



CHRIST'S UNITED'S NEWS & VIEWS

MARCH 2017

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPHS

A LENTEN INVENTORY FOR DISCIPLES

The liturgical season of Lent began in the early church as an intentional catechetical time of forty days to prepare candidates for baptism at the Easter vigil. That practice continues into the present. But in today's world, many Christians who are already baptized see Lent as an intentional and intensive opportunity to refocus on what it means to live out their Christian faith, to renew their commitment to follow Christ, to confess their sin, to receive the gift of God's forgiveness, and to engage with others throughout the world in the manner demonstrated by Jesus' example and teaching- to see our lives formed as disciples of Christ.

To be a disciple of Jesus entails much more than acquiring knowledge of Jesus and his teaching. Discipleship involves putting into practice what Jesus teaches and demands of those who take up his invitation to follow him. For disciples of Jesus, Lent becomes an opportunity to get better acquainted with Jesus and with ourselves as the result of his presence with and for us. Disciples of Jesus are called to continuously bear witness before the world of what God has done, is doing, and will continue to do in and through Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior. To do so bears a constant need to address our allegiances and alignments. To whom and to what do we devote our loyalty? And so we ask:

Do we do what we do because others are doing it, and we don't want to be left out? Do we do what we do to feel good, to feel good about ourselves, to feel good about our accomplishments? Do we do what we do to promote ourselves, to access power and privilege, to pave a way for success and status? Do we do what we do to achieve a sense of comfort and consolation? Do we do what we do to stave off our

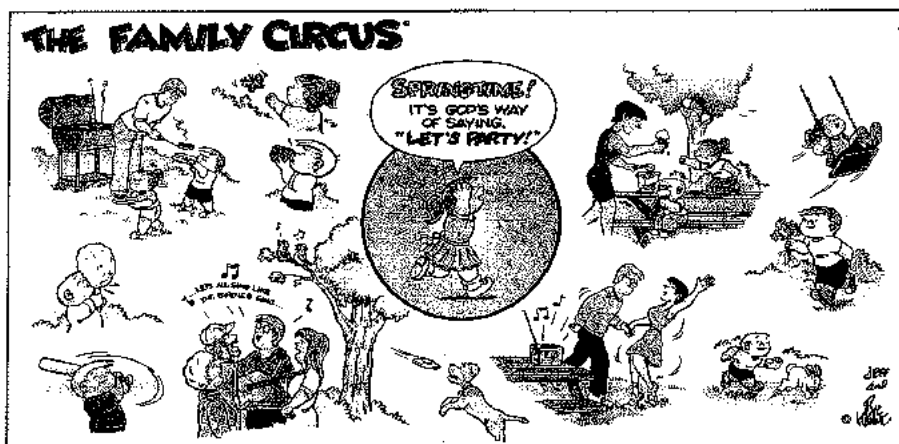
fears, to extinguish our doubts, to hide our weaknesses? Do we do what we do to shelter ourselves from vulnerability, to flee from any revelation of our true selves, to veil our imperfections, to mask our blemishes? Do we do what we do to protect ourselves from the hurts that may come about by being fully engaged in our world and relationships, from our own insecurities, from a stubbornness against change? Thus, we may be reminded of W.H. Auden's lines in "The Age of Anxiety": "We would rather be ruined than changed/we would rather die in our dread/ than climb the cross of the moment/ and let our illusions die." Or:

Do we do what we do because we acknowledge what Jesus has done and will continue to do for us, commit ourselves to follow Jesus wherever he leads us, obey whatever he demands and expects of us, see the peace and salvation that he alone can offer?

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to be apostolic (that is, sent-out ones) and faithful, not calling attention to ourselves but to Jesus and the reign of God which he brings near. Disciples of Jesus are called to be hospitable and humble, gracious and merciful, generous and inspiring (by the way of the spirit of Jesus). Knowing the story about Jesus is not enough; we must see as Jesus sees in order to be able to do as Jesus does. The crosses we bear as disciples of Jesus are to be determined by his cross. In the words of Stanley Hauerwas, "Jesus is calling us not to attend to our own goodness or our loves, but rather to follow him."

Disciples of Jesus are called to trust in the abundance of God in the face of the scarcity played throughout the world that is borne of fear and rejection, violence and separation, anger and greed, covetousness and callousness. Even so, disciples of Jesus are to "travel light," having "nothing at their disposal" other than the authority they have been given by Jesus and a promise, a life in God's eternal kingdom. So, let go and let's go.

--Pastor John



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ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

*March 1
7:00 p.m.*



We will begin our Lenten observance this year with a worship service at **7:00 p.m. on Ash Wednesday, March 1**. The service will include Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes. All are invited to join us.

Also, Pastor John will be available from **7:00-9:00 a.m.** on Ash Wednesday to anyone who would like to receive ashes at the start of their day.



LENT & EASTER SERVICES

Ash Wednesday, March 1

7:00 p.m. @ Christ's United

Palm Sunday, April 9

9:00 a.m. Worship Service @ Christ's United

10:15 a.m. Sunday School @ Christ's United

Maundy Thursday, April 13

6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Meal & Service @ Christ's United

Good Friday, April 14

7:00 p.m. Worship @ First Lutheran

Easter Sunday, April 16

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service @ First Lutheran

9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast @ Christ's United

10:30 a.m. – Festival of the Resurrection @ Christ's United



LENTEN BREAKFASTS & SUPPERS

LENTEN BREAKFASTS

Christ's United Lutheran Church
8:00 a.m.

March 15

Speaker – TBA
Menu – Creamed Dried Beef, Toast &
Home Fries

March 22

Speaker – TBA
Menu – Egg Casserole, English Muffins
& Home Fries

March 29

Speaker – TBA
Menu – Scrambled Eggs, Smoked
Sausage, Toast & Hash
Browns

All Are Welcome!

