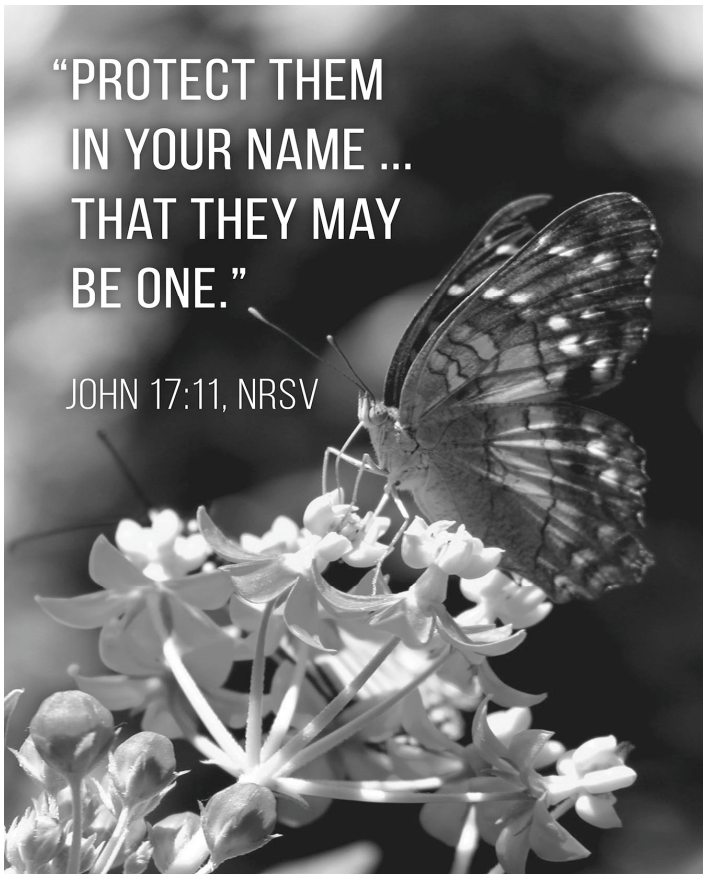


# *Life Together at Christ's United Lutheran Church*



**“PROTECT THEM  
IN YOUR NAME ...  
THAT THEY MAY  
BE ONE.”**

JOHN 17:11, NRSV



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

*Life Together at Christ's United*





# Christ's United Lutheran Church

One God. One People. One Purpose.

437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA 17921

www.christsunited.org

(570) 875-1591

May 2017

## In This Issue:

Pastors Message	3-5
Council Highlights	6
Adopt -A-Highway	7
Youth Group News	8-9
Birthdays & Anniversaries	10-11
Memorials	11
Serving our Community	13
Calendar	14-15
Prayer List	16
Red Cross Blood Drive	17
Social Ministry	18
Puzzle	19
Graduate info	21
WELCA News	22-23
Spaghetti Supper	24-25

*The May Newsletter is sponsored in Memory of Bernard Zeigenfuse by Dot and family*



## Status of Accounts as of MARCH 31

Balance in Checking Account.....\$3,268.76

Amount needed in offerings per month to meet our 2017 Annual Budget of \$179,318.00 is **\$14,943.17**

March income was \$14,992.85

Benevolence Gifts.....\$3,726.55

(18.63% of our Benevolence goal of \$20,000.00 for 2017)



# Pastor Mark's Message

Dear friends in Christ :

Jesus is risen !

What a festive weekend to celebrate that wondrous news! Beginning with the Pasca Triduum, as we gathered to remember Jesus last act of serving love for his circle of friends around the Passover celebration, his self giving on the cross for our sins, capping off with a glorious Sunday celebration of song, instruments, praise, word, and scripture that Jesus is risen! And how about that Easter egg hunt? That was an amazing spectacle to behold and so much fun to see the kids and families having noodles of fun together. Thanks to all who helped put that wonderful event together.

By way of introduction, in case I did not get to meet you during holy weekend, I am Mark Galbraith. I come from Washington state, near Vancouver BC, by way of Amarillo Texas. I've been ordained close to 26 years and I have been doing interim ministry for the last 7+ years. I was married for 25 years, been divorced over seven, and I have two grown daughters, Naomi who is 27 and lives with her boyfriend in Denver, and Monica, who is 20 and is a student at Middleberry College in Middleberry Vermont.

