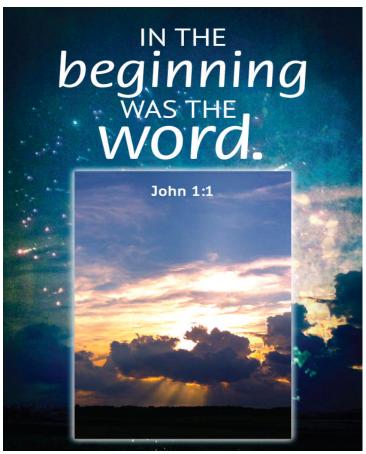
# Life Together at Christ's United Lutheran Church





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





# Christ's United Lutheran Church

437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA 17921

www.christsunited.org (570) 875-1591

Volume 2, Issue 1 January 2014

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The January Newsletter is sponsored in Memory of George and Martha Bolich by their daughter Connie Welker.



# Status of Accounts as of November 30

November income was \$11,531.91

Benevolence Gifts......\$16,507.50 (80% of our Benevolence goal of \$20,600.00 for 2013)





# Pastor Kim's Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Are you ready? The clock is ticking, the ball is dropping, the new year is just around the corner –

A time of excitement,

of dreams,

of hope...
a time to begin anew and to continue the old.

We're ready.

Christ's United comes into this new year with all the excitement and enthusiasm that has filled the past year: a new understanding of discipleship, committing ourselves to growth in Jesus Christ; an increase in worship participation, especially with children; an ever growing youth program, with activities for both junior and senior youth and a team of advisors; growth in Women of the ELCA, with new activities including Ladies Nite Out and the Knaughty Knotters; new life in adult Sunday School, where tracing feet causes echoing laughter; the development of ministry teams, small groups with big ideas for witness and worship; new ways of caring for others, with Jared boxes and SWiC collections; new friends joining together, praying together, at midweek Bible Studies; connecting us in new ways, with FaceBook, email update, and a amazing web page through the ministry of Michele (member of New Life); a food ministry that is both local and world wide, with a grocery cart on one end of the gathering space and a display of chocolate, coffees, teas, and nuts at the other; and a growing leadership, as people younger and older take new responsibilities in ministry.

- continued on page 4



Building on such a wonderful and broad foundation seems to be a strong start for our new year. But we have something even stronger, something that will allow and encourage us to build higher, reach further and offer more: our foundation for this new year is our new life in Jesus Christ.

It is Jesus Christ who gives us the strength and the ambition to increase our faith through service, doing works so that the brightness of the candle of faith within us may be seen by the entire world, and the world may give glory to God.

Jesus said:

"For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you." Matthew 17.20

The new year brings us to challenges of new ministries, new ways of reaching out with God's message of salvation, new ways to allow existing ministries to expand, new ways of using the gifts we have been given: our skills and abilities, our property and finances, and our time. The challenges are like mountains before us, tall and broad, with passages that are steep and foreboding, that make us question whether or not we are ready to accept such challenges.

We are ready.

We are ready for the challenges of the new year *because God is ready* for the challenges of the new year.

Brothers and Sisters, are you?

Peace,
Pastor Kim

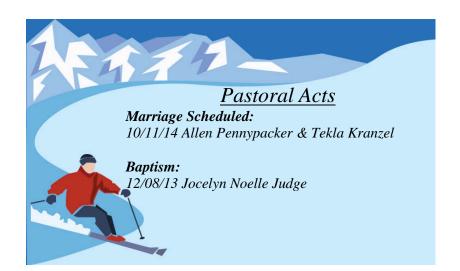




# **Church Council Highlights from December:**

- John Denchak and Richard Berner have been selected as Head Ushers.
- Pam Martinelli was recommended by the Personnel Committee as our new Choir Director, motion passed and approved to hire her effective immediately.
- The water tank passed inspection by Barry Twp.

- WELCA will be purchasing 2 gifts to be given to Diakon foster children.
- WELCA purchased and distributed Christmas gifts for the shut-ins.
- Two people need to go and retrieve the items from the lock box at the Gordon Bank.







The Youth Group got together for their Christmas party a day late due to a little snow, but we still had a lot of fun!!! The kids painted photo boxes to give to their parents. Everyone worked on painting jars and arranging flowers for the flower jars. One jar was given to each of our shut-ins, and the rest were sold with the proceeds going to Relay for Life. Unkie Keith made cutout cookies. Everyone got their hands in to making different Christmas shapes. We also made M&M cookies. Bags of cookies were made for the shut-ins, and each of the kids got their own bag.

