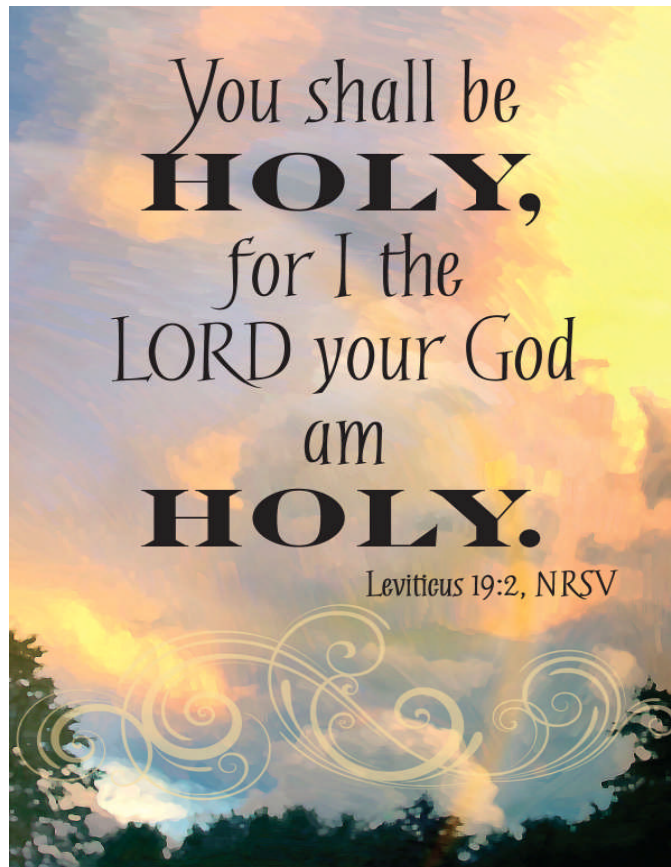


*Life Together at
Christ's United
Lutheran Church*



*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

Volume 2, Issue 2

February 2014

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The February Newsletter is sponsored in Honor of our Grandchildren, Mark & Heather by Don & Laray Klinger.



Status of Accounts as of December 31

Balance in Checking Account.....1,377.43
 Amount needed in offerings per month to meet our 2014 Annual Budget
 of \$172,298.00 is **\$14,358.17**
December income was \$20,664.65
 Benevolence Gifts.....\$18,254.50
 (89% of our Benevolence goal of \$20,600.00 for 2013)





Pastor Kim's Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

"It only takes a spark, to get a fire going..."

This old Sunday school song has been running through my head as I shift through events of last year in preparing for our annual report meeting this month. The number of ministries continues to increase as more and more people step forward with an idea that is weighing on their hearts. It seems as if those sparks have started a bonfire!

Do you remember when this all started?

Some may be thinking, "why yes, I remember going to a meeting in 1969" or others will say, "oh, it was in 1991". Nope.

I can't tell you when it began as there were so many dates, but I *can* tell you where:

In Baptism.

When the water washed over us and God's promise washed through us, when the heavens opened and our family of faith clapped and smiled, and the Holy Spirit came to us as a spark to a candle and lit up our souls with the words "let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven".

It is the flame of the Holy Spirit among us that is sparking these ministries, that is fueling us to reach out farther and longer, that is burning within us to share God's love to ever more people.

— continued on page 4



*It only takes a spark to get a fire going
And soon all those around
Can warm up in its glowing
That's how it is with God's love
Once you've experienced it
You spread His love to every one
You want to pass it on.*

I look forward to standing with you at the annual congregational ministry meeting on Sunday, 16 February after worship. I look forward to standing together with you, and hearing of all the ways our congregation has – and will – reach out with God's love. And I look forward to standing with you as the sparks from this fire of God's love fly into our souls, and reignite the Holy Spirit within us.