My interests and hobbies include: Theater/film & voice-over acting, commercial print modeling, exercise and nutrition, hiking, movies, college football, following my Seattle sports teams, beach walks, travel and exploring local sites, cooking, family gatherings, music/stage/sports events, dining out, coffee shops and good conversation.



Interim ministry is a very special time in the life of a congregation. There are two main parts to it - 1) of course to keep all the good programming and ministries that Christ United does so well and 2) taking a big step back to look at the whole picture of your ministry, and listen to God, listen to each other what God may have in mind for you for your next chapter of ministry that will inform who you will call as your next called and installed pastor. I plan to present a PowerPoint presentation to outline in more detail for you what the Council and I discussed during the interview to give you a better idea of how I project our time together to unfold.

The most important aspect of this whole period of transition, discernment, prayer, and listening, is to, of course, pray! Pray for each other, pray where healing and forgiveness is needed and to be the first to offer such healing and forgiveness! Pray to be open to the voice of God's Ever-Active Presence (my way to describe The Holy Spirit) scripture, worship, service, learning, and fellowship what God has in mind as God's next mission goals for Christ's United Lutheran Church .

My office hours will be *Monday through Thursday 9:30 AM to 12 noon*. During this time you may contact me for any regular church business and to schedule appointments or meetings. Outside of regular office hours, I will be out and about attending visits, meetings, as well as my own personal time.

If you need to get ahold of me outside of regular office hours for those "*when it just can't wait*" moments, you may call or text me at [360-325-2651](tel:360-325-2651) or email me at [pastormarkpg@gmail.com](mailto:pastormarkpg@gmail.com). Friday will be my day off, and I ask that contacts be reserved for emergencies only.



Please join together hands and hearts as we pray during this exciting time of discernment, seeking, transition, and transformation .

Pastor Mark

Jeremiah 29:11 (NRSV) <sup>11</sup> For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.



### Pastoral Acts

#### **Weddings Scheduled:**

05/27/17 Jessica Boyer & Bryon Wallace

07/01/17 Lynn Andrews & Randy Green

08/18/17 Sarah Fetterolf & Gerald Stehr

## **Give Electronically**

Checking/Savings Credit/Debit Card

Electronic Giving is a convenient way to provide consistent financial support to our church.

To set up a recurring giving schedule, visit us online at [www.christsunited.org](http://www.christsunited.org), locate the Online Giving button and set up your recurring giving schedule. The first time you give, you will select a password that will enable you to log in at any time and make changes to your giving or view your complete online giving history. Or if it's easier, just scan this QR code to get started.



Life Together at Christ's United



## Church Council Highlights from April:

- 1) Balance of General Checking Account is -\$3,268.76.
- 2) The income for March was \$14,992.85 with expenses of \$19,867.42.
- 3) The average attendance for March was 138; for the year 118.
- 4) We received Pastor Kim's letter of resignation stating her last day of employment is May 15, 2017.
- 5) Council is looking for a volunteer to change the church marquee as Cheryl Varndell has resigned.



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May's council Member of the month is Kay Berner.

The Council Member of the Month is the "on call" member of council. The council member of the month is 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**

# Forsaken for us

Church reformer Martin Luther considered Jesus' cry from the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46) as "the greatest words in all of Scripture," writes Timothy Keller. In *Walking With God Through Pain and Suffering* (Penguin Books), Keller notes, "Luther knew personally about what he called *Anfechtungen*, a word that means the 'assaults' that the world, the flesh and the devil make on human beings through the evils and suffering of life."

Jesus suffered *Anfechtungen* "in infinite degrees, beyond anything any other human being will ever experience," Keller writes. And he did it all for us. As Luther said, "In Christ, the God-forsaken sinner has a Savior who has taken on himself the full depths of human estrangement from God — and overcome it."

✚ ✚



## Saturday, May 6th

The first highway clean up of 2016.

Meet at the church at 8am.

Gloves, an orange vest, and trash bags are provided. No one will be turned down. Youth under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult and sign a waiver.

Hope to see you there!!!

If anyone can be a driver that continuously checks on the pickers to see if anything is needed, it would be greatly appreciated.

*Life Together at Christ's United*




# Fill your bucket!

David Brooks, author of *The Road to Character* (Random House), created a moral bucket list in an effort to develop “eulogy virtues” – the traits praised at people’s funerals.

Qualities such as humility, dependence and energizing love offer more joy than any “résumé virtues” ever will, he writes.