As with many of our get togethers, we had dinner. A big shout out and THANK YOU to Angie Berger for making potato filling for us.

Keep an eye on the church's Facebook page and the bulletin board for our next event. It is still in the planning phases.





Plans are underway for the first ever Christ's United Lutheran Church Summer Camp! Each day of Camp will have a full schedule of activities, and each week will have a special field trip. The first week will be 23 June and the last 4 August: campers may be registered for one week or all seven. Campers in Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade are encouraged to register. More information will be available in the February newsletter, on www.christsunited.org, and on our FaceBook page. If you are interested in helping with Camp or registering a Camper, please call the church office or email <a href="mailto:CAMP@christsunited.org">CAMP@christsunited.org</a>.

# Seek first

Seek first the kingdom of wealth, and you'll worry over every dollar. Seek first the kingdom of health, and you'll sweat every blemish and bump. Seek first the kingdom of popularity, and you'll relive every conflict. Seek first the kingdom of safety, and you'll jump at every crack of the twig. But seek first [God's] kingdom, and you will find it. On that, we can depend and never worry.

—Max Lucado, Fearless



# **Annual Reports Due!**

All Committee
Secretaries and
Treasurers must have



their reports submitted to the church office by Monday, January 27, 2014. This is the deadline for all information or it will not be included in the annual congregational report. Our annual meeting is on Sunday, February 16 after worship. Thank You!

"Lent" literally means "a lengthening of the daylight hours", or to paraphrase, "more light in our lives". In the church year it is a time when we focus on the life we have through Jesus Christ: the light of our souls. It is a time for worship and prayer, for learning and growing. In the past two years we have helped each other grow in the light of Christ with our own Lenten Devotional booklet. Please stop by the bulletin board and select a scripture passage about which you are willing to share your thoughts and feelings. Each of us has a wisdom borne of our faith.

Please share your faith with us.





Upgrades to our office computer system now allow us to send an email to every member of Christ's United that has supplied an email address. This system is used to announce weather delays or cancellations, or other significant events that require a quick notification of the congregation. If you have not yet provided an email address to the office (or can't remember whether you did), please email (office@christsunited.org) or call Erik (570-875-1591) today!

# **Committee Secretaries:**

Please be certain when your committee has a meeting that you give a meeting report to the church office so that it can be **included in the church council minutes**. Also, if your committee has anything of importance for the Newsletter, please give it to Erik no later than the 15th of the month.





# We Offer our Prayers to...

### **Members of Christ's United:**

Gail Marquardt, Barb Anczarski, Nancy Shuey, Jennie Kosmisky, Norene Stoker, Dean Fetterolf, Tom Lazor, David Pennypacker, Barry Martin, Deb Hall, Barb Habowski, Mae Hughes, Oscar Troutman, Irene Morgan, Louise Boyer, John Kimmel, Jack Stitzer, Darlene Stank, Mike Lassen, Laray Klinger, Jack Houser

### **Family & Friends:**

Dorothy Shadle, Fred Pillman, Evelyn Myers, Dianne Rhoades, Jane Fetterolf, Andrew Schronick, Lucy Elwood, Hazel Smith, Nancy Harris, Diane Kehler, Sarah Grabowsky, Royal Miller, Rosie & Eddie Klauger, Dawn Huntzinger, Lindsay Whyne, Fred Herb Jr., Jack Toner, Kelly Troup, Dorothy Horbach, Megan Frasnelli, Frances Kiefer, David & Denise Poda, Gerry Dengler, Bonnie Lassen, Grace Mullaker, Herman Wagner, Betty Lindenmuth, Lucas Dengler, Sue Wentz, Emma Garnes, Carol Hemmingson, Bobbie Harris, Jared Morgan, Annetta Bradshaw, Matthew Wentzel

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 pastor or the office in order that the list is always current. If you would like someone added please call the office: if someone is added to the prayer list on a Sunday morning during worship, please make sure you write it down and place a note on the secretary's desk.

### **Continued Prayers for our shut-ins:**

Marion Brennan, Providence Place
Jean Cress, Mt. Carmel Nursing
Palmer Kimmel, Mt. Carmel Assisted Living
Betty Miller, Luther Ridge
Arlene Troup, Friendly Nursing
Randy Troutman
Dean Wolfgang, Tremont Health & Rehab
Jeanette Wolfgang, Mt. Carmel Nursing
Ruth Wolfgang, Mt. Carmel Nursing
Walter Wolfgang, Mt. Carmel Assisted Living
Linda Zerby