*I wish for you, my friend, This happiness that I've found.
You can depend on Him, It matters not where you're bound
I'll shout it from the mountain top - I want my world to know -
The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.*

Peace,
Pastor Kim

Positions Open



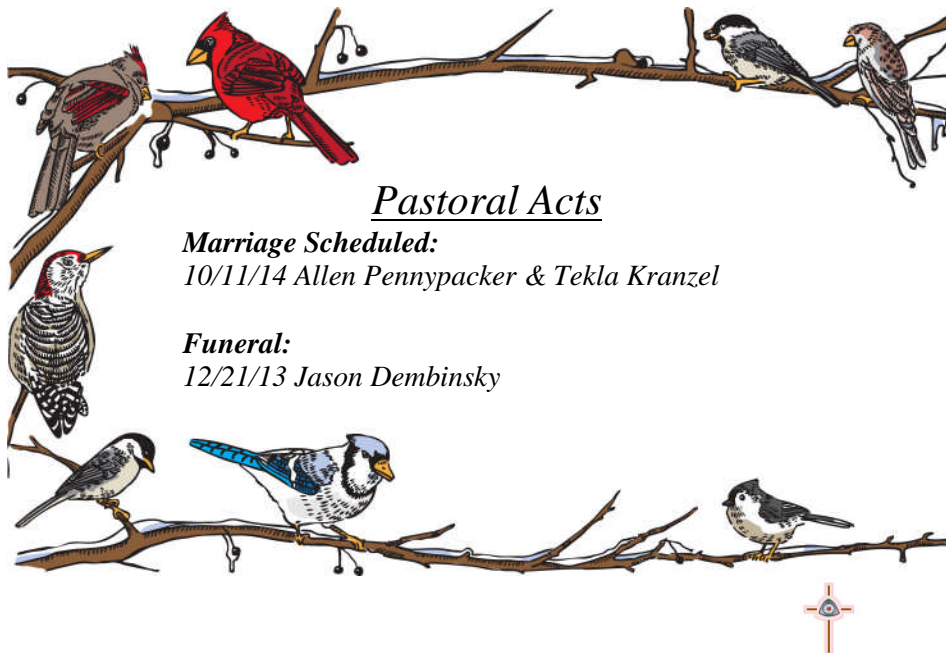
Christ's United is currently looking for an Organist, Choir Director, Day Camp Director, and Day Camp Advisors. These positions are staff for expanded ministries within the church and are part-time. For more information, please contact personnel@christsunited.org or call Pastor Kim Lengert.





Church Council Highlights from January:

- The church is looking into buying a van to be used for retreats and the day camp trips.
- Eighteen Jared Boxes were delivered to the Pottsville Hospital.
- The average weekly worship attendance for 2013 was 122.
- Darcie Gruber embroidered blankets for the 15 shut ins with their name & praying hands.
- The WELCA bake sale profited \$215.00.
- The items were retrieved from the lock box at the Gordon Bank.
- There is a key missing for the lock box at the Gordon bank, if anyone has it, please return it to the church office.
- The youth raised \$75.00 for Relay for Life selling flower arrangements.
- Darcie Gruber will make and embroider a fabric cover for the safe.



Pastoral Acts

Marriage Scheduled:

10/11/14 Allen Pennypacker & Tekla Kranzel

Funeral:

12/21/13 Jason Dembinsky





Family Fun Night out @

Friendly's

Pottsville Location

Monday, March 10th

5:00pm - 8:00pm

Grab your family for a night out of fun to support the Christ's
United Youth Group!!!

BOWL FOR KIDS SAKE

Sunday, April 13

3:00 p.m.

If interested please sign up on the bulletin board by the end of
February, or contact any member of youth ministry team.

Watch out for more events to come your way!!!!



CHILDREN'S CAMP



Christ's United Summer Day Camp!

For the first time ever, Christ's United will be offering a 7 week Day Camp beginning on Monday, 23 June! Open to children age 6 years to 6th grade, the Camp will include daily programming and weekly field trips. Children may be registered for all or any of the weeks, but attendance is limited to 30 children this first year. Registration will open the beginning of March.

