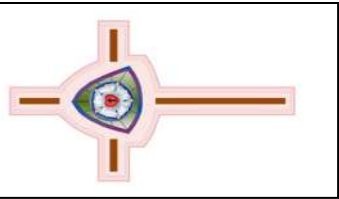


Christ's United Lutheran Church
437 Airport Road
Ashland, PA 17921
www.christsunited.org

Mailed 2/23/22

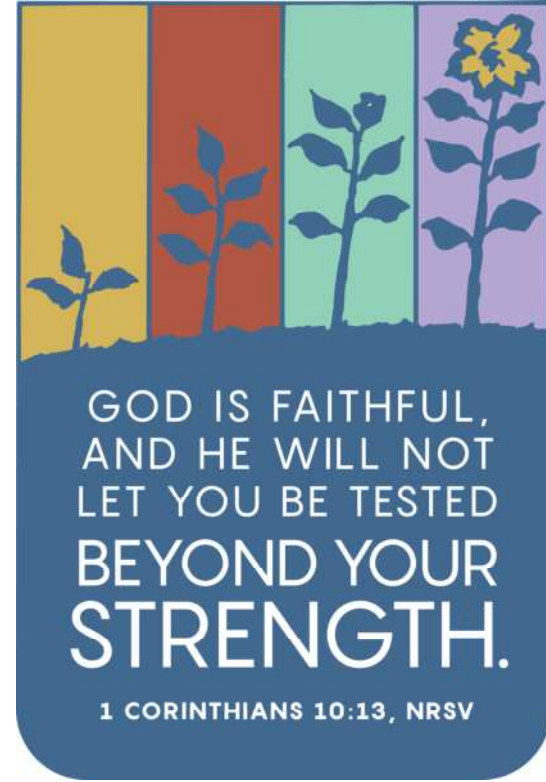


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2022
MARCH



The CULC Messenger
God's Work,
Our Actions



Join us for *Worship*
Saturday at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School - 10:45 a.m.



The CULC Messenger
God's Work, Our Actions





Christ's United Lutheran Church

One God. One People. One Purpose.

437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA 17921

www.christsunited.org

(570) 875-1591

March 2022

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CHURCH COUNCIL 2022

	Phone	Term Expires
John Denchak	570-875-4970	Feb. 2023
Vivian Brown	717-275-5277	Feb. 2023
Robert Cal	570-874-2381	Feb. 2025
Ken Dengler	570-449-2193	Feb. 2025
Angie Berger	570-875-3598	Feb. 2023
Debra Price	570-875-4272	Feb. 2024
Darlene Stank	570-875-1114	Feb. 2025
Jacob Tice	570-875-2681	Feb. 2024
Dennis Wolfe	570-875-9085	Feb. 2024

Youth Representative - Vacant

DESIGNATED PASTOR

Reverend Dana Heckman-Beil

570-875-0792

STAFF

Parish Administrator	Debbie Hall	570-875-1591
	office@christsunited.org	570-789-9722
	Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-3:00	
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	Bill Price	570-875-4272

Status of Accounts as of January 31

Balance in Checking Account \$68,900.38.

Amount needed in offerings per month to meet our 2022 Annual Budget of \$185,997.00 is \$15,499.75

January income was \$13,518.64.

Expenses for January were \$10,760.70, resulting in a gain of \$2,757.94.

Benevolence Gifts through January was \$990.00 (7% of our Benevolence goal of \$15,000.00 for 2022)



2



The CULC Messenger
God's Work, Our Actions



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

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.



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Historically, Lent developed as a season of preparation for Holy Baptism. Liturgically and theologically, Lent is the Church's refocus on the significance of Holy Baptism. The daily drowning of the old Adam in us through contrition and repentance, which characterizes the entire Christian life of discipleship, is deliberately intensified during Lent as a renewal of faith and life in Christ. This repentance is always the divine work of the Holy Spirit through the Law and the Gospel. The Law crucifies the old Adam, and the Gospel raises up the new man in us. Thus, a Lenten focus on the cross and Passion of the Lord Jesus Christ is not aimed at an emotional response but is a pointed proclamation and confession of the Law and the Gospel, a preaching of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Lent is properly penitential when it brings the cross to sinners and sinners to the cross of Christ as the fountain and source of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

I hope and pray that during this time of Lent, you will join us for worship on Wednesday evenings beginning March 2 with our Ash Wednesday service. It is a time for reflection, repentance, and a time to focus on the ultimate sacrifice of Christ. Throughout the season of Lent, we will come together each week as we look at the Gospel of John and focus on the Witnesses to Christ: People from His Passion. Lois Sterling will lead us in singing and worship using the Holden Evening Prayer service.

