



# **CHRIST'S UNITED'S NEWS & VIEWS**

## ***NOVEMBER 2017***

### **PASTOR'S PARAGRAPHS**

#### **CHRISTIAN IDENTITY, CHARACTER, AND COMMITMENT**

I believe it would be safe to assume that the readers of this article would identify themselves as Christian; after all, you are receiving this article in a congregational newsletter. I would like us to ponder a bit as to our understandings of what it means to call ourselves Christian. Do we call ourselves Christian because we believe in God? In Jesus? In the Holy Spirit? Are our beliefs summed up in creedal formulations like the Apostles' and the Nicene, which we profess in our weekly worship? Do we refer to ourselves as Christian because we somehow attach ourselves to the concepts of forgiveness, salvation, heaven, and eternal life? Do we identify ourselves as Christian because of the benefits we hope to receive from God's promises? Are our Christian beliefs a fearful wager against a possibility of nothingness and finality?

These questions are important and vital to the manner in which we conduct our lives. That is, how does our identification of ourselves as Christian impact not only our cerebral beliefs but also the ways in which we behave? How related is our Christian identity to our character formation and life commitments? The motivation behind and the direction of our beliefs will most likely be played out in and through our daily actions and commitments. In other words, the depth of our beliefs will be revealed in the kind of lives we lead, in our participation within the Christian community, and in in Christian witness before the world.

Do we understand our Christian identity as that which moves us beyond merely believing in Jesus as our Savior to intentionally listening to and following Jesus as our Lord? That is, by identifying ourselves as Christian, are we willing and able to put our beliefs into action, to bear witness that our Christian faith speaks both to God's

promises of forgiveness and heavenly, everlasting life as well as to the empowerment we receive in Jesus to follow his lead in the presence of the Kingdom of God in the here-and-now and to serve him by loving and caring for one another as he loves us. Is our Christian identity tied as much to life's concerns in our daily activities and in our relationships with each other as it is to the promise of heaven and eternal life?

I raise these issues because there is a discernable wide gap between the numbers of folks who identify themselves as Christian from the number of those who indicate that they are part of the church. Further, there is also a noticeable gap between those who identify themselves as members of a church and those who participate actively in the worship and service life of a congregation, i.e. the difference between congregational membership rolls and the number of bodies in the pews on Sunday mornings. Also, there seems to be evidence that some who see themselves as active in the church are only interested in some aspects of ministry and are not engaged in the whole mission of the church.

Being a Christian is the most wonderful gift we have been given. But it is not only a gift but also an opportunity to be utilized in our shared commitment and participation as the body of Christ, empowered, fed, and sustained by the living presence of Jesus, to engage in justice and righteousness and hope for all.

Are we ready and willing in our commitments to listen to and follow our Lord Jesus whenever and wherever he leads us to bear witness in word and deed to the kind of life he alone can offer, and to share that understanding in an active presence and participation in the life of the church? The biblical witness of and to Jesus presented One whose beliefs were matched in his actions. Can and will the same be said about us? Is our Christian identity simply a safeguard for a safe and secure eternal future against threat, danger, and finality or is it the character formed in us by the living presence of our Lord Jesus that we may be conformed and committed to living our lives in service to one another, fully equipped with the belief and hope Jesus has in us? In the matter of Christian identity, maybe actions do speak louder than words.

~Pastor John

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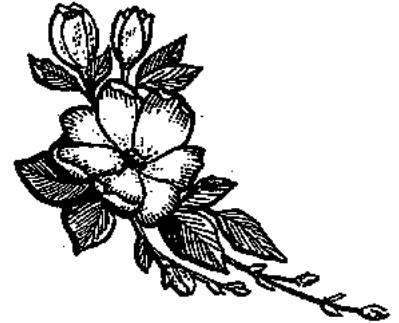
## ***ALL SAINTS SUNDAY*** ***NOVEMBER 5***

On **Sunday, November 5**, we will remember those who have joined the Saints Triumphant during the past year.

*Isabel Kline*  
*April 11, 2017*

*Harold Sampsell*  
*February 11, 2017*

*Debra Wilson*  
*December 28, 2016*



## ***ALL SAINTS SUNDAY***

All Saints' Day falls on the first Sunday of November. It is a day when we commemorate those we have lost as well as the Christians who have lived before us and have testified to their Christian faith.



