



# Beyond The Red Doors

Conshohocken United Methodist Church

September 2009 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”*

## **YOU ARE GOD’S FIELD**

Sundays shake up the routines of Community life; yet this day is an important part of life. Sunday’s are the Lord’s Day. From the moment we rise from our beds, we might begin our worship of God. We prepare for church by praying, meditating, reading scripture, and getting dressed up. We come to worship, often sitting in the same seat week after week, with expectations of what worship will look like. We have been trained to expect certain routines, certain rituals in our worship.

Worship is one of the most basic routines of any church community. Some people attend worship out of habit; some people come with great expectations. But no single worship service is ever the same as another. Songs and scriptures, liturgists and acolytes, greeters and ushers all change. Even the worship participants are different as they have changed and developed in response to what has happened to them and around them the previous week.

In 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, Paul reminds us that we “*are God’s field*”, and in this sense should be cultivated to receive God’s blessings. Routines in Christian community help us mature and become a “spiritual people”. The maturation process takes work and dedication. Routines and rituals help cultivate fertile ground for God to plant seeds in our lives and then help those seeds grow and blossom into beautiful, juicy fruits.

On September 13<sup>th</sup>, our church will begin offering two worship services as follows:

### **9:30 Traditional & 10:45 Contemporary**

In offering the two services, we have the great potential of reaching more people for Christ and that’s why the church exists.

Another certainty is that this journey cannot be faced and achieved by one single person. It requires the CHURCH; not the building, but the PEOPLE!

The different areas of ministry in our church are working together to make this transition as smooth as possible. There are several questions that we don’t have answers to yet but we are moving forward and facing this new initiative head on. **NOTE:** *On Page 2, you will see the breakdown of each Sunday at CUMC beginning on September 13<sup>th</sup>.*

Most of us have heard of, or personally experienced, a church closing its doors in its community. There are many reasons why this takes place, but I am confident in saying that three reasons are because - they didn’t change with the community – they were afraid of change - they had a fear of failure. If our church is to experience growth, we **must not** fall under the same categories; especially the fear of failure.

Everyone is asked to pray, pray, pray! Then we must move beyond our prayers and put them into action as we serve in areas of ministry needing our physical and financial assistance.

We should take the time to thank God we have a building to worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us move beyond our comfortable settings and ask God for courage to invite others to worship with us.



### **Mark your calendar:**

Please reserve Sunday, October 11, for a special service of worship on “Celebrate the Gift” Sunday. It will be a joyful service of praise and thanksgiving. We will make our financial commitments to support our church’s outreach and program budget for the coming year.

## Sunday Mornings at CUMC beginning September 13<sup>th</sup>:

### 9:30 a.m.

Traditional/Blended Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
Sunday School (same time) in "Garden Room"

### 10:15 -10:45 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship Time (Wesley Hall)

### 10:40 a.m.

Contemporary Worship Service (Sanctuary)

What to expect during:

- **Traditional** Service will have a more structured setting that allows the congregation to engage in worship through "call to worship", invocations/unison prayers, creeds, hymns, offering, sermon, communion (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month), etc.
  - There will be occasions that other instruments may accompany the organ/piano (such as guitar, flute or violin).
  - Laity are highly encouraged to participate in the worship life as liturgist, communion preparer/server, scripture reading, greeter, usher, etc.
  - Dress will be formal but can be casual
  - Pastor will wear a robe in most services
  - Pastor will administer the elements for communion with the assistance of one or two laity.
- **Sunday School** will take place during Traditional Service.
  - The kids will begin their time together in the Garden Room or Fellowship Hall.
  - Parents who have children but want to worship in the Traditional Service may bring their child(ren) and drop them off with the "Safe Sanctuary Certified" volunteers to receive their spiritual nourishment.
- **Coffee Fellowship Time** will be offered in Wesley Hall in order to allow people leaving the first service (and those coming to the second service) an opportunity to see each other and spend a time of fellowship while drinking coffee, juice and/or eating baked goods.
  - The Children are also invited to take part in this Fellowship Time. There will be cereal, milk and/or juice

- **Contemporary Service** will be led by worship leaders and accompanied by various musical instruments such as guitar, bass, drums, keyboard and (occasionally) brass instrument(s).
  - Dress will be casual but can be formal
  - Pastor will utilize the laity to administer the elements when communion is served
  - Laity (including children and youth) are highly encouraged to participate in the worship life as they serve making announcements, communion preparer/server, scripture reading, greeter, usher, etc.
  - The service will have an order but will change frequently to allow various forms of worship to include plays/drama/skits, special testimonies/singing, liturgical dance, the arts, etc.

### What opportunities are available for people from both services to be together?

The leaders have discussed a couple ways to answer this question. One way is take advantage of the Coffee Fellowship Time every Sunday from 10:15-10:40 a.m. (read lower left bullet-point on this page).

Another way was to provide a "Combined Service" on the first Sunday of every month that has five Sundays in it (and other special occasions).

