

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

## ***MARCH 2018***

### **PASTOR'S PARAGRAPHS**

#### **LENT CONTINUED: LIVING IN AND BY GRACE**

As we continue in this Lenten season, we continually meet up with our Risen Lord Jesus who showers upon us the gifts of faith, love, and hope expressed in ways of mercy, grace, and forgiveness. As such, we followers of Jesus become empowered and enabled to walk the walk of Jesus to bear hope for the world. We are called to bear the marks of the cross, for in such bearing we bear witness to the promise of God manifest in the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus, a promise extended to us that bears the marks of eternity, righteousness and everlasting peace. Paul's letter to the Romans surmises this truth in a most profound way. Each day, may we take a look at Paul's words with deep longing and faithful obedience.

March 1: "...if we have died with Christ, we believe that we also will live with him."  
Romans 6:8

March 2: "The death Jesus died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God." Romans 6:10

March 3: "So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus." Romans 6:11

March 4: "For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace." Romans 6:14

March 5: "...now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life." Romans 6:22

March 6: “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23

March 7: “...you have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another to him who has been raised from the dead in order that we may bear fruit for God.” Romans 7:4

March 8: “But now we are discharged from the law, dead to that which held us captive, so that we are slaves not under the old written code but in the new life of the Spirit.” Romans 7:6

March 9: “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.” Romans 8:1

March 10: “For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do...” Romans 8:3

March 11: “...by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, he condemned sin in the flesh...” Romans 8:3

March 12: “To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.” Romans 8:6

March 13: “...you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you.” Romans 8:9

March 14: “...if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.” Romans 8:10

March 15: “If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.” Romans 8:11

March 16: “For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.” Romans 8:14

March 17: “...and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ...” Romans 8:17

March 18: “...if in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.” Romans 8:17

March 19: “I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us.” Romans 8:18

March 20: “For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God.” Romans 8:19

March 21: “...that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.” Romans 8:21

March 22: “For in hope we were saved.” Romans 8:24

March 23: “Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.”  
Romans 8:26

March 24: “We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28

March 25: “For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the first born within a large family.”  
Romans 8:29

March 26: “And those whom he predestined, he also called...”Romans 8:30

March 27: “...and those whom he called, he justified...” Romans 8:30

March 28: “...and those whom he justified, he also glorified.” Romans 8:30

March 29: “...in all things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.”  
Romans 8:37

March 30: “For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come...nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:38-39

March 31: “I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God...” Romans 12:1

--Pastor John



## ***HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES***

Joint parish worship dates for Ash Wednesday, Holy Week and Easter Sunday are as follows:

### **Palm Sunday, March 25**

10:30 a.m. Worship Service @ First Lutheran

### **Maundy Thursday, March 29**

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

### **Good Friday, March 30**

7:00 p.m. Worship @ First Lutheran

### **Easter Sunday, April 1**

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service @ Christ's United

10:00 a.m. – Festival of the Resurrection @ First Lutheran

## ***EASTER EGG HUNT***



A parish Easter Egg Hunt for our parish children will take place on **Saturday, March 31, at 2:00 p.m.**, at Christ's United. Separate egg hunts for different age groups are proposed. Janice Wagner, Bev Catherman and Barb Randecker will be the chief planners.

Refreshments and a possible puppet show will follow the egg hunt.

We will be asking for parishioners to fill our inventory of plastic eggs with candy to give away or donate any decorated hard boiled eggs.



## ***LENTEN BREAKFASTS & SUPPERS***

### **LENTEN BREAKFASTS**

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

#### **March 14**

Speaker – TBA  
Menu – Scrapple, Ham & Eggs

### **LENTEN SUPPERS**

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

#### **March 7**

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

#### **March 14**

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

#### **March 21**

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.*





## ***2018 LENTEN SCHEDULE***

### **Monday, February 12**

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

### **Tuesday, February 13**

Pancake Supper – 4:30-6:30 p.m.

### **Wednesday, February 14**

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

### **Monday, February 19**

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

### **Wednesday, February 21**

Lenten Breakfast – 8:00 a.m.  
*Christ's United Lutheran Church*  
Lenten Supper – 6:00 p.m.  
*St John's United Church of Christ*

### **Monday, February 26**

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

### **Wednesday, February 28**

Lenten Supper – 6:00 p.m.  
*Trinity Lutheran Church, Cowan*

### **Monday, March 5**

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

### **Wednesday, March 7**

Lenten Supper – 6:00 p.m.  
*First Lutheran Church*

### **Monday, March 11**

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

### **Wednesday, March 14**

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

### **Monday, March 18**

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

### **Wednesday, March 21**

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

### **Sunday, March 25**

Palm Sunday Service – 10:30 a.m.  
*First Evangelical Lutheran*

### **Monday, March 26**

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

### **Thursday, March 29**

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

### **Friday, March 30**

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

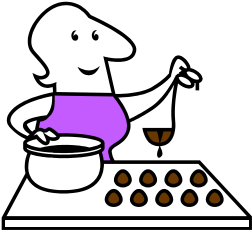
### **Saturday, March 31**

Easter Egg Hunt – 2:00 p.m.  
*Christ's United Lutheran Church*

### **Sunday, March 27**

Sunrise Service – 6:30 a.m.  
Festival of the Resurrection – 10:00 a.m.  
*First Evangelical Lutheran*

