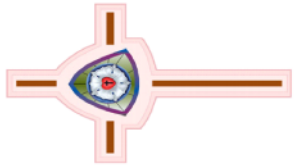
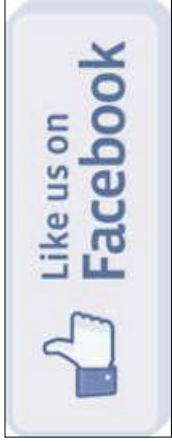


Christ's United Lutheran Church
437 Airport Road
Ashland PA 17921
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

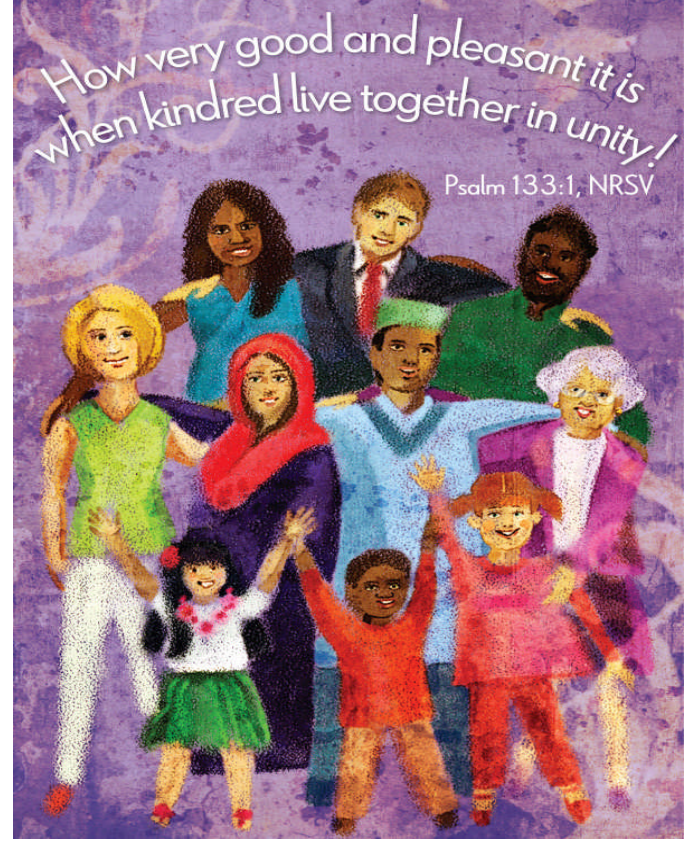


JUNE
2012

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Life Together at Christ's United Lutheran Church



*Join us for Worship -
Saturday 5:00 p.m. &
Sunday 9:30 a.m.*



**CHRIST'S UNITED
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA 17921
www.christsunited.org
(570) 875-1591

CHURCH COUNCIL 2012

Visit us on the Web at:
http://home.ptd.net/~dotzang1/christ_united_lutheran_church.htm

**The June Newsletter is Sponsored in Memory of
Hilda & Henry Scheuren by Don & Laray Klinger.**

In This Issue:

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- Pg. 5 Status of Accounts & Council Highlights
- Pg. 7 Prayer List
- Pg. 8 Bus Trip
- Pgs. 10-12 Social Ministry
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- Pgs. 14-15 Synod News
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- Pg. 17 Growing in Faith
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- Pgs. 36-37 The Parish Paper



A father's love

In all that you do, a dad's love plays a part.
There's always a place for him deep in your heart.
And each year that passes, you're even more glad,
More grateful and proud just to call him your dad!

—Author unknown

	Phone	Term Expires
Melanie Bendinsky	875-0646	Feb. 2014
Jim Chappell	644-1602	Feb. 2013
Dean Fetterolf (VP)	875-2765	Feb. 2015
vicepresident@christsunited.org		
Jim Gruber	875-2805	Feb. 2013
David Hall	875-6342	Sept. 2012
Gail Halye (Sec.)	497-5337	Feb. 2015
Nancy Lindenmuth	875-3138	Feb. 2014
Deb Price	875-4272	Feb. 2015
youth@christsunited.org		
Terry Shilling	875-0412	Feb. 2014
Lois Sterling	449-6947	Feb. 2013

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Rev. Dr. Kim L. Lengert
(610) 823-1960

Email: pastorkim@christsunited.org

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Financial Secretary	Christine Brennan	875-0720
Indoor Custodian	Sandy Marlow	875-1341
Outdoor Custodian	Donald Klinger	875-2334

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

David Schweinhart 682-9553

PARISH SECRETARY

Erik Tice 875-2681

Email: office@christsunited.org

Office hours Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Office Phone (570) 875-1591

Christ's United Committees

Auditing Committee

Christian Education
education@christsunited.org

Endowment Fund

Evangelism/Outreach
evangelism@christsunited.org

Finance

Grieving Committee

Lutheran Church Men (LCM)

Mutual Ministry

Nominating

Personnel
personnel@christsunited.org

Property
property@christsunited.org

Social Ministry

Stewardship

WELCA

Worship & Music

~~oops!~~

From a worship bulletin in El Paso, Texas:

welcome to worship, as we celebrate peace

The Spirit's presence is surly among us.

Join us after the service for coffee and

Surely these folks haven't made God mad?



