

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

## ***JANUARY 2019***

### **PASTOR'S PARAGRAPHS**

## **THE CHURCH JESUS WANTS FOR US: "COME AND SEE"**

Early in Jesus' ministry as recorded in the Gospel of John, two disciples approached Jesus and asked him, "Where are you staying?" Jesus' simple reply was, "come and see." (John 1:38-39) As we recall our mission and ministry in the name of Jesus from the past and anticipate the year ahead, may we be particularly focused on the ways in which we, as a people of faith, have discerned and will discern the appearance of Jesus in our time and place. It is always helpful to recall Jesus' appearances to the disciples as recorded in the New Testament and to remember the ways in which Jesus promised to be with the people of faith following his resurrection. When we read from the Gospels, we are met with stories of disciples who were able to see and touch the physical presence of Jesus, who were able to literally follow in his footsteps. These disciples were able to listen to Jesus' words as they were delivered from his mouth and they were able to directly ask him questions. They could inquire about Jesus' location and plans.

In our world today, we also believe and trust that Jesus is truly present to and for us as we carry forth our ministries in his name. But the appearance of Jesus today takes on a different form than what we recall from the Gospel narratives. Whereas those disciples were able to follow Jesus by watching his physical movements, we are compelled to follow his presence in a manner much different. In our time and place, people of faith are also asking about the location and plans of Jesus. But it would be incongruous and incredulous for us as the church today to simply invite others to follow

the Jesus who literally walked among his disciples in and around Galilee some 2000 years ago.

So when we and others are seeking ways to stay in touch with Jesus today, how will we know whether or not we are on the proper path? What kind of church does the risen Jesus want for us today? When we ourselves are asked by others regarding Jesus' whereabouts and we invite them to "come and see," where and how will we lead them to Jesus? Will we be able to rightfully lead them to our congregations' and parish's ministries and activities whereby they will be able to clearly discern Jesus' presence? Are we ourselves certain and sure about Jesus'; presence in our worship experiences, through the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, in our study and reflections upon His words recorded in Holy Scripture, as we gather together in His name as we serve others in the way of love and mercy? How well are we able to "see" Jesus in the faces and the needs of the "least of these?" and how well are we able to guide others to "see" Jesus through our examples of faith and hope and forgiveness?

Are we the church Jesus wants to "see" in and through us – a church of commitment, compassion, and cooperation? Is Jesus able to "see" our passion for the Gospel, our willingness to serve and love unconditionally, without expectation of reward? Is Jesus able to "see" our practices of mercy and forgiveness?

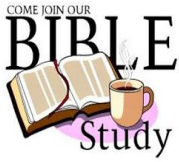
When we and others participate in the ministries and activities of our congregations and parish, will we be able to definitively locate the presence of Jesus in what is said and done? Do we want others to notice us or to be able to surely "see" Jesus through us? Do our ministries of worship, education and service draw attention to ourselves or do they lead any and all to clearly "see" Jesus?

God calls upon us as the church to help others find their way to Jesus through our faithful witness. We preach, we teach, we care, we share, we serve, we love not in order to get Jesus to notice us but that we may help us and others to notice and trust the way of Jesus. We act as the church not for the sake of our own reward but for Him who alone is the way of truth and life.

Let us continue to invite and welcome others to "come and see" Jesus in our midst, but may we always be careful not to get in the way or obscure a clear view of Him who comes to us in the way of love and hope. It is not the church who saves; and neither does salvation come by clinging to doctrines or activities. Jesus alone can give life that is everlasting. Therefore may we as the church be a faithful guide to Jesus' presence in word, deed and togetherness.

--Pastor John

## ***BIBLE STUDIES***



Keep an eye on the bulletins for information on when the Bible studies will resume.

## ***YOUTH NEWS***



We just want to announce that we plan to get together on January 27, 2019, starting at 3:00 p.m. at the 4-Bell Church. We are planning a valentine activity for the kiddos ages 5-12 for the Mifflinburg Area youth. We will be meeting in the large gym area next to the kitchen and will be providing pizza, snacks, and drinks. It would be nice to have RSVP's so we can try to plan how many supplies we will need but it is not necessary.