## ***EASTER EGGS***



We will be making Easter eggs on March 5, March 12, March 19 and March 26 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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*Gentle Spring's around the corner,  
Waiting just to show her face  
And to bring us flowers and sunshine;  
Winter's almost run his race!  
Be not, then, my friends, discouraged  
That there's cold and ice and sleet;  
For Springtime soon will be with us,  
And the flowers we will greet:  
Daffodils, so bright and yellow,  
Hyacinths of varied hues,  
As they nod their heads, in gladness,  
Telling us they bring good news...  
~Gertrude Tooley Buckingham,*



***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 11**  
**Return with Payment to Margie Dunkle or Janice Wagner**

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| _____ 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    | _____ |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                    | _____ |

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

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

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

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

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

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



# ***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>7:30 p.m.</b>       |
| <b>Christ's United</b> | <b>First Lutheran</b> | <b>Christ's United</b> |
| <b>March 9**</b>       | <b>March 6</b>        |                        |
| <b>March 16**</b>      | <b>March 13</b>       | <b>March 14^^</b>      |
| <b>March 23**</b>      | <b>March 20</b>       | <b>March 21^^</b>      |

**\*\*Please note these Bible studies are on Friday.**

**^^Please note time change for Wednesday Bible Studies.  
They will take place after the Lenten suppers**

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## **EASTER**

*Although it happened long ago,  
that first glad Easter day;  
within the true believer's heart,  
it's just as real today.*

*The Roman guards who kept the watch,  
the early morning gloom,  
the angel's words, "He is not here"  
resounding from the tomb.*

*And oh, the joy in Mary's heart  
while in the garden fair  
to see her blessed Lord appear  
upon the pathway there.*

*Although it happened long ago,  
it still is true today;  
oh, let our hearts rejoice and sing,  
the stone is rolled away.*

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



A potpie supper is planned for **March 3**. Serving will begin at **3:30pm**. 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 2 starting at 8:00am. Please come out on Friday to help make pickled cabbage, peel and cut potatoes, mix broth, etc.

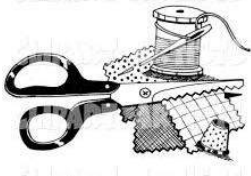
Also, please come out on the day of the pot pie supper. At 8am, help is needed to roll potpie, cook potpie, dish out applesauce and pickled cabbage, prepare dining room, etc. Help is also needed as the day goes on for other duties including serving eat-ins and take outs as well as clean up. Sign Up sheets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

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.html](http://www.4bellschurch.com/signup.html)

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

## ***WANTED***



Spools of sewing thread to sew Lutheran World Relief quilts. Please give them to Judy Mecouch, Pat Spangler or June Wenrich. Thank you for helping with this much needed quilt ministry.

# ***BANQUET SCHEDULE***

Remaining banquets scheduled thus far for 2018 are:



**Readington Farms**  
**March 6**  
**11:30 a.m.**

**Lenten Supper**  
**March 21**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Young Farmers**  
**March 22**  
**5:30 p.m.**

**Rohrers**  
**April 3**  
**9:30 a.m.**

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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## **BANQUET CAKES**

I will provide a cake(s) for the following banquet(s):

*(Indicate number to be provided)*

\_\_\_\_\_ **Readington Farms**  
**March 6**  
**11:30 a.m.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Lenten Supper**  
**March 21**  
**6:00 p.m.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Young Farmers**  
**March 22**  
**5:30 p.m.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Rohrers (coffee cakes)**  
**April 3**  
**9:30 a.m.**

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

## ***HELP LIST***

**Please put these events on your calendars and plan to help as you are able.**

**EASTER EGGS** - Monday, Feb 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26

- 8am – mix and form eggs
- 6pm – Coat and package
- Sign up on bulletin board or online at [4bellschurch.com/signup.html](http://4bellschurch.com/signup.html), call Bev @ 570-922-1640 or show up

### **POT PIE**

- Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> – Pot Pie Workday – 8am
- Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Pot Pie Supper – work 8am / serving 3:30pm
- To donate items, sign up on bulletin board or online at [4bellschurch.com/signup.html](http://4bellschurch.com/signup.html)
- To help in kitchen call Kim @ 570-716-5601
- To help in dining room on Saturday call Dayna or Dave at 570-966-1966

### **BANQUET**

- Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30am – Readington Farms
- Turkey, Ham, Corn, Green Beans – **131-150**
- To help in kitchen call Kim @ 570-716-5601
- To help in dining Room call Bev @ 570-922-1640

### **LENTEN BREAKFAST**

- Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> @8am
- Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Ham, Toast and Hash Brown Patties
- Help needed at 6am
- To help call Kim @ 570-716-5601

### **LENTEN SUPPER**

- Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> @6pm
- Menu: Salad, Spaghetti w/ sauce, Garlic Bread
- To help in the kitchen call Kim @ 570-716-5601
- To help in the dining room, call Bev @ 570-922-1640

## BANQUET

- Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 5:30pm?? – Young Farmers
- Beef, Ham, Corn, Green Beans – 50-70
- To help in kitchen call Kim @ 570-716-5601
- To help in dining Room call Bev @ 570-922-1640

## BREAKFAST BUFFET

- Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 9:30am – Rohrs
- Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Breakfast Potatoes, Bacon, Sausage, Ham, Fruit, Toast, and Juice
- Help needed at 6am
- To help call Kim @ 570-716-5601

**Much help is needed! Please Volunteer!**

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### **DID YOU KNOW THAT THE COLORS OF JELLY BEANS ARE COLORS THAT HAVE MEANING IN THE BIBLE?**

*Red is for the blood He gave: —when Jesus was dying on the cross for us, the nails in His hands and feet made Him bleed. "...the blood of Jesus, [God's] Son, purifies us from all sin. 1 John 1:7*

