

## **Ziegels Lutheran Congregation Newsletter for December 2018**

*The December newsletter is sponsored by Darlene and Harold Heintzelman in honor of the birth of our Lord and also the birth of our grandsons, Logan and Daulton.*

### **Entered Eternal Life**

Jill Donna Normandin entered life eternal on October 12, 2018 at the age of 42 years, 10 months and 25 days. A service of thanksgiving for her life was held on November 10 at Ziegels Church with Pastor Andy officiating. Please remember her daughter, her parents, her brother and sister-in-law, and the extended family with your cards and prayers as they mourn her passing.

### **From the Church Office**

Please remember that all church committees and outside groups scheduling activities at the church, as well as off campus, must be relayed to the church office. It is important to have all events on the church calendar for kitchen use as well as room preparation and assignment to avoid double-booking of rooms and events, and to make sure the Church doors are unlocked. Thank you!

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

- Head Usher – Shelley Daniels
- Worship Assistants – Kim Lapp, Lori Brawn, Kelly Lucarelli, Deanna Quay
- Lay Readers – Larry Geiger, Lori Brawn, Christa Taylor, Ralph Wilhide
- Mixing Board Operators – Jeff Quay, Dave Frey, Kim Lapp, Andy Schopf

## **Generosity in the Church**

In the last two months of the year, we seem to do a lot more thinking about generosity than normal. Our principal holidays, Thanksgiving and Christmas, encourage us both to appraise blessings we've received and to share what we are able from them. In this moment, I have a few thoughts about generosity.

First: **be generous.** It is one of the fruits of the Spirit. It makes us feel better, and improves our inner life, when we find way to give ourselves for the benefit of others. It is good to share, and good to share in many ways. When we are generous we recognize how much we have received from God – and how much God continues to be generous with us. Generosity feeds our souls.

Second: **It does not have to be the Church** that is the recipient of your generosity. There are lots of good causes in need of financial support. For instance: many of my friends post causes on Facebook, for instance, that are in need of help; I can look at my small gifts to their causes as also being gifts to God's mission to the world. Likewise, on December 2, at 6 pm, **Advent Night of Music** is happening! This year, Angel 34 is the cause we are supporting. Angel 34 is a non-profit organization which employs no staff, but is run entirely by volunteers with all donated funds going directly to help children and their families battle cancer.



Third: **It can be the Church** that you support with your generosity. Our Lutheran Financial picture is weaker than normal this year, due, primarily to less than normal giving in March and October. (We're not sure why.) It would be very helpful, for the life of our congregation, if members and friends placed Ziegels Lutheran Church on the list of worthwhile causes that are worthy of support. We believe that the ongoing mission of Ziegels is important to our lives in many ways; and that our Church extends God's love to the wider world in a manner that is uncommon and vital.

Fourth: **There's an opportunity to be uncommonly generous this year.** We are just beginning the funding drive to purchase a new organ for the sanctuary at Ziegels Church. Sometimes, our generosity leaves a legacy for future generations.

Certainly our faithful ancestors were generous when they gave their funds – and time and energy and skills – to build the structures through which we express our faith now. They built these walls and placed the roof – as far back as the *Dachziegel* (roofing tiles) we're named after – and provided all the resources we needed over the years. Our faith is shown in our generosity for the future children of Ziegels.

Fifth: **We must also be wise and discerning in our generosity.** It has come to the attention of the congregational leadership that a person has requested large loans from members of the congregation. While it is a good thing to be generous and, as I've stated above, generosity feels good to us, not every act of generosity is an act of kindness in the long term. Sometimes such lending has potential to be misused rather than to be helpful. I would suggest, then, that the wise course of action would be to contact the Pastor or the Chair of Council for "off the record" council regarding any large request for financial help coming from a friend of, or even another member of the congregation.

Finally, **Look for God in this season.** We think of the end of the year as a time of generosity for many reasons (for instance, the harvest is (finally!) in). But the best signs are those that are always there for us – the small and large ways that Christ is being born into our lives every day throughout the year – bringing us gifts of forgiveness of sin, redemption from bad situations, community in times of mourning, solace in loss, love when we feel alienated. In so many ways, God's generosity to us is, in fact, more of what we need from life than the money we use to measure our worth. God in Christ is all around us all the time. But perhaps, with decorations everywhere and the singing of familiar songs, with reminders about giving and a New Year approaching like a promise of redemption, we can see more clearly that God is indeed generous to us. And invites us always to respond at least with open hearts.



**May God be generous to us this year, with all the best blessings surpassing our need!**

--AWM

### **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](mailto:Sandyravon@aol.com)

**Sponsorship Sheets for 2019 for the Website, the Food Pantry and the Lutheran Newsletters are on the desk in the Upper Narthex.** If you are not able to sign up here in the Church and would like to sponsor, you may call Lori for help.

