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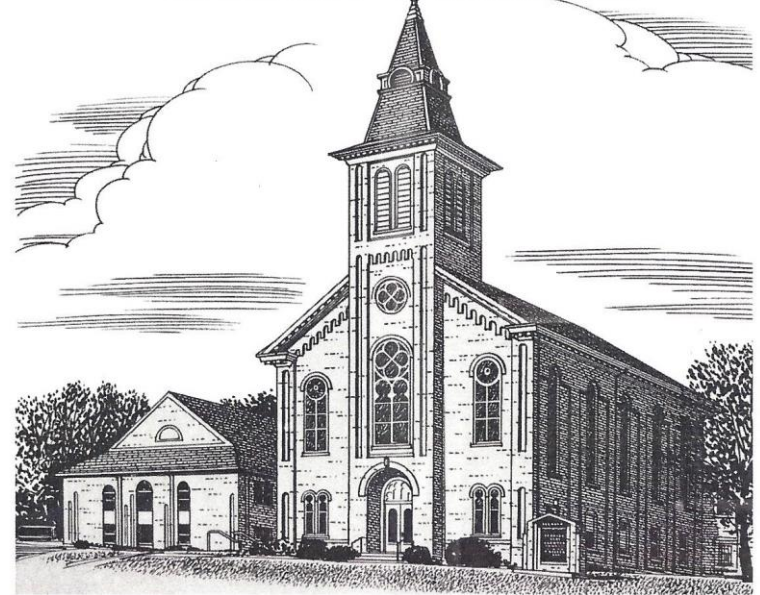
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**The Office will be closed on Monday, February 19.
If you have any emergency,
please contact Lori or Marlene at the above
numbers.**

The deadline for submissions for the March 2018
newsletter is Friday, February 9.
Please contact Michele Quier directly or send information
by email to MichM7270@gmail.com

ZIEGELS UNION CHURCH



Breinigsville, PA

***February 2018
Newsletter***

Volume 18, Issue 2



The sacrament of Holy Communion will be offered on the first and third Sunday of each month at both the 8:30 a.m. Lutheran service and 11:05 a.m. UCC service. The dates for this month are February 4 and February 18.

Lent Begins in February



Our Lenten gatherings begin on Ash Wednesday, February 14 with services at noon and 7:00 p.m. Soup will be served in the Fellowship Room following the Noon service, and again at 6:00 p.m. prior to worship at 7:00 p.m. Communion will be served by Intinction. Please join us as we share the Lenten Journey.

Services will continue every Wednesday Evening through March 28. Remember that we will begin each gathering with a soup meal beginning at 6:00 p.m. We hope you will join us!

All families are invited to attend our Lenten Services with their children and youth. Following the Soup Meal, all children and youth are invited to join together for a lesson relating to the worship themes, discussion time, and crafts.

Palm Sunday/ Passion Sunday services will be Sunday March 25. Holy Communion will be served at the 8:30 a.m. Lutheran service as well as the 11:05 a.m. UCC service.

Holy Week

Wednesday, March 28, 6:00 p.m. – Way of the Cross and Soup Meal. There will be about 20 experiential sites, set up across the sanctuary. Each has a scripture reading and a short response. Each has something to “do” to steer our spiritual response to the reading. The readings themselves follow Jesus through his mission, to the cross and beyond, and invite us into the story. A child friendly

event will also be offered for the children to experience the journey.

Maundy Thursday, March 29 - Ziegels Church will observe Maundy Thursday with a Union Agape Meal (a form of “Love Feast”) at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The meal will be an arranged pot luck supper, followed by an informal Communion around the tables in the Fellowship Hall and a teaching for children (and adults) about the Stripping of the Altar. Finally, we will devotionally process upstairs to the church sanctuary where all are welcome to participate in the Stripping of the Altar. (We will not be having a Passover Sedar. The purpose is to experience the first Communion in its original meal setting. This will be a “family-friendly” event in which children of all ages can participate.)

