



**MAY  
2018  
NEWSLETTER**



# UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

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Cell: 570-238-4666

## WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, 10am

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday, 9am to 2pm

### UIC COUNCIL MEMBERS

<b>Cami Zimmerman, President</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2018
<b>Charlie Dinsmore, V. President</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2018
<b>Annette Baker, Secretary</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> term, ends 12/2018
<b>Ken Baker, Treasurer</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2020
<b>Ken Criswell</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2019
<b>Amy Danowsky</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2019
<b>Frank Danowsky</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2018
<b>Marianne Murray</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2019
<b>John Sheaffer</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> term, ends 12/2018
<b>Bob Swartz</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> term, ends 12/2019

Council Members are elected for a term of three years and no more than 2 consecutive terms.

### ***United In Christ's Mission Statement:***

*Led by the Spirit, we follow Christ's call to honor God and neighbor through worship, learning, service, prayer, stewardship and invitation.*

# Mark Your Calendars

**MON, MAY 7**

**GERANIUM ORDERING DEADLINE**

Order forms are in Fellowship Hall.

**WED, MAY 9**

**OAKS**

Growing herbs indoors.

**FRI, MAY 11**

**DAUGHTER'S BANQUET**

Please signup by May 6.

**SAT, MAY 12**

**BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY**

**SUN, MAY 13**

**WOMEN OF FAITH SUNDAY**

**MON, MAY 14**

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**TUE, MAY 15**

**PENNSYLVANIA ELECTIONS**

**FRI, MAY 18**

**RICH HUFF AUCTION**

**SAT, MAY 19**

**RICH HUFF AUCTION**

**SUN, MAY 20**

**PENTECOST SUNDAY**

Don't forget to wear **RED!**

**MON, MAY 28**

**MEMORIAL DAY**

OFFICE CLOSED

# FROM THE PASTOR



*The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." . . . I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.*

Ezekiel 37:1-6,10

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Dear, United In Christ

A few days ago, I finally resigned myself to bringing down the remaining Easter flowers from the sanctuary. After a few weeks of their splendid colors proclaiming the joy of new life in Christ, the wilting stems and falling petals were looking less and less like a sign of the resurrection. While I (foolishly) assumed that their removal would set them on a course that was destined for the back of a garbage truck, a timely intervention reminded me that there was more in store for these little guys. It wasn't long after bringing the flowers downstairs that Carol Troxell came by wondering where they had gone so that they could be planted out along the front of the building. Apparently, more and new life was ahead for these floral friends! It turns out, we weren't done with them yet!

When Ezekiel is set down in the middle of the valley by the hand of God, he sees sprawled out before him a scene that was, quite literally, bone dry in its desolation. All around him lie signs of death and decay. When God turns to him and asks him about these bones' proclivity for life, I imagine the answer was probably pretty obvious for Ezekiel. There's no way that such dry bones could spring back to exude new life! Turns out, though, that much like me looking at the flowers, Ezekiel was dead wrong. Looking out across that same valley, God shares with Ezekiel a vision of new life, even for the dry bones such as these. In turn, the breath of God, the same that fluttered over the birth of creation, fills the bones and reforms them into a standing witness of new life at God's hand.

There's a pretty good reason this text is assigned to the day of Pentecost that we celebrate this month. Last Pentecost, the day you voted to call me as your pastor, I shared a line from a then recent Washington Post article projecting that mainline Protestant churches only had twenty-three Easters remaining in their existence. <sup>1</sup>By my count, this year puts us at twenty-two. Looking around the state of churches around us, we might be tempted to think we're standing in a valley of dry bones. Yet, even as we might worry and fret about the seemingly inevitable decay of our traditions, this Pentecost celebration, the finale to our Easter season, reminds us that we are, and always will be, a resurrection people. The prophet's encounter deep in that valley is a poignant reminder that God is never done breathing new life into God's creation. In short, God's not done with us yet! Let's get these bones moving!

Yours, united in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Justin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Pastor Justin".

<sup>1</sup>[https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/acts-of-faith/wp/2017/04/28/if-it-doesnt-stem-its-decline-mainline-protestantism-has-just-23-easters-left/?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.5c41b42c8629](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/acts-of-faith/wp/2017/04/28/if-it-doesnt-stem-its-decline-mainline-protestantism-has-just-23-easters-left/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.5c41b42c8629)

# GARDENING GRATITUDE

Thank you to Carol Troxell for helping us inaugurate Spring by replanting the flower beds around the building!

