

St. Paul's United Church of Christ  
47 South Whiteoak Street  
Kutztown, Pennsylvania 19530  
610-683-3393

## Our Mission

*We, the family of St. Paul's UCC,  
guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ,  
are committed to carry His good news.  
We celebrate God's presence by shar-  
ing God's unconditional love with fel-  
lowship, worship and service to others.*

*We pray for God's wisdom and  
compassion to lead us  
in our endeavors.*

## CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Kim Adamson..... Pastor  
Barbara Merkel.....Admin Assistant  
Judy Heffley..... Organist  
Carol Reinhard..... Choir Director  
Donna Sheaffer..... Bell Choir Director  
Jan Lenich.....Sexton

## CHURCH OFFICERS

Tom Lenich.....President  
Brian Beck.....Vice President  
Barbara Merkel..... Recording Secretary  
Cheryl Ziegler.....Treasurer  
Marjorie Weida.....Financial Secretary

## BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Louise Moyer.....President  
Sherry Leinbach.....Secretary

## Pastor's email :

[pastorkim@stpaulskutztown.org](mailto:pastorkim@stpaulskutztown.org)

## Office email:

[office@stpaulskutztown.org](mailto:office@stpaulskutztown.org)

[www.stpaulskutztown.org](http://www.stpaulskutztown.org)



Dear St. Paul's Family:

I have always liked stars. Do you remember your joy as an elementary school student when the teacher put a star on your especially good homework assignment or test? I can still vividly recall that. The star was an affirmation of a job well done, a sign that you are on the right track.

We often hear celebrities described as stars, but not every celebrity is a star. A celebrity is someone famous, but not necessarily someone who is talented. References to "stars" began at the end of the 1700's when talented actors earned the label star due to their skills and reputation. Over time, it was used to fill seats in theaters. A star in this context is affirmation of the quality of someone's historical career in acting and that a production which includes them is well done and worthwhile. It is helpful when the star is a good person in addition to their acting skills, which gives us someone with talent whom we should respect and admire outside of their stage or screen persona.

How do you feel when you go outside on a clear night and looking up, see the stars sparkling above? In Islam, it was by star gazing that Ibrahim/Abraham noticed that as constant as the stars seemed to be that they moved in the night sky. He concluded that the only thing that is constant in our world is God. The stars are an affirmation of God's work in Creation, a sign that we are not alone and can rely on God's steadfast love. Like the stars on days when the stars are not visible, we can depend upon the fact that the stars are still there and so is God.

I often imagine what it was like when the magi embarked on their journey to meet the baby Jesus. They were scholars, men from good families and the scientists of their day. The only gospel which contains the story is Matthew 2:9-11, The magi "set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage

Continued on next page.....

**Continued from previous page...**

Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” The star was an affirmation of the location where baby Jesus was born, affirmation that Jesus is the son of God, the long-awaited Messiah, Emmanuel – God with us!

As we embark on our journey this new year with Jesus, may we, like the magi, continue to be overwhelmed with joy, praise and thank him often, and witness to others about what Jesus is doing in our hearts and in our lives.

New Year blessings,

Pastor Kim

---

## **Christmas in the Park**

It was a gloomy day for Christmas in the Park this year, but it was a lovely event under the tennis court pavilion with a fire in each fireplace and cocoa and other goodies to warm us. One advantage to being in one place together was that we got to know people from the other churches instead of being 20 feet away from each other. Aside from St. Paul's, St. John's Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran, and St. Mary's Roman Catholic churches planned the event and were involved in the Live Nativity. Trista Smith from St. John's Lutheran chaired the event.

St. Paul's was well-represented among the 4 churches hosting the event. We had two angels – sorry, they were shy and didn't want to share their photos. Ethel served refreshments. Our choir led the first set of carolers and brought other members along with them. Nancy and Barb updated the outdoor signs. Judy booked the Kutztown High School trio that played. Jim helped a small crew assemble the stable. And Jan helped pastor Kim figure out how to wear wings and a halo!

We do not know how this event will change in the future, but the committee is considering some great ideas. Stay tuned!



