




# MAY 2019

# NEWSLETTER

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" I came so that  
you may have  
life —  —  
and live it  
more  
abundantly. "

John 10:10



## UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

**The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter: Pastor**

Cell: 610-973-4052

Email: pastor.justin17@gmail.com

**Terri Cromwell: Office Administrator and OAKs Coordinator**

Office: 570-568-2254

Cell: 570-850-5730

Email: office@unitedinchristlutheran.net

**Marilyn Gresh: Music**

Home: 570-473-9406

Email: marilyngresh@hotmail.com

**Terry Snyder: Sexton**

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>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> term, ends 12/2021</b>
<b>Charlie Dinsmore - V. President</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> term, ends 12/2021</b>
<b>Ken Baker - Treasurer</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2020</b>
<b>Lisa Rabuck - Secretary</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2021</b>
<b>Ken Criswell</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2019</b>
<b>Bob Swartz</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> term, ends 12/2019</b>
<b>Kathy Guffey</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2021</b>
<b>Rick Whitesel</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2021</b>
<b>Emma Danowsky</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2021</b>
<b>Syann Steward</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2021</b>

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

<b>SUN, MAY 5</b>	<b>AUCTION BASKET DEADLINE</b>
<b>WED, MAY 8</b>	<b>OAKS SENIOR CENTER</b>
<b>FRI, MAY 10</b>	<b>DAUGHTERS BANQUET</b>
<b>SAT, MAY 11</b>	<b>BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY</b>
<b>SUN, MAY 12</b>	<b>MOTHER'S DAY</b>
<b>WED, MAY 15</b>	<b>COUNCIL MEETING</b>
<b>FRI, MAY 17</b>	<b>RICH HUFF AUCTION</b>
<b>SAT, MAY 18</b>	<b>RICH HUFF AUCTION</b>
<b>SUN, MAY 19</b>	<b>MISSION TRIP MEETING</b> <b>CML CABIN CLEANUP</b>
<b>MON, MAY 20</b>	<b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>
<b>TUE, MAY 21</b>	<b>MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS</b>
<b>MON, MAY 27</b>	<b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>
<b>FRI, JUN. 14</b>	<b>SYNOD ASSEMBLY</b>
<b>SAT, JUN. 15</b>	<b>SYNOD ASSEMBLY</b>

# FROM THE PASTOR



*In the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was served him, I carried the wine and gave it to the king. Now, I had never been sad in his presence before. So the king said to me, "Why is your face sad, since you are not sick? This can only be sadness of the heart." Then I was very much afraid. I said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not be sad, when the city, the place of my ancestors' graves, lies waste, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?" Then the king said to me, "What do you request?" So I prayed to the God of heaven. Then I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor with you, I ask that you send me to Judah, to the city of my ancestors' graves, so that I may rebuild it." . . . The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing; I had not yet told the Jews, the priests, the nobles, the officials, and the rest that were to do the work. Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, so that we may no longer suffer disgrace." I told them that the hand of my God had been gracious upon me, and also the words that the king had spoken to me. Then they said, "Let us start building!" So they committed themselves to the common good.*

Nehemiah 2:1-5, 16-18

Dear United In Christ,

My first attempt at writing this article was quickly hijacked when my Facebook feed flooded with news coming out of Paris that the iconic cathedral, Notre

Dame, was burning. Watching the scene unfold, witnessing the fall of the cathedral's spire into the building, it seemed almost inevitable that this historic monument would be rendered as a total loss. As the world watched the billowing flames, a true lament seemed to hang in the air. The possible loss of such a pillar of divine inspiration and human ingenuity from nothing more than what seems to have been an arbitrary accident is nothing less than tragic.

Yet, while all eyes seemed to be on Notre Dame, the reality is that Paris was not the only community to experience such tragedy in the past weeks. Closer to home, down in Louisiana, three churches were gutted in flames in a series of targeted arsons across just a few days. It's no coincidence either that all three churches were home to historically black congregations. With an arrest just recently made, the reality that these were racially-charged attacks on these houses of faith is incontrovertible. The fact that in 2019 we continue to bear witness to such arbitrary crimes stemmed from hate and fear of one another is likewise nothing less than tragic.

