

**Contact Information**

You can reach us:

e-mail address: [ziegelschurch@gmail.com](mailto:ziegelschurch@gmail.com)

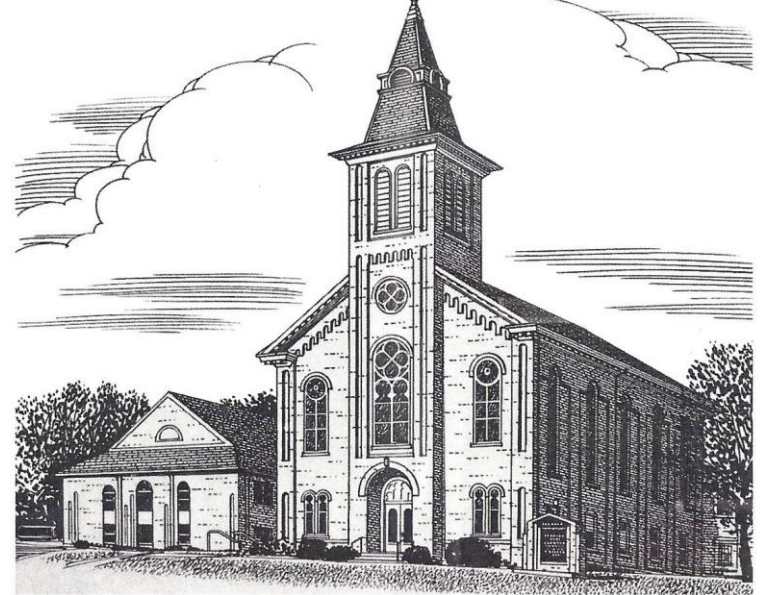
Website: [www.ziegelschurch.org](http://www.ziegelschurch.org)

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

Phone: 610-285-6157

Rev Andy Meckstroth, Lutheran Interim	484-523-3039
Lori Brawn, Lutheran Administrator	610-573-9764
Rev Kent Rhodehamel, UCC Interim	781-724-4156
Marlene Frantz, UCC Admin. Assistant	610-285-6631
Diane Moyer, Church Caretaker	610-285-4751
Jill Bruckart, Director of Music Ministries	610-419-0461
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Kim Lapp, 2019 Union Church President	484-268-8845
Kevin Taylor, 2019 Lutheran Council Pres.	610-351-4321
Andy Graff, 2019 UCC Consistory President	610-349-0359
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# ZIEGELS UNION CHURCH



9990 Ziegels Church Road  
Breinigsville, PA 18031

**March 2019  
Newsletter**

**Volume 19, Issue 3**

The deadline for submissions  
for the April 2019 newsletter is Friday, March 15.  
Please contact Michele Quier directly or send information  
by email to [MichM7270@gmail.com](mailto:MichM7270@gmail.com)



The sacrament of Holy Communion will be offered on the first and third Sunday of each month at both the 8:30 a.m. UCC service and 11:05 a.m. Lutheran service. The dates for this month are March 3 and March 17.

### If we need to cancel worship.....

In the event of bad weather and if we need to cancel worship, the information can be found on:

- WFMZ (on TV or [www.wfmz.com](http://www.wfmz.com)) for Church Worship and Library closings
- Our website ([www.ziegelschurch.org](http://www.ziegelschurch.org)) in the facebook block – lower right on your screen
- On our facebook page
- Or you can call a staff person or council/consistory member as they are all contacted

### Lent Begins in March



Our Lenten gatherings begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6 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.

Please join us as we share the Lenten Journey.

Services will continue every Wednesday Evening through April 10. Remember that we will begin each gathering with a soup meal beginning at 6:00 p.m. We hope you will join us!

Coming to you on the Wednesdays of Lent:



The worship practices of the Christian Church

This year, during Lent, we will be looking at the stuff we do in Church – particularly in Christian worship – that might seem strange to people who have never been part of a Christian worshipping community (or even if they have!). While we will begin on the first Sunday in Lent with an explanation of why we “bury the Alleluias”, most of our “explanation sessions” will take place on the Wednesday evenings. Some of the sessions will have special “side sessions” for children.

March 10 (Sunday): How do we bury “alleluias”?

**March 13:** Why do we sing hymns together?\*

**March 20:** What is up with unison (and responsive) readings?

**March 27:** The “Church Year” and “Lectionary” stuff is strange!

**April 3:** How comes the colors of the altar cloths change?\*

**April 10:** Do we really need to light candles?\*

\* A child-inviting “side session” will be available (contact our DCE, Kristin Folck for any questions.)