The flowers look wonderful and help to liven up our walkways!



If you have a green thumb or just like to play in the dirt, let us know! We could always use a few more hands to keep the flowers lively and the weeds at bay!



# HUMAN TRAFFICKING CONVERSATION

Many thanks to all who came out to hear from FBI Victim Specialist Melissa Howley and Colleen Kocen of Transitions in Lewisburg last month. Together we learned a lot about the trends of human trafficking in our area and how both Transitions and the FBI resources are being put to use to help victims of such trafficking. In addition, we were also able to present Colleen with the total of our Lenten offerings to go to Transitions. In the end, United In Christ raised \$862 that will go directly to helping victims meet the immediate needs they may have. Well done UIC!



We look forward to the opportunities that may lie ahead in working with Transitions of PA. If you are interested in learning more about the work they do or how you can volunteer with them, check out their website at [www.transitionsofpa.org](http://www.transitionsofpa.org).

If you were unable to attend the conversation, but would like to learn more, let Pastor Justin know and he will get you a copy of the presentations shared that evening.





**FRIDAY, MAY 11TH**  
**SIX O'CLOTH IN THE EVENING**

**UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**HOSTED BY: MEN'S MINISTRY**

**PLEASE SIGNUP BY MAY 6**



# PENTECOST GERANIUMS



Order forms are on the Signup table in the fellowship hall.

**Cost: \$2.75**

**ORDERING DEADLINE IS  
SUNDAY, MAY 6.**

We will plant the geraniums outside after Pentecost Sunday, which is May 20.

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## ALTAR FLOWERS



Altar flowers are a beautiful gift to our Lord and a wonderful expression of our love for God. It honors loved ones and gives thanks for special people and events in our lives.

There are lots of open slots to order flowers in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special event. The flowers are yours to take home after worship!

**Flower Chart is located in the Fellowship Hall.**

# MAY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

\* Please remove from newsletter and post on your fridge.\*

	May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27
Altar Guild	C. Troxell	S. Keifer	B. Guffey	J. Mertz
Greeter	D. Baker Karen Baker B. Keifer	E. Brown S. Brown L. Danowsky	K. Noll S. Noll E. Brouse	Ken Baker R. Baker L. Rabuck
Acolyte	L. Shearer	A. Danowsky	L. Warren-Lee	E. Danowsky
Asst. Minister	A. Baker	B. Swartz	T. McPherrin	M. Shearer
Lector	R. Baker	M. Shearer	S. Keifer	T. McPherrin
Comm. Asst.	Ken Baker M. Baker	S. Danowsky M. Murray	A. Baker D. Baker	A. Guffey K. Koch
Usher	L. Caris B. Koch W. Wirth Jen Sheaffer	K. Arndt O. Arndt K. Criswell B. Troxell	J. Sheaffer D. Shearer T. Swartz B. Swartz	S. McPherrin C. Zimmerman M. Rabuck Karen Baker
Guest Rel.	M. Mertz	S. McPherrin	F. Danowsky	K. Noll
Offering Counter	M. Shearer T. Snyder	C. Zimmerman M. Rabuck	W. Wirth J. Sheaffer	C. Zimmerman T. Snyder
Bread/Wine	R. Baker	S. Keifer	V. Marsh	S. McPherrin
Social Hour	E - K	L - R	S - Z	A - D

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled day, please trade with someone else on the schedule and then notify the office of the change. If you are unable to trade with someone, please call Terri Cromwell at the church, 570-568-2254.

