need to replenish your stock before your next grocery store visit, please contact Michele.

If anyone has other fund raising ideas (like maybe starting up the Christmas bazaar again!), please contact one of the Finance Team members: Carleton Cox, Gary Black, Bill Pope, or Jenn Kriebel.

2010 Finance Update through July 31:

Actual pledges received were about \$10,500 above budget and the plate cash is up \$2,100. Cash in through July 31 (from all sources) was \$116,303. Expenses paid for the same period totaled \$139,313 for a loss of \$23,010. Our budgeted loss through July was expected to be \$34,366, but our actual loss through July 31 was only \$23,010. August is when the church locks in its oil for the year, and our budget payments will be made from August 2010 through May 2011, so expenses will start to ramp up for the remainder of the year related to our oil costs.





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The 2009-2010 Sunday School had a wonderful year. The children practiced and performed a new song the last week of every month. Sunday School wound down by helping the children learn about Noah as well as providing opportunities for the children to share their many talents with the congregation.

The celebration of the Easter season was a tremendous success with the children participating in Palm Sunday service as well as many children and their friends partaking in the annual Egg Hunt which was able to held outside thanks to the blessing of nice weather.

The children delighted the congregation on Sunday, May 9 for Mother's Day and with the Children's Service celebrating fathers on Sunday, June 6. For Mother's Day the children welcomed Bishop Peggy Johnson by performing "I Lift Up My Hands" in both sign language and Spanish. For the fathers, the children conducted the entire service. Once again, Conshohocken United Methodist is reassured that the future of our church is in good hands.

"Kids Night Out" was held twice this past summer. The first event in July consisted of water-related events which helped to cool children and adults alike! The weather did not cooperate in August which resulted in a movie night for the children to celebrate the end of summer.

The 2010-2011 Sunday School year got off to a rockin start with music and crafts. We had a wonderful turnout of 13 enthusiastic children. Rally Day allowed the children to express themselves by painting "me" bags which they will fill with items that represent themselves so that all of the children can get to know each other and welcome old and new friends. Confirmation Class will soon get underway. Those participants have already begun to meet their confirmation commitment of serving CUMC!

The Christian Education team would like to thank all of the volunteers that help with Sunday School. Please take some time to thank the volunteers for sharing their time, talents and efforts.

Stop by Sunday School and see the future of CUMC!

CUMC Computer Training Classes

We have a few children that are interested in sharing their knowledge of PowerPoint in Sunday School which will be an upcoming class that may be shared with the rest of the congregation if there is enough interest. Please contact Chris Bertino (christine.bertino@gmail.com or 610-828-3085).

Help Wanted for Sunday School

We are looking for people willing to bake white unfrosted cupcakes for the third Sunday of every month during Sunday School. We need approximately 20 a month. If you are willing to help, please contact Alice Popovic at alice.popovic@verizon.net or 610-277-2055.

Children and Youth Ministry Training – 2011

If you are interested in attending the Tools for Ministry training in 2011, please inform Chris Bertino at christine.bertino@gmail.com or 610-828-3085. Anyone involved with children and youth should attend this valuable training.

Volunteers Needed

If anyone is interested in assisting Christian Education, please see either Chris Bertino (christine.bertino@gmail.com / 610-828-3085) or one of the Christian Education team members.



From our congregation

My prayer for our church is:

- That people would say of us, as they did of the early church, “look how they love one another.”
- For more people to join this church.
- To continue to grow our membership and reach people in need of the spirit and love of Jesus Christ.
- For this church to grow past capacity, and continue to make disciples for the transformation of the world. Amen!
- Sharing the love of the Lord of all. Bring us close to you God.
- It will grow and that Christ will always dwell in the house of CUMC. And also that Pastor Ricky will continue his great work here!
- That we grow in attendance and gifts to keep the church active.
- That this church continues to grow with young families while cherishing its older members. Also that we are able to meet our financial obligations.
- To bring Christ’s message and example to our neighborhoods.
- That spiritual growth to be reflected in service to others, participation in the programs and needs of the church, and a closer walk with Jesus, reflecting his life.
- That the church continues to grow.
- That we have so many people that we have standing room only.
- To grow and strive for new members to keep CUMC active. Also to meet our financial obligations. Continue to pray.
- To have new people come into the church and become members. To have Pastor Ricky here for a long time.