— continued on page 4

Christian symbol



In Scripture, this number often indicates a time of trial or testing, or simply marks significance. It rained 40 days and nights during the Flood. Israel wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. Jesus fasted for 40 days and was with the disciples for 40 days between his resurrection and ascension. The Christian church has long observed 40



Renew your commitment to Christ and strengthen your faith in Him during Lent. Come, pray, sing, and hear God's wonderful story of sacrifice. Come, start a new life in Him. Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

This is a time for a new beginning! Won't you join us?

Yours in Christ,

Erik Tice

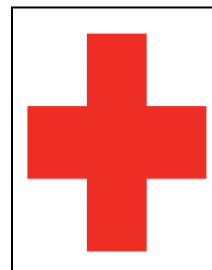


A prayer for Lent

This year, Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, falls on March 2. During worship services that day, pastors in many Christian churches dip a finger in ashes (often made by burning branches from the previous Palm Sunday) and make a cross on parishioners' foreheads.

Why ashes? Traditionally, they're a sign of mourning, humiliation and penitence. Ashes also represent the frailty and temporary nature of human life ("You are dust, and to dust you shall return," Genesis 3:19). Christians are pained because our sins led to Jesus' death. With repentant hearts, we begin the season of Lent, knowing that it leads to Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday.

For Ash Wednesday — and throughout the 40 days of Lent — ponder this prayer from an Italian sacramentary, or liturgical

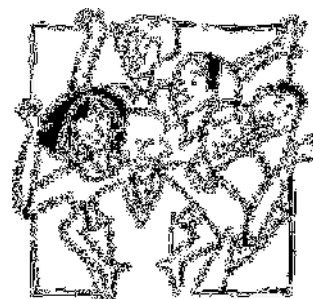


American Red Cross Community Blood Drive Christ's United Lutheran Church

437 Airport Road (Gordon)
Ashland, PA 17921

Monday, April 4, 2022
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.



CULC YOUTH GROUP NEWS

CULC YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES FOR 2022
ALL ARE WELCOME - BRING A FRIEND
PARENT/GUARDIAN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

March - Laser tag and Roller Skating - Date to be determined

April 9th - Pizza party and Easter Egg coloring at the church.

May - Mother's Day, Father's Day crafts along with Tie dye shirts
and snacks at the church - Date to be determined.

June - Knoebels and Mini Golf - Date to be determined

July - Hot dog and S'mores at Tice's - Date to be determined.

***Please help with spring Highway Clean-up if you can.**

A SEASON OF HOPE

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 25 LWR Personal Care Kits during Lent.

HERE'S OUR COLLECTION SCHEDULE:

MARCH 6

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



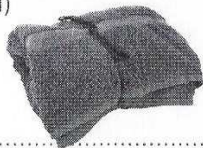
MARCH 20

Combs sturdy combs (no fine teeth or Picks)



MARCH 13

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



MARCH 27

Nail Clippers (metal, attached file optional)



APRIL 3

Bars of Soap



A Thrivent Action Team grant is being received to support the project as well as purchase quilt batting.

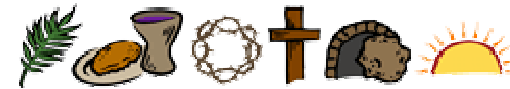
Donna Wallace

For more information contact _____



Church Council Highlights from December

- Evangelism/Endowment/Stewardship will be in charge of Social Hour on 3/6 and a sign-up sheet has been placed on the bulletin board.
- Erik Tice will lead the 6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service on April 17, 2022.
- Cathy Troutman will set up and help to serve Communion for the Saturday Evening Services.
- A decision on whether or not to hold the annual Easter Breakfast will be made at the LCM meeting on February 20th.
- Barb Stepanchick will be setting up a planning meeting shortly for the Easter Egg Hunt.



March Council Contact of the month is Angie Berger

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 Angie,



Council Member
of the Month



We Offer our Prayers to...



