

# **Ziegels Lutheran Congregation**

## **Newsletter**

### **April 2018**

*The April newsletter is sponsored by Josh and Kristin Folck in honor of their 6<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.*

**On March 20, 2018, Pastor Andy celebrated his 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination. We will be recognizing this special occasion on Sunday, April 8 with a special liturgy. Following the service we will have cake and snacks in the Fellowship Room. We invite all of you to please join us as we show our appreciation and support of Pastor Andy's ministry!**

**On Sunday, April 15, Pastor Bruce Potteiger will be supplying for Pastor Andy.** Please join us to hear him share his personal witness about "Food for the Poor's" mission to care for the destitute as a means of living out the Gospel mandate to love one another.

**If you are in the Hospital please let us know!** There are HIPAA laws about privacy. 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.

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

- **Head Usher** – Kim Lapp
- **Worship Assistants** – Aaron Green, Kim Lapp, Maynard Koplín, Lori Brawn
- **Lay Readers** – Frank Legath, Kim Lapp, Joyce Najarian
- **Mixing Board Operators** – Andy Schopf, Jeff Quay, Terry Oplinger, Ralph Willhide, Dave Frey

#### **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.

We started this thing at the time of the annual "God's Work, Our Hands" challenge of the Lutheran Church. The storms of 2017 had just begun devastating our country and it seemed logical to have a "hands on" project that addressed flood and storm recovery – a project that could have participants from both congregations, and could solicit response from our local partners as well. In particular, it occurred to some of the dauntless (some might say "clueless") types on the pastoral staff (okay; just one of them) that one of the most helpful items in flood and storm recovery situations were "clean-up buckets" of the type collected and sent out and used through organizations such as Church World Services. (They're the ones who also do the "blanket" ministries, and lots of other hands on mission response kinds of things.)

Somehow, that slightly crazed pastor was taken seriously and donations were solicited and the process was begun to assemble clean-up buckets – and not just a few. Our fate, so to speak, was sealed when 120 buckets, 5 gallon size, showed up courtesy of U-Line – one of our local partners in crime ministry. We were in for it now. And the call went out, and stuff started arriving, and the history room started filling up. And the "bucket filling" date kept getting pushed back as the sheer magnitude of the project began to dawn on us all. But the generosity and mission heart of Ziegels also began to dawn on us all. We were doing this, moving closer all the time, augmenting what we were not able to gather inexpensively with the cash donations we needed to make it happen. But still, we wondered. when would we finally be able to schedule the party??

Then it happened. Finally. On Sunday, March 4 (2018), we scheduled a bucket filling party in two parts. In theory, we would organize everything following the 8:30 am worship service – in theory – and then pack them after the 11:05 am worship service. In theory. But there was a snowstorm late in the week, and someone (a certain hardworking Parish administrator) got antsy. The set up happened Friday, March 2nd. The tables were set up and filled with all the items to go into the buckets in an orderly order.

And so by Sunday, March 4th, when the first service was over (before 10! Despite being a communion Sunday!!), all things were ready. And then...



Okay. So here's what I really wanted to talk about. Here's what miracles are made of. Here's what we mean when we say, "God's Work; Our Hands."

We had a sign-up sheet of who would be available to help fill these buckets. There were something like 30ish people signed up. But when the process proceeded, others joined in. At one 42 people were counted, and we are reasonably sure that even that is an under count. Some people moved the buckets through the line, filling as they went. Some people handed out the items. Some people rolled trash bags. Some people stacked and moved finished buckets. We were many sizes, shapes and ages, all working together to help people we may never meet. We were, for a little while the hands needed for God to make a miracle. Or maybe (better!), together we became a miracle.



We are, after all, the Church – the body of Christ living in the world. At our best, we are the people who emerge from Easter, filled with new life and finding ways to offer it to the world. At our best, the good news of God's love for humanity is what guides us in our words and deeds. At our best people see and hear and experience how God is breaking into the world all the time.

So. Yes: thanks are due to all the participants, who were very, very many. Thanks to those who gave so much, who packed it all, who coordinated the effort and who prayed for success. Thanks to the people who accepted the buckets and will store them. And thanks to those who will, in their time, get them to the place where they can be used to help clean-up after a disaster. But most of all: thanks are due to our God who invited us to share in the mission of love to the world – and gave us everything we needed. God's call to love our neighbor is, after all, not just a direction but a joy – that feeds our hearts and souls and gives our lives meaning. And when God calls, love enters our lives in unexpected, miraculous, fulfilling ways. To God be the glory!

--AWM



## Prayer List

"So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding." (Colossians 1:9, NLT)

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

### ***Our Members and Friends (Lutheran List):***

**Renee** Miller  
**Tina** Hoch  
**Carolyn** Smith  
**Marlene** Evangelista  
**Gloria** Hausman  
**Lee** Merkel  
**Beth** Harwick  
**Ray** Hausman  
**Jill** Normandin  
**Marstellar** Family  
**Carol** Merkle  
**Megan** Koch  
**Pastor Michel**  
**John** Beiber  
**Dennis** Strohl  
**Jim** Macalush  
**Mission Team**  
**Roberta** Borgman

**Grace** Zimmerman  
**Deb** Ginder  
**Wyatt** Newhard  
**Albert** Fendrich  
**Marie** Leslie  
**Polly** Loveland  
**Oscar** Kleinsmith  
**Tim** Hoch

**Military Members:**  
**Ralph** Haaf  
**Greg** Meckes  
**Luke** Frisch  
**Ben** Beitler  
**Nick** Millward  
**Scott** Esterly  
**Garth** Ritter  
**Dale** Host  
**Chris** Owens

**Marlene** Smith  
**Nan** Gernerd  
**Brett** Snyder  
**Peggy** Hoffman  
**Gloria** Beers  
**Sonny** Purugganan  
**Deborah** Demko  
**Jeffrey** Miller  
**James** Ferguson  
**Jeanne** Ennico  
**Terry** Kearney  
**John** Mulzet  
**William** Gerlach

**Family of:**  
**Lottie** Berger  
**Mario** Lucarelli

## **Mailbag**

Thank you to all the kind hearted people in our congregation that thought of me during the Christmas season by sending me Christmas cards and their kind thoughts. I am blessed to belong to a wonderful church, such as Ziegel's Lutheran Church. Thank you very much, Paul Ruch

Thank you to Pastor Andy for his visits during my hospital stay. His prayers and compassion shown to me and my family were very much appreciated. John Beiber

## **Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes**

The Lutheran Council meeting was held Monday, March 12.

Highlights from the meeting included:

- Thank you letter from Good Shepherd
- Discussion on Joint Congregational Business Meeting to be held April 22
- Discussion on Call Committee and Call Process

The next Lutheran Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 9 at 7:30 pm.

# CHILDREN'S COLORING PAGE



*EASTER IS NOT ABOUT THE BUNNY...  
ITS ABOUT THE LAMB*