All the sessions (other than the explanation on Sunday, March 10) will begin at 7:00 p.m. We will gather in the sanctuary and use some of those Christian practice elements (singing and praying together especially). Each session will be preceded by a free soup dinner beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, hosted by different organizations within the Church.

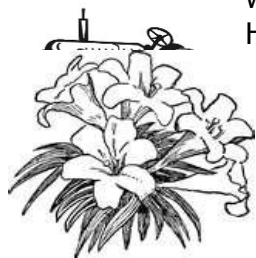
**Josh Wynn will be selling cards for Philly Pretzel**



**Factory** to raise funds to his Eagle Scout Project to build a shed for the tables and chairs under the pavilion. The cards are \$3.00 and can be used at 5924 Tilghman St, to pick up three pretzels at the individual's convenience. You can preorder the pretzel

cards and cards will be sold on Sunday, March 10, 17 and 24 during the Fellowship Hour. Contact Josh at 484-425-2115 or [joshwynn4@gmail.com](mailto:joshwynn4@gmail.com).

**The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Farm Family Appreciation Celebration**



will be held on Saturday, March 16 at the Hamburg Field House. As in the past, Ziegels will be supporting this event. Donations may be placed in the offering plate marked "Farm Family Banquet" or in the milk cans in the halls. This is a wonderful opportunity to show our support to those who work hard to tend the land and

provide for others.

**"Ziegels End of Summer Picnic" will be held August 24.**

If you would be interested in helping plan the event, we will be having our first meeting on March 17 at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Shana Hanna or Carley Schopf.



**Our Ziegels Sewing Mission is open to all those who are interested in helping even if you do not know how to sew.** We make

pillowcases for local children's hospitals, dresses for "Dress A Girl Around the World" and chemo port cushions. Our next meetings will be on Tuesday, March 19 and Tuesday, April 30. If you have any questions, please call Shelley Daniels at 610-704-4500 or e-mail her at [Seashell246@gmail.com](mailto:Seashell246@gmail.com). Donations of material (100% cotton), binding and/or monetary contributions are appreciated.



**The Chicken Pot Pie (soup) dinner will be held on Saturday, March 23.** Dinner will be

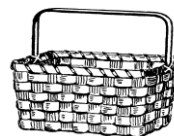
served from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. You may purchase tickets now, and tickets will be sold at the door. \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 5-12, and children under 5 will be free. In addition,

there will be a dessert raffle so that you can take home your favorite dessert. All proceeds will be donated to the purchase of the new organ. Help will be needed the day of at 9 a.m. to cook the pot pie. If you are interested in helping or donating ingredients, please see Shana Hanna or Carley Schopf or sign up during Fellowship Hour in the Fellowship Room or see <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d4daaad2aa5f49-potpie>.

**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 31.** Please include payment with your order. Checks should be made payable to your own congregation.

**The Lutheran Social Services Spring Basket Social** to



benefit the "Good Samaritan Fund" will be held on Saturday, April 6. The doors open at 11:00 a.m. and the drawing begins at 1:00 p.m. The \$7.00 donation includes a first ticket sheet and a light lunch. Additional tickets are \$4.00. We welcome those who would like to donate baskets and prizes !

**Palm Sunday/ Passion Sunday services** will be Sunday April 14. Holy Communion will be served at the 8:30 a.m. UCC service as well as the 11:05 a.m. Lutheran service.

## Holy Week

**Wednesday, April 17, 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 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. Soup Meals will be offered through the day. A child friendly event will also be offered for the children to experience the journey from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Maundy Thursday, April 18** - 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 April 19** at 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 21**, 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. – UCC Festive Worship with Holy Communion by Intinction
- 11:05 a.m. - Lutheran Festive Worship with Holy Communion

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

**The Men’s Bible Study Breakfast Group meets every Friday** at 7:00 a.m. at the Cracker Barrel in Fogelsville. All are welcome to enjoy breakfast and study our weekly scriptures!

**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 gifts or come out and learn to knit and crochet.



**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](mailto:luvplumeria@yahoo.com).

## Organ Fund-raising Update

We're making progress! In November we embarked on a fund raising effort to gather resources for the purchase of a new organ. Since that time, Ziegels Union Church has been gathering funds from our members, friends and union committees' fundraisers. Here are some quick answers to possible FAQs:

The effort to buy the organ is a Union effort. All the funds gathered are considered together rather than donations to one or the other congregation. For the purpose of tracking the donations and making sure everyone receives appropriate records, we have asked people to consider sending their donations through their congregation, but the real gathering of funds is within the Union accounts.