Lighting a virtual memorial candle is a symbolic way to honor someone's life and mourn their death. For some, a virtual memorial candle can represent a prayer. For others, it is simply a way to show that someone's spirit lives on in the hearts they have left behind.

This year All Saints Day falls on **November 5**. We invite you to observe this occasion and remember your loved ones by bringing with you, to the worship service, a candle to light in memory of those we have lost.

## ***BIBLE STUDIES***

This month's Bible studies will take place as follows:



| <b>Monday</b>          | <b>Tuesday</b>        | <b>Wednesday</b>       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| <b>10:30 a.m.</b>      | <b>10:30 a.m.</b>     | <b>7:00 p.m.</b>       |
| <b>Christ's United</b> | <b>First Lutheran</b> | <b>Christ's United</b> |
| <b>November 6</b>      | <b>November 7</b>     | <b>November 8</b>      |
| <b>November 13</b>     | <b>November 14</b>    | <b>November 15</b>     |
| <b>November 20</b>     | <b>November 21</b>    |                        |
| <b>November 27</b>     | <b>November 28</b>    | <b>November 29</b>     |

## ***THANKSGIVING SERVICE*** ***NOVEMBER 22***



Join us for worship at **First Lutheran** at **7:00 p.m.** on **Wednesday, November 22**, for our Thanksgiving service as we offer our praise and thanksgiving to God for the blessings we receive each and every day.

Diane Scott, Director of Music at First Lutheran, has invited CULC children to join in a children's choir on Thanksgiving Eve. One of the mothers would have to coordinate this (NOT ME) since Diane Valentine is no longer acting as children's choir director. The song they are singing is Verse 1 of "All Things Bright and Beautiful" found in *With One Voice*. Rehearsal will be at 6:30 on Nov. 22nd at First Lutheran.

--Paula Christy

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*I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving.*  
*(Psalm 69:30)*

## ***FALL POTPIE SUPPER***

### ***NOVEMBER 4***

A potpie supper is planned for **November 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 (5 and under) – No Charge  
Take Out Meals - \$9.00  
Quarts of Potpie - \$8.00

The workday will take place on **Friday, November 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.

Help is also needed the day of the pot pie supper. At **8:00 a.m.**, help is needed to roll potpie, 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.

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.

## ***SUNDAY FAMILY GAME NIGHT***

### ***NOVEMBER 12***



Planned for **Sunday, November 12**, beginning at **6:00 p.m.**, people of all ages are asked to bring games to share such as cards, checkers, Can Slam, etc. Ice cream is planned because we want to “build a sundae on a Sunday.”

## ***ADVENT FELLOWSHIP DAY*** ***NOVEMBER 27***



Our Advent Fellowship Day will be held on **Sunday, December 3, following the worship service.** This day is designed for people of all ages. Bring children if you have them. Come and become a part of a family if you live alone. Let's prepare together for the birth of our Lord.

After the Koinonia Kafe following worship, we will decorate our sanctuary and church for the Christmas season.

## ***CHRISTMAS CAROLING*** ***DECEMBER 17***



On Sunday, **December 17, we will start at 3:00 p.m.** and travel to Lewisburg to start and travel westward. We hope to be able to sing to our members who are in nursing homes, assisted living, or are shut-in. Refreshments will follow the caroling. Warm bodies and hearts are more important than singing talents.

## ***CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP*** ***DECEMBER 24***



This year's Christmas Eve worship services will take place at the following time and locations:

10:00 a.m. – Joint Worship Service at Christ's United

5:00 p.m. – Family Service at First Lutheran

10:30 p.m. – Candlelight Service at Christ's United



## ***CHRISTKINDL MARKET***

### ***DECEMBER 14, 15, 16***

It is time to start thinking about Christkindl Market. Do you believe it? Time does fly by much too fast.

We will be having a stand at the Christkindl Market again this year, selling baked potatoes, schnitz un knepp and bon bons. Sooo...along with the Christkindl Market comes some preparation and of course helping at the market.

On Monday, **December 11, at 9:00 a.m.** the bon bons will be mixed and shaped. Very easy to do and a lot of fun.

Then at **5:00 p.m. or 6:00 p.m.** (whichever time suits you), the bon bons will be dipped and boxed. If you like using stickers and ribbon, this is a perfect job for you.

On Wednesday, **December 13, at 5:00 p.m.** we will be washing, oiling and wrapping the potatoes.