*Green is for the grass He made: —God wants us to enjoy His wonderful creation. He makes me lie down in green pastures. Psalm 23:2*

*Yellow is for the sun so bright: —Like a new sunrise, Jesus rose from the grave on Easter morning. We believe that Jesus died and rose again. 1 Thessalonians 4:14*

*Orange is for the edge of night: —The Holy Spirit's fire burns within us and leads us. He [God] guided them with light from the fire all night. Psalm 78:14*

*Black is for the sins we made: —Our sins darken our hearts and make us live in darkness. I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light. Acts 26:17-18*

*White is for the grace He gave: —We can become pure as snow when we let Jesus' blood wash us clean. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. Isaiah 1:18*

*Purple is for the hours of sorrow: —Purple is the royal color, a reminder that Jesus is our King. They put a purple robe on him [Jesus], then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him. Mark 15:17*

*Pink is for a new tomorrow: —and for every day God gives us. Because of the LORD's great love...his compassions never fail. They are new every morning. Lamentations 3:22-23*



## ***COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE***

**February 20, 2018**

Communication to the Congregation from the Council:

1. The Buffalo Valley Lutheran Parish's (BVLV) Parishioners Helping Parishioners Committee is looking for some small projects for March at the earliest to help our fellow parishioners in need. The group is also looking for helpers as well. Contact Dianne Shuck to suggest project ideas and/or offer help.
2. We are going to try the community garden again this year. Help with the project will be greatly appreciated. Contact Linda Smith for more information or to offer help.
3. Any member of the congregation may borrow chairs and tables as long as there is no conflict with another church function and that member approaches a Church staff member or Council member.
4. We will be decorating the sanctuary for Easter this year on Saturday, March 31, beginning on 10:00 a.m. Contact Barry Spangler or Janice Wagner for details.
5. The Upper Susquehanna Synod Assembly will be held on Friday & Saturday, June 15 & 16, at Susquehanna University. Council is seeking two congregation members willing to serve as voting delegates for the Assembly. Contact a Council member or Pastor John for more information.
6. The Parish is planning a Vacation Bible School (VBS) for the summer. Helpers are needed. If interested, please contact Theresa Murry (CULC) or Sally Rothermal (FELC).



***TREASURER'S REPORT***  
***AS OF JANUARY 31, 2018***

|                           | <u>Actual</u>      | <u>Budgeted</u> |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Income for month (4weeks) | \$ 10,917.01       | \$ 10,376.92    |
| Expenses for month        | <u>11,544.40</u>   | 10,376.92       |
| Difference                | <b>(\$ 627.39)</b> |                 |

|                               | <u>Actual</u>      | <u>Budgeted</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Income Year-to-Date (4 weeks) | \$ 10,917.01       | \$ 10,376.92    |
| Expenses Year-to-Date         | <u>11,544.40</u>   | 10,376.92       |
| Difference                    | <b>(\$ 627.39)</b> |                 |

**January Notes:**

This report reflects only income and expenses of Christ's United Lutheran Church. Income and Expense of the Buffalo Valley Parish are not shown as they are not this church's transactions. These transactions related to Pastors Salary and other benefits of the Parish. Our expense of \$4,200 per month to the Parish is reflected in our expenses as our share of these benefits.

Income was \$540.90 higher than budgeted. We had two banquets that provided \$2,238.21 of the income.

Expenses were \$1,167.48 higher than budgeted. With colder than normal temperatures, we had two oil bills that totaled \$2,321.42.

So basically, the profits from the two banquets in January paid the two January oil bills.

| Sources of Income: | <u>January 2018</u> | <u>Year-to-Date</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Offerings          | \$ 8,925.80 82%     | \$ 8,925.80 82%     |
| Fund Raisers       | 2,038.83 18%        | 2,038.83 18%        |
| Other Income       | <u>- 47.62 0%</u>   | <u>- 47.62 0%</u>   |
| Totals             | \$ 10,917.01 100%   | \$ 10,917.01 100%   |

~Cliff Valentine, Financial Recording Treasurer

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**RULES FOR LIVING**

*I'm not sure where this list originated, but these are very good rules to live by. As we live day-to-day we tend to forget some important essentials*

1. Give people more than they expect and do it cheerfully.
2. Memorize your favorite poem.
3. Don't believe all you hear, spend all you have or sleep all you want.
4. When you say, "I love you," mean it.
5. When you say, "I'm sorry," look the person in the eye.
6. Never laugh at anyone's dreams.
7. Love deeply and passionately. You might get hurt but it's the only way to live life completely.
8. Don't judge people by their relatives.
9. Talk slow but think quick.
10. When someone asks you a question you don't want to answer, smile and ask, "Why do you want to know?"
11. Remember that great love and great achievements involve great risk.
12. Be gentle with the earth.
13. Say "Bless you" when you hear someone sneeze.
14. When you lose, don't lose the lesson.
15. Remember the three R's: Respect for self; Respect for others; Responsibility for all your actions.
16. Don't let a little dispute injure a great friendship.
17. When you realize you've made a mistake, take immediate steps to correct it.
18. Smile when picking up the phone. The caller will hear it in your voice.
19. Marry someone you love to talk to. As you get older, conversational skills will be as important as any other.
20. Spend some time alone.
21. Open your arms to change, but don't let go of your values.
22. Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.
23. Read more books and watch less TV.
24. Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll get to enjoy it a second time.
25. Trust in God but lock your car.
26. A loving atmosphere in your home is so important. Do all you can to create a tranquil harmonious home.
27. In disagreements with loved ones, deal with the current situation. Don't bring up the past. Read between the lines.
28. Pray — there's immeasurable power in it.





