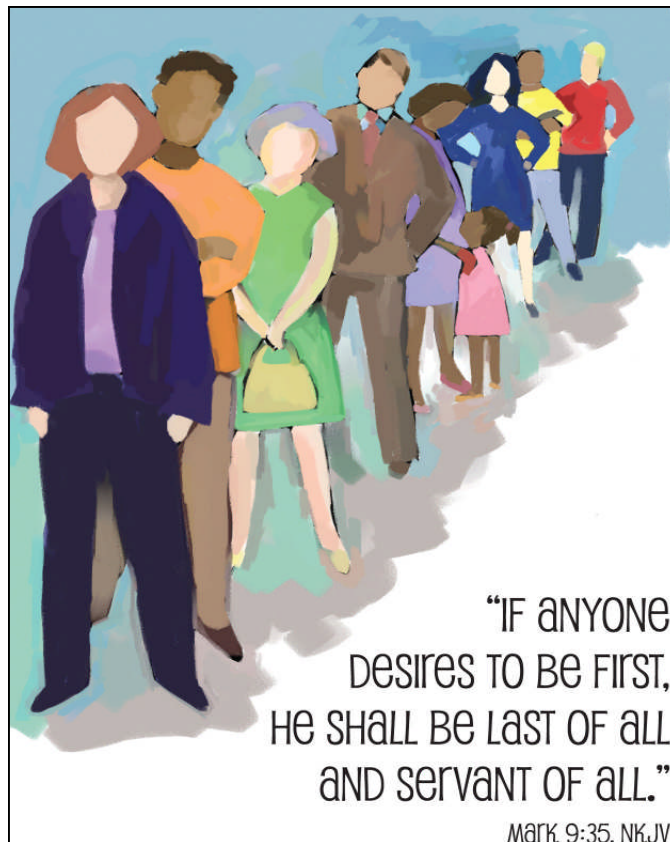


*Life Together at
Christ's United
Lutheran Church*



“IF ANYONE
DESIRES TO BE FIRST,
HE SHALL BE LAST OF ALL
AND SERVANT OF ALL.”

MARK 9:35, NKJV

*Join us for Worship -
Saturday 5:00 p.m. & Sunday 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.*





Christ's United
 Lutheran Church
 437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA 17921
 www.christsunited.org
 (570) 875-1591

**The September Newsletter is Sponsored in Honor of our
 Grandchildren by Frank & Karen Smith**

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Brothers and Sisters,

Message From

Parents – start your engines – school is starting!



Pastor Kim

After all the fuss with school clothes shopping, class registering, notebook purchasing, and of course, finding the perfect book bag, the time has finally come for that big yellow bus to take them away.

Now is the time that many parents feel gives them a little more time to take care of those personal needs (like sleep... or cleaning... I vote for the sleep). Grandparents and other relatives are gearing up for the opportunity of daytime shopping trips and school pictures and sport games and grade reviews. The youth are looking forward to getting together with friends and looking cool (notice I didn't say learning anything: that would be a side benefit).

Now we're starting to plan for the cooler temperatures, the shorter days, and those last chances to get a little more Summer. Yep, this definitely is a busy time in our lives. So busy, we can forget things... you know, things like bread from our shopping list...

Such a basic thing bread; it is basic to our daily existence, whether in the form of loaf, dough, the grain, or the body...

*I am the living bread, that came down from heaven.
Whoever eats of this bread will live forever...*

As our schedule picks up, so does our need for sustenance. Each week we gather together to be strengthened – fed – by the body and blood of Jesus Christ through His promises. Parents, children, singles, young, old – members of God's family – it is time to re-start our engines. To renew ourselves in that which feeds us, nourishes us, gives us life itself. No muss, no fuss, and no book bags required. Just a simple meal of bread and wine. A family gathering. A time to share memories and dreams. A time, not to forget.

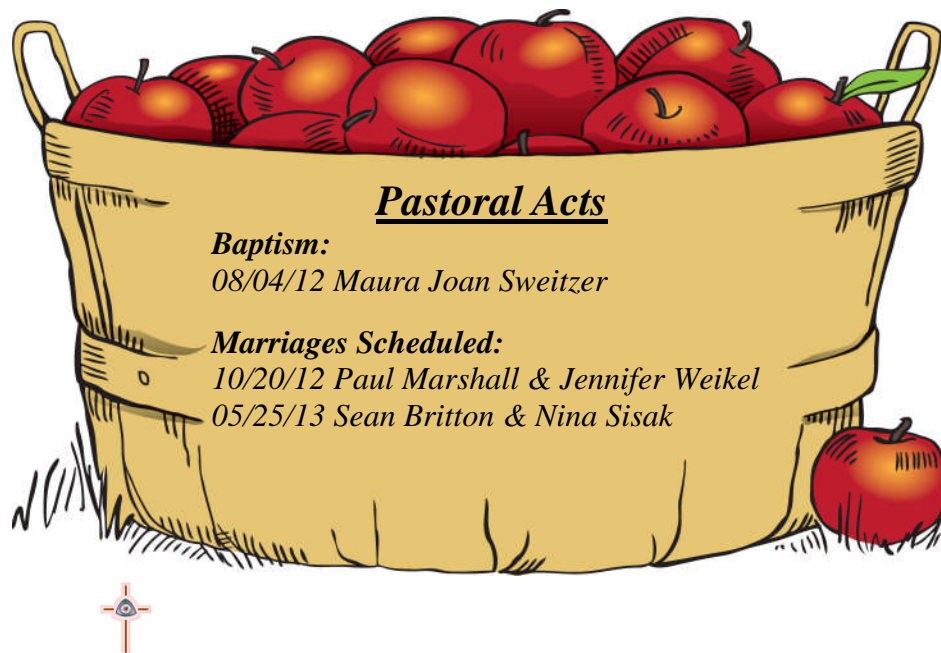
See you Sunday.
Peace,
Pastor Kim



Ministry/Members of the Month:

The Evangelism Committee continues to search for ways to help us be better witnesses to Jesus Christ. One of the ideas is to monthly feature a ministry and members in the newsletter. There is so much happening at Christ's

United that often we don't realize it! And members have so many gifts and interests that often we miss the opportunity to use the gifts in witness. This will also help us get to know each other better – after all, we are brothers and sisters in Christ – one big family – *and* find some of our missing relatives. If you know of some special talent of a member, please let us know so we can feature them in the coming month's newsletter.



