



# PENN CENTRAL CONFERENCE

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

...equipping and empowering congregations and clergy for the declaration  
and demonstration of the courageous love of Christ!

### A Message from PCC

September 11, 2019

Dear friends of Penn Central Conference,

**#BeReady #PreparedNotScared** September is National Preparedness Month. We are in the height of hurricane season and Dorian gave us a glimpse of what a disaster might look like. The United Church of Christ has disaster response mechanisms in place to respond to Dorian in live time as well as long term responses to disasters like Maria in Puerto Rico. Our Penn Central Conference Disaster Response and Recovery Team has a message for us this month that can be found below, and as I thought about this being National Preparedness Month, I also wondered about our preparedness for personal or communal spiritual disaster...you remember, like the one so many experienced 18 years ago today.

Two things that I remember about how people got through that day and the ones that followed were prayer and community. There was palpable spiritual sustenance to be found in the crowded worship spaces, community centers, and street corners as well as the candle-illuminated faces of friends, neighbors and strangers alike. Familiar prayers and new liturgies filled the space between our broken hearts and God's.

Since this is a day that we remember and it is national preparedness month, it is a good day to think about our personal and communal spiritual health. One indicator of a person's or a community's spiritual health is engagement in spiritual practices that ground their faith and another may be the ways in which they celebrate and share those practices. In the moment disaster struck, so many of us turned to some most familiar practices: prayer, lament and worship, in order to make sense of the crisis at hand. So when it comes to preparedness, I think that a prayer life is a solid foundation on which to ensure your preparation for pending disaster. Other practices for spiritual preparedness include things like: worship and celebration with a community of believers, tithing, meditation, fasting, ongoing spiritual formation, and scripture study just to name a few.

*Continued on next page...*

### Hartman Center

#### **Forgiveness: A Path for Healing**

Monday, September 23, 2019 at 2 p.m. - Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at 3 p.m. register online.

#### **A Marriage Enrichment Weekend - "It's a Wonderful Life"**

Friday, November 8, 2019 at 7 p.m. - Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 3 p.m. register online.

#### **COMING IN NOVEMBER: The FALL WOMEN'S RETREAT**

is planned for Nov. 15-17. (Friday the 15th at 7 p.m. to Sunday the 17th at 11 a.m.)

**Men's Retreat: Seasons of a Man's Life** Friday, January 17 at 1 pm—Sunday January 19, 2020 at 1 pm . Register online

Register here: <https://hartmancenter.com/events/>

### Prayers for Penn Central Conference

#### **Ephesians 6:18 (NLT)**

*Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.*

This week, we pray for each other as we continue to live into God's calling...

**Jacob's (Reed's Station) UCC, Paxinos**

**Saint Peter's UCC, Paxinos**

**Salem-Zion Church of New Pillow**

**Trinity UCC, Dalmatia**



## Upcoming Events

Perhaps in this month that highlights emergency preparedness, when you check your 72 hour kit in the hall closet, you might also do a spiritual check-up with God. **#BeReady #PreparedNotScared**

Shalom,

**Nora**

### From PCC Disaster Readiness & Response

September is National Preparedness Month. The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), in conjunction with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) encourage people and communities to take action to become more prepared. National Preparedness Month is important because it gives us an entire month to really focus the nation and Pennsylvanians on being prepared.

The theme this year is, "Prepared. Not Scared." Sign up for the 30 Days/30 Ways Program and take an important step towards preparedness. Over the entire month of September, you will receive an email that includes tips to highlight effective and simple ways to help you and your loved ones "Be Prepared. Not Scared." Download newsletters and checklists at [www.Ready.PA.gov](http://www.Ready.PA.gov)

### Coming Events:

#### Running, Recovery, and Mindfulness

September 19, 2019

7:00 - 8:30 pm

At Highland Presbyterian Church

More information and tickets are available at [www.parishresourcecenter.org](http://www.parishresourcecenter.org)

#### Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society Annual Meeting

Hafer Center, second floor of Schaff Library  
Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, PA  
September 21, 2019

Members Business Meeting: 1:00PM-1:30PM

Break for refreshments: 1:30PM-2:00PM

All Welcome to presentations: 2:00PM-3:30PM

#### Fall Dance

September 21, 2019

6:00PM - 9:00PM

Band starts at 7:00PM

St. Jacob's UCC

100 E. George St

York New Salem, PA 17371

## Coming events continued

### Installation of Rev. Tony Fields, Sr.

Christ Church UCC, Annville

September 22, 2019 3:00 PM

### Drag Queen Bingo Fundraiser

Hummelstown UCC

September 28th

7:00PM (Doors Open @ 6:30PM)

### Chicken Pot Pie Dinner, Bazaar, Craft Sale & Flea Market

Friday, October 4, 2019

9 AM - 7 PM

St. Paul's UCC

626 Williams Grove Rd,

Mechanicsburg, PA

### Check out other upcoming events on our website:

<https://pccucc.org/calendar/>

### Read our full weekly eNews:

<https://pccucc.org/enews-archive/>

### Sign up for our weekly eNews:

Link at bottom of any page on [www.pccucc.org](http://www.pccucc.org)

## Contact us!

### PCC Office Staff

**Rev. Carrie Call, PhD** - Transitional Conference Minister

email: [ccall@pccucc.org](mailto:ccall@pccucc.org) / Phone: 717-652-1560 ex. 12

**Rev. Nora Driver Foust** - Associate Conference Minister

email: [nfoust@pccucc.org](mailto:nfoust@pccucc.org) / Phone: 717-652-1560 ex.13

**Rev. Patricia Dodds** - Coordinator of Camps/Retreats/Youth Ministry

email: [program@hartmancenter.com](mailto:program@hartmancenter.com) / Phone: 570-506-0677

**Scott Watts** - Facilitator of Care to Clergy & Clergy Families

email: [swatts@pccucc.org](mailto:swatts@pccucc.org) / Phone: 717-652-1560 ex. 15

**C. Paul Keller** - Office Manager

email: [pkeller@pccucc.org](mailto:pkeller@pccucc.org) / Phone: 717-652-1560 ex. 14

**Laura Dalton** - Administrative Assistant/Search & Call Assistant

email: [ldalton@pccucc.org](mailto:ldalton@pccucc.org) / Phone: 717-652-1560 ex. 10