

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

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 ORGANIZATION
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 *March*



The CULC Messenger
 – *God's Work, Our Actions*



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

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

March 2021

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CHURCH COUNCIL 2021

	Phone	Term Expires
Ted Ambrose	570-449-2193	Feb. 2022
Beth Andrews	570-874-2381	Feb. 2022
Angie Berger	570-875-3598	Feb. 2023
Vivian Brown	717-275-5277	Feb. 2023
John Denchak	570-875-4970	Feb. 2023
Debra Price	570-875-4272	Feb. 2024
Barbara Stepanchick	570-875-1114	Feb. 2022
Stefan Swanson	610-849-6662	Feb. 2024
Dennis Wolfe	570-875-9085	Feb. 2024
Joseph McAndrew		
Youth Representative		

PASTOR

Rev. Laura A. Csellak

570-652-1951

pastorlaura@christsunited.org

STAFF

Parish Administrator	Deb 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	Position Open	
Outdoor Custodian	Bill Price	570-875-4272

Status of Accounts as of January 31

Balance in Checking Account..... \$54,015.90

Amount needed in offerings per month to meet our 2020 Annual Budget of \$202,094.00 is **\$16,841.17**

January income was \$18,569.11

Expenses for January were \$16,515.49 resulting in a gain of \$2,053.62

Benevolence Gifts through January.....\$1,372.00

(9 % of our Benevolence goal of \$15,000.00 for 2021)



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Life Together at Christ's United



Christ's United Ministry Teams

Christian Education

Evangelism/Outreach

Lutheran Church Men (LCM)

Social Ministry

Stewardship

WELCA

Worship & Music

Multimedia Ministry

Security Team

Christ's United Committees

Auditing & Finance Committees

Endowment Fund

Mutual Ministry

Nominating

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.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Look on the cover page of this issue of our Church newsletter, and you'll see it's name has changed. In our January newsletter we announced the Name the Church Newsletter contest. Eight contributors provided 20 suggestions. Thank you to everyone who provided ideas. The winning title The CULC Messenger – God's Work, Our Actions was submitted by Deb Hubler. Zachary Hummel and John Denchak also provided titles with the word Messenger in it – Angel Messenger from Zachary and The Messenger by John Denchak.

The Greek word for messenger is Aggelos. It is from this we derive the word angel. Angel and messenger are each used nearly 275 times in the Bible. One meaning of Angel is "a spiritual being who acts as an attendant, agent, or messenger of God". Three such angels are given names: Gabriel, God's messenger to Daniel, Zachariah, and finally to Mary to whom he announces that she will "conceive in her womb and bear a son" whom she will name Jesus; Michael, the archangel, who is often depicted with his foot on the devil with a sword poised to slash him; and Rafael whose name means "God heals".

But the word messenger in the Bible can also refer to humans, to people who are messengers of God. There are countless examples of these in the Bible, as well as throughout history. Think of people who have been messengers of God to you. The parent or grandparent who brought you to church, prayed with and for you, maybe gave you your first Bible. Your Sunday School teacher. The neighbor who stopped by with a casserole dish and prayer book when a loved one



Don't forget to turn your clocks **ahead one hour** before going to bed on Saturday, March 13th.



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— continued on page 4

Life Together at Christ's United



The month of March brings us through further Sundays in Lent and then to Palm Sunday. Days to reflect on the messengers of God in Scripture and in our own time; to see how messengers have touched our lives.... and ways to be God's messenger to others, too. Each month in the pages of The CULC Messenger we can identify messengers in our midst, and opportunities for us to engage in God's work through our actions.

Grateful to how God works through the messengers of CULC,
Pastor Laura+



March Council Contact of the month is Barb Stepanchick.

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 Barb,



Council Member
of the Month



2021 Lenten Devotion Booklets are available in the Narthex. Please take one for yourself, family members and friends.



Community Blood Drive Christ's United Lutheran Church

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

**Monday, April 5, 2021
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.

Open to the public and walk-ins are Welcome!

Life Together at Christ's United



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 7

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



MARCH 14

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



MARCH 21

Toothbrushes (adult size, in original packaging)



MARCH 28

Combs - sturdy combs
(no fine teeth or Picks)



Nail Clippers (metal, attached file optional)



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 February

- We're still in need of an Indoor Custodian. The woman who accepted the position backed out for personal reasons.
- John Denchak read a proposal from Dengler Electric for replacement of damaged light and support at driveway entrance/exit for the cost of \$475.60. John received a check from Progressive Insurance for \$475.60 which was given to the Treasurer.
- Originally we had voted that the proceeds from the Whoopie Pie sales would go to the Capital Fund Campaign. Terry Shilling made the motion that we instead donate whatever proceeds we make from the Whoopie Pie sale to the Houser Fire Fund. The motion was seconded by Beth Andrews with all in favor. Motion carried.
- **Canceling of Worship Services:** Some people weren't notified about church being canceled on Sunday after the decision was made by both Pastor Laura and John. We had a problem with the message not put on our Facebook homepage and no text messages were sent out. John had sent an email to all of Council. He thought we should review the process. Next time we will have the message on Facebook and a text message will go out, but that doesn't take care of those who don't have a smart phone for text or a computer. Pastor Laura said we have a message on the answering machine about cancellations and that could be explained when we do announcements. Terry suggested trying to post cancellations on WNEP. She also suggested making a list of the people we know who don't have access to Facebook or text messages, then set up a phone chain. John decided that we will have a sign-up sheet for people to place their name and phone number so they can be contacted. Pastor Laura will ask Deb to make the sign-up sheet and Jacob will make an announcement about it on Sunday. Terry also suggested that information should be in the Newsletter about notifying the church if someone wishes to be contacted.



