

WELCOME in the NAME OF JESUS
St. Peter's Lischey's UCC
www.lischeysucc.org (717) 225-3932
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 13, 2026
10:30 AM (In the Sanctuary & via YouTube)

Welcome and Gathering Songs- Sharon Winter

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude: "Trust and Obey"

Landon

Call to Worship

L: Come into the presence of God, the gardener of our souls, who lovingly plants, tends, and nourishes us.

P: We come with open hearts, ready to grow in faith and in love.

L: Jesus calls us to abide in him, as branches remain connected to the vine.

P: Help us remain rooted in Christ, drawing our strength and life from him.

L: God patiently tends us, pruning away what keeps us from growing and making room for new life.

P: Shape us, Lord, and help us bear fruit that reflects your love.

L: Come, let us worship the One who gives us life, sustains our growth, and calls us to bear fruit.

ALL: We come to worship God, to abide in Christ, and to grow together in faith, hope, and love. Amen.

*Hymn: "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" – Red Hymnal #20

Genevan Psalter

Prayer of Confession:

L: Let us pray. Loving God, you are the gardener who patiently tends to us, giving us what we need to grow. Yet too often, we try to grow on our own. Let us confess the ways we have become disconnected from you and from the life you desire for us.

All: Loving God, forgive us when we try to live by our own strength rather than relying on you. Forgive us when worry, busyness, pride, and fear take root in our lives and keep us from growing in faith. Forgive us when we resist the changes you are calling us to make and cling to what is comfortable instead of trusting you. Tend to our hearts, O God. Prune away what keeps us from you, strengthen what is weak, and help us remain rooted in Christ. May our lives bear the fruit of your love, kindness, patience, and grace. We place ourselves in your hands and trust in your mercy. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

L: Hear the good news: God does not give up on us. Like a gardener who patiently tends a garden, God continues to nurture, restore, and bring new life. Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new. Abide in Christ, trusting in his grace and love. Go forward knowing that God's mercy is greater than our failures, and God's love will never let us go. In Christ, we are forgiven.

Children's Message- Melisa Altland

Sanctuary Choir: "God is So Good"

Wagner

Scripture: John 15:1-8

Michele Hamme

Message: Lessons from the Garden

Rev. Sue Schmidt

Hymn: "Fruitful Branches" text by Eliza E. Hewitt (Sung to the tune of *Like a River Glorious*
- Red Hymnal #494)

Zundel

1 Are we fruitful branches
Of the living Vine?
Does his life flow freely
Into yours and mine?
Are we growing daily
In his blessed grace,
Bearing precious clusters,
Love, and joy, and peace.

Chorus:
Make us yours, dear Saviour,
Now and ever thine;
True and fruitful branches
Of the living Vine.

3 Rooted in the Saviour,
Growing in his love,
Lifting holy longings
To the light above;
Watered by his Spirit
We shall fruitful be,
Christ his life will give us
More abundantly.

Chorus:
Make us yours, dear Saviour,
Now and ever thine;
True and fruitful branches
Of the living Vine.

Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Praise Booklet, p. 4)

Announcements, Joys, and Prayer Concerns

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer (Praise Booklet, p. 4)

*Closing Hymn: "Revive Us Again" - Red Hymnal #295

Husband

*Benediction

*Postlude: "Who is on the Lord's Side?"

Hughes

**Members should rise if able.*

Weekly Announcements, Updates, and Concerns September 13, 2026

Visitors...

Thank you for joining us today. We are happy to have you here. Please sign the guestbook located at the bell tower. Since you may be unfamiliar with us, here are some housekeeping items to help you find your way around:

- Restrooms are located in the overflow room, in the new section by the office, and down the stairs from the new section.
- Brown offering envelopes are located in the pew backs and also on the cart by the bulletins. The offering plates are located on the cart, and at the belltower and middle entrances.

Welcome & Thanks to Our Guest Pastor...

We are delighted to welcome **Rev. Susan Schmidt** to St. Peter's Lischey's Church today. We are grateful for her willingness to share her time, gifts, and leadership with our congregation, and we thank her for joining us in worship. Rev. Schmidt has devoted many years to pastoral ministry. She and her husband, Dan, began their ministry together by starting a church in Maryland in the 1980s. They later served expatriate congregations in Costa Rica and Chile before returning to the United States. In 2020, Sue was called to serve as pastor of Salem United Church of Christ in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, where she ministered faithfully until her retirement this past May. Sue and Dan are blessed with three grown daughters and six grandchildren. In their free time, they enjoy kayaking, traveling, and tackling home improvement projects. Sue also enjoys quilting and gardening. We are honored to have Rev. Schmidt with us today and pray God's blessings on her as she shares His Word with us.