## ***FOR YOUR INFORMATION***

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

The 2018 altar flower chart is on the bulletin board outside of the sanctuary for use by anyone wishing to provide flowers for a service during the year. The cost of the flowers is \$35.00 per week and is payable to the church.

### **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.

### **REIMBURSEMENT UPDATE**

Please talk to Dianne Shuck 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**

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.

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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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**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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## **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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## **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**

#### **March**

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 – Cliff Valentine     | 19 – Roger Dunkle    |
| 2 – Kristi Haedich      | Tina Erdley          |
| 4 – Jonathon Forcheskie | Ben Wenrich          |
| Donald Ruhl Jr          | 20 – Louise Ritter   |
| 7 – Cain Showalter      | 21 – Kaitlyn Erdley  |
| 8 – Jim Boop            | Cortney Klose        |
| Paula Christy           | 22 – Hailey Foresman |
| 9 – Tammy Boop          | Tiffany Spencer      |
| 12 - Jim Zimmerman      | 26 – Don Fornwalt    |
| 14 – Carter Beiler      | Carla Ruhl           |
| Kalvin Showalter        | Nathan Sanders       |
| 15 - Eve Rantz          | 30 – Trevor Clouser  |
| 16 - Jeff Ruhl          | 31 – Judy Mecouch    |
| 17 – Denise Hosterman   |                      |

#### **Anniversaries**

#### **March**

- |                             |        |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| 22 – Colby & Corrin Zechman | (2014) |
| 23 – Joel & Pauline Templin | (2013) |
| 25 – Steve & Judy Moyer     | (1994) |



**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  
Becky Dunkle  
Doug & Pearl Gemberling  
Vickie Kahler

Shirley Kerstetter  
Pat Korman  
Sheila Jean Levits & Family  
Judy Mecouch  
Dottie Rathfon  
Teresa Shuck

**Our Friends & Relatives**

Karen Adams  
John Bowersox  
Chris Dunkle  
Adam Garman  
Gary & Barb Gemberling  
Trisha Gemberling  
Carol Gross  
Aaron Hauger  
Dave & Cindy Janas  
Linda Katherman  
Norman Kline  
Keagan Lahr  
Gerald Lloyd

Sharon Magyar  
Cindy Mertz  
Bob Reedy  
Joanne Sennawald  
Martha Shutt  
John Snook  
Mark Troup  
Leslie Valentine  
Karen Wagner  
Lana 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  
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.***

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### **FUNNY AIRLINE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- *Overheard on an American Airlines flight into Amarillo, Texas on a particularly windy and bumpy day: During the final approach, the Captain was really having to fight it. After an extremely hard landing, the Flight Attendant said, 'Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to Amarillo. Please remain in your seats with your seat belts fastened while the Captain taxis what's left of our airplane to the gate!'*
- *Heard on Southwest Airlines just after a very hard landing in Salt Lake City . The flight attendant came on the intercom and said, 'That was quite a bump, and I know what y'all are thinking. I'm here to tell you it wasn't the airline's fault, it wasn't the pilot's fault, it wasn't the flight attendant's fault, it was the asphalt.'*
- *After a real crusher of a landing in Phoenix , the attendant came on with, 'Ladies and Gentlemen, please remain in your seats until Capt. Crash and the Crew have brought the aircraft to a screeching halt against the gate. And, once the tire smoke has cleared and the warning bells are silenced, we'll open the door and you can pick your way through the wreckage to the terminal.'*
- *Part of a flight attendant's arrival announcement: 'We'd like to thank you folks for flying with us today. And, the next time you get the insane urge to go blasting through the skies in a pressurized metal tube, we hope you'll think of US Airways.'*
- *A plane was taking off from Kennedy Airport . After it reached a comfortable cruising altitude, the captain made an announcement over the intercom, 'Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. Welcome to Flight Number 293, nonstop from New York to Los Angeles . The weather ahead is good and, therefore, we should have a smooth and uneventful flight. Now sit back and relax... OH, MY GOD!' Silence followed, and after a few minutes, the captain came back on the intercom and said, 'Ladies and Gentlemen, I am so sorry if I scared you earlier. While I was talking to you, the flight attendant accidentally spilled a cup of hot coffee in my lap. You should see the front of my pants!' A passenger in Coach yelled, 'That's nothing. You should see the back of mine!'*
- *On a Continental flight with a very "senior" flight attendant crew, the pilot said, "Ladies and gentlemen, we've reached cruising altitude and will be turning down the cabin lights. This is for your comfort and to enhance the appearance of your flight attendants.*
- *From a Southwest Airlines employee: "Welcome aboard Southwest Flight 245 to Tampa. To operate your seat belt, insert the metal tab into the buckle, and pull tight. It works just like every other seat belt; and if you don't know how to operate one, you probably shouldn't be out in public unsupervised."*
- *"Weather at our destination is 50 degrees with some broken clouds, but we'll try to have them fixed before we arrive. Thank you, and remember, nobody loves you, or your money, more than Southwest Airlines."*



**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**

**Soup, Sandwich & Sweet Fundraiser**  
**March 18**

Being held at First Lutheran starting at 11:45AM. At least 12 different homemade soups available – select 2 and all will be bagged up for you to take home and enjoy during the cold winter days! Thanks so much for supporting our youth as they prepare to serve this summer at another Workcamp! If you have questions or would like to place an order, contact Cher Girton or First Lutheran's church office staff. (See Margie if you need a phone number)

**Spaghetti Dinner**  
**April 14**  
**5:00-7:00 p.m.**

A Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser for the Youth Group to raise money to attend Work Camp and Harvey Cedars this year.