Christ's United Lutheran Church

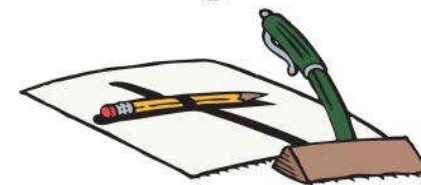
Mission Statement

We the members of Christ's United Lutheran Church, Ashland, desiring to be blessed together with Word and Sacrament and to become more perfectly the Body of Christ in our world, do hereby commit ourselves to a mission which includes a creative re-examination of our worship life; a quality educational program for all ages; intentional witnessing; a serving spirit; and an integrated support system which will undergird our program and the maintenance of our facilities as it encourages improved stewardship.

Brothers & Sisters,

Everything is growing! The recent rains have sparked the grass, the flowers, the grass, the trees, *did I mention the grass?*

Message From



Pastor Kim

And as everything around us is growing, so is everything in our daily lives. Baseball, picnics, vacations, swimming, beaches, boating, hiking, gardening, and fishing (*did I mention the grass??*) are just a few of the activities that now will guide our steps and fill out moments from early in the morning until late at night.

All these activities (*did I mention the grass???*) make it hard for us to find time for the other things that need to grow: our faith, and our faith practices. Time for prayer, worship, and Bible Study are often squeezed out of the summer months as we forego the Son for the "sun".

True, the peace that fills my mind and soul as I stand in the middle of a stream casting after that brown trout that just broke surface is a moment I give thanks to God for - but joining together in singing God's praise, listening to someone read from God's Word, and gathering with the whole family at God's table - the peace these times give me is a lifetime of moments, that are renewed - and used - over and over again.

So this summer add some Son time to your sun shine: join in worship for a simple Saturday evening service at 5 pm, or a full service with song Sundays at 9.30 am. Bible studies meet Wednesday nights at 7 pm, and Thursday mornings at 10.30 am; and starting this Summer we will be offering Snapshot Studies, when we will gather for a single evening study on a Bible topic.

— continued on page 4



People also gather on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and, Sunday evenings to discuss new ways we can witness through the various committees, with a different committee meeting each night. And the Youth, well they seem to be here all the time lately (yea!).

No matter what the activity is, you are welcome. You are welcome to come in your shorts and flip flops. You are even welcome to come straight from baseball, picnics, vacations, swimming, beaches, boating, hiking, gardening, and fishing.

So I hope to see you here, basking in the Son, your faith just blooming out, growing all over. Speaking of growing, I better go (*did I mention the grass????*)...

Peace,
Pastor Kim

Pastoral Acts

Baptisms:

04/29/12 Kolton Dean Fetterolf
05/06/12 Mina Renee Pennypacker

Funerals:

04/28/12 Julia Johnson
05/01/12 Betty Cray
05/14/12 Cheryl Sincavage
05/15/12 Kevin Holmes

Marriages Scheduled:

10/20/12 Paul Marshall & Jennifer Weikel
05/25/13 Sean Britton & Nina Sisak
08/03/13 Ricky Williard & Ashley Bitting

These paper-members receive some reward for their loose affiliation—such as connecting them to memories or family history, secure reservations for future weddings or funerals, or an easy way to maintain a Christian identity.

The virtual member. These attendees may be regular participants but they have never officially joined. However, in their heads and hearts, they are members. Their lack of involvement may stem from their uncertainty about what roles nonmembers can legitimately perform.

Strategies for Creating Greater Participation

The multiple reasons for nonparticipation require multiple strategies for reaching the 80 percent. Because every church has a unique profile of lightly involved members, the first task involves identifying your congregation's participation profile. Find out:

- What percentage of your church's membership is highly involved?
- How are these actively engaged members different from other members?
- What percentage of your church's membership is less involved?
- What types of bystanders do you observe in your church?

Thumma and Bird recommend that after leaders answer these questions they should follow a three-part strategy:

1. Listening to bystanders. The listening team interviews two or three members that fit the profile of each bystander category. The conversations with nonparticipants focus on three questions:

- How do they grow spiritually?
- What are their gifts and passions?
- What would increase their involvement?

Remind team members that there is only one goal: *listening to the member's story.* Coach interviewers to reign in any defensive responses.

2. Learning from bystanders. The team's second step involves reviewing and discussing what they learned from those conversations. For example, the researchers found in many congregations that the underlying conditions and circumstances for decreased involvement seemed to have more to do with *spiritual* issues than it did with circumstantial issues (such as work demands) or experiential issues (like feeling neglected during or after a personal tragedy).

According to responses from the least involved, they would be reengaged if the church strengthened three spiritual aspects of the church: meaningful worship; pastoral care; and ministry to the sick, shut in, and bereaved.

3. Engaging bystanders. Building the spiritual life of the other 80 percent should be the motivation as leaders creatively accelerate their efforts to reach by-

standers. Too few churches offer vigorous programs for helping people to develop a life of faith. Many congregations have discontinued any form of adult education or have greatly diminished it. Leaders should review every church ministry and ask, Does it make disciples?

More Strategies For Making Disciples

Additional action steps boost participation for all groups in the church:

- Create ministry teams to replace committees.
- Train leaders to make every group's experience spiritually formative.
- Encourage experienced leaders to recruit and mentor a less-experienced co-leader.
- Help members find their spiritual gifts and celebrate their contributions.
- Start new ministry teams and groups often.
- Hold a ministry fair to connect people with groups and ministry teams.
- Invite people to participate in a single-day ministry project.
- Provide opportunities for families and friends to do ministry projects together.²

The Bottom Line

Take comfort in the fact that no church engages 100 percent of their members at a 100 percent level. Keep a balanced focus on the church's entire ministry. "Do not neglect the team on the field (present active members) and the potential team on the bench (prospective active members) by focusing all of your attention on the ex-team that has retreated to the bleachers (inactive members)."³ If some members choose to return as active disciples, welcome them. If they choose to remain on the sidelines, love them anyway.