**For example:** November 2009 has five Sundays. Therefore, our first combined service is scheduled for Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Last but not least, everyone is always encouraged to participate in the social gatherings such as the "Pot Luck Dinners", BBQ/Volleyball, etc.

### What can the people expect on a Sunday like November 1<sup>st</sup>?

We will offer an All-Church-Breakfast in our Fellowship Hall *around* 9:30 a.m. In order to allow people of all ages to eat together, Sunday School will not be offered on this day.

**Note:** The All-Church-Breakfast and Combined service will cause a time change for *both* services.

The service will begin at 10:30 p.m. in our sanctuary. This service will consist of contemporary and Hymn selections. If anyone misses out on eating/fellowshipping in the breakfast, they will have the opportunity of coming together for communion at the Lord's Table during the service!



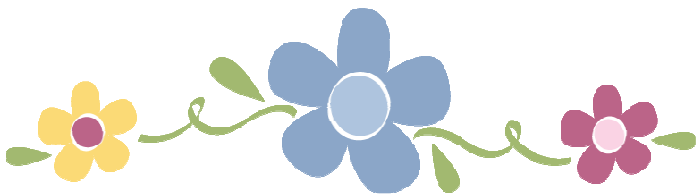
### Being Part of a Family

Family members depend on each other for all kinds of things, big and small, for the good of the family. Just as our immediate family depends on us, so does our church family. No matter what your talent or how much or little time you have to offer, there is something you can do. Let's challenge ourselves to do something for our church family. It doesn't have to be a major project or require a long commitment. Offer to fill in for an usher or greeter, visit someone who is homebound, help out with a fundraiser, or help with cleaning or repairs at church. The possibilities are endless. As the hymn reminds us, "I am the Church, You are the Church, We are the Church together."



### 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.

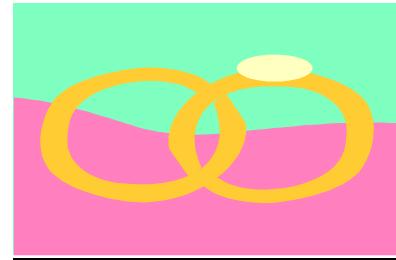
This month's member is:  
Margaret McElwee  
127 East 7th Avenue  
Conshohocken, PA 19428



### 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](mailto:jonimcc@verizon.net)



### September Wedding Anniversaries

- 9/10 Greg & Jennifer Kriebel
- 9/12 Donald & Judy Rhoads
- 9/13 Joan & Ernest McCormick
- 9/14 Lee & Joseph Guagliata
- 9/15 Jim & Joanne Lapinski
- 9/15 Gary & Mary Black
- 9/19 Anthony & Carolyn Yakonick
- 9/25 Justin & Coleen Covington

If you are having an anniversary in September are not listed here, that means we do not have a record of your wedding anniversary. Please call the church office with that information.



If you are having a birthday in September and are not listed here, that means we do not have a record of your birth date. Please call the church office with that information. We want to wish you a happy birthday!



**All Church Yard Sale**

A time to keep, and a time to cast away – Ecclesiastes 3:6

How does one decide what to keep and what to cast away?

Here’s an answer that helped me. Ask three simple questions:

- Have I worn it or used it in the last year?
  - Is there someone who could or would use it?
  - Could this become an heirloom?
- Then make a decision and let it go.

This is a way to start looking at items that you may be able to donate to the “All Church Yard Sale” on Sept 26<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at the church on Sat. from 8 AM to 1 PM. Please be sure that the items are in condition to be used by someone else.

This week 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. Check the garage and basement too.

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 Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> 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**. Remember that if everyone helps even in a small way, we will reach our goal of another successful “All Church Yard Sale” If you can display a flyer about the event at your office or a place you shop, get a hair cut, run in for coffee, or go to eat, that would be helping to get the word out.

Can you give us a few hours the week of 9/21-9/25 to help sort and price items? We plan to be at the church from 6:30-8:30 PM. Due to limited storage space at church please bring your items to church during this time. Please let us know if you can help. Everyone’s help is appreciated.

Have you saved the date? Are you coming to help? Do you know what you are baking? Have you told a friend? Are you picking them up? We are adding lunch this year from 11-1PM please invite everyone to attend. See you then. Contact Sue Kriebel 610-828-6479 or Nancy Maguire 610-828-0311 for more information.



**Administrative Board Meeting:**

***Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 p.m.***

Note: There may be a possibility of having an additional meeting prior to Charge Conference.



Ministry Team is organizing a trip to the Phillies vs. Marlins game on Sat. Oct. 3rd (a night game). The project is called "Red goes Green". The Phillies organization is making a special effort to collect recyclable items. Our church will be participating on Oct. 3rd. The helpers will be admitted free and given a meal voucher for their help. The participants must be able to go up and down the aisles to collect recyclable items. The church can take 30-100 people. We need to know if you want to participate in this event. Contact Greg Kriebel for further details and age limits. 610-828-2039



**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**Sunday School –September 13<sup>th</sup> Rally Day**  
**Classes begin September 21<sup>st</sup>**

Sunday school opening service begins at 9:30am on September 21<sup>st</sup> in the "Garden Room" of Steele Chapel. A simple breakfast will be served to the children from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. every Sunday. This takes place at the same time adults are in Wesley Hall for the Coffee Fellowship Time.

