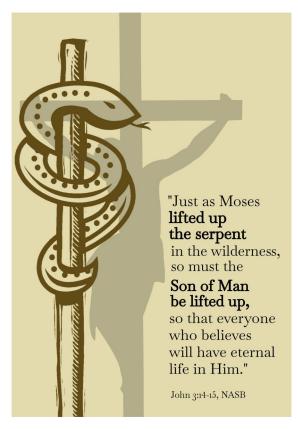
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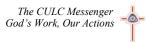


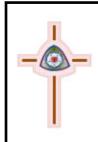
The CULC Messenger God's Work, Our Actions



Join us for Worship - Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School - October through May 1st & 3rd Sundays @ 10:45 a.m.







Christ's United Lutheran Church One God. One People. One Purpose. 437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA 17921 www.christsunited.org

(570) 875-1591

September 2024

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Status of Accounts as of July 31

Total amount in checking account: \$143,193.15.

Amount needed in offerings per month to meet our 2024 Annual Budget of \$203,168.00 is \$16,930.00.

Income for July was \$9,375.38.

Expenses for July were \$8,961.46,
resulting in a net income of \$413.92.
Benevolence for July was \$799.56.



CHURCH COUNCIL 2024

	Phone	Term Expires
Kay Berner	570-875-1035	Feb. 2026
President		
Ken Dengler	570-933-5144	Feb. 2025
Vice President		
Morgen Sweitzer	717-858-9824	Feb. 2026
Secretary		
Robert Carl	570-590-7281	Feb. 2025
Darlene Stank	570-875-1644	Feb. 2025
Barbara Stepanchick	570-875-1114	Feb. 2027
Janet Towey	270-205-3420	Feb. 2027
John Towey	270-205-2682	Feb. 2027
Michael Yoder	570-205-1701	Feb. 2026

Youth Representative - Maura Sweitzer

DESIGNATED PASTOR

Rev. Melinda Heppe 570-205-7450

STAFF

Parish Administrator	Debbie Hall	570-875-1591
office@christsunite	d.org	570-789-9722
Office Hours: Tuesday, Th	nursday & Friday 8:0	00 am- 4:00 pm

Director of Music	Jamie Johnson	570-590-1678
Treasurer	Ann Marie Dillman	570-449-2021
Indoor Custodian	Ann Ray Begis	570-590-2729
Outdoor Custodian	Dennis Wolfe	570-875-9085
Financial Secretary	Christine Brennan	570-875-0720





Christ's United Ministry Teams

Christian Education

Evangelism/Outreach

Lutheran Church Men (LCM)

Social Ministry

Stewardship

WELCA

Worship & Music

Multimedia Ministry

Safety and Security Team

Christ's United Committees

Auditing & Finance Committees

Endowment Fund

Mutual Ministry

Nominating

Personnel

Property

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 reexamination 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.

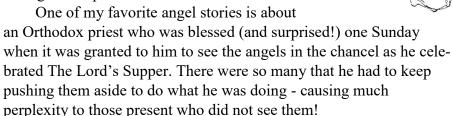


Christian symbol

STEEPLE — Steeples are a remnant of Gothic church architecture of the Middle Ages, marked by high open spaces and pointed arches that direct attention heavenward. Nowadays a steeple atop a church small or large serves the same function. Typically topped with a cross, it designates a Christian house of worship. Steeples sometimes double as bell towers, sending out a call to worship high above the surrounding land.

Message from Designated Pastor Mindy...

This year the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels falls on the last Sunday in September. Who knows what sort of glimpse you might see during worship.



But angels are full of surprises. They greet women at the tomb to announce the resurrection - but they also stood at the gate of the Garden of Eden to repel any attempts by humans to reenter after the Fall. They sang to shepherds - and they stood in front of Balaam's donkey to keep him from proceeding (look it up, it's a great story). Get out your concordance and look up "angels" sometime. So many stories and so strange!