	Ser	rving Our Community of Faith in January	ommunity	of Faitl	h in Janu	ıary:	
Date	Lector	Communion Assistant	Ushers	Acolyte	Crucifer &Greeter inGreeter atTag-a-longNarthexDoor	Greeter in Narthex	Greeter at Door
January 5	Barb Anczarski	Barb Anczarski Melanie Bendinsky Angie Berger	Ian Bendinsky Angie Berger Richard Berner	Amy Johnson	Deidre Dengler	Helen Wolfgang	Richard Berner
January 12	Beth Andrews	Kay Berner John Denchak Dean Fetterolf	Robert Carl	Ashley O'Connor	Alaina Lindenmuth	Steven Wolfgang	Melanie Bendinsky
January 19	Melanie Bendinsky			Emily Fetterolf	Lydia Price & Nicole Hood	Ian Bendinsky	Kay Berner
January 26	Heather Klinger			Steven Wolfgang	Zachary Hummel & Jacob Tice	Beth Andrews	Vivian Brown



# **JANUARY 2014**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thu
New Year's Day	December 2013  S M T W T F S  1 2 3 4 5 6 7  8 9 10 11 12 13 14  15 16 17 18 19 20 21  22 23 24 25 26 27 28  29 30 31	February  S M T W T F S  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	1 Circumcision and Name of Jesus Office Closed New Year's Day	9:00 Knau Knotters 7:00 Evan Outreach 7:30 Schu sion Distri @ St. Joh
5 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas 9:30 Communion Service 10:45 Youth & Adult Sunday school, Confirmation	7:00 Church Council	7 6:30 Choir Practice	7:00 WELCA	9 9:00 Stew Ministry M 9:00 Knau Knotters
12 Baptism of Our Lord 9:30 Communion Service Endowment Fund Special Offering 10:45 Youth & Adult Sunday school, Confirmation 11:00 Day Camp Meeting	JESUS BAPTISM 6:00 Mutual Ministry	14 6:30 Choir Practice	15 Newsletter Deadline 10:00 Ashland Ministerium Meeting @ Zion, UCC 7:00 Bible Study	9:00 Knau Knotters 7:00 Pers Meeting
19 2nd Sunday after Epiphany 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Youth & Adult Sunday school, Confirmation 5:00 LCM Meeting 6:00 Property Committee Meeting	Martin Luther King Jr. DAY	<b>21</b> 6:30 Choir Practice	9:30 Newsletter Assembly 7:00 Bible Study	9:00 Knau Knotters 7:00 Minis Meeting
26 3rd Sunday after Epiphany St. Titus, Pastor and Confessor 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Youth & Adult Sunday school, Confirmation	27 Annual Reports Due from ALL Committee Secretaries & Treasurers  6:00 Grief Support Group	28 6:30 Choir Practice	<b>29</b> 7:00 Bible Study	30 9:00 Knau Knotters



sda	Friday	Saturday
ghty	3	4
<i>gelism/</i> eeting ylkill Mis- t Meeting		5:00 Communion Service
's	40	44
a <i>rdship</i> eeting ghty	10	11
		5:00 Communion Service
ghty	17	18 The Confession of St. Peter Teacher Brunch Recognition & Training
nnel		5:00 Worship Service
ghty	24 St. Timothy, Pastor and Confessor	25 The Conversion of St. Paul
try Team		5:00 Worship Service
ghty	31	





# SOCIAL MINISTRY



### **Ashland Area Food Pantry**

We will be collecting the following items for January:

# Spaghetti & Sauce

Please place your donations in the shopping cart. Thank You!

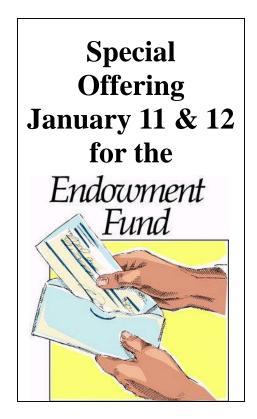


The month that your committee serves please help out in the kitchen before and after the service. Also, please bring in baked goods or other items for the snacks. Thank you.

# Committee Schedule

January—Choir
February—Social Ministry
March—LCM
April—WELCA
May—Christian Education
June—Music & Worship
July—Evangelism/Outreach







Souper Bowl of Caring helps young people across America develop a stronger connection to their communities by caring for their neighbors in need. Join the movement that is transforming Super Bowl weekend into the nation's largest youth-led weekend of giving and serving.

Learn more at tacklehunger.org.

Date / Time: Sunday, February 2, 2014
Christ's United

Collecting For: Ashland Area Food Pantry



We would like to extend a very BIG Thank You to all the employees and patrons of the Black Diamond Bar & Grill in Frackville for their generous donation of \$1,000.00 to the Ashland Area Food Pantry. Your donation will feed many needy families within our

community. Thanks again for all the help and support!