Church Council Highlights from August

- Invitations for the church picnic were sent to inactive members inviting them to “come home”.
- The LCM has agreed to pay for the maintenance of the nitrate system.
- Door hooks have been installed on the women’s restroom doors.
- A thank you was read from SWIC for the “Undie Sunday” donations.
- Our new choir director, Dan, will begin picking the hymns for Sunday worship. He will go over any unfamiliar hymns with David, the choir and the congregation.
- The youth is working on a fall festival.
- A junior youth group will be formed with Jean Marie Brayford as the advisor.
- Stewardship Committee will have a workshop about Consecration Sunday on, Saturday, November 3 led by Mike Bennethum from the Synod.
- The LCM gave money toward paying for the Grief Support Group and will also make two more mortgage payments for this year.
- WELCA gave money toward paying for the Grief Support Group and will be serving the meal at the Synod Workshop on August 25.
- Jen Johnson will be serving as the chair person of the Endowment Fund Committee. They are also looking into alternate ways to distribute scholarship money.
- The Synod office found some wording problems with the changes in our Constitution. The Constitution Committee along with Dean Fetterolf and Terry Shilling will meet to discuss the changes.
- Thank you letters were read from SCA for the Food Pantry donation and from Gail Lorady for the use of the social hall.
- A motion was made to drop our membership with the Schuylkill County Chamber of Commerce which we had joined in order to take advantage of Direct Energy electric rates. PPL is offering a fixed rate for 24 months that is lower than what we are paying now. The motion was approved and we will now go with PPL.

— continued on page 6



- A motion was made and approved for Gail Lorady to have an exercise class in the social hall for 10 weeks, but limit the enrollment to CULC members because of insurance purposes.
- There was a task force formed of Deb Price, Lois Sterling, and Terry Shilling to look at the policy for hall rental for reasons other than those occasions covered by the present policy.
- A motion was made and passed to add liability insurance at a cost of \$426.00 a year to cover using the Social Hall for activities outside the congregation calendar.
- Dean Fetterolf, Nancy Lindenmuth, and Forrest Shadle will form a task force to review the current insurance coverage.

The following Memorial was given to Christ's United since the issue of the last Newsletter:

*\$20.00 in Memory of Elaine Schlorff by:
Grant & Sandy Marlow*



<u>Status of Accounts</u>	
Balance in Checking Account.....	\$1,668.30
Investment Fund #55.....	\$25,000.00
Investment Fund #73.....	\$25,000.00
Memorial Account.....	\$24,667.89
Benevolence Gifts.....	\$11,970.50
(59% of our Benevolence goal of \$20,600.00)	



We Offer our Prayers to...

Those recently added to our Prayer List...

Esther Gribbin, Rev. Robert Hoenich, Jane Metzinger, Mary Donton,
Joan & Fred Echevarria, Tanya Stravinsky, Leo Young, Ann Snyder,
Judy Young, Joan Skiba

Please Continue to Pray for...

Scott Hoffman, Adda Miller, Audrey &
Fred Pillman, Bill Griffiths, Glenn
Pennypacker, Terry Halye, Irene Morgan,
Melissa Byers, Joe Lentowski, Ashland
Area Ministerium, Jim Hepler, Robert
Rock, Barb Anczarski, Beryl Kubik,
Natalie Tracy, Carol Guistwite, Mandy Fetterolf, Alexis Schmidt,
Emma Fishburn, Brenda Wolfgang, Carl Lute, Catherine Tenedios,
Howard & Catherine Beury, Sharon Kostura, Devon Fowler, Carol
Brennan, Beverly Fetterolf, Herman Wagner, Skip Raabe, Eileen Lin-
denmuth, Donald Kerestes, Robert Welker, EvaAnn Barkafski, David
Major, Joseph Roshannon, Barbara Nelson, Judy Gross, Linda Kahler,
Brandon Harris, Heather Fetterolf, Grant Marlow, Linda Zerby, Carol
(Cook) Brennan, Margaret Huhn, Nancy Shuey, Bob Lynn, Elaine Wal-
lace, Joel Ruscavage, Sonya Oldland, Fred Herb III, Melanie Alt, Steven
Hall, Shirley Zaharick, Bob Foose, Jennifer Coch, Gerry Dillman, Jean
Cress, Carrie Houser, Pete Waldick, Megan Geise, Emily Brennan,
Marie & Harry Lengert, Mark Eiswerth, Alyssa Burnham, Kayla
Heim, Kelly & Bud Crosby, Dot Zeigenfuse, Dorothy Berge, Gail Ha-
lye, Jeff Maurer, Ruth Wolfgang, Faye Geist, Deanna Frantz, Nada Mat-
thews, Frank Pytak, Gail Spleen



Please call the Church Office (875-1591)...

...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.*



New Pictorial Directory



**FOR ALL MEMBERS OF
CHRIST'S UNITED**

Go online to schedule your
photo, www.christsunited.org
Or Call the church office at 875-1591





Member **DIRECTORY**

Picture Dates:

**Thursday & Friday, September 6 & 7
from 2:30-8:50;**

Saturday, September 8 from 10:00-5:00.