The persons who make this a friendly church for me are:

- Irene and Bob Wise; Sue and Jake Kriebel; Jen and Greg Kriebel; Carolyn Yakonick; Gary Atkinson; Jim and Joanne Lapinski
- My friends, the Pastor, the people who touched me and mostly Jesus and God.
- Agnes Young, Marcia Marine, Betty Rahm, Catherine Hein
- Lee, Sue, Judy, Michelle, Bobbi, Bob, Bill, Gary, Ricky, Greg, Jim, Sara, Randi

- Dave and Drew Montemayor, Sarah and Randi Wright, Irene Wise, Italina and Nataniel, Pastor Ricky and Annie Ayala
- Pastor Ricky and family, Lynda Lawrence, Mary Bartley, Nicole
- Rick and Anita Barton
- Judy Rhoades, Nancy McGuire, Lee Guagliatta, Mary Bartley
- Elaine, Rick and Anita, Shane
- Jim Lapinski, Anita Barton, and too many more to mention
- Elaine Goodman invited me. I live out of town. Every person was so friendly to me and others. Yes, your message has changed my life.
- Pastor Ricky, Mark Atkinson, Sara and Randi, Bob and Irene Wise, the Kriegel, Judy Rhoades, Anita Barton
- Dr. Gary, Pastor Ricky, Sally
- The Pastor, all the singers and band, all God’s people, Bob Maier, Jan Kennedy
- Everyone makes this a friendly church.
- The people
- My friends, Miss Chris, Mr. Dennis, Annie, Pastor Ricky
- The Ayala family, Dennis, all of the children, Jan and Bob, the Montemayors, Lee, Tim, Charles, Sally, Dr. Gary, Bill Pope
- Anita and Rick Barton, Pastor Ricky

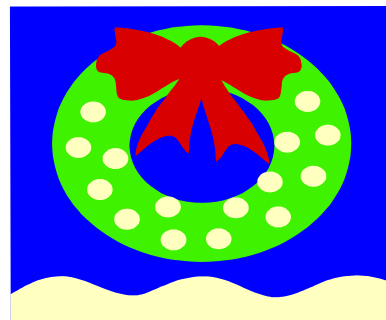
The greatest gift this church has given me:

- Meeting many people and learning to work together for the continuous good of the church. It has given me another “family.”
- The feeling of family, of belonging here.
- A time, a place and friends to worship my Lord.
- The opportunity to worship and raise my family in a loving, warm church family.
- A home where on Sunday mornings I can be at peace with God and the world and I don’t have to be in competition.
- The music.
- The gift of love and a chance to serve God in any way I can.
- The opportunity to serve and disciple Bible study.
- People to share the study of God’s word. A family to praise and pray with and for.

- Making me feel welcome feeling the peace of the Holy Spirit at times when I most need it! Thank you to all!
- All the wonderful people.
- A deeper understanding of the Bible, a community of faith, and a place of vibrant worship. It also gave my children a place to grow in Christian love and understanding of the Bible during their formative years. For all these, I am thankful to this church and to the Lord.
- A deeper understanding and faith. I have closeness to God that I didn't have before even though I believed. I now have a fellowship that reminds me of what God has given me.
- Wonderful followers of Christ to share my faith with.
- Spiritual awareness.
- A renewed faith.

I started coming to this church because:

- In 1989, my former church had no children for my children to play with. We came here and there were so many kids and my kids knew many of them. We have been here ever since.
- My husband was a member. It has been our church home for over 40 years. Raised our family here and made many wonderful friends and memories.
- It changed my life.
- My family has been attending CUMC for generations.
- My friend Betty Rahm invited me. I was looking for a church to be married in and found my church home. I am very blessed by my church family.
- I needed a place to get married. I joined this church after we got married.
- Pastor Ricky gave me pastoral care even when I wasn't a member.
- Dennis had a school assignment and I came with him. I wasn't planning on joining but God kept calling. Two years later, I became a member. What a blessed day!



"Holiday Wreath Sale" The heat of summer may still be with us, but our holiday wreath sale is now underway and this year we are offering (3) different styles of wreaths! Flyers are available at the back of the church. Please consider taking one and sharing it with family, friends, and co-workers to help make this year's fundraiser a huge success. Pricing varies and is listed on the flyers. (Checks payable to CUMC). Deadline date for submitting orders is Oct. 31st. All orders should be given to Carolyn Yakonick, 610-489-6731; yak.lynn@comcast.net. CUMC appreciates and thanks you for your support!!



