

CHALFONT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
11 Meadowbrook Lane
Chalfont, Pennsylvania 18914-2810
(215) 822-2807

Web Page: www.chalfontumc.org

STAFF DIRECTORY

REV. BARBARA SEEKFORD Pastor
REV. KENNETH L. BEALE, SR. Pastoral Care Minister
REV. ERIN MAURER Deacon, Worship Leader
CRIS FRISCO Director of Music
PATRICIA L. KERR Administrative Assistant

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
DOYLESTOWN, PA
PERMIT no. 107

Address Service Requested

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL, DO NOT HOLD



The Messenger

Chalfont United Methodist Church * 11 Meadowbrook Lane, Chalfont, PA 18914-2810
Phone: (215) 822-2807 * e mail: office@chalfontumc.org

Summer 2014

Chalfont UMC Launching Groundbreaking Bible Reading Campaign

Joining Thousands Nationwide Participating in The Story

The Bible is central to our faith but many people are intimidated by its scope and size. The Story gives us a way to journey from Genesis to Revelation together in 31 weeks so everyone understands God's story and how their story intersects with it.

The Bible is the best-selling book in history, but how many people are actually reading it? A Gallup survey reports the average American household has four Bibles. However, research by Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life (2008) found that only 16 percent of Americans read the Bible every day.

Here at Chalfont UMC we are hoping to reverse this trend, starting with our own congregation. I believe that The Story, a Zondervan best-seller, is the right tool to increase Biblical literacy, helping readers understand God's story from Genesis to Revelation and how their own stories intersect with God's. Consisting of 31 chapters of carefully-selected scriptures sequenced in chronological order, The Story presents the word of God in an engaging format, reading like a novel.

"We want the people in this congregation, as well as our surrounding community, to realize the incredible love God has for them and how their story is found in His story."

The Story Church Campaign is a unique program providing up to 31 weeks of curriculum for all ages – from toddlers, children, teen and adult Sunday school, small group studies and 31 weeks of corresponding sermons. When accompanied by reading through the five age-related books (*The Story, The Story: Teen Edition, The Story for Kids, The Story for Children, and The Story for Little Ones*), the entire church can be literally on the same page for 31 weeks. Chalfont UMC plans to begin the experience on Sunday September 7, 2014.

With thousands of participating churches nationwide, The Story is becoming a movement that is bringing wide-ranging benefits to local churches. Many have reported increased community outreach, increased Biblical literacy, congregational growth and a greater understanding of how God's story reveals the reasons for the things that happen in man's story.

More information will follow but we hope you will mark your calendars now and begin to think about friends and family that you would like to invite to join you on this spiritual journey. Sunday services are 9:30 and 11:00 and a children's Christian education program is offered at each service.

Right now we are looking for volunteers that would meet over the summer to help us with the implementation and organization process. If you'd like to be part of the "Story" team as we embark on this exciting journey please contact *Pastor Barb* (bjseekford@gmail.com, 610.310.8349).

For more information, visit www.thestory.com. © 2013 -Zondervan - is the world's leading Christian publisher of books whose authors are noted for their excellence in the craft of writing as well as their worthy contribution to the ongoing global evangelical conversation. Headquartered in Grand Rapids, Mich., Zondervan publishes bestselling books, audio, video, curriculum, software, and digital products in such categories as biblical languages and studies, biography, business, contemporary issues, counseling, cultural, devotional, evangelism, family, fiction, history, inspiration, leadership, ministry, pastoral, personal development, prayer, philosophy, reference, relationships, textbooks, theology, youth and more. Zondervan resources are sold worldwide through retail stores, online, and by Zondervan ChurchSource, and are translated into nearly 200 languages in more than 60 countries. Visit Zondervan Books on the Internet at www.zondervan.com/books.

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, June 25

(Blood Drive - 2:00 to 7:00 pm)

Sunday, June 29

(last Sunday in Sanctuary for 9:30 am service)

Sunday, July 6

(first Sunday in air conditioned FLC for 9:30 am service)

Saturday, July 12

(Helping Habitat for Humanity build - 8:15am to 4:00pm)

Sunday, July 13

(Graduate Recognition Sunday)

August 10, 11, 12

(Evening Bible School for children)

Saturday, August 16

(Leadership Planning Workshop)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

SON TREASURE ISLAND

AUGUST 10, 11, 12

6:00 to 8:30 pm

to learn about the greatest treasure...

