

# 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

February 2018

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*The February Newsletter is sponsored  
In Loving Honor of their 8th Anniversary  
By Nelson and Angie Berger*

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## Status of Accounts as of December 31

Balance in Checking Account.....\$24,950.14

Amount needed in offerings per month to meet our 2018 Annual Budget of  
\$202,057.36 is **\$16,838.11**

December income was \$37,070.48

Benevolence Gifts.....\$11,698.73  
(58.49% of our Benevolence goal of \$20,000.00 for 2017)





## **Message from Council V.P. Kay**

To Christ's United,

Recently I read a story about a mother and a daughter who were in an airport. It was the last moment before the daughter's departure. As they stood at the security gate, they hugged and the mother said, "I love you and wish you enough". The daughter replied, "Mom, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough, too." They kissed and the daughter left to board the plane.

The mother walked over to the window. A woman was sitting there and had overheard their conversation. They began to talk and the mother explained that this was a forever good-bye as she had challenges ahead. The daughter lived far away and the next time she came home would probably be for her mother's funeral.

The woman couldn't help but ask what the words "I wish you enough" meant. The woman smiled and said, "That is a wish that has been handed down from other generations. My parents used to say it to everyone." She paused a moment and looked up as if trying to remember it in detail and she smiled even more. "When we said I wish you enough, we were wanting the other person to have a life filled with just enough good things to sustain them." Then she turned to this woman and shared the following.

I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright. I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun more. I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive. I wish you enough pain so that the smallest joys in life appear much bigger. I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting, I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess. I wish you enough hellos to get through the final good-bye. With that she turned, began to sob, and walked away.



My friends at Christ's United, I wish you enough as we travel down this road that God has prepared before us. I pray that we will continue to place our faith and trust in Him. I pray that this journey will be one filled with joy and excitement as we see where He will lead us. I wish you all enough.

Yours in Christ,

*Kay Berner,*

Vice- President of Church Council



## **Council Highlights**

## **Church Council Highlights from January:**

- General Checking Account Balance as of 12/31/17: \$24,950.14
- We still owe \$5,726.86 to LCM Capital Campaign loan which we will pay back now.
- We received over 26 thousand dollars for the Matching funds campaign.
- Social Ministry will collect food for the food pantry on “Souper” Bowl Sunday.
- WELCA will collect items for personal care kits and with much help from the congregation, will soon begin making Easter Candy.
- Pastor Segond will return as a Supply Pastor for a Covenant Sunday event on February 11.



**Council Member  
of the Month**

February's council Member of the month is Nancy Lindenmuth.

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.



Remember....

*That you are dust, and to dust you shall return.* Such are the words of blessing offered on Ash Wednesday, as we remember our humanity and God's immortal love, shown to us in Jesus Christ. It is a time of somber-

ness in recognition of the love so strong that death could not break its grasp on us, as Jesus carries us from death to life. Come and remember: Service will be held at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, February 14.

Ash   
Wednesday



During Lent all are invited as in faith we gather each Wednesday night for a Soup Supper and Worship. The Social Ministry Team introduces the meal at 6:00 by sharing information on ministries around the world, telling us how our actions are affecting the lives of others (for good!). We then gather as light breaks the darkness in Holden Evening Prayer at 7 p.m. Pastor Bob Hoenich will be delivering messages on "Our Life As A Follower of Christ".

This is a special time of faith, the gathering together deepening our understanding of God's actions of love in Jesus Christ. Please set aside time in your schedule to share in this special practice of Lent and bring a friend!