**All meals are non-denominational
A free will offering will be accepted**



LENTEN SUPPERS

All meals are served at the host church
6:00 p.m.

March 8

Host Church – St. John's UCC
Speaker – Pastor Ted Justice
Menu – Beef & Noodles

March 15

Host Church – Mifflinburg Methodist
Speaker – Pastor Shirley Cornell
Menu – Ham Loaf

March 22

Host Church – First Lutheran
Speaker – Pastor John Yost
Menu – Ham, Green Beans & Potatoes

March 29

Host Church – Trinity Lutheran, Cowan
Speaker – Pastor John Yost
Menu – Soup & Sandwiches

April 5

Host Church – Christ's United
Speaker – Pastor John Yost
Menu – Spaghetti

All Are Welcome!

All meals are inter-denominational and offer a time of community fellowship. Financial donations are accepted at each meal for expenses and to fund the Ministerium's ministry programs.



LENTEN SCHEDULE

Monday, February 27

Easter Egg Mixing - 9:00 a.m.
Easter Egg Dipping - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 1

Imposition of Ashes – 7:00-9:00 a.m.
Ash Wednesday Service – 7:00 p.m.

Monday, March 6

Easter Egg Mixing - 9:00 a.m.
Easter Egg Dipping - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 8

Lenten Supper – 6:00 p.m.
St John's United Church of Christ

Monday, March 13

Easter Egg Mixing - 9:00 a.m.
Easter Egg Dipping - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 15

Lenten Breakfast – 8:00 a.m.
Christ's United Lutheran Church
Lenten Supper – 6:00 p.m.
Mifflinburg United Methodist Church

Monday, March 20

Easter Egg Mixing - 9:00 a.m.
Easter Egg Dipping - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 22

Lenten Breakfast – 8:00 a.m.
Christ's United Lutheran Church
Lenten Supper – 6:00 p.m.
First Lutheran Church

Monday, March 27

Easter Egg Mixing - 9:00 a.m.
Easter Egg Dipping - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 29

Lenten Breakfast – 8:00 a.m.
Christ's United Lutheran Church
Lenten Supper – 6:00 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church, Cowan

Monday, April 3

Easter Egg Mixing - 9:00 a.m.
Easter Egg Dipping - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 5

Lenten Supper – 6:00 p.m.
Christ's United Lutheran Church

Sunday, April 9

Palm Sunday Service – 9:00 a.m.
Christ's United Lutheran Church

Monday, April 10

Easter Egg Mixing - 9:00 a.m.
Easter Egg Dipping - 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 13

Maundy Thursday Service – 6:00 p.m.
Christ's United Lutheran Church

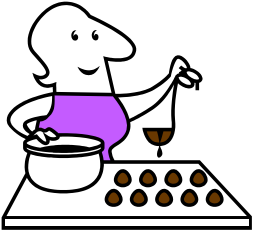
Friday, April 14

Good Friday Service – 7:00 p.m.
First Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 27

Sunrise Service – 6:30 a.m.
First Lutheran Church
Easter Breakfast – 9:00 a.m.
Christ's United Lutheran Church
Festival of the Resurrection – 1030 a.m.
Christ's United Lutheran Church

EASTER EGGS



Lent begins February 28, which means it's time to start thinking about making our Easter eggs again. This year we are planning on making eggs for seven (7) Mondays beginning the Monday before Lent. We will be making them **on February 27, March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27, April 3 and April 10** provided we have enough help.

Providing there is enough help, eggs will be mixed and shaped starting at **9:00 a.m.** each Monday morning and coating and packaging will begin each Monday evening at **6:00 p.m.** This is a great fundraiser for the Church and much help will be needed both at 9:00 a.m. and at 6:00 p.m. to make this project successful.

In order for this fundraiser to be successful, **EVERY week** a minimum of 10 persons are needed in the morning and a minimum of 15 persons are needed in the evening. Sign Up sheets are on the bulletin board. Please sign up so that we know if we have enough help to make eggs that week. The more help we have, the quicker we will get done. Mark your calendars NOW and please plan to come out and help make these popular treats.

Order forms are available on the table outside of the sanctuary for anyone willing to take orders from relatives, friends or co-workers. If you would like to order just a few eggs, there will be weekly order forms on the bulletin board outside of the sanctuary. Just sign up for the week you would like your eggs.

PLEASE NOTE: Orders not in the church kitchen by NOON on Sunday will be filled last (if quantity permits). If you have any questions talk to Bev Catherman.

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*"It's almost here - It's safe to say  
I saw a Crocus yesterday  
Its' colors bright - A lovely thing  
My heart Rejoiced! 'Twil soon be Spring!  
The winter blues will soon be gone  
And birds will soon burst forth in song  
The coral bells will gently ring  
The Daphne yells "It's almost Spring!"  
It's nearly here! It's coming fast!  
The Robins will appear at last  
Oh Wondrous Joy! I too shall sing!  
And join in Nature's "Song for Spring"  
~M. Garren, A Song for Spring*



***EASTER FLOWERS***

One of the customs of this season at Christ's United is to celebrate the risen Christ with a bevy of flowers adorning the sanctuary on Easter Sunday.