All Church Yard Sale-Save the date Sat. Sept. 25, 2010 - Time- 8 AM- 1 PM

We hope you have started looking for items that you no longer use or need, and can be used by someone else. We are looking for – furniture, children's toys, books clothes, household items and baked goods.

Please mention the event to family, neighbors, and friends. They may have something to donate or might save the date and come to participate.

Take five minutes and look at your book shelves. Pick 3 (or more) books you can part with and set them aside for the All Church Yard Sale. Before the heat of the day, peek into your attic and see if there are 3-4 items that you have not used lately but

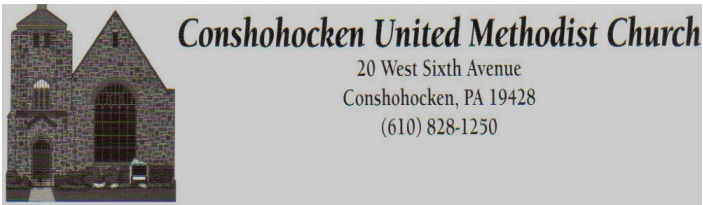
someone else might enjoy like camping gear used when the kids were younger. Set any items aside to be donated to the All Church Yard Sale.

This is a great time to check the closets as the kids start back to school. Just like vegetables, they grow in the summer. Put the items they have outgrown aside for the All Church Yard Sale. It might be a good time to have them go thru the toy box too.

Do you have a friend, relative or neighbor who is downsizing? Check to see if they can donate

anything to our church for the Yard Sale. We need the “All” part of the All Church Yard Sale to include **YOU.**

***CUMC IS THE
PLACE TO BE!!!***



2010 CUMC Personnel Information

Staff

Pastor – Jose “Ricky” Ayala (w) 610-828-1250 pastorricky@verizon.net
In Case of Emergency or Hospital Visit, call Pastor Ricky’s cell at 267-438-4234
Admin Assistant/Facility Coordinator – Joan McCormick 610-828-1250 jonimcc@verizon.net
Sexton – Bob Maziarz 610-825-0563 maze1958@verizon.net

Teams

Lay Leader - Rick Barton 610-397-1581 rickdbarton@msn.com
People Chair- Dr. Gary Atkinson 610-828-8946 gary.atkinson@verizon.net
Members: Sally Hilton, Lee Guagliata, Randi Pizzico, Rick Barton
Ministry Chair - Gregory Kriebel 610-828-2039 gckriebel@comcast.net
Members: Nancy Maguire, John Carsner, Mary Black, Sue McElwee, Tim Murray, Charles Mathis
Christian Education Director – Christine Bertino 610-828-3085 christine.bertino@gmail.com
Members: Lila Backenstose, Joanne Lapinski, Michele Conner, Dyan Rhoads, Michele Mitchell
Finance Chair- Carleton Cox, 610-327-0552 coxmaps@att.net
Treasurer: Jennifer Kriebel 610-828-2039 jennmyers13@hotmail.com
Finance Secretary: William Pope, 610-296-3838 x1343 bill.pope@McKesson.com
Members: Richard Barton, Chandler Crawford, Gary Black
Worship Chair- Dr. Bukola Ogunkua 610-272-0537 bukogunkua@aol.com
Members: Mark Atkinson, Anita L. Barton, Irene Wise, David Montemayor, Sarah Wright, Aprille Rokosz
Administrative Council Chair- Jake Kriebel 610-828-6479 jakekriebel@comcast.net
Administrative Council Secretary: Randi Pizzico
Property Team Chair- James Lapinski 215-768-6472; 610-834-0715 jr1001@verizon.net
Members: Jim Smith, Ann Waters, Robert Maziarz, Dennis Hannan

Programs

Media Relations Coordinator: Lyn Barr 610-213-5161 kneetitup@msn.com
Nursery Coordinator (during service): Judy Rhoads 610-275-3125 jrhoads119@comcast.net
Health & Welfare Ministries Coordinator: Virginia Teaford 610.828.9792 vgin40@msn.com
Membership Secretary: Ruth Thomas 610-941-4392 manda3724@aol.com
Church Historian: Dr. Gary Atkinson 610-828-8946 gary.atkinson@verizon.net
Beyond the Red Doors Newsletter: Anna Hoffman 484-684-7335 amhoffman507@comcast.net

“Conshohocken UMC exists to reach people of all ages, teach them Christ’s values and guide them as deeply committed Christians to show the world that God lives”