So, perhaps the angels exist to keep our sense of mystery in tact. That is a good thing.

But try to tame them at you own risk. And please stay away from the "heaven needed another angel" theory. Heaven has plenty of angels, and scripture is clear that humans are humans, and angels are angels, and you don't change orders of being just because you die.

My second favorite non-Biblical angel story is about a member of one of my previous congregations who was blessed with a really special voice. As she aged, she started talking about how she was looking forward to dying and being an angel and singing forever. I gently but firmly gave her the word and handed her a list of relevant



scripture. She studied them, as I knew she would, and did more research besides. The next Sunday, she told me, "Its OK Pastor, I know now that I won't turn into an angels. But I talked to God, and He told me he'd let me sing with them."

Sing on, sisters and brothers! Join with the angels, and use the gifts you've been given.



Church Council Highlights From August

- A Christian Education meeting will be scheduled soon with the hope to start Sunday School in October.
- The Annual Church Picnic is scheduled for 8/25 with entertainment to be provided by Nick Chikotis.
- WELCA held their annual picnic and will be giving a temple talk about everything WELCA does.
- Highway cleanup is scheduled for 9/28/24. The rain date is 10/5/24. Meet at the church at 8 am.

September Council Contact of the month is Janet Towey.

The Council Contact of the Month is the "on call" member of council, the person to contact if you have any concerns (other than pastoral concerns), or need access to the building. If you need to contact Janet, she can be reached at 570-205-3420.



Pastor Mindy's Bible Memory Hint

I remember the order of the 4 Epistles after Corinthians in this way:

Galatians

Ephesians

Philippians and

<u>C</u>olossians



By remembering that it is good to

<u>G</u>o

Eat

Peaches and

Cream



American Red Cross Community Blood Drive Christ's United Lutheran Church

437 Airport Road (Gordon) Ashland, PA 17921

Monday, September 30, 2024 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Open to the public and walk-Ins are Welcome!



Saturday, September 28th

The fall highway clean up of 2024.

Meet at the church at 8am.

Gloves, an orange vest, and trash bags are provided. Rain date will be October 5th.

All help will be greatly appreciated.



Could you become a Licensed Lay Minister?

Have you ever asked yourself "What is God calling me to do right now in my life? How can I best serve God and my neighbor? What gifts do I have that I am not using?" If so, becoming a Licensed Lay Minister (LLM) could be the answer to these profound discerning questions. The church has always needed and benefited from lay leaders and the variety of gifts they bring to the church community.

God calls each and every one of us to use our particular set of skills and talents to serve our church community through loving service and by sharing the Good News we have in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Licensed Lay Ministers will be licensed by our Synod Bishop to perform certain duties within specific congregations or 6261 ministry communities. Duties may include: leading worship and preaching, leading Bible studies, visiting hospitals, the homebound, and others who request a visit. Also, potential for receiving authorization to perform Sacraments (holy communion, baptisms, funerals, and marriage ceremonies) in special circumstances.

If you would like to learn about becoming a Licensed Lay Minister, go to nepasynod.org and select Licensed Lay Ministry tab to learn more details. There is a LLM Handbook at Quik Links. You can also email Pr. Jira Albers, the LLM Director at llm@nepasynod.org (lower case LLM) with any questions you might have.





Member's Musings by Larry Wolfgang

I seem to be in a rut! Every time I write a note for the newsletter, we seem to be in a seasonal transition. I do enjoy every season, and look forward to each change. As I write this, in late August, the last few days the weather has seemed a bit like fall, although I am not really ready for summer to be over yet.

The new school year is about to start, and that has me thinking about the "classic" beginning of the year assignment, at least from Elementary School teachers: "What I did over the summer!" This year has been much more active and fun for Jean and me than last year was! We enjoyed several camping trips and had opportunities to enjoy God's beautiful handiwork! Bike rides through the parks, cooking over an open fire, even just sitting in our camper listening to the rain pounding of the roof! What a wonderful world we live in!