## Sunday, February 18 - 11:00 a.m.

Immediately after worship, on February 18, we will hold our Annual Congregational Meeting. Please plan to attend and support our ministries here at Christ's United. And then celebrate our Matching Funds success at the cel-



# Annual Meeting





# February BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Ross Sterling  
Kim Walacavage
- 3 Stephen McGrath
- 4 Dennis Wolfe
- 5 Richard Weikel  
Kenneth Zweizig
- 6 Brian Bolich  
Paul Troutman
- 9 Terry Kessler  
Allison Rusinko
- 10 Rebecca Houser  
Jason Miller  
Mark Varndell
- 11 Vanessa Pirie  
Tanner Wilson  
Leo Young
- 12 Chantelle Klinger  
Edward Stepulitis
- 13 Rhonda Carl  
Barb Habowski  
Deana Leshner
- 14 Bobbi-Jo Hummel
- 15 Alaina Lindenmuth  
Melissa Sisko  
Behret Steinbauer
- 16 Vicki Reeser  
Daniel Sisko  
Lois Sterling
- 17 Crystal Huber
- 18 Cyrus Clark  
Jacob Tice

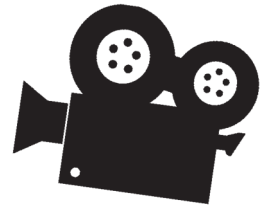
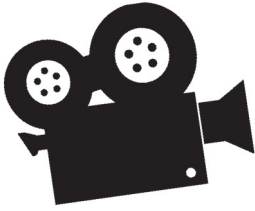
- 19 Dean Leshner  
Pearl Lute  
Shaun McNally
- 20 Jim Chappell  
Cheryl Denchak  
Micah Hepler  
Mina Pennypacker  
Bill Price
- 21 Kylei Long
- 22 Teresa Ambrose  
Gavin Dwane  
Kolton Fetterolf  
Brielle Smith
- 23 Ricky Williard
- 24 Zalen Williard
- 25 Charlie Klauger
- 26 Geoffrey Dudick
- 27 Denise Hepler  
Nicole Steinbauer
- 28 Dorothy Shadle  
Ann Welker



# February ANNIVERSARIES

- |          |                          |
|----------|--------------------------|
| 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 |





Family  
Movie Event  
FEB. 17, 2017 5:30-8 pm  
Ages 0-100

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THIS  
EVENT

Dr. Kay Berner is going to let us use her  
copy of "Risen" for the March Family  
Movie Event

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



## We Offer our Prayers to...



**January 21** - Dean Fetterolf, Janet Quirk, Annie Smith (J. Pennypacker), John Zerby Jr. (J. Young), Irene Morgan

**January 14** – CULC Call Committee, Jack Stitzer, Sally Zaharick (D. Zaharick), Family of Joseph O'Donnell (A. Dillman), Eileen Kurtz (K. Berner), Jimmy (P. Dziczek), Pat Monroe

**January 7** - Eric R.

**December 31**— Rebecca Hepler (V. Hepler), Laura Miller (M. Varndell), Pete Waldick, Family of Randy Moyer, Minah Horan (R. Berner)

**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, Sandra Neumeister, Gail Lorady, Hannah Lisowski, Pete Waldick, Jack Stitzer

**And our friends:** Adam Zaharick (D. Zaharick), Lewis Young, Lilly Hubler, Nathan Onorofsky; Barrie Neumeister, Doloris Kulpcavage, Wesley Kuzcawa, 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 — Anita, Samantha & James May

The Hudock Family — Michael, Hannali, Miles, Caroline

The Shadle Family—Forrest & Dorothy





## 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.

## ***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](http://www.christsunited.org) or scan the QR code to learn how you can participate.



### **A heavenly focus**

“Why are not our hearts continually set on heaven?” asks 17th-century pastor and author Richard Baxter. Focusing on heaven stirs our faith, guards against

temptation, eases suffering and makes us an encouragement to others, Baxter says. He urges: “Bend thy soul to study eternity, busy thyself about the life to come ... and let not those thoughts be seldom and cursory, but bathe thyself in heaven’s delights.”





## **American Red Cross**

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

[redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) | 1-800-RED CROSS

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

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

**Monday, February 5, 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](http://www.redcrossblood.org)  
to schedule an appointment.

Open to the public and walk-ins are Welcome!