Please schedule your photo NOW! This is your last chance to have your picture included in the new directory. You will receive a FREE 8X10 portrait with no obligation to purchase any more. If you would like to have your picture taken with your pet, please schedule it near the end of the day.



Make sure to ask all your friends, family & neighbors if they would like to have their picture taken. They may also schedule a family portrait time slot, they just won't be in our directory.



September Birthdays

- 1 Brianna Kodack
- 3 Elizabeth Gable
- 4 Frank Dzikczek
- 6 Donna Lassen
- 8 Kay Berner
Mark Sharp
Sophie Harper
- 9 Dorothy Zeigenfuse
Terry Shilling
Cheryl Varndell
Tanner Walacavage
Hailey Sisko
- 10 Bryon Rusinko
Shawn Romberger
Josie Economy
- 11 Ken Dengler
- 18 Traci Smith
- 20 Renee' Walter
Holly Bolich
Ted Ambrose
- 23 Ava Hernandez
- 24 David Walter
- 25 Tyler Wolfgang
Nelson Berger, Sr.
- 26 Susan Merwine
- 29 Keith Laudermilch
- 30 Leo Young
Rick Fritz

Happy Birthday!



September Anniversaries

- 09/09/67 Jim & Ellie Chappell
- 09/16/72 Terry & Dorothy Kessler
- 09/22/90 Terry & Cheryl Neumeister
- 09/25/76 Robert & Carla Mae Carl
- 09/26/97 Russell & Carrie Hummell

If your birthday/anniversary is listed incorrectly or you would like your name added to or removed from the list, please contact the church office.



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.

Answers for the August edition “Who are these people??” - Left to Right: First Row: Mindy Dengler, Kay Berner, Jane Berner, Debbie Bensinger, Darcie Fritz, Marie Senkowsky, Ann Snyder, Marcia Ressler, & Carol Cook. Second Row: Rev. Don Henderschedt, Bill Waldick, David Hepler, Henry Troup, Fred Portz, Bob Moser, Rev. Robert Hughes, & Rev. Robert Lutz. Third Row: Robert Klinger, Paul Bereski, Kenny Sausser, & David Leitzel. Christ’s United Catechetical class May 23, 1971.





Social Ministry

Ashland Area Food Pantry

We will be collecting the following items for September:

Peanut Butter & Jelly

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

Special Offering

Sunday, September 30

We will be collecting a special offering for our Good Samaritan Fund. This fund is used for members of Christ's United & our neighbors in need when they could use help in purchasing food, paying utility bills and other circumstances that may occur.



Please be Generous!





The month that your committee serves please help out in the kitchen before and after the service. Also, please bring in baked goods or other items for the snacks. Thank you.

Committee Schedule

September—Evangelism/
Outreach
October—Stewardship
November—Endowment Fund
December—Choir
January 2013—Church Council
February—Social Ministry
March—LCM
April—WELCA
May—Christian Education
June—Worship & Music

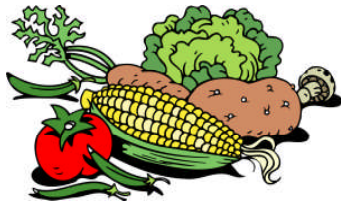
Harvest Home/World Hunger Sunday
Sunday, September 16

Bring in any non-perishable food item to place on the table in the narthex. There will be a basket for cash donations. All food items and money will be given to the Ashland Area Food Pantry. We will have a very special guest Pastor this day, so be sure to celebrate together!

World Hunger Table

The social ministry committee will be sponsoring a World Hunger Table every Sunday through the end of September.

Please bring in items to place onto the table such as:
baked goods, produce from your garden, house plants, perennials, flowers, etc.



In return members from the congregation may help themselves to anything that they can use. If you would like to give a monetary donation for items that you take from the table, it will be sent to ELCA World Hunger.



You may also place a monetary donation in the world globe if you prefer not to take any items.



Saturday, October 20, 2012

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry PA, Lutheran
Congregational Services, Micah 6:8, Mission
Investment Fund, Northeastern PA Synod

invite you to

Jesus Calls Us



**Bern Lutheran Church
820 W. Leesport Rd., Leesport**

*Speakers, Workshops, Conversation, Displays
about doing justice, loving kindness and walking
humbly with God*

Registration materials from your church office
or on the Synod or LCS websites

Registration deadline: FRIDAY, OCT. 5

***Christ's United Social Ministry
Committee will be leading the
workshop "Social Ministry: Just Do It!"**





Ladies Night Out...

Continues to be a fantastic opportunity to get out and about, enjoying a great meal and great company. This month the birds will fly as we head out to Isaacs, a deli famous for every item being named after a bird. The sandwiches abound as they are freshly prepared to order, with your choice of every item – including pretzel rolls and French bread – grilled, pressed, or sandwiched. Fresh soups and salads

compliment the conversation which will be on our share topic: what is YOUR comfort food?

Join Us!

Sunday, September 9

4:30 p.m.



First Responders: Police, Fire, and Emergency Services Personnel

A special Blessing will be offered on September 30 on the Day of St. Michael and all Angels, during the Sunday service to honor all who serve. St. Michael is the patron saint for first responders, Michael being the archangel who leads the armies of Heaven. Please tell all those first responders you know to look forward and plan for this special celebration of their service!



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



September: Blessings

We challenge you to notice how God calls you to use your gifts and talents.

Week one: Discuss with family members the gifts and talents each member has been given by God. Write each family member's name on a paper leaf. On each person's leaf, write down his or her gifts and talents. Display the leaves in your home.



Week two: Think about something you do well. Discuss with family members how you could use your gift(s) to volunteer in your congregation. Welcoming, reading, visiting, singing, taking pictures, and making cards are among the many ways you can serve your congregation.