More information will be available on www.christsunited.org, and on our FaceBook page. If you are interested in helping with Camp or registering a Camper, please call the church office or, email daycamp@christsunited.org.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Ryan Bendinsky!

The article Ryan co-authored last Summer, "2,3-diphenyl-2, 3-dihydro-4H-1, 3-benzothiazin-4-one" was recently published in a journal of the International Journals of Crystallography (journals.iucr.org). Ryan is a student at Kutztown University, and a recipient of Christ's United Endowment ministry scholarships!





The Truth About Marijuana

Slang—Weed, Pot, Grass, Reefer, Ganja, Mary Jane, Blunt, Joint, Roach, Nail

Get the Facts...

Marijuana affects your brain. THC (the active ingredient in marijuana) affects the nerve cells in the part of the brain where memories are formed.

Marijuana affects your self-control. Marijuana can seriously affect your sense of time and your coordination, impacting things like driving. In 2005, nearly 242,200 people were admitted to emergency rooms suffering from marijuana-related problems.¹

Marijuana affects your lungs. Marijuana smoke deposits four times more tar in the lungs² and contains 50 percent to 70 percent more cancer-causing substances than tobacco smoke does.³

Marijuana affects other aspects of your health. Marijuana can limit your body's ability to fight off infection. Heavy marijuana use also has been linked with depression, anxiety, and personality disturbances.⁴

Marijuana is not always what it seems. Marijuana can be laced with substances such as PCP, formaldehyde, or codeine cough syrup without your knowledge. "Blunts"—hollowed-out cigars filled with marijuana—sometimes have crack cocaine added.

Marijuana can be addictive. Not everyone who uses marijuana becomes addicted, but some users do develop signs of dependence. In 2006, nearly 290,000 people entered drug treatment programs to kick their marijuana habit.⁵

Before You Risk It...

Know the law. It is illegal to buy or sell marijuana. In most States, holding even small amounts of marijuana can lead to fines or arrest.

Get the facts. Smoking marijuana can cause health

problems, such as chronic coughing, chest colds, lung infections, breathing problems, and cancer.⁶

Stay informed. It has not yet been proven that using marijuana leads to using other drugs, but most teens who try drugs start with marijuana, alcohol, or tobacco.⁷ One study found that people who had used marijuana before the age of 17 were more likely to use other drugs and develop addiction problems later on.⁸

Know the risks. Marijuana affects your coordination and reaction time, raising your risk of injury or death from car crashes and other accidents.

Keep your edge. Marijuana affects your judgment, drains your motivation, and can make you feel anxious.

Look around you. Most teens aren't smoking marijuana. According to a 2006 study, about four out of five 12- to 17-year-old youths had never even tried marijuana.⁹

Know the Signs...

How can you tell if a friend is using marijuana? Sometimes it's tough to tell. But there are signs you can look for. If your friend has one or more of the following warning signs, he or she may be using marijuana:

- Seeming dizzy and having trouble walking
- Having red, bloodshot eyes and smelly hair and clothes
- Having a hard time remembering things that just happened
- Acting silly for no apparent reason

What can you do to help someone who is using marijuana or other drugs? Be a real friend. Encourage your friend to seek professional help. For information and referrals, call SAMHSA's Health Information Network at 1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4727).

For more information or for references to facts found in this *Tips for Teens*, go to www.samhsa.gov/SHIN.

Revised in 2008





We Offer our Prayers to...