<b>Date</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Communion Assistants</b>	<b>Acolyte &amp; Tag-a-long</b>	<b>Crucifer</b>	<b>Post Worship Greeter in Narthex</b>	<b>Post Worship Greeter at Door</b>
<b>February 4</b>	Becky Spencer	Richard Shoup Frank Smith Karen Smith Barb Anczarski	Donna Wallace Barb Stepanchick John Towey	Blake Olayo	Ralph Johnson		Debbie Hall
<b>February 11 Transfiguration Sunday</b>	Barb Stepanchick		John Denchak Jo-Ann Young Jim Gruber	Dylan Buhay	Carey Wahalec		Jim Gruber
<b>February 14 Ash Wed</b>	John Towey		John Denchak Jo-Ann Young Jim Gruber	Heather Klinger		Debbie Hall	
<b>February 18</b>	Erik Tice			Nathan Berger & Nelson Berger	Tyler Wolfgang	Vivian Brown	Erik Tice
<b>February 21 Mid-Week</b>	Mark Vardell			Jacob Tice			
<b>February 25</b>	Sally Tice			Steven Wolfgang & Bryce Hummel	David Cunningham	Kay Berner	Sally Tice
<b>February 28 Mid-Week</b>	Cheryl Vardell			Deidre Dengler			



## Matching Funds Thank You

Beth and Ron Andrews wish to thank the members of the congregation and anyone else who donated to the Matching Funds, making this endeavor a huge success. We not only met our goal of \$10,000 but exceeded it with donations reaching \$16,750. With the \$10,000 in Matching Funds our grand total grew to \$26,750! Even more amazing is that we attained this impressive figure in less than 2 months. We were caught up in the spirit of generosity and were united with a common goal to eliminate our debt, resulting in a positive outlook for the New Year and hope for the future of Christ's United.

Below is a list of everyone who generously contributed. There were numerous anonymous gifts. We sincerely apologize if anyone's name was inadvertently missed. Thank you again for prayerfully helping to make this goal a reality. This truly was our Christmas Miracle!

Beth & Ron Andrews	Bob, Wendy, Sarah & Sam Boyer
Kay Berner	Dorothy Zangari
Chris & Jeff Brennan	Dorothy Zeigenfuse
Robert & Carla Carl	Bill & Deb Price
Donna & Michael Lassen	Deb Zaharick
Cyrus & Joan Clark	John & Janet Towey
John & Cheryl Denchak	Barbara Liem
Ann Marie & Bill Dillman	Carol & Jim Reiner
Frank & Peggy Dziczek	Jim & Ellie Chappell
Gail Marquardt	Mark & Cheryl Varndell
Jim & Patricia Hepler	Steven Wolfgang
Ralph Johnson	Robert & Gayle Rock
John Kimmel	Dennis & Joyce Mallams
Nancy Lindenmuth	Vivian Brown
Gregory & Penny Lindenmuth	Ted & Terry Ambrose
Grant & Sandy Marlow	Pearl & Carl Lute
Rick & Gail Lorady	Mark Klinger
William & Sandy Miller	Helen & Emerson Wolfgang
Anna Neumeister	Rebekah Garnes
Grace Johnson	Jack & Frieda Johnson
Nathan & Nelson Berger	Diane Calhoun



Nellie Schlorff	Ralph & Eileen Johnson
Terry Shilling	Jack & Berle Stitzer
George & Jennie Kosmisky	Erin Werner
Rebecca Spencer	Maynard & Susan Merwine
Darlene Stank	Marge Bolich
Barbara Stepanchick	Irene Morgan
Ed Stepulitis	Terry & Dorothy Kessler
Craig & Penny Troutman	Richard Shoup
Linda Zerby	Renee Walter
Elmer & Betty Waldick	Nancy Kessler
Donna & Ron Wallace	Jane Pennypacker
Debbie Hall	Janet Quirk
Connie Welker	Dean & Barb Fetterolf
Erik & Sally Tice	Joseph, Barbara, Lynn
Several "Anonymous"	& Joey Anczarski
Several Unidentified Contributions	

There were several envelopes that were submitted for the "Matching Funds" that were either identified as Anonymous or there was no identity provided.