We enjoyed working in our garden, and growing a lot of delicious food! The tomatoes are ripening fast, and Jean has been making stewed tomatoes, sauce, and ketchup. I love fresh tomatoes from the garden, so I have been getting my fill. We have been sharing cherry tomatoes with friends who enjoy those little gems!

Some of our produce seemed to have come in much earlier than usual this year. Perhaps it was the hot weather, and the fact that Jean was watering nearly every day. We had heads of cauliflower in late June/early July this year. Red beets were ready to be picked in the same time frame, and they were so delicious! We had lettuce, spinach, radishes and other early crops as well. Our blueberry bushes seemed to produce a good crop, and we have berries in the freezer for use over the winter. Of course a couple of zucchini plants were supplying a great crop. There are still blossoms, so there may be more to come! God has provided abundantly, and we have been enjoying that bounty, as well as sharing with friends and neighbors.

Our neighbor has a fall Rambo apple tree, and he invited Jean to pick all the apples she wants. It is another great year for those apples. She has canned apple sauce and apple butter! She promised an apple pie, but I am still waiting for that! The one disappointment this year is that I

did not get a single pear off my Pappy Wagner's grafted apple/pear tree. They are usually delicious, but this year the squirrels were eating them in the tree, and then the deer cleaned up any that fell. Maybe next year! There is more produce to come. I see a stalk or two of brussels sprouts in the garden. The grapes are starting to get ripe! Dark blue, purple, and white varieties, all from vines my Pappy had growing 60 years ago or more!

The Bible has many passages about abundant crops and blessings from God. In Psalm 65, we read:

"You visit the Earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.... You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness."

It is good to give thanks to the Lord. We sing praises to your name, O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night. For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy!

I pray that your summer has been filled with abundant blessings!

Yours in Christ, Larry Wolfgang



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.

A copy of the Prayer List is available at worship services each Sunday. You also have an email sent to you each week with a list of those in need of your prayers. A phone chain notifies you of immediate needs. If there is an immediate need of prayer, please call the church office. In the event the office is closed, Gail Marquardt (570-554-1075 or 570-933-1737) should be called to begin the prayer chain. Please call the church office for more information or to become a Prayer Chain Participant.

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 Boyer Family - Louise
The Rickert Family - Linda
The Wolfgang Family - Dustin & Madelyn



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

In Honor of Rhonda Carl & Zach Ridall by:
Anna Neumeister

To Christ's Cupboard

In Memory of Lois Andrews by:
Dorothy & Terry Kessler
Don & Laray Klinger
Ron & Beth Andrews
Donna & Ron Wallace







Young at heart

I like to walk with Grandpa and Grandma, Their steps are short like mine. They don't say, "Now hurry up." They always take their time.

I like to walk with Grandpa and Grandma, Their eyes see things like mine do ... Wee pebbles bright, a funny cloud, Half-hidden drops of dew.

Most people have to hurry, They do not stop and see. I'm glad that God made Grandpa and Grandma Unrushed and young like me.

—Author unknown

September

Puzzle!

Find and circle all the words horizontally. Then, starting on the top line and moving across from left to right, read John 6:35 (NIV). Put the words in order on the spaces below to complete the Bible verse.

JOHN 6:35

WORD LIST

am and be believes bread comes \leftthreetimes in whoever hungry go life me me never to never the the of will will thirsty whoever

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D	W	Н	0	Е	٧	Ε	R	Е	F	G	Н	I	J	K	L	М	Ν	0
В	С	D	F	С	0	М	Е	S	G	Н	1	J	Т	0	K	L	М	Е
Ν	W	1	L	L	0	Ρ	Q	R	S	Т	U	Ν	Е	٧	Ε	R	٧	W
z	Υ	Z	В	С	Α	G	0	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	1	J	K	L
М	Н	U	Ν	G	R	Υ	Ν	Α	Ν	D	0	Ρ	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧
W	X	Υ	Z	Α	В	С	D	Ε	F	G	Н	W	Н	0	E	٧	Ε	R
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		-John 6:35, NI	V

Answer: "I amthe bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty: John 6:35, NIV

We Offer our Prayers to...