Our next meeting will be February 17, 2019, again at the 4-Bell Church, starting at 3:00 p.m. We will be delivering our valentines that we will have made January 27 to the residents at Rolling Hills Manor in Millmont and then will be returning to the 4-Bell Church for ice cream sundaes and games.

I think we have decided our official name will be Mini MACY. We are so excited for this to kick off and hope to have lots of youth! Contact Deken or Traci Kline for more information or to make reservations for January 27.

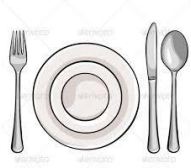
~Deken Kline

## ***LET'S GO BOWLING***



The Parish Social Committee has scheduled a family bowling event at the Selinsgrove Best Bowl along Route 522 on Sunday, January 27, 2019, starting at 4:00 p.m. Pizza and soda will be served. Stay tuned for the cost per person. Sign-up sheets will be available at each church. Any questions? Talk to any member of the parish social committee.

# ***BANQUET SCHEDULE***



The banquets scheduled thus far for 2019 are:

**Buffalo Valley Sportsmen**  
**January 19**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Hubner Seed**  
**February 21**  
**TBA**

**Readington Farms**  
**March 19**  
**TBA**

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)*

\_\_\_\_\_ **January 19**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**Buffalo Valley Sportsmen**

\_\_\_\_\_ **February 21**  
**TBA**  
**Hubner Seed**

\_\_\_\_\_ **March 19**  
**TBA**  
**Readington Farms**

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

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*Surely as cometh the winter, I know  
there are spring violets under the snow.  
~R. H. Newell*



## ***TREASURER'S REPORT***

as of NOVEMBER 30, 2018

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Income for month (4 weeks)	\$11,273.52	\$ 10,376.92
Expenses for month	<u>13,387.87</u>	10,376.92
Difference	<b>(\$ 2,114.35)</b>	

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Income Year-to-Date	\$122,637.54	\$121,928.81
Expenses Year-to-Date	<u>125,544.40</u>	121,928.81
Difference	<b>(\$ 2,906.86)</b>	

### **November 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 in this report, as they are not transactions of our church. The Parish transactions relate to Pastors Salary and other benefits of the Pastor. Our expense of \$4,200 per month to the Parish is reflected in our expenses as this is our share of the Pastors Salary and benefits and Parish events. **Starting January 2019 this expense will increase to \$4,500 per month.**

The past three month (September, October, & November) the expenses have exceed the income. So how did we pay the bills? The checkbook balance of Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> was \$14,278.65. On Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> the balance was \$3,978.35. That's a \$10,300.31 drop.

If we compare Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> 2017 to Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> 2018 we can see some of the problems our church is facing:

<u>Income:</u>	Nov. YTD 2018	Nov. YTD 2017	Difference
Offerings	\$94,159.93	\$101,289.50	- 7,129.57
Fund Raisers	26,015.52	26,745.53	- 730.01
Other Income	<u>2,462.09</u>	<u>70.29</u>	<u>2,391.80</u>
Totals	\$122,537.54	\$128,105.32	- 5,467.78

It's pretty easy to see why income is down in the past year. OFFERINGS ARE MUCH LOWER.

Expenses:

All Expenses	\$ 125,544.40	\$121,693.51	<b>\$3,850.89</b>
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Without going into too much detail, we can see expenses in the last year have increased, while income has dropped. Our building expenses make up most of the increase with repairs, oil heat, insurance, and electric all causing the increase this past year. These items have all been increased in the 2019 budget.