**Join our Growing Sunday School Classes**

All Sunday School classes are open for visitors. You don't need to be a member of our church to participate. For more information about Sunday School classes, contact Christine Bertino 610-828-3085 or [christine.bertino@gmail.com](mailto:christine.bertino@gmail.com).

**Wawa Hoagie Coupons \$3.50each**

The Sunday school children are still selling Wawa coupons to support the Courage to Care Campaign. The coupons sell for \$3.50ea (that's a savings of .40 per hoagie) and the coupons do not expire. Coupons will be available downstairs, outside of the secretary's office. Thank you for your support.

**Children's Sunday**

If your child, youth, or teen is interested in participating in worship service, please contact Pastor Ricky. The children are always encouraged to participate by reading a scripture passage, playing an instrument, singing, or displaying any other talent they wish to share.

**Pillowcases**

Pillowcases are available now for children who are ill. This program was initially started with the Courage to Care campaign. We make and deliver pillowcases to patients at the Children's Hospitals, but we would also like to offer it to our congregation as well. If you have or know a child that would benefit from a homemade pillowcase, please contact Christine Bertino 610-828-3085 [christine.bertino@gmail.com](mailto:christine.bertino@gmail.com)

**Children's Outreach**

Save the aluminum pop tabs from your cans. The money generated from recycling the tabs helps to defray the cost for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. Please give your tabs to any Sunday school child and they will place them in our collection bin. Thank you for supporting our children's ideas and outreach programs.

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



## Coushohocken United Methodist Church

30754 Sixth Avenue  
Coushohocken, PA 19128  
(610) 538-1707

### **2009 CUMC Personnel Information**

#### **Staff**

Pastor – Jose “Ricky” Ayala (w) 610-828-1250 [pastorricky@verizon.net](mailto: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](mailto:jonimcc@verizon.net)

Sexton – Bob Maziarz 610-825-0563 [maze1958@verizon.net](mailto:maze1958@verizon.net)

#### **Teams**

**Lay Leader** - Rick Barton 610-397-1581 [rickdbarton@msn.com](mailto:rickdbarton@msn.com)

**People Chair**- Dr. Gary Atkinson 610-828-8946 [gary.atkinson@verizon.net](mailto:gary.atkinson@verizon.net)

Members: Sally Hilton, Lee Guagliata, Lawrence Ogunkua, Rick Barton

**Ministry Chair** - Gregory Kriebel 610-828-2039 [gckriebel@comcast.net](mailto:gckriebel@comcast.net)

Members: Nancy Maguire

**Christian Education Director** – Christine Bertino 610-828-3085 [christine.bertino@gmail.com](mailto:christine.bertino@gmail.com)

Members: Lila Backenstose, Joanne Lapinski, Michele Conner, Dyan Rhoads, Michele Mitchell

**Finance Chair**- Carleton Cox 610-327-0552 [coxmaps@worldnet.att.net](mailto:coxmaps@worldnet.att.net)

Treasurer: Jennifer Kriebel 610-828-2039 [jennmyers13@hotmail.com](mailto:jennmyers13@hotmail.com)

Finance Secretary: William Pope, 610-296-3838 x1343 [bill.pope@McKesson.com](mailto:bill.pope@McKesson.com)

Members: Richard Barton, Chan Crawford

**Worship Chair**- Dr. Bukola Ogunkua 610-272-0537 [bukogunkua@aol.com](mailto:bukogunkua@aol.com)

Members: Stephanie Williams, Mark Atkinson, Anita L. Barton, Irene Wise

**Administrative Council Chair**- Jake Kriebel 610-828-6479 [jakekriebel@comcast.net](mailto:jakekriebel@comcast.net)

Administrative Council Recording Secretary: Randi Wright

**Property Team Chair**- James Lapinski 215-768-6472; 610-834-0715 [jr1001@verizon.net](mailto:jr1001@verizon.net)

Members: Jim Smith, Ann Waters, Robert Maziarz, Dennis Hannan

#### **Programs**

Media Relations Coordinator: Lyn Barr 610-213-5161 [kneetitup@msn.com](mailto:kneetitup@msn.com)

Nursery Coordinator (during service): Judy Rhoads 610-275-3125 [jrhoads119@comcast.net](mailto:jrhoads119@comcast.net)

Health & Welfare Ministries Coordinator: Virginia Teaford 610.828.9792 [ygin40@msn.com](mailto:ygin40@msn.com)

Membership Secretary: Ruth Thomas 610-941-4392 [manda3724@aol.com](mailto:manda3724@aol.com)

Church Historian: Dr. Gary Atkinson 610-828-8946 [gary.atkinson@verizon.net](mailto:gary.atkinson@verizon.net)

Beyond the Red Doors Newsletter: Anna Hoffman 484-684-7335 [amhoffman507@comcast.net](mailto:amhoffman507@comcast.net)