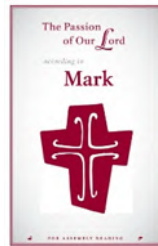


A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board for folks who don't use social media and would like a phone call in the event that worship needs to be cancelled due to weather. We will also post cancellation on Facebook and a message will be recorded on the office phone.

**The Passion of Our Lord -
Palm Sunday – March 28, 2021**

“The Passion of Our Lord” is read each year by members of the Congregation during Palm Sunday Worship.

Please sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to read one of the parts. *Thank you!*



Prayer Vigil

We will hold a Prayer Vigil on Good Friday, April 2 beginning at 7:00a.m.

Members and friends are encouraged to come and pray throughout the day. Each time slot is 30 minutes. Please sign up on the bulletin board for one or more time slots. Prayer guides will be



**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 held on
Wednesday, April 7th
at **6:00 pm.**

All women of CULC are invited to attend.



HELP WANTED for ANNUAL CANDY MAKING

Workdays will typically be Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 9:00 -12:00 or whatever days/hours you can help. Mixers, rollers, dippers, trimmers, packers, and inventory personnel are needed. On the job training is available!

Come join in on the fun and support the “sweetest fundraiser” at Christ’s United.

Contact [Becky Spencer](#) for additional information



Setting captives free

Though St. Patrick’s Day has become a secular “holiday,” March 17 commemorates the life of a Christian missionary. St. Patrick grew up in a Christian home in Britain but wasn’t very devout until he experienced crisis. As a teen, he was captured and sold into slavery in Ireland, escaping after six years. “The Lord

opened my unbelieving eyes” in Ireland, Patrick later said. God led him back there, and he converted tribe after tribe to Christianity.

In *Confessio 61*, St. Patrick writes, “I testify in truth and in great joy of heart before God and his holy angels that I never had any other



Palm Sunday - Sunday, March 28
9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday - Thursday, April 1
7:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Good Friday - Friday, April 2
7:00 p.m. Worship

Easter Vigil - Saturday, April 3
5:00 p.m. Worship

Resurrection of Our Lord - Sunday, April 4
6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service
with Holy Communion
9:30 a.m. Easter Worship Service
with Holy Communion

*Subject to change due to COVID-19 pandemic



WORSHIP WITH US

Life Together at Christ's United



MARCH



- 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 Pastor Laura Csellak
- 26 Wyatt Hepler
- 27 Zachary Huber
- 28 Robert Green
Amanda Houser
Maynard Merwine
Chase Demko
- 29 Nathan Berger



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 Lorady Family - Rick & Gail
- The Stepulitis Family - Ed

PRAYER CHAIN



Each day members of Christ's United bow their heads and lift their hearts in prayer for the ministries of this congregation and people in need. For the past several years these Prayer Teams have been silently serving God, the world, and us.

If you are committed to the power of prayer, please join one of these teams. Prayer lists are available at worship services each weekend, and a phone chain notifies you of immediate needs. Please call the church office for more information.

2021 Sponsorships

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



Monthly Newsletters \$40.00

- Altar Flowers \$25.00
- Worship Bulletins \$15.00
- Special service bulletins \$10.00
- Sanctuary Candle \$10.00
- Children's Bulletins \$10.00

Palms for Palm Sunday \$12.00

Payments for Altar flowers should be given to Cathy Troutman. All other payments should be made payable to the church and given to

We Offer our Prayers to...



February 21 – Jim Gruber

Richard Berner

Barbara Cheddar

Families of Linda Brown (E. Tice & V. Brown)

Mae Kaseman (E. Tice)

Nancy Harner (K. Berner)

Karen Gregory (E. Tice)

Anthony Middleton

February 14 – Richard Shoup

Bill Green (D. Wallace)

Family of Lori Lynn Groody

February 7 – *Family of Richard Cervis (P. Dziczek)*

January 31 – Jim & Tara Houser & Family

James "Slugger" Weikel (Berger Family)

Bill Price Sr. (D. Price)

Amy Wahalec and Kevin Clark

Please continue to pray for: Stewart Anthony, Corrine & Josh Coward, Jim Hepler, Annette Houser, Carl (Mickey) Lute, Bobby Liem, Gail Lorady, Dianna Monaghan, Irene Morgan, Nellie Schlorff, Richard Shoup, Cheryl Varndell, Jo-Ann Young, Leo Young, Linda Zerby