February 20 – Eric & Angel
Tracy Maurer (C. Neumeister)
Bill Klementovich (J. Towey)
Families of Edward Wallace (D. Wallace)
James Neumeister (P. Lute)
Charlie Snyder (B. Spencer)
Micah Hepler
Lynn Kimble (E. Werner)

February 13 – Richard Shoup (H. Brown)
Jackie (A. Berger)
Pastor Mark Mantz (E. Tice)
Irene Morgan (B. Andrews)
Jim Maurer (P. Dziczek)
Frank Carr (T. Shilling)

February 6 – Gail Lorady (D. Wallace)
Tracy
Family of Bill Oshman

January 30 - Rick & Heidi Walsh

Please continue to pray for: Corrine & Josh Coward, Jim Gruber, Jim Hepler (P. Hepler), Tara Houser, Jennifer Koch, Bobby Liem (B. Liem), Gail Lorady, Carl (Mickey) Lute, Dianna Monaghan (P. Lute), Cheryl Varndell, Leo Young, Linda Zerby Michelle Ambrose, Robert Beecher, Elizabeth Brown & family, Donald Bulla, Arlene Chillis (J. Pennypacker), Edward Emerich (L. Martin), Joe Ferraro Jr., Harry Fishburn (G. Marquardt), Bob Griffiths (I. Morgan), Dan Grow, Minah Horan, Pastor Bob & Donna Hughes (Grubers), Ron James (V. Brown), Debbie Moyer (C. Carl), Lou Ann Olson (T. Shilling), Judy Trautman (G. Marquardt), Karyssa Wenrich

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 McAndrew Family - Brian
The Towey Family - John & Janet
The Wolfgang Family - John & Maryann, Thomas, Tyler