Week three: Think about your daily life (school, work, sports). Discuss with family members how you are sharing God's love with the people you see each day.

Week four: Read Galatians 5:22-23. Which of these gifts is the strongest in you? Which gift would you ask God to work with you on strengthening?



◆ SYNOD NEWS ◆

The Spirit of Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

August 2012

Highlights of the 2012 Synod Assembly

Over 600 people gathered at the Sovereign Arena in Reading for the 25th annual assembly of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod **June 15-16, 2012**. The assembly theme was *God's People Doing What Matters Together*, with an emphasis on sharing what God's people are doing in the synod's congregations.

Twenty-six forum sessions on



twenty different topics began the assembly. Subjects included technology, responding to bullying, and church consolidations and mergers. Participants commented that they wished they had time to attend more than two, since there were so many interesting topics.



Throughout the weekend, **Bishop Zeiser** encouraged communication and idea-sharing.

Several times he posed a question and invited attendees with electronic devices to reply



on the synod's blog. Responses were projected on the assembly screens at

the end of sessions. (You can see the questions and answers and add your own responses on **Potluck Postings** at nepsynod.wordpress.com.)

An open question-and-answer session with the bishop on Saturday morning and panel responses to written questions in the afternoon made the assembly feel less formal and more interactive.



Reports from ministry teams and committees focused on successful projects and how they are being adapted and re-imagined in different settings.

"Birds of a Feather" Groups Gather

Groups of people with common interests or responsibilities flocked together on Friday evening to get acquainted and exchange ideas. From council

BIRDS of a FEATHER presidents to webmasters, they heard



what was working—or not—and collected contact information in what the Connection Building Ministry Team hopes will be the beginning of several new networks of information and support.

Seeds Sown in High-Energy Worship



"A sower went out to sow," Bishop Zeiser reminded us in his sermon on Mark 4:1-9, and our faithful God promises an abundant harvest, even from the diverse soils that make up the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod. The Friday evening service was enlivened by the worship leadership of singer-songwriter Rachel Kurtz, who



has been featured at several ELCA Youth Gatherings. Worship began with representatives of various walks of life carrying in the altar, filling the font, and turning the

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)

plenary hall into a worship setting as we celebrated



Christian vocation. A Latin jazz ensemble, a brass quintet and a children's choir drawn from local churches and afterschool programs brought excitement to the service.

Resolutions Concerning Immigration and Christian Education Adopted

Leaders primarily from the West Berks Mission District introduced a resolution calling on the synod to study the



issues surrounding immigration. The resolution was adopted after it had been

amended to encourage not only study but engagement with legislators concerning the plight of immigrants. A second resolution encouraged support of the Lutheran Association of Christian Educators as a way to enrich education efforts within the ELCA. The final resolution adopted by the assembly affirmed our commitment to the ELCA Malaria Campaign as we seek to raise \$15,000,000 by 2015 to eradicate malaria in Africa.



ELCA Malaria Campaign
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Jodi Slattery Brings Greetings from the ELCA

Ms. Jodi Slattery, Assistant to the Presiding Bishop for Governance, was the ELCA representative to the assembly. She shared a video greeting from Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson and emphasized Bishop Hanson's observation that we are a church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace.



Elected at the Assembly



Synod Council: Pr. Lee Diefenderfer, Sr. Ramona Daily, James Parks

Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia: David Hinrichs

Voting Members of 2013

Churchwide Assembly: Clergy: Michael Bennethum, Fred Opalinski, Mary Gade, Cheryl Meinschein, Susan Ruggles, Maritza Torrez Dolich, Martin Milne, Lori Kochanski, Jeremiah Sassama; **Lay Male:** Charles Moon, Mark Hammond, Brandon Wood, Mark Stana, James Parks, Craig Babcock, Raymond Schneider, Brian Geiger, Charles Rush; **Lay Female:** Karen Matthias-Long, Kristen Opalinski, Diane McElwee, Lauren Blatt, Hannah



Wallace, Heather Moon, Melodee Leshner, Cathy Cooper, Alice Baer.



The Lutheran Youth Fellowship met in assembly at Muhlenberg College June 22-24.

During their time together, participants focused on **bullying**. As a result of the bullying workshop, one participant developed



a Facebook page to help educate people about bullying.

Two workshops – **Games with a Purpose** and **Making Prayer Beads** – enabled participants to

teach games and to teach others how to make prayer beads, which they did in workshops at the *Citizens with the Saints* Youth Gathering Rally the following day. Both workshops were led solely by LYF youth.



In addition to workshops, plenary sessions, group building activities, and social time, the assembly elected mission district representatives and new officers. The elected officers are Rachel Fackenthal, president (St. Peter, Bethlehem), Daniel Graf, vice president (Trinity, Reading), Meeghan Rossi, secretary (Christ, Penn Forest Twp.), and Destiny Stauffer, treasurer (Christ, Penn Forest Twp.).

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



"Walk-n-Roll"

A walk party for your feet!



Gail Lorady has developed a new exercise program called "Walk-n-Roll".

She describes it as: A walk party for your feet!

A "walk to the music" choreographed walking class that combines walking with easy dance steps, non-complicated arm movements and fun!

A safe and effective workout for everyone!

This program will include a FREE fitness evaluation prior to starting the exercise program and again at the conclusion of the program. It will start on September 12th and be held every Wednesday evening from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m. It will be a ten week program at the cost of only \$25 for CULC members. So, please sign up on the bulletin board to let her know if you will attend.