The Market opens **at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 14,** and **at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, December 15, and Saturday, December 16.**

Hopefully enough people will sign up that we can do two hour shifts. Please feel free to sign up for more than a one day shift if possible. Watch for sign-up sheets on the bulletin board beside the office.

Tom and Don have always brought what was needed to be cleaned up back to the church so it is ready for the next day. I'm sure they would not mind if there is anyone else that would like to help with this. Let Tom and Don know.

In advance, Thank You and Merry Christmas!!!

If you want more information, talk to Bev Catherman.

## ***GIFTS FOR THE KIDS***



Santa needs help from his “elves” to provide the children who come to Hope’s Haven with some gifts at Christmas, so we ask you once again for donations of toys of \$5.00 or under. They can be for either a boy or girl.

Unwrapped donations can be put in Margie’s office where they will be collected and stored until they can be given to the children. Thank you all in advance for helping us brighten the day for the kids.

If you want more information, talk to Bev Catherman or Janet Hileman.

## ***MINISTERIUM BACKPACK PROGRAM***

The churches of the Mifflinburg Ministerium are providing backpacks of food for students in the Mifflinburg School District for weekends when they may not have a hot meal.



The Ministerium is asking for help with this program through donations of the following items:

- Single serving pudding cups
- Single serving cereals or pop tarts
- Peanut butter or cheese cracker packs
- Single serving applesauce or fruit cups
- Individual Microwavable Macaroni & Cheese
- Gummies - Dried fruit - Granola or protein bars
- Individual Microwavable Chef Boy R Dee Products
- Microwavable individual pasta meals (e.g.: Chef Boy-R-Dee, mac & cheese)

Christ’s United is in charge of filling and distributing backpacks for December 2017. 28 from Mifflinburg Area Elementary and Intermediate Schools are receiving backpacks filled with food for the weekend.

Backpacks will be distributed on the following December Fridays: 1, 8, 15 and 22. December 22 we hope to supply a “double” donation since school will be out until after the New Year’s. Items should be brought to the church the Sunday before each distribution Friday.





## ***BANQUET HELP WANTED***

As you are probably aware, banquets are beginning soon. So far we have several scheduled for the spring. More will be added as contracts come in.

What you may not be aware of is **'Help is always needed'**

Help is needed in the dining room to serve the meals. We serve family style, so it is a matter of getting the dishes of food to each table. Once they have eaten, cake is served. Someone is needed to serve coffee at larger banquets as well. At smaller banquets, each server will cover their own tables. Servers are usually asked to arrive 45 minutes before serving time.

Help is needed in the kitchen as well. Some people are needed to come early, sometimes as early as 7:00 a.m. or 8:00 a.m. to start cooking the meat. Others are needed to come about 3 hours before serving time to cut meat. Several are needed about 2 hours before serving time to dish up the pickles, olives and applesauce. About an hour before serving time, others are needed to dish up the foods that will be taken to the tables.

All are encouraged to stay for dishwashing and clean-up!

**Everyone** is welcome! Experience not necessary! Training provided!

Donations of cakes are also appreciated. If you are a cake baker, please consider donating.

Please talk to one of these people to volunteer your help.

- To help in the Kitchen, contact Kim Blyler
- To help in the Dining Room, contact Bev Catherman
- To donate a cake contact Darlene Ulrich



## ***HOPE'S HAVEN REPORT***

The following information is provided by Gary Hackenberg.

HOPES HAVEN has been in existence for the last several years and has a vital and defining part of our ministry. Currently, there are two primary components of the program:

- A Weekly Food Bank Ministry and a
- Free Clothing Room

These two programs would not be possible without the support of the ministry assignments of the Inreach, Outreach and Facilities/Administration committees since we are serving members of our church family at Christ's United (Inreach), and are serving members of our community at large (Outreach) and have been granted the use of our facilities to warehouse and distribute food. (Facilities/Administration)

### **THE HOPE'S HAVEN FOOD PANTRY**

- The purpose of the Food Pantry is to provide meals to individuals and families that can prove residence in Union County.
- Hopes Haven is the only Union County Food Pantry that is open every week.
- Without financial aid from the congregation and community, and without the help of volunteers from the congregation and community, Hopes Haven would not be able to operate at its current level, if at all.
- We have recently learned that members of THRIVENT can donate their earned rewards to the Central PA Food Bank and Hopes Haven can use that credit for future food purchases.

### **THE HOPE'S HAVEN CLOTHING ROOM**

- The purpose of the clothing room is to have "gently used" free clothing available to those in need.