Women of Christ's United Lutheran Church Easter Candy

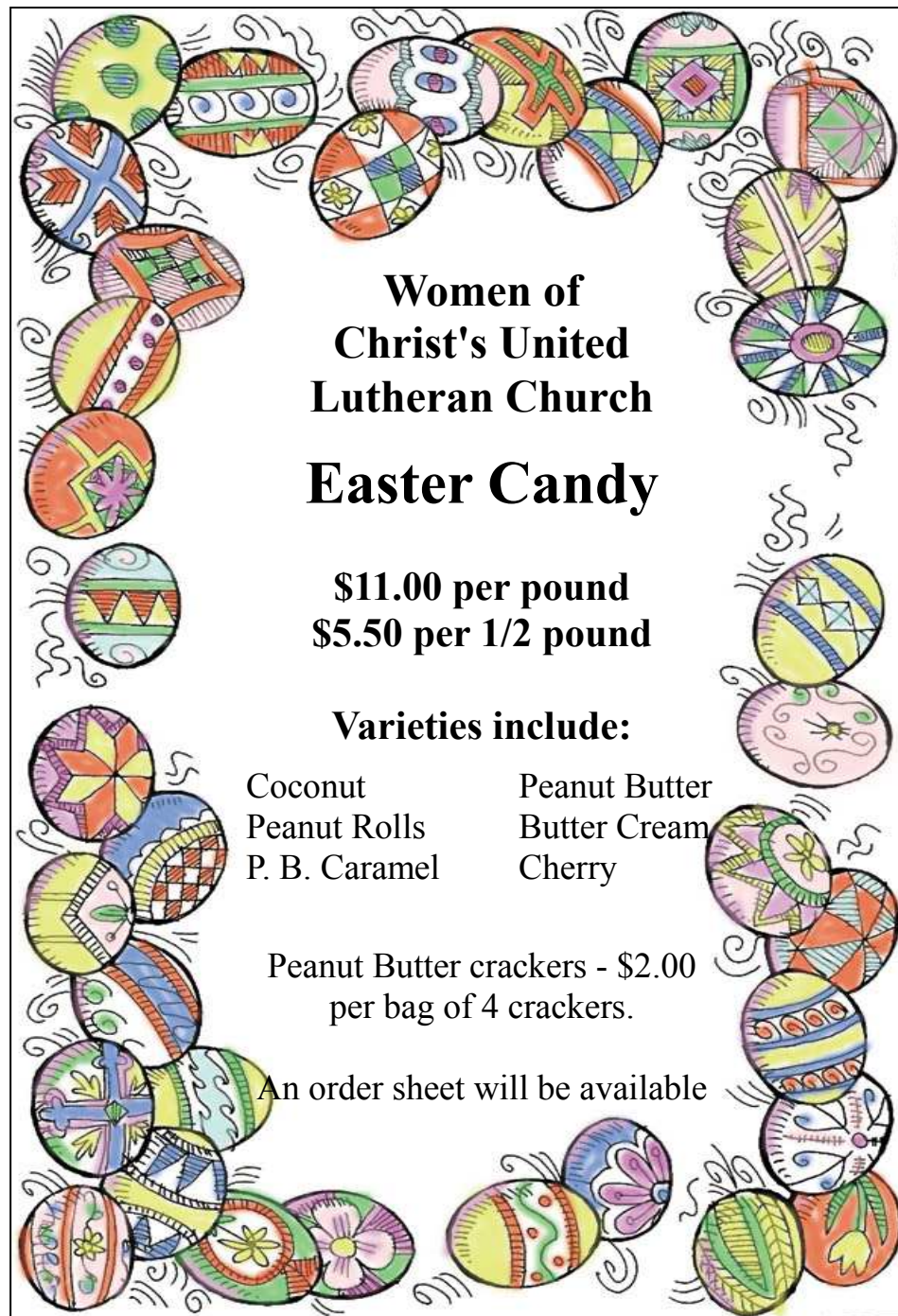
\$11.00 per pound
\$5.50 per 1/2 pound

Varieties include:

Coconut	Peanut Butter
Peanut Rolls	Butter Cream
P. B. Caramel	Cherry

Peanut Butter crackers - \$2.00
per bag of 4 crackers.

An order sheet will be available



Women of the ELCA

The next Women of ELCA Meeting
will be May 4th at 6:00 pm.
(No meeting are held in March or April)

Ladies Night Out



Sunday, March 6. We will be leaving the church parking lot at 3:30 p.m. and heading to the Dutch Kitchen in Frackville.

Please Sign up on bulletin board to attend so reservations and carpooling can

Don't forget to turn your clocks **ahead one hour** before going to



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 weekend. You may also have an email sent to you on Fridays with a list of those in need of your prayers. A phone chain notifies you of



Complete serenity

Many of us have heard the first part of what's called "The Serenity Prayer," attributed to theologian Reinhold Niebuhr. But we would do well to learn the rest of it as well:



"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference, living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; taking this world as it is and not as I would have it; trusting that you will make all things right if I surrender to your will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever



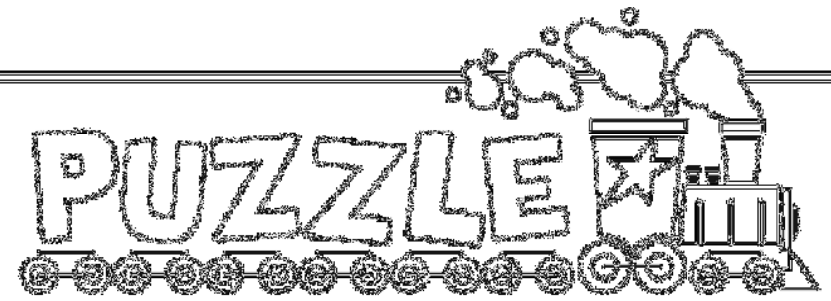


- 2 Lynn Anczarski
- 3 Katie Brown
- Allen Pennypacker
- 5 Melanie Weikel
- 6 Barbara Klauger
- 7 Jessie Harris
- Alisia Knorr
- Donald Smith Jr.
- 8 Mark Klinger
- Christopher Monaghan
- 9 Dennis Cunningham
- 10 Janet Quirk
- 12 Gregg Sterling
- Sierra Wagner
- Mackenzie Miller

- 16 William Waldick
- 17 Kenneth Welker
- 18 Michael Miller
- 19 Jane Pennypacker
- Grantham Sterling
- 20 Hayden Marlow
- 21 Wendy Harhigh
- Mark Hepler
- Rickey Knorr
- 22 Susan Ruzze
- 23 Brian McAndrew
- Jacob Wetzel
- 24 David Pennypacker
- 26 Wyatt Hepler
- 27 Zachary Huber
- 28 Robert Green
- Amanda Houser
- Maynard Merwine
- Chase Demko
- 29 Nathan Berger
- Tiffany Cramer