# **January Anniversaries & Birthdays**



- 1 Summer Kerstetter
- 2 Katelyn Bechtel Barbara Pennypacker Nathan Smith
- 3 Emily Reichwein
- 4 David Hepler Margaret Koons
- 5 Miles Hudock Kevin Wright
- 7 Katrina Economy Brenda Knorr
- 8 Brooke Schaffer Craig Troutman
- 9 Trenton Locker
- 10 Laray Klinger Luke Young Liam Young
- 11 Harry Hepler Robert Schneider
- 12 Richard Knorr

- 13 Jesse Cascarino Trevor Wilson
- 14 Ron Andrews Katie Kimmel Cheryl Neumeister
- 15 Karen Green Hannah Sterling
- 16 Rylee Nagle
- 17 Jim Gruber Deb Hall
- 18 Bill Burke Khloe Heiser
- 19 Deb Zaharick
- 20 Ian Bendinsky Nathan Hepler Jennie Kosmisky
- 21 Karen Schweinhart
- 23 David Chuplis
- 24 Katherine Bixler Rachel Hostetter
- 25 Steven Wagner
- 27 Darian DeLorge
- 29 Sue Bendinsky
- 30 Allen Johnson
- 31 Jacob Shuey



Douglas & Lindsay Fetterolf	01/08/11
Leroy & Deb Berner	01/13/72
Allen & Keri Johnson	01/20/05
Craig & Penny Troutman	01/30/82





# WELCA News



# Sunday, February 2

"Oh the weather outside is frightful, but in here, it's quite delightful..."
The weather may keep us close to home, but the laughter will keep us warm! Ladies, we will meet at the church at 3:30 on Sunday to carpool to Palermo's in Minersville, home of the best marinara sauce around!

Please sign up on the bulletin board so we can give them warning of our impending presence!

# **KNOTTED QUILT PROJECT**The "Knaughty Knotters" of Christ's United

The Knaughty Knotters will begin "Knotting" on Thursdays from 9:00 am - 12:00. We will start on January 2 and continue throughout the month. All are invited to help create knotted quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Materials are still needed. If you have used and clean blankets, sheets, mattress protectors,



comforters, towels, curtains (no fiberglass content), or fabrics, please drop them off in the social hall next to the walk-in closet.

Check out lwr.org/kits and LWR Quilters on Facebook



# WHO

# ARE

# These People???



Each month we have a different picture from long ago. See if you can guess who some or all of the people in the picture are. The answers will be in next months "Life Together" Newsletter.

The answers for the December issue are: Left to Right, Front row: Barbara Burger, Bertha Fetterolf, Pearl Fetterolf, Dorothy Hubler. Second row: Billy Hubler, Fred Fetterolf, Gene Klinger, Glen Weist. Third row: Edna Fetterolf, Joyce Klinger, Grace Kaufman, Doris Neidig, Betty Lou Hubler. Back: Pastor Harris. Taken at St. Paul's church in Gordon on Good Friday, 1948.

If you have any old pictures from Christ's United or any of the chapels that formed Christ's United, please bring them into the office. Please also provide the peoples names that are in the pictures. Your picture will be returned to you. Thank you.





# **Bible study**

# **Baptism: The Gift of Living "Wet"**

What does it mean to live as one baptized?

How does it affect our interactions with others, our understanding of self?

Martin Luther, when dealing with the torment of temptation and self doubt, would yell out loud "Get away from me Satan – I AM BAPTIZED!". Come together and explore the power of God's presence in you. In this six week study we will learn from scripture the understanding of Christian baptism, application from our Lutheran teachings, and the historical application. No experience is necessary – bring a friend! We'll meet Wednesday evenings at 7:00 starting on January 15th!

## **The Word on Winter**

Unpredictable weather can play havoc with our Church Calendar, as the early darkness and icy roads affect our gatherings. Please remember to check for updates on our Facebook page, channels WNEP or WBRE, and T-102 radio for delays and cancellations. Although our Saturday service may be cancelled to allow for the cleaning of the parking lot, Sunday services will not be cancelled but, may be delayed to allow for road de-icing.





ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES: When is the last time the two of you did something to enrich and revitalize your marriage? Make 2014 the year you resolve to take time to spend a weekend learning how to make your marriage a more intimate, loving, Christian union. Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends run from Friday night at 8 PM to Sunday at 4 PM and

are designed to enrich all marriages. There is a \$45 per couple registration fee; plus toward the end of the weekend, you will be given an opportunity to make a confidential contribution toward continuation of the program. Two nights lodging, 5 meals for each of you, and all supplies are included.