If you would like to provide flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Easter, fill out the form below and return it to Margie

-----  
**EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM**

**Order Deadline: March 26  
Return with Payment to Margie Dunkle**

|                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| _____ 6" Daffodil @ \$8.00      | _____     |
| _____ 3 bloom Hyacinth @ \$8.00 | _____     |
| _____ 1 bloom Hyacinth @ \$3.50 | _____     |
| _____ 5-7 bloom Lily @ \$8.50   | _____     |
| _____ 4½ inch Pansy @ \$2.00    | _____     |
| _____ 6 bloom Tulip @ \$8.00    | _____     |
| <br><i>TOTAL</i>                | <br>_____ |

GIVEN BY \_\_\_\_\_

in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

to the Glory of God \_\_\_\_\_

## ***BIBLE STUDIES***

Paul's letter to the Romans is the topic for this month's Bible Study which will take place as follows:



### **10:30 A.M.**

**March 7 (First Lutheran)**

**March 14 (First Lutheran)**

**March 21 (First Lutheran)**

**March 28 (First Lutheran)**

### **7:30 P.M. (following meals)**

**March 8**

**March 15**

**March 22**

**March 29**

## ***SPRING POT PIE SUPPER***

A potpie supper is planned for **March 4**. Serving will begin at **3:30 p.m.** Tickets will only be sold at the door.



Adults - \$9.00

Children (6 – 12) - \$5.00

Children under 5 – No Charge

Take Out Meals - \$9.00

Quarts of Potpie - \$8.00

The workday will take place on **Friday, March 3**, starting at **8:00 a.m.** Please come out on Friday to help make pickled cabbage, cut meat, peel and cut potatoes, mix broth, etc.

Also, please come out on the day of the pot pie supper. At **8:00 a.m.** help is needed to roll and cook potpie, dish out applesauce and pickled cabbage, prepare dining room, etc. Help is also needed as the day goes on for other duties including serving eat ins and take outs as well as clean up. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board or you can sign up online at [www.4bellchurch.com/signup](http://www.4bellchurch.com/signup).

If you are experienced, that is great; if not, we will provide training!

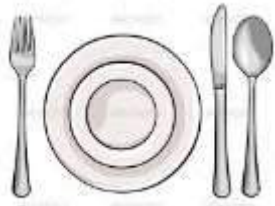
We are also asking for donations for many of the needed supplies. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board or you can sign up online at [www.4bellschurch.com/signup](http://www.4bellschurch.com/signup).

If you have any questions, please talk to Kim Blyler.



# ***BANQUET SCHEDULE***

The banquets scheduled thus far for 2017 are:



|                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Readington Farms</b><br/> <b>March 7</b><br/> <b>11:30 a.m.</b></p> <p><b>Lenten Supper</b><br/> <b>April 5</b><br/> <b>6:00 p.m.</b></p> | <p><b>BV Sportsmen</b><br/> <b>March 11</b><br/> <b>TBA</b></p> <p><b>Union County Historical Society</b><br/> <b>April 20</b><br/> <b>6:00 p.m.</b></p> | <p><b>Young Farmers</b><br/> <b>March 30</b><br/> <b>6:30 p.m.</b></p> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Help will be needed in both the dining room and kitchen. Watch the bulletin board across from the sanctuary for sign-up sheets for dining room help. If you are able to help in the kitchen, talk to Kim Blyler.

Cakes will also be needed for these banquets. If you are able to provide one or two, sign up on the attached form or talk to Darlene Ulrich. All help is greatly appreciated

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## **2017 BANQUET CAKES**

I will provide a cake(s) for the following banquet(s):  
*(Indicate number to be provided)*

|                                                                                 |                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>_____ <b>March 7</b><br/> <b>11:30 a.m.</b><br/> <b>Readington Farms</b></p> | <p>_____ <b>March 11</b><br/> <b>TBA</b><br/> <b>BV Sportsmen</b></p>             |
| <p>_____ <b>March 30</b><br/> <b>6:30 p.m.</b><br/> <b>Young Farmers</b></p>    |                                                                                   |
| <p>_____ <b>April 5</b><br/> <b>6:00 p.m.</b><br/> <b>Lenten Supper</b></p>     | <p>_____ <b>April 20</b><br/> <b>6:00 p.m.</b><br/> <b>Historical Society</b></p> |

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_



## ***COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE***

### **February 21, 2017**

1. Sunday, March 19, 2017, marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first worship service in Christ's United Lutheran Church sanctuary. A worship service will be held on a special time of 10:30 a.m. A meal of soup and sandwiches supplied by the church will follow the worship service. Former pastors and other folks are being invited. Please bring your memories and enjoy the fellowship.
2. Holy Week Services: The Buffalo Valley Lutheran Parish has set the following worship schedule for Holy Week.

|                                              |                 |            |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| April 13 Maundy Thursday Meal & Service      | Christ's United | 6:00 p.m.  |
| April 14 Good Friday Service                 | First Lutheran  | 7:00 p.m.  |
| April 16 Early Easter Morning Sunday Service | First Lutheran  | 6:30 a.m.  |
| April 16 Easter Morning Breakfast            | Christ's United | 9:00 a.m.  |
| April 16 Later Easter Morning Sunday Service | Christ's United | 10:30 a.m. |
3. Council is always looking for people to help out with the ministry groups. The next ministry meeting is as follows:

Outreach: Tuesday, March 7, 6:30 p.m.

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A young man was walking through a supermarket to pick up a few things when he noticed an old lady following him around. Thinking nothing of it, he ignored her and continued on. Finally he went to the checkout line, but she got in front of him. "Pardon me," she said, "I'm sorry if my staring at you has made you feel uncomfortable. It's just that you look just like my son, who just died recently." "I'm very sorry," replied the young man, "is there anything I can do for you?" "Yes," she said, "As I'm leaving, can you say 'Good bye, Mother'? It would make me feel so much better." "Sure," answered the young man. As the old woman was leaving, he called out, "Goodbye, Mother!" As he stepped up to the checkout counter, he saw that his total was \$127.50. "How can that be?" He asked, "I only purchased a few things!" "Your mother said that you would pay for her," said the clerk.