1. C. Kirk Hadaway, *What Can We Do About Church Drop-outs?* (Nashville: Abington Press, 1990), 35.
2. Visit the Center for Church Leadership Web site (http://www.churchleadership.com/resources/50_ways_to_build_strength.htm) to download materials from the "50 Ways to Build Strength in Participation" series.
3. Herb Miller, *Church Effectiveness Nugget, Volume 6: How to Shrink Your Church's Inactive Member List*, 24. Download free at www.TheParishPaper.com/free-resources.

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www.TheParishPaper.com



THE PARISH PAPER

Ideas and Insights for Active Congregations

Coeditors: Herb Miller, Lyle E. Schaller, Cynthia Woolever - www.theparishpaper.com

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Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
2354 Grove Rd, Allentown, PA 18109-3044

A Service of the Synod's Leadership Development Ministry Team

May 2012 - Volume 20, Number 5

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How to Turn Bystanders into Active Disciples

Every congregation faces the same challenge—a fraction of the members carry the majority of the load. These loyal few attend services weekly, participate in church programs, support the church financially, take on leadership roles, and volunteer for mission and outreach activities.

Is it true that a mere 20 percent of the congregation's members do far more than the other 80 percent? What can leaders do to encourage spiritual growth and discipleship among the other 80 percent?

Testing the 80/20 Rule

Researchers Scott Thumma and Warren Bird put this 80/20 notion to the test in *The Other 80 Percent: Turning Your Church's Spectators into Active Participants* (Wiley Press, 2011). They found that the statistic varies widely but every church's membership list reveals uneven levels of involvement.

Yet some congregations find ways to shrink the numbers of those who observe church life from the sidelines. The remedy for converting bystanders into highly involved participants engaged in meaningful ministry depends on the type of nonparticipant—each spectator type requires a different strategy for reengagement.

Types of Bystanders

Thumma and Bird's research reveals several distinct groups of spectators:

The underinvolved member. This category describes those who are minimally active. Their worship service attendance may be steady, but they are rarely spotted at anything else that happens at church. They do not participate in a small group—such as adult education, prayer groups, or Bible studies. They have never taken on any kind of lay leadership role—chairing a committee, working on a mission project, teaching a class, or sponsoring a youth trip. Their financial giving is occasional and typically modest. However, the reasons behind their lack of involvement remain a mystery.

The decreasingly involved member. This category describes those who were once active members, but who slowly become less and less involved. Many times this decreasing involvement stems from complications at home—a husband who loses his job and continues to look for employment or a wife's declining health.

Changes in work or health, new family responsibilities, or other challenging personal circumstances take their toll on the once active. Others curtail their involvement for other reasons: a negative church experience such as a change in the worship service, a pastor or staff member who failed to meet their expectations, or a sense of disillusionment resulting from continuing church conflict.

The waiting to be asked member. Church leaders often overlook members in this category. Newcomers to the church, especially first-time church members or denominational switchers, need special attention to help them figure out the mechanics of involvement. Because they wait to be asked, a sign-up sheet or self-nomination strategy rarely works for them. Introverted members or those uncertain about taking on a new role need targeted encouragement too.

The disconnected member. One church expert refers to this group as "mental members."¹ Those missing in action think of themselves as church members, even though they have not attended in years, and have yet to meet the current pastor.



... AN INTERESTING CASE ...
THEY ALL SHARE THE SAME SYMPTOMS,
BUT GIVE AN AMAZING VARIETY OF EXPLANATIONS ...



May Church Council Highlights

- The pastor has been asked to join the Schuylkill Women in Crisis Board of Directors.
- The Christian Education committee is looking for new curriculum for Sunday school this fall.
- The items for the children's bags will be paid for through the Christian Education budget.
- The Evangelism Committee will be hiring "Life Touch" to put a new directory together and take pictures of members.
- The exterior doors will be painted.
- It was suggested that members of the choir attend funeral services to help with the hymns.
- The LCM made a profit of \$1,288.00 from the Spaghetti dinner.
- WELCA made a profit of \$3,799.00 from the Easter candy.
- At the Spring Schuylkill Cluster of WELCA, Donna Wallace was elected as the Cluster Coordinator.

Status of Accounts

Balance in Checking Account.....	\$5,224.63
Investment Fund #55.....	\$25,000.00
Investment Fund #73.....	\$25,000.00
Memorial Account.....	\$26,531.61
Benevolence Gifts.....	\$6,392.50

(31% of our Benevolence goal of \$20,600.00)

Eucharistic Minister Training:

Have you ever wanted to be able to bring Holy Communion to a friend from our congregation who was ill? On any week, many members of Christ's United are restricted to their homes or the hospital because of illness. Several members and the Pastor do visit, but we could use more help. For more information please speak with Pastor Kim or Jo-Ann Young. If you feel God pulling you in this direction, please sign up to participate in the Eucharistic Minister training on Thursday, June 7



Have you "Liked" us on Facebook?