Photo: Alicia and Lee from Trinity



Photo- Three Kings from St. Mary's

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:**

**January**

- 1 Melinda Miller
- 4 Henry Bard
- 6 Dennis Bubbenmoyer, Terri Hilbert
- 7 Melissa Unger
- 8 Kathryn Widdows
- 9 Gretchen Barrell
- 10 Bruce Werley, Fernando Garcia,  
Glenn Weida
- 12 Erma Angstadt, Christopher Rarick,  
Jonathan Rarick
- 14 Ted Thomas
- 16 Patrick Fitzgerald
- 19 Chelsie Kistler
- 21 Debra Conover
- 26 Jeryl Kulp, Brendon Weida
- 29 Gene Madeira, Michele Dugan
- 30 Tyler Luckenbill
- 31 Jonathan Hilbert



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:**

**February**

- 1 Evelyn Kistler
- 3 Debra Schaeffer, Pam Kemmerer,  
Kate Swan
- 5 Ronald Reinhard
- 7 Kay Schwalm, Abigail Hilbert
- 8 Gerald Silberman
- 9 Ronald Angstadt
- 10 Michael Merkel
- 12 Phillip Schmoyer
- 14 Ronald Metzger Jr
- 17 Cindy Schaeffer, Judy Daub  
Denise Keim, Leslie Stump
- 20 Erma Gruber
- 21 Greg Stricker
- 22 Benjamin Herman, Louise Moyer
- 23 Wayne Lobb
- 26 Reed Garner
- 27 Jean Follweiler
- 28 Brian Balthaser, Amy Gollatz



## WINTER CANCELLATION POLICY

Church cancelations are communicated in several ways. Please tune into WFMZ TV or check their website at [www.wfmz.com/weather/stormcenter](http://www.wfmz.com/weather/stormcenter) under School and Business Closings, contact the church office at 610-683-3393 to listen to the recorded message, visit our Facebook page, or check your email for e-blasts. Consistory Members are contacted via the phone chain.

**PRAYER LINKS** – There are dedicated prayer people at St. Paul's but in reality everyone at St. Paul's can be a prayer person. Names are supplied at the beginning of each month of those who need special prayers. A word of prayer for them would be greatly appreciated.



---

## RECIPES

### Hunter's Stew – Marcia Keiser

#### Ingredients

1 lb. ham slice  
½ lb. bacon  
1 can white corn  
1 can cut green beans  
1 can mushrooms  
1 can Campbell's Spaghetti  
2 cans diced tomatoes



#### Directions:

- Open all vegetables and **DO NOT DRAIN**.
- Cut ham and bacon into bite size pieces and fry in separate pans
- Combine all vegetables in one "Dutch Oven Pot" and the juice from the vegetables
- Add the fried bacon and ham
- Cook the above slowly for one hour.
- Add Campbells Spaghetti towards the end to heat



---

### Corn Casserole from the Kitchen of "All Recipes"

#### Ingredients

1 can of whole corn (drained)	1 stick of melted butter
1 can of creamed corn	1 Tbsp. of sugar
1 cup sour cream	1 box of Jiffy Corn Mix

#### Directions:

Combine all the ingredients together and mix  
Transfer to a greased 8 x 8 pan  
Bake at 350 degrees for about 45 minutes  
It is done when it is set

# JANUARY 2023

Worship—10:15 AM

Sunday School—9:00 AM Adult SS 8:45 AM

Office/Pastor Hours; Monday 9AM—12 Noon, Tuesday—Thursday 9 AM—1:00 PM  
(Due to church schedule, appointments suggested for Pastor)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Epiphany Communion 3 PM Rejoicing Spirits Service	2	3	4	5 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	6	7 8:30 AM Manna at Grace 9:30 AM Yoga
8	9 6 PM Yoga	10 11 AM Worship Mtg. 6:30 Spiritual Council	11 7 PM Consistory	12 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	13 7:30 PM KFMS Concert Ken Gehret & Henry Koretzky	14 9 AM Prayer Walk 9:30 Yoga
15	16 6 PM Yoga	17 2:15 PM Prayer Links	18 10AM-12 Noon Seniors Young at Heart 2-8:30 PM H & H Quilters	19 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	20	21 9AM—10PM Crafting 9:30 AM Yoga
22	23 6 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Fellowship 7:00 PM Missions 7:00 PM Property	24	25 6:30 PM Women's Guild	26 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	27	28 9:30 AM Yoga
29 Installation of New Consistory Members	30 6 PM Yoga	31				

