

WELCOME in the NAME OF JESUS
St. Peter's Lischey's UCC
www.lischeysucc.org (717) 225-3932
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Confirmation Sunday
Sunday, May 17, 2026
10:30 AM (In the Sanctuary & via YouTube)

Welcome and Gathering Songs- Michele Hamme

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude: "Lord, I Want to be a Christian"

Glyncannon

Call to Worship

L: Lift up your eyes to heaven – Christ prays for His people.

P: We gather as those given life through Him.

L: "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son."

P: We come to glorify the One who gives eternal life.

L: Eternal life is this: to know the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom He has sent.

P: We seek to know You more deeply, O God.

L: Christ has made God known to us and entrusted us with His word.

P: We receive Your truth and come to walk in Your ways.

L: We belong to God, and Christ prays that we may be one.

P: Unite us in Your name as we worship You.

*Hymn: "Amazing Grace" – Red Hymnal #202

Excell

Confession:

L: God of glory, You have made Yourself known to us in Jesus Christ, yet we confess how often we fail to truly know You.

P: We turn to lesser things, seeking life where it cannot be found.

L: You have given us Your word and called us to faithfulness, yet we confess how often we ignore Your truth.

P: We follow our own desires and neglect Your ways.

L: You call us to be one, as You are one, yet we confess the divisions we create.

P: We have harbored pride, resentment, and indifference toward others.

L: Guard us, O Lord, and restore us by Your grace.

P: Forgive us, renew us, and draw us back to You.

Assurance of Pardon:

L: Hear the good news: Christ prays for us and does not abandon us. He has made God known to us and holds us in the Father's name.

P: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new.

L: God is faithful to guard and redeem all who belong to Him. In Christ, you are reconciled, restored, and given life eternal.

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Children's Message- Melisa Altland

Sanctuary Choir: "Boundless Love, Amazing Grace"

Thornhill

Scripture: John 17: 1-11 Melisa Altland

Message: Influencers Rev. Cathy Sherry

Hymn: "We Are God's People" - Red Hymnal #283

Sibelius

The Rite of Confirmation:

Introduction of Confirmands - Kira Bakner, Sage Freed, and Delani Tomlinson

Scripture Readings by Confirmands

Questions to the Confirmands

Confirmand's Affirmation of Faith

L: Please join me in reading the following Affirmation of Faith as written by Kira, Sage, and Delani.

ALL: We believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth. He is loving and merciful, caring for all people regardless of their choices, and calling each of us into a relationship with Him. In times of darkness and in times of light, He watches over us - guiding, protecting, and delivering us from evil.

God gave us His only Son, Jesus Christ. He was crucified, died, and buried. Jesus died on the cross for our sins so we could ascend into heaven and have eternal life. On the third day, Jesus rose again, conquering sin and death, and opening the way to new life.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who guides us, strengthens us, and helps us live according to God's will.

We come to church to worship and praise our God, to grow in faith, and to share His word so that others may also come to know Him.

Amen.

Act of Confirmation - The Laying on of Hands

Prayer

L: God, we praise you for gathering us into the church, the body of Christ. May your Holy Spirit be with these young people confirmed today. Lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word that they may serve you in this life and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

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

*Closing Hymn: “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” – Red Hymnal #1

Beethoven/Hodges

*Benediction

*Postlude: “Praise to the Lord, The Almighty”

Mansfield

**Members should rise if able.*



Weekly Announcements, Updates, and Concerns

May 17, 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, below 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 Back, Pastor Cathy!

We are pleased to welcome Pastor Cathy back as our guest pastor this Sunday. She will be leading our worship service and officiating the Rite of Confirmation. We are grateful for her presence and her willingness to share this special day with us. Thank you, Pastor Cathy, for being here, and for guiding us in worship.

A Message from Bill Hersh...

Bill Hersh would like to thank the congregation for the many prayers and ongoing support as he continues to address health concerns. Your care and encouragement mean so much to him and are deeply appreciated. Please continue to keep Bill in your thoughts and prayers.

Congratulations to Our Confirmands...

We rejoice in the faith and commitment of our confirmands – Kira Bakner, Sage Freed, and Delani Tomlinson. This meaningful milestone marks an important step in their journey of faith, and we are grateful to walk alongside them as a church family. Thank you to everyone who came out to support and encourage these young members of our congregation. Your presence, prayers, and love make this day even more special. We also extend our appreciation to Pastor Cathy for leading us in worship and helping to make the celebration so memorable.

Our Confirmands Share About Themselves...

Kira B. Bakner

My name is Kira Bakner, and I am the daughter of Anne and Brent Bakner. I enjoy participating in softball, cross country, and track and field.

Sage O. Freed

My name is Sage Freed, and I'm 13 years old. I have been a member of Lischey's Church since I was born. I enjoy going to Sunday school, singing, and volunteering, which has taught me important life lessons.

Outside of church, I've always felt most like myself when I'm playing sports, whether I'm on the court, running on the track, or out on the field. I play basketball and run track for Spring Grove, and I also play softball for Panther Select. All three sports mean a lot to me. Playing sports has given me so many great memories, like games, practices, and just hanging out with my teammates.