Christ's United Lutheran Church is on Facebook! We have a page and a group by which we share information about upcoming Church and community activities, as well as keeping up with each other. This is one of the first places to check to get information on new programs and special situations (flooding, snow, etc.). Sign on to Facebook and search for Christ's United Lutheran Church – and "Like" us when you get there!



Thanks for the prayers, flowers, cards and donations, and for the support given to us during our recent bereavement.

Jack & Frieda Johnson & Family

Pastor Kim,

Words cannot begin to express our gratitude, but we would like to say Thank You for the love and concern you showed us with the recent passing of our Mother, Betty Cray. You made a very difficult time in our lives much more bearable.

Even though you just met our mother we appreciate the fact that you took the time to get to know our family and support us in this time of need. Your words were not only a comfort, but a source of strength for our family. Many thanks, Ann Marie, Francis, Judy, Kathy & Families



**Thank
You!**

Many thanks for all who played a role in the funeral service for my Mother. I appreciate you taking the time to share your talents. The Service was beautiful, the Choir sounded wonderful, and the meal was terrific. People that were never at our church expressed how warm and welcomed they felt, a tightly knit family was the feeling they received. That was a beautiful way to say "good-bye" to a terrific person and for that I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Ann Marie Dillman & Family



June Birthdays

- 3 Thomas Hood
- 5 James Reiner
- 9 Shannon Marlow
- 10 Rhea McNally
- 11 Judy Stepulitis
Erik Tice
- 14 William Waldick, Jr.
- 16 Dorothy Kessler
- 17 William Coward, Jr.
Stephanie Cook
- 18 Marge Bolich
Susan McNally
- 21 Bryson Nagle
- 22 Betty Waldick
- 23 Corrine Coward
Amy Johnson
- 26 Laura Brennan
Robert Schneider
Michelle Hood
- 27 Brandy Speer
Richard Berner
- 30 Betty Miller
Gail Halye



June Anniversaries

06/05/10	Chris & Dianna Monaghan
06/09/07	Brian & Jennifer Wetzel
06/12/10	Jesse & Jessica Wright
06/15/92	Maynard & Susan Merwine
06/15/02	Jeff & Rachel Hostetter
06/19/10	Mark & Misty Kromer
06/26/10	Richard & Cheryl Weikel
06/30	Ted & Terry Ambrose



**BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY**



We Offer our Prayers to...

Those recently added to our Prayer List...

Gerry Dillman, Jean Cress, Carrie Houser, Pete Waldick, Ivan Sweinhart, Thelma Laudermilch, Megan Geise

Please Continue to Pray for...

Scott Hoffman, Adda Miller, Audrey & Fred Pillman, Bill Griffiths, Glenn Pennypacker, Terry Halye, Irene Morgan, Mary Oliveri, Richard Berner, Melissa Byers, Joe Lentowski, Ashland Area Ministerium, Jim Hepler, Gail Lorady, Robert Rock, Barb Anczarski, Beryl Kubik, Natalie Tracy, Carol Guistwite, Mandy Fetterolf, Alexis Schmidt, Emma

**UNITED IN
PRAYER**

Fishburn, Brenda Wolfgang, Carl Lute, Catherine Tenedios, Howard & Catherine Beury, Sharon Kostura, Donald Bevan, Devon Fowler, Carol Brennan, Beverly Fetterolf, Herman Wagner, Skip Raaby, Eileen Lindenmuth, Lambert Haupt, Donald Kerestes, Robert Welker, EvaAnn Barkafski, Dot Zeigenfuse, David Major, Joseph Roshannon, Barbara Nelson, Martha Alexandar, Judy Stepulitis, Blanche Rowe, Judy Gross, Joey Kelly, Linda Kahler, Brandon Harris, Jeremiah Zamudio, Heather Fetterolf, Rebecca Yorty, Grant Marlow, Mary Houser, Mae Hughes, Joan Clark, Linda Zerby, Carol (Cook) Brennan, Peggy Dziczek, Margaret Huhn, Nancy Shuey, Bob Lynn, Elaine Wallace, Joel Ruscavage, Sonya Oldland, Lance Wolfe, Fred Herb III, Ron David Bolinsky, Jr., Melanie Alt, Steven Hall, Shirley Zaharick, Bob Foose, Jennifer Coch

Please call the Church Office...

...if you or a relative are admitted to a hospital,

...if your phone number or address change, or

...if you have a prayer concern.

Thank you for helping us to serve you better. The church office hours are Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Christ's United Lutheran Church Bus Trip To Sight & Sound Thursday, July 12

Deadline to Reserve Tickets: JUNE 30TH
Bus leaves Church parking lot at 11:00 a.m.

Cost

Adults \$83.00

Teen (13-18) \$64.00

Child (3-12) 48.00

Deposit of \$20.00 for each ticket due when you sign up.

Balance Due by June 30th.

Lunch at Shady Maple 1:00 p.m.

Lunch Includes: 46 salad bar items, 3 soups, 8 homemade breads & rolls, 4 cheeses, 8 meats, 14 vegetables, 10 cold desserts, 3 hot desserts, 8 pies, 6 cakes, sundae bar & many beverages.



Daily Grill Features: Angus Burgers, Beef Brisket, Grilled Hot Dogs, Marinated Chicken Breasts, Real Homemade Corn Fritters, Potato Cakes, Pizza and Kielbasa.

Show at Sight & Sound 4:15 p.m.