Nehemiah knew such tragedies well in his own time. Living in the wake of Jerusalem's destruction, knowing well the gutted reality of his people's own center of worship, he knew what it meant to lose such sacred spaces. More, he knew what it was like to be a targeted people. As an Israelite forced into diaspora with the rest of the nation following the sweeping campaign of the Babylonians, Nehemiah knew what it

was like to be attacked over mere identity. Yet, even in the face of such crippling tragedy, even in the midst of his own visible sadness, God calls him to an endeavor entirely unexpected. Out of the ashes of his people's ruin, Nehemiah is called to a simple, yet monumental task: to rebuild.

And you know, United In Christ, I think it may just be our own time to rebuild as well. We may not have immediate walls that need raised or roofs that need placed, but there are countless places across our landscape that are in need of repair. We need new foundations of trust and respect in the relationships around us. We need to repair our cultures of fear and suspicion to instead see our neighbors, particularly the ones who look, speak, or worship different from us, as equal recipients of God's love. After all, it is in this very Easter season that we ourselves are given a glimpse of the fullness of life offered to us out seeming tragedy. With the bold proclamation of "Christ is risen, indeed!" still on our lips, may we have the courage and confidence to reach out to speak words of hope and healing into a world hurt by brokenness and tragedy. Joining the voices of those who rallied around Nehemiah, may we commit ourselves so simply to the common good. In the people's words:

"Let us start building!"

Yours, united in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Justin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed text "Yours, united in Christ,".

# MISSION TRIP PRELIMINARY MEETING



This summer, United In Christ will be hosting a trip to Buffalo, NY to engage in some urban mission work in the city. This trip is sponsored in large part by the memorial gifts received

for Lisane Snyder this past winter. Wanting to put those gifts to life-giving purpose, Lisane's husband, Ed, has decided to use the funds as seed money for this short-term mission trip!

The tentative dates for this trip are July 15<sup>th</sup>-July 20<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to learn more about the trip, please join us for a brief meeting on **Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> following worship**. All are welcome to join us for the meeting!

## CABIN CLEANOUT



Did you know that United In Christ helps sponsor a cabin at Camp Mount Luther? As the camp prepares to receive a new season of campers, we will be heading up to clean out our sponsored cabin on **Sunday,**

**May 19<sup>th</sup>**. If you'd like to join us to help out, please talk to Pastor Justin for more details!

# STEWARDSHIP OF COMMUNITY

*You shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord*

Leviticus 19: 18b

*And who is my neighbor?*

Luke 10:29b

Think of all the homes, apartments and condos within walking (or easy driving) distance of our congregation. Now ask, how do we interact with these neighbors? Does our congregation understand their issues, joys, opportunities and challenges? How can we love them as ourselves?

Though God has filled the world with neighbors for us to love, we have a special opportunity and responsibility with neighbors who are nearby us. They form our immediate community. Many congregations narrowly define “community” as people who are already part of church, but God calls us to broaden our vision.

Congregations across our denomination are finding renewed energy and purpose by connecting (or reconnecting) with their community neighbors. It takes work and a willingness to go outside our comfort zone, but worth the effort pays off for them and us.

“It’s within our power to become good neighbors, to care for the people around us and to be cared for by the people around us,” write Jay Pathak and Dave Runyon in *The Art of Neighboring* (2012, Baker Books, p. 22), a handy guide for a church to start a neighboring movement. “There really is a different way to live, and



we are finding that it is actually the best way to live.”

Loving our neighbors we naturally gather together as community that is blessed by God. It holds true in our personal lives as well as our congregations. As spring and summer unfolds, let’s commit to finding ways to be better stewards of our community, engaging our neighbors, especially those who live closest to our congregation.

--*Rob Blezard*

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Pastor Blezard works as content editor for [www.stewardshipoflife.org](http://www.stewardshipoflife.org) and serves as an assistant to the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod and.