- Currently because of staffing requirements on food distribution day, we are not able to open the clothing room.
- While providing a beneficial service, use of the clothing room by the public has diminished over time.
- Beginning immediately, the clothing room will not accept any additional clothing.

### **WHAT ARE THE KEYS TO THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF HOPE'S HAVEN FOOD PANTRY?**

- Dedication of volunteer help.
- We currently have approximately 20 volunteers that help as they are available on the Wednesday distribution day.
- About half of these 20 volunteers regularly show up on Tuesdays to help unload and shelve deliveries from the Central PA Food Bank and then set up the Fellowship Hall for Wednesday's distribution.
- This group of volunteers (mostly 60+) needs the occasional break to deal with parents, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and well as medical situations, vacations, etc. That means distribution days are sometimes short-staffed.
- We also have additional volunteers that assist in picking up donated goods from Weis Warehouse, Weis in Lewisburg, Aldi's, Shamokin Dam and other local retailers.
- Continued financial assistance from the church and community.

### **HOW DO WE MAINTAIN OUR HIGH LEVEL OF SUCCESS?**

- Volunteers. By getting involved. Recruit additional volunteers for the Food Pantry. Come on a Wednesday between 9:30 and 11:00 and watch the process and join in the excitement of greeting the community as they pick up what is being distributed that week. Tell us how you might be able to help. Become part of this exciting ministry.
- Use the Clothing room as additional food storage space and get even better pricing.
- Continue to develop partnerships with Central PA Food Bank and local retailers. (Example: We now pick up 150 – 300 pounds of frozen meat from Weis, Lewisburg. This is a weekly pickup and costs us time and a volunteer with a vehicle to do the job).
- Consider closing the Clothing Room permanently and placing a "Community Aid" box on the property.
- Pray for success if this vital program.

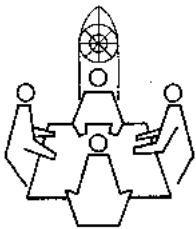
**A FEW STATISTICS**

**CURRENTLY ON OUR ROLLS**

<b><u>CATEGORY 1/1/17-9/30/17</u></b>	<b><u>AVG</u></b>
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS SERVED	112
TOTAL YOUTH (0-17)	73
TOTAL ADULTS (18-59)	171
TOTAL SENIORS (60+)	75
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS SERVED	322
NEW HOUSEHOLDS	6
NEW YOUTH (0-17)	5
NEW ADULTS (18-59)	6
NEW SENIORS (60+)	2

	<b><u>FROM FOOD BANK 07/01/16 – 6/30/17</u></b>	<b><u>FROM OUR CALCS – 1<sup>ST</sup> 9 MONTHS OF 2017</u></b>
<b>TOTAL POUNDS OF FOOD RECEIVED FROM ALL SOURCES</b>	<b>70,667</b>	<b>65,493</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH OUTLAY, INCLUDING GRANTS</b>	<b>\$7,212.39</b>	<b>\$5,392.32</b>
<b>CURRENT WHOLESALE VALUE OF FOOD PURCHASES(\$1.67/LB)</b>	<b>\$118,013.89</b>	<b>\$109,373.31</b>
<b>NUMBER OF MEALS PROVIDED BY 70,667 LBS</b>	<b>58,889</b>	<b>54,578</b>
<b>COST PER MEAL</b>	<b>\$0.087</b>	<b>\$0.063</b>

***COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE***



**October 17, 2017**

- The annual congregational meeting is scheduled to take place right after the Sunday, December 10 worship service. We will vote on the 2018 budget and hold a Church Council election.



## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

**As of SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Income for month (4 weeks)	\$ 14,295.01	\$ 11,503.08
Expenses for month	<u>17,895.28</u>	11,503.08
Difference	<b>(\$ 3,600.27)</b>	

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Income Year-to-Date (39 weeks)	\$155,162.36	\$100,651.45
Expenses Year-to-Date	<u>142,902.92</u>	100,651.45
Difference	\$ 12,259.44	

**August Notes:**

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

Budget is based on Sundays per month. September had 4 Sundays so Budgeted based on 4 Sundays.