Unlike any show you've ever seen, this energetic adventure will have you on the edge of your seat from the time you step into the theatre. A new, completely immersive experience, *Jonah* promises to move you to laughter and tears. From the enormous whale swimming over your head to the thunderous effects of the powerful storm, and a mighty 30-foot-tall ship that breaks apart right before your eyes, the story of *Jonah* will astound and captivate the young and young-at-heart alike. Playing for one fantastic season only!

Please make checks payable to: Christ's United Lutheran Church WELCA. Sign-up on the bulletin board in the Narthex or call Connie Welker 875-0844 or Jo-Ann Young 875-2586.

they can hardly walk. My brothers and sisters are like zombies. They move like robots. In a daze, everybody. No one can believe this. And I can't believe it, either.

Please don't bury me! I'm not dead! I have a lot of living to do! I want to laugh and run again. I want to sing and dance. Please don't put me in the ground. I promise if you give me one more chance, God, I'll be the most careful driver in the whole world. All I want is one more chance!

Please, God, I'm only 17!

Youth Group Bake Sale to raise money for "Bowl for Kid's Sake" April 14, 2012



Above:
Samantha
Brennan &
Rebecca
Houser



Above:
Keith Laudermilch &
Nathan Smith



Right: Zachary
Hummel & Deb Price

PLEASE GOD, I'M ONLY 17

The day I died was an ordinary school day. How I wish I had taken the bus. But I was too cool for the bus. I remember how I wheeled the car out of Mom. "Special favor," I pleaded. "All the kids drive."

When the 2:50 bell rang, I threw all my books in the locker. I was free until 8:40 tomorrow morning! I ran to the parking lot, excited at the thought of driving a car and being my own boss. Free!

It doesn't matter how the accident happened. I was goofing off -- going too fast -- taking crazy chances. But I was enjoying my freedom and having fun. The last thing I remember was passing an old lady who seemed to be going awfully slow. I heard the deafening crash and felt a terrible jolt. Glass and steel flew everywhere. My whole body seemed to be turning inside out. I heard myself scream.

Suddenly I awakened; it was very quiet. A police officer was standing over me. Then I saw a doctor. My body was mangled. I was saturated with blood. Pieces of jagged glass were sticking out all over. Strange that I couldn't feel anything.

Hey, don't pull that sheet over my head! I can't be dead. I'm only 17. I've got a date tonight. I'm supposed to grow up and have a wonderful life. I haven't lived yet. I can't be dead!

Later I was placed in a drawer. My folks had to identify me. Why did they have to see me like this? Why did I have to look at Mom's eyes when she faced the most terrible ordeal of her life? Dad suddenly looked like an old man. He told the man in charge, "Yes, he is my son."

The funeral was a weird experience. I saw all my relatives and friends walk toward the casket. They passed by, one by one, and looked at me with the saddest eyes I've ever seen. Some of my buddies were crying. A few of the girls touched my hand and sobbed as they walked away.

Please -- somebody -- wake me up! Get me out of here! I can't bear to see my mom and dad so broken up. My grandparents are so racked with grief



WELCA of Christ's United

We will be gathering items to make Health and School Kits for World Relief.

Items needed for the Health Kits are:

Hand towels, wash cloths, unopened bars of soap, metal nail file with clippers, Band-Aids, large tooth combs, & tooth brushes.



Items for the School Kits are:

70 page composition books, construction paper, pencils, erasers, blunt scissors, small pencil sharpeners, box of 8-16 crayons, cloth book bag 12X14 with handles, and rulers.



You may also make a monetary donation and we will purchase the items needed to finish making the kits.

Please have all donations brought into the church by June 6 and place them in the Social Hall.

We will be delivering the items on Saturday, June 23.

Thank You!





Social Ministry

Ashland Area Food Pantry

We will be collecting the following item for June:

Spaghetti & Sauce

Please place your donations in the shopping cart. Thank You!



Committee Schedule

- June—Music & Worship
- July—Evangelism/Outreach
- August—Youth Group
- September—Property
- October—Stewardship
- November—Endowment Fund
- December—Choir
- January 2013—Church Council

The month that your committee serves please help out in the kitchen before and after the service. Thank you.

Congratulations Graduates

Please join us on Sunday June 3rd when we will acknowledge the following graduates from Christ's United. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors. Good Luck to all of you! We will keep you in our prayers as you take the next step in your life.

Nicole Johnson - Nicole will be graduating from Texas Tech University with a Doctorate in Education emphasis in special education. She has accepted a position as a Professor at Kutztown University. Nicole is the granddaughter of Cyrus & Joan Clark.

Amber Krise - Amber is graduating from Lehigh Carbon Community College and is planning to get a job at either Geisinger or Hershey hospital as a health care coder.

Allison Rusinko - Allison is graduating from Tri-Valley High School. She is going to attend Delaware Valley College majoring in Biology/Zoology.

Nina Sisak - Nina graduated from Penn State Harrisburg with a Masters Degree. She is currently seeking employment in the Psychology field and will possibly be continuing her education.

Allyson Stutzman - Allyson is graduating from Penn State University with a MS in Speech-Language Pathology. She will be working at Tremont Health & Rehabilitation as a speech-language pathologist.

Tiffany Frantz - Tiffany will be graduating from Pottsville Area High School and plans on attending Penn State Schuylkill campus this fall. She will be pursuing a degree in OB/GYN.



A FATHER'S INSTRUCTION

Although babies don't come with instructions, God tells parents how to raise their children.

