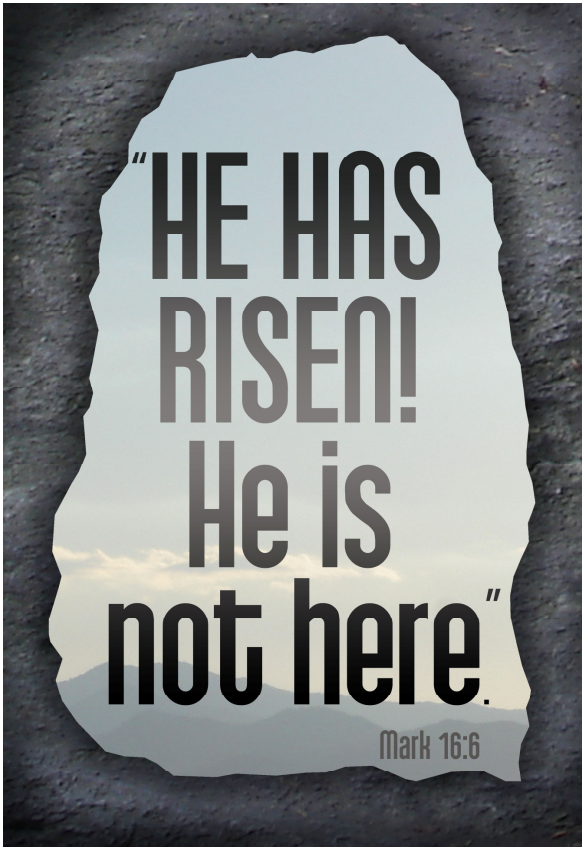


*Life Together at
Christ's United
Lutheran Church*



*Join us for Worship
Saturday 4:30 p. m. & Sunday 9:30 a. m.
Journey & Fellowship 10:45*





Christ's United Lutheran Church

One God. One People. One Purpose.

437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA 17921

www.christsunited.org

(570) 875-1591

April 2018

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The April Newsletter is sponsored
in Memory of Sherry Martin by Barry Martin



Status of Accounts as of February 28

Balance in Checking Account.....\$ 19,814.34.

Amount needed in offerings per month to meet our 2018 Annual Budget of

\$202,057.36 is **\$16,838.11**

February income was \$11,878.26

Benevolence Gifts.....\$ 1,686.00

(11% of our Benevolence goal of \$15,000.00 for 2018)





Message from Designated Pastor Brian

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose resurrection gives us new hope! Amen.

This year marks what would have been the 90th Birthday of Fred Rogers, the host of *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*. Michelle and I watch *Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood* with our son Timmy, and I love that the lessons, kindness, and grace that were taught by Fred Rogers can be experienced by a new generation.

Before I was in school, I don't think a single day passed where I did not see that man's face. He was a constant presence in the lives of many a child, and what amazes me about that is that it was, in part, just a man in a cardigan sweater speaking to kids. There wasn't a lot of technology about the show. Today, I can't imagine that such a show would be seen as viable by the networks' programming executives. But it worked!

A few years ago, Michelle and I went to a friend's wedding in Pittsburgh. We went to a museum that just so happened to have on display the original set from the *Neighborhood*. There was the door where Fred entered at the beginning of his show, there was the Land of Make-Believe, there were even some of the original puppets that were used. Alongside all of this were clips of the television show, with sound clips of Fred Rogers' talking to the children who were watching.

I was a man in my mid 30s. But I stood there openly weeping as I heard that familiar voice, surrounded by so many elements of the show that occupied me for a half hour while my mother and grandmother could get work done around the house.



I wept because I heard a kindness and a genuineness that you don't hear often in today's world at all, let alone the televised commercialized part of it. I heard a man interested in guiding children through whatever was going on in their lives, whether it be divorce or anger or frustration. He wasn't afraid to be frank and real to these children. I challenge you, if you have a computer, to watch some old clips from the show and think about how the world could benefit from its messages.

