



# 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

### Hartman Center

November 13, 2019

Dear friends of Penn Central Conference,

Music can be an instrument for peace and reconciliation. We have the opportunity to see this in action when The Ripple Effect choir comes to Pennsylvania after a performance at Carnegie Hall in December. The leader of the group, Sherry K., is the music director at Southside (Disciples of Christ) Church in South Bend, Indiana, where I attended for years. She is an extraordinarily gifted musician and what started as a local choir has gained prominence and reach. During a dispute over serving LGBTQ customers at a restaurant in a small town south of Indianapolis, the choir traveled there to sing and invite individuals (from all sides of the issue) to sing together. Theirs was a powerful testimony to reconciliation and bringing people together during a time of increasing polarization. I've never forgotten their witness. And I invite you to come and see it for yourself at one of our Penn Central Conference churches! Salem UCC in Rohrerstown (Lancaster) will host the Ripple Effect in December. Salem was also where one of the choir's members - Rev. Izzy Harbin - served during her time at Lancaster Seminary. Please join us for a time of reconciliation and inspiration.

Peace,

**Carrie**

### If You Knew Me, You'd Love Me

***Finding common ground at very special concert  
by The Ripple Effect***

It seems everywhere we look, people are taking sides and calling names. How can we learn to find common ground? On December 4, Sherry K's groundbreaking vocal group The Ripple Effect Vocal Visionary Project presents "If You Knew Me, You'd Love Me" concert -- an evening of music and words designed to build understanding. Uplifting songs of unity and inspiration will be interwoven with speakers from the community who will share personal stories to help us understand how it feels to walk in their shoes. The event takes place at Salem UCC Rohrerstown

*Continues on back*

### Upcoming Retreats

**The PCC Confirmation Retreat** will be held March 27 - 29, 2020 at Hartman Center. This weekend is always a great opportunity for our confirmands to explore "Being The Church" and to connect with other youth.

Planning for this retreat is done by the Pastors and/or youth leaders of the participating churches. We will gather for an initial planning meeting on Monday November 18 from 1 - 3 pm at the conference office, and Zoom will be available.

Please contact Pastor Patty Dodds as soon as possible if your church is interested in participating. 717-502-2246 or [Program@HartmanCenter.com](mailto:Program@HartmanCenter.com)

**2020 VISION Retreat** is for everyone willing to work for the future of Hartman Center to spend time together developing ACTION PLANS for 2020. December 6, 2019 at 2:00PM through noon on December 8, 2019 Register online.

### 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.*

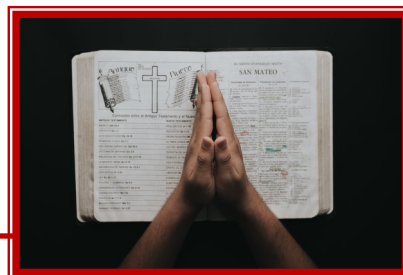
This week, we pray for each other as we continue to live into God's calling...

**Trinity UCC, State Line**

**First Reformed UCC, Sunbury**

**Peace UCC, Swartzville**

**Paradise UCC, Milton**



## Message from the Conference cont'

and is the 3rd stop on the group's Carnegie Hall/If You Knew Me tour.

You'll hear a wide variety of great songs delivered by the choir with plenty of style-everything from electrifying gospel and Mark Hayes' Christmas selections from their Carnegie Hall concert to inspirational tapes-tries of musical color, including the unforgettable "A Million Dreams" from The Greatest Showman.

The program begins at 7p.m., with a free-will offering.

Salem UCC Rohrerstown is located at 2312 Marietta Ave.,  
Lancaster, PA 17603



For all the sacrifices that clergy and lay church workers have made in our congregations, over 100 years ago the Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ created the **Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross** and the Emergency Fund, to help support them in retirement and during times of emergent need. Watch for more info soon!

December 8, 4:00PM

### **A Thrill of Hope, the Weary World Rejoices**

Get your Christmas spirit flowing and feet tapping with a heart-warming holiday program of music for voice, organ, piano and Celtic harp. Presented by Scott Siciliano, pastor, composer, musician and Seminary grad known for his angelic voice and musical versatility. Santee Chapel, Lancaster Theological Seminary

**Check out other upcoming events on our website:**  
<https://pccucc.org/calendar/>

**Read our full weekly eNews:**  
<https://pccucc.org/enews-archive/>

## Upcoming Events

**Sign up for our weekly eNews:**  
Link at bottom of any page on [www.pccucc.org](http://www.pccucc.org)

### **More From Hartman Center**

#### **Men's Retreat: Seasons of a Man's Life**

Friday, January 17, 2020 at 7PM - Sunday January 19, 2020 at 1PM register online

## Contact us!

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