Members of Christ's United:

Gail Marquardt, Barb Anczarski, Nancy Shuey, Jennie Kosmisky, Norene Stoker, Dean Fetterolf, Tom Lazor, David Pennypacker, Barry Martin, Deb Hall, Mae Hughes, Oscar Troutman, Irene Morgan, John & Katie Kimmel, Darlene Stank, Jack Houser, Matt Wetzol, Brandy Speer, Becky Spencer, Vicki Reeser, George Sterling, Sue Bendinsky

Family & Friends:

Dorothy Shadle, Fred Pillman, Evelyn Myers, Jane Fetterolf, Andrew Schronick, Lucy Elwood, Hazel Smith, Nancy Harris, Diane Kehler, Royal Miller, Rosie & Eddie Klauger, Dawn Huntzinger, Lindsay Whyne, Jack Toner, Kelly Troup, Dorothy Horbach, Megan Frasnelli, Frances Kiefer, David & Denise Poda, Gerry Dengler, Bonnie Lassen, Grace Mullaker, Herman Wagner, Betty Lindenmuth, Lucas Dengler, Sue Wentz, Emma Garnes, Bobbie Harris, Jared Morgan, Annetta Bradshaw, Ron Andrews, Dennis Alexander, Karyssa Wenrich, Charlie Klinger, Greg Meisner, Khaleesi Rice

Please note that those experiencing a traumatic event are placed onto the Prayer List and will be kept on for one month and then taken off. Please provide updates to the office in order that the list is always current. If you would like someone added please call the office: if someone is added to the prayer list on a Sunday morning during worship, please make sure you write it down and place a note on the secretary's desk.

Continued Prayers for our shut-ins:

Marion Brennan, Providence Place
Jean Cress, Mt. Carmel Nursing
Palmer Kimmel, Mt. Carmel Assisted Living
Betty Miller, Luther Ridge
Arlene Troup, Friendly Nursing
Randy Troutman
Dean Wolfgang, Tremont Health & Rehab
Jeanette Wolfgang, Mt. Carmel Nursing
Ruth Wolfgang, Mt. Carmel Nursing
Walter Wolfgang, Mt. Carmel Assisted Living
Linda Zerby





ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES: Have you signed up for your spring Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend? What better way for you and your spouse to spend a weekend than escaping from all the daily pressures and responsibilities to search out and discover an even warmer, closer,

more joyful marital relationship! The Pennsylvania spring Weekends are:

March 28-30, 2014 at Park Inn Radisson, West Middlesex, PA, where each couple has a king bed and their own hot tub -- an hour north of Pittsburgh, just off of Interstate 80

April 25-27, 2014 at the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel in State College—Happy Valley's premier conference center located on a quiet hillside with views of the Nittany Mountains

We are also accepting registrations for the fall Weekends:

September 12-14, 2014 at Spruce Lake Retreat Center, Canadensis, PA in the heart of the Poconos and **September 26-28, 2014** at Olmsted Retreat Center, Ludlow, PA, an hour north of DuBois.

Weekends are for married couples whether you have been married only a few months or upwards of 50 years, and they run from Friday at 8 PM to Sunday around 4 PM. Two nights lodging, 5 meals for each of you, and all supplies are included. There is a \$45 per couple registration fee, plus toward the end of the weekend, you will be given an opportunity to make a confidential contribution toward the continuation of the program.

Register now to avoid being disappointed! Simply go to the website: www.GodLovesMarriage.org and sign up using a credit card to pay the \$45 registration fee, or mark the option to pay by check, and you will be notified where to send your check. For questions, or if you would like a brochure with registration form mailed to you, contact PA Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at fjschamber@comcast.net or 724-325-3166.