When I think about the future, my goal is to play professionally. I also want to be a teacher, so I can help kids learn and grow like my teachers and coaches have done for me. Besides sports, I really enjoy spending time with family and friends because they always support me and make me happy. Some of my favorite memories are vacationing with my family and hanging out at football games with my friends.

All of these things are big parts of my life and have helped me learn things like working hard, never giving up, and being a kind, caring person, and I'm so excited to see what the future holds for me.

Delani G. Tomlinson

I am Delani, daughter of Brooke and Logan, and sister to Dylan, Chase, Jude, and Mia. I am currently in 8th grade at Spring Grove. I play soccer on two teams and enjoy spending time with my friends and family.

Celebrating Our Graduates

Do you have a family member or loved one graduating this spring? We would love to celebrate their accomplishment! Please share their name, the school they are graduating from, and your relationship to them so we can recognize and honor them in an upcoming bulletin. Kindly submit your information to the church office at your earliest convenience. Let's come together to lift up and celebrate this special milestone!

Jefferson Homemakers Meeting - May 20th...

The Jefferson Homemakers will meet on Wednesday, May 20th at 10:00 AM at the church. The morning will begin with a special presentation on butterflies, offering an opportunity to learn more about these fascinating creatures. Following the program, the group will enjoy lunch together at Genova's. All are encouraged to attend for a morning of learning, fellowship, and good food.

Collecting Funds for Harvest of Hope Summer Lunch Program...

Harvest of Hope is excited to continue the tradition of providing chocolate milk as a special treat for the kids participating in their Summer Lunch Program. We have set a goal of \$600. Monetary gifts will be collected from now through Sunday, May 31st to help fund this program. If you'd like to contribute, please place your donation in an envelope marked "Chocolate Milk." Thank you for your continued generosity and support in sharing joy with the children in our community!

Strengthen the Church Offering - "Sent Forth in Love"

On Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2026, we will receive the annual Strengthen the Church (STC) special offering. This year's theme, "*Sent Forth in Love*," reminds us that through our giving, we help share Christ's love by supporting the growth and future of the church. The STC offering supports leadership development, youth ministries, new church starts, and the revitalization of existing congregations throughout the United Church of Christ. Gifts are shared equally between our Conference and the UCC National Ministries, helping churches both locally and across the country grow in faith and ministry. Thank you for your prayerful support of this important mission and ministry.

Vacation Bible School 2026: Rainforest Falls...

Join us June 15-19 at St. Peter's Lischey's Church for an exciting week of Vacation Bible School as we explore this year's theme, "Rainforest Falls - Root Kids in a Relationship With God." Children will enjoy a fun-filled jungle adventure with interactive Bible lessons, hands-on science activities, music, and games while learning to grow deep roots in faith and trust in God. A light supper will be served nightly from 5:30-6:00 PM, with VBS programs running from 6:00-8:15 PM each evening. Everyone is also invited to our culminating program during worship on Sunday, June 21 at 10:30 AM as we celebrate all the children have learned throughout the week.

May Council Meeting Highlight...

Ryan McKowen has graciously agreed to clean the church over his summer break. We are so thankful for his willingness to help the church.

Thank you to our helpers this week:

<i>Gathering Music</i>	Michele Hamme
<i>Lay Reader</i>	Melisa Altland
<i>Acolyte</i>	TJ Mensinger
<i>Children's Message</i>	Melisa Altland
<i>Greeters</i>	Darlene & Steve Miner
<i>Money Counters</i>	Joanne Hoffman, Tammy Wetzel, & Janet Brown
<i>Sound & Streaming</i>	Don Carl & Cole McKowen

Next week's helpers are:

Blaine Breeden
Don Carl
Joy Spangler
Michele Hamme
Joy & Larry Spangler
Lisa Crisamore, Darlene Miner, & Pat McKowen
Blaine Breeden & Steve Miner

Upcoming Events at Lischey's Church...

Wednesday, May 20 th	10:00 AM	Jefferson Homemakers' Meeting
Thursday, May 21 th	6:30 PM	Chime Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, May 24 th	9:15 AM	Adult Sunday School
	9:30 AM	Children's Sunday School/ SPLATT
	10:30 AM	Pentecost Sunday with Communion
Sunday, May 31 st	10:30 AM	Music Appreciation Sunday
Monday, June 8 th	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Monday, June 15 th	6:00 PM	VBS Starts

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)

May 17	Gary Kyp	May 20	Diane Kimball
May 19	Linda Pentz	May 20	Ryan McKowen

Our Response to God's Love Last Week was...

Attendance	69- 68 Sanctuary/ 1 YouTube
Current Offering	\$3,145.00
Initial Offering	30.00
OCWM	120.00
SPLATT- Sight & Sound Bus Trip	250.00
Memorial Offering	50.00
Pentecost Geraniums	242.00
Carnations	122.00
Harvest of Hope- Chocolate Milk	80.00
Harvest of Hope	50.00
Total	\$4,089.00