### **Mailbag:**

Greetings Ziegels Lutheran Church Family, I would like to personally thank you for all that you do for our brothers and sisters, locally and internationally. I appreciate and value the partnership we have with your congregation! Blessings to you for all you do and will continue to do this Holiday Season. In His Name, Sara Kamos, Food for the Poor

### **Thanks to:**

- everyone who sponsored our Newsletters in 2018.
- those who sponsored the Bulletins and Flowers in 2018.
- all our people who are members of the e-mail and phone Prayer Chains. We are thankful for your prayers.



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

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

**Renee** Miller  
**Sterling** Peter  
**Carolyn** Smith  
**Marlene** Evangelista  
**Beth** Harwick  
**Lee** Merkel  
**Paul** Ruch  
**Ray** Hausman  
**Carol** Merkle  
**Clarence** Hausman  
**Marsteller** Family  
**Joyce** Schrammel  
**Shirley** Raubenhold  
**Mildred** Gehringer  
**Deanna** Quay  
**Kelly** Danner  
**Michele** Quier  
**Megan** Koch  
**Linda** Hausman  
**Kim** Lapp  
**Dayton** Ritter

**Mike** Moyer  
**Bryan** Bachman  
**Luella** Kocher  
**Nancy** Kleinsmith  
**Deb** Ginder  
  
**Families of:**  
**LaRue** Rex  
**Jill** Normandin  
**Wyatt** Bewhard  
**Tom** Hails  
**Edwin** Meckstroth  
**Jeanne** Ennico  
**Evan** Schaeffer  
**Lamont** Grim  
  
**Jeremy** Pscenicka  
**Leyla** Rae  
**Peggy** Hoffman  
**Tom** Kale  
**Lorraine** Miller

**Porter** Lilley  
**Samantha** Missmer  
**Jeffrey** Miller  
**Brett** Snyder  
**Jessica** Williamson  
**Sonny** Purugganan  
**Dave** Rohlic  
**Terry** Kearney  
**James** Ferguson  
**Gloria** Beers  
  
**Military Members:**  
**Will** Lopez  
**Nick** Millward  
**Greg** Meckes  
**Luke** Frisch  
**Ben** Beitler  
**Chris** Owens  
**Scott** Esterly  
**Garth** Ritter  
**Dale** Host

**Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes**

Lutheran Council Meeting was held on Monday, November 12:

- Approval of the proposed Lutheran Budget
- Call Committee Report

The next Lutheran Council meeting - Monday, December 10.

**Please remember our homebound friends and those serving in the military with your cards and prayers.**

Mr. Dennis Strohl  
 7375 Lincoln Court  
 New Tripoli PA 18066

Mrs. Joan Hausman  
 350 S. Cedarbrook Road  
 Allentown PA 18104

Mr. Richard Keller  
 15835 Kutztown Road  
 Maxatawny PA 19538

Mr. Marvin Kerchner  
 3279 Route 737  
 Kempton PA 19529

Mrs. Irene Kressley  
 Kutztown Manor  
 120 Trexler Road  
 Kutztown PA 19530

Mrs. Anna Masters  
 Colonial Lodge  
 2015 N. Reading Road  
 Denver PA 17517

Mrs. Mildred Gehringer  
 9577 Bachelor Road  
 Kutztown PA 19530

Mrs. Gloria Rohrbach  
 710 Independent Road  
 Breinigsville PA 18031

Ann Raubenhold  
 1825 N. 20th Street  
 Allentown PA 18104

SSG Greg Meckes  
 3 Big Stone Court  
 Catonsville MD 21228

CPT Nick Millward  
 8693 Edelweiss Road  
 New Tripoli PA 18066

Mrs. Carolyn Smith  
 One South Home Ave.  
 Topton PA 19562

Mrs. Anna Tercha  
 1919 Tercha Road  
 Fogelsville PA 18051

Mrs. Nancy Wessner  
 1403 Siegfriedale Road  
 Kutztown PA 19530

Mr. Lee Merkel  
 39 2nd Street  
 Catasauqua PA 18032

Mrs. Shirley Raubenhold  
 Cedarbrook  
 350 S. Cedarbrook Road  
 Allentown PA 18104

Mrs. Joyce Schrammel  
 Cedarbrook  
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Mr. Paul Ruch  
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 Maxatawny PA 19538

Mrs. Carol Merkel  
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 Lenhartsville PA 19534

SGT Garth Ritter  
 PO Box 80902  
 Colorado Springs CO 80902

SPC Lopez Jr.  
 Wilson 28<sup>th</sup> MP Company  
 APO. AE 09366