God's Love.

*More information will follow in the Sunday Bulletins/
or by calling the office at (215) 822-2807.*

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Congratulations: to Loni Gadaleta and Ryan Pulli on the occasion of their wedding, May 31 at CUMC. She is the daughter of Sue Gadeleta.

Congratulations: to Bill Kokemor and Anne Harrington on their engagement. Bill is the son of Helen and Bill Kokemor.

Congratulations: to Adele Schied and Tom Garin on the occasion of their wedding on May 3. Their new address is: *3408 Brittany Pointe, Lansdale, PA 19446*.

Congratulations: to Tiffany Kerr and Jeff Monaco on their engagement. Tiffany is the daughter of Alan and Pat Kerr.

Baptism: On April 13 Emily Fochtman and Justin Fochtman were baptised. Their parents are Curtis & Barbara Fochtman.

THANK YOU

Thank you from a Women's Place for your donation of \$60.00.

Thank you from Red Bird Mission for providing us with your Campbell UPC's. Your support allows us to witness to Christ's love for all - as we serve the needs of the people in the Red Bird Valley..

Thank you from the Food Larder for your generous donation of \$200.00 and 15 bags of groceries. We are deeply grateful to you for your support in serving the people who depend on the food larder for assistance.

Also thank you to Eric Jensen and Jason Hamer for bringing back 900 pounds of potatoes from the Annual Conference (*via the United Methodist Men*) for the Food Larder.

Thank you from Doylestown area FISH for the donation of \$347.00, which will help ensure that FISH will be able to respond to the next caller seeking emergency assistance. Such as: the mother whose food stamps ran out; the man and his children about to be evicted or the policeman seeking a room for a woman wandering along a rural road.

On behalf of Boy Scout Troop 133 I would like to offer heartfelt thanks along with a donation of \$400.00 for allowing us the use of your facilities for our Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser on March 8. As you know this is our premier way of financially supporting a quality program for the scouts, and we couldn't do it without you. *Lisa Baxter, treasurer*

Thank you from the Rescue Mission of Trenton for the

donation of over 600 pounds of clothing from your Rummage Sale. It will go directly to those in need. Donations are distributed free of charge to clients in our emergency shelter, or to anyone who cannot afford to pay. The clothes are also resold in our Mission Thrift Store, which is one of the largest retail outlets in the City of Trenton. What we can't sell or reuse is sold in bulk with proceeds going to our social service program.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The ladies of the UMW have been busy since January. Our "church made" *Chicken soup sale was held on February 24th, 2014, with a profit of \$475.75.*

On March 29th, 2014, our Rummage Sale was held. *With lots of help, we had a successful sale with a profit of \$1,719.82.* Thank you for donations, help setting up, cleaning up after the sale, and purchasing gently used items to help raise money to support our mission work.

The 13th Community Tea was held on May 10th, 2014 with a theme of "Springtime in Paris." We had a total of 137 women attending the two seating. The decorations were outstanding, the scones melted in your mouth, and the sandwiches and desserts were delicious. *We were able to profit \$1,856.40 from the tea.* We thank everyone who supported us and helped make the tea a success.

On June 17, 2014, the UMW will be going to the Plumsteadville Inn for dinner. This will be our last meeting until September 20th, when we will start up again in the fall. Hope to see you at the dinner.

Starting again on September 20th, 2014, will be our monthly meeting, starting at 9:00 with a brunch followed with our meeting and program. We are looking for new members with some new ideas. Please plan to join us and share your thoughts and ideas with us.

Ladies Night Out and Silent Auction

On Friday, October 10th 2014, we will be holding our "Ladies Night Out Dinner and Silent Auction." We are already collecting items for the Silent Auction. We are looking for people to donate their talent, make a contribution for the auction, or if you know a business who would like to donate, *please see Gail Schnell, Judy Vandegrift or Dawn Morris.*

GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Sunday, July 13th we would like to acknowledge our Graduates for 2014. Please supply the office with the student's name, school they graduated from and if going to college, where they will be attending or degree they attained.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ at CUMC.