The cost of the tickets are:

Adults - \$10.00  
Kids 11-4 - \$5.00  
3 and under - free.

The price includes salad, roll, beverage, dessert and all-you-can-eat spaghetti.

There will also be a silent auction held during the dinner. Angie Harvey and Cher Girton are putting this together.



If you wish to purchase tickets or have questions, contact Cher at the church Monday and Wednesdays from 9-2 or any other time on her cell 570-755-1671, or email [clgirton@gmail.com](mailto:clgirton@gmail.com).

### **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.

### **Baptismal Napkins**

In 2018, First Lutheran would like to begin again making homemade Baptismal Napkins. They will GLADLY teach beginners. Please contact Gwen Hull, (570) 524-0289.

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*One afternoon a man came home from work to find total mayhem in his house. His three children were outside, still in their pajamas, playing in the mud, with empty food boxes and wrappers strewn all around the front yard. The door of his wife's car was open, as was the front door to the house. Proceeding to the entry, he found an even bigger mess. A lamp had been knocked over, and the throw rug was wadded against one wall. In the front room, the TV was loudly blaring a cartoon channel, and the family room was strewn with toys and various items of clothing. In the kitchen, dishes filled the sink, breakfast food was spilled on the counter, dog food was spilled on the floor, a broken glass lay under the table, and a small pile of sand was spread by the back door. He quickly headed up the stairs, stepping over the toys and more piles of clothes, looking for his wife. He was worried she may be ill, or that something serious had happened. He found her lounging in the bedroom, still curled in the bed in her pajamas, reading a novel. She looked up at him, smiled, and asked how his day went. He looked at her bewildered and asked, "What happened here today?" She again smiled and answered, "You know every day when you come home from work and ask me what in the world did I do today?" "Yes," was his incredulous reply. She answered, "Well, today I didn't do it."*



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

## **Camp Affects Lives; Start Planning for 2018**

Now is the time to think about being part of the Camp Mount Luther's summer programs in the coming year. The brochure for Summer 2018 has just been published to the camp's website ([www.campmountluther.org](http://www.campmountluther.org)) in the summer camp section.

Chad Hershberger, Executive Director of Camp Mount Luther, says this summer is shaping up to be one that affects even more campers' lives.

"At Mount Luther, you'll make new friends and get unplugged from home, focusing on developing life-long relationships. We do this through small group camping, where a cabin of boys and their counselor works with a cabin of girls and their counselor and forms a tight-knit community for the week. Our well-trained college-age staff and volunteer chaplains serve as role models. You live and play outside, eat good meals, get good rest, and use leisure time effectively. We are excited that again in 2018 we will be in many Lutheran congregations of this area, providing day camp programming in local congregations as we bring the camp experience to your neighborhood. I hope everyone takes advantage of all that Mount Luther has to offer in the coming year, as they grow with God and serve with smiles!" Hershberger said.

This year's summer camp season will begin on June 17 and run until August 16. There are programs for all ages from preschool to senior high, and for adults and families. Camp Mount Luther is a special place where kids and families come together to grow with God and serve with smiles! Camp provides a safe place for people of all ages to relax and unwind in nature, discover God's love, sing around the campfire, learn more about themselves, and make new friends while at the same time being renewed in mind and spirit.

**Camp Mount Luther is Helped by Raise the Region**  
**March 14-15, 2018**

Camp Mount Luther is participating in “Raise the Region” on March 14-15, 2018. 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 14 and 15, 2018, starting at 6:00 p.m. on March 14 and ending at 11:59 p.m. on March 15. 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 2018 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:

1. On March 14 and 15, donors will visit [www.raisetheregion.org](http://www.raisetheregion.org) from a computer, smart phone, iPad, etc. to learn more about the nonprofits participating and how their work is impacting our community.
2. 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.
3. 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 five years and has garnered about \$65,000 in donations during this event. The camp hopes you will help us to have another successful year!

### **Camp Mount Luther Spring Open House** **April 22, 2018**

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 22, 2018, 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 \$30 discount on their summer registration! To download a flyer for the event, click on:

<https://www.campmountluther.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/2018-CML-Spring-Open-House-Flyer.pdf>.

## **Spring Workday**

**Saturday, May 12**

**8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

Practice stewardship through service at Camp Mount Luther at their annual Spring Work Day. Your help is needed to get the camp grounds and facilities ready for summer. There will be plenty to do and everyone in the family can help.

Please bring supplies to do cleaning, mulching, raking, and light construction projects such as step ladders, buckets, rakes, etc. A light lunch will be served RSVP by May if staying for lunch.

## **13<sup>th</sup> Annual Bishop's Open Golf Classic**

**Monday, May 14**

**11:00 a.m. - Registration starts; 11:30 a.m. – lunch; 12:30 p.m. –**

**Golfing Shotgun Start**

**Susquehanna Valley Country Club**

**Routes 11 & 15, Hummel's Wharf**

Camp Mount Luther holds this event to have fun and raise funds to better our youth in a faith-based camping program. Information is available in the church office for this rain-or-shine-event or you can contact CML at the address above.

