

## **The Breeze**

*Dryland United Church of Christ*

**Volume XXXV**

**Issue 5**

**MAY 2025**

**A Publication of Dryland U.C.C. To keep our members and friends informed of our programs, opportunities, and events.**

**Dryland United Church of Christ 4415 Newburg Road,  
Nazareth, PA 18064 610-759-4444**



### **May 4 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Easter**

Worship service at 8:00 & 9:30 am  
Sunday School 9:30 am  
Holy Communion  
Birthday Sunday

### **May 11 – Mother's Day**

Worship service at 9:30 am  
Sunday School 9:30 am  
Service of Farewell

### **May 18 - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter**

Worship service at 9:30 am  
Sunday School 9:30 am  
Guest Pastor – Rev. Ernest Diefenderfer

### **May 25 - Memorial Day Sunday**

Worship service at 9:30 am  
Sunday School 9:30 am  
Guest Pastor – Rev. Darlene Blocker



Honor her today!  
May 11, 2025



Honor those who serve  
May 17, 2025



May 26, 2025

Grace and Peace Beloved,

There is much change in our world. Change, whether by death of a loved one, change in leadership, or departure from the way things were, comes with uncertainty and is not often welcomed. In recent months, changes at the federal level have impacted lives and livelihoods both at local and global scales. In the life of the Church calendar, this time marks the major spiritual revolution that resulted from Jesus serving as ransom for our salvation through His crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension.

The Way of Jesus lives on through the people who follow, serve, and adore Him in spirit and truth. We saw this in the women who first witnessed that the tomb was empty that Resurrection Sunday and was demonstrated by the Apostles and disciples up through to the present time. We carry forward the mandate to love God and neighbor as ourselves, teaching all that Jesus commands, baptizing people, and making disciples.

The day after Easter Sunday, Pope John Francis drew his last breath on this earth and died. The work he carried forth to the world shines like a beacon, a city on the hill. His leadership pointed to Jesus, always reminding people and the church of every age that Jesus has a mandate and an action plan for all people. We can better be guided by the Beatitudes of Jesus in Matthew chapter 5. These are attitudes for living in God's light, ways that care for the vulnerable and our relationship with God.

The Gospel of Matthew provides a plan of action and a path for fruitful and meaningful living that honors God. In these instructions, Jesus teaches us to be humble peacemakers, to shine the light of good works that people may see and give glory to God. Jesus reminds us to feed those who hunger, give drink to those who thirst, provide for those in need, and visit with those imprisoned, orphaned, widowed, or sick. Jesus declares in so doing, we do this to Him. (Chapters 5, 23, and 25)

Though my journey as your pastor is drawing to a close, I will cherish the relationships built during my walk with you. I have done my best, with the help of God, to cultivate a pastoral love for you all. I pray that you have more lasting memories of learning and joy, than trauma and misgivings. I pray that anyone who may have needed more or needed a different approach from me, will be able to find peace and offer grace and forgiveness.

We have endured, adapted and survived the unprecedented changes pushed upon us throughout the COVID pandemic. There are more challenges before you as a congregation. One such reality is that an increasing number among the younger generations are exploring approaches to church and spirituality that are different than the time-honored rituals and ways of worship that have served the current and past generations.

Though the world and the interests of people continue to change, the love and promises of our Savior, Jesus remain constant and everlasting. Do not be dismayed. You are not walking in isolation. You also have dedicated leadership who is diligently exploring ways to further adapt to revive outreach to the generations who've lost trust and interest in religious institutions.

Dryland's leadership is engaging consultation and conference support to help more people experience the connection to and love of God. May your light continue to reflect Christ, point people to Christ, and help people feel like they belong in Christ Jesus. Because He lives, we have the hope of new life and better tomorrows.

He is Risen! *Pastor Edward*



**Janet Day** – 1/29/35,  
Fellowship Community, Room 271, Terrace  
3000 Community Drive, Whitehall, PA 18052  
**Gloria Decker** - 9/11/37  
Gracedale, T9  
2 Gracedale Ave., Nazareth, PA 18064  
**Doris Keller** – 9/13/34  
Atria Senior Living, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room 323  
1745 W. Macada Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017

**Thought of the Month**  
**A cheerful look brings joy to the heart, and good news gives health to the bones!**



**Prayer Concerns & Joys:** Family of Ron Weidner, Bob Beahm, Betsy Coladonato, Dan Cruttenden, Janet Day, Gloria Decker, Richard Edging, Ethel Okker, Kathy Peters, Phoebe Rissmiller, Audrey, Kelly

**Long-term Prayer Concerns:** David Atwood, Karen Brugger, Brent Burton, Richard Creyer, Cory Cruttenden, Debbie Coppola, Joann Dornblaser, Deby Duby, Shawn Durn, Jerry Enderle, Peter Garcia, Charlie Gianguzi, Roseann Good, Dolores Hageter, Kevin Hann, Jessica Harper, Monna Lou Henninger, Ray Hess, Joyce Hittinger, Francois Houlet, Dorothy Johnson, Doris Keller, Tammy LaBar, Sonny Laubach, Shirley Lieberman, Stephanie Lilly, Debbie Luckenbach, Cade Lutz, Peter Marmaras, Rodger McKay, Luther Mitman, Robert Nagy, Melissa Pelaez, Grayce, Jakob & Ken Raven, Sharon & Jim Rehrig, Chris Shetlick, Maurice, Gillian & Genine Sloane, Cathy Stewart, Angela Tout, Jorn Walter, Sandy Wambold, Patty Weidner, Charissa & Jason Williams, Carter Wolfgang, Grandpa Yin, All members of Dryland.