WORSHIP SCHEDULE	January 1, 2023	January 8, 2023	January 15, 2023	January 22, 2023	January 29, 2023
	1st Sunday after Christmas	1st Sunday after Epiphany	2nd Sunday after Epiphany	3rd Sunday after Epiphany	4th Sunday after Epiphany
	Epiphany Communion	Baptism of Christ			
Daily Devotions	Isaiah 63:7-9	Isaiah 42:1-9	Isaiah 49:1-7	Isaiah 9:1-4	Micah 6:1-8
	Psalms 148	Psalms 29	Psalms 40:1-11	Psalms 27:1, 4-9	Psalms 15
	Matthew 2:13-23	Matthew 3:13-17	John 1:29-42	Matthew 4:12-23	Matthew 5:1-12
Fellowship/Events	Rejoicing Spirits Worship @3:00 PM				Installment of New Consistory
Worship Leaders	Daryn Keim	Rodney Barrell	Carl Mantz/Barbara Merkel	Christine Keim	Donna Sheaffer
Deacons	Barbara Merkel	Brian Unger	Katie Moyer	Barbara Merkel	Brian Unger
	Cindy Swan	Nancy O'Neil	Tom Lenich	Cindy Swan	Nancy O'Neil
	Denise Keim	Ethel DeMatteo-Beck	Sandi Madeira	Denise Keim	Ethel DeMatteo-Beck
Flower Sponsors					
Center	David & June Rung	Dr. Kristen Angstadt			
	In memory of Janet Jepsen	In honor of Erma Angstadt's			
		98th birthday			
Sides	Pastor Kim				
	In honor of birthdays				
	Jane Longazel & Isaac Kline				
Bulletins	Pastor Kim		David & June Rung	Robert & Jane Grim	Brian & Ethel Beck
	In honor of birthdays		Celebrating 19 years of stroke	In memory of her parents	In honor of
	Jane Longazel & Isaac Kline		survival for David		Tyler Luckenbill's 28th
					birthday

# FEBRUARY 2023

Worship—10:15 AM  
 Sunday School—9:00 AM Adult SS 8:45 AM  
 Office/Pastor Hours; Monday 9AM—12 Noon, Tuesday—Thursday 9 AM—1:00 PM  
 (Due to church schedule, appointments suggested for Pastor)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Pastor Sunday 3 PM Rejoicing Spirits Worship	6 6 PM Yoga	7	8 7 PM Consistory	9 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	10 7:30 PM KFMS Con- cert—Hannah Violet	11 9 AM Prayer Walk 9:30 AM Yoga
12	13 6 PM Yoga	14 11 AM Worship Mtg. 7 PM Finance Mtg.	15 PULSE DEADLINE 10AM—NOON — Seniors Young @ Heart 2-8:30 PM H & H Quilt- ers	16 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	17	18 9AM—10 PM Crafting 9:30 Yoga
19 Pocket Flag Project	20 6 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Fellowship 7:00 PM Missions 7:00 PM Property	21 6:30 PM Pastoral Rela- tions	22 7:30 PM Ash Wednes- day Service	23 6:15 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	24	25 9:30 AM Yoga
26 Lenten Communion Fellowship After Worship	27 6 PM Yoga	28 6:30 Personnel Mtg. 7:00 PM Christian Ed				



WORSHIP SCHEDULE	February 5, 2023	February 12, 2023	February 19, 2023	February 22, 2024	February 26, 2023
	5th Sunday after Epiphany	6th Sunday after Epiphany	Transfiguration Sunday	Ash Wednesday	First Sunday in Lent
Daily Devotions				Communion	Lenten Communion
	Isaiah 58:1-9a	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	Exodus 24:12-18	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7
	Psalms 112:1-9	Psalms 119:1-8	Psalms 99	Psalms 51:1-17	Psalms 32
	Matthew 5:13-20	Matthew 5:21-37	Matthew 17:1-9	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	Matthew 4:1-11
Fellowship/Events	Rejoicing Spirits Worship 3 PM		Pocket Flag Project		
Worship Leaders	Brian Unger	Daryn Keim	Rodney Barrell		Ronald Reinhard
Deacons	Tom Lenich	Cindy Swan	Greg Hartman	Tom Lenich	Cindy Swan
	Denise Keim	Ethel DeMatteo-Beck	Sandi Madeira	Denise Keim	Ethel DeMatteo-Beck
	Daryn Keim	Steve Leinbach	Erin Webb	Daryn Keim	Steve Leinbach
Flower Sponsors					
Center					
Sides					
Bulletins			Robert & Jane Grim		
			In memory of Ruth Leestma		