“There’s joy in freely chosen obedience to organizations, ideas and people. There’s joy in mutual stumbling. There’s an aesthetic joy we feel





**Got cans?**

In the back of Christ’s United building are large bins for your aluminum cans. The Sr. Youth sort and bag the donated cans for recycling, and use the money collected for special activities.

Please be generous and drop off your aluminum cans when you come to church!



Jr. Youth is for all elementary age members of Christ’s United! Special activities—including projects and field trips— occur throughout the year. Watch the Youth bulletin board and the Church FaceBook pages for the next adventure in the making!





## **Attention Sr. Youth**

**Mark your calendars!**

**Meet at church @ 6pm on Friday, May 19.**

**We will be heading out for dinner locally.**

**Any restaurant suggestion will be entertained.**

**Please sign up on bulletin board.**

---



**Congratulations to two of our seniors  
graduating from North Schuylkill  
Class of 2017--Thomas Wolfgang and  
Zachary Hummel. May God bless all your  
future endeavors. It has been a pleasure  
watching you grow to be the adults you  
are today. Best of luck!!**

**From Tracy and Aaron**





		13	Andrew Charriez
		14	Dean Fetterolf
			Christine Klouser
		15	Ralph Johnson
			Robert Sweinhart
			Benjamin Towey
		16	Susan Edmonson
			Jeff Hostetter
			Beau Little
		17	Kelly Dziadosz
			Katie Kodack
		18	Eli Rothermel
		19	Barbara Anczarski
			Michael Hudock
			Steve Wilson
		21	Sophia Wessner
		22	Kaiden Dillman
			Derek Whritenour
		23	Chase Lower
		24	Alison Houser
		25	Cory Weikel Jr.
			Dustin Wolfgang
		27	Jason Brown
			Sarah Fetterolf
			Amy Wahalec
			Harold Wink
		28	Elmer Waldick
		30	Jean Cress
		31	Mark Stump
2	Dylan Klock		
3	Brian Wetzel		
4	Ann Marie Dillman		
	Tina Wolfe		
6	Bryonna Bolich		
7	Brittany Harhigh		
	Cory Lindenmuth		
	Gary Weinreich		
	Devan Fetterolf		
8	Charles Bendinsky		
	Nancy Cunningham		
	Taryn Wilson		
9	Mae Hughes		
	Joan Wolfgang		
10	Nina Britton		
	Katelyn Houser		
	Joshua Smith		
	Logan Walacavage		
11	Cole Johnson		
	George Kosmisky		
	Kevin Sweinhart		
12	Patricia Hepler		
	Jonas McGrath		



 **MAY**  
ANNIVERSARIES



- 05/04/85 Ted & Penny Shadle
- 05/07/83 Chip & Melanie Bendinsky
- 05/10/08 Robert & Jessica Nagle
- 05/14/05 Allen & Cheryl Klinger
- 05/16/14 Chad & Natasha Weikel
- 05/18/02 Todd & Kim Walacavage
- 05/19/73 Dale & Holly Bolich
- 05/20/12 Ryan & Jodi MacNamara
- 05/21/88 William & Tammy Harris
- 05/25/13 Sean & Nina Britton
- 05/27/93 Steve & Bernice Wilson
- 05/28/83 Ken & Tammy Dengler
- 05/28/83 Kenneth & Kimberly Zweizig
- 05/31/03 Daniel & Melissa Sisko

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



*In Memory of Evelyn Dobrowolski  
by Laray and Don Klinger*

*\$20.00*





# GERANIUMS

Day of Pentecost  
June 4, 2017

If you wish to order Geraniums for Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, please sign up on the bulletin board. The cost of each Geranium is \$2.75. All payments should be given to Cathy Troutman.

**Deadline to order is Sunday, May 14th.**



The Holy Spirit Descends on Pentecost



# Serving Our Community of Faith in May:



<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>May 7 Communion</b>	Becky Spencer	John Towey Mike Steinbauer Tracy Berner Becky Spencer	John Denchak Angie Berger Maryanne Wolfgang	Kylie Mallams	Carey Wahatec	Mark Vardell	Barb Stepanchick
<b>May 14</b>	Gail Marquardt			Dylan Buhay & Karleigh Economy	Heather Klinger	Beth Andrews	Suzan Ruzze
<b>May 21</b>	Barb Stepanchick			Ashley O'Connor & Ava Hubler	Brian O'Connor	Jane Pennypacker	Tracy Berner
<b>May 28</b>	Erik Tice			Nathan Berger & Nelson Berger	Charlie Sweinhart	Darlene Stank	Laray Klinger