(Jan. Apr. Jul, Oct, & Dec have 5 Sundays – all others have 4 Sundays)

September Income and Expense were both higher than the budgeted \$11,503.08. There was \$1,740.00 income for the Parking Lot, which is not typical. Expenses were \$6,392.20 higher than budgeted. We paid \$3,857 to ELCA Benevolence and \$492.28 repair bill, which are not typical each month. Some other expenses were higher than budgeted. No fund raiser type income and some expenses paid in advanced resulted in a negative income in that source of income.

The year-to-date net income was down from previous month amount due to September's negative net income. The Parking Lot Loan was paid off in September. There are many building improvements that we will need to make before long, so please continue to maintain your giving to support our church.

Sources of Income:	<u>September 201</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Offerings	\$ 9,461.00 66%	\$ 81,681.53 53%
BV Parish	5,495 .00 38%	43,960.00 32%
Banquets/ Others	<u>-660.99 -4%</u>	<u>24,025.83 15%</u>
Totals	\$ 14,295.01 100%	\$155,162.36 100%

**\*\*PARKING LOT LOAN AS OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2017 – PAID IN FULL!!**

~~Cliff Valentine, Financial Recording Secretary



***FOR YOUR INFORMATION***

**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.

**REIMBURSEMENTS**

Please talk to Dianne Shuck, Al Pantaleo or any council member for information on how to obtain a reimbursement for expenses you may have for the church.

**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.

## **COMMUNIONS**

Communions 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.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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### **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.

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**Hymn Request**

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**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.

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**Prayer Chain Calling List**

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

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**SOCIAL/FELLOWSHIP REQUEST**

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

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**Fellowship Events:**

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**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.

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**Building & Ground Needs:**

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**ONGOING COLLECTIONS**

**The Shriners**

Can Tabs (give tabs to Maurice Clouser)



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

### **BIRTHDAYS**

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 – Lance Wagner        | 25 – Doug Shaffer       |
| 3 – Patricia Emery      | Ferlin Zimmerman        |
| 5 – Victoria Kahler     | 26 – Justin Gemberling  |
| 9 – Karen Watters       | Evelyn Rice             |
| 10 – Donna Duke         | Diane Valentine         |
| 13 – Ryan Klose         | 27 – Shirley Kerstetter |
| 14 – Xander Harvey      | 28 – Duane Miller       |
| 15 – Keyan Blyler       | Jody Strowbridge        |
| 18 – Amy Shuck          | 29 – Maurice Clouser    |
| 22 – Jeremiah Zimmerman | Linda Smith             |
| 23 – John Ruhl          | Pauline Templin         |
| 24 – Alexa Spigelmyer   | 30 – Stacey Veley       |

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

- |                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| 2 – Curtis & Donna Duke | (1974) |
| 6 – Jim & Sandy Sanders | (1976) |
| 15 – Ken & Diane Reamer | (1967) |
| 17 – Kim & Sue Blyler   | (1972) |

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*I'd rather see a sermon  
Than hear one any day  
I'd rather one should walk with me  
Than merely tell the way;  
The eye's a better pupil and  
More willing than the ear.  
Fine counsel is confusing,  
But example's always clear.  
--Edgar A. Guest  
The Joyful Noiseletter*



**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  
Gary Hackenberg  
Vickie Kahler

Shirley Kerstetter  
Pat Korman  
Bob & Eve Rantz  
Dottie Rathfon  
Alice Reitz  
Teresa Shuck  
Janet Spurr

**Our Friends & Relatives**

Bonnie Bilger  
John Bowersox  
Shannon Dressler  
Adam Garman  
Gary & Barb Gemberling  
Carol Gross  
Bella Guisewite  
Jeanne Howard  
Dave & Cindy Janas  
Linda Katherman  
Norman Kline

Keagan Lahr  
Gerald Lloyd  
Linda Ruder  
John Snook  
Deb & Brian Sprenkle  
Mark Troup  
Greg Valentine  
Karen Wagner  
Verna Erdley Weller  
Russell Wise  
David Wood

**Our Shut-Ins**

Jim & Florence Boop  
Carolyn Bowersox  
Barbara Grimooris  
Shirley Kerstetter  
Pat Korman  
Betty Lauf

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

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

Brandi Gemberling

*In an effort to keep our prayer list current, we are going to clear the current list on a quarterly basis. **A new list will begin in January, April, July, and October. If you want to continue an existing prayer request or have a new prayer concern, please contact Margie.***



### **FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**404 Market Street**

**Mifflinburg, PA 17844**

**Telephone 570-966-0266 - E-Mail: [firstlu@dejazzd.com](mailto:firstlu@dejazzd.com)**

**Office Hours: Mon-Thurs, 9:00-2:00**

### **Weis & Wenger Cards**

A member from First Lutheran will be offering Weis and Wenger cards for purchase in our hallway from **8:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.** 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.