- 03/21/81 Rickey & Brenda Knorr
- 03/21/74 Larry & Jean Wolfgang

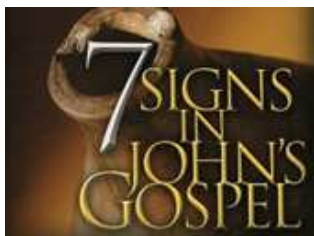


A wanderous washing

David's prayer of repentance reveals a desire to be cleansed of his sin.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the left. Then match them with the correct phrase from Psalm 51 (50) on the right.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|--|
| ETHERE _____ | _____ | cut my transgressions (v. 1) |
| HEAVY _____ | _____ | wash away all my iniquity (v. 2) |
| FREEZE _____ | _____ | me with hyssop, and I will be clean (v. 7) |
| WHERE _____ | _____ | me, and I will be whiter than snow (v. 7) |
| TLBO _____ | _____ | your face from my sins (v. 8) |
| CH-E _____ | _____ | out all my iniquity (v. 8) |
| INTRS _____ | _____ | in me a pure heart (v. 10) |
| LHSCAE _____ | _____ | a merciful spirit within me (v. 10) |
| LBTQ _____ | _____ | to me the joy of your salvation (v. 12) |
| WISA _____ | _____ | me a willing spirit, to sustain me (v. 12) |



Adult Sunday School/Bible Study - The Seven Signs

Christ's seven signs from the Gospel of John take us on a journey beginning with a wedding feast in Cana and ending with the resurrection of Lazarus. Throughout this trip, we will see the incredible events of water turned into wine, a sick boy restored, a lame man brought to his feet, thousands fed, a storm silenced, a blind man gaining sight, and a dead man coming forth from his tomb. The signs prepare us for the promises linked to our Savior's passion, death, and resurrection.

Individually, each sign points to Christ's identity—He is God incarnate. Collectively, the signs prove that Jesus is the Son of God who wields all power in heaven and on earth. Progressively, the signs move forward in intensity and end with a great crescendo—from water and wine to Christ's defeat of death.

Sunday, March 13 - Feeding the five thousand (John 6:5–14)

Sunday, March 20 - Walking on water (John 6:16–21)

Sunday, March 27 - Healing the man born blind (John 9)

Sunday, April 3 - Raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1–45)

Are you a member of Thrivent? Have you designated your 2021 Choice Dollars?

Your participation makes the difference.

Your participation in the Thrivent Choice® program helps Thrivent Financial distribute these funds effectively. Because of you and other members, Thrivent Financial is able to make a difference every day, across the country. Giving back is important to Thrivent Financial because we know it's important to you.

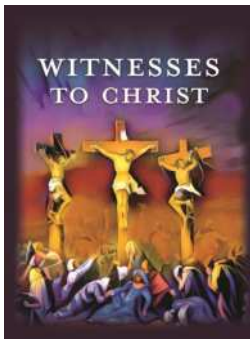
How to Direct Choice Dollars Online

1. Visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice.
2. Click Direct Choice Dollars.
3. Log in by entering your User ID and password. (If you haven't yet registered on thrivent.com, click Register for account access).
4. Choose the organization to which you want to direct Choice Dollars:
 - a. To direct to a previous organization:
 - Click Direct Now next to the organization's name, or
 - Click on the View activity history link, scroll down and click on the name of the desired organization.
 - b. To direct to a new organization, enter keyword(s) like organization name, ZIP code, cause, etc. Click Search.
5. Choose Direct All or enter a specific number and click Direct Now. Follow the prompts on the confirmation page to direct Choice Dollars.



**Don't forget to direct
Choice Dollars®**





*WITNESSES TO CHRIST:
PEOPLE FROM HIS PASSION*

John tells us why he wrote his Gospel: “Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name” (John 20:30–31). Life! When we believe that Jesus is the Christ, God gives us life—abundant life, forgiven life, and eternal life.

Historically, the Fourth Gospel is likened to an eagle—an image that suggests John soars to heights of glory and grandeur. That’s because the evangelist paints a stunning portrait of Jesus, who is the bread of life, the resurrection and the life, and the way, the truth, and the life. Life in Jesus. That’s God’s gift to you!