Serving Our Community of Faith in September:


Date	Lector	Communion Assistants	Ushers	Acolyte	Crucifer	Greeter in Narthex	Greeter at Door
September 2	Lois Sterling	Lois Sterling Jo-Ann Young Becky Spencer	Richard Berner John Wolfgang John Kimmel Robert Carl	Kate Neumeister	Brooke Wolfe	Dean Fetterolf	Melanie Bendinsky
September 9	Erik Tice			Tyler Wolfgang	Courtney Krise	Deb Price	Gail Halye
September 16	Sally Tice			Chelsea Stutzman	Brianna Kodack	Barb Fetterolf	Lois Sterling
September 23	Cheryl Varndell			Trevor Wilson	David Hall	Dean Fetterolf	Connie Welker
September 30	Mark Varndell			Ralph Johnson	Tanner Walacavage	Jane Pennypacker	Richard Berner



SEPTEMBER 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday																																																																																				
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<p>2 14th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Communion Service 10:45 Adult Sunday school</p>	<p>3 Office Closed Labor Day </p>	<p>4 7:00 Sr. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 WELCA</p>	<p>6 10:30 Bible Study 2:30-8:50 Directory 6:30 Evangelism Outreach</p>																																																																																				
<p>9 Rally Day 15th Sunday after Pentecost Grandparent's Day 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult & Youth Sunday school, Confirmation class 4:30 Ladies Night Out</p>	<p>10 7:00 Church Council</p>	<p>11 Patriot Day  7:00 Sr. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12 7:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>13 10:30 Bible Study</p>																																																																																				
<p>16 16th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Worship Service Harvest Home 10:45 Adult & Youth Sunday school, Confirmation class</p>	<p>17 Citizenship Day 6:30 Stewardship Meeting</p>	<p>18 7:00 Sr. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 9:30 New Year Assembly 7:00 Personal Meeting</p>																																																																																				
<p>23 17th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult & Youth Sunday school, Confirmation class</p> <hr/> <p>30 18th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Worship Service Good Samaritan Fund Offering 10:45 Adult & Youth Sunday school, Confirmation class</p>	<p>24 6:00 Mutual Ministry Meeting</p>	<p>25 7:00 Sr. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>26 </p>	<p>27 12:00-2:00 Pantry 7:00 School Mission Council</p>																																																																																				



	Friday	Saturday
		1  5:00 Communion Service
e Study Pictures for <i>gelism/</i> <i>Meeting</i>	7 2:30-8:50 Pictures for Directory	8 10:00-5:00 Pictures for Directory 5:00 Worship Service
e Study	14 Holy Cross Day Newsletter Deadline	15 LCM Chicken BBQ 4:00 – 7:00 5:00 Worship Service
letter <i>nnel</i>	21 St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist	22 Fall Begins 5:00 Worship Service
Food y/kill istrict	28	29 St. Michael and All Angels 5:00 Worship Service



Youth Group



Christ's United Lutheran Church

Contact Us: youth@christsunited.org

Junior Youth Group

Woo Hoo! Jean Marie Brayford has volunteered to be the Junior Youth Group Leader! All elementary age youth plan to be here for Rally Day, so you can learn about upcoming JYG activities!



	<p><u>Upcoming Events</u></p> <p>Sunday, September 9 Rally Day</p>	
	<p>Sunday, September 16 Confirmation Classes & Sunday school begins</p>	



Name that animal

Play a fun drawing game about animals mentioned in the Bible.

What you need:

- Bible
- Paper strips
- Chalkboard and chalk (or dry erase board, pen and eraser)
- Timer or stopwatch

What you do:

1. On each paper strip, write a Bible verse that mentions an animal (see list below for ideas).
2. Form teams. Take turns looking up each verse and drawing for your team, getting one point for each correct guess.
3. Time each player. Take turns among teams.

Possible verses:

Numbers 22:21 (donkey); Deuteronomy 32:11 (eagle); 2 Samuel 17:8 (bear); Job 8:14 (spider); Job 39:13 (ostrich); Psalm 20:7 (horse); Psalm 58:8 (slug/snail); Proverbs 6:5 (gazelle, bird); Proverbs 26:11 (dog); Proverbs 30:25 (ant); Proverbs 30:28 (lizard); Isaiah 7:18 (fly, bee); Jonah 4:7 (worm); Matthew 10:16 (sheep, wolf, snake, dove); Matthew 10:29 (sparrow); Matthew 23:37 (hen, chick); Luke 13:15 (ox, donkey); Luke 13:32 (fox); 1 Peter 5:8 (lion).



Registration for Sunday School

We hope that you can join us this fall for a great kick start to our Sunday school program with...

Rally Day Sunday, September 9th

If you would like to join us in the exciting time that we soon will be having during Sunday school, please fill out the following form and return it to the church office.

Thank You!

Name _____

Age _____ School Grade _____

Parents _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____



Endowment Fund News

The Endowment Fund Committee is now accepting requests for scholarships. If you are a member of the congregation who is furthering your education in a college, university, trade school, business school, nursing/medical school, etc., you may submit a letter of request.

In your letter, please include:

- Your name and address
- School you are attending
- Your status (freshman, sophomore, etc.)
- Address of school
- Projected time of certification or graduation
- Field of study/certification of degree pursuing

Please submit your letter by September 30, 2012 to the church office, or to a committee member—Jennifer Johnson, Ken Dengler, Trish Kodack, Natalie O'Connor, or Rick Lorady.

Thank You!!!!!!












AMAZING ANIMALS

God created a rich variety of animals to live on the earth.

Directions: Write the name of each animal next to its picture. Then fill in the correct letters to complete Psalm 104:24, NIV.

	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____		_____	_____	_____	_____
1	_____	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	2	_____	_____	9
	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____		_____	_____	_____	_____
14	_____	_____	20	_____	11	_____	12	_____	_____	8
	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____		_____	_____	_____	_____
17	7	13	16	_____	_____	19	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	18	10	_____	_____	3	_____	_____	_____	6	15

“How _____ are your _____ ,
 O _____ ! In _____ ,
 you _____ them _____ ;
 the _____ is _____
 of your _____ .”