TREASURER'S REPORT

As of January 31, 2017

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Income for month (5 weeks)	\$ 14,792.02	\$ 14,378.85
Expenses for month	<u>14,941.37</u>	14,378.85
Difference	\$ (149.35)	

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Income Year-to-Date	\$ 14,792.02	\$ 14,378.85
Expenses Year-to-Date	<u>14,941.37</u>	14,378.85
Difference	\$ (149.35)	

January Notes:

Income includes \$5,495 per month from the Buffalo Valley Parish
 Expenses include \$4,200 per month to Buffalo Valley Parish

January has 5 Sundays so Budgeted based on 5 Sundays
 (Jan. Apr. Jul, Oct, & Dec have 5 Sundays – all others have 4 Sundays)

Unplanned expense of \$643.27 in January for furnace repair.

Sources of Income:

Offerings	\$ 8,554.86	58%
BV Parish	5,495.00	37%
Banquets/ Others	<u>742.16</u>	5%
Totals	\$14,792	100%



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2017 altar flower chart is on the bulletin board outside of the sanctuary for use by anyone wishing to provide flowers for a service this year. The cost of the flowers is \$35.00 per week and is payable to the church. There are still a number of openings, so check it out and sign up for a Sunday. Dates still available are: **March 26; April 16, 23, 30; May 14; July 9, 16, 23, 30; August 5; September 3; October 1, 22; November 5, 26; December, 31.**

FREE ENERGY CREDIT

There is a free energy credit available to the church. If you want help to lower the church's electric bill, and save money on your own electric bill contact Greg Shuck for details.

COFFEE CANS NEEDED

We are in need of coffee cans to be used to send altar flowers home following a worship service. If you have any to spare, please drop them off at the kitchen or in the office.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

We are looking for volunteers to fill the following positions:

1. Baby News Correspondent

When a new baby is born to a member of the congregation, the responsibility of the baby news correspondent is to contact the family and get "vital statistics" and then write a short article for the newsletter. Talk to Margie if you would like to tackle this position.

2. Greeters, Lay Readers, Communion Assistants, Ushers and Sound System Operators.

Our list of people willing to do these jobs keeps dwindling. Will you help? Sign up on the attached “volunteer form” and drop them on Margie’s desk or put them in the offering plate.

3. Someone to sharpen pencils and replenish communion cards and comment cards in the sanctuary.

COMMUNIONS

Communion for all confirmed members must be recorded in the parish register annually. If you do not commune on a regular basis, we ask that you fill out a communion record card (one per year is all we need) so we know you have communed. The cards are located in the racks on the back of the pews. Cards may be put in the offering plate or handed to an usher.

MEMORABILIA

The following memorabilia items are still available for anyone interested in purchasing anything:

Wooden Miniatures of the Church - \$10.00

Church Prints - \$20.00

Blankets - \$10.00

Christmas Cards - \$10.00

12 cards per box feature a winter picture of the church

Talk to Bev Catherman if you have questions about, or would like to purchase, any of these items.

INFORMANTS WANTED

We like to publish news about our members in the newsletter, but we need your help to do so. If you know of interesting information about any of our members (youth or adult), i.e. an award or recognition, a funny tale or exciting adventure, please let Margie know about it so we can include it in an issue of Christ’s United’s News & Views.

DO WE HAVE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS?

If you have an e-mail address that you have never given to us or if it has changed, please fill out the following and drop it off on Margie’s desk or give her a call.

Name_____

E-Mail Address_____

BUILDING & GROUND NEEDS

Do you know of any physical problems (or potential problems) that should be addressed by our property committee? Your insight is important. Maybe you have seen something that no one else has noticed yet. You can talk to Pastor John, any council member or Margie if you know of something that needs attention, or fill out the following and put it on Margie’s desk or in the offering plate.

Building & Ground Needs:

SOCIAL/FELLOWSHIP REQUEST

If you have any ideas or suggestions for social/fellowship activities, drop a note on Margie’s desk.

Social/Fellowship Events:

HAVE A FAVORITE HYMN?

Over the past few years, some of you have been requesting favorite hymns and gospel songs and for that we give many thanks. Because of U.S. copyright laws, we do not have permission to reproduce or copy all of our favorites. You may choose selections from the following hymnals: Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW), Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) and With One Voice (WOV). We are also permitted to use hymns that

are in the “Public Domain”. It’s all very complicated. So, keep your suggestions coming and we will be happy to sort out and use all of your suggestions. Give any requests to Gary Hackenberg, Margie or Pastor John.

Hymn Request

PRAYER CHAIN

The Prayer Chain is a group of men and women of Christ’s United who pray for the concerns and requests of Christ’s United’s members and friends. Someone in need of prayer calls the church office and requests to be put on the Prayer Chain. Each member of the Prayer Chain then receives either a phone call or an email notifying them of a prayer request. The prayer chain member receiving the phone call then calls one other person and so on down the list. Those notified by email do not have to pass it on.

Would you be willing to pray for someone in need? It is reassuring to know that you are supported by the prayers of others and not alone with your concern. If you would like to be a member of the Prayer Chain, fill out the following and put it in the offering plate or on Margie’s desk.

Prayer Chain Calling List

I would like to be included on the prayer chain calling list.

Name _____ Telephone _____

ONGOING COLLECTIONS

The Shriners

Can Tabs (give tabs to Maurice Clouser)

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*The bud itself is the miracle. To watch the upthrust of a daffodil,  
to see it take form as a flower-to-be, to see the bud grow  
and take on the warmth of color—there is the very synthesis of spring.*



## ***NEWS OF MEMBERS & FRIENDS***

### **Deaths**

Our family of faith is saddened upon the death of Harold (Hap) Sampsell, 94, who passed away on February 11, 2017 after an illness of several years' duration. Hap was one of the original members of Christ's United and served in numerous positions including Sunday school teacher, Sunday school treasurer, church council member, cook at our breakfasts, meals, Chicken Barbecue and West End Fair Stand.

His funeral service was conducted by Pastor John at the church on February 18.