# We Offer our Prayers to...



## PRAYER REQUESTS

*Please note that those experiencing a traumatic event are placed onto the Prayer List and will be kept on for one month. **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 you add someone to the prayer list on a Saturday evening or a Sunday morning during worship, please make sure you write it down and place a note on the prayer podium.*

**April 23** – Nelson Berger Sr. (A. Berger), Richard Landis, Carol Benatoni (G. Marquardt), Betty Bader (D. Zaharick), Edward Prostick (S. Tice), Joshua Parry (S. Tice)

**April 16** – Judy Stepulitis, Tasha Bishop (J. Pennypacker), Family of Evelyn Dobrowski-sister of Deb Price, Nelson Berger (A. Berger), Eileen Kurtz (K. Berner), Lou Harter (D. Zaharick), Jesse Deeter (L. Lute), Robert Beecher (L. Lute), Betty Bader (D. Zaharick), Leona Sheipe (G. Marquardt), Raymond Szumigraj (E. Chappell), Annette Purnell (T. Shilling), Walter “Skip” Young (J. Young), Joan Young Blevins (J. Young), Dean Fetterolf (B. Fetterolf), Judy Stepulitis, Gail Lorady, Heidi Walsh (T. Shilling), Helen Wolfgang (S. Wolfgang), Karyssa Wenrich (J. Clark), Elizabeth Brown (G. Marquardt), Barb Fetterolf, Harold Wink, Doris McGurl (L. Lute), Sandra Beecher (L. Lute)

**April 9** – Amy Kanezo (E. Stepulitis), Christine Lesisko (J. Denchak), Emerson Wolfgang, Loretta Cook

**April 2** – Family of Rob Monahan (G. Marquardt), Betty Waldick, Pete Waldick (L. Sterling), Hannah Lisowski, Family of Betty Neumeister, Linda Zerby (J. Young), Irene Morgan, Wendy Farnsworth (E. Chappell)



Praying  
Through  
the Directory

## 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 Dziadosz Family—Elinor, Kelly Jo, Trista,  
& Mark Stump

The Hepler Family—James & Patricia

The Neumeister Family—Terry, Cheryl & Kaitlyn



## **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, June 5, 2017**  
**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!

*The American Red Cross remains in the midst of a severe blood shortage and has issued an emergency call for blood and platelet donations. Ice, snow, and subfreezing temperatures in many states have led to blood drive cancellations.*

# 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.

## Fellowship Schedule

May—Evangelism/Outreach  
June—*Journey*  
July—Youth Group  
August—LCM/WELCA  
September—Property  
October—Stewardship  
November—Endowment



We will be collecting the following items for May:

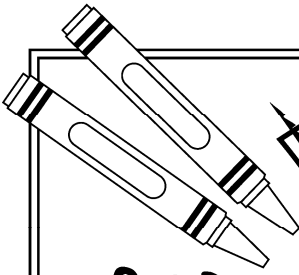
## Cereal & Oatmeal

Please place your donations in the shopping cart.

Thank You!

The next food distribution date is  
Thursday,  
May11, 2017





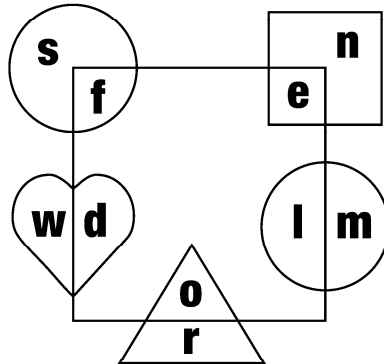
# PUZZLE

## GOD CARES FOR YOU!

Jesus tells his followers not to worry about their daily needs.  
 What example does he give of God's care for his creation?

**Directions:**

To complete Luke 12:27 (NIV), match the shapes under each blank with the letter shapes shown to the right.



“Consider how the wild \_\_\_\_\_  
 grow. They do not labor or spin.

Yet I tell you, not even \_\_\_\_\_  
 in all his splendor was \_\_\_\_\_  
 like one of these.” Luke 12:27, NIV

Answer: “Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.” Luke 12:27, NIV



## **Beginning ... and beginning again**

During the coming weeks, as you or loved ones celebrate graduation, remember it isn't a closed door, an end or a farewell. Instead, it's an entryway thresh-

old, a beginning, a hello — and one of many such opportunities that mark life.