Answers: leopard, dove, donkey, worm, fish, camel, butterfly, ant
 “How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.” (Psalm 104:24, NIV)



WELCA News

Fun Fall Event at Bear Creek Camp

September 15, 2012

8:30 - 2:30

\$20.00 per person - lunch included

Hiking, swimming, boating, devotions,
craft, and service project.

Contact Donna Wallace or sign up on
the bulletin board to register before
September 1.



Schuylkill Cluster Fall Event

Friedens Lutheran Church, Hegins

October 13, 2012

8:30 - 12:00



Program Theme: Sacred
Spaces

Rev. Peggy Sue Pfeffer is
leading Bible study

Register before October 1

Cost: \$7.00 - lunch
included





Saturday, September 15, 2012
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Christ's United Lutheran Church

437 Airport Road, Ashland
(570) 875-1591

COST \$8.00

MENU

½ Barbecued Chicken
Baked Potato
Corn
Dinner Roll
Butter
Dessert
Beverage

Limited tickets will be sold at the door.
Buy your tickets from the LCM members or the Church Office.

Everyone Welcome!



CHICKEN BARBECUE

DONATION SHEET

Saturday, September 15, 2012
4:00-7:00 p.m.

Sponsored by Christ's United Lutheran Church Men

Your donations to complete the menu for the Annual Chicken Barbecue will be greatly appreciated. Please complete and return this sheet no later than **September 9th**. The sheet may be placed in the Chicken Barbecue Donation Box in the narthex or returned to the Church Office.

- _____ **One #10 can whole kernel corn**
- _____ **Can of Decaf Coffee**
- _____ **Cakes, cupcakes, cookies, etc.**
- _____ **12 pack soda (any brand/flavor)**
- _____ **20 lb. bag of charcoal**
- _____ **Cash**

Donations may be placed on the center island kitchen counter. **Please attach your name to your donation so we can account for it.** All donations except the baked goods must be in the church no later than September 9, so a final inventory can be taken and the remaining items may be purchased. Baked goods may be brought on **Friday, September 14** between 9:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. or **Saturday morning after 9:00 a.m.**

Your support is greatly appreciated!

Name _____

Phone _____



We would like to thank everyone for your prayers, cards, and acts of kindness and especially Pastor Kim for the grave side service for Elaine Schlorff.

God Bless you all.
Brian, Jaime, Ellery,
Michael, & Nellie



Thank you for all the prayers during my recent operation and stay in the hospital. Truly they have been a blessing and help to me. It is because of all those prayers that I was able to make a speedy recovery and return home to my family so quickly.

Rev. Robert Hoenich

Dear Pastor & Members of Christ's United,

I would like to thank everyone who sent me cards, came to visit me, and remembered me in their prayers while I was a patient in the hospital and at Mountain View. I would especially like to thank my family for their continuing help and support. I greatly appreciate everyone's caring support and prayers.

Sincerely,
Gerry Dillman



HospiceTM

OF CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

presents:

The Hospice Foundation of America's 19th Annual *Living With Grief*[®] Program

END-OF-LIFE ETHICS

Thursday, September 20th 1 - 4 p.m.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Pottsville, PA

End-of-Life Ethics explores ethical dilemmas that are likely to arise at the end-of-life, the principles of ethical decision-making and the effects of these decisions on staff and families. The decisions that are made at the end-of-life affect not only the way that the person dies, but also the ways that survivors face the loss.

Case studies will be used to illustrate ethical issues that will be addressed.

Topics and Content Include

- Ethical decision - making
- Principles of bio-medical ethics
- Surrogate decision-making
- Artificial hydration and nutrition
- Palliative sedation
- Children and adolescent patients
- Cultural values and beliefs
- Grief reactions of families and care providers

Continuing Education Credits Available

Three hours of CE Credits are available for nurses, social workers, physicians, counselors, clergy and other professionals. Participants must attend entire 3 hour session to receive CE credits. CE's are issued via HFA's online CE system. There is a \$30 online processing fee per participant, payable by credit card. Detailed CE instructions will be distributed to program participants.

For additional information or to register please contact:

Lori Rossochacy at (570) 628-2290

or

lrossochacy@hospiceofcentralpa.org





Due to the increasing difficulty at the area post offices with the way bulk mailing is sent out;

Please take the following survey.

In what way would you prefer to receive your “Life Together” Newsletter?

- Sent by Postal Mail (the way you get it now)**
- Sent via Email**
- Pick it up at the church**
- View on the church web site**
- None (take my name off the mailing list)**

Please help us to serve you better by either cutting out and returning this sheet to the church office or call the church (875-1591) with your preference.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Thank you for your help!



Come Journey with Ruth!

September Studies are Underway!
There is still time to come explore the journey of Ruth from her land to the people of God. We will look at the traditions of the people involved, and the implications of Ruth's (and Naomi's and Boaz's) actions. Everyone is welcome, and encouraged to read the entire book of Ruth prior to the start of the

study. Our schedule will be Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. with the lesson repeated on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

No experience necessary!



Holy Cross Day

On September 14, many churches observe a festival variously called Exaltation of the Cross, Feast of the Glorious Cross, Triumph of the Cross or Holy Cross Day.

According to legend, St. Helena, mother of Roman Emperor Constantine, while on pilgrimage to Jerusalem in 326, discovered the actual cross on which Jesus had been crucified. Although portions were taken to Rome and Constantinople, part was kept at the discovery site.

By order of Helena and Constantine, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher was built and dedicated there on September 13, 335. The following day, the portion of what was called the True Cross was brought outside so worshipers could pray before it.

While Good Friday commemorates Jesus' crucifixion, Holy Cross Day focuses on the cross itself as an instrument of cruel death, which God transformed into the means of eternal life.