Good Friday Worship will be held March 30 at 12:00



Noon and 7:00 p.m. The Good Friday 12:00 Noon Service will be a meditation on the passion of Jesus focused on eight different objects which will be presented in the church. Patterned on a “Stations of the Cross” service. Scripture passages will be read, a hymn will be sung, and a prayer will be offered relating to each object. The whole service will last no more than 45-50 minutes. The focus on objects will make it easier for children to relate.

On Easter morning, April 1, we will celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. Services will be held at:

- 6:00 a.m. - Union Sunrise Service begins in the cemetery then moves to the sanctuary for worship and communion by Intinction
- 8:30 a.m. – Lutheran Festive Worship with Holy Communion by Intinction
- 11:05 a.m. - UCC Festive Worship with Holy Communion

Please be with us on this day as we celebrate the risen Christ!



Souper Bowl Sunday will be held on Sunday, February 4.

Everyone is asked to bring canned or boxed food items, or monetary donations. You may place your items on the front pews of the Sanctuary. All food donations will be given to Lowhill Food Pantry to support those in our community who are in need and monetary donations will support the SnackPack Program. Thank you!



The 18th Annual Farm Family Appreciation Celebration

will be held on Saturday, March 17 at the Hamburg Field House. The theme this year will be "Farm Animals". Almost 900 farm family members and their supporters will be given thanks for their hard work that is accomplished each and every day on our behalf. All families are invited to attend for free if they make their living from the land. If you would like to attend please see Lori in the office for the registration form. As in the past, Ziegels will be supporting this event. Donations may be placed in the offering plate marked "Farm Family Banquet". This is a wonderful opportunity to show our support to those who work hard to tend the land and provide for others.

The Fellowship Hour Needs Volunteers!

Everyone likes to have the drinks and tasty baked goods during the fellowship hour on a Sunday. Volunteers are needed in order for this to happen and not much time is required. People are needed for set up, clean up and for baking the treats. Sign-up sheets are located in the fellowship hall. If you have questions, please contact Doreen Wynn at 610-481-0143 or luvplumeria@yahoo.com.

Monthly Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the second Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Room. The group makes Prayer Shawls, Baptismal blankets and scarves. All are invited to attend this group and share your gift, or come out and learn to knit and crochet.

Mission Response

The Mission Response Team will hold their next meeting on Monday, March 12 at 6:00 p.m. Discussion will be held on fundraising and future work projects. Please join us!

Our next **Shrimp Boil** will be held on Sunday, April 29 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Mission Team will be traveling to Denham Springs, Louisiana to work with Fuller Center Rebuilders the week of March 19, 2018. We have reserved 15 beds and nine have been placed on hold, so please contact Lori as soon as possible if you would like to go along!

The Team will return to Camden, New York this summer. They will be working with Cluster 13 Ministries. This trip is open to families and teenagers. We will be leaving on July 15 and we will return home on Friday, July 20. If you would like to work with us for a week or even a half week, you are more than welcome. If you are interested in traveling with the Team, please speak with Lori.

We are in the process of preparing 120 CleanUp Buckets for Church World Services.

We are seeking donations to fill the buckets. After the items are collected we will be offering an Assembly Party to prepare the buckets for shipping. Here are the items we still need:

- 78 scrub brushes, 1,422 Easy Wipes, 97 large sponges, (120) 100' clotheslines, (105) 12.6 oz. disinfectant dish soap, (110) 10.75 oz. household cleaner, 97 packs of 50 clothespins, (12) 30 gal heavy duty trash bags, (120) 6 or 9 oz. bottles of insect repellent

Items should be brought to church and given to Lori for recording.

Family Promise in 2018.

Ziegels will be participating in the ministry of Family Promise, an organization that helps homeless families move forward in finding work and a place to live. If you would like to volunteer to shop for food, prep and serve, clean up, help with homework and evening family activities, or be an overnight chaperone please call Lori Brawn at 610-285-6157 to sign up.

We will be collecting board games and puzzles for the families that will be staying at Ziegels during our Family Promise weeks. A box will be located in the lobby. Please speak with Missi Fugazzotto at 484-256-3588 if you have any questions.