### **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.

## **Growth And Service Trips**

It's exciting that we are now a Parish and I encourage Christ's Lutheran to be involved! We're planning four exciting growth and service trips throughout the next year and will have fundraising available to support these trips.

**January 1-3, 2018** PASSION CONFERENCE in Washington, DC for High School Seniors and College Age

**June 17-23, 2018** GROUP WORKCAMP in Wrightsville, PA for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade to Age 100

**June 27-July 1, 2018** ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, TX led by Pastor John (Will add a couple days before and after for travel and sightseeing)

**July 9-14, 2018** Harvey Cedars Bible Conference in New Jersey for Senior High students

We are planning once a month "Dinner and Devotions" for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade through College Age

Monthly fun activities as a group and with other area churches (MACY = Mifflinburg Area Christian Youth). PLEASE encourage any parents of the above age groups to join us to make final plans and details at this meeting.

Any questions, please have them contact Kim Sawyer, Youth Director at (570) 713-4577.

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### **CHILDREN'S BEDTIME PRAYERS**

- *Oh, Lord, thank you for making lightning bugs, and thank you for not making them fly high like birds, but low enough so I can catch them.*
- *Thank you God, for making all the people, especially me.*
- *Dear God: This is my prayer. Could you please give my brother some brains? So far he doesn't have any. (Angela, 8)*
- *Dear Lord: Thank you for the nice day today. You even fooled the TV weather man. (Hank, 7)*
- *Dear God: Please help me in school. I need help in spelling, adding, history, geography and writing. I don't need help in anything else. (Lois, 9)*
- *Dear God: I need a raise in my allowance. Could you have one of your angels tell my father. Thank you. (David, 7)*
- *Dear God: I am saying my prayers for me and my brother, Billy, because Billy is six months old and he can't do anything but sleep and wet his diapers. (Diane, 8)*

*The NEWSLETTER Newsletter*



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

**Evening at Shade Mountain to Benefit Mount Luther**  
**November 3, 2017**

Come to Shade Mountain Winery to share fellowship, entertainment, and enjoy locally produced wine, all to benefit Camp Mount Luther. The event runs from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by Bernie Rich, a local musician who sings contemporary folk music and Christian anthems. The menu will include heavy appetizers, dessert, and one glass of wine per person. SPACE IS LIMITED. Please make your reservations with the camp office at 570-922-1587 or [cml@campmountluther.org](mailto:cml@campmountluther.org). If you choose to purchase any bottles of wine that evening, a portion of the proceeds will be given to Mount Luther. We ask all participants to make a donation to the camp that evening, equal or greater to the food and entertainment provided. Download a flyer/bulletin insert here:

<https://www.campmountluther.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/2017-Shade-Mountain-Winery-Flyer.pdf>



***SYNOD NEWS***

**Healthy Congregations Workshop**  
**November 4, 2017**

On Saturday, November 4, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., there will be a workshop held titled, "Healthy Congregations 2." The workshop will focus on dealing with anxiety in your congregation. The event will be held at St. John Lutheran Church, 229 South

Broad Street, Jersey Shore. It's designed for any member of a congregation and is free of charge. Lunch will be provided. Please register by calling Molly Mitchell at 570-398-1676.

**Lecture at Bucknell University**  
**November 9, 2017**

"Genuine Love in the Reformation" is the title of a lecture on November 9, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at Bucknell University. It will be held in the LC Forum and feature Peter Iver Kaufman, George Matthews & Virginia Brinkley Modin Chair in Leadership Studies, Jepson School of Leadership Studies, University of Richmond.

**A Growing Need for Caregivers**

Home Helpers of Central Susquehanna Valley (based in Sunbury) is looking for compassionate individuals to provide companion care and daily living assistance to the elderly, new parents, and those requiring recuperative or continuing care. If you are a compassionate caregiver who is looking for a rewarding career, there are full-time, part-time and live-in positions available with Home Helpers...and the need is growing. Contact them directly to learn more: 570-286-9460 or [www.HomeHelpersHomecare.com/CSV](http://www.HomeHelpersHomecare.com/CSV).

