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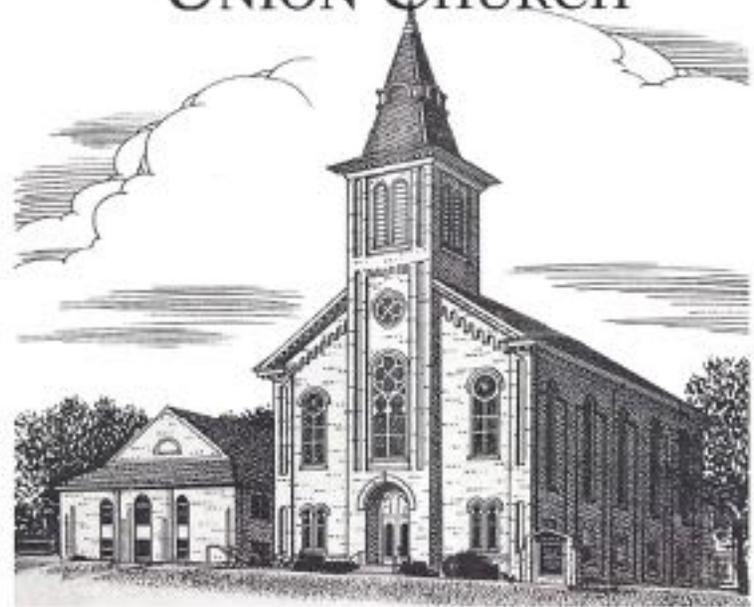
Website: www.ziegelschurch.org

Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Phone: 610-285-6157

Rev Jeff Kistler, UCC Interim Pastor	484-788-3743
Rev Andy Meckstroth, Lutheran Interim	484-523-3039
Lori Brawn, Lutheran Administrator	610-573-9764
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Kristin Folck, Learning Ministries Director	484-860-2549
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David Grillo, 2018 Lutheran Council Pres.	610-928-3506
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ZIEGELS UNION CHURCH



Breinigsville, PA

***March 2018
Newsletter***

Volume 18, Issue 3

The deadline for submissions for the April 2018 newsletter
is Friday, March 16.

Please contact Michele Quier directly or send information by
email to MichM7270@gmail.com

Lent in February and March



Our Lenten gatherings began on Ash Wednesday. 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 at the 8:30 a.m. Lutheran service as well as the 11:05 a.m. UCC service. Please note that these services will not include Holy Communion.

Holy Week

Wednesday, March 28, 5:30 p.m. – Way of the Cross and Soup Meal. There will be about 20 experimental 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.

Maudy Thursday, March 29, 6:30 p.m. – Ziegels Church

will observe Maudy Thursday with a Union Agape Meal (a form of “Love Feast”) in the Fellowship Hall. The meal will be 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 may participate.)

The Agape Love Feast will begin at 6:30 p.m. We will be serving baked chicken, and we will need side dishes of vegetables and potatoes, and desserts. If you are planning to attend, please let Lori know how many people will be coming and what you can bring. We need to have numbers for attendance for the food preparation.

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. This meditation is 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.

“Tenebrae” services have been conducted on Good Friday throughout the history of the Christian Church. “Tenebrae” is the Latin word which means “shadows.” During Tenebrae services, we commemorate the deepening of the sky portrayed by the gospel writers at the hour of Jesus’ death. In a wider context, we remember how the story of Christ’s betrayal, denial, abandonment, beating, mocking and execution is a story filled with symbolic shadows as well. It



is a story into which we are thrown, often in the roles of the many characters who interact with Jesus.

On Good Friday Evening, at our Tenebrae Service, we will share readings from all four gospels and a reading from the prophet Isaiah. Following each reading, the reader will extinguish a candle, symbolic of the coming gloom. We will respond to each reading by singing selected hymn verses, hoping to discover ourselves within the story. It can be a deeply spiritual and moving service that prepares our hearts for the new dawn of Christ’s resurrection on Easter morning when the light of God’s renewing love will burn away all shadows.