Family Promise of Lehigh County will be conducting a "Fill This House with Love" fundraising campaign during the month of February. Ziegels will be provided with a 20"x30" banner with grommets and mounting hooks, and heart stickers. Donors can write their name on a heart sticker that will be placed on the banner. The banner will remain in place during the month of February. The month of February was chosen to hold this fundraising event because February is American Heart Month. Family Promise of Lehigh County wants to emphasize our commitment to having a heart for homeless families with children.

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

The following people are the sponsors for the month of February:

- **Lowhill Food Pantry Sponsor:** Harry and Bonnie Millward for God's Many Blessings
- **Website Sponsor:** Michele and Keith Quier in honor of our Youth

A Message from Lori.....

"No, O people, the Lord has told you what is good, and this is what He requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8, NLT)

A few years ago, nineteen youth, two junior youth leaders, and eleven adults left Ziegels for the Harrisburg Youth Quake. We joined with 418 youth and adults from across the region for a weekend, actually 40 hours, of learning, worship and praise. We began the weekend sharing, as a small group, what we thought our theme, "Do.Love.Walk." would be all about. My favorite answer from one of our students was "not everything in the world is fair, so we need to **listen** and **follow** God, and **help** people who are struggling."

Listen. Follow. Help. We need to take the time to **listen**. Many gifts can be given and received in sitting with others, "knee to knee" and listening to their stories of their personal faith journey. And many more gifts can be received in spending time with God, "on our knees" to listen for His will for us. We often suppose we know what God's will is, but sometimes we confuse our will with His will. And that can be dangerous.....how can we **follow** God if we are not listening to God? We must build our foundation on humility not pride; keeping in mind always what we are able to do for God and with God's help and not fooling ourselves about our own importance. God knows who needs our **help** and where our help is needed; our job is to go where God needs us most. One person may be called to minister in a disaster, while one is called to minister in Allentown, while another may need to minister in his own congregation or his or her own home. Our ministry in one place is no more important than our ministry in another. God empowers each of us to do whatever it is He has in mind for us.

As we pray for and discern God's will for each us, of this we can be sure – the Lord requires us "to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly" with Him. As we do this, we will find the answers to the questions we may have about

our path in life, our role in the Church, and our relationships with others. And along the way we will grow in His light.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Do.Love.Walk.

Sunday School

Classes are held each Sunday for children and youth ages 1 through 8th grade. Children are asked to be in their classrooms by 10:00 a.m. and class is dismissed at 10:55 a.m. Please remember that children should not be sent to their classrooms before 9:55 a.m. and should be picked up by 10:55 a.m. Our schedule allows just enough time for our Sunday School teachers and helpers who attend early service to get to their classrooms and for our teachers and helpers who attend late service to get to their service on time.

Our Adult Sunday School Class is offered every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the Matthew Room. Ralph Wilhide leads the class,

On Sunday, February 18, the children will "Bury the Alleluias" in preparation for Lent. The children are asked to meet in outside the organ door at 8:20 a.m. and/or 10:55 a.m. After they have paraded with the banners through the sanctuary they may return to their seats. The Alleluias will be released on Easter Morning.

Our annual Lenten Loose Change Offering will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 14. Collection containers will be located outside of the elevator on the first floor and next to the water fountain on the second floor.

Perfect Attendance

Beginners: John Harold, Samuel Schopf

Pre-K: Jaxon Masters, John Schopf

Kindergarten and 1st Grade: Noah Rohrbach, Alex Taylor

2nd and 3rd Grade: Emma Taylor, Alivia Fox

4th, 5th and 6th Grade: Sarah Longenderfer, Makela Frantz, Marlyse DeLillo, Emma Clewell

Confirmation: Evan Anderson, Dartanyon DeLillo, Sarah Randall, William Randall, Olivia Wynn

Confirmation Class Happenings

The class will meet on February 4, 18, and 25. Our lessons are "Samuel and Saul," "King David," "David and Nathan," and "Solomon."