Hap, who has lived in Naples, Florida for the past several years was born in Laurelton, a son of the late Harry and Frances (Schnure) Sampsell. On October 30, 1947, he married the former Marie E. Blyler, who passed away on November 19, 2004. He is survived by a daughter & son-in-law, Sharon & Doug Denisen, one brother, Myron (Mick) Sampsell, and one sister-in-law, Ada Sampsell. He was preceded in death by two brothers and two sister-in-laws.

Our prayers continue to be with his family.

### **Birthdays**

#### **March**

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 – Cliff Valentine     | 12 - Jim Zimmerman    |
| 2 – Kristi Haedich      | 14 – Carter Beiler    |
| 4 – Jonathon Forcheskie | Kalvin Showalter      |
| Heather Haines          | 15 - Shelby Baker     |
| Donald Ruhl Jr          | Eve Rantz             |
| 6 – Arleya Loss         | 16 - Josh Boyer       |
| 7 – Cain Showalter      | Jeff Ruhl             |
| 8 – Jim Boop            | 17 – Denise Hosterman |
| Paula Christy           | 19 – Roger Dunkle     |
| 9 – Tammy Boop          | Tina Erdley           |



Ben Wenrich  
20 – Louise Ritter  
21 – Kaitlyn Erdley  
Cortney Klose  
22 – Hailey Foresman  
Tiffany Spencer  
26 – Don Fornwalt

Carla Ruhl  
Nathan Sanders  
30 – Trevor Clouser  
Jamie Peck  
31 – Judy Mecouch

## **Anniversaries**

### **March**

12 – Donald & Diane Knause (1995)  
22 – Colby & Corrin Zechman (2014)  
23 – Joel & Pauline Templin (2013)  
25 – Steve & Judy Moyer (1994)  
28 – David & Cindy Loss (1987)  
30 – Luke & Debbie Welker (1985)



### **Remember In Thought and Prayer**

***Please help us keep our prayer list current by letting us know of any names that should be added or removed***

#### **Our Members**

Gailyn & Jacki Baker  
Jim & Florence Boop  
Jean Buoy  
Shirley Diehl  
Doug & Pearl Gemberling  
Vickie Kahler  
Shirley Kerstetter

Isabel Kline  
Max Miller  
Bob Rantz  
Alice Reitz  
Rylan Shuck  
Stacey Veley  
Mary Ellen VonNeida

#### **Our Friends & Relatives**

Karl Aikey  
Bonnie Bilger  
John Bowersox  
Makenna Boyer

Norm Brouse Jr  
Louise Crichton  
Adam Garman  
Cyrus Gehringer

Matt Imhoff  
Connie Karchner  
Kegan Lahr  
Rhilynd Lechinsky  
Dennis Lucas  
Kathryn Moraski  
Tony Parker  
John Renninger  
Linda Ruder

Mike Schmidt  
Bev Shreffler  
Finley Snook  
Janison Sparks  
Mark Troup  
Elva Wilson  
Russell Wise  
David Wood

### **Our Shut-Ins**

Carolyn Bowersox  
Barbara Grimooris  
Shirley Kerstetter  
Isabel Kline  
Pat Korman  
Betty Lauf

Eugene Phillips  
Myron 'Mick' Sampsell  
Richard Schnure  
Mary Ellen VonNeida  
Connie Wagner  
Caroline Wenrick

### **The Men and Women Serving In the Military**

Adam Gemberling      Brandi Gemberling      Michael Spurr

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THE FOLLOWING ARE ACTUAL SIGNS FOUND ON CHURCH PROPERTY:

- *If you thought Mr. Clean took out dirt? TRY JESUS."*
- *"Let a Jewish carpenter build your dream house."*
- *"Let us help you study for your final exam."*
- *"Looking at the way some people live, they ought to obtain eternal fire insurance soon."*
- *"Many who seek God at the eleventh hour die at 10:30"*
- *"Movie superheroes are fantasies. Jesus is the only superhero."*
- *"Our arms are the only ones God has to hug His children."*
- *"Searching for a new look? Have your faith lifted here."*
- *"Sign broken. Come inside for message."*
- *"Son Screen Prevents Sin Burn"*
- *"Soul food served here."*
- *"Speak well of your enemies; after all, you made them."*
- *"Swallowing pride will never give you indigestion."*
- *"T.G.I.F. – Thank God I'm Forgiven."*
- *"The best vitamin for a Christian is B1"*
- *"The cold world needs warm hearted Christians"*
- *"The devil believes in Jesus. Is he in Heaven?"*
- *"The nails didn't keep Jesus on the cross—his love for you did."*
- *"This day brought to you by Jesus."*
- *"This is a ch__ __ch. What is missing?" (U R)*
- *"Those who walk with God won't run from people's needs."*



FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
404 Market Street
Mifflinburg, PA 17844
Telephone 570-966-0266 - E-Mail: firstlu@dejazzd.com
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs, 9:00-2:00

Mission Trip Fundraiser

A member from First Lutheran will be offering Weis and Wenger cards for purchase from 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. prior to the church service in the hallway every **1st and 3rd Sunday**. Weis cards are in the denominations of \$25, \$50 and \$100 and we receive 5% of the cards sold. Wenger cards are in the denominations of \$25, \$50 and \$100 and we receive 10% of the cards sold. First Lutheran has been doing this type of fundraising for many years and has supported over 15 workcamp mission trips. Thank you for your support.

Youth Fundraiser

On the third Sunday of February and March the youth will be holding a Soup, Sandwich & Sweets Sale. Tickets will be sold for \$10 which includes, **TWO** soups, a sandwich and sweet treat.

Do you normally cook or go out for lunch on Sunday? Forget about it on these days! Go home, keep warm and savor lunch and the warm feeling of helping our youth draw closer to Jesus this summer!