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**TEN THINGS YOU WILL NEVER REGRET**

1. *Showing kindness to an aged person*
2. *Destroying a letter written in anger*
3. *Offering an apology that will save a friendship*
4. *Stopping a scandal that was ruining a reputation*
5. *Helping a boy or girl find themselves*
6. *Taking time to show consideration to parents, friends, brothers & sisters*
7. *Refraining from gossip when others around delight in it.*
8. *Refusing to do a thing which is wrong, although others do it.*
9. *Living according to convictions*
10. *Accepting the judgment of God on any question*  
*(Pulpit Helps)*



## ***IN THE MAILBAG***

### **All Veterans Can Get New Photo ID Cards**

Under a federal law passed in 2015, all honorably discharged veterans of every era will be able to receive a photo ID card from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), starting in November. This will allow veterans to prove their service without showing a copy of their official DD 214 discharge documents.

The law, known as the Veterans Identification Card Act 2015, orders the VA to issue a hard-copy photo ID to any honorably discharged veteran who applies. The card must contain the veteran's name, photo and a non-Social Security identification number.

Veterans may apply for the free card online, but a timeline for how long it will take to receive a card after application has not been finalized. Other details are not yet available.

In Pennsylvania, veterans can apply for a specially designated driver's license under [Act 176 of 2012](#). [More information is available here](#).

### **Operation Christmas Child**

**November 13-20**

**Daily 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Evenings 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.**

Mifflinburg United Methodist Church, 270 Market St., Mifflinburg, Pa. is pleased to be a drop-off location for your organization's shoeboxes. Please check out the dates and times that fit your schedule to drop off your shoeboxes. Your contribution will brighten a Child's Christmas!

Questions? Contact the Relay Center Coordinator, Angela Wagner (570-713-5845).





## ***COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS***

### **Veterans Day Ceremony**

**November 4 11:00 a.m.**

**Union County WWII Honor Roll  
Mifflinburg Park**

Speaker is Colonel Kenneth Lenig  
Nazarene Church Singers - Shikellamy JROTC - Cub Scout Pack 3520 –  
Boy Scout Troop 520 - Girl Scouts Community 642 -  
Children of the American Revolution

In case of bad weather the event will be held at the Nazarene Church, 12 Market St., Mifflinburg.

To purchase a brick or make a tax deductible donation to maintain the monument grounds: Union County Veterans Foundation, 1009 Buffalo Rd., Lewisburg (570-524-4367).

For the past two years we have included a dinner dance with our Veterans Day ceremony in Mifflinburg and it was a huge success. We were able to raise over \$5000 which we donated to veterans groups. Last year we made the VA Nursing Home in Hollidaysburg our recipient and after visiting with them it was an easy decision to keep them as our permanent spot to help. I was moved to tears as we visited with many veterans that were once homeless and now have a roof over their head and food to eat. I hope you agree that two words that should never be in the same sentence are...homeless and veteran.

So this year a bit of a revamping as we will no longer have the dinner dance but a collection of sorts for the heroes at Hollidaysburg. After conferring with Valerie at the home, we have decided to not only take monetary donations, but also collecting pocket T-shirts, sweat tops and sweatpants (sizes small to 5X). Any donations, clothing or monetary can be dropped off at our November 4 Veterans Day ceremony in Mifflinburg or by contacting me. Checks can simply be made out to: Hollidaysburg Veterans Home. This is a tax deductible donation and their tax number is 23-6002830.

We are really excited about what we can accomplish in helping out our heroes. They already did their part to ensure our freedoms and the least we can do is say thank you by brightening their lives.

Doug Walter  
916 Washington Ave., Lewisburg, Pa. 17837  
570-713-8919 e-mail mazeppa@ptd.net

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### **AUTUMN'S MAJESTY**

*Sun with his artistic touch,  
streaks skies of blue with rosy blush,  
trimming Oak and Maple too,  
crimson reds with yellow hue.*

*Birch and Hemlock, purple and gold,  
apples, pumpkins bright and bold,  
burns by day and cools by night,  
cloaking trees in fiery might.*

*Wispy winds and tumbling leaves,  
cypress scents within the breeze,  
starry eyes and harvest moon,  
sets the stage for crickets' tune.*

*As spiders spin their tapestry  
and crickets sing in symphony,  
their final song of destiny,  
it's clear for all the world to see,  
Autumn's vibrant majesty!*