# My Favorite Hymn

## by Judy Heffley

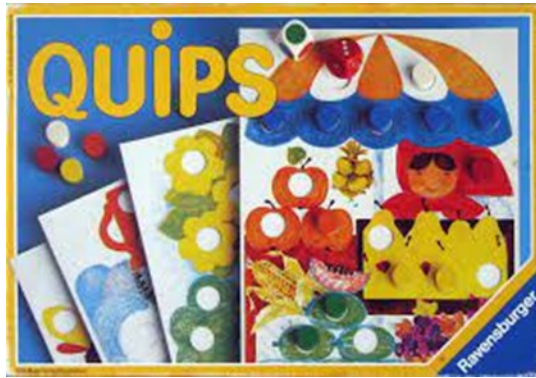
Carl Mantz has many favorite hymns, but two at the top of his list are the “Battle Hymn of the Republic” on page 804 in our hymnal, and “Crown Him with Many Crowns” on page 45. He likes the melody of “Crown Him with Many Crowns” and the patriotism inspired by the “Battle Hymn of the Republic.”

In 1861, during the Civil War, the abolitionist writer Julia Ward Howe visited a Union Army Camp near Washington, D.C. She heard the soldiers singing a tribute to John Brown, who led an insurrection of slaves at Harper's Ferry: "John Brown's Body Lies a-mold'ring in the Grave." The music was inspiring, but Julia's pastor encouraged her to write new and better verses, which she did. When her song was published in 1862, she received a check for five dollars!

The inscription “Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord,” is written at the feet of the sculpture of the fallen soldier at the American Cemetery in Normandy, France. Another interesting fact about this hymn is that it has been played in many movies where patriotic music is required.

I also found it interesting that Carl's second song choice had some of its verses rewritten. The original verses of "Crown Him with Many Crowns" were written by Matthew Bridges who converted to Catholicism. In 1874, Godfrey Thring, an Anglican clergyman, thought that some of the verses smacked too much of Catholic doctrine so he wrote six new verses for the same song. Through the years, various editors have mixed and matched the twelve verses.

Source: Then Sings My Soul by Robert J. Morgan

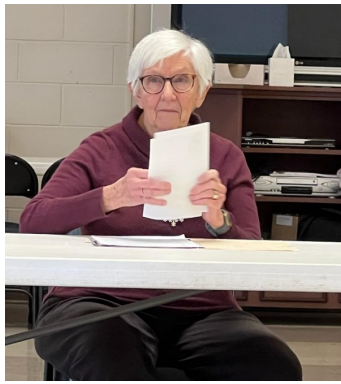


## Colin's Quips

by Colin Heffley

- 1) Why did the Oreo go to the dentist? He lost his filling.
- 2) How does a rabbi make his coffee? Hebrews it.
- 3) What do you call a train carrying bubble gum? A chew-chew train.
- 4) What do you call a parade of rabbits hopping backwards? A receding Hare-line.
- 5) What did the bald man exclaim when he received a comb for a present?  
“Thanks - I’ll never part with it.”
- 6) What did the pirate say when he turned 80? Aye matey.

## YOUNG AT HEART



The November gathering of Young at Heart Seniors featured Patty Beggs sharing ways with us to be kinder to the environment. Patty is a self-confessed “bag lady” because she has 3 plastic bags of varying sizes in her purse at all times so she doesn’t need one when visiting stores. She suggests that we keep reusable shopping bags in our cars so that we get in the habit of using them. Patty shared some shocking statistics about plastics and their impact on the oceans and sea creatures. Plastic straws are especially harmful and can be replaced by reusable stainless-steel versions. Did you know there are reusable cosmetic swabs (Q Tips)?

We can drop off our newspapers -including the shiny ones – to Mennonite collection bins that they use as bedding for animals in their barns. One of Patty’s favorite ecology hacks is using recycled paper wash cloths that can be found at Paisley and Company and at Down to Earth Refillery, a zero-waste store at Renninger’s Antique and Farmer’s Market. There is a place to drop off all kinds of empty cans called Cans for Kids near the Kutztown Public Library. We learned many ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

After our refreshment break, compliments of Sandi and her niece, Leslie we painted river stones for our gardens. Thanks to Barb for organizing that.