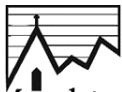
There was an overwhelming response to this effort to raise funds for CULC and money came in from all directions, weekly envelopes, memorials, honorariums, etc.

If your name was omitted from this list, it was not intentional, it was an oversight.

*The following Memorial donations were given to Christ's United Matching Funds since the last issue of the Newsletter:*

*In Memory of:*

Carl Pennypacker by Jane Pennypacker  
Lee Kessler by Terry & Dorothy Kessler



**Matching  
Funds**

## **Celebration Sunday**

The success of the Matching Funds is cause for celebration, so we will be observing Celebration Sunday on February 18th following the Annual Meeting. A meal and entertainment is planned. The main entree will be made at the church. Side dishes and desserts will be provided by the congregation. Sign-up on the bulletin board. Come and join the celebration!

# 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

**February—Social Ministry**

March— Church Council

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



We will be collecting the following items for January:

## Soup

Please place your donations in the shopping cart.

Thank You!

The next food distribution date is  
Thursday,  
February 8, 2018



## Lenten Soup Suppers

Wednesday's at 6:00

Sign up on the bulletin board to provide soup or bread for our meal.

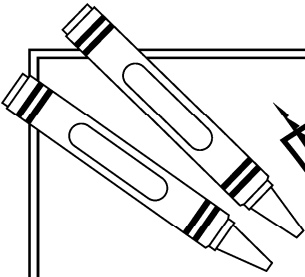
Each week the Social Ministry Team will have a



Items Needed for this year's "Souper" Bowl of caring on  
Saturday, February 3 & Sunday, February 4

Cereal  
Pasta Sauce  
Pasta  
Juice  
Soup  
Peanut Butter

Please place all food donations on the table in the Narthex.  
Monetary donations will be collected also and used to  
purchase food. All items will go to "Christ's Cupboard".



# PUZZLE

## A NEW COMMANDMENT

In John 13:34, Jesus offers important instructions for his followers.

*Directions: Figure out the pattern in each vertical line of letters. Then add the next letter in the sequence to the blank underneath, completing John 13:14, NIV.*

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCD...

F L S Y	F K Y	X E I Q B V O	O J	F
H M T A	I L A	Y H K R D Y P	S M	G
J N U C	L M C	Z K M S F B Q	W P	H

“ \_\_\_\_\_”

E X M B	C L M B U	V F R	P L	V F R
F Y P C	F M P C X	W I S	Q M	W I S
G Z S D	I N S D A	X L T	R N	X L T

\_\_\_\_\_

A R J Q	C C S B	F K Y	X H L Q B Y I
E S M R	F G T C	I L A	Y J M R D A L
I T P S	I K U D	L M C	Z L N S F C O

\_\_\_\_\_”

JOHN 13:34, NIV

Answer: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34, NIV



# Spring Justice Retreat Saturday, March 10, 2018

Speak out for those who cannot speak, for the destitute. Speak out,  
judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.  
Proverbs 31:8-9



**Keynote Speakers:**  
**Tracey DePasquale – Director of LAMPA**  
**Lynn Fry – Program Director**  
**(Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania)**

The day will focus on our call to action through advocacy and how advocacy is expressed in our daily lives. Afternoon break-out sessions will address how we can take actions on the statewide and local levels with presentations by LAMPA and Schuylkill County Women in Crisis.

Please join us as we work to live out  
our commitment to ministry and action through advocacy.

## **Location:**

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Summer Hill**  
**1185 Summer Hill Road, Auburn, PA 17922**

**Times: Registration @ 8:30 a.m. Worship & Program @ 9:00 a.m. Closing @ 2:30 p.m.**  
**Synodical Board Meeting follows after the closing of the retreat**

- Registration due by February 18.
- Sign up on the Bulletin Board
- WELCA will pay the \$10.00 fee.



## **Women of the ELCA**

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

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WELCA will begin making Easter Candy soon. Watch the bulletin or contact Jo-Ann Young for work dates. Your help is needed to make this fundraiser a success.



