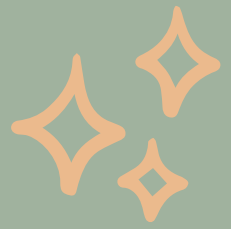


Starviews Newsletter

March 2026



Starview United Church of Christ
4832 N. Sherman St, Ex'd, Mount Wolf, PA 17347
Phone: 717-266-4248
Email: starviewucc@comcast.net
Website: starviewucc.org

LENT – EASTER WORSHIP SERIES

THE ANIMALS TELL THE STORY

This Lent and Easter season, we will journey through Scripture by listening closely to the animals who appear in the biblical story – creatures who witness God's covenant, vulnerability, provision, and new life. From wilderness encounters to resurrection mornings, these companions help us see familiar texts with fresh eyes and deeper wonder as we walk the path from ashes to alleluias.

March 29 – Palm Sunday at 9:45 AM

April 2 – Maundy THURSDAY at 6 PM

April 5

- Easter Sunrise at 6:30 AM, Hoover Cemetery (Corner of Codorus Furnace and Jerusalem School Roads)
- Easter Breakfast, 7:15 AM Starview UCC Fellowship Hall (Food provided)
- Easter Service with Holy Communion, 9 AM, Sanctuary

April 12 – Dinner Church at 6 PM (NO Sunday morning worship service).

The scripture reading places us in a locked room with the disciples. The dinner church theme is Peace at the Table – a theme centered on Christ entering locked rooms, fearful hearts, and gathered communities to bring peace.





LENT - EASTER WORSHIP

The Animals Tell the Story



During the 2026 Lenten season, Starview UCC invites you into a meaningful journey through scripture titled **Living Lent: The Animals Tell the Story**.

From wilderness encounters to resurrection mornings, animals appear again and again in the biblical story. Often overlooked, these companions become powerful witnesses - helping us see familiar texts with fresh eyes as we walk the path from ashes to alleluias. Each week, an animal will help reveal something true about the character and mission of Jesus: his humility, his grief, his warnings, his forgiveness, his steadfast love, and ultimately, his resurrection hope.

Sunday Morning Worship

Sunday worship takes place at 9:45 AM, unless otherwise noted. Each service will introduce a new animal and a new lens through which to encounter Christ during Lent.

Wednesday Evening Soup & Study

On **Wednesday evenings from 6:00–7:30 PM**, we will gather downstairs in Fellowship Hall, around tables, over a bowl of soup and fresh bread. Together, we will delve more deeply into the prior Sunday's scripture readings while "practicing" some Bible 101 techniques known as biblical hermeneutics.

This means - we will slow down and learn how to read Scripture more thoughtfully - exploring its original context, listening for how different parts of the Bible speak to one another, and bringing those ancient texts into honest conversation with our lives and the world today. No prior knowledge is required. All materials are provided.

Come hungry - and be nourished, both spiritually and physically.

Lenten Schedule at a Glance

February 18

Ash Wednesday – 6:00 PM

A Fox Reveals a Homeless Savior

February 22 – First Sunday in Lent – 9:45 AM (Holy Communion)

A Donkey Reveals a Peaceful Savior

February 25 (Wednesday Study): Matthew 21:1–11; Zechariah 9:9–10

March 1 – Second Sunday in Lent

A Dove Reveals an Angry Savior

March 4 (Wednesday Study): Matthew 3:16–4:1; Isaiah 56:6–8

March 8 – Third Sunday in Lent

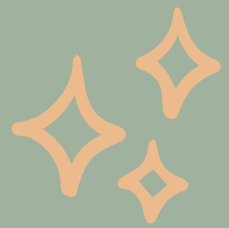
A Camel Reveals a Warning Savior

March 11 (Wednesday Study): Matthew 23:1–24; Deuteronomy 6:1–9



LENT - EASTER WORSHIP

The Animals Tell the Story



March 15 – Fourth Sunday in Lent

A Hen Reveals a Grieving Savior

March 18 (Wednesday Study): Isaiah 19:12–14; Matthew 23:37–39

March 22 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

A Vulture Reveals a Coming Savior

March 25 (Wednesday Study): Habakkuk 1:5–11; Psalm 79; Matthew 24:1–14, 26–28

March 29 – Palm Sunday – 9:45 AM

A Donkey Reveals a Burdened Savior

April 2 – Maundy Thursday – 6:00 PM

A Lamb Reveals a Forgiving Savior

April 5 – Online Message (Starview Facebook Page)