Our next gathering will be Wednesday, December 15 when we will be hosting an Old Time Radio Show, facilitated by Jim Gray and starring our very own Young at Heart Seniors.

We are in need of a program idea for January’s gathering. We are looking forward to our February gathering when our guest will be Hallie Vaughan who portrays historic women. Come and join us!

---

## Financial Communications

At the recent Spiritual Council meeting, it was unanimously agreed by the fourteen elders in attendance, that we are not doing enough in keeping our Congregation fully informed as to the financial conditions that effect our monthly operations.

At our yearly Congregational Meeting, we do a fairly good job of detailing our budget plans for the new year, but after that meeting, very little information is communicated to the entire Congregation.

The Spiritual Council is committed to improving our communications starting with our bi-monthly newsletter, The PULSE.

Future issues of The PULSE will detail monthly income, monthly expenses, year to date income, year to date expenses and the “Gap” that needs to be covered by St. Paul’s endowments. This “Gap” can be sizable and adds up during the course of the year. Future issues of The PULSE will also detail the status of St. Paul’s endowments.

Thanks to all for your continued generous support of St. Paul’s in time, talent, and money.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

### "T'WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS"

The Youth of St. Paul's performed "Twas The Night Before Christmas" on December 11, re-enacting the birth of Baby Jesus and reminding people of the true meaning of Christmas this holiday season. The Board of Christian Education also hosted a Fellowship Luncheon and Family Advent Craft Session following the performance. A special thank you to Ashley Stofflet for directing the play, Ethel Beck for coordinating the food, and to all Sunday School teachers and others for pitching in to help organize costumes, props, food, and directing the children to where they needed to be.



### POCKET FLAG PROJECT - FEBRUARY 19 - 10th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Sunday School will be folding Pocket Flags for deploying soldiers on February 19 from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and invite all interested congregation members to join. St. Paul's has been participating in this project since 2014 and this year will mark the 10th anniversary of our participation. We have folded over 2,000 flags! Please plan to join us!





# PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

## Annual Report – December 2022

As stated in the By-Laws, this non-standing committee “seeks to facilitate an open line of communication to address the mutual concerns of the Pastor and the Congregation, and is a place to talk about needs, celebrate successes, solve problems, and work out differences within the framework of confidentiality.”

It is recommended by the UCC Handbook on Pastoral Relations that the committee consist of 3 to 6 members. These are the current members who will stay on through 2023: Kristen Angstadt, Joan Gangewere, Kathy Landis, Tyler Luckenbill, Ron Reinhard, June Rung, and of course, Pastor Kim. Kathy and Kristen serve as co-chairs. All members were suggested by the congregation and/or the Pastor and approved by Consistory.

Here are some of the activities and/or decisions made by the committee during the past year:

1. Discussed joys and concerns in order to encourage the professional growth and well-being of the Pastor and the promotion of mutual ministry between the Pastor and the congregation. Ultimately, the goal is to “enhance the effectiveness of the church mission.”
2. Reviewed Pastor’s performance for her 2021-2022 annual review with feedback from each committee member. Sent feedback of satisfactory performance to Personnel recommending that the Pastor receive her raise according to the Call Agreement. Personnel also recommended the raise to the Consistory, and Consistory approved.
3. Supported Pastor Kim’s plan to attend the following workshops offered by PSEC—Boundary Training-Rest and Renewal; Power and the Office of the Pastor; Pastoral Self-Care. A certain number of Continuing Education courses are required for the Pastor by the Conference.
4. Proposed an addition to the newly revised St. Paul’s By-Laws explaining the selection process for members of the Committee confirming the practice of the past two years.
5. Decided to hold quarterly meetings with opportunity for additional meetings if needed.
6. Since the current members agreed to continue on the Committee for 2023, there was no selection of new members necessary at the 2022 Congregational Meeting.

If anyone in the congregation would like to make a suggestion, or has a concern, please contact the Pastor or any of the Committee members. The goal is to keep mutual communications open so that successes can be celebrated, and needs may be addressed so that we may all be one.

“Catch the Spirit—Embrace the Journey!”