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.
- 11:05 a.m. – UCC Festive Worship with Holy Communion

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

Easter Flower Orders

Lilies, tulips and hyacinths are available for Easter. Cost is \$8.50 for 6-bloom lilies; \$6.60 for hyacinths (pink, blue, white); and \$6.60 for tulips (red, purple, yellow, pink). Order forms are available at the church or contact Gloria Hausman (Lutheran) at 610-285-6741 or Laura Loch (UCC) at 610-285-6212. **Deadline to order is March 12.** Please include payment with your order. Checks should be made payable to your own congregation.



Our Clean Up Bucket Assembly Party will be held on March 4. Help will be needed to organize the products during the Sunday School Hour and then following the 11:05 a.m. service. We will share lunch prior to processing the buckets. We need as many people as possible to help prepare the buckets for shipment. Please let Lori Brawn know if you are able to help so we can order enough food!



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, Ziegel's will be supporting this event. Donations may be placed in the offering plate marked "Farm Family Banquet" or donations may be placed in the milk cans in the hallways. This is a wonderful opportunity to show our support to those who work hard to tend the land and provide for others.

Mother's Day Hanging Basket Sale!



Purchase a basket for delivery to the church or a coupon for baskets or flats to be picked up at Lehigh Valley Garden Center, Routes 22 & 309.

Cost is \$15 for a basket or coupon; \$11 for a flat coupon. Pickup at the church is on Thursday, May 10, between 10:00 a.m. and Noon. We cannot guarantee colors for church pickup. Coupons allow you to choose from a wide variety of colors and plants. **Firm deadline April 30.** Order forms are located at the organ door and narthex windowsills and in the Fellowship Room or you can use the form included in the newsletter. Money must accompany the order.

Lutheran Social Services invites you to join us on

Saturday, November 3 for a bus trip to Sight and

Sound Theater for the show, "Jesus."

We will leave Ziegels at 10:00 a.m. and have lunch at Shady Maple and have time to do some shopping. We will return home around 7:30 p.m. The cost will be \$130 for adults, \$125 for seniors 60 and over, \$75 for children 4-12, and \$65 for children under 4. Sign up forms are available at the organ door, narthex windowsills, in the Fellowship Room and in the office or use the form included in the newsletter. Deadline is October 3.

The Fellowship Hour Needs Volunteers!

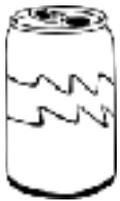
Everyone likes to have the drinks and tasty baked goods during the fellowship hour on a Sunday. Volunteers are needed in order for this to happen and not much time is required. People are needed for set up, clean up and for providing the treats. Sign-up sheets are located in the fellowship hall. If you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

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.

Ziegels Prayer Shawl Ministry Group has been asked by a Local Community Women's Support Group if we would be able to donate 30 Prayer Scarves to them by March 18, 2018. The scarf can be 4-6" wide and 48-60" long; any color and any pattern can be used. If you would be willing to help with this project or want more information, please call Karin Lilley at 610-285-2803.



The Boy Scouts will no longer be collecting aluminum cans. Please do not drop off any cans at Ziegels. The Historical Society will take them if you bag them and place them under the barn on their property.

Mission

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 menu will include a salad,

½ pound shrimp, sausage, potatoes, corn, a drink and a dessert. A children's meal will include a salad, ¼ pound shrimp, sausage, potatoes, half a cob of corn, a drink and a dessert. The cost will be \$15.00 for adults and \$7.00 for children. We will be eating inside! Please call Lori at 610-573-9764 by September 13 to place your reservation. You must preorder! Eat in or take out! Help will be needed in preparing and serving! All proceeds will be used for work in disaster relief recovery.

The Mission Team will be traveling to Denham Springs, Louisiana to work with Fuller Center Rebuilders the week of March 19, 2018. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they work to help people return to their homes.

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 Brawn.

The 12th Annual Mission Team Golf Outing will be held on Saturday, August 4 at Allentown Municipal Golf Course with a 7:30 a.m. shotgun start. The fees are \$90.00 per golfer, which includes greens fees, lunch, and prizes. Donations of raffle prizes are needed as well as tee sponsors (\$50.00) and business sponsors (\$25.00). Foursome forms and sponsor forms are available in the

main office or call Terry Oplinger at (610) 462-5324 for more information. Help is also needed the day of the Outing.