Directions: Fill in the blanks with letters, using the number grid to find the correct coordinates. The first number goes across, and the second one goes down.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	a	L	d	i	j	g	r
2	m	b	o	k	h	u	s
3	e	n	c	x	t	p	f

"... 2,2 7,1 4,1 2,3 6,1 5,3 5,2 1,3 1,2
6,2 6,3 4,1 2,3 5,3 5,2 1,3
5,3 7,1 1,1 4,1 2,3 4,1 2,3 6,1 1,1 2,3 3,1
4,1 2,3 7,2 5,3 7,1 6,2 3,3 5,3 4,1 3,2 2,3
3,2 7,3 5,3 5,2 1,3 2,1 3,2 7,1 3,1"

EPHESIANS 6:4, NIV



Remember...

You can buy Chocolate, coffee, tea, and other items at the table in the Narthex each week.

We just received another shipment of Chocolate and, we now have two new flavors: Hazelnut Milk Chocolate and Dark Chocolate with Mint.

Bars are \$3.00 each.

Please stop by the table and get some goodies today!



By purchasing the items you are helping to support Fair Trade.

Answers: "... bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."



The social ministry committee will be hosting a clothing give-away on:

Saturday June 30
11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

If you would be willing to donate any clothing to the give-away these are the items we are in need of:

Infant/Toddler
Youth Girls & Boys
Young Women
Men's

The give-away will be advertised at the Ashland Area Food Pantry in June, if you know of anyone in need of clothing please let them know.

Please place all your donations in the Social Hall.
 Thank you!!



SonRise National Park Registration Form

Name _____

Birth date _____

Street address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone (_____) _____

Cell phone (_____) _____

E-mail _____

Parent(s) name(s) _____

Parent(s) work phone(s) _____

In case of emergency, contact _____

Allergies or other medical conditions _____

School grade just completed _____

Name of home church, if any _____

I hereby GRANT DO NOT GRANT (please circle one)

permission for _____ (name of church)

to use pictures of my child _____ (name of child)

on their website for informational or promotional purposes.

_____ (parent signature)

Please return this form to the church office by July 15 to register.



Ready for Fun and Adventure in the Great Outdoors?
Then you're ready for SonRise National Park VBS!



Please join us for fun and excitement!

Christ's United Lutheran Church

(place)

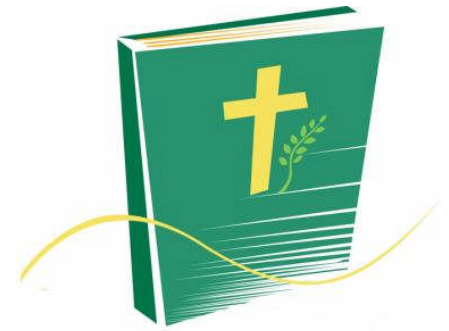
July 23 - 27 6:00- 8:00 pm

(date/time)

SonRise National Park-Point Your Kids to Jesus!

Snapshot Studies

If you had one hour to discuss anything in the Bible or about faith, what would it be?



This is the question Pastor Kim posted to our Facebook group and the answers are the topics for Snapshot Studies, a

1 1/2 hour study about an issue that concerns you. We will meet only once, and discuss one selected topic.



**Bring
a
Friend**

The evening topic will be posted on Facebook prior to gathering. The first Snapshot will be on:

**Sunday June 10th at
7:00 pm.**

SYNOD NEWS

The Spirit of Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

June 2012

Special Gifts Make a Difference

In February the Synod Council wrestled with the realization that the synod faces a \$200,000 shortfall in our income this year. This meant an immediate cut in our support of ministries of the wider church and the prospect of staff cuts in the near future.



The synod council and Bishop Zeiser both wrote to rostered leaders and congregations about this situation. The response has been wide-spread and supportive. At meetings of rostered leaders across the synod, concern was expressed that the ministry of the synod needed to be continued.

Special gifts have arrived at the synod office, over and above the mission support commitments already made. One congregation reflected on the words they had just read from Acts: "Everything they owned was held in common . . . it was distributed to each as any had need." That congregation sent an immediate gift and pledged a special offering. Another wrote, "We value highly the work we do together in the name of the Lord, and it is painful for us to know that many of our vital shared ministries are in jeopardy." Yet another donation was accompanied with the prayer "that our important work of Christ may continue with



vigor and spirit, and that our gift may help make a small difference to the witness and service of the Church."



These gifts have totaled over \$7,000. Of course, that doesn't solve the problem, but it does

encourage us. We give thanks for all of the rostered leaders, congregations, and individual members who are the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, who make our ministry together possible, and who help us discern what matters most and what God is calling us to do.



**Northeastern
Pennsylvania Synod
Assembly
June 15-16, 2012
Sovereign Center, Reading**



The 25th annual assembly of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod will celebrate *God's People Doing What Matters Together*.

Highlights of the assembly include worship, two forum sessions, interactive displays, and plenary sessions. Our **ELCA representative** is Ms. Jodi Slattery, Assistant to the Presiding Bishop for Governance.

Registration information and forms, the tentative agenda, and housing information may be found on the assembly page. Click the link on the home page at www.godslove.org. A link to online registration is also on the home page.

Don't forget the special *Birds of a Feather* session on Friday evening from 7-7:45 p.m. More information is on the synod website.



Youth Group News

The youth group bowled for Kids sake at Strike Zone Alleys, on Sunday April 22nd. All the members had great time.