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.** If you would like someone added, please call the office or write their name on the Prayer Request sheet found on the Prayer Podium. **Please provide updates to the office in order that the list is always current.**

August 25 – Leroy Berner (A. Fertig)
Cheryl Varndell (M. Varndell)
Bev Wolfgang (K. Berner)
Beverly Kane (D. Hall)

August 18 – Terry Shilling (M. Sweitzer)
Angie Ratzlaff
Sarah Klinger
Joan Catizone

August 11 – Kammie Towey (J. Towey) Amanda Walters (J. Towey)

August 4 – Morgen Sweitzer (T. Shilling) Family of Brian Brotsman (K. Dengler)

Please continue to pray for:

Corrine & Josh Coward, Jim Gruber, Annette Houser, Jack Houser, Jim Houser Sr., Jim Houser Jr., Jenny Kosmisky, Barbara Liem, Gail Lorady, Pearl & Carl Lute, Dianna Monaghan, Jane Pennypacker, Heidi Walsh, Kayla Werner

Remember our Home-bound:

Leroy Berner, Diane Heidlebaugh, Jim Hepler, Nancy Kessler, Gail Marquardt, Anna Neumeister, Richard Shoup, Karen Smith, Linda Zerby

And Friends:

Michele & Amber Adams, Michelle Ambrose, Robert Beecher, Donald Bulla, Ed Emerich, Joe Ferraro Jr., Harry Fishburn, Bob Griffiths, Cathy Groody, Dan Grow, Ann Helwig, Minah Horan, Tracy Maurer, Lisa Metzinger, Angie Romberger, Bailey Romberger, Samantha Schifano, Elizabeth Smith & family, Linda (Herb) Szuler (T. Wolfe), Elaine Stone, Sarah (Herb) Shanks (T. Wolfe), Joe Towey, Rose Varndell, Karyssa Wenrich







2 Faith Rickert 14 Penny Sha 3 Joyce Mallams 16 Oliver Mc Heather Young 17 Tina Deng	Cormick
4 Frank Dziczek 5 Vivian Brown 17 Tina Deng 18 Traci Smit	•
Keri Johnson Cathy Tro	
6 Donna Lassen	
Carolynn Long 20 Ted Ambr	
Pastor Mindy Heppe Holly Boli	
8 David Becker Renee' Wa	
Kay Berner Kenneth Marlow 22 Louise Gro	egis
Mark Sharn Frank Mat	
0 Katie Knorr 25 Ava Hellia	
Terry Shilling 24 Annette H	
Hailey Sisko Joshua Ka David Wa	
Cheryl Varndell Tarmer Welsonyege 25 Nelson Be	
Tanner Walacavage Jocelyn Ju	
Doug Dean Anne Pirie	
10 Josie Economy Tyler Wol	
Snawn Romberger 26 Susan Men	
Bryon Rusinko 27 Chelsea St 11 Ken Dengler	utzman
11 Ken Dengler James Houser 28 John S. W	olfgang
Abagail Zweizig 30 Beth Beck	er
13 Rachelle Demko RICK FIIIZ	
Alanni Miller Bernice W	
Alailli Willici	ilson



Choir Practice Resumes Thursday, August 29 6:30 p.m.

Come out and join the choir as we begin rehearsing for another season of leading worship and providing special music. Everyone is welcome!



CHICKEN BBQ

CHRIST'S UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

437 Airport Road, Ashland (570) 875-1591

Saturday, September 21, 2024 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

COST \$12.00 (checks payable to LCM)

~Eat in or Take Out~

MENU

1/2 Barbecued Chicken, Baked Potato, Corn Dinner Roll & Butter, Dessert, Beverage

Limited tickets will be sold at the door.