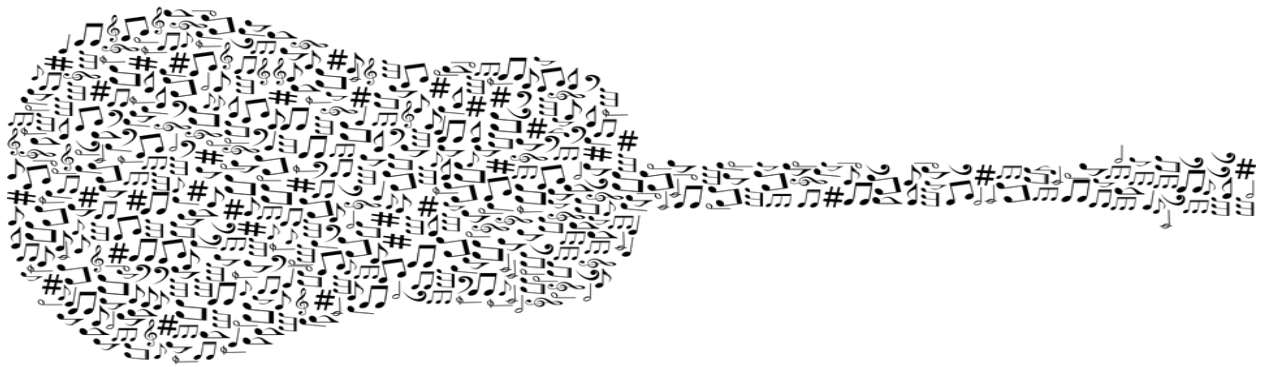
Kathy Landis,

---

## CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

**Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Bazaar a success.**





## **Kutztown Folk Music Society**

### **Second Friday of each month 7:30 PM**

**January Concert: Friday, January 13:**

**Ken Gehret and Henry Koretsky**

**Banjo & Fiddle - Mandolin, Guitar, Vocals**

**February Concert: Friday, February 10:**

**Hannah Violet, Berks Fiddle Contest Judge,**

**Guitar, Fiddle, Vocals**

**\$9.00 - Adults**

**\$7.00 - Seniors (62 and older), Students, and**

**Veterans/Active Duty Military,**

**Free - Children 12 and under**

**St. Paul's UCC**

**47 S. Whiteoak Street Kutztown, PA 19530 -**

**- enter through the back door located on Lambert Alley**

**Call Barb at the church office for more info 610.683.3393**

## Kutztown Folk Music Society Concert

The December installment of the KFMS concert series featured Barby Holder, described as “a sweet songstress on guitar and hammered dulcimer.” She was supposed to appear in last year’s schedule, but she has been battling a health issue - not Covid 19, rather arthritis in her hands.

Did you ever have a day when not a single thing goes your way? We all have, haven’t we? Well, that was Barby’s experience on December 9. She had a terrible cold and as they say, “the show must go on,” so being a professional, Barby took a decongestant and spent the day transposing her music and practicing so that her lowered vocal range would suffice.

Barby is originally from Virginia, spent a lot of time in Florida, and now lives in the Carlisle area. She left in plenty of time to arrive early to Kutztown to tune her hammered dulcimer, which has 46 strings, and each string takes a half minute to tune. Sadly, there was an accident on Route 81 that kept her in one spot for an hour. She called to say she would be late and that she would not have time to tune her dulcimer.

When Barby arrived, she was apologetic, tuned her guitar, and quenched her parched throat with water and began her set. This was her first performance since the quarantine and the audience was grateful that she persevered and drove that distance to be there with us.

Her repertoire was as varied as eagerly anticipated. She started out with “Roll Highway Roll” a great traveling tune, a perfect choice for someone whose highway did not roll along on the voyage away from home but would roll along on her voyage home. Next, she treated us to Phil Ochs’ “Changes,” - again a metaphor for a seasoned performer and audience (of about the same age) navigating age-appropriate life stages.

I must confess, when she mentioned the title of the next piece, I was reminded me of a particular cartoon featuring Bugs Bunny and Daffy Duck. Bugs plays a xylophone Daffy has sabotaged and Bugs plays all the right notes, except the sabotaged one. The wrong note drives Daffy, well, it drives him batty, so he plays the correct note and is thwarted by his own device. The tune is also the one used by East Stroudsburg University as their Alma Mater.

