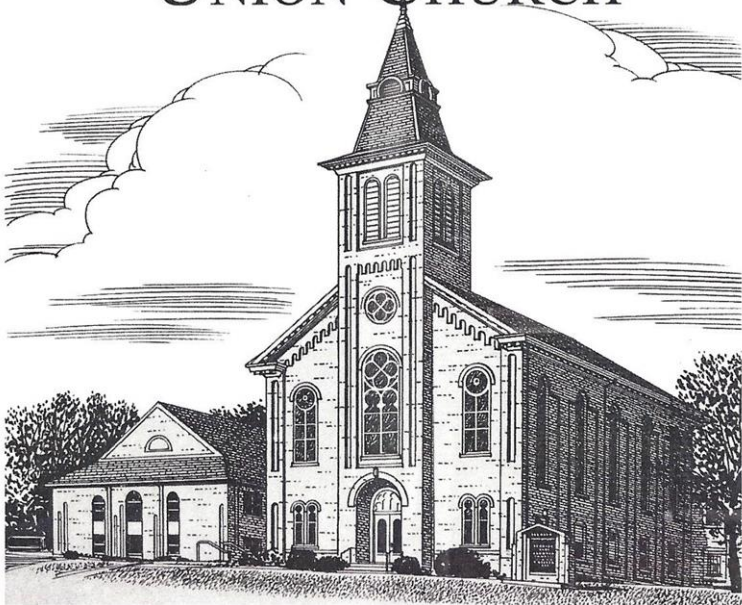


ZIEGELS UNION CHURCH

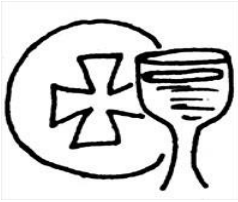


*9990 Ziegels Church Road
Breinigsville, PA 18031*

***January 2020
Newsletter***

Volume 20, Issue 1

Communion in January



The sacrament of Holy Communion will be offered on the first and third Sunday of the month at both the Lutheran and UCC services. The January dates are January 5 and 19.

Christmas Worship

December 24, Christmas Eve

Family Service - 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Candlelight Service - 9:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

December 30

Lessons and Carols – 10:00 a.m.

**The Church Office will be closed
December 24 to 27
and December 31 to January 2.
The Office will also be closed on Monday,
January 20 on Martin Luther King Day**

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:

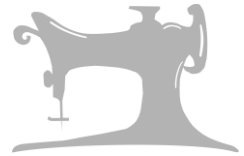
- WFMZ (on TV or www.wfmz.com) for Church Worship and Library closings
- Our website (www.ziegelschurch.org) in the Facebook block – lower right on your screen
- On our Facebook page
- Or you can call a staff person or council/consistory member



Wise men Still Worship Him

Epiphany, which comes from the Greek word, *epiphaneia*, means "an appearance" or "a revealing," and is the official Season for proclaiming the identity of Christ. Epiphany begins at sundown the day before January 6. Centuries ago, the church set aside January 6, the 12th day after Christmas, to make the revealing of Jesus as Christ to the wise men, who were Gentiles. Jesus' first followers were Jewish, so the revelation of the divine Christ to the now-Jewish magi reminds us that Jesus came to earth to save the world. Epiphany is a season of worship, as the whole world follows the Wise Men to find and honor Jesus. The symbols of Epiphany include light, a star, a crown, and a globe, or stylized portrayal of the world. The color of Epiphany is green to symbolize