### ***LADIES NITE OUT***

SAVE THE DATE.....

On MARCH 4th we're headed to  
SWEET TOOTH CAFE in Shamokin.

All ladies welcome!

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### ***The Recipe Swap***

This month's recipe: Upside-down Hamburger Casserole from Darcie Gruber.

#### **Upside-down Hamburger Casserole**

2 lb. Hamburger

1 small onion

Salt & pepper

Combine and fry until hamburger is gray in color.

Add 1 - 16 oz. jar spaghetti sauce

Boil 1 lb. macaroni, drain and toss in

1 bag cheddar cheese and 1 bag mozzarella cheese (already grated)

Pour hamburger mixture into 2 qt. casserole; top with cheese mixture.

Add 2 eggs to 1 1/2 cups milk, mix well and pour over casserole.

Bake at 350 until golden brown on top (approximately 45 min).

-Darcie Gruber

# BASKETS OF PROMISE



This Lent we're joining Lutheran World Relief's **Baskets of Promise** campaign. Each week, we'll collect a different item that we'll use to assemble Personal Care Kits that give people around the world tools to stay healthy in life's most challenging situations.

Our goal is to assemble \_\_\_\_\_ LWR Personal Care Kits during Lent.

## HERE'S OUR COLLECTION SCHEDULE:

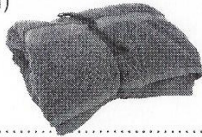
### FEBRUARY 18

Bars of Soap (4 to 5 oz., any brand, in original wrapping)



### FEBRUARY 25

Bath Towels (light-weight, **(for quick drying)** maximum 52" x 27", dark color recommended)



### MARCH 4

Toothbrushes (adult size, in original packaging)



### MARCH 11

Combs - **sturdy combs** (no fine teeth or Picks)



### MARCH 18

Nail Clippers (metal, attached file optional)



### MARCH 25

Bars of Soap



For more information contact \_\_\_\_\_

*Donna Wallace*

**Christ's United Ministry Teams**

Christian Education  
education@christssunited.org

Evangelism/Outreach  
evangelism@christssunited.org

Lutheran Church Men (LCM)  
lcm@christssunited.org

Social Ministry  
socialministry@christssunited.org

Stewardship

WELCA  
welca@christssunited.org

Worship & Music  
music@christssunited.org

**Christ's United Committees**

Auditing & Finance Committees  
finance@christssunited.org

Endowment Fund  
endowment@christssunited.org

Mutual Ministry

Nominating  
council@christssunited.org

Personnel  
personnel@christssunited.org

Property  
property@christssunited.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 2017

council@christsunited.org

	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
Dr. Kay Berner vicepresident@christsunited.org	570-875-1035	Feb. 2020
Nancy Lindenmuth Secretary	570-875-3138	Feb. 2018
Beth Andrews	570-874-2381	Feb. 2018
Angie Berger	570-875-3598	Feb. 2019
Terry Shilling	570-875-0412	Feb. 2019
Erik Tice	570-875-2681	Feb. 2020
John Towey	570-205-2682	Feb. 2018
Mark Varndell	570-875-2545	Feb. 2019
Steven Wolfgang	570-875-9660	Feb. 2020

## DESIGNATED PASTOR

Rev. Brian Beissel  
570-516-1787

## STAFF

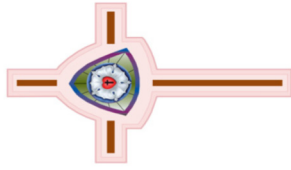
<b>Parish Visitor</b> lois@christsunited.org	Lois Sterling	570-449-6947
<b>Parish Administrator</b> office@christsunited.org Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-3:00	Deb Hall	570-875-1591 570-789-9722
<b>Director of Music</b> diane.calhoun@gmail.com	Diane Calhoun	570-874-2580
<b>Treasurer</b> treasurer@christsunited.org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



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Life Together at Christ's United  
23





Christ's United Lutheran  
Church

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