**Our Service People:** Chief MSG Thomas Bostian, SRA Patrick Jones, Major Scott Lechner, MSGT Paul Moore, PO1 Rodger Nagy, LT Seth Watlington, PO3 Troy Watlington

**CELEBRATING  
OUR  
MEMBERS**

**MEMBERS OF THE MONTH**  
**MARK & LINDA ATWOOD**

We want to honor them for all the work they do behind the scenes for Dryland. Mark helps with the Boy Scouts with many projects, Linda helps every Sunday with keeping us up on the announcements. This hard work is much appreciated.

**It is great people like these that keep Dryland a great family!**  
**Nominated by Kathy I. Peters, Editor**



Our sincere condolences to the family of Ron Weidner whose mother, Shirley, passed away on April 17. Please know that she is now at peace with our Father in Heaven.



You can become a sponsor of the Bulletin – in honor or memorial of a loved one! The cost of the Bulletin is **\$12.00**. This will help with the cost of the paper and ink. Thank you in advance.

## Mark Your Calendar

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

Thurs 5/1: National Prayer Day  
 Sun 5/11: Mother's Day  
 Sat 5/17: Dryland "Diner" Dinner Buffet  
 Tues 5/20: Election Day Bake Sale  
 Fri 5/23: Pastor Ed's Birthday  
 Sun 5/25: Geranium Orders Due  
 Thurs 5/29: Ascension Day

## MAY 20, ELECTION DAY

### BAKERS NEEDED!

**will need baked goods to sell  
 and people to help at the table.**



5 Heather Koch Brown  
 8 Kristen Wenrich  
 11 Mark Hamilton  
 12 Brent Burton  
 13 Silas Teitsworth  
 14 Brandon Werkheiser  
 16 Amie Federico  
 17 Debbie Koch  
 23 Rev. Edward Livingston, Charles Moser  
 26 Emma Davis, Allen Singer  
 27 Jean Erceg  
 28 Julie Hamilton  
 29 Everly Francavilla  
 31 Lynn Johnson



7	Mr. & Mrs. Frank Erceg	42 years
	Mr. & Mrs. Mark Hamilton	31 years
15	Mr. & Mrs. Grant Hittinger	26 years
20	Mr. & Mrs. Brent Burton	25 years
31	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Jones	28 years
	Mr. & Mrs. Sam Yoder	17 years



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, PASTOR EDWARD  
 MAY 23, 2025**



Our Christian Education Class makes up the first ever, Dryland Prayer Chain Gang---we have been learning how to pray---we focus on thanking God and asking him to keep certain people safe. Additionally, our study of the 10 Commandments will continue to the end of the Sunday School Year. Please continue helping us build our prayer chain ....our goal is to have it wrap around our Sunday School classroom. The photo shows a close up of the chain.

In Christian Love,

*Alison*



**DRYLAND PRAYER CHAIN - GANG**

## CONSISTORY 2025

### **Officers**

President – Dan Cruttenden (E)  
Vice President – Alison Rothrock (E)  
Secretary – Shanna Dawson  
Treasurer – Dewayne Heller (E)

Shanna Dawson: sldawson@ptd.net  
Dan Cruttenden: dcrutt@rcn.com  
Dewayne Heller: thdmav@msn.com  
Alan Peters: ajpsu534@gmail.com  
Alison Rothrock: alisonrothrock34@gmail.com  
Deb Watlington: watlington.deborah@gmail.com  
Ron Weidner: ronweid@aol.com

### DRYLAND STAFF

Rev. Edward Livingston  
Cell Phone: 267-707-2402  
Email: drylandpastor@gmail.com

Brooke Schaller, Church Secretary  
Kathy I. Peters, Breeze Editor  
Susan Bostian, Director of Music  
Dewayne Heller, Treasurer  
Craig Johnson, Assistant Treasurer  
Dan Cruttenden, President of Consistory  
Jerry Hittinger, Financial Secretary  
Connie Ashenfalder, Sexton  
**Church phone 610-759-4444**  
**Breeze e-mail:** [Kdrybreezekip@gmail.com](mailto:Kdrybreezekip@gmail.com)  
**Church e-mail address:** [drylandoffice@rcn.com](mailto:drylandoffice@rcn.com)  
**Website:** [www.drylanducc.org](http://www.drylanducc.org)



He is Risen!