We're still hoping that we can order the organ before the end of March. The time to custom build the organ and install it in place is more than three (and up to four) months. We've been waiting for the fund-raising to get to a sufficient level that we can make the first payment (one third, just over \$29,000), and have a shot at making it to the second payment (another third) before Allen Organ is ready to install it. Currently, we have raised just over \$44,000 – more than half of what we need. It is expected that if we do not raise the funds needed for the final payment, we will split the difference for the two congregations to find memorial or other reserve funds to make up what's needed.

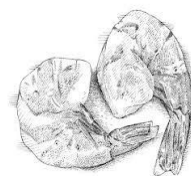
As for the Great Race of Hymns? Currently the first phase – the qualifying round – is drawing close to closing. On April 10th, the first Sunday in Lent, after the offering plates are emptied, we close that round and the top 16 (or so – allowances will need to be made regarding ties) hymns will enter into the final, home stretch race. The votes then become \$10 each until the time the organ arrives and the second payment to the company is due. The top six winners of the second round will be the six hymns we play and sing during the first worship service with the organ. (We might sing some of them at a special worship in the Fall as well.)

Any more questions can be addressed to Pastor Andy, who will do his best.

## Mission

The Mission Response Team will hold their next meeting on Monday, May 20 at 6:00 p.m. Discussion will be held on the Summer and Fall trips, and fundraisers. All are welcome to join the Team! All are welcome to join the Team!

**The Mission Team will be traveling South to Wilmington, North Carolina** on March 23. We will return on March 30. Please keep our workers in your prayers!



**Our next Shrimp Boil will be held on Sunday, May 5** 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 May 1 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 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 7 and we will return home on Friday, July 12. If you would like to work with us for a week or even a half week, you are more than welcome. The Team will leave following the Godspeed at 9:00 a.m. If you are interested in traveling with the Team, please speak with Lori Brawn.

**The 13th Annual Mission Team Golf Outing will be held on Saturday, September 21** 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.



## ***A Message from Lori.....***

We are so blessed here at Ziegels ! Our service in our Mission work brings new life to all those who commit their time and talents to helping others, and new life to those who gather blessings through the work that God asks us to do for Him. Again, this year, we have three Disaster Relief trips or Mission trips planned to serve those who have lived through disastrous weather, and those who are struggling to keep their homes safe, warm and dry as they struggle with financial issues. We cannot all replace a roof, some cannot hang sheet rock or even paint a wall, but those are not the reasons God is calling us to serve. So many people need to hold your hand, cry on your shoulder, share with you what they have been through. *Even if some cannot do construction the most important part of the Mission Team is bringing love and hope and peace to those who need to have our support.*

Our Sewing Mission is sending love and hope to girls in countries where purchasing clothing is not an option. The dresses we send are beautiful and they are bringing happiness and, we hope, self-esteem to those who have not been able to enjoy the clothing they might wear. How excited would you be as a parent if you could not clothe your child and see them in flowery and bright dresses ? We send many pillowcases to local hospitals for children who are patients. Imagine the difference for a child spending weeks or months, or even days, laying in a hospital bed with stiff white sheets and white pillowcases, and then those who receive playful and colorful pillowcases and are able to lay their beautiful heads on something that might change their stress. I would believe as a parent it would also be a little more calming to see such fun materials and bright colors as you worry about your child. And then consider our Chemo Port Cushions, helpful to those who have a cancer port, or a pacemaker. The cushions help take pain away from using a seatbelt but imagine the bright colors that might help bring you from the darkness of your disease, even just for a moment.

All those who serve our brothers and sisters feel God's tap on our shoulders. If we don't listen or don't respond the tapping will continue because God knows you can do whatever He is looking for you to do. We are not professionals, not by any means perfect. We learn and grow as we commit to serving those who need our help.