## **Join a Camel Crew**

This year, we are going to try something new with our committees. We're going to have some short-term "Camel Crews." They are groups of people who gather for one to three times to do a specific task for camp. The leader of the crew will be called the Camel Driver! We anticipate them being service-oriented, doing work for camp to help us grow. In March, we'd like to gather a group of folks to be part of a Marketing Camel Crew. They would look at how we market camp and come up with some plans for future marketing and branding. If you have an interest in helping out with this, contact [chad@campmountluther.org](mailto:chad@campmountluther.org). Be looking throughout the year for other opportunities to be part of Camel Crew. If you have an idea for one, please contact Chad, too.

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*But the place which you have selected for your camp,  
though never so rough and grim, begins at once to have  
its attractions, and becomes a very centre of civilization  
to you: "Home is home, be it never so homely."*



**UPPER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD**

**PO Box 36**

**Lewisburg, PA 17837**

**Phone: 570-524-9778 - Fax: 570-524-9757 - Web: [www.uss-elca.org](http://www.uss-elca.org)**

**Jonathan Rundman Concert**

**March 3, 2018**

Jonathan Rundman, contemporary rock/folk musician, will perform at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Lancaster on Saturday, March 3, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. This is part of the Musical Arts series at St. Peter's. Come for what promises to be an uplifting evening of beautiful music. For more information visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/343210709443562/>. Come back Sunday, March 4th as Jonathan will be helping to lead worship at their New Day service, too.

**New Tax Law: New Giving Opportunities Information session**

**March 11, 2018**

"New Tax Law, New Ways to Give" is a workshop that will look at how the new tax laws might affect you. If you currently take the required minimum distribution from an IRA or are a church leader concerned about how the new tax law will affect congregation giving, this one-hour session hosted by our synod's Gift Planner is for you. The workshop will be presented by Rev. Elizabeth Polanzke, ELCA Regional Gift Planner. It will be held on Sunday, March 11, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. at Camp Mount Luther, 355 Mt. Luther Lane, Mifflinburg. For more information, please contact Pastor Liz Polanzke at 717-654-2334 or [elizabeth.polanzke@elca.org](mailto:elizabeth.polanzke@elca.org).

**Lutheran Day of Advocacy**

**May 21, 2018**

Join Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania and fellow advocates from across the commonwealth in Harrisburg on May 21, 2018, for inspiration, education and participation – in worship, service and advocacy – with a focus on a powerful element in our life together: Water. This year’s theme for Lutheran Day of Advocacy is “Roll Down Like Waters.” We are drowned and reborn in it at our baptism. The promises made at the font recall God’s covenant reminder in Amos to “let justice roll down” like it. And, in Pennsylvania, we are surrounded by it – with more miles of waterways than any of the other lower 48 states. We will consider our response to the status of being the most flood-prone state in the U.S. and the fact that nearly one third of our waterways are impaired. Most importantly, we will explore how we can be church together in Pennsylvania, so that justice might “roll down like waters.” Registration opens in early 2018. Bring a friend – or a team – and join advocates from across the Commonwealth to ground and deepen your call to faith-rooted advocacy.

### **Synod Assembly** **June 15-16, 2018**

The 2018 Upper Susquehanna Synod Assembly will take place on the campus of Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania, on June 15-16, 2018. Registration materials will arrive in congregations in a few weeks. Special attention needs to be made to the meal registrations. Meal tickets will not be available after the late registration date or at the door on the days of the assembly. And we will again go paperless this year. More detailed information will be provided as it becomes available and will be posted at <http://uss-elca.org/assembly>. All rostered leaders and voting members from every congregation are expected to attend. Clergy need to write an excuse to the bishop if you cannot attend.

### **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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*Our co-worker kept trying to get her mother to fly out for a visit. "No way am I getting on an airplane," was the inevitable answer. "Look, Mom, when it's your time to go, it doesn't matter if you're on the ground or in the air." "I know," said her mother. "I just don't want to be that far off the ground when it's the pilot's time to go."*



## ***IN THE MAILBAG***

### **2018 Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends Announced**

Your marriage relationship is one of the things in life that provides the greatest potential for happiness. Is yours living up to this potential? Please make 2018 the year you resolve to attend a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend to learn how to maximize the joy and intimacy that God intends for your marriage. The following weekends have been scheduled with one more to be added in Massachusetts in the fall.

- March 16-18, 2018, at Heritage Hotel Lancaster in Lancaster, PA. A newly-renovated hotel, home of the unique treehouse-inspired restaurant, "Loxley's."
- April 6-8, 2018, at Toftrees Golf Resort in State College PA. A peaceful resort surrounded by a golf course and nestled in the woods in the center of PA.
- September 14-16, 2018, at Spruce Lake Retreat in Canadensis, PA. A lovely hotel-style facility In a wooded area of the Poconos, an hour north of Allentown.
- October 19-21, 2018, at Olmsted Retreat Center. A stunning, hotel-style retreat next to Olmsted Mansion in Allegheny National Forest, 2 hours north of Pittsburgh.

Two nights lodging, five meals for each of you, and all supplies are included with your \$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 the continuation of the program. To be sure to get the Weekend of your choice, sign up at your earliest convenience by going to the website: [www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org) and paying the registration fee with your credit card, or marking the option to mail a check. For questions, or if you would like a brochure with registration form mailed to you, contact Northeast US Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or [fjschamber@comcast.net](mailto:fjschamber@comcast.net).

**LARC Luncheon**  
**March 22, 2018**

Our synod has participated in Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic (LARC) dialog since its inception. Together with the Lower Susquehanna Synod, Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, and Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg, we entered into covenant in 1993, committing ourselves to “leading the church to greater unity”. The commitments we made in that covenant continue to be lived out in our congregations and in bi-monthly lunch dialogs at the Diocese of Harrisburg Keeler Center. Anyone interested in joining the conversation may attend these lunches – contact Rev. Craig Miller for more information or to be added to the notification list. Dates for 2018 include March 22, May 22, July 26, September 18, November 15.