Blessings and Happy Easter to all! I Hope this issue of the Dryland Breeze finds everyone happy and healthy for this joyous of occasions!

The consistory continues to work hard to make Dryland a wonderful community church and a place to belong. I must say, we have a very strong consistory and working with them is a pleasure.

We've been very blessed to receive continued financial support from the groups that use our facility. We recently received a very large thank you donation of \$2,000 for the appreciation of being able to use this facility. Dryland is very appreciative and thankful.

The penny party that occurred on April 12th was very successful! The effort and work that Rich and Karen (and their kitchen group) put into this event is very much appreciated. The financial support provided by these events, initiated by the kitchen group, is paramount to keeping Dryland sustainable. We can't begin to thank them enough.

We now have a locked dumpster on our property. Due to inappropriate use of this dumpster by others, not associated with the church, made it necessary to now keep it locked. The key is only accessible to groups that have a key to the church.

Thank you to Linda and Mark Atwood for showing the Ragamuffin movie. It was enjoyed by all attendees. Hopefully, we will be able to initiate other 5th Sunday activities.

As we all know, Pastor Ed will be working with us to transition our church to a halftime pastor. On April 21st consistory & Spiritual Council will meet with Dr. Bonnie Bates from the Penn Northeast conference to initiate this transition and give us direction. As we move forward, we will pass on information to the congregation regarding the process and progress of this transition.

Election day is Tuesday May 20th. We are hoping to hold another bake sale at our Church. We need volunteers to help bake as well as work at the table selling items. Please notify the Church office if you are able to bake something for this event.

Our sexton, Connie, will be leaving and moving to North Carolina at the end of the summer. If you know of anyone that might be interested in the job, please let us know. She will be sorely missed and has done a terrific job keeping our facility clean and inviting.

Dryland is about to embark on a new phase and transition for our pastoral care. Please keep the church in your prayers and we look forward to growing and making Dryland "A Place to Belong".

In Christian Love,

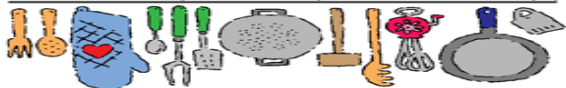
*Dan Cruttenden*, Consistory President

### CHURCH SERVICE/PROGRAM COMMITTEE

While Pastor Edward is on vacation, we will have supply ministers to conduct our services. The services will be conducted by them and there will be only one service at 9:30 am on those dates. Reverend Ernest Diefenderfer will be conducting the services on May 18 and June 1. Reverend Darlene Blocker will conduct services on May 25 and June 8. As always, the choir will happily accept anyone who wishes to share the joy of enhancing are services through song.

**Alan Peters, Chairman**

### FROM THE KITCHEN COMMITTEE



To order pies/meals/make reservations, contact: RICH 484-894-9799, KAREN 610-504-1158, or CHURCH OFFICE 610-759-4444



### **Dryland "Diner" Dinner Buffet** **Saturday, May 17th 4:00-7:00pm**

\$15 per person~Menu includes: Baked Chicken Breast, Roasted Pork, Fresh Fish, Ham Balls, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Vegetable, Mac & Cheese, Salad, Desserts, Fresh Baked Rolls with Cinnamon Butter and Beverages

Reservations Preferred!!



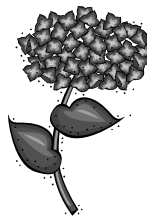
### **Roast Beef Dinner ~ to-go!**

**Saturday June 14th**

**Pick-up: 11am-2pm**

Order by: **Sunday June 8th**

Menu includes: Spinach Salad with Craisins & homemade dressing, tender Roast Beef and Mashed Potatoes with Beef Gravy, Glazed Carrots, Dinner Rolls, and a slice of Carrot Cake



## **2025 Geranium Plants for Pentecost**

You may sponsor geraniums to beautify the Sanctuary for Pentecost Sunday. The cost is **\$5.00** per plant and the **LAST DAY TO ORDER IS SUNDAY, May 25. NO ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DAY.** Please pick up your plants following the 9:30 a.m. worship service on June 8, 2025.

(Please print clearly)

Name

Phone #

TOTAL NUMBER OF PLANTS YOU WISH TO ORDER?

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$

(please make checks payable to Dryland UCC)

IN HONOR OF

IN MEMORY OF

\*\*Sorry, no deliveries.



### **Homemade Strawberry Pie Sale - \$15 per pie**

Pick-up: Saturday June 21 ~ 9am-2pm

Order by: *Sunday June 15*

We Appreciate and Thank each of you for your generosity no matter the size to assure the church remains part of the community and part of your life. There is plenty of work to accomplish, so do not feel bashful to pitch in. We do so by **Faith** and **LOVE** for one another!

**Dryland United Church of Christ --- A Place To Belong! - Relationship with Christ !!**

Blessings

Finance Committee --- Pastor Ed, Jerry Hittinger, Deb Watlington, Monna Lou Henninger, Karen Lambert, Alison Rothrock, Hugh Harris, Craig Johnson, Dan Cruttenden, Dewayne Heller