*"6 Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. 7 You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."<sup>[a]</sup> 8 And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. 9 As the Scriptures say, "They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever."<sup>[b]</sup>10 For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, He will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity<sup>[c]</sup> in you. 11 Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God. 12 So two good things will result from this ministry of giving—the needs of the believers in Jerusalem<sup>[d]</sup> will be met, and they will joyfully express their thanks to God. 13 As a result of your ministry, they will give glory to God. For your generosity to them and to all believers will prove that you are obedient to the Good News of Christ. 14 And they will pray for you with deep affection because of the overflowing grace God has given to you.15 Thank God for this gift<sup>[e]</sup> too wonderful for words!" (2 Corinthians 9:6-15, NLT)*

Open your hearts to serve our Lord !



## 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. Pre-K through First Grade meet in the Timothy room, Second through Sixth Grade meet in the Romans Room. 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.

Our annual Lenten Loose Change Offering will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6. Collection containers will be 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 Confirmation class will meet on March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31. Our lessons for March are "Mary Magdalene," "The Lord's Prayer," "Thomas," and a Learning Goal Workshop. On Sunday, March 31, Pastor Andy will be teaching the class. The topic will be "Grace."

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!

### Youth Group

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 13 at 2:00 p.m., rain or shine! Children age 1 year old through 6th grade are invited to participate in the Hunt. We ask that parents and children meet in the sanctuary before the hunt for a presentation. An Adult challenge course will also be held! Refreshments will be served in the grove following the event! Invite your neighbors, family and friends! Hope to see you there!

### Christian Education

Our next scheduled Christian Education meetings will be held Monday, March 18 at 6:30 p.m., and Monday, May 20 at 6:30 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.

### Mark your Calendars for these Upcoming Events:

- Annual Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, April 13, 2 p.m.
- Final Retreat for 2nd year students - Friday, April 26 at 6 p.m.
- Youth Sunday - May 5, 11:05 a.m. Worship Service
- UCC Consistory Interviews - Tuesday, May 7, times to be determined.
- Lutheran Council Interviews - Monday, May 13, 7 p.m.
- Pentecost and Confirmation Day - June 9
- VBS "Power Up" - June 24 - 28
- Bear Creek Camp - July 15 -19

### Community News

**The Weisenberg/Lowhill Township Historical Society Basket Social** will be held on Saturday, April 27 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 28 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Zettlemoyer's Auction Company. Winners will be chosen on the 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00, extra tickets are \$5.00. For more information contact Nancy at 484-767-2307.



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.

**Sunshine Center Preschool** is accepting new students for the 2019-2020 school year. Classes include two and three-year-old, three-year-old, and four-year-old. 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!

### **The Lowhill Food Pantry**

In the month of January, we contributed 157 pounds of food along with many items for the Blessings Room. This month the Pantry served 62 family units (133 adults, 77 children, and 18 seniors for a total of 228 people).

The current needs of the Pantry are hamburger helper, cereal, pancake syrup, jello and puddings. When donating always be mindful of expiration dates on items.

The Blessings Room has the following needs: socks, kitchen utensils, and newborn diapers. Always keep in mind that the items should be gently used or new.

**Thank You to Church members who participate in this worthwhile community program.** Please know that the Pantry and the clients are most grateful.

Open dates for the Pantry and Blessings Room in the month of March are March 2, 20 and 21.

### *Thank You to Our Sponsors!*

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

- **Lowhill Food Pantry Sponsor:** Dave and Donna Purugganan in honor of their Wedding Anniversary.
- **Website Sponsor:** Shelley and Scott Daniels in honor of their Wedding Anniversary.

### **Thank You:**

- to all who donated for our "Souper Bowl" collection. We had \$12.00 plus 32 canned donations collected in honor of the New England Patriots, and \$40.00 plus 137 canned and packaged foods for the Los Angeles Rams.
- to all who came out to prepare the Soup-er Bowl luncheon, all those who ordered soups, and to those who stayed for our luncheon. We collected approximately \$880.00 for the Organ Fund !.
- all who attended our Mission Team Pancake Breakfast and those who helped to prep, serve and clean-up. The amount of donations totaled \$620.00 and the Mission Team matched the donations and gave \$1,220.00 to the Organ Fund.
- to all those who dedicated time the week of February 3 to hosting our Family Promise guests. Thanks to everyone who provided snacks and juices and those who made the dinners each night. We are also thankful for those who prepped, served, and cleaned up after the meals and those who spent time with the families and slept over. And thanks to those who provided monetary donations.
- parents who drove and chaperoned the Youth Quake.
- everyone who purchased Little Caesar's Pizza Kits.

### **Union Church Committee Minutes**

The Union Church Meeting for February 12 was cancelled due to the weather.

The next Union Church Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 12.