I was relieved when Barby shared the origin of this song. The poem was written by the Irish poet, Thomas Moore whose wife had a disfiguring illness and worried that he would no longer love her. The poem assures her of his love yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Staying with the Celtic tradition, Barby then regaled us with one of my all-time favorites “Wild Mountain Time.”

The next tune was played by request - Gordon Lightfoot’s moving “The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald.” On a chilly night, in a quiet sanctuary, we are reminded of the winter weather we are about to bear the brunt of.

I had not heard the next selection before, a somber song about a man who broke his true love’s heart “After the Ball was Over” due his temperamental and jealous misunderstanding of a kiss between a brother and his sister.

The next piece was a very old folk song by Will Millar, “Farewell to the Life of the Rover.” Here is the thought-provoking chorus: “Farewell to the tent and the old caravan, to the tinker, the gipsy (sic), the travelling man, farewell to the life of the rover.” I admit I thought about the life of folk musicians who have played in venues all over and didn’t always have the best accommodations, as well as the Romany people, who have historically been the subject of scorn and persecution.

Barby’s next selection was Dolly Parton’s “In my Tennessee Mountain Home,” a beautiful and detailed portrait that transported us to a place where “life is as peaceful as a baby’s sigh.” I suspect we all felt the pull of home with all of its sights, sounds, and smells.

Barby ended with her rendition of “Amazing Grace” to a different tune. Grace was abundant that evening. The grace of someone who should have been home in bed gathering herself up and trekking to Berks County from halfway across the state. The grace of an audience eagerly awaiting a talented “sweet songstress.” And the grace of God presence with each of us – always.

In January we will be hosting the incredible and multi-instrumental Ken Gehret, who has played with Roy Clark and has been featured with Jim and Jesse and the Virgia Boys at the Grand Ole Opry. Ken is teamed with Henry Koretzky. In February we will be hosting the lovely and talented Hannah Violet in a solo performance of guitar, fiddle, and beautiful vocals.



# Rejoicing Spirits

You are invited to join us for the Rejoicing Spirits worship service at 3:00 pm on January 1, 2023! Pastor Kim will deliver the Epiphany message using a flannel board. Rejoicers will lead the processional carrying banners, a cross, and the Bible to the altar. All participants receive musical instruments to play throughout the service and songs of joy fill the sanctuary. A time of fellowship follows the service. Please consider joining us for this “no shush” service and experience the joy of the season.

---

## Grace Notes Gospel Big Band



We were happy and honored to have The Grace Notes Gospel Big Band bring their excellent musicians and vocalists back to our beautifully decorated sanctuary for the second time on Saturday, December 10. They have been performing together for 23 years.

Everyone was singing along and tapping their toes as they were immersed in holiday spirit. We heard many Christmas favorites with the Grace Notes' own special twist.

The Worship Committee had originally contacted them to arrange the Thursday, June 15, 2023, 7:00 PM concert at the Kutztown Park bandshell and they suggested they also visit us again for Christmas! I have a feeling these will be annual events.

Special thanks to those who planned the concert and those who set up for the concert and then put everything back in place for Sunday worship.



# **ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

47 South Whiteoak Street  
Kutztown, PA 19530-1621

*Address Service Requested*

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Kutztown, PA  
Permit No. 30

*Sent With A Prayer To:*

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS JANUARY**

**JANUARY 1ST, 2023  
EPIPHANY COMMUNION**

**FIRST & THIRD TUESDAY  
BIBLE STUDY—7PM**

**JANUARY 8TH  
UNDECORATE SANCTUARY  
AFTER WORSHIP**

**JANUARY 14TH  
PRAYER WALK 9AM**

**JANUARY 18TH  
YOUNG AT HEART - 10AM TO NOON**

**JANUARY 29TH  
INSTALLATION OF NEW CONSISTORY  
MEMBERS**

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FEBRUARY**

**FEBRUARY 5TH  
REJOICING SPIRITS—3PM**

**FIRST & THIRD TUESDAY  
BIBLE STUDY—7PM**

**FEBRUARY 11TH  
PRAYER WALK 9AM**

**FEBRUARY 15TH  
YOUNG AT HEART –10AM TO NOON**

**FEBRUARY 19TH  
POCKET FLAG PROJECT—9AM**

**FEBRUARY 22ND  
ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE—7:30PM**

**FEBRUARY 26TH  
LENTEN COMMUNION  
FELLOWSHIP HOUR AFTER WORSHIP**