The Rooster Reveals a Disowned Savior (Viewable at your convenience)

Community Good Friday Service – 2:00 PM (Location and speaker to be announced)

Easter at Starview UCC

Easter Sunrise Service – 6:30 AM

Hoover Cemetery (Corner of Codorus Furnace & Jerusalem School Roads)

Easter Breakfast – 7:15 AM

Starview UCC Fellowship Hall (food provided)

Easter Worship with Holy Communion – 9:00 AM

The Fish Reveals a Risen Savior

Beyond Easter

April 12 – No Morning Worship

Instead, join us for **Dinner Church at 6:00 PM**

Peace at the Table

Scripture places us in a locked room with the disciples as the risen Christ meets fear with peace.

This Lent, whether you come weekly or occasionally on Sundays and/or Wednesdays - or simply when you can - you are invited to walk with us. Together, we will listen carefully, ask good questions, and discover how even the smallest creatures can help us see the living Christ more clearly.

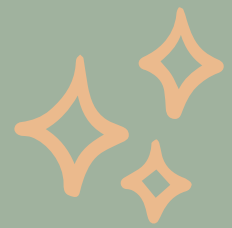
All are welcome!



Lenten Mission 2026

Caring for Creation

Supporting the York County SPCA



This Lenten season, as we journey from ashes to alleluias and listen for the wisdom of the animals in Scripture, we are also invited to practice compassion in tangible ways for animals.

Our First Quarter Outreach Ministry will support the **York County SPCA**, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization located at 3159 Susquehanna Trail North, York, PA.

The York County SPCA is dedicated to:

- Finding loving homes for stray and displaced animals
- Controlling pet overpopulation
- Investigating and prosecuting animal cruelty
- Providing community education
- Operating a low-cost spay/neuter clinic

From **Ash Wednesday (February 18) through Easter (April 5)**, we will collect much-needed supplies to support their daily work of mercy and protection.

Critical Care Needs

- Towels
- Kitten/cat dry and canned food
- Puppy/dog dry and canned food
- Pellet cat litter (Fresh News, Naturally Fresh)
- Bleach

Additional Helpful Items

- Fleece blankets
- Bags of treats
- Dog waste disposal bags
- Guinea pig food
- Rabbit food
- Pet toys
- Peanut butter
- Puzzle feeders
- Nylabones
- Squeeze cheese
- Gallons of distilled water
- Sandwich-sized zipper top bags
- Rubbing alcohol
- Paper towels
- Disinfecting wipes



Gift cards are also greatly appreciated, especially for:

- Amazon
- Giant or Weis
- Lowes

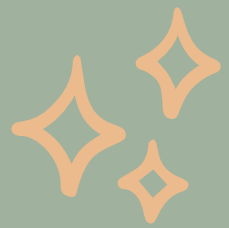
As we reflect this Lent on the animals who appear in the biblical story - we remember that God's care extends to all creation. This mission is one small way we can embody that love right here in our community.

Donations can be placed in front of the altar and communion table beginning Ash Wednesday.

Come hungry and be nourished this season - spiritually, physically, and compassionately.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Sunday, March 22nd

Congregational Meeting ~ Doceo IT Project Proposal



Monday, March 23rd

6:00 pm ~ Shadows to Sunshine Mental Health Support Group

Tuesday, March 24th (4:00–5:30pm)

R&K Sub Delivery/Pick-up

Wednesday, March 25th (6 – 7:30pm)

Lent Study with Soup & Bread Meal ~ Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 29th

Naylor Candy Delivery/Pick-up

Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 2nd (6pm)

Maundy Thursday

Friday, April 3rd (2pm)

Community Good Friday Service ~ Location TBD

Sunday, April 5th (HAPPY EASTER)

6:30 am ~ Easter Sunrise Service (Hoover Cemetary)

7:15 am ~ Easter Breakfast (Starview UCC Fellowship Hall)

9 am ~ Easter Service with Holy Communion

Monday, April 6th (6pm)

6:00 pm ~ Shadows to Sunshine Mental Health Support Group

March Birthdays

March 4 ~ Chloe Casseday
 March 11 ~ Eric Ortega
 March 14 ~ Ann Duerr
 March 16 ~ Kim Jordan
 March 17 ~ Jessica Casseday
 March 18 ~ Diana Wolf
 March 22 ~ Lauren Moyer
 March 23 ~ Gary Berger
 March 28 ~ Grace Gichner