Serving Our Community of Faith in February:

Date	Lector	Communion Assistants	Ushers	Acolyte	Crucifer & Tag-a-long	Greeter in Narthex	Greeter at Door
February 2	Kay Berner	Jim Gruber Dennis Wolfe Becky Spencer	Kay Berner Jim Chappell Jane Pennypacker John Denchak	Heather Klinger	Brandy Speer	Barb Stepanchick	Cheryl Denchak
February 9	Vivian Brown			Desiree Dengler	Deidre Dengler & Danielle White	Nancy Lindenmuth	Dean Fetterolf
February 16	Vicki Reeser			Jordan Walter	Ryan Walter & Brandon Hood	Jim Gruber	Darcie Gruber
February 23	Brandy Speer			Carey Wahalec	Mark Klinger & Nathan Berger	Deb Hall	Pearl Lute



FEBRUARY 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday																																																																																											
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2 The Presentation of Our Lord 9:30 Communion Service <u>Souper Bowl of Caring Offering</u> 10:45 Youth & Adult Sunday school, Confirmation 11:00 Day Camp Meeting 3:30 Ladies Night Out Groundhog Day	3 Souper Bowl Sunday  7:00 Church Council	4	5 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 WELCA	6																																																																																											
9 5th Sunday after Epiphany 9:30 Worship Service, Baptism of Riley & Derek Whritenour <u>Annual Reports Handed Out</u> 10:45 Youth & Adult Sunday school, Confirmation	10 1:00-6:00 Red Cross Blood Drive 7:00 Social Ministry Meeting	11 WELCA Begins making Easter Candy	12 7:00 Bible Study Lincoln's Birthday	13 6:30 Christian Education Meeting																																																																																											
16 6th Sunday after Epiphany 9:30 Worship Service, Recognition of Scouts 10:45 Youth Sunday school 10:45 Annual Congregation Meeting	17 6:30 Worship & Music Meeting Washington's Birthday President's Day	18 	19 7:00 Bible Study	20 9:30 Newslet Assembly																																																																																											
23 7th Sunday after Epiphany 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Youth & Adult Sunday school, Confirmation	24 St. Matthias, Apostle 6:00 Grief Support Group	25	26	27 12:00-2:00 PM Pantry																																																																																											



	Friday	Saturday
		1 5:00 Communion Service
	7	8 9:00 Teacher Appreciation Breakfast 5:00 Worship Service
n eting	14 Newsletter Deadline	15 5:00 Worship Service 6:00 Sr. Youth Group
ter	21	22 5:00 Worship Service
ood	28	



SOCIAL MINISTRY



Ashland Area Food Pantry

We will be collecting the following items for February:

Canned Soup

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



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

- February—Social Ministry
- March—LCM
- April—WELCA
- May—Christian Education
- June—Music & Worship
- July—Evangelism/Outreach
- August—Youth Group



Red Cross Blood Drive

**Monday, February 10
1:00-6:00 p.m.**

Sign up on the bulletin board to donate blood.

If you are able to, please make some homemade cookies for the Canteen that Christ's United sponsors.





Souper Bowl of Caring helps young people across America develop a stronger connection to their communities by caring for their neighbors in need. Join the movement that is transforming Super Bowl weekend into the nation's largest youth-led weekend of giving and serving. Learn more at tacklehunger.org.

Date / Time: February 1 & 2, 2014
 Location: Christ's United
 Collecting For: Ashland Area Food Pantry

The meaning of "Lent", is "more light in our lives". In the church year it is a time when we focus on the life we have through Jesus Christ: the light of our souls. Each year members of Christ's United choose a Bible verse and write a reflection which is then shared in the Lenten Devotional booklet. Please choose a Bible verse on the bulletin board about which you are willing to share your thoughts and feelings. Each of us has a wisdom borne of our faith. Please share your faith with us.