The 2014 Pennsylvania Weekends are:

March 28-30, 2014 at Park Inn Radisson, West Middlesex, PA, where each couple has a king bed and their own hot tub -- an hour north of Pittsburgh, just off of Interstate 80

<u>April 25-27, 2014</u> at the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel in State College—Happy Valley's premier conference center located on a quiet hillside with views of the Nittany Mountains

<u>September 12-14, 2014</u> at Spruce Lake Retreat Center, Canadensis, PA – brand-new, motel-style building on Spruce Lake in the heart of the Pocono Mountains – an hour north of Allentown

<u>September 26-28, 2014</u> at Olmsted Retreat Center, Ludlow, PA -- a lovely, motel style retreat center adjacent to the Olmsted Mansion--perched on a hillside in the Allegheny National Forest – an hour north of DuBois.

Registrations are limited, so **sign up today** to ensure that you can attend the Weekend of your choice. Simply go to the website: <a href="www.GodLovesMarriage.org">www.GodLovesMarriage.org</a> and register using your credit card or marking the option to mail in a check. For questions, or if you would like a brochure with registration form mailed to you, contact Pennsylvania Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or email: <a href="mailto:fischamber@comcast.net">fischamber@comcast.net</a>.





# **Epiphany's Significance**

The church season of Epiphany begins on January 6 each year. The name comes from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, meaning "to appear, to show or to manifest." The ending date of the Epiphany season is determined by Ash Wednesday, which is determined by the date of Easter.

Traditionally, Epiphany Day marks the arrival of the Magi, or wise men, to worship the infant Jesus. The significance of Epiphany for Christians is that it symbolizes the first recognition of Christ by Gentiles, or non-Jews.

The season of Epiphany emphasizes the divine nature of Jesus, the light of the world. Symbols for the season include light, a star and the color green, which represents life, growth, hope and eternity.

# Teacher dinner -

Thank You! We gather together at Christ's United to worship, but to worship God, we need to know Him. Christian Education – Sunday School, Bible Study, Vacation Bible School, First Communion, Confirmation, and more – are ways that we learn about God's love and purpose for our lives. This ministry – Christian education teachers and leaders – help build the foundation of our faith. A special brunch will be held on Saturday, 18 January, to thank all our Christian educators – teachers and leaders – and help them grow in this important ministry. A special guest speaker will add to this celebration. Come & Join us!



### **Christ's United Committees**

**Auditing Committee** 

Christian Education education@christsunited.org

**Endowment Fund** 

Evangelism/Outreach evangelism@christsunited.org

Finance

Lutheran Church Men (LCM) lcm@christsunited.org

Mutual Ministry

Nominating

Personnel personnel@christsunited.org

Property property@christsunited.org

Social Ministry socialministry@christsunited.org

Stewardship

WELCA welca@christsunited.org

Worship & Music

# 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.



From a worship bulletin in Little Rock, Arkansas:

Pray for our new Rible studies

Let's hope the sick are healed.



# **CHURCH COUNCIL 2014**

council@christsunited.org

	Phone	<b>Term Expires</b>
Melanie Bendinsky	570-875-0646	Feb. 2014
Dean Fetterolf	570-875-2765	Feb. 2015
vicepresident@christ	sunited.org	
Donna Lassen	570-875-1530	Feb. 2016
Nancy Lindenmuth	570-875-3138	Feb. 2014
Gail Marquardt	570-497-5337	Feb. 2015
Deb Price	570-875-4272	Feb. 2015
Terry Shilling	570-875-0412	Feb. 2014
Barb Stepanchick	570-875-1114	Feb. 2016
Helen Wolfgang	570-875-0758	Feb. 2016
Steven Wolfgang	Youth Rep.	Sept. 2014

### **PASTOR**

Rev. Dr. Kim L. Lengert 570-336-3110 pastorkim@christsunited.org

CT/	FF
$\mathbf{O}$	7 T. T.

Treasurer	Ann Marie Dillman	570-875-2422		
treasurer@christsunited.org				
Financial Secretary	Christine Brennan	570-875-0720		
Indoor Custodian	Cheryl Varndell	570-875-2545		
Outdoor Custodian	Donald Klinger	570-875-2334		
Organist	David Schweinhart	570-682-9553		
organist@christsunited.org				
Choir Director	Pam Martinelli	570-582-7559		

### **PARISH SECRETARY**

Erik Tice (home) 570-875-2681

office@christsunited.org

Office hours Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Office Phone 570-875-1591



# Christ's United Lutheran Church

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