The group collected a total of \$834.00. Nate Smith not only obtained the most in donations with \$109.00, but also donated \$30.00 of his share of the bake sale profits to another group member so that everyone could have a t-shirt and a sweatshirt. Thanks Nate.

Aluminum cans were sorted and bagged by the youth on April 29th.

The group went to Opportunity House in Reading on May 6th, where they prepared and served dinner for over 80 homeless men, women and children. They also had a tour of facility. A special thanks to both Lois Sterling and Connie Welker for helping the kids with the dinner.

The youth group will be performing a skit at the Sunday School Closing Program.

Further plans include a sleep over on June 1. Also, in the works is a trip to Knoebels Amusement Park and, a Christian Rock Concert.



June 22 to 24, 2012
Muhlenberg College
Allentown, PA

Cost \$125.00

For youth completing grades 8 through 12



Workshops! Drama! Activities!
Worship YOU Create!
Games! Dance!

Get to know other Lutheran youth in the
synod!

Talk about what matters to you!

DEADLINE TO REGISTER JUNE 1

More information at www.godslove.org



2012 Lutheran Youth Fellowship Assembly

- ✓ Ask questions!
- ✓ Make new friends!
- ✓ Sing and dance!
- ✓ Laugh and play!
- ✓ Talk about the tough stuff!



Youth completing grades 8 through 12 are invited to participate in this year's Lutheran Youth Fellowship Assembly, to be held June 22-24 at Muhlenberg College, Allentown.

The focus of the event is Psalm 23, "The Lord is my shepherd." We will be exploring questions such as—

Leading: On whom do we lean when we have difficult times? What friends can we count on? Mentors? God?

Lifting: What troubles, if any, are so awful that we can't lift them to God in prayer? What joys do we experience for which we can give God thanks?

Leading: Can we trust God and one another enough to be bold and lead where we are able? What gifts do we have for leadership?

If you are not attending the Youth Gathering in New Orleans, the assembly will give you a chance to meet other Lutheran youth in our synod. If you ARE attending the Gathering, you will be able to make connections with other youth who are attending the Gathering and help lead the rally day for the Gathering on June 24.

Don't let cost be a problem! Scholarships are available for those who need financial assistance and scholarships are being offered for congregations sending young people for the first time. The cost of \$125 per person covers room, board, and activity fees if you register before June 1. After May 31, the cost is \$150 per person. The deadline is June 15.

For a registration, medical release, and photo release form, call Debbie or Karen at the synod office (610-266-5101) or go to the LYF assembly page on the synod website (click the link on the home page, www.godslove.org). Groups of three or more must be accompanied by an adult.

sign up now

We hope to see you there!

Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA; 2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109; 610-266-5101; info@nepsynod.org; www.godslove.org

Technical Help Is Just an Email Away



In need of a computer but aren't sure what to buy? Having trouble learning the latest word processing or newsletter layout program? Want to start a Facebook page or Twitter feed for your mission group but aren't sure what works best? Wish you had someone to talk to?



Now you do! We are forming a volunteer group that is interested in helping our congregations with their "burning" technology questions. Whether you are just starting out or feel you might want to join the "geeks," contact us at neps.tech.help@gmail.com.

In addition to your personalized answer, your questions might appear in an upcoming issue of Synod News or as part of a blog on the synod website. We want to share what works and doesn't work so that everyone can explore how technology can be used to spread the Word.



We look forward to hearing from you!

Responding to God's Call
2012 WELCA Convention
June 9; Union, Schnecksville



For more information about and to register for the convention, click the link on the synod website at www.godslove.org.



Family Faith Challenge

Take part in the monthly family faith challenges developed by the synod's Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry Team!

The theme for June is Creation: We challenge you to notice how God's creation is a big part of your life.

For a list of the family faith challenges for each week in June (and the rest of the year), click the link on the synod home page at www.godslove.org.



WHO

ARE

These People???



Each month we have a different picture from long ago. See if you can guess who some or all of the people in the picture are. The answers will be in next months "Life Together" Newsletter.

If you have any old pictures you would like to share from Christ's United's past, please bring them into the office for Erik to scan into the computer. Also, please include a list of those pictured.

Answers for the May edition "Who are these people??" - Left to Right: Rev. Myrna Kysar, John Wolfgang, Robert Cheddar, Marjorie (Marquardt) Lally, Carol (Fetterolf) Kane, Cheryl Lute.

HAVE FUN!!!

<u>Upcoming Events</u>	
Friday, June 1 6:00 Sleep Over	
July 23-27 6:00-8:00 Vacation Bible School	

"Sweet" CARD

Make this Father's Day card using some of your dad's favorite candy.



What you need:

- Wrapped candy or candy bars
- Poster board or large piece of cardboard
- Markers
- Clear tape

What you do:

1. With an adult, purchase a variety of candy.
2. Using poster board and markers, create a poem or letter for your dad. Include the candy name(s) in your message. For a Snickers bar, you can write, "I love to snicker at your jokes!" For an Almond Joy, you can write, "Wishing you lots of joy this Father's Day!"
3. Tape the candy to your giant card and present it to your dad on Father's Day.

Youth Group



Christ's United Lutheran Church

Contact Us: youth@christsunited.org



Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry Team

Family Faith Challenge!



Family faith challenge guidelines for the year

- Worship God together once a week
- Gather together around a table six times a week
- Have an empty chair at the table to represent God's presence
- Make sure each person has his/her time to talk without interruptions
- Read from an age-appropriate Bible for your children



June: Creation

We challenge you to notice how God's creation is a big part of your life.