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

August 2012 - Volume 20, Number 8

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Keys to Growing a Small Church

Small churches *can* grow. A recent national study found that 15 percent of small churches—those with fewer than 125 attendees—grew in worship attendance over a five-year period.¹ However, too many small congregations are like lockboxes that constrain the current size; this lockdown eventually leads to decline.

While increasing percentages of people are attending megachurches, fewer than 2 percent of all congregations attract more than 1,000 weekly worshippers. Small churches are the most common type dotting the American landscape. The nature of these churches is complex, with a more diverse profile than larger churches. They exhibit unique leadership arrangements, member relationships, contextual pressures, and growth barriers. These features make pastoral and lay leadership more challenging because one-size-fits-all strategies do not fit all small churches.²

Size-Specific Methods

Some church-growth principles are applicable to congregations of all sizes. However, size is the most significant single factor in designing effective approaches. These steps highlight how smaller churches can become bigger churches.

Step 1—Increase the church's visibility. Church-growth methods should be consistent with the congregation's biblical understanding and theology, but methods are not the same thing as theology. Methods are simply strategies. Ultimately, the message to newcomers and the community is always: we are located here, we care about you, and we welcome you. Hundreds of high-tech and low-tech tactics help spread that message.

High-tech efforts. An electronic presence enables a small church to create a billboard as large as any megachurch. New forms of social media multiply the ways to advertise for free or with minimal expense. Every small church needs a basic website and Facebook page. For help, consult *Web-Empowered Ministry: Connecting with People through Websites, Social Media, and More*, by Mark Stephenson (Abingdon Press, 2011).

Low-tech efforts. The church building and facilities need to be highly visible to foot and auto traffic by: readable and lighted signage; greeters in the parking lot and outside all entrances before and after services; attractive church exterior seasonal signs, banners, or displays; and well-kept landscaping. If the church is nestled in an area with little traffic, post directional signs at nearby major intersections.

Aggressively advertise through low-cost approaches such as windshield fliers, direct mail to all households within a designated radius around the church, ads in free community newspapers, and posts on community bulletin boards (like grocery stores or gyms). Some churches distribute yard signs for members to display, while others give gift cards for a cup of coffee at a local shop.

Members can attend community events as a group wearing hats or t-shirts bearing the church logo. If parade, walk, or run routes pass by the church, consider organizing volunteers to hand participants cups of water or other refreshments. Many churches



NO...I SAID, IN ORDER FOR OUR CHURCH TO GROW IN THIS CULTURE, WE NEEDED AN ELECTRONIC PRESENCE.



host a free event once or twice a year to get to know others in the community. Above all, look for opportunities to share church facilities with community groups.

Step 2—Increase the number of worship visitors and visitors to other congregational activities. People cannot visit your church if they do not know it exists, but knowing it exists does not automatically lead to new visitors. Today's small-membership church leaders should target a fifteen-mile radius or more around their congregation for outreach.

Younger people and new residents may do Internet research before visiting a congregation. However, the majority of people visit a congregation for the first time because someone personally invited them. Why do people return? First-time worship visitors say it is because they get a warm welcome from other attendees, enjoy the sermon message, and like the overall worship service experience.³

Growing churches of all sizes need to follow-up with their visitors. The most effective people for personal contacts are new members who joined in the past five years or members who joined during the tenure of the present pastor.

Churches attract first-time visitors of several varieties. People with an active church relationship can become members as *transfers* (those moving their membership from another congregation of the same denomination) or as *switchers* (those who move their membership from a church of a different denomination). Another visitor variety is people with a dormant active church relationship (*returnees*) or *first-timers*. The varied faith background of potential visitors calls for more diverse methods to ensure more results.

Step 3—Customize methods for your community. Glen Daman in *Shepherding the Small Church*⁴ suggests that knowing the predominate community values steers leaders to strategies and programs that work in context. How would you describe your community?

- Active vs. sedentary: Are people's lifestyles filled with activities or do they spend their leisure time indoors? If active, be represented at sports and outdoor events. If sedentary, use windshield flyers or free newspaper ads.
- Family- vs. career-focused: Do people form goals based on their careers or on their family relationships? If family-focused, host a family picnic or offer daycare for a Parent's Day/Night Out. If career-focused, offer evening programs.

- Stable population vs. mobile population: Does the population exhibit a high turnover rate, or is it generally stable? What factors contribute to the turnover rate? If the population is stable, reach out through family and friend networks. If the population is mobile, invest in an electronic presence and direct mail.

Step 4—Build on the unique strengths of small churches. Small churches excel at nurturing members' spiritual growth and training young people to become future church leaders. The best small churches know how to help newcomers feel a strong sense of belonging. To produce the needed changes for growth, do so by addition rather than by subtraction. For example, start new groups and ministries for eighteen- to forty-four-year-olds. Look for ways to change the single-cell church, which operates like one small group where everyone knows everyone else, to a multiple-cell church. The latter adds its sense of mission, leadership, tradition, and location as bonding agents. Also, see *Small Membership Congregations* (http://www.centerforcongregations.org/system/files/Small_Membership_Congregations.pdf).

Step 5—Become a learning congregation. Try new strategies and evaluate them. Learn from what does not work. Rework your methods and try again.

The Bottom Line

Anthony Pappas has said that a small church is like a loaf of French bread. The aroma and taste are great, but what a thick crust it has! Small churches are tough!⁵ Read the above paragraphs with the church's leadership group. Underline the phrases that you feel are true of your church right now and the methods worth considering. What are the next steps to break open your small church?