“God wants us to know that life is a series of beginnings, not endings, just as graduations are not terminations but commencements,” writes Bernie Siegel. “Creation is an ongoing process, and when we create a perfect world where love and compassion are shared by all, suffering will cease.” Of course, we can “create a perfect world” only by letting God guide our actions. So, dear graduates, may you partner with God to meet suffering with love, kindness and compassion through all the new beginnings of your life!

## **2017 Sponsorships**

The 2017 sponsorship sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board.



*Altar Flowers*

We especially need sponsors for the  
Newsletters for September,  
October and November.  
Bulletins for all weeks in July;  
August 12 & 13,  
October 14 & 15 and 28 & 29,  
November 25 & 26,  
Dec 2 & 3, 9 & 10.





**Are you or someone you know  
graduating this year?**

Please tell us about it! This includes all graduates from high school, college, or any higher education. We would like to include information about all our graduates in the June newsletter. Also, on Sunday June 5th we will be honoring all graduates as part of our worship service with a special Blessing. Please plan to attend this special service.

Please have all information into the church office by May 15<sup>th</sup> for inclusion in the Newsletter and Bulletin.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

What school are you graduating from

\_\_\_\_\_

Future  
Plans \_\_\_\_\_





# WELCA

NEWS

## NEXT WELCA MEETING

The next meeting for WELCA will be held  
on May 3, at 7:00 p.m.



## Ladies Nite Out:

Our next outing will be Sunday, June 2, 2017—We will meet at the church to carpool at 3:30 p.m. The location has not yet been decided.

Join us—All ladies welcome!!



## THANK YOU!

The Women of ELCA Christ's United would like to thank everyone for your help in making our "Easter Candy" project such a success once again.

We made 621 pounds of candy, 833 packs of crackers, chocolate coated marshmallows and bagged individual eggs.

A Thrivent grant of \$250 to buy supplies was used to increase our profit. We also used some of our funds to help with CULC's annual Egg Hunt.

We had a great kitchen staff to make the eggs, great salespeople, and wonderful customers to complete our project.

Thanks to all!  
*WELCA*



# SPAGHETTI SUPPER

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2017

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Christ's United Lutheran Church

437 Airport Rd., Ashland, PA

[www.christsunited.org](http://www.christsunited.org)

Sponsored by: The Lutheran Church Men's Group

Adults: \$9.00

Children 6-12: \$4.00

Children under 6: FREE

Call the church at 570-875-1591 to get your tickets or see one of the Lutheran Church men members.

Eat in or Take out available.

(A limited amount of tickets will also be available at the door)

## Dinner Includes:

Spaghetti, Meatballs, Tossed Salad, Bread & Butter, Dessert, & Beverage



Sponsored by WELCA

BAKE SALE

# SPAGHETTI SUPPER

**SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2017**

**4:00-7:00PM**

**Sponsored by LCM**



Your donations to complete the menu for the Annual Christ's United Spaghetti Supper will be greatly appreciated. Please complete and return this sheet no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>. Sheets may be placed in the Spaghetti Supper donation box in the narthex or returned to the church office.

\_\_\_\_\_ lbs. #9 Spaghetti                      \_\_\_\_\_ Soda, any flavor  
\_\_\_\_\_ #10 can Spaghetti Sauce            \_\_\_\_\_ Lg. can Decaf  
\_\_\_\_\_ #10 can Tomato Paste                      Coffee  
\_\_\_\_\_ Cakes, Cookies, Brownies        \_\_\_\_\_ Cash donation

Donations should be placed on the center island counter in the kitchen. Please attach your name to your donation so that we can account for it.

All donations, with the exception of baked goods, MUST be in the church no later than **Sunday, April 30**, so that a final inventory can be completed and remaining items needed, purchased. Baked goods may be brought in on **Friday, May 5**, during regular office hours (9:30-3:00). Baked goods may also be brought in on Saturday, May 6, anytime after 8:00am.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



**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 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
Vacant	Youth Rep.	Sept. 2016
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

## TRANSITION PASTOR

Rev. Mark Galbraith  
360-325-2651  
pastormarkpg@gmail.com

## 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
<b>Director of Music</b> music@christsunited.org	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



Like us on  
**Facebook**

*Life Together at Christ's United*

