

Ziegels Lutheran Congregation Newsletter for December 2017

*The December Newsletter is sponsored in loving memory of
their grandparents by Adam and Olivia Danner*

Positions on Lutheran Council

"Then they heard the Lord asking, "Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?" I said, "Here I am. Send me." (Isaiah 6:8, NLT)

Our Lutheran Council is seeking persons to serve three year terms. In accordance with the Constitution of our Congregation the Council members "shall: have general oversight of the life and activities of this Congregation, and in particular its worship life, to the end that everything be done in accordance with the Word of God and the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America." Including but not limited to:

- Leading this congregation in stating its mission, to do long-range planning, to set goals and priorities, and to evaluate its activities in light of its mission and goals.
- Seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support.
- Oversee and provide for the administration of this congregation to enable it to fulfill its functions and perform its mission.
- Maintain supportive relationships with the pastor and staff and help them annually to evaluate the fulfillment of their calling or employment.
- Be examples individually and corporately of the style of life and ministry expected of all baptized persons.
- Promote a congregational climate of peace and goodwill, and, as differences and conflicts arise, to endeavor to foster mutual understanding.

Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to be a part of this team of leaders.

A Lutheran Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 3, for the purpose of electing Council Members. Please plan on attending the meeting, which will be held at the 8:30 a.m. service.

We only find out if you are hospitalized if a family member calls, or if you give your church name to the hospital at admittance. The Lutheran hospital code is 351.



The Simply Giving® Program, endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union, is designated to help you conveniently make contributions to our Congregation. Through the Simply Giving Program, your payments are made through a preauthorized withdrawal from your bank account.

Give on Your Terms

You determine the frequency of your automatic payment – weekly, semi-monthly, or monthly. Your payment is deposited into Ziegels' bank account on the same day it is withdrawn from your account.

Easy Giving You Can Count On!

Convenience – Payment will still be made if you are out of town or on vacation.

Security – No lost or stolen checks.

Environmentally and Wallet Friendly – Save on checks, envelopes and postage.

Sign Up and Start Giving

To participate, please see Lori Brawn in the main office.

Christmas is Coming

Gathering together in many events over many days, we are called to gather in the many messages of Christmas. It is not enough to bemoan the loss of the meaning in our consumer culture. It is our task to claim the Christ-child as our own, in our lives and for our families. Find, in the schedule of Christmas, your place and make your way. If you need to, pray the liturgy below, the remembrance of why we come to the most special place, where the promise of redemption enters our world.

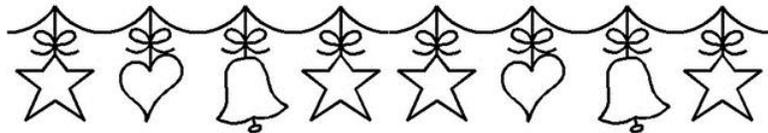
We come, this night, to claim an ancient faith
which, still today, speaks to our hearts and minds.
We come like other believers through the centuries,
searching for a sign from God.

We come as children of wonder,
to recall the songs of childhood
which pry the locks off our hardened hearts,
and open our memories to the blessings
of warm kitchens, delicious treats
and grandparent embraces.



We come as the very old,
having forgotten more than many have yet seen,
who still cherish Christmas as our treasure,
unwrapping each part of the story as a familiar gift
who know how the story goes, what the promises are,
who are the characters and the parts they play,
yet the knowing only adds to the joy of discovery.

We come as families of blood and faith,
who share the signs: the candles, the garland,
the cookies, the wrapping paper,
the carols and starlight and songs of the angels;
and who share the deep meanings of every celebrations
with the people we love, and have loved for generations.



We come seeking God,
Emptied by life and hungry to know
how God's gift of the Christ Child speaks hope,
how the birth of a baby transforms a world,
how one human life bring enlivens us all.

We come as weary wanderers to discover
the light of Christ, which dispels shadows of terror,
shines into our deepest gloom,
and burns through the dreary miseries of our world,
to dispel evil, hatred, violence and pain.

We come as pilgrims, on long, unremarkable journeys,
searching for meaning like a star in the heavens,
who come to discover Christ every year,
amid straw and simplicity in the manger,
giving purpose to our everyday lives.



We come as people seeking direction from Jesus, God's child,
to listen to his words of challenge and peace,
to reach out for his touch of healing,
to follow his path of selfless service.

We come as people of God to celebrate
that God chooses to be, for a while, just one of us,
blessing everything common and ordinary,
and reminding us that everyone bears God's image,
everyone breathes God's spirit,
and everyone is born into God's family.





Please remember the following people in your prayers. To add someone, call the church office at 610-285-6157.

Our Members and Friends (Lutheran List):

Renee Miller
Tina Hoch
Carolyn Smith
Marlene Evangelista
Darlene Heintzelman
Lee Merkel
Mildred Gehringer
Clarence Hausman
Ray Hausman
Marsteller Family
Beth Harwick
Carol Merkle
Megan Koch
Paul Ruch
Gloria Hausman
Kristin Folck
Jason Clemens
Earl Schrammel
Mike Bagenstose
Dolores Shade

Grace Zimmerman
AnnaMae Meck
Lottie Berger
Dayton Ritter
Marie Leslie
Polly Loveland
Linda Bortz
Wyatt Newhard
Hilda Yeager

Military Members:

Ben Beitler
Ralph Haaf
Greg Meckes
Luke Frisch
Nick Millward
Garth Ritter
Dale Host

Scott Becker
Nan Gerner
Brett Snyder
Peggy Hoffman
Gloria Beers
Sonny Purugganan
Deborah Demko
David Freeze
Jackie Grier
Ellen Shut
James Ferguson

Thank you to the following people who assisted with our worship services in November:

- Head Usher – Ralph Wilhide
- Worship Assistants – Lori Brawn, Aaron Green, Kim Lapp, Maynard Koplín
- Lay Readers – Dave Frey, Kim Lapp, Shawn Frederick-Beers, Frank Legath
- Mixing Board Operators – Ralph Wilhide, Dave Frey, Andy Schopf and Jeff Quay

Sponsors Are Needed!

Can you help by sponsoring one of the following? It's a wonderful way to remember or honor a loved one.

- **Altar Flowers and Piano Vases** – Contact Gloria Hausman at 610-285-6741
- **Bulletins** – Cost is \$18 per week. Contact Sandy Rothermel at 610-966-0712 or Sandyravon@aol.com
- **Nursery** – Cost is \$34 per Sunday or \$17 per service. Sponsorship helps to cover the cost of the attendant. Please see Lori Brawn.
- **Lutheran Newsletter 2018** - \$40 per month. Sign up sheet on the Upper Narthex Desk.
- **Food Pantry Sponsor 2018** - \$70 per month. Sign up sheet on the Upper Narthex Desk.
- **Website Sponsor 2018** - \$30 per month. Sign up sheet on the Upper Narthex Desk.

Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes

The Lutheran Council meeting was held Monday, November 13. Highlights from the meeting included:

- Thank-you card received from Good Shepherd for Needy Patient Fund
- Discussion on the need for Greeters at doors to the Sanctuary before services
- Discussion on Proposed Budget for 2018

The next Lutheran Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m.