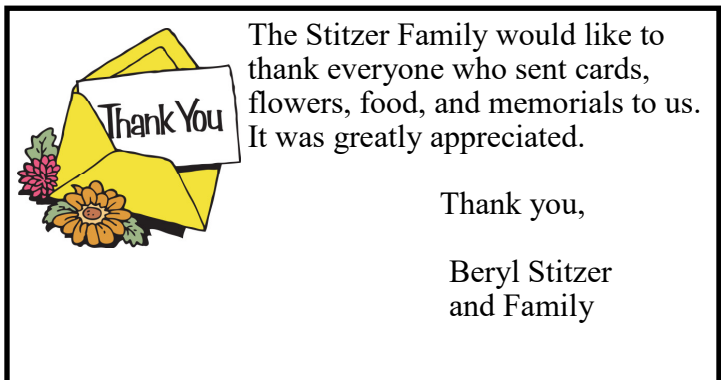
I'm not on TV, but I try to use that approach with children in my ministry. They are curious about the world. They sometimes are scared. They don't know what the right thing to do is sometimes. But I try to engage them on their level, no matter how young, and try to treat them like the cherished part of our community that they are. They are loved by God, simply by the virtue of being God's children!

That goes for you too, whether you are 9 or 90. I want to leave you with Fred Rogers response to a girl who wrote to him wanting to tell him about Jesus so that he could go to heaven:

"You told me that you have accepted Jesus as your Savior. It means a lot to me to know that. And, I appreciated the scripture verse that you sent. I am an ordained Presbyterian minister, and I want you to know that Jesus is important to me, too. I hope that God's love and peace come through my work on MISTER ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD. There is no person in the world just like you, and I like you just the way you are."

We are Easter people. Let us go forth sharing the love of Jesus, just as Fred Rogers did. Amen!

-Pastor Brian



Church Council Highlights from February:

- General Checking Account Balance as of 2/28/18: \$19,814.34.
 - New guidelines for Christ's Cupboard: If North Schuylkill School District closes on the day of the food pantry, Christ's Cupboard will be postponed and held on the following day. If North Schuylkill has a two-hour delay, the food pantry will still be held from 10:00—12:00.
 - Steven Wolfgang has 25 hours left to complete for a community service project. Jim Chappell will work together with him to do something with the wireless system.
 - The Call Committee met with someone that they are impressed with, their next step is to go hear the candidate preach.
 - Good & Faithful Servant Day / 25th Anniversary of the building. Date is set for 9/29/18. Sandy Miller will cater.
-

April's council Member of the month is Mark Varndell.

The Council Member of the Month is the “on call” member of council, the person to call if you have any concerns (other than pastoral concerns), notice the church lights on at 11 p.m., or need access to the building.

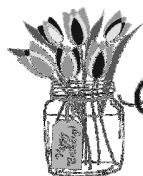


**Council Member
of the Month**



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS

If anyone has a child in first or second grade, it is time to sign them up for the First Communion class. This class will be given on Saturday, April 21, 2018 by Pastor Brian Beissel. He plans to make Communion bread with them and also share important information about Communion. It is a 1 day event from 10:0A M until 12:30 PM. If interested, please contact Debbie Hall in the church office.



April BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Gail Lorady
- Arianna McAnaney
- 3 Lewis Pennypacker
- Robert Rock
- 4 Heather Klinger
- Marisa Seritsky
- 5 Margaret Conner
- Bryce Hummel
- 6 Barbara Brown
- Darcie Gruber
- Courtney Krise
- 8 Marjorie Lally
- Ivan Sweinhart
- 9 Stephen Harhigh, Jr.
- 11 Kaitlin Neumeister
- 13 Natalia Mulhall