Week one: Visit a local park. Notice God's creation and look for three-leaf clovers. How is the clover like the Trinity (Father, Son, Holy Spirit)?

Week two: Gather together recyclable materials. Create something new.

Week three: Make a list of all the important men in your life. Share their stories with one another.

Week four: Read Psalm 104. What does it remind you of? Be inspired! Using chalk on the sidewalk, illustrate your favorite verse from Psalm 104

Congratulations To: Congratulations To:

Jeffrey Hummel

Jeffrey received the "Trooper of the Year" Award from the Pennsylvania State Police. He was selected as the recipient out of more than 4,300 state troopers.
Good job Jeffrey!

What We Collect

Please continue to bring in your used inkjet & laser cartridges, cell phones, and digital cameras for recycling.



Please place all items in the bins located in the parlor.

We NO LONGER collect plastic bottle caps!



We also collect Aluminum Cans. The bins are located behind the church at the kitchen door. The youth group uses the money from the cans for youth activities.

\$20.00 in Memory of Julia Johnson for the Mortgage by:
Ron & Donna Wallace

\$750.00 in Memory of Julia Johnson by:

Ralph S. & Grace Johnson
Dean & Barb Fetterolf
Jack & Frieda Johnson
Ken & Tammy Dengler
Harry & Joan Smith
Ralph R. & Eileen Johnson
Grant & Sandy Marlow
Marlene Lucas
Kenneth & Joy Marlow
Bruce & Crystal Heffner
Rick & Cindy Herring
James & Michelle Lavelle
Terry & Gail Halye
Bill & Sandy Miller
James & Deborah Artz
Leo & Jo-Ann Young
Russ & Carrie Hummel
Donald & Laray Klinger
Emerson & Helen Wolfgang
Todd & Kim Walacavage
John & Maryann Wolfgang
Frank & Peggy Dziczek
Frank & Karen Smith

\$60.00 in Memory of Kevin Holmes by:

Leo & Jo-Ann Young
Pappy Dengler

\$50.00 in Memory of Kevin Holmes for the Endowment Fund by:

William, Brenda, & Will Holmes

The following Memorials were given to Christ's United since the issue of the last Newsletter:

\$45.00 in Memory of Carl Pennypacker by:

Steve & Bernice Wilson

John & Maryann Wolfgang

\$15.00 in Memory of Carol Cress for the Mortgage by:

Ron & Donna Wallace

\$10.00 in Memory of Carol Cress by:

Leo & Jo-Ann Young

\$15.00 in Memory of Leon Schlorff for the Mortgage by:

Ron & Donna Wallace

\$50.00 in Memory of Leon Schlorff by:

Mary Ann Reynolds

Dean & Barb Fetterolf

\$50.00 in Memory of Betty Cray for the Endowment Fund by:

Gerry, Bonnie, Bill & Bryan Dillman

\$30.00 in Memory of Betty Cray by:

Grant & Sandy Marlow

Frank & Peggy Dziczek

\$20.00 in Memory of Tom Scully by:

Frank & Peggy Dziczek

\$20.00 in Memory of Lorraine Scheithauer by:

Leo & Jo-Ann Young









\$20.00 in Memory of Julia Johnson for the Endowment Fund by:

Connie Welker

Serving Our Community of Faith in June:

Date	Lector	Communion Assistants	Ushers	Acolyte	Acolyte	Greeter in Narthex	Greeter at Door
June 3	Cheryl Vardell	Kay Berner Becky Spencer Dot Zeigenfuse	Jane Pennypacker Ian Bendinsky Ryan Bendinsky Richard Berner	Ralph Johnson III	Tanner Walacavage	Jim Chappell	Dean Fetterolf
June 10	Mark Vardell			Deidre Dengler	Desiree Dengler	David Hall	Connie Welker
June 17	Donna Wallace			Brandy Speer		Jane Pennypacker	Richard Berner
June 24	Connie Welker			Rhonda Carl	Lydia Price	Nancy Lindenmuth	Darlene Stank

JUNE 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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<p>3 The Holy Trinity 1st Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Communion Service</p> 	4 7:00 Church Council	5 	6 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 WELCA	7 10:30 Bible Study 7:00 Eucharistic Minister Training	8  4:00 LCM Reading Phillies Bus Trip	9 5:00 Worship Service																																																																																				
<p>10 2nd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Worship Service VBS Offering</p> <p>7:00 Snapshot Studies</p> 	11 St. Barnabas, Apostle 7:00 Social Ministry Meeting	12 Erik Vacation	13 1:00-6:00 Red Cross Blood Drive 7:00 Bible Study	14  10:30 Bible Study 7:00 Christian Education Meeting	15 Newsletter Deadline Synod Assembly, Sovereign Center	16 Synod Assembly 5:00 Worship Service																																																																																				
<p>17 3rd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Worship Service</p> 	18 6:30 Worship & Music Meeting	19	20 Summer Begins  7:00 Bible Study	21 9:30 Newsletter Assembly	22 LYF Assembly @ Muhlenberg College 	23 LYF Assembly 5:00 Worship Service																																																																																				
<p>24 4th Sunday after Pentecost LYF Assembly 9:30 Worship Service</p>	25 Presentation of the Augsburg Confession	26	27 7:00 Snapshot Study	28 12:00-2:00 Food Pantry	29 St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles	30 11:00-2:30 Clothing Drive 5:00 Communion Service																																																																																				