Raffle Tickets for the Golf Outing will be sold for \$10.00 per ticket and the drawing will be held at 2:00 p.m. on the day of the outing. Prizes will be announced very soon. If you would be willing to sell tickets for the Team, for every ten you sell, you will receive one free ticket. Please call Diane Hemerly at 610-767-5198 or e-mail her at jhemerly@aol.com.

Sunshine Center Preschool is accepting new students for the 2018-2019 school year. Classes include two and three-year-old, three year old, and four year olds. If you would like more information or would like to register a student, please contact Diane Hemerly at 610-285-6297 or Pat Elliot at 610-395-8034. All children are welcome!

Family Promise is moving closer to being ready to house homeless people in our churches. There are items we will need to take care of our families if anyone would like to donate any gently used or new items. Twin sheet sets, blankets, pillows, washcloths, hand towels, drying racks, mattress pads, infant bathtub, 2 "pack and plays," extension cords, alarm clocks, outlet covers, night lights, diapers and sippy cups, and small travel toothpaste tubes and toothbrushes. Any questions, please contact Kim Lapp.

Thank You To Our Sponsors!

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

- **Lowhill Food Pantry Sponsor:** Donna and Dave Purugganan in honor of their anniversary
- **Website Sponsor:** Andrew Graff and Family in

honor or the Pastors

A Message from Lori.....

"She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved.....Peter and the other disciple started out for the tomb. They were both running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.....Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside.....the disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in, and he saw and believed – for until then they still hadn't understood the Scriptures that said Jesus must rise from the dead". (John 20:2-9, NLT)

I love that John refers to himself as **"the one whom Jesus loved"**. It gives me so much hope and confidence in God's forgiving love. For the better part of three years, these twelve men, who had given up their homes and families and careers, had followed Jesus. They heard him preach and pray, they saw him perform miracles, and they saw him exhausted. They saw the divine Jesus and the human Jesus. And still, until the end, they doubted, they questioned, they stumbled, and they fell. Jesus had seen them at their worst, tired and disbelieving. When push came to shove, they scattered. When Jesus needed them, they were gone.

At times, it is easy for us to think that the disciples seem to be a group of people who just walk around with their eyes and ears closed to what is happening around them. Of

course, we know the whole story and see the big picture – from beginning to end.

Without a doubt, Jesus loved each one of those disciples, even Judas Iscariot. He knew their faults and shortcomings, when they didn't even know their weaknesses themselves. And He also knew their hearts, and how long it would take and how difficult it would be to help them recognize their God-given gifts. And that is why I love that John refers to himself as **"the one whom Jesus loved"**. John was confident in his relationship with Jesus. After everything....the doubts, the fears, the betrayals, Jesus loved the disciples and John was proud to be one of the ones whom Jesus loved. And we should be proud as well. We are more like those disciples than we would care to admit. We trip, we stumble, and we fall on our faces.

We can have the confidence of John. I can say "Lori, the one whom Jesus loves, is having a hard time dealing with deadlines today" or I can say "Lori, the one whom Jesus loves, is sad today" or "Lori, the one whom Jesus loves, is blessed beyond her wildest dreams". And you can say all those things too. Just try it. It feels wonderful and it is so true, for each and every one of us.

Jesus loves you and nothing you do will ever change that. Jesus loves **you** and **nothing** you do will ever change that.

In Peace and Joy,

Lori

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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. Ralph Wilhide leads the class and they meet in the Matthew Room.

On Sunday, February 18, the children buried "Alleluias" in preparation for Lent. The Alleluias will be released on Easter Morning.

Our annual Lenten Loose Change Offering began on Ash Wednesday. Collection containers are located outside of the elevator on the first floor and next to the water fountain on

the second floor. Proceeds will be sent to the Snack Pack Program at Lowhill Food Pantry.

Confirmation Class Happenings

The class will meet on March 4, 11, 18 and 25. Our lessons for March are "A Split Kingdom," "Exile and Return," "Esther," and a Learning Goal Workshop.