Michelle Ambrose, Robert Beecher, Ruth Berner (R. Berner), Elizabeth Brown & family, Donald Bulla, Arlene Chillis (J. Pennypacker), Joe Ferraro, Jr., Harry Fishburn (G. Marquardt), Bob Griffiths (I. Morgan), Dan Grow, Minah Horan, Pastor Bob & Donna Hughes (Grubers), Ron James (V. Brown), Jaden Leiby, Keith Morgan (G. Marquardt), Lou Ann Olson (T. Shilling), Danny Quick (A. Berger), Albert Stehr, Carol Stehr, Judy Trautman (G. Marquardt), Karyssa Wenrich

Please note that those experiencing a traumatic event are placed onto the Prayer List and will be kept on for one month and then taken off. Please provide updates to the office in order that the list is always current. If you would like someone added, please call the office or write their name on the Prayer Request sheet found on the Prayer Podium.



MARCH



03/21/81

Rickey & Brenda Knorr

03/22/96

Leo & Heather Young

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.



The following donations were received for Christ's Cupboard:

Donations from:

Ryan Kosmisky

Ben Spencer

A donation in honor of Susan Merwine by:

Mary Ruth Taylor

Life Together at Christ's United



Indoor Custodian Position

The position of Indoor Custodian is still available. Please contact the Church Office if you are interested or know someone who might be.

If you can lend a hand, volunteers are covering church cleaning. We have a schedule of several groups of four or five volunteers to clean each week. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

If you are interested in helping please call Jo-Ann Young at 570-875-2586 or the church office 570-875-1591. Thank you.



Whoopie Pie Fundraiser



Christ's United will be selling Weaver's Whoopie Pies beginning in March. There will be six flavors available: chocolate with white filling, chocolate with peanut butter, chocolate chip with white filling, red velvet with white filling, shoofly with molasses and oatmeal raisin with white filling.






Cost is \$2.00 each and we will make a profit of \$1.00 per pie. Anyone who wishes to help sell can pick up an order sheet in the office. There will be someone in the Narthex on Sunday mornings during the month of March and an order sheet will be on the bulletin board. All orders must be turned in by March 21. Money is due with order. Pies will be ready for pickup on **April 7**. If you have any ques-



BIRDS IN THE WORD

The Bible mentions many kinds of birds. How many have you seen?

Directions: Unscramble the bird names, using the Bible references and pictures as clues. Then insert the final unscrambled bird name to complete the passage below.

-  VDEO _____ (Genesis 8:8)
-  LWO _____ (Psalm 102:6)
-  GEELA _____ (Isaiah 40:31)
-  TOKRS _____ (Jeremiah 8:7)
-  APROSWRS _____

“Are not five _____ sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. ... Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many _____.”

LUKE 12:6-7, NIV

FOR THE BIRDS

Display this recycled craft to care for feathered friends.



What you need:

- Peanut butter or vegetable shortening
- Plastic knife
- Empty toilet paper tube
- Bird seed
- A plate
- String

What you do:

1. Spread peanut butter or vegetable shortening on the tube, covering the entire outside surface.
2. Pour bird seed on a plate and roll the tube in the seeds.
3. Thread string through the tube and tie it to make a loop.
4. Hang the bird feeder outside. When seeds are eaten, coat the roll again.

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
 March 11, 2021**



Serving Our Community of Faith in March:

Date	Congregational Representative	Lector & Post Worship Greeter at the Door	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Acolytes	Crucifer	Post Worship Greeter in Narthex
March 7	Vivian Brown	Kayla Werner	Darlene Stank Aaron Stepanchick Barb Stepanchick Dennis Wolfe	Erik Tice-AM	Amy and Cole Johnson		
March 14	Erik Tice	Barb Anczarski			David and Daniel Cunningham		
March 17	TBD	Angie Berger			Desiree Dengler and Maura Sweitzer		
March 28 Palm Sunday	TBD	Vivian Brown		Larry Wolfgang-AM	Ralph Johnson		



MARCH 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00 Church Council	2	3 10:00 Seniors 7:00 Mid-Week Lenten Worship	4	5	6 5:00 Worship with Holy Communion
7 9:30 Communion Worship 10:45 Worship & Music Mtg 10:45 Sunday School & Confirmation Class	8 Int'l. Women's Day	9	10 10:00 Seniors 7:00 Mid-Week Lenten Worship	11 10:00 – 11:30 Christ's Cupboard	12	13  5:00 Worship with Holy Communion
14 Daylight Saving Begins 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School & Confirmation Class	15 Newsletter Deadline	16	17 Saint Patrick's Day 10:00 Seniors  7:00 Mid-Week Lenten Worship	18	19	20 Start of Spring (Spring Equinox) 5:00 Worship with Holy Communion
21 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School & Confirmation Class	22	23	24 9:00 Newsletter Assembly 10:00 Seniors 7:00 Mid-Week Lenten Worship	25	26	27 Earth Hour (8:30-9:30 pm) 5:00 Worship with Holy Communion
28 PALM SUNDAY 9:30 Communion Worship 10:45 Sunday School & Confirmation Class 	29 7:00 Social Ministry Mtg.	30	31 10:00 Seniors			