LENTEN

DEVOTIONALS




February Anniversaries & Birthdays



1	Kim Walacavage		
3	Tracy Schaffer		
4	Dennis Wolfe		
5	Richard Weikel		
	Kenneth Zweizig	18	Cyrus Clark
6	Brian Bolich		Jacob Tice
9	Terry Kessler	19	Dean Leshar
	Allison Rusinko		Pearl Lute
10	Rebecca Houser		Shaun McNally
	Jason Miller	20	Jim Chappell
	Mark Varndell		Cheryl Denchak
11	Vanessa Pirie		Micah Hepler
	Tanner Wilson		Mina Pennypacker
	Leo Young		Bill Price
12	Chantelle Klinger	21	Kylei Long
	Edward Stepulitis	22	Teresa Ambrose
13	Rhonda Carl		Gavin Dwane
	Frank Dzikcek		Kolton Fetterolf
	Barb Habowski		Brielle Smith
	Deana Leshar	23	Jennifer Wehry
14	Bobbi-Jo Hummel		Ricky Williard
15	Alaina Lindenmuth	24	Zalen Williard
	Melissa Sisko	25	Charlie Klauger
16	Vicki Reeser	26	Geoffrey Dudick
	Daniel Sisko		Kathleen Miner
	Lois Sterling	27	Denise Hepler
17	Crystal Huber	28	Dorothy Shadle
	Randy Troutman		Ann Welker



02/13/93	Ron & Donna Wallace
02/14/10	Nelson & Angie Berger
02/16/95	Traci & Donald Smith Jr.
02/19/66	Dean & Barb Fetterolf
02/21/53	Cy & Joan Clark
02/23/85	David & Denise Hepler
02/28/70	William & Corrine Coward



WELCA News



Sunday, February 2

“Oh the weather outside is frightful,
but in here, it’s quite delightful...”

The weather may keep us close to home, but the laughter will keep us warm! Ladies, we will meet at the church at 3:30 on Sunday to carpool to Palermo’s in Minersville, home of the best marinara sauce around!

Please sign up on the bulletin board so we can give them warning of our impending presence!

KNOTTED QUILT PROJECT

The “Knaughty Knotters” of Christ’s United

The Knaughty Knotters continue “Knotting” on Thursdays from 9:00 am - 12:00. All are invited to help create knotted quilts for Lutheran World Relief. **We are in desperate need of more materials.** If you have used and clean blankets, sheets, mattress protectors, comforters, towels, curtains (no fiberglass content), or fabrics, please drop them off in the social hall next to the walk-in closet.

Check out lwr.org/kits and **LWR Quilters on Facebook**



Candy!

CANDY!!!

CANDY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Now that we have your attention...WELCA will begin making Easter candy on Tuesday, February 11. We will continue to make candy until we have all orders filled and extras are made. If you are able to, please join us. There are a variety of jobs, and many hands make light work.



Come out and help!!!

SAVE the DATE



Women of ELCA
Schuylkill Cluster Spring
Event

APRIL 5, 2014

TRINITY LUTHERAN
CHURCH
POTTSVILLE





WHO

ARE

These People???

The answers for the January issue are: Left to Right, Front row: Donald Zerbey, Jack Blasius, Billy Hubler, & Raymond Miller. Second row: Pearl Fetterolf, Bonnie Neumeister, Della Zeigenfuse, Patsy Weaver, Donna Sell, Barbara Berger, Beverly Gable. Back: Pastor Zeigenfuse. St. Paul's Chapel, Confirmation class 1954.

If you have any old pictures from Christ's United or any of the chapels that formed Christ's United, please bring them into the office. Please also provide the peoples names that are in the pictures. Your picture will be returned to you. Thank you.

Bible study

Why Do We Do That?

From Baptism to bowing, Communion to the Kyrie, each part of the Lutheran worship service is based in scripture, but what and where? Come and join the journey of exploring our expression of faith Wednesdays at 7 pm! Everyone is welcome and no experience is necessary!



To the Congregation of Christ's United Lutheran Church,
My sincere thanks for your generous Christmas gift.

— Donald Klinger

Dear Christ's United family,

Thank you so much for all of your prayers, cards, emails,
and visits while I was recuperating from my hip surgery. Your
kindness was greatly appreciated.

— Deb Hall

Thank you to the congregation and council for the unexpected
and generous Christmas gift. It was greatly appreciated.

— Cheryl

To everyone at Christ's United,

On behalf of the Jason Dembinsky family, we would like
to express our most sincere thanks to everyone for your sympathy,
all acts of kindness and condolences during a most difficult time
in our lives. Please know your help and support was greatly ap-
preciated.