Did you know that the Learning Ministries Committee has calculated that it costs \$220.00 per student per year for the Confirmation Program? Each family in the program is asked for a donation of \$100.00 per year, but for some this is a major financial hardship. If you would like to sponsor a student, a donation in any amount may be made out to your congregation and marked Confirmation Program. Any support is greatly appreciated!

Christian Education

Our next scheduled Christian Education meeting will be held Monday, March 19, at 7 p.m. If you have an interest in the Christian Education of our members and would like to be involved in future events, please join us. A Sunday School teacher or helper from each class is asked to attend.

Youth Group

Ice Skating and Roller Skating outings are being planned. Watch your bulletins for further information.

Mark your calendars!

- Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 24 at 2:00 p.m., rain or shine! Children age 1 year old through 6th grade are invited to participate in the Hunt, but all are welcome to come out for the refreshments in the grove following to event!
- Sunday, May 20 – Youth Sunday Service at 11:05 a.m. and Sunday School Program at 10:10 a.m.

Community News

The Boy Scouts will no longer be collecting aluminum cans. Please do not drop off any cans at Ziegels. The Historical Society will accept aluminum cans. Cans must be bagged and can be left under the barn at the Historical Society.



Zumba classes at Ziegels are held in the Acts Room on Monday evenings beginning at 6:00 p.m. Missi Fuggazotto is the instructor. The cost is \$30.00 for 6 classes or \$7.00 per class.

Please bring a towel and water. Childcare is not provided.

The Lowhill Food Pantry

Our contribution to the Lowhill Food Pantry for the month of December was 115 pounds. Their current needs are canned pasta, hamburger helper, jelly, fruit cocktail, sauerkraut, deodorant for both men and women, shampoos, cleaning supplies, and laundry detergent. Again, keep in mind the need for the item to not carry an expired or soon to be expired date.

The suggested item of for the Blessings Room is hand and body lotion.

Thank You cannot be said often enough for all the support and contributions you give to this organization which strives to help our friends and neighbors in our community. Please know that the clients are most grateful and thankful for your kindness.

A special Thank You to Lonnie Damiano and Kelly Lucarelli for leading the project from our Church to ensure that children of the Pantry had presents and stockings at Christmas time. (83) children received presents this year.

Thank you to the members who participated in this year's program. The smiles on the faces of the parents when they picked up the bags were priceless.

Bear Creek Camp's residential program, for children who have completed grades 1 through 12, is a traditional camp program centered on spiritual growth, outdoor living and small group development.

Each age group experiences a mix of small group and all-camp activities throughout the week to meet their group's spiritual, social and developmental. The theme is "Summer 2018 - This Changes Everything." Campers spend time living and playing together: swimming, boating, hiking, worshipping, playing games, discussing their faith, camping, making arts and crafts, learning about the environment, singing, and much more. Church sponsorships are available to help with the cost.

Mailbag

Dear Ziegels Family, Thank you for the kindness shown to me following the loss of my Dad, Larry Ritter. I appreciate all the support and caring words, the cards and the hugs given. A special thanks to Pastor Andy for presiding over the comforting and beautiful funeral service, and to the church staff for their support during this difficult time. I would also like to thank the Lutheran Council for their donation to the Fogelsville Fire Company in memory of my Dad. May God bless you all.

Lori Brawn

Dear Friends, The Office Staff would like to thank all of you for thinking of us during the Holiday Season. We are grateful for the cards, cookies, and gifts you have shared with us, and we pray that this year may be a healthy and happy one for you and your families.

Dear Ziegels Union Church, Thank you for all of the Christmas cards, letters, and support. I appreciate all of your love and support.

Garth Ritter



Union Church Committee Minutes

Highlights from January 9 meeting include:

- Exploratory Committee was formed and will be scheduling their first meeting within the next few weeks
- The Churches Domain Name for the Website was Renewed
- Audit Committee was discussed, and the meeting will be held very soon
- Discussion to explore a Community Wide/Union Church Picnic this summer
- Discussion on Cross Training for Union Communion. The Pastors will write something up for Lutheran and UCC to reference.

Next Union Church Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 13 at 7:30 p.m.