Thank you for your prayers Sunday morning to prepare us for our next adventure in New York State. *Your laying of hands was very comforting in this time of preparing to say goodbye to so many friends with whom we have worked in God's mission field here in Chalfont and beyond.*

Thank you for the reception between services and the lovely flowers. *It is always good to have time to converse with Christian friends in God's house. The cake was delicious; we have been enjoying the extras this week. I arranged the flowers in the only vase we had not packed already.*

We expect to be worshipping with you for the next 2 Sundays before we sell our Pennsylvania home of 24 years on June 27th. Then we travel to "home" to New York State to purchase a house at 32 Wertman Lane, Loudonville, NY 12211 about 5 minutes from my mother's home and an hour or so from Eric's brother and sister.

We will cherish memories of our lives here among our friends at Chalfont United Methodist Church and hope to make a few new ones whenever we are able to visit this area again. *Always, Joan & Eric Jensen*

CONFIRMATION CLASSES IN FALL

Attention all students in grades 7-12- confirmation classes will be held this fall at Chalfont UMC. Confirmation Sunday is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 23, 2014. If you are interested in being part of the class (or want to know what confirmation is (!) - *please contact Pastor Barb (bjseekford@gmail.com, 610.310.8349) for more information!*

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Thanks to all who tried valiantly with their tomato, pepper or eggplant seeds in peat pots in April and May: Kathy, Karen, the Hamer Family, Ubsie, Betty and Cassel, Greta, Noah and Joshua, Samantha, Bill, Dave and Joan.

These volunteers raised \$25.00 for the Community Garden Fund. The contributions helped pay for 30 new tomato cages.

PRAYER GROUP

Do you have 45 minutes in the morning, twice a month, to make a difference? The Prayer Group would love to have more people join them on the 2nd & 4th Thursday at 10:15am in the library. We are a casual gathering of people who come together to raise the names of people on our prayer list to the Lord and put a voice to concerns.

TRUSTEE WORKDAY

The Trustees would like to thank everyone who came out and helped work on several projects around the property. New LED lighting was installed on the sanctuary cross replacing the intermittent florescent tube lighting, the parking lot cracks were cleaned of weeds for patching, and a downed pine tree behind the vegetable garden was cut and hauled away.

CALENDAR

6/25 - Red Cross Blood Drive (*from 2:00 to 7:00 pm*)

6/29 - Last Sunday for 9:30 service in the sanctuary

7/6 - First Sunday for 9:30 service in the air-conditioned Family Life Center.

7/12 - Helping build with Habitat for Humanity (*8:15 am to 4:00 pm*)

7/14-18; 7/28-8/1; 8/4-8 - Theater Group Rental, FLC

August 10, 11, 12 - Evening Bible School (*6:00 to 8:30pm*)

8/16 - Leadership Planning Workshop (*9:00 am to 12:00*)

CHALFONT IS BUILDING WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY!

On Saturday July 12 we are teaming up with Habitat for Humanity to work on "The House that Faith Built." "The House that Faith Built" is one of a 10 town home development called Penn Villa in Sellersville. Ground breaking for the house took place last year on August 6, 2013. Since that time churches and synagogues and other members of the faith community have been joining together to get the house built.

July 12 is Chalfont's turn to help at the work site. Come join us we need 5 volunteers! No experience is necessary. They will find something for all skill levels to do! The day starts at 8:15 and finishes at 4:00 pm.

The sight we will be working on is located at Diamond Street and Loux Lane in Sellersville. *Please contact Pastor Barb (bjseekford@gmail.com, 610.310.8349) or the church office (215.822.2807 or office@chalfontumc.org) if you are interested in helping for the day.* Please - check with the church office to make sure you are on the list if you had previously expressed an interest!

LEADERSHIP PLANNING WORKSHOP

On Saturday August 16, 2014 a leadership planning workshop/meeting is being held from 9 - 12. We are asking all committee members and staff to attend. We will be reviewing the goals we had set for 2014. We will also be doing some strategic planning as we look ahead to 2015 and get ready for our annual Charge Conference. Coffee will be ready when you get here! Please let Pastor Barb know if you will be attending (*bjseekford@gmail.com or 610.310.8349*).

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

For those interested in giving our teachers a summer break (helping teach a Sunday during the summer) the sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board in the toddler nursery