With your \$10 donation you can simply go to the "Lunch to Go Service Station" in the Multi-Purpose Room after the worship service and select your choice of soups. They will be placed in containers with a sandwich and dessert for you to take home. Tickets are available in the church office or from our youth. Questions? See/Call Tracy Seebold at 570-490- 1949

Willing to donate a large crockpot of homemade soup? Let Tracy know and we will thank you with a complimentary ticket!

Community Meal

The Community Meal Committee is looking for a few good folks to help serve meals on the first Saturday of each month. We begin preparing the meal at 9:00 and are usually done by 1:00. You can come for an hour or 2, or stay the whole time. We serve between 30 and 60 people each month. This is a great way to help reach out to our community. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Please Contact Libby Loss @ 966-1606 or Sue Jows @ 966-3644 if you can help.



355 Mt. Luther Lane, Mifflinburg, PA 17844
Telephone (570) 922-1587 Fax (570) 922-1118
E-mail: cml@campmountluther.org

Raise the Region

Mar 8 @ 6:00 pm – Mar 9 @ 11:45 pm

Camp Mount Luther is participating in “Raise the Region” on March 8-9, 2017. The event, coordinated by The First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania, helps the community support local nonprofit organizations’ fund raising efforts. FCFP, in partnership with Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships, will be launching the 30-hour fundraising event on March 8 and 9, 2017, starting at 6:00 p.m. on March 8 and ending at 11:59 p.m. on March 9. Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships has donated \$150,000 that will be used to stretch a portion of donations made to pre-registered nonprofits. Additional monetary prizes and incentives will be awarded throughout the entire event. This program is designed to help organizations, like Camp Mount Luther, kickoff our 2017 fundraising campaigns and increase donor bases. Proceeds from this event will go to camp’s Annual Fund, unless a donor gets in touch with the camp office to designate it for another camp cause.

How It Works:

On March 8 and 9, donors will visit raisetheregion.org from a computer, smart phone, iPad, etc. to learn more about the nonprofits participating and how their work is impacting our community. You can then make an online donation to support one or more of those nonprofit organizations on the Raise the Region website. Running totals will be shown throughout the day at the Raise the Region website. At the end of the

donation period, a pro-rated match per gift will be determined and the Community Foundation will send checks to all participating nonprofits with the amount raised, the pro-rated match, and any EXTRA money from prizes awarded throughout the day.

Camp Mount Luther has participated in Raise the Region for four years and has garnered about \$50,000 in donations during this event. The camp hopes you will help us to have another successful year! <http://www.campmountluther.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/2017-Raise-the-Region.pdf>

Spring Open House

April 23, 2017

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Have you ever wanted to see Mount Luther's site and facilities? Do you miss camp and want to visit in the springtime? Are you interested in coming to camp this summer but want to get more information and see the place first? Well, this is your chance. The Camp Mount Luther Spring Open House will be held on Sunday, April 23, 2017, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. You can ask questions, tour camp, and see what it's like to be a camper! First time campers who are not yet registered for the summer and who attend the event can get a \$25 discount on their summer registration! More details will be shared on their website at www.campmountluther.org!

Golf Tournament

May 8

11:00 am – 6:00 pm

The annual Bishop Open's Golf Classic is set for May 8, 2017, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club in Shamokin Dam. The tournament benefits Camp Mount Luther and the camp's annual fund. A flyer/bulletin insert containing information and registration form is available here:

<http://www.campmountluther.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/2017-Golf-Tournament-Flyer.pdf>. The camp's golf tournament committee is currently looking for hole sponsors, door prize sponsors, silent auction items, and golfers. If you can help, please contact the camp office at 570-922-1587 or cml@campmountluther.org. Congregations are also encouraged to become hole sponsors. Get involved and help our synod's outdoor ministry

Mount Luther: A Place for All!

Do you want an experience you'll never forget? Then our summer program is for you! Regardless of where you are from, what you look like, or whether you go to church or not we welcome you! At Mount Luther, you'll make new friends, try new things and connect with God while you grow in your faith.

Our setting is the Pennsylvania mountains near Mifflinburg, surrounded by the Bald Eagle State Forest. While here, you will encounter the beauty of God's creation as you visit our trails, campsites, worship sites, fields, pool, and pond.

2016 Summer Staff

Mount Luther is **SMALL GROUP CAMPING**. A cabin of boys works with a cabin of girls and their counselors and forms a tight-knit community for the week.

Mount Luther promotes **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**. Our well-trained college-age staff and volunteer chaplains serve as role models and show what leadership is all about.

Mount Luther is a **SAFE PLACE**. Accredited by the American Camp Association, we meet the highest standards of the camping industry to ensure your safety.

Mount Luther is a place of **RE-CREATION**. Live and play outside, eat good meals, get good rest, and use your leisure effectively.

Mount Luther helps you **GROW WITH GOD**. We are affiliated with the Upper Susquehanna Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We spend time Gathering and Reflecting On God's Word through readings, songs, games, and demonstrations. Camp can change your relationship with God and can make your life even better than you imagined!

You could even come to see the camp this spring at our Open House. It will held on Sunday, April 23, 2017, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Learn more about our summer program and tour the camp that day. It's perfect for new campers who are a little apprehensive about leaving home for the first time. First time campers who are not yet registered for the summer and who attend the event can get a \$25 discount on their summer registration!

If you are a returning camper, we hope you'll consider bringing a friend who has never been to camp. Make sure that if you have a cabinmate request, you put it on your registration form. We assign your cabinmates based on your program, age, and your requests! It's going to be a great summer!