This Lent, our life in Christ will be strengthened as we hear the witness of those in John’s Gospel who journeyed to the cross. Along the way, we’ll meet villains, such as Barabbas and Pontius Pilate, as well as sinners, such as Peter (who denied Jesus *three* times), Mary Magdalene (who was possessed by *seven* demons), and Judas Iscariot (who betrayed Jesus for *thirty* pieces of silver).

Please join us for worship as we hear the witness of these people in John’s Gospel:

Ash Wednesday: *John the Baptist*, John 1:29–34

Midweek of Lent 1: *Mary, the Sister of Lazarus and Martha*, John 12:1–11

Midweek of Lent 2: *Malchus*, John 18:1–11

Midweek of Lent 3: *Peter*, John 18:12–27



Serving Our Community of Faith in March:

2022 Sponsorships

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



- Altar Flowers \$35.00*
- Palms for Palm Sunday \$12.00
- Worship Bulletins \$15.00
- Special service bulletins \$10.00
- Sanctuary Candle \$10.00
- Children’s Bulletins \$10.00

***2022 Altar Flowers Procedure:**

Please sign up for week(s) you would like to sponsor

Altar Flowers and call
“Flowers From the Heart”

570-339-2519

to place order.

Cost is now \$35.00.

Please place order and make payment directly to the florist.

Give Electronically

Checking/Savings Credit/Debit Card
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.



SOCIAL MINISTRY



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

~ 2022 ~

- March** - Evangelism/Endowment/Stewardship
- April** - Social Ministry
- May** - WELCA

June/July/August - No Social Hour

September - Choir/Worship & Music/LCM

October - Church Council

November - Evangelism/Endowment/Stewardship

December - Social Ministry



We will be collecting the following items for March:

Spaghetti & Sauce

Please place your donations in the shopping cart.

Thank You!

The next food distribution date is Thursday



Date	Supply Pastor/ Worship Leader	Congregational Rep/ Announcements	Lector	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Acolyte(s)	Crucifer
March 2 Ash Wed	Erik Tice		Becky Spencer		Kay Berner - AM Becky Spencer Beth Andrews	Joey McAndrew	Bianca McAndrew
March 6	Rev. William Zimmerman	Jacob Tice	Barb Stepanchick	Aaron Stepanchick b Barb Stepanchick b Allen Johnson c/d Dennis Wolfe so Cheryl Varndell g	Erik Tice AM Angie Berger Dennis Wolfe	Amy Johnson	Cole Johnson
March 9 Mid-Week	Erik Tice/ Lois Sterling		Jacob Tice				
March 13	Larry Wolfgang		Sally Tice			David Cunningham	
March 16 Mid-Week	Erik Tice/ Lois Sterling		Mark Varndell				
March 20	Rev. William Zimmerman	Jacob Tice	John Towey			Kaitlyn Werner	
March 23 Mid-Week	Erik Tice/ Lois Sterling		Donna Wallace				
March 27	John Denchak		Barb Anczarski			Desiree Dengler	
March 30 Mid-Week	Erik Tice/ Lois Sterling		Beth Andrews				



March 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30 Easter Egg Hunt Planning Meeting	2 Ash Wednesday 10:00 Seniors 7:00 Worship w / Holy Communion 8:00 Choir Practice	3	4	5 6:00 Worship w / Holy Communion
6 1st Sunday in Lent 9:30 Worship W / Holy Communion 10:30 Fellowship Hour 10:45 Sunday School & Adult Sunday School 3:30 Ladies Night Out	7 7:00 Church Council	8 Int'l. Women's Day	9 10:00 Seniors 7:00 Lenten Worship Svc. 8:00 Choir Practice	10 10:00 – 11:30 Christ's Cupboard distribution	11	12 6:00 Worship
13 Daylight Saving Begins 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School & Adult Sunday School 	14	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 10:00 Seniors 7:00 Lenten Worship Svc. 8:00 Choir Practice	17 Saint Patrick's Day 	18	19 6:00 Worship
20 3rd Sunday in Lent Start of Spring 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School & Adult Sunday School	21	22	23 10:00 Seniors 7:00 Lenten Worship Svc. 8:00 Choir Practice	24	25	26 Earth Hour 6:00 Worship
27 4th Sunday in Lent 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School & Adult Sunday School	28 7:00 Social Ministry Meeting	29	30 8:30 Newsletter Assembly 10:00 Seniors 7:00 Lenten Worship Svc. 8:00 Choir Practice	31		