He blogs at [www.thestewardshipguy.com](http://www.thestewardshipguy.com).

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



**Worship Volunteers**, please give the office **any dates in June** which **you will NOT be available** to serve during worship. After you are scheduled it will be your responsibility to trade with someone else on the schedule if you are not available to serve that day.

Any articles, events, photos and/or thank you notes you’d like to have printed in the June Newsletter need to be in the office **by Monday, May 20.**



# OAKS

## SENIOR CENTER

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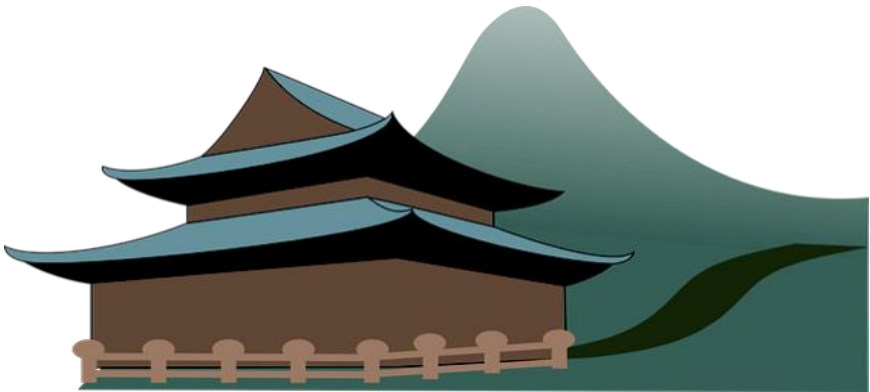
Wednesday, May 8

10:00 am - Social Hour

11:00 am - Free Bingo with Prizes

12:00 pm - Free Lunch

1:00 pm - Presentation on China



Ruby Baker visited China last year. She'll show us pictures and tell us about the interesting things she experienced while in China.

**OAKS SENIOR CENTER IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!**

# UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

**Our Members:** Irene Stark, Delroy Caris, Tina Snyder, Alice Snyder, Joan Ketchem, Charlie Dinsmore, Gerald Baker Jr., Mary Baker, Willard Hauck, Peg Swinehart.



**Family and Friends:** Richard Caldwell, Florence Snyder, Dorie Minimum, Charlie Fegley, Brook Larson, Patrick Payne, Donald Ritter, Harold Snyder, Ronald Winder, Frank Roan, Glen VanDyke, Joan Rearick, Dennis Rearick Jr., Melody Erb, Jesse Clayton.

## **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.

# MAY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

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

	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26
Altar Guild	K. Guffey	S. Keifer	J. Mertz	C. Troxell
Greeter	J. Snyder T. Snyder N. Walter	Jen Sheaffer J. Sheaffer S. Brown	D. Baker Karen B. L. Danowsky	B. Swartz T. Swartz E. Brouse
Acolyte	K. Swanger	L. Warren-Lee	E. Danowsky	C. Noll
Asst. Minister	M. Shearer	T. McPherrin	S. Swartz	C. Zimmerman
Lector	S. Bingaman	C. Zimmerman	R. Baker	A. Baker
Comm. Asst.	W. Weiser K. Koch	A. Baker D. Baker	D. Shearer M. Shearer	S. Bingaman R. Kling
Usher	S. McPherrin Ken B. O. Arndt K. Arndt	Karen B. K. Criswell L. Rabuck W. Wirth	K. Guffey K. Keifer L. Caris T. Swartz	E. Brown S. Brown B. Koch S. Stewart
Guest Rel.	B. Troxell	G. Weiser	Ken B.	F. Danowsky
Offering Counter	M. Rabuck W. Wirth	J. Sheaffer T. Snyder	M. Shearer K. Guffey	C. Zimmerman M. Rabuck
Bread/Wine	P. Swinehart	C. Troxell	S. Weiser	W. Wirth
Social Hour	A - D	E - K	L - R	S - Z

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled day, please try to trade with someone 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, and she will find a replacement for you.

