

# **PENN CENTRAL CONFERENCE**



Empowering churches to proclaim the reconciling love of Christ.

## **A Message from PCC**

### **Dear Friends and Members of Penn Central Conference,**

Last summer Psalm 1:3 was the theme scripture for General Synod and I walked with that psalm all summer and into the fall. It was life-giving in a season that needed life for me. As I began preparing for today's writing, I was excited to be greeted by this psalm as the lectionary psalm for this Sunday. It was again life-giving for me. Read these verses:

*"Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on God's law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish."*

If, indeed, we can find ourselves delighting in God's Word, meditating on it day and night we are in a position to be continually nourished like a tree planted by streams of water. Just think about the ways in which a tree planted by a stream of water is able to sink its roots deep and drink of the nourishing water whenever that might be needed. It's exactly what happened to me this morning when Paul said, "Nora, you have the epistle today." And my heart sank as it was only about 2 hours before Paul would push send to you lovely readers. But alas, nourished by God's Word I was in reading this psalm. The weight of the morning lifted and a new day dawned (at 11:59am).

*Continues on back*

## **Outdoor Ministries**

### **"[Every]Body Of Christ" Youth/Confirmation Retreat**

March 18-20 at Camp Nawakwa, located near Gettysburg. The weekend will begin at 7:00 on Friday evening and end with a closing program at 10:00 on Sunday morning. Cost is \$100 for 2 nights of lodging and 4 meals (3 on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday)

It will be a wonderful weekend full of fun activities, making new friends and being with old ones, learning and exploring, questioning and evaluating, relaxing and playing! As a reminder, this weekend away at Camp Nawakwa is for all Penn Central youth, grades 6-12! You are welcome to register anytime!

<https://penncentralconference.regfox.com/everybody-of-christ-confirmation-youth-retreat>

## **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.*

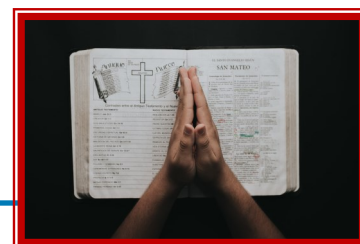
This week, we pray for each other as we continue to live into God's calling...

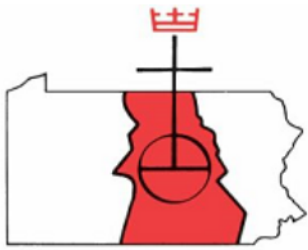
**Pleasant Hill UCC, Ono**

**St. John's UCC, Jonestown**

**Church of the Apostles UCC, Lancaster**

**Faith UCC, Lancaster**





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I was beckoned to draw near to God like a tree planted by the stream in order to bring a message to you today. What about you? What does God speak to you as you draw near in these moments? What fruit of God are you called to bear today? If you take time to dwell in the words of scripture and listen deeply for God's call, scripture promises you will surely be blessed and happy and fruitful.

And prosperous. This can be a sticking point, but I'd like you to think differently about prosperity for just a moment – truly, blessed and happy are not quantifiable in the same ways that we so often measure prosperity. Blessed and happy are felt and known. This is a prosperity of the heart and mind and being.

How will this moment of dwelling by the stream offer you prosperity of spirit today? In what ways might you feel prosperous in love, in happiness and blessing, if we delight in God's Word and meditate on it?

**Shalom,**

**Nora**

Rev. Nora Foust

Associate Conference Minister

**Penn Central Conference**

### **Save the Dates:**

#### **PCC's 60th Annual Meeting**

Opening Plenary: 6:30PM, June 6, 2022

Workshops: 6:30PM, June 7-9, 2022

Business & Worship: 9:30AM, June 11, 2022

#### **Virtual Choir**

The latest Virtual Choir anthem, How Lovely are the Messengers, by Felix Mendelssohn, is available on the PCC YouTube Channel

## **Contact us!**

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