### **Retirement Planning Seminar**

**April 16, 2018**

Retirement planning can seem daunting without someone to walk you through it. Portico’s day-long preretirement seminar for plan members age 50+ does just that. And it’s coming to your area soon! The seminar covers many facets of retirement planning in understandable terms — from establishing a retirement budget to reviewing health care options. You’ll breathe easier when you know the steps to take to retire with confidence. Take advantage of this opportunity by attending the seminar on April 16, 2018 at Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Emmaus, Pennsylvania. Go to <https://www.porticobenefits.org/NewsEvents/Events/Pre-RetirementSeminars> to register! Cost is \$35/person or \$70/couple.

### **WELCA Day of Learning and Renewal**

**April 21, 2018**

The Upper Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization presents their Day of Learning Renewal on April 21, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Christ, Milton. The theme is "Bring Peace" and the presenter is Mary Woods. Registration is at 9:30 a.m. Cost is \$5. The registration deadline is April 10, 2018. Lunch will be provided.

### **Need Help with Veterans Benefits?**

In appreciation for their service, both the state and federal governments offer a number of benefits and services to our veterans and their family members. If you have questions about or need assistance with obtaining these benefits, there are several options to help you.

Dan Falls, a veterans field service officer with the American Legion, is available at the Mifflinburg office this coming Wednesday, Jan. 24, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and on the fourth Wednesday of each subsequent month. You need not be a member of the American Legion to obtain this assistance with issues such as compensation,



education, pension, health care and death benefits. Appointments are required and may be made by calling the office at 570-966-0052 or 570-837-0052.

Both Union and Snyder counties also have offices of Veterans Affairs to assist you.

- **Union County Office of Veterans Affairs** – Union County Government Center, 155 N. 15th St., Lewisburg. The telephone number is 570-524-8677.
- **Snyder County Office of Veterans Affairs** – Snyder County East Building, 713 Bridge St. Suite 10, Selinsgrove. The telephone number is 570-374-0181.

### **Property Tax/Rent Rebate Applications Available Monday**

Applications for the 2017 Property Tax/Rent Rebate program will be [available for download from the Department of Revenue's website starting Monday, Jan. 22.](#)

The program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians who are 65 years or older, widows and widowers 50 years or older, and those 18 years or older with disabilities. Eligibility income limits are set at \$15,000 for renters and \$35,000 for homeowners, excluding 50 percent of Social Security, Supplemental Security Income and Railroad Retirement Tier 1 benefits.

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate program is one of many initiatives supported by the Pennsylvania Lottery, which dedicates its proceeds to support programs for older Pennsylvanians.

For more information, contact the Mifflinburg office at 570-966-0052 or 570-837-0052; stop by the office at the Mifflinburg Government Center, 343 Chestnut St., Suite 1; or visit [www.RepFredKeller.com](http://www.RepFredKeller.com).

### **Does Your Home Contain Radon?**

An estimated 40 percent of Pennsylvania homes have higher levels of radon than national safety standards, due to the state's geology. However, residents can perform a simple test to detect this gas, which is considered the second leading cause of lung cancer.

Radon is an odorless, colorless radioactive gas that occurs naturally from the breakdown of uranium in soil and rocks and enters homes through cracks in the foundation or other openings. High levels of radon tend to be found in basements, but the gas can be found anywhere in the home.

Winter is a good time to test for radon, because doors and windows are generally closed, providing more accurate results. Simple radon test kits are inexpensive and

available at home improvement and hardware stores.



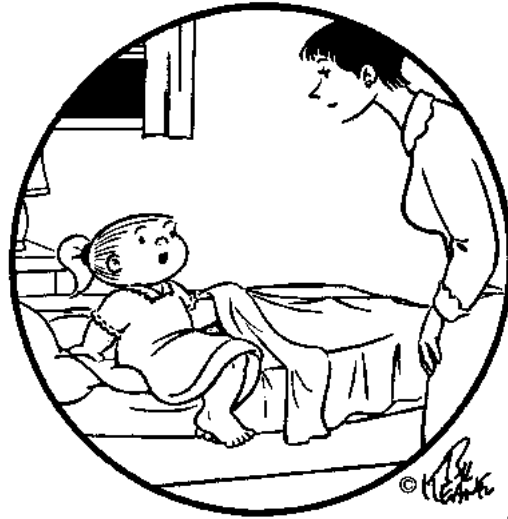
## ***COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS***

While the following are not actual church functions, they will be taking place here.

1. Coin Auction on **March 10 beginning at 9:00 a.m.** Complete listing & photos available at [auctionzip.com](http://auctionzip.com) ID #2399.
2. Train Show, **March 17, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.** – Admission is \$4.00 for adults. Children under 12 are free. For more information, call 570-922-0623.
3. Chicken Barbeque sponsored by Scout Troop 536, **March 24, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.** Take outs only. Walk-ins welcome. \$5.00/half, \$9.00/platters consisting of half chicken, baked potato, baked beans, roll and dessert. For more information call 570-412-9349.