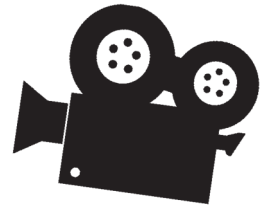
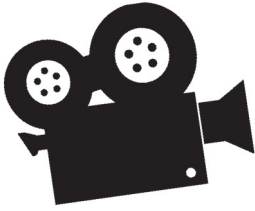
- 14 Ryan Wolfe
- Dorothy Zangari
- 15 Jessica Wright
- 16 Jeremy Knorr
- 17 Barb Liem
- Aaron Pancher
- John Wagner
- 18 Caleb Dietrick
- 20 Russell Hummel
- Shale Waldick
- 21 David Pennypacker
- 23 Monica Klock
- Dustin Schreffler
- 24 Amanda Dillman
- Chad Klock
- 25 Dianna Monaghan
- 26 Azure Waldick
- 27 George Hepler
- 28 Samantha Brennan
- Jill McNeal
- Marcus Peel
- 30 Joseph Anczarski
- Dena Guenther



April ANNIVERSARIES

- 04/05/86 Ann Marie & William Dillman, Jr.
- 04/16/15 David & Nancy Cunningham
- 04/21/71 Daniel & Bonnie Sisko
- 04/23/60 Jim & Darcie Gruber
- 04/26/01 Mark & Cheryl Varndell
- 04/29/00 Stephen & Jennifer McGrath





Family
Movie Event
APRIL 21, 2018
6:00 -8:00 pm
Ages 0-100

March's movie is
"Facing The Giants"

Everyone Welcome
Bring a comfy Pillow and Blanket
if you wish
Hope to see you all there!

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THIS
EVENT**

For more information Please contact
the church office at 570-875-1591.



We Offer our Prayers to...



March 25 - Diane Calhoun, Sandra Higgins, Wade Hubler, Bob (A. Berger), Carol Romberger, Cody Wolfgang, Family of Kitty Miner, Terry Y.

March 18 – Family of Dorothy Sell (B. Andrews), Roseanne Pennypacker (J. Pennypacker), Ben Towey (J. Towey)

March 11 – Family of Jack Stitzer, Lois Kline (M. Wolfgang), Family of Joe Moyer (J. Pennypacker), Gary Krise (D. Fetterolf), Richard Shoup (J. Gruber), Mary Heverling (T. Wolfe), Sandra (T. Wolfe), Eileen Kurtz (K. Berner), Donna Melochick (D. Zaharick), Fire victims in Ringtown, Barbara Dando (C. Troutman)

March 4 - Jack Houser

Please continue to pray for our members: Tommy Green, Jim Hepler, Carl Lute, Ava Hubler, Jean Cress, Wendy Farnsworth, Dean Fetterolf, Irene Morgan, Heidi Walsh, Gail Lorady, Hannah Lisowski, Pete Waldick

And our friends: Minah Horan (R. Berner), Sally Zaharick & Adam Zaharick (D. Zaharick), Lilly Hubler, Nathan Onorofsky; Doloris Kulp-cavage, Richard Berger, Julie Rutko, Eileen Kurtz, Albert Stehr, Michelle Ambrose, Donald Bulla, Carol Stehr, Joe Ferraro Jr., Mark Bennyhoff, Jesse Deeter, Robert & Sandra Beecher, Karyssa Wenrich, Elizabeth Brown, Doris McGurl

*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 or write their name on the Prayer Request sheet found on the Prayer Podium.*

Praying Through the Directory

Each month we will be listing three of our church faith families. We ask that you take the time and uplift them in prayer for their needs and spiritual journey.

This month we pray for:

The Brennan Family — Jeffrey, Christine, April & Laura

The Hudock Family — Susan

The Shadle Family—Nathaniel



PRAYER CHAIN



Each day members of Christ's United bow their heads and lift their hearts in prayer for the ministries of this congregation and people in need. For the past several years these Prayer Teams have been silently serving God, the world, and us.

If you are committed to the power of prayer, please join one of these teams. Prayer lists are available at worship services each weekend, and a phone chain notifies you of immediate needs. Please call the church office for more information.



CONGRATULATIONS:

IT'S A BOY -

To David and Nancy Cunningham on the birth of their son, Dennis James, who was born on Friday, March 9 at 11:22 a.m. weighing 7 lbs, 6 oz. Dennis joins two big brothers, David and Daniel.