Altar Flowers...

Today's altar flowers are given in honor of **Kari & Cody Kauffman** and **Bud & Michele Hamme** in grateful recognition of their dedication and passion for Christian education. Through their faithful service, love, and commitment to teaching God's Word, they make a lasting impact on the lives of our young children, helping them grow in faith and knowledge of Christ. ♥*Lisa Crisamore*

Jefferson Homemakers Meeting...

The Jefferson Homemakers will meet on **Wednesday, September 16th at 10 AM** for a planning meeting. Please bring your ideas and suggestions for upcoming activities and events. **Lunch will be provided. All are welcome!**

Church Picnic – September 20th...

Mark your calendars! Our **Church Picnic** will be held **following the worship service on September 20th**. The church will provide the **meat, drinks, and paper products**. Please sign up on the **sheet located in the overflow room** so we can plan accordingly. We look forward to a wonderful time of food, fellowship, and fun together!

Worship & Music Meeting- September 27th...

Please join us for the Worship & Music Committee meeting on September 27th in the Fellowship Hall immediately after the worship service to plan and discuss upcoming worship opportunities.

Jefferson Area CROP Walk...

The 39th Annual Jefferson Area CROP Walk will take place on **Sunday, October 18, 2026**. Registration begins at **1:00 PM** at Hanover Junction, with announcements and prayers at **1:30 PM** before the walk starts. Participants may walk up to the full 10-mile route, with ride support, water, and snacks available along the way. The event raises funds to fight hunger locally and globally, with **25% of donations staying in the community** to support five local food pantries, including **Harvest of Hope Food Pantry**. To participate or sponsor a walker, use the sign-up sheets in the overflow room. Donations, payable to **St. Peter's Lischey's UCC**, are due by **October 25, 2026**.

Looking for a Healthy Start This Fall?

Are you thinking about beginning the fall season with a new and rewarding activity? Consider joining one of our music ministries! Whether you enjoy singing or playing chimes, participating in a choir offers benefits that go far beyond making music. Singing and playing together can improve your musical skills, boost your mood by releasing endorphins that help reduce stress and depression, and provide a strong sense of belonging and purpose. It also encourages deep breathing, promotes good posture, and offers gentle physical activity. Why not give it a try? We'd love to

welcome new members of all experience levels. Choir practices began on September 3rd, but it's not too late to join the fun!

Yarn Available...

If you enjoy knitting or crocheting items for the Sock and Mitten Tree or other projects, donated yarn is available. If you are interested, please see Nancy Cherry.

<u>Thank you to our helpers this week:</u>		<u>Next week's helpers are:</u>
<i>Gathering Music</i>	Sharon Winter	Michele Hamme
<i>Children's Message</i>	Melisa Altland	Rev. Susan Emmons
<i>Lay Reader</i>	Michele Hamme	Blaine Breeden
<i>Greeters</i>	Darlene & Steve Miner	Melisa Altland & Michele Hamme
<i>Money Counters</i>	Lisa Crisamore, Tammy Wetzel, & Pat McKowen	Lisa Crisamore, Jean Weidler, & Deb Brooks
<i>Sound & Streaming</i>	Cole McKowen & Blaine Breeden	Cole & Pat McKowen

Upcoming Events at Lischey's Church...

Monday, September 14 th	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 15 th	3:45 PM	Harvest of Hope Volunteer Hours
Thursday, September 17 th	6:30 PM	Chime Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, September 20 th	9:15 AM	Adult Sunday School
	9:30 AM	SPLATT and Children's Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship service
	11:30 AM	Church Picnic
Sunday, September 27 th	11:30 AM	Worship & Music Committee Meeting

Office Hours...

The office will be open during the hours listed below. Doors will be locked for security; therefore, we ask that you call (717) 225-3932 to let us know you are coming. Staff will be there at the following times:

Nancy Cherry, Minister of Music	Mon/Thur	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Pat McKowen, Secretary	Tue-Thur	8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Upcoming Birthdays (*Designates Over 80)

September 13	Adelaide Waltersdorff	September 19	Raylinn Waltersdorff
September 16	Crystal Freed		

Our Response to God's Love last week was...

Attendance	46: 43 Sanctuary/ 3 YouTube
Current Offering	\$1,087.00
Loose Offering	100.00
OCWM	75.00
Sexton House Rental Income	800.00
Building for Service	50.00
Total	\$2,112.00