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*A camp is a summer place where a mother sends her children for her vacation.*



## Upper Susquehanna Synod Events Calendar

### Institute for Lifelong Learning Programs

Susquehanna University's Institute for Lifelong Learning is a series of programs designed for senior community members. Members gather in SU's Campus Center on Wednesday to enjoy a social hour, presentation, and lunch, beginning at 10:15 a.m. There are three options for membership in the institute. For further details, please contact Joe Herb at [kapajoe@ptd.net](mailto:kapajoe@ptd.net) or 570-374-9911 or Jayme Long at [longj@susqu.edu](mailto:longj@susqu.edu) or 570-372-4354.

March 1: Mary Bach, Chair of the AARP Consumer Issues Task Force: "Fraud and the Older..."

March 15: Joshua Tryniewski, Pennsylvania Fish Commission Fisheries Biologist; "Can Shad Be Brought Back to the..."



## ***IN THE MAILBAG***

### LUTHERAN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS

**ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES:** Time is running out to sign up for your spring Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend! Please consider taking a weekend to learn how to make your marriage a more intimate, loving, Christian union. Weekends run from Friday night at 8 PM to Sunday around 3 PM and are for couples of all ages. There is a \$100 per couple registration fee, plus toward the end of the weekend,

you will be given an opportunity to make a confidential contribution of whatever amount you wish toward continuation of the program. Two nights lodging and 5 meals for each of you are included. The spring dates are:

- **March 24-26, 2017 at Toftrees Golf Resort & Conference Center -- a peaceful resort nestled in 1500 wooded acres in State College, PA.**
- **April 28-30, 2017 in Lancaster, PA, at the all newly-renovated Heritage Hotel Lancaster, home of the unique tree-house-inspired restaurant, “Loxley’s.”**

Registrations are also being accepted for the fall Weekends: **September 15-17, 2017 at Spruce Lake Retreat Center, Canadensis, PA in the Poconos, and October 6-8, 2017 at the Black Swan Inn in Lee, Massachusetts in the foothills of the Berkshire Mountains.** To sign up online, go to: [www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org) and pay the \$100 fee using your credit card, or mark the option to mail in a check. Registrations are limited, so act TODAY to ensure that you can attend the Weekend of your choice. For questions, or if you would like a brochure mailed to you, contact Northeast US Area Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, [fjschamber@comcast.net](mailto:fjschamber@comcast.net) or 724-325-3166.



## ***COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS***

### **EVANGELICAL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL'S SPIRITUAL CARE VOLUNTEER TRAINING**

**Every Tuesday in April 2017 (4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>)**

**9:00-11:00 a.m.**

**HR Conference Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Professional Building**

Intended Audience:

All Spiritual Care Volunteers, NODA (No One Dies Alone) Volunteers, Lay Chaplains, and Local Clergy are invited to attend the course.

Attendance is required at each session.

Additional details will be forthcoming.

Please register by emailing [Anna.Wuerthner@evanhospital.com](mailto:Anna.Wuerthner@evanhospital.com) or call 570-522-2144





## ***NOTES OF APPRECIATION***

*“Volunteers are gold”. Volunteers are the most valuable commodities in ministry. Without them, nothing would get done in our churches. We are fortunate to have the kind of dedicated people that we do. Do you know anyone who should be given a pat on the back and a “Thank You” for the contributions they make in and around the church? Let Margie know.*