# MEMBER UPDATES



## HAPPY *Anniversary*

ELWOOD AND SANDRA BROWN 5/1/04

DAVE AND KAREN BAKER 5/2/81

JOSH AND SHANNA MARTZ 5/24/03



## Happy Birthday

MELVIN BAKER JR. 5/2

SHIRLEY MCPHERRIN 5/2

JEFF BYERLY 5/3

TANYA KEMPER 5/5

JOSHUA MARTZ JR. 5/5

MYA CROMWELL 5/6

CARLENA RUSSELL 5/6

AMBER ERB 5/8

ALICE SNYDER 5/11

JODIE DANOWSKY 5/14

COLLEEN DANOWSKY 5/15

KEN NOLL 5/15

MARK RABUCK 5/15

ARNA DERSHEM 5/19

BECKY CARL 5/23

NANCY WALTER 5/23

RIKKI RUSSELL 5/25

CAROLYN BAKER 5/26

EMMALENE KOCH 5/28

BJ KOCH 5/29

KODAKYAN OLDS 5/30

CHARLIE DINSMORE 5/31

OLIVER KEMPER 5/31



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

# RICH HUFF FUND

**Please help us make this auction a success  
by donating a basket.**

In the fellowship hall, you'll find a Christmas tree filled with tags. Each tag has a basket theme and a list of items that could go in the basket. Please take one or more tags and fill a basket with items that match the theme or bring in your items and we will whip up a basket for you.

- Baskets need to be brought to the church **by May 5th.**
- Write your name and basket theme on the paper by the tree.
- If you have an ideas of your own, mark it down.
- Two baskets can be made of the same theme.

Donations of any new or gently used items and baskets of all sizes are also needed.



**Baby Steps**  
**DIAPER PANTRY**

1,720 diaper were given out at  
April's diaper pantry.

**NEXT DIAPER PANTRY**

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

Rich Huff Fund's  
Annual Fundraiser

# OPERATION SANTA CLAUS



**HELPING AREA CHILDREN IN NEED!**

## Raffle/Silent Auction

Food stand will be open on Friday and Saturday



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 & gifts at Christmas.

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

Winners do not need to be present.

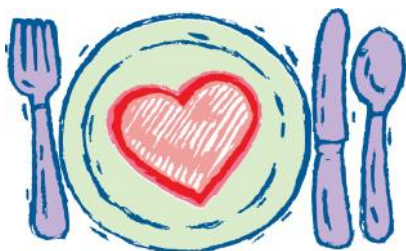
If you win, you will receive a phone call on Monday to claim your winnings.

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

# AUCTION FOOD STAND



Our food stand will be open Friday night from 5-8 and Saturday 9-2. Some of the items on our menu are pulled pork sandwiches, italian sausage sandwiches, and hotdogs. We will also have a variety of snacks, desserts and drinks.



Take a night off from cooking and come out to UIC for dinner!



THE OFFICE WILL  
BE CLOSED  
ON MONDAY, MAY 27.



# YOUTH AND FAMILY

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## COMMUNITY EGG HUNT

Our egg hunt was a success. We had about 14 kids this year. The White Deer Fire Company stopped by and brought the Easter Bunny with them!



## EASTER BREAKFAST

UIC Youth prepared and served pancakes, eggs, sausage, milk, orange juice, apple juice and fruit for Easter breakfast. Thank you to everyone that came out to help. A free will offering was collected. The \$161 will be used for camp scholarships and the next Youth Gathering. Thank you to everyone that came to breakfast and donated to our youth!



**FRIDAY, MAY 10**  
**SIX O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING**

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

**PLEASE SIGNUP BY MAY 5**

**HOSTED BY: UIC MEN**



# Upper Susquehanna Synod

God's work. Our hands.