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## THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"What I like best about Easter Sunday is the candy, and Jesus not bein' dead anymore."

from *The Joyful Noiseletter*  
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## ***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...**

- ...**Karen Zimmerman** who, on the spur of the moment, volunteered to serve as pianist when Dave Swartz could not get to church on February 18
- ...**The men and women** who serve as lay readers, communion assistants, sound system operators, ushers, altar guild and greeters
- ...**Maurice Clouser & Eugene Hassinger**, our Mr. Fix-Its when something is in need of repair

....**Joe Dressler** for the work he is doing on cleaning the brassware

~~~~~



**Daylight saving time 2018 in Pennsylvania will begin at 2:00 AM on Sunday, March 11**

**ALTAR GUILD**

Bev Catherman  
Barry Spangler

**GREETERS**

4 - Linda Smith  
11- Pearl and Doug  
    Gemberling  
18 - June Wenrich  
25 - Joint Service at  
    First Lutheran



**LAY READERS**

4 – Greg Shuck  
11 – Janet Hackenberg  
18 – Doug Gemberling  
25 – Joint Service at  
    First Lutheran

**MARCH**

**SOUND SYSTEM**

Dave Bickhart

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

Amy Shuck, lay reader &  
communion helper

**USHERS**

Maurice Clouser

Barry Spangler

18 – Dave Swartz  
25 – Joint Service at  
First Lutheran

4 – Greg Shuck  
11 – Janet Hackenberg  
18 – Janice Wagner  
25 – Joint Service at  
First Lutheran

**MUSIC PROVIDERS**

4 – Barry Spangler  
11 – Diane Valentine

**COMMUNION  
ASSISTANTS**

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

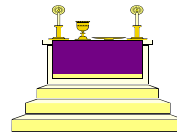
**SOUND SYSTEM OPERATOR**



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)

THE DEADLINE FOR  
 ARTICLES FOR THE

***APRIL***

NEWSLETTER IS

***MARCH 20***

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

**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                     |
| Gary Hackenberg.....                    | Organist                      |
| Diane Valentine & Karen Zimmerman ..... | Pianists                      |
| Paula Christy .....                     | Chancel Choir Director        |

**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)*

Maurice Clouser  
 Joe Dressler  
 Eugene Hassinger

**Inreach**

*(focus on ministry  
 within the congregation)*

Drew Christy  
 Dianne Shuck  
 Greg Shuck

**Outreach**

*(related to ministry  
 beyond the congregation)*

Doug Gemberling  
 Pearl Gemberling  
 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 2018

| Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday  | Saturday  |
|--|--|---|---|--|---|---|
| <p><i>First a howling blizzard woke us,<br/>Then the rain came down to soak us,<br/>And now before the eye can focus —<br/>Crocus.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">~Lilja Roger</p> |  |   |   | <b>1</b>   | <b>2</b><br>8:00 Potpie<br>Workday                                | <b>3</b><br>8:00 Potpie<br>Workday<br><br>3:30 Potpie<br>Supper |
| <b>4</b><br>9:00 Worship<br>10:00 Koinonia<br>Kafe<br>10:15 Sunday<br>School   | <b>5</b><br>9:00 Easter Egg<br>Mixing<br><br>6:00 Easter Egg<br>Dipping  | <b>6</b><br>10:30 Bible Study<br>@ First Lutheran<br><br>11:30<br>Readington<br>Farms Banquet   | <b>7</b><br>10:00 Hope's<br>Haven<br><br>6:00 Lenten<br>Supper @ First<br>Lutheran                      | <b>8</b>   | <b>9</b><br><br>10:30 Bible Study                                 | <b>10</b><br>9:00 Coin<br>Auction                               |
| <b>11 Daylight<br/>Savings Time</b><br>9:00 Worship<br>10:15 Sunday<br>School  | <b>12</b><br>9:00 Easter Egg<br>Mixing<br><br>6:00 Easter Egg<br>Dipping | <b>13</b><br>10:30 Bible Study<br>@ First Lutheran  | <b>14</b><br>10:00 Hope's<br>Haven<br><br>6:00 Lenten<br>Supper @ Miff<br>Methodist<br>7:30 Bible Study | <b>15</b>  | <b>16</b><br><br>10:30 Bible Study                                | <b>17</b><br>9:00 Train Show                                    |
| <b>18</b><br><br>10:30 Worship   | <b>19</b><br>9:00 Easter Egg<br>Mixing<br><br>6:00 Easter Egg<br>Dipping | <b>20</b><br><br>10:30 Bible Study<br>@ First Lutheran<br><br>7:00 Council | <b>21</b><br>10:00 Hope's<br>Haven<br><br>6:00 Lenten<br>Supper @ CULC<br>7:30 Bible Study              | <b>22</b>  | <b>23</b><br><br>10:30 Bible Study<br><br>BSA Chicken             | <b>24</b><br><br>Barbecue                                       |
| <b>25<br/>PALM SUNDAY</b><br><br>10:30 Worship<br>@ First Lutheran   | <b>26</b><br>9:00 Easter Egg<br>Mixing<br><br>6:00 Easter Egg<br>Dipping | <b>27</b>   | <b>28</b><br>10:00 Hope's<br>Haven  | <b>29<br/>MAUNDY<br/>THURSDAY</b><br><br>6:00 Maundy<br>Thursday Service<br>& Meal | <b>30<br/>GOOD FRIDAY</b><br><br>7:00 Service @<br>First Lutheran | <b>31</b><br><br>2:00 Easter Egg<br>Hunt                        |

*Someone once said that to recognize the signs of God, pay attention to your stirrings. Look closely when you feel the swell of joy within, or the tightness as your throat closes up in sorrow. Live in that moment, poke around in its corners, and feel the texture of its walls. Sit with it for a while, long enough to sense the presence of God sitting with you.*