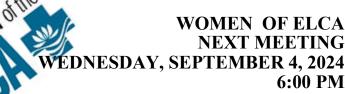
Buy your tickets from LCM members, or call the Church Office.

Donations needed:

Your donations to complete the menu for the Annual Chicken Barbecue will be greatly appreciated. Please complete and return this sheet no later than **September 8**th. The sheet may be placed in the Chicken Barbecue Donation Box in the narthex or returned to the Church Office.

One #10 can whole kernel corn
Cakes
12 pack soda (any brand/flavor)
24 Pack Bottled Water
20 lb. bag of charcoal
Cash

Donations may be placed on the center island kitchen counter. Please attach your name to your donation so we can account for it. All donations except the baked goods must be in the church no later than September 15th so a final inventory can be taken and the remaining items may be purchased. Baked goods may be brought on Friday, September 20 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or Saturday morning after 9:00 a.m. Your support is greatly appreciated!



All women of CULC are invited.



KNAUGHTY KNOTTERS will resume knotting quilts for Lutheran World Relief on Tuesday mornings (beginning September 17th) at 9:00 am. No sewing experience is required, just be able to tie a knot. For more information contact Donna Wallace.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES



"Learning Series - Discovering Jesus in the Old Testament"

Led by Erik Tice Join us! September 8, 15 & 29 as we look at a creative devotional study experience titled "Discovering Jesus in the Old Testament".

In September we begin with Genesis Chapter 3, "Jesus the Serpent Crusher". **ALL are WELCOME!**

(We will meet in the library immediately following worship.)

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL classes will begin in October and will be held on the first and third Sundays of each month following worship.

All children are welcome and encouraged to attend.

2024-2025 CONFIRMATION CLASS

Taught by Mark Varndell for students in 7th & 8th grade or older who have not yet been Confirmed will begin in September. Classes will be held Sunday mornings following worship. Please contact the church office and let us know you will be attending.





09/10/05	Kenneth & Ann Welker
09/12/15	Andrew & Kelsey Blyler
09/16/72	Terry & Dorothy Kessler
09/21/13	Steven & Rachelle Demko
09/22/90	Terry & Cheryl Neumeister
09/24/16	Nicholas & Kayla Troutman
09/25/76	Robert & Carla Mae Carl
09/26/92	Brian & Faith Rickert
09/26/97	Russell & Carrie Hummel
09/27/08	Robert & Rose Pennypacker

2024 Sponsorships



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

Altar Flowers \$35.00*
Worship Bulletins \$15.00
Special service bulletins \$10.00
Sanctuary Candle \$10.00
Children's Bulletins \$10.00
Monthly Newsletters \$40.00

For Altar Flowers:

Please sign up by the bulletin board for week(s) you would like to sponsor Altar Flowers and call "Flowers From the Heart" 570-339-2519 to place order. **Cost is \$35.00.**

Please place order and make payment directly to the florist.

All other sponsorships, please make payable to CULC and give to Debbie in the Church Office.



Do you LOVE Gardening?

The Garden Club will be hosting a Plant Exchange! Sunday, September 8 - Sunday, September 29 Anyone who gardens knows how plants multiply rapidly. Do you have something you can divide and bring in to share with others? Now is the perfect time to dig up and divide them. Bring in your: Iris bulbs, Peony tubers, Hostas, and other perennials.



Also, if you have gladiolas, calla lily bulbs, seeds or other items to share - Bring them also.

All are welcome to take what is on the table to plant at home in your garden for beautiful blooms next year!



Many thanks to everyone who works behind the scenes to make all our events and functions possible here at CULC: As little as changing a light bulb, but as much as cleaning up the kitchen,

setting up for / cleaning up after dinners, preparations for food pantry distribution, prepping the pavilion for picnics, etc...