*~Patricia L. Cisco  
"Family Friend"*



## ***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 Women** who crafted quilts for Lutheran World Relief
- ...**Gary & Janet Hackenberg and Dianne Shuck** for helping with the weekly offerings
- ...**Dianne Shuck & Cliff Valentine** for serving as treasurer and data entry processor
- ...**Barry Spangler** for servings as recording secretary
- ...**The members of the decorating committee and everyone** who sponsored chrysanthemums and donated items used to beautify the sanctuary for Harvest Home
- ...**Janice & Lance Wagner** for ordering and picking up the chrysanthemums from Engels
- ...**Greg & Teresa Shuck and their team** for cooking and serving the Senior Member Dinner and Chicken & Waffle Supper
- ...**Dave Bickhart, Maurice Clouser, Eugene Hassinger, Bob Rantz & Cliff Valentine** for trimming the shrubs
- ...**Bev Catherman** for volunteering to sharpen pencils and replenish communion cards and comment cards in the sanctuary.

*I would like to thank all those who helped out with the Doug Gemberling Chicken & Waffle Benefit Dinner on October 7. Your help was greatly appreciated.*

*Barry Spangler.*

*I would like to say thank you to members of Christ's United who helped me celebrate my 90th birthday by either coming to see me at my party or sending a card. It was a nice surprise and everything was appreciated. Thank you again and God bless.*

*Meda Struble*



**ALTAR GUILD**

Katherine Hassinger  
Eugene Hassinger

**USHERS**

Maurice Clouser  
Barry Spangler

**GREETERS**

5 – Barb Grimooris &  
Joe Dressler  
12 – Tom & Judy Mecouch  
19 – Barb Grimooris &  
Joe Dressler  
26 – Rick & Darlene Endy

**SOUND SYSTEM**

Dave Swartz

**MUSIC PROVIDERS**

5 – Barry Spangler  
12 – Diane Valentine  
19 – Dave Swartz  
26 – Paula Christy

**LAY READERS**

5 – Mike Flickinger  
12 – Maurice Clouser  
29 – Bonnie Greeney  
27 – Kathy Spangler

**COMMUNION  
ASSISTANTS**

5 – Judy Mecouch  
12 – Janice Wagner  
19 – Judy Moyer  
26 – Lee Spangler

**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](mailto:culc@dejazzd.com)  
pastor's e-mail:  
[pastorjohn@4bellschurch.com](mailto:pastorjohn@4bellschurch.com)  
website: [www.4bellschurch.com](http://www.4bellschurch.com)

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

THE DEADLINE FOR  
ARTICLES FOR THE

***DECEMBER***

NEWSLETTER IS:

***NOVEMBER 20***

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

- M**eet – we meet each other as sisters and brothers in Christ
- I**nvite – we invite and welcome others into the body of Christ
- S**hare – we share the good news of Jesus and our gifts with all
- S**upport – we support each other as we walk in the ways of Jesus
- I**magine – we imagine life filled with God's purpose and grace
- O**ffer – we offer ourselves to God through faith, hope and love
- N**ourish – 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.

## 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 .... Financial Recording Secretary  
Tom Catherman..... Custodian  
Gary Hackenberg .....Organist  
Diane Valentine ..... Pianist  
Karen Zimmerman ..... Pianist  
Paula Christy .....Adult Choir Director

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

### Officers

**Greg Shuck, President**  
**Drew Christy, Vice President**  
**Linda Smith, Council 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**

## 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.

# November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 10:00 Hope's Haven  7:00 Bible Study	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 8:00 Potpie Workday	<b>4</b> 8:00 Potpie Workday  3:30 Potpie Supper
<b>5 ALL SAINTS</b> 9:00 Worship 10:00 Koinonia Kafe 10:15 Sunday School	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 10:00 Hope's Haven	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Fellowship Hall Reserved   <b>Veterans Day</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School  6:00 Family Game Night	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 10:00 Hope's Haven	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School  1:00 BSA Court of Honor	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  7:00 Council	<b>22</b> 10:00 Hope's Haven  7:00 Thanksgiving Service @ First Lutheran	<b>23</b> Fellowship Hall Reserved   <b>Happy Thanksgiving</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10:00 Hope's Haven	<b>30</b>		

*When you arise in the morning, give thanks for the morning light, for your life and strength. Give thanks for your food, and the joy of living. If you see no reason for giving thanks, the fault lies with yourself.*

*~Tecumseh, Shawnee Chief*