# MEMBER UPDATES

*If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please call the church office with these dates.*

## Happy Birthday

<i>Melvin Baker Jr. 5/2</i>	<i>Mark Rabuck 5/15</i>
<i>Shirley McPherrin 5/2</i>	<i>Arna Dershem 5/19</i>
<i>Tanya Kemper 5/5</i>	<i>Becky Carl 5/23</i>
<i>Joshua Martz Jr. 5/5</i>	<i>Nancy Walter 5/23</i>
<i>Mya Cromwell 5/6</i>	<i>Rikki Russell 5/25</i>
<i>Carlena Russell 5/6</i>	<i>Carolyn Baker 5/26</i>
<i>Alice Snyder 5/11</i>	<i>BJ Koch 5/29</i>
<i>Jodie Danowsky 5/14</i>	<i>Kodakyan Olds 5/30</i>
<i>Colleen Danowsky 5/15</i>	<i>Charles Dinsmore 5/31</i>
<i>Ken Noll 5/15</i>	<i>Oliver Kemper 5/31</i>



## HAPPY Anniversary

*Elwood and Sandy Brown 5/1/04*  
*Dave and Karen Baker 5/2/81*  
*Josh and Shanna Martz 5/24/03*  
*Ed and Lisane Snyder 5/27/78*



# YOUTH AND FAMILY



## COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT





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# RESURRECTION SUNDAY







# Older Adults Kickin' it up! Monthly Senior Center

## FRIENDSHIPS



On Wed. Apr. 11, RN Linda Walker, director at Educators Inc., gave a presentation at OAKs on why friendships are necessary for our well-being, how to nurture friendships and make new ones, and why it's sometimes necessary to say goodbye to friendships that are not good for our well-being.







# Older Adults Kickin' it up! Monthly Senior Center

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Wednesday, May 9 ~ 10am-2pm

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10:00 am - Social Hour

11:00 am - Free Bingo with Prizes

12:00 pm - Free Lunch

12:45 pm - Herbs Container Gardening



**Free workshop on herbs and growing them indoors with Master Gardeners Liz Harer and Mareta Digan.**



**OAKS IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.  
ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!**

# Rich Huff Fund's Annual Fundraiser **OPERATION SANTA CLAUS**



**HELPING AREA CHILDREN IN NEED!**

Rich Huff Fund provides needy children in the community with items like, but not limited to, diapers, clothing and shoes, beds, mattresses and bedding, medicine prescriptions, school lunches throughout the year and gifts at Christmas.

**MAY  
18  
2018  
5pm-8pm**

**MAY  
19  
2018  
9am-2pm**

## Raffle/Silent Auction

Food stand will be open on Friday and Saturday

Auction begins at 5pm on Friday and ends at 2pm on Saturday.

Winners do not need to be present.

If you win, you will receive a phone call on Monday to claim your winnings.



Proceeds from 'Operation Santa Claus' will go to Baby Steps Diaper Pantry and the needs of area children.

**UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1875 CHURCHES ROAD, LEWISBURG**

Church Office: 570-568-2254 Website: [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net)

# OPERATION SANTA CLAUS

Baskets for the Rich Huff  
Auction need to be  
brought to the church  
by May 6th.



## Baby Steps DIAPER PANTRY

1,040 diaper were given out at  
April's diaper pantry.

### NEXT DIAPER PANTRY

May 12 ~ 10-11:30am  
1 bag (40 diapers) per child.

# UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

**Our Members:** Ruth Stump, Kay Hilkert, Marie Tanner, and Frank Danowsky.

**Family and Friends:** Levi Nissley, Keith Keister, Dave Geyer, Brenda Mull, family and friends of Cindy Mertz, and Larissa Young.



**Are you or a loved one in need of prayer?**

Submit your prayer request by calling  
570-568-2254 or emailing it to  
[office@unitedinchristlutheran.net](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net).

We will email your prayer request to UIC's  
prayer chain. We'll print prayer  
requests for 4 weeks.

# THANK YOU's

*Thank you so very much for all the cards, prayers and phone calls! Also, thank you for the soup on first Lenten Wednesday. It was very appreciated.  
Again, thank you for everything!*

*In Christian Love,  
Kathy Guffey*

## IMPORTANT LINKS



For easy access, bookmark these pages on your computer and/or add the page to your tablet or smartphone's home screen.

**UIC's website:** [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net)

**Newsletter Archive:** Read current and past newsletters.  
[www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/newsletter](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/newsletter)

**Church Calendar:** Stay up-to-date on everything that's happening at UIC and Sunday's Worship Volunteers are listed each week in each "worship" event.

[www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/calendar](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/calendar)

**Sermons:** Listen to a sermon you may have missed or just listen to it again and read the reading from that day.

[www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/sermons](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/sermons)

UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1875 CHURCHES ROAD  
LEWISBURG PA 17837

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Website: [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net)  
Office Hours: Mon. thru Fri.: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.