These events wouldn't be possible if folks didn't put in the hours of "getting ready" before each one. Many thanks to you all!!





ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL GRADU-ATES: ARE YOU ATTENDING POST-

SECONDARY EDUCATIONPROGRAMS (college, university, trade school, nursing/medical school, business school, ENTERING THE MILITARY SERVICE, OR ARE STARTING A JOB?

The Endowment Fund Committee is accepting requests for the 2024 scholarships of \$500 for full time students/military service and \$100 for employed graduates.

ADULT MEMBERS WHO HAVE ENROLLED IN POST SECONDARY PROGRAMS ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP.

Active members of the congregation are eligible to receive a scholarship by submitting a letter of request by OCTOBER 1st. to a committee member: Terry Ambrose, Carla Mae Carl, Becky Spencer, Terry Shilling, or Jo-Ann Young.

The letter should include: Your name and address, name of the school attending, or military branch, or employer, your status (freshman, senior, etc), field of study/certification or degree, and projected time of graduation.

Please be advised, you must be an ACTIVE MEMBER of the congregation and be present on December 1st when scholarships are given out during the worship service.



Pray for Our College Students

SOCIAL MINISTRY



Fellowship Hour will be held after worship on only the first Sunday of each month September through May. See schedule below for your committee's turn to serve. Please sign up on the bulletin board to help.

~ 2024 ~ September—Choir/

Worship & Music / LCM

October—Church Council

November - Social Ministry

December - Evangelism/

Endowment/Stewardship



We will be collecting the following items for September:

Boxed Potatoes & Canned **Sweet Potatoes**

Please place your donations in the shopping cart.

Thank You!

The next food distribution date is Thursday

September 12, 2024

Give Electronically

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

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.





Serving Our Community of Faith in September:

Assistants		
Serne Ancz ie Be	Vallace b Kay Berner AM Barb Anczarski Fowey so Angie Berger	Donna Wallace b Allen Johnson c/d John Towey so Angie Be
B S S	Vivian Brown AM Deb Price Becky Spencer	Vivian B Deb Becky

Pastor Mindy Heppe

September 15

September 22

Pastor Ben Scott

September

Pastor Mindy Heppe

September 29 Michael & All Angels



Pastor Mindy Heppe

September 1

Date



September 2024



	W Dark	•				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7
9:30 Worship w/Holy Communion 10:30 Social Hour	LABOR DAY		10:30 Seniors 6:00 WELCA	6:30 Choir Practice		
8 Grandparents Day	9	10	11	12 -G-Christ's Cupboard	13	14
9:30 Worship 10:45 Learning Series - "Discovering Jesus in the Old Testament"	7:00 P.M. Church Council		10:30 Seniors PATRIOT DAY	10:00 – 11:30 Christ's Cupboard 6:30 Choir Practice	3:00-8:00 Vickie's Angel Walk Basket Shop & Drop	9:00-3:00Vickie's Angel Walk/Basket Raffle
15 Grandparents	BAG	17	18	19	20	21
9:30 Worship 10:45 Learning Series - "Discovering Jesus in the Old Testament"		9:00 Knaughty Knotters resumes	10:30 Seniors	6:30 Choir Practice		Chicken Barbecue 3 - 6 p.m.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:30 Worship / Trial Sermon 10:30 Meet & Greet w/Candidate		9:00 Knaughty Knotters	8:30 Newsletter Assembly 10:30 Seniors	6:30 Choir Practice		8:00 Highway Clean-Up ADOPT-A- HIGHWAY
29 Michael & All Angels	30					
9:30 Worship w/Holy Communion & First Responder Recognition 10:45 Learning Series - "Discovering Jesus"	Blood 1:00-6:00 Red Cross Blood Drive 6:00 Social Ministry				The C God's W	ULC Messenger ork, Our Actions