April Birthdays

April 7 ~ Barry Plowman
 April 12 ~ Tom Brenner
 April 15 ~ Deb Runkle
 April 19 ~ Rebekah Wertz
 April 20 ~ Laney Seifert
 April 23 ~ Carey Wertz
 April 26 ~ Lesley Moore
 April 26 ~ Peg Gingerich
 April 30 ~ Jessica Miller





UPCOMING EVENTS



PUB, GRUB, & GOD

THIRD TUESDAY AT 6PM

PUB, GRUB, AND GOD (THIRD Tuesday at 6 PM) is a relaxed community ministry that brings people together around tables in local gathering places to explore life and faith through honest conversation.

Meeting in welcoming spaces such as Sign of the Horse, Conewago Inn, Olive Garden, Parma Pizza and Lyndon Diner, the ministry creates a safe environment where questions are welcomed and stories are shared.

Each gathering typically begins with a simple ice-breaker and unfolds into thoughtful dialogue that weaves together faith, culture, and everyday experience. Family-friendly and open to all, Pub, Grub, and God helps us to meet God where we are while nourishing our faith and connections with one another.

- April 21 - Olive Garden, West York
- May 19 - TBD





UPCOMING EVENTS



SHADOWS TO SUNSHINE

Every other Monday at 6pm

SHADOWS TO SUNSHINE (every other Monday at 6 PM, church parlor) is a compassionate, faith-centered ministry designed to offer support, understanding, and hope for anyone navigating life's emotional and mental health challenges. Grounded in the belief that no one should walk through difficult seasons alone, the ministry creates a safe, confidential, and non-judgmental space where participants are invited to share, listen, and reflect at their own pace. Through thoughtfully facilitated sessions, gentle grounding practices, guided conversation, and spiritual reflection, Shadows to Sunshine helps participants name their experiences, build self-awareness, and discover tools for resilience and self-care -emotionally, mentally, physically, socially, and spiritually. The emphasis is NOT on fixing or diagnosing, but on walking together, honoring each person's story, and affirming that seeking support is a sign of strength.

March 23

April 6 and 20

May 4 and 18





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



EASTER

HE CHOSE THE NAILS ~ MAX LUCADO

Every gift from God reveals his love, but no gift reveals his love more than the gifts of the cross. Have we taken time to open these? As we do, we find that Jesus did it all just for us. Unwrap the gifts of grace as if for the first time. And as you touch them as you feel the timber of the cross and trace the braid of the crown and finger the point of the spike pause and listen. Perchance you will hear him whisper: I did it just for you.

The last moments leading up to Jesus' death were not left up to chance. God chose the path; he selected the nails. Our Lord planted the trio of crosses and painted the sign. And in those details are gifts Christ provided for us. The cross. The thorns. The nails. His seamless robe. The empty tomb. God didn't have to give us all these things, you know. The only required act for our salvation was the shedding of blood, yet he did much more. So much more.

In this Easter season study, Max will help you:

Experience Lent as a time not to just give up something, but to prepare to receive good gifts from God.

Take comfort that Jesus understands everything you face in this life.

Receive the grace of Christ's work for us, and cooperate with God's work in us to make us more like him.

Stand firm in the promise that you are forgiven, and you are welcome in God's presence, no matter what you've done.

He Chose the Nails sessions:

March 1 He Chose to Be One of Us

March 8 He Chose to Forgive Us

March 15 He Chose to Invite Us into His Presence

March 22 He Chose to Love Us Forever

March 29 He Chose to Give Us Victory





INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY



As we anticipate the upcoming season of possible inclement weather, there are a few reminders regarding Sunday morning worship during these times.

There are multiple ways that you can locate the information about Sunday morning worship services - specifically, if BOTH in person and virtual will be offered or if the service will be held virtually, ONLY.

A decision will be made by 8 PM on SATURDAY evening, by a team consisting of the Council President, Worship Chair, Music Director, and Pastor Laura. Their decision will be based on the weather information available to them at that time, realizing that the weather may change and be inaccurate by the next morning. Even so, the decision made on Saturday evening, will NOT change on Sunday morning. The decision made Saturday will stand.

The decision of how we will worship on Sunday, can be located on SATURDAY, by 8 PM, via a church-wide email, the Starview Facebook page, and by calling and listening to the church answering machine (717) 266-4248. Please, do not call or text the individual members of the team Sunday morning for the worship information - use the multiple avenues listed above.