Important Upcoming Events:

The Final Retreat for second year students will be held on Friday, April 20 at 5:30 p.m.

Lutheran Council Interviews will be held on May 14 at 6:00 p.m.

UCC Consistory interviews will be held on May 8 at 6:30 p.m.

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 7:00 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.

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 the event! Invite your neighbors, family and friends! Hope to see you there!



Cupcake Decorating!

On Saturday, March 10, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon, youth of all ages are invited to come decorate cupcakes! Each child will be given a half dozen cupcakes to decorate and take home. If your child would like to participate in this event please contact Kristin Folck by email, kristinfolck@gmail.com or sign-up outside of the Christian Education Office.

Sunday, May 20 – Youth Sunday Service at 11:05 a.m. and Sunday School Program at 10:10 a.m.

Sunday School Perfect Attendance

Pre-K: Quinly Hanna

Kindergarten and 1st Grade: Colton Hanna

4th, 5th and 6th Grade: Hailey Green, Grace Clewell,
Makela Frantz

Confirmation: Charlize Bobbyn, Joshua Wynn, Kaleb
Beers, Ryan Cardinale, Dartanyon DeLillo, Sarah Randall,
William Randall, Olivia Wynn

Community News



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.

"High School Musical" presented by Northwestern High School will be held on March 1, 2 and 3 at 7:00 p.m. and March 4 at 2:00 p.m. The show will be held at the Middle School. Tickets at www.northwesternhigh.ticketleap.com. Adults- \$9.00, Senior Citizens and Students - \$6.00.

The WLTHS 14th Annual Basket Social Fundraiser will be held on Monday, April 23, 2018 at the Zettlemoyer Auction Center in Fogelsville located at 820 Nursery Street. Doors open at 3:00 p.m. to view baskets and place your tickets. The actual drawing begins at 7:00 p.m.

Liberty High School will present "The Wizard of Oz"

on April 26, 27, 28 at 7:00 p.m. and 29 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets go on sale March 2. Call 1-866-967-8167 or online showtix4u.com.



The Lowhill Food Pantry

Our contribution to the Lowhill Food Pantry for the month of January was 178 pounds. Their current needs are kid's cereal, oatmeal, ketchup, canned fruit cocktail, Jelly, Jello, pudding, and men's and women's deodorant. Always keep in mind the need for the item to not carry an expired or soon to be expired date.

The needs for the Blessings Room are towels and socks for all ages.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You for all your continued support and contributions.

Thank You:

- to all who donated for our "Souper Bowl" collection. We had \$40.00 plus two cans of tuna fish collected in honor of the New England Patriots and \$55.00 plus 69 food items collected in honor of the Philadelphia Eagles! An additional 16 food items were given for "Machts Nicht."
- to all who have donated supplies and monetary

donations for our Clean Up Buckets. We are so grateful to be able to support those who have suffered through natural disasters.

- to parents who donated breakfast and lunch items, drove, and chaperoned the Youth Quake

Mailbag

Dear Ziegels Family,

Thank you so much for your kindness shown to our family upon the passing of Annamae Meck. We appreciate all of the cards, visits, and support you all gave to her and our entire family. Ziegels Church meant the world to her, and she loved baking pies for the church events. One of her favorite places to sit in the church in her later years was on the small church pew at the elevator door on the first floor waiting to talk to everyone who came down from upstairs. And she enjoyed every one of those conversations. A special thank you to Pastor Jeff who visited her at Keystone Villa and the Topton Home, and on his very last visit to her when we had a beautiful family circle surrounding her singing hymns and speaking Pa. Dutch.

God Bless you all.

Love, Deb and Glenn Hofmann, and all of our families.



Union Church Committee Minutes

Highlights from February 13th Meeting include:

- Thank you letters received from Family Promise for 2017 donations totaling \$3851 and \$1447 so far this year.
- Discussion on Annual Union Meeting on Sunday, April 2 – Union service at 9:00 a.m., annual union meeting followed by a brunch
- Discussion on an **Organ Research Committee**, information to be announced by Easter services.
- Name Tags will be removed, and racks will be stored. It appears they seldom are worn anyway.

Next Union Church Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 13.