We wish to extend an extra special thank you to Pastor
Kim for a beautiful, heartwarming homily that united "two
worlds".

We are forever grateful!

Sincerely,

Gail Lorady on behalf of the Jason Dembinsky family

Dear Christ's United,

I would like to thank everyone for the cards, phone calls,
visits and other acts of kindness during my recent surgery and
recovery. It means so much.

— Laray Klinger

Thank you for all the cards, gifts, and prayers this Christmas
season. My life is blessed by the ministry we share.

— Peace, Pastor Kim





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

*\$200.00 in Memory of Tom & Betsy Wolfgang by:
Jim & Patty Wolfgang*

Teacher



Bible Study is more than just lessons for advanced training – it teaches us the basics of our relationship with God – Bible study is Christian Education.

Christ's United is blessed with many people who volunteer their time and faith to share God's Word

with us, especially with our children in Sunday School each week and Vacation Bible School in the Summer. Teaching is a very important ministry in that it not only allows us to grow in faith, but to know God. In recognition of those who share this special ministry, a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast will be held on Saturday, 8 February at 9 AM to thank all our teachers and helpers. All those involved in Christian Education are asked to attend. In addition to some very special "Thank You's", we will be discussing our Christian Education mission. Please contact Jim Gruber or christianed@christsunited.org for more information.



Christ's United Committees

Auditing Committee

Christian Education
education@christsunited.org

Endowment Fund

Evangelism/Outreach
evangelism@christsunited.org

Finance

Lutheran Church Men (LCM)
lcm@christsunited.org

Mutual Ministry

Nominating

Personnel
personnel@christsunited.org

Property
property@christsunited.org

Social Ministry
socialministry@christsunited.org

Stewardship

WELCA
welca@christsunited.org

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 under
gird our program and the
maintenance of our facilities as it
encourages improved stewardship.*



From a worship screen in Lansing, Michigan:

HYMN OF THE DAY

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Sue Me"

Please stand for prayer

Who does God use as his lawyer?



CHURCH COUNCIL 2014

council@christsunited.org

	Phone	Term Expires
Melanie Bendinsky	570-875-0646	Feb. 2014
Dean Fetterolf	570-875-2765	Feb. 2015
vicepresident@christsunited.org		
Donna Lassen	570-875-1530	Feb. 2016
Nancy Lindenmuth	570-875-3138	Feb. 2014
Gail Marquardt	570-497-5337	Feb. 2015
Deb Price	570-875-4272	Feb. 2015
Terry Shilling	570-875-0412	Feb. 2014
Barb Stepanchick	570-875-1114	Feb. 2016
Helen Wolfgang	570-875-0758	Feb. 2016
Steven Wolfgang	Youth Rep.	Sept. 2014

PASTOR

Rev. Dr. Kim L. Lengert
570-336-3110
pastorkim@christsunited.org

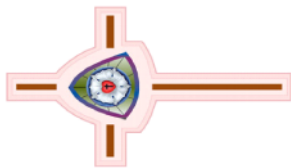
STAFF

Treasurer	Ann Marie Dillman	570-875-2422
treasurer@christsunited.org		
Financial Secretary	Christine Brennan	570-875-0720
Indoor Custodian	Cheryl Varndell	570-875-2545
Outdoor Custodian	Donald Klinger	570-875-2334
Organist	David Schweinhart	570-682-9553
organist@christsunited.org		
Interim Choir Director	Tekla Kranzel	570-875-2731
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PARISH SECRETARY

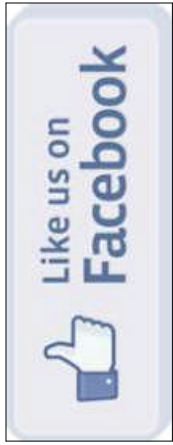
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