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## STRATEGY UPDATE

The Upper Susquehanna Synod Council adopted a new strategy to present to our synod at the assembly in June. Church/Unity is the first focus area of the strategy. One of the ways we will look at enhancing church unity is to encourage our congregations to strengthen worship and outreach practices. We also want to focus on the words that conclude our liturgies:

*“Go in peace; serve the Lord.”*

Some of the goals include:

1. Provide an annual workshop that helps congregation leaders improve their worship practices.
2. Train laity, especially youth and young adults, in skills for worship leadership.
3. Assist congregations in training laity about the mission of the church through faith formation and catechesis.

More details on the strategy will be shared in the coming months in preparation for the discussion that will take place at Synod Assembly in June.

If you would like to see a copy of the strategy, visit [www.uss-elca.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/03/2019-Mission-Strategy.pdf](http://www.uss-elca.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/03/2019-Mission-Strategy.pdf)

# BISHOP'S OPEN GOLF CLASSIC



The annual Bishop Open's Golf Classic is set for May 13, 2019, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club in Shamokin Dam. The tournament benefits Camp Mount Luther and the camp's annual fund.

The camp's golf tournament committee is currently looking for hole sponsors, door prize sponsors, silent auction items, and golfers. If you can help, please call the camp office at 570- 922-1587 or email at [cml@campmountluther.org](mailto:cml@campmountluther.org).

## LUTHERAN DAYS IN THE CAPITAL



On May 19 and 20, join people of faith from around Pennsylvania for inspiration, education and participation — in

worship, service, learning and advocacy. We will focus on setting bigger, more welcoming, tables in our lives, our congregations, our communities and our Commonwealth. Come for our traditional Lutheran Day in the Capitol or come early and enjoy a day of service, learning and witness with our neighbors of different tradi-

tions. Bring a friend — or a team! Learn more and register here: <https://www.lutheranadvocacypa.org/event/lutheran-advocacy-days-in-the-capital/>

Kathryn Lohre, Assistant to the Presiding Bishop of the ELCA and Executive for Ecumenical and InterReligious Relations & Theological Discernment will keynote Lutheran Day. Lohre will offer a vision of what it could mean to live into the proposed Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment, to be considered at the 2019 Churchwide Assembly. She will also lead a conversational workshop around the wisdom and work that went into the proposed policy statement.

## CAMP MOUNT LUTHER



Raise the Region was another huge success in March. The event was coordinated by The First Community Foundation Partnership of PA. We raised \$18,881 (#14 overall) from 127 gifts (#7 overall). Both the amount raised and number of donors are new records for us. A huge THANK YOU to all who made this a success to provide a great faith-based program for our children, youth, and families!!!

We received some more donations to our new initia-

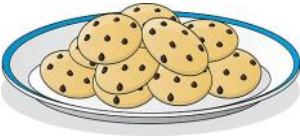
tive, Reach 25. We're trying to raise \$12,500 to give camperships to some first-time campers. So far, we have \$3,500 raised toward our goal. If you are interested in contributing to Reach 25, please contact the camp office!

And, we have a few more new benches "adopted" for the amphitheater. We are seeking people to sponsor a bench for \$75. We will try to make 62 benches during our Spring Work Day. If you'd like to sponsor a bench, contact us!

CML phone number: 570-922-1587

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## SOCIAL HOUR



Social Hour is a time for us to stay connected with each other while enjoying a light snack after worship.

If your last name begins with one of the letters listed for that Sunday's Social Hour, please bring a snack to share.

## STAY IN THE LOOP



Go to the church's website to view an up-to-date Church Calendar of Events or current month's Worship Volunteers, which are listed in all upcoming "worship" events.

## 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.

The cost is \$30 and you may take your flowers home with you after service!

**To place your order please email the office  
at [office@unitedinchristlutheran.net](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net)  
or call 570-568-2254.**

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# THANK YOU

Thank you to all of the members of UIC who gave bags of candy for filling the plastic eggs used at this year's egg hunt! Also, we appreciate the youth who filled the eggs and hid them. We loved seeing the Easter bunny arrive on the White Deer Township Fire Truck.

~ Michelle Shearer



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.