### **THANK YOU TO...**

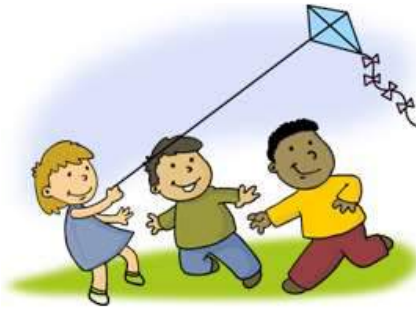
...**The men and women** who serve as lay readers, communion assistants, sound system operators, ushers, altar guild and greeters  
...**Everyone** who helped with the Indoor Block Party

~~~~~  
WHY NOT YOU

- *Today, many will awaken with a fresh sense of inspiration. Why not you?*
- *Today, many will open their eyes to the beauty that surrounds them. Why not you?*
- *Today, many will choose to leave the ghost of yesterday behind and seize the immeasurable power of today. Why not you?*
- *Today, many will break through the barriers of the past by looking at the blessings of the present. Why not you?*
- *Today, for many the burden of self-doubt and insecurity will be lifted by the security and confidence of empowerment. Why not you?*
- *Today, many will rise above their believed limitations and make contact with their powerful innate strength. Why not you?*
- *Today, many will choose to live in such a manner that they will be a positive role model for their children. Why not you?*
- *Today, many will choose to free themselves from the personal imprisonment of their bad habits. Why not you?*
- *Today, many will choose to live free of conditions and rules governing their own happiness. Why not you?*
- *Today, many will find abundance in simplicity. Why not you?*
- *Today, many will be confronted by difficult moral choices and they will choose to do what is right instead of what is beneficial. Why not you?*
- *Today, many will decide to no longer sit back with a victim mentality, but to take charge of their lives and make positive changes. Why not you?*
- *Today, many will take the action necessary to make a difference. Why not you?*
- *Today, many will make the commitment to be a better mother, father, son, daughter, student, teacher, worker, boss, brother, sister, & so much more. Why not you?*
- *Today is a new day! Many will seize this day. Many will live it to the fullest. Why not you?”*

ALTAR GUILD

June Wenrich



USHERS

Tom Catherman
Don Fornwalt

GREETERS

5 – Al & Sue Pantaleo
12 – Tom & Judy
 Mecouch
19 – Bob & Eve Rantz
26 – Mike & Patty
 Flickinger

MARCH

SOUND SYSTEM

Dave Bickhart

MUSIC PROVIDERS

5 – Paula Christy
12 – Diane Valentine
19 – Dave Swartz
26 – Gary Hackenberg

LAY READERS

1 – Barry Spangler
 (Ash Wednesday)
5 – Kathy Spangler
12 – Glenn Spangler
19 – Mike Flickinger
26 – Janet Hackenberg

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

1 – Barry Spangler
 (Ash Wednesday)
5 – Lee Spangler
12 – Glenn Spangler
19 – Janice Wagner
26 – Janet Hackenberg

REMINDER

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FINDING A SUBSTITUTE IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO BE HERE WHEN SCHEDULED.

ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS, SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS & USHERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHEDULED DURING THE MONTH.

If you would like to be added to our list of volunteers to help with one or more of the following positions, please fill it out and return it to the church office.



USHER

I/we will serve as an usher

Name _____
Telephone _____



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

I/we will help with children's church

Name _____
Telephone _____



SOUND SYSTEM OPERATOR

I/we will operate the sound system

Name _____
Telephone _____



ALTAR GUILD

I/we will serve on the altar guild

Name _____
Telephone _____



COMMUNION HELPER

I/we will serve as a communion helper

Name _____
Telephone _____



GREETERS

I/we will serve as greeters

Name _____
Telephone _____



LAY READER

I/we will serve as a lay reader

Name _____
Telephone _____



Christ's United Lutheran Church
13765 Old Turnpike Rd
Millmont Pa 17845
570-922-1860
 church's e-mail: culc@dejazzd.com
 pastor's e-mail:
pastorjohn@4bellschurch.com
 website: www.4bellschurch.com

Office Hours:
Mon-Thu – 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Fri – Closed

THE DEADLINE FOR
 ARTICLES FOR THE

APRIL

NEWSLETTER IS

MARCH 20

STAFF

The Congregation.....	The Ministers
The Rev. John D. Yost.....	Pastor
Margie Dunkle	Sec/Asst Tr
Dianne Shuck	Treasurer
Janet Hackenberg.....	Asst Tr
Cliff Valentine.....	Recording Financial Secretary
Tom Catherman.....	Custodian
Paula Christy & Gary Hackenberg	Organists
Diane Valentine & Karen Zimmerman	Pianists

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Officers

Greg Shuck, President
 Drew Christy, Vice President
 Linda Smith, Secretary
 Barry Spangler, Recording Secretary

Ministry Assignments

Facilities/Administration

*(deals with property, personnel
 and stewardship)*

Tom Catherman
 Maurice Clouser
 Eugene Hassinger

Inreach

*(focus on ministry
 within the congregation)*

Drew Christy
 Greg Shuck
 Janet Spurr

Outreach

*(related to ministry
 beyond the congregation)*

Doug Gemberling
 Dianne Shuck
 Linda Smith

THE M.I.S.S.I.O.N OF CHRIST'S UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

Meet – we meet each other as sisters and brothers in Christ

Invite – we invite and welcome others into the body of Christ

Share – we share the good news of Jesus and our gifts with all

Support – we support each other as we walk in the ways of Jesus

Imagine – we imagine life filled with God's purpose and grace

Offer – we offer ourselves to God through faith, hope and love

Nourish – we nourish one another in the Word, by the Spirit

Christ's United Lutheran Church is a community of faith, gathered, empowered and entrusted with the good news of Jesus Christ to bear witness that we are one body in Christ as together we worship God in all praise and thanksgiving and we serve one another with unconditional love and mercy.

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE...

- when a member of your family is sick or is admitted to the hospital, so that visits can be made and the proper people notified.
- when your address and phone number is changed, so the church records can be corrected.
- when you move—out of town or locally.
- when a new baby arrives in your family or in the family of another church member.
- when a member of your family leaves home for college or to establish a new residence.
- when a new family moves into your neighborhood.
- when your class or group plans to have a meeting, so that it can be cleared and placed on the church calendar.
- when something good happens to you or your family.
- when you feel the church can assist you in any way.

March 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><u>WEATHER LORE</u></p> <p><i>Robins will perch on the topmost branches of trees and whistle when a storm is approaching.</i></p>			<p>1 ASH WED 7:00-9:00 Imposition of Ashes 10:00 Hope's Haven 7:00 Service</p>	2	<p>3 8:00 Potpie Workday</p>	<p>4 8:00 Potpie Workday 3:30 Potpie Supper</p>
<p>5 9:00 Worship 10:00 Koinonia Kafe 10:15 Sunday School</p>	<p>6 9:00 Easter Egg Mixing 6:00 Easter Egg Dipping</p>	<p>7 10:30 Bible study @ First Lutheran 11:30 Readington Farms Banquet 6:30 Outreach Ministry</p>	<p>8 10:00 Hope's Haven 6:00 Lenten Supper @ St John's UCC 7:30 Bible Study</p>	9	10	<p>11 6:00 Sportsmen Banquet</p>
<p>12 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School</p>	<p>13 9:00 Easter Egg Mixing 6:00 Easter Egg Dipping</p>	<p>14 10:30 Bible study @ First Lutheran</p>	<p>15 10:00 Hope's Haven :00 Lenten Supper @ Miff Methodist 7:30 Bible Study</p>	16	11	<p>18 9:00 Train Show</p>
<p>19 10:30 Worship</p>	<p>20 9:00 Easter Egg Mixing 6:00 Easter Egg Dipping</p>	<p>21 10:30 Bible study @ First Lutheran 7:00 Council</p>	<p>22 10:00 Hope's Haven 6:00 Lenten Supper @ 1st Lutheran 7:30 Bible Study</p>	23	<p>24 BSA Chicken</p>	<p>25 Barbecue</p>
<p>26 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School</p>	<p>27 9:00 Easter Egg Mixing 6:00 Easter Egg Dipping</p>	<p>28 10:30 Bible study @ First Lutheran</p>	<p>29 10:00 Hope's Haven 6:00 Lenten Supper @ Cowan 7:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>30 6:30 Young Farmers Banquet</p>	31	

Four things come not back: the spoken word, the spent arrow, the past, and the neglected opportunity.