1. U.S. Congregational Life Survey (www.uscongregations.org).
2. Download the free resource, *Church Effectiveness Nugget, Vol. 14: 25 Turnaround Strategies for Small-Membership Congregations* (www.TheParishPaper.com).
3. U.S. Congregational Life Survey (www.uscongregations.org).
4. Glenn Daman, *Shepherding the Small Church* (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2008), 34-36.
5. Anthony G. Pappas, ed. *Inside the Small Church* (Herndon, VA: Alban, 2002), 125.

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20th Anniversary Celebration

In December 2012 it will be 20 years since we first dedicated our church building on Airport Road. Church council, along with the Worship & Music committee, agreed that this was indeed a worthy milestone and we should celebrate it with a re-dedication. A committee of 11 people was chosen to plan this special event.

Saturday, October 6
Communion Service 4:00 p.m.
Dinner 5:30 p.m.

Entertainment:

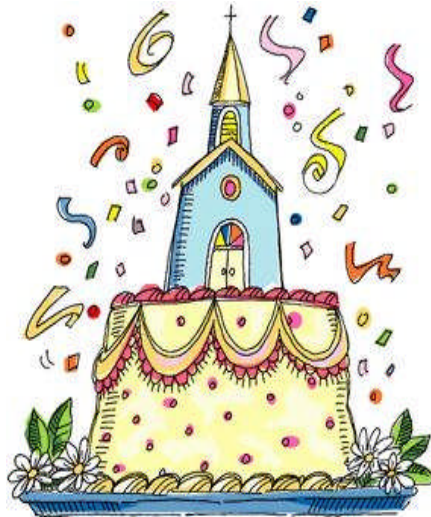
During Dinner—Clips from some of the talent shows done by members of CULC in the early 1990's.

After Dinner—Rick Lorady Group

Tickets: FREE

(The tickets are being issued so we can determine how many to prepare for. Please see Jack Houser to get your tickets after Sunday worship during September.)

We hope that all members of Christ's United will plan to attend this memorable event in our church's history!



Bible Quiz

You never know when God might call you from your current circumstances to serve him in a new way. The Old Testament prophet Amos, who lived during the eighth century B.C., worked at two jobs before God called him to take his message to the land of Israel. What were Amos' prior occupations? Choose two answers.



- A. Caretaker of sycamore-fig trees
- B. Priest
- C. Vineyard owner
- D. Shepherd

Answers: A and D (See Amos 7:14-15, NIV.)

Labor Day reflections

Labor Day brings to mind picnics, cookouts and family gatherings. Falling on the first Monday in September, it marks the unofficial end of summer and the beginning of a new school year. But the holiday was created in 1882 to honor the social and economic contributions of American workers.

In a strong economy, it's easy to take for granted the ability to work and be paid well. But times have changed during the past few years, with many people still struggling with unemployment and underemployment.

During our holiday celebrations this year, let's give thanks for the jobs we have, pray for those who aren't as fortunate and offer words of encouragement or help to someone who needs it.





INSTRUMENTALISTS *Needed*

Joyful Worship!

Dan Krynak is interested in learning the talents Christ's United has to offer to God through the gift of music. Anyone who may be interested in sharing their instrumental talents with us should contact Dan either after service on Sunday or call Dan at 717-364-7003. Any instruments would be welcomed to aid in the joyful celebration of our weekly services. From harmonicas to percussion, violins to accordions, please share this with Dan. Most immediately we need flautists for a choral anthem that will be shared very soon.

Additionally, there will be a sign up sheet in the choir room. Feel free to leave your information there. Let us bring forth joyful music to our worship celebrations.

Thanks to all!
Dan



“Make a Joyful Sound to the Lord All ye Lands”

CHOIR REHEARSAL!

Choir Rehearsals will begin on
Tuesday, August 28 at 7:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome. New members please see Dan at church or call 717-364-7003 to arrange a meeting. Youth are particularly welcome. We are hoping to form a Youth Choir to aid in the joyful celebration of our liturgies here at Christ’s United.

The Choir will begin to work on a Christmas Cantata. If you are unavailable for rehearsal with the choir but would like to be a part of the Cantata, please communicate that to Dan. There will be a sign up sheet for the Cantata in the choir room.

All are welcome, ages 5-105.



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

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.



From a newsletter in Phoenix, Arizona:

SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION.

Check out our Fail Programming!

Choose from a variety of classes

This ministry must've taken a serious fall.



CHURCH COUNCIL 2012

Visit us on the Web at: www.christsunited.org

	Phone	Term Expires
Melanie Bendinsky	875-0646	Feb. 2014
Jim Chappell	644-1602	Feb. 2013
Dean Fetterolf (VP)	875-2765	Feb. 2015
Email: vicepresident@christsunited.org		
Jim Gruber	875-2805	Feb. 2013
David Hall	875-6342	Sept. 2012
Gail Halye (Sec.)	590-7370	Feb. 2015
Nancy Lindenmuth	875-3138	Feb. 2014
Deb Price	875-4272	Feb. 2015
Email: youth@christsunited.org		
Terry Shilling	875-0412	Feb. 2014
Lois Sterling	449-6947	Feb. 2013

PASTOR

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

Email: pastorkim@christsunited.org

Treasurer	Ann Marie Dillman	875-2422
Financial Secretary	Christine Brennan	875-0720
Indoor Custodian	Sandy Marlow	875-1341
Outdoor Custodian	Donald Klinger	875-2334

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

David Schweinhart, Organist	682-9553
Email: organist@christsunited.org	
Dan Krynak, Choir Director	276-6401
Email: dan@christsunited.org	

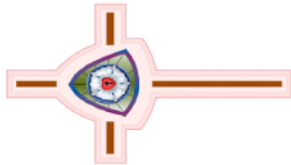
PARISH SECRETARY

Erik Tice	(home) 875-2681
Email: office@christsunited.org	
Office hours	Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Office Phone	(570) 875-1591



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