....AND A GIRL -

To John and Janelle Gruber on the birth of their first daughter, Joanna Leigh. Joanna was born on Tuesday, March 13th at 10:28 p.m. and weighed 8 lbs, 4 oz. Joanna is the fourth grandchild of Jim and Darcie Gruber and fifth granddaughter of Pastor Bob and Nan Hoenich.





American Red Cross

The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.™

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

Community Blood Drive **Christ's United** **Lutheran Church**

Community Room
437 Airport Road (Gordon)
Ashland, PA 17921

Monday, April 2, 2018
1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Please contact Debbie Hall or call
1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2676) or visit
www.redcrossblood.org
to schedule an appointment.

Open to the public and walk-ins are Welcome!

Serving Our Community of Faith in April:

Date	Lector	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Acolyte & Tag-a-long	Crucifer	Post Worship Greeter in Narthex	Post Worship Greeter at Door
April 1 Easter 6:30	John Towey	Thomas Wolfgang Barb Stepanchick Aaron Stepanchick John Wolfgang	John Towey John Denchak Maryanne Wolfgang	Tyler Wolfgang	Ralph Johnson	Jim Gruber	John Towey
April 1 Easter 9:30	Becky Spencer	Darlene Stank Deb Berner Jane Pennyacker Richard Berner	Barb Anczarski Donna Wallace Angie Berger	Steven Wolfgang	Nathan Berger	Mark Varn dell	Angie Berger
April 8	Angie Berger	Thomas Wolfgang Barb Stepanchick Aaron Stepanchick John Wolfgang		Daniel Cunningham	David Cunningham	Kay Berner	Angie Berger
April 15	Mark Varn dell			Jordan Walter & Nelson Berger	Ryan Walter	Pearl Lute	Mark Varn dell
April 22	Cheryl Varn dell			Deidre Dengler Joey McAndrew	Danielle White	Nancy Lindenmuth	Cheryl Varn dell
April 29	Erik Tice			Jacob Tice & Kaitlyn Werner	Dylan Buhay	Thomas Wolfgang	Erik Tice

April 21, 2018 at 8:00 AM.

Come join us for the Highway Cleanup on Saturday April 21, 2018. We will meet at the

church at
8:00 A.M.

Everyone is welcome. The more help we have the quicker we can finish. I hope to see many of you there for this important ministry by CULC.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY



Following God's lead

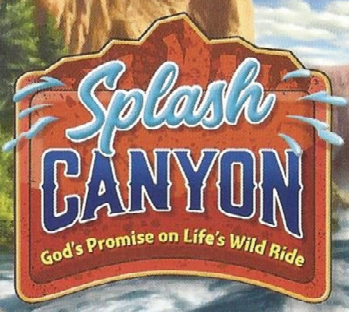
Jazz musician Thomas Dorsey traveled an unlikely road to become the “father of black gospel music.” At age 11, he dropped out of school to be a vaudeville performer and blues pianist. While Dorsey recovered from a nervous breakdown at age 21, his mother urged him to serve the Lord with his talents.

It took several years, but the musician committed to composing spiritual songs — rejected by many mainstream churches as “the devil’s music.”

In 1932, after Dorsey’s wife and infant son died during childbirth, he channeled his grief into the piano, writing “*Precious Lord, Take My Hand.*” Known to be a favorite song of Martin Luther King Jr., it ends with these lyrics: “Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light. Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.”



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Plunge in at VBS!

Calling all VBS supporters!!

A planning meeting for 2018 “Splash Canyon: God’s Promise on Life’s Wild Ride” will be held **THURSDAY, APRIL 5** at 6:30 P.M. Please join us to make this another great adventure for the children (and adults).

Give Electronically

Checking/Savings Credit/Debit Card
Christ's United
now accepts electronic donations

Participate Today.

Electronic Giving is a convenient way to provide consistent financial support to our church. Go to www.christsunited.org or scan the QR code to learn how you can participate.



SOCIAL MINISTRY



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

April—LCM

May—WELCA

June—Christian Education/Youth

July—Choir/Worship & Music

August—LCM

September—WELCA

October—Church Council

November—Evangelism/Endowment/
Stewardship

December—LCM

January—WELCA

February—Social Ministry

March—Church Council

We will be collecting
the following
items for April:

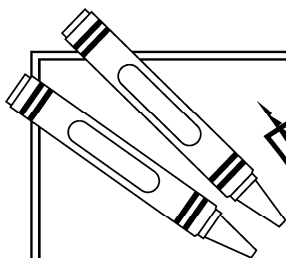
Canned Fruit

Please place your
donations in the
shopping cart.

Thank You!

The next food
distribution date is
Thursday,
April 12, 2018





PUZZLE

RESURRECTION HOPE



Romans 6:5 reveals the hope we have because Jesus rose from the dead on Easter.



Directions: First solve the math problems. Then put the corresponding words in the blanks; for example, the word next to the answer "1" goes in the first blank, the word next to the answer "2" goes in the second blank, and so on.

2+2 = ___ united 2x3 = ___ death 7+6 = ___ resurrection

3x3 = ___ certainly 18-16 = ___ have 4-1 = ___ been

0+1 = ___ if 2x4 = ___ we 13-1 = ___ him

2+3 = ___ in 20-6 = ___ like 2+5 = ___ his

2x5 = ___ be 8+3 = ___ with

“For 1 we 2 3 4
 with him 5 a 6 like 7 ,
8 will 9 also 10 united
11 12 in a 13
14 his.” Romans 6:5, NIV

Answer: For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. Romans 6:5, NIV



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

To Christ's United's Memorial Fund

In Memory of Jack Stitzer by:

Chris Brennan	Margaret Law
Dorothy Snyder	Jo-Ann & Leo Young
Barb Liem	Amy Wahalec
Dorothy Zeigenfuse	Frank Jr. & Mary Sawicki
John & Cheryl Denchak	Gordon Area Senior Citizens
Gordon Gun Club	Thomas & Martha Sosar
Brian & Jennifer Wetzal	Beth & Richard Werner
Mary Eleanor Brennan	Bridget McDonald
Norman & Sandra Stitzer	Joseph Coddington
Stewart & Faith Anthony	Gena Young
Jennie & George Kosmisky	
Betty & Elmer Waldick & Family	
Mr. & Mrs. Anson Snyder & Family	

To Christ's United's Capital Campaign

In Memory of Lewis Young by:

Laray & Don Klinger

In Memory of Carol Guistwite by:

Beth & Ron Andrews

In Memory of Jack Stitzer by:

Laray & Don Klinger

Beth & Ron Andrews

Terry & Dorothy Kessler

Constance Welker

Donna & Ron Wallace

In Memory of Dorothy Sell by:

Beth Ron Andrews

To Christ's Cupboard

In Memory of Carol Guistwite by:

Laray & Don Klinger

Email Address for Lois Sterling, Parish Visitor

If you need to contact Lois by email, she asks that you use sterling.lois05@gmail.com to be sure she gets your message. This is her personal email address that she checks regularly.



The Recipe Swap

This month's recipe: Zucchini Brownie Cookies
from Jo-Ann Young.



Zucchini Brownie Cookies

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 1/2 Cup Lt Brown Sugar, packed | 1/2 Cup Unsweetened Cocoa |
| 2/3 Cup Vegetable shortening | 1/4 tsp. Baking Sda |
| 1 tsp. Vanilla | 1/2 tsp Salt |
| 2 Eggs | 1 Cup Shredded Zucchini |
| 1 1/2 cups all purpose Flour | 2 C (12 oz.) Semi Sweet Choc. Chips |

Preheat oven to 375. Combine brown sugar & shortening, add vanilla. Beat and blend in eggs until well blended. Combine & blend in dry ingredients in separate bowl. Blend in dry ingredients to creamed mixture at low speed. Mix in zucchini & choc morsels. Drop by rounded tablespoons 2 inches apart on ungreased baking sheet (I used parchment paper). Bake 1 sheet at a time for 7—9 minutes until cookies are set. Do not overbake. Cool 2 minutes on cookie sheet. Remove to cool.

Tip: To avoid overbaking, after minimum time lift cookie with spatula to check if bottom looks dry.

- Jo-Ann Young



Women of the ELCA

The next **WELCA meeting** will be Wednesday,
APRIL 4th at 7:00 pm.
All women of CULC are welcome.



LADIES NITE OUT

Come join in on the next LADIES
NITE OUT on MAY 6TH.

We're going to Friedensburg
Country Restaurant

Sign up on the bulletin board for
transportation arrangements.

Schuylkill Cluster Spring Event

April 14th at St. Peter's Lutheran, Reinerton

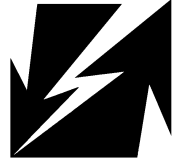
Topic: The Sandwich Generation

Panel presenters from Diakon and Office of
Senior Services.

Sign up on the bulletin board by April 4.



Our true power source



The story is told of someone who plugged a power strip into itself and then couldn't understand why the system wouldn't turn on!

We get a kick out of such tales, yet how often do we try to “power” our own lives? We frequently think we need to be the source of our own strength, joy, peace, energy and wisdom.

Jesus doesn't teach us to find life within ourselves — or in any human being or earthly circumstance, object or philosophy. Rather, calling himself the good shepherd, Jesus says, “I have come that [my sheep] may have life, and have it abundantly” (John 10:10).

We don't access that abundant life by “plugging into” ourselves. Instead, Jesus invites us to plug into his power — and joy, peace, hope, truth — through prayer and Scripture, worship and service, fellowship with other Christians and the beauty of God's world.



2018 Sponsorships

The sponsorship sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board.

Sign up for: Altar Flowers \$25.00,
Worship Bulletins \$15.00,
Special service bulletins \$10.00,
Sanctuary Candle \$10.00,
Children's Bulletins \$10.00, and
Monthly Newsletters \$40.00.

Payments for Altar flowers should be given to Cathy Troutman. All other payments should be made out to the church and given to Deb Hall in the church office.

Christ's United Ministry Teams

Christian Education
education@christsunited.org

Evangelism/Outreach
evangelism@christsunited.org

Lutheran Church Men (LCM)
lcm@christsunited.org

Social Ministry
socialministry@christsunited.org

Stewardship

WELCA
welca@christsunited.org

Worship & Music
music@christsunited.org

Christ's United Committees

Auditing & Finance Committees
finance@christsunited.org

Endowment Fund
endowment@christsunited.org

Mutual Ministry

Nominating
council@christsunited.org

Personnel
personnel@christsunited.org

Property
property@christsunited.org

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.



CHURCH COUNCIL 2018

council@christsunited.org

	Phone	Term Expires
Dr. Kay Berner vicepresident@christsunited.org	570-875-1035	Feb. 2020
Nancy Lindenmuth Secretary	570-875-3138	Feb. 2021
Angie Berger	570-875-3598	Feb. 2019
Jim Gruber	570-875-2805	Feb. 2021
Jack Houser	570-875-0290	Feb. 2019
Suzanne Peel	570-875-2218	Feb. 2021
Erik Tice	570-875-2681	Feb. 2020
Mark Varndell	570-875-2545	Feb. 2019
Steven Wolfgang	570-875-9660	Feb. 2020

DESIGNATED PASTOR

Rev. Brian Beissel
570-516-1787

STAFF

Parish Visitor sterling.lois05@gmail.com	Lois Sterling	570-449-6947
Parish Administrator office@christsunited.org Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-3:00	Deb Hall	570-875-1591 570-789-9722
Director of Music diane.calhoun@gmail.com	Diane Calhoun	570-874-2580
Treasurer treasurer@christsunited.org	Ann Marie Dillman	570-875-2422
Indoor Custodian	Susan Herb	
Outdoor Custodian	Bill Price	570-875-4272
Financial Secretary	Christine Brennan	570-875-0720



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Facebook

Life Together at Christ's United
23