**Looking forward in 2019: The proposed budget increases from \$134,900 to \$140,900 for an increase of \$6,000 or a 4 ½% increase.**

**I will not give my opinion what all this report means. Each person can determine their own opinion.**

Sources of Income:	<u>Nov. 2018</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Offerings	\$ 7,242.00 64%	\$ 95,297.67 78%
Fund Raisers	3,313.77 30%	26,015.52 21%
Other Income	<u>717.75 6%</u>	<u>1,323.87 1%</u>
Totals	\$11,273.52 100%	\$ 122,637.06 100%

~Cliff Valentine, Financial Recording Secretary



## ***COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE***

December 18, 2018

1. Council has elected/appointed the following as its main officers and approved the following ministry coordinators listed below:

Officers:

President	Drew Christy
Vice President	Doug Gemberling
Council & Recording Secretary	Barry Spangler
Treasurer	Dianne Shuck

Ministry Assignments:

Facilities/Administration:	Joe Dressler, Maurice Clouser, Dianne Shuck
Inreach:	Drew Christy, Barry Spangler, Linda Smith
Outreach:	Doug Gemberling, Pearl Gemberling, Kim Blyler

Council members will be installed on January 6.

2. Council is always looking for people to help out with the ministry groups. The Inreach & Outreach Ministries will meet jointly on Tuesday, January 8, at 6:30 p.m.
3. A chicken and waffle benefit dinner for “Bud” Steward will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2019. It will start serving at 3:00 p.m.



## ***FOR YOUR INFORMATION***

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

The 2019 altar flower chart is on the bulletin board outside of the sanctuary. The cost of the weekly flowers has been increased to \$40.00.

### **OFFERING ENVELOPES**

2019 offering envelopes are on the table across from the parlor.

### **PARISHONERS HELPING PARISHONERS**

If you would like help with small projects such as those listed below, or if you would be willing to help out, or have ideas/suggestions, contact Doug & Pearl Gemberling, Joe Dressler, Linda Smith or Dianne Shuck

- Small repair projects
- Offer to visit our shut-ins
- Pick up prescriptions, offer transportation, or cooking meals

### **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 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.

-----  
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**

#### **January**

- |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 - Robert Rantz      | 17 - Sally Kline    |
| 4 - Constance Wagner  | Lee Spangler        |
| 7 - Florence Boop     | 19 - Hannah Blyler  |
| 14 - Trevor Spencer   | 22 - Jaiden Beiler  |
| 15 - Dennis Boop, Jr. | 23 - Avery Blyler   |
| 16 - Kendrah Beiler   | 25 - Natalie Harvey |
| Paige Hosterman       | 29 - Rick Endy      |
| Janice Wagner         | 31 - Joy Diehl      |
|                       | Rebecca Dunkle      |

### **Anniversaries**

#### **January**

- |                               |        |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| 7 - Jim & Florence Boop       | (1955) |
| 19 - Donald & Phyllis Ruhl    | (1972) |
| 30 - Doug & Stacey Gemberling | (2013) |

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### **THIS IS THE TIME**

*This is the time of endings, but of new beginnings, too...  
God sends us another year and maketh all things new...  
Another hope, another chance, another road to take...  
Another star to follow, and another start to make...  
New beginnings, new adventures, new heights to attain...  
Golden opportunities to work and build again...  
New and higher aspirations, for the future days...  
Seeking, dreaming, moving on to bright and better ways.*



**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**

The Baker Family  
Jim & Florence Boop  
Jean Buoy  
Bev Catherman  
Paula Christy  
Shirley Diehl  
Doug & Pearl Gemberling  
Vickie Kahler

Shirley Kerstetter  
Pat Korman  
Wendy Norton  
Dottie Rathfon  
Alice Reitz  
Teresa Shuck  
Meda Struble

**Our Friends & Relatives**

Betty Blyler  
Donna Blyler  
John Bowersox  
Dave Clevanger Jr.  
Terry Davies  
Chris Dunkle  
Bill Frank  
Adam Garman  
Gary & Barb Gemberling  
Carol Gross  
Linda Katherman  
Norman Kline  
Paul Kratzer Jr

Karen Libhart  
Gerald Lloyd  
Harry Moyer  
Alan & Cherie Oliver  
Helen Sampsell  
Amelia Sharer  
John Sheesley  
Terry Smith  
John Snook  
Miranda Stroik  
Jean Underwood  
Kay Wood

**Our Shut-Ins**

Jim & Florence Boop  
Carolyn Bowersox  
Jean Buoy  
Barbara Grimooris  
Shirley Kerstetter  
Pat Korman

Betty Lauf  
Eugene Phillips  
Richard Schnure  
Marie VonNeida  
Connie Wagner

## **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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### **DUMB THINGS PEOPLE SAY AND DO**

- 1. I was signing the receipt for my credit card purchase when the clerk noticed I had never signed my name on the back of the credit card. She informed me that she could not complete the transaction unless the card was signed. When I asked why, she explained that it was necessary to compare the signature I had just signed on the receipt. So I signed the credit card in front of her. She carefully compared the signature to the one I had just signed on the receipt. As luck would have it, they matched.*
- 2. I work at a large retail chain in Columbus at the customer service desk. One day I had a man call and ask where the store was located, so I told him. Then he asked me to spell the street name, so I did. He said he was unfamiliar with the area and asked for directions. I asked him where he was coming from. He responded, "From my house". Can you believe it!!!!*
- 3. I worked at a local fast-food restaurant and had a co-worker named Amber. Once I asked her to take out the trash. She replied that she couldn't. When I asked why she stated that "it's too heavy. I might get a 'hemorrhoid'." Another time I asked her to help me cut up lemons and limes for the drinks. She replied that she would rather not. When I asked why she said that lemons and limes make her cry? "Lemons and limes make you cry?" I asked in disbelief. "Well, onions do!" was her answer. This girl had so many 'episodes' like this we now call them "Amberisms".*
- 4. I work for a government agency that has small offices in different locations around the county. A lady called one of these offices and asked to have someone come to her house to hook up her TV to cable. The operator told her that she had called the tax office not the cable company. After repeating her request a number of times & getting the same answer from our operator, the exasperated woman finally said "well, I was told that this was the SATELLITE office".*
- 5. I work in a coffee shop. We serve Frappucinos which are iced cold coffee slushy-like things. Well, more than once, I have had a person come up to me and ask me what those were. So I would say something along the lines of "it is a coffee base blended with ice." And these people would respond with "But is it cold?"*
- 6. I work in a hospital and one day the doctor and I were asking a pregnant lady some questions upon admission to the maternity ward. When we asked her who we should call in case of an emergency, she stated "911"*
- 7. I work in a small town in Mississippi, right across the state line from Memphis, TN. At lunch one day, I was at Sonic and when the man asked for my order over the intercom, I told him that I wanted a BLT with cheese, no mayo. To which he promptly asked, "Would you like Lettuce and Tomato?"*



**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 they receive 5% of the cards sold. Wenger cards are in the denominations of \$25, \$50 and \$100 and they 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. Preparations for the meal begin at 9:00 a.m. and are usually done by 1:00 p.m. 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.

**2018-2019 FELC/MACY Youth/Young Adult Ministry**

- February – Tubing and Lenten Discussion or 30 Hour Famine with Dreisbach at Dreisbach
- March – “Egging Homes” and Winter Jam and Coffee Cards for Young Adults for Easter
- March - Palm Sunday – Easter Egg Hunt = \_\_\_\_\_
- April – Gym Night or Movie and Pizza or Bowling – more details later

- May – Youth Sunday @ First Lutheran
- June - GROUP WORKCAMP in Puerto Rico – June 22-29
- July 15-20 – Harvey Cedars Bible Conference in New Jersey for anyone entering 9th grade in Fall 2019

**Please note that dates/times for a few events may change due to availability of the venue/host – will text you updates!**

**PLEASE contact Kim Sawyer @ 713-4577 with ANY questions! 😊**



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

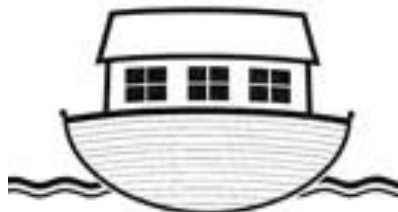
**Grow in the Snow**  
**February 8-9**

This year's synod youth retreat at Camp Mount Luther will be held on February 8-9, 2019. All youth in 6-12th grade and their youth leaders are invited to attend. The theme of this year's retreat is "The Apps on God's Tablets," dealing with the Ten Commandments. Experience your Creator, play winter games and find refreshment in the peace of camp in winter. The retreat is from Friday night to Saturday afternoon, but there is an option for youth and leaders to come just for the day on Saturday. Cost is \$60 (whole program) or \$40 (Saturday only) if registered by January 29, 2019. A late fee of \$25 added after that date. No refunds will be given after the January 29 deadline. Each registered group should provide one adult (21 or over) for every seven youth and at least one adult for each gender represented. Cabin assignments will be made based on available adults and number of youth attending. Contact Chad Hershberger at [chad@campmountluther.org](mailto:chad@campmountluther.org) with questions. For a flyer and registration form: <https://www.campmountluther.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2019-GROW-in-the-Snow-Flyer.pdf>



**Happening #12**  
**February 15-17, 2019**

This is a program sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Central PA, held at Camp Mount Luther. Because of the synod and camp's partnership with the diocese, Lutheran youth are welcome and encouraged to attend. All youth in grades 9-12 are invited for an exciting weekend of fun, friendship, and faith! Youth leadership is a key feature of the Happening program. The entire weekend is led "by youth for youth" with adult supervisions and guidance. Happening is not a traditional church retreat. As a Happener, whether you are a high school student or an adult (yes adults may happen, too!) You will have the opportunity to talk about God, as God is reflected in your daily life, with your peers, the people who will be experiencing the same event with you. Happening is truly an event designed with you and your faith in mind! Finally, a key piece to a happy Happening is dedication to a friendly, accepting, and understanding environment. No matter who you are, where you come from, or what your favorite cereal happens to be, you are welcome with open arms. Please register by February 8, 2019! Click to register: <https://tinyurl.com/ycnlgl4q>. Cost is \$125.00 and scholarships are available. Please contact Mary Ellen Kilp or Theda Tallman at [cpayouthcom@gmail.com](mailto:cpayouthcom@gmail.com) for questions. For a flyer about the event: <https://www.uss-elca.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Happening-flyer-12.docx>



***SYNOD NEWS***

**MLK Interfaith Prayer Breakfast**  
**January 19, 2019**

You are invited to the inaugural MLK Jr. Interfaith Prayer Breakfast! Mark your calendars and plan to join us on Saturday, January 19, 2019, for prayer, fellowship and to celebrate Dr. King's legacy. Should you have any questions, please contact Jackie

Curran at [jcurran@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:jcurran@hbgdiocese.org) or (717) 657-4804 ext. 313. It is easy to register: You may complete your registration online ([https://hbgdiocese.formstack.com/forms/interfaith\\_prayer\\_breakfast](https://hbgdiocese.formstack.com/forms/interfaith_prayer_breakfast)) or print and mail the registration form: <https://www.uss-elca.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/MLK-breakfast-flyer-form.pdf>

## **NEW OPPORTUNITY**

Lutheran in Mifflinburg, are teaming up to provide some outdoor education to young learners. The camp and the preschool's teacher, Kris Lamey, plan to work together in the future on projects to bring the preschool kids to Mount Luther to learn more about creation and to have me do some camp-style programming in the preschool classroom. I was talking to Miss Kris recently about ways camp and the preschool could work together and we think this is a great opportunity for us both! She's also willing to come talk to our staff about preschoolers and how to work well with that age group. Unfortunately, this cannot happen if the school doesn't get some more students. Their enrollment is down this year and they desperately need more kiddos or their program could be suspended. If you know someone who has a three or four-year old who lives in the Mifflinburg area who might be interested in preschool, contact Miss Kris at her home phone (570-966-2851) for information or to schedule a visit.

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## **LIFE LESSONS**

1. *A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.*
2. *By the time you can make ends meet, they move the ends.*
3. *Only in America...do we use answering machines to screen calls and then have call waiting so we won't miss a call from someone we didn't want to talk to in the first place.*
4. *Never do card tricks for the group you play poker with.*
5. *No one is listening until you make a mistake.*
6. *Success always occurs in private, and failure in full view.*
7. *The hardness of the butter is directly proportional to the softness of the bread.*
8. *The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the ability to reach it.*
9. *When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.*
10. *If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.*
11. *Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.*
12. *Puppies have bad breath even after eating a tic-tac.*
13. *Never hold a dust buster and a cat at the same time.*
14. *You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.*
15. *Families are like fudge...mostly sweet with a few nuts.*
16. *Middle age is when you choose cereal for the fiber, not the toy.*
17. *Never ask a 3-year old to hold a tomato.*
18. *You can't trust dogs to watch your food.*
19. *Quoting one is plagiarism; Quoting many is research.*



## ***IN THE MAILBAG***

### **50% Off On 2019 Registration Fee For Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends**

Because we are celebrating 50 years of Worldwide Marriage Encounter, the 2019 registration fee will be \$50 instead of \$100, so don't postpone your attendance any longer--take advantage of this opportunity!

Also new this year, because couples have told us that they would prefer to know the costs and pay ahead, prices for the lodging for 2 nights and 5 meals for each of you will be posted on the website and payable upon registering. Those fees can be refunded up to approximately a month before the event should conflicts arise, and financial assistance is available for those in need. Some Weekends fill quickly, so don't delay, SIGN UP TODAY to avoid being on a waiting list.

Your marriage relationship is one of the things in life that provides the greatest potential for happiness. Resolve to make 2019 the year you attend a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend to learn how to maximize the joy and intimacy that God intends for your marriage.

The 2019 Weekends are:

- \* April 5-7, 2019 at the lovely, warm and inviting Country Inn and Suites just off of Highway 99 in a very quiet area of State College, PA
- \* April 26-28, 2019 at Heritage Hotel Lancaster, a newly-renovated hotel, home of the unique, treehouse-inspired restaurant, "Loxley's" in Lancaster, PA
- \* October 11-13, 2019 at the spacious, modern decor rooms at the Hyatt Place Pittsburgh/Cranberry in Cranberry Township, PA
- \* November 1-3, 2019 at the award-winning Hampton Inn Berkshires beautifully situated on the edge of a nature preserve in Lenox, MA

See the website: [www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org) for the pricing for each Weekend, and sign up today using your credit card or by marking the option to mail a check.

For questions, or if you would like a brochure mailed to you, please contact Northeast US Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or [fjschamber@comcast.net](mailto:fjschamber@comcast.net).



## ***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...***

...**all the volunteers** that helped decorate the church for the holiday season  
...**everyone** who provided a poinsettia for our Christmas Eve service  
...**to those** who set up the Nativity scene that is in the front yard  
...**the members and friends** who contributed to the backpack program  
...**Winifred Aikey** for choosing Christ’s United as a recipient for “Choice Dollars” through the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Thrivent Choice program.  
... **Eugene Hassinger & Greg Shuck**, outgoing council members  
... **Joe Dressler, Pearl Gemberling & Linda Smith**, returning council members  
...**Kim Blyler & Barry Spangler**, incoming council members  
...**Dave Bickhart, Maurice Clouser, Joe Dressler, Eugene Hassinger & Cliff Valentine** for cleaning up the leaves that had accumulated around the church  
...**everyone** who helped with, or contribute to, the children’s Christmas party

*I would like to thank everyone who thought of my family during the holidays with cards and gifts, as well as for the help and moral support you give me all year long. I truly appreciate your generosity.*

*--Margie*

# **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!**

## **PASTOR JOHN, MINDY & THEIR FAMILY**

**TOM CATHERMAN**, our custodian, as well as our outgoing council member for his years of service

**BEV CATHERMAN & DON FORNWALT**, Tom's helpers

**DREW CHRISTY, MAURICE CLOUSER, JOE DRESSLER, DOUG GEMBERLING, PEARL GEMBERLING, EUGENE HASSINGER, DIANNE SHUCK, GREG SHUCK, LINDA SMITH**, 2018 council members

**PAULA CHRISTY & GARY HACKENBERG**, organists

**DIANE VALENTINE & KAREN ZIMMERMAN**, pianists

**BARRY SPANGLER & DAVE SWARTZ**, digital music arrangers

**PAULA CHRISTY & DIANE VALENTINE**, choir directors

**DIANNE SHUCK**, treasurer, banquet coordinator

**JANET HACKENBERG**, assistant treasurer

**CLIFF VALENTINE**, financial recording secretary

**BEV CATHERMAN**, funeral meal coordinator, coordinating the stand at the Christkindl Market, sending thank you notes for Hope's Haven donations and Christmas cards to the shut-ins

**KIM BLYLER** for his computer talents when help is needed and for also his cooking skills, banquet coordinator

**JUNE WENRICH** for serving as Sunday school superintendent and for taking care of the candles

**JANICE WAGNER** for coordinating the holiday flower orders

**PATTY EMERY** for maintaining the memorial book

**EUGENE & KATHERINE HASSINGER** for mailing Christmas cards to visitors

**BEV CATHERMAN** for mailing Christmas cards to our shut-ins

**BECKY DUNKLE** for creating the cards that were mailed to the shut-ins

**BARBARA CLOUSER** for scheduling greeters

**BARRY SPANGLER** for scheduling lay helpers and overseeing the acolytes

**ALL THE MEN** who make repairs and help with the upkeep of the facility

**HOPE'S HAVEN'S VOLUNTEERS AND ALL WHO HAVE DONATED FOOD, CLOTHING, AND MONETARY SUPPORT**

**DINING ROOM COORDINATORS & SERVERS**

**KITCHEN HELPERS**

**DISHWASHERS**

**CHOIR MEMBERS**

**SOLOISTS & MUSICIANS**

**MINISTRY CHAIRPERSONS & MEMBERS**

**WORKDAY VOLUNTEERS**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS**

**YARD SALE COORDINATORS, HELPERS AND ALL WHO DONATE TO IT**

**BLANKET KNOTTING DAY PARTICIPANTS**

**FLOWER SPONSORS**

**EVERYONE WHO HAS ANY PART IN ORGANIZING, COOKING, SERVING AND HELPING WITH THE BANQUETS, PANCAKE SUPPER, POTPIE SUPPERS, BREAKFASTS, FUNERAL & COMMUNITY MEALS AND THE WEST END FAIR**

**ACOLYTES**

**DECORATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**EASTER EGG HUNT & HALLOWEEN PARTY COORDINATORS, HELPERS & PARTICIPANTS**

**EASTER EGG/BON BON MIXERS, SHAPERS, DIPPERS & PACKAGERS**

**LAY READERS**

**GREETERS**

**SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS**

**COMMUNION HELPERS**

**USHERS**

**ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS**

**KOINONIA KAFE COORDINATORS**

**BLOODMOBILE DONORS & HELPERS**

**ADVENT FAMILY DAY COORDINATORS & PARTICIPANTS**

**PUBLIC SALE STAND COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**THE MEN AND WOMEN** who provide baked goods and food donations for any event we have

**THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE CONGREGATION** who give of themselves anonymously

**And...EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTS CULC  
THROUGH THEIR GIFTS OF TIME, TALENTS & FINANCES**

~~~~

**HOW TO FACE THE NEW YEAR**

*Face it with an open Bible.*

*Face it with confidence in Jesus Christ, your friend and Savior.*

*Face it resolved to stand by your pastor in his work for the church.*

*Face it with your heart right with God.*

*Face it with a resolution to do much personal work for the salvation of souls.*

*Face it with the cheerfulness of heart and a smiling face.*

*Face it singing "Absent from the body, present with the Lord."*

*Face it resolved to do and dare for Christ and the church.*

*Face it lifting up Jesus Christ before men willing to save.*



**ALTAR GUILD**

Barbara Clouser  
Maurice Clouser

**USHERS**

Drew Christy  
Chuck Spurr

**SOUND SYSTEM**

Dave Bickhart

**GREETERS**

6 - Katherine and  
Eugene Hassinger  
13 - Darlene and Ron  
Ulrich  
20 - Ethel and Sam  
Schnure  
27 - Dianne Shuck

**MUSIC PROVIDERS**

6 – Barry Spangler  
13 – Diane Valentine  
20 – Dave Swartz  
27 – Gary Hackenberg

**LAY READERS**

6 – Drew Christy  
13 – Maurice Clouser  
20 – Barry Spangler  
27 – Mike Flickinger

**COMMUNION  
ASSISTANTS**

6 – Janice Wagner  
13 – Judy Moyer  
20 – Barry Spangler  
27 – Judy Mecouch

**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

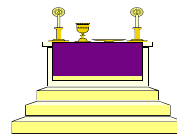
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_



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



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**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

***FEBRUARY***  
NEWSLETTER IS:

***JANUARY 21***

### STAFF

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| The Rev. John D. Yost   | Pastor                          |
| The Members of the Congregation   | the Ministers                   |
| Gary Hackenberg   | Organist                        |
| Diane Valentine & Karen Zimmerman   | Pianists                        |
| David Swartz & Barry Spangler   | Digital Music Arrangers         |
| Tom Catherman   | Custodian                       |
| Margie Dunkle   | Secretary/Asst. Tr.             |
| Dianne Shuck  | Treasurer                       |
| Janet Hackenberg  | Assistant Treasurer             |
| Cliff Valentine   | Financial Recording Secretary   |
| Drew Christy, Dianne Shuck, Greg Shuck                                      | Parish Council Representatives  |
| Bev Catherman, Dianne Shuck, Linda Smith, Barry Spangler, and Janice Wagner | Parish Social Committee Members |

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

#### Officers

Drew Christy, President  
Doug Gemberling, Vice President  
Barry Spangler, Council & Recording Secretary

#### Ministry Assignments

##### Facilities & Administration *(deals with property, personnel and stewardship)*

Maurice Clouser, Joe Dressler, Dianne Shuck

##### Inreach *(focus on ministry within the congregation)*

Drew Christy, Linda Smith, Barry Spangler

##### Outreach *(related to ministry beyond the congregation)*

Kim Blyler, Doug Gemberling, Pearl Gemberling

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

**M**eeet – we meet each other as sisters and brothers in Christ

**I**nviite – we invite and welcome others into the body of Christ

**S**haare – 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**maagine – 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.

### **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.

# January 2019

| Sunday   | Monday    | Tuesday  | Wednesday                          | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday                              |
|--|-----------|--|------------------------------------|-----------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <i>Life is fragile ...<br/>Handle with prayer.</i>   |           | <b>1</b>   | <b>2</b><br>10:00 Hope's<br>Haven  | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>   | <b>5</b>                              |
| <b>6</b><br>9:00 Worship,<br>Council<br>Installation<br>10:00 Koinonia<br>Kafe<br>10:15 Sunday<br>School | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b><br><br>6:30 Inreach &<br>Outreach<br>Ministries | <b>9</b><br>10:00 Hope's<br>Haven  | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b>  | <b>12</b>                             |
| <b>13</b><br>9:00 Worship<br>10:15 Sunday<br>School  | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b><br><br>7:00 Council                            | <b>16</b><br>10:00 Hope's<br>Haven | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b>  | <b>19</b><br><br>6:30 BVSA<br>Banquet |
| <b>20</b><br>9:00 Worship<br>10:15 Sunday<br>School  | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b>  | <b>23</b><br>10:00 Hope's<br>Haven | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b>  | <b>26</b>                             |
| <b>27</b><br>9:00 Worship<br>10:15 Sunday<br>School<br>3:00 Mini MACY                                    | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b>  | <b>30</b><br>10:00 Hope's<br>Haven | <b>30</b> | <i>Got snow drifts? Think<br/>of all the magical<br/>snowmen buried beneath,<br/>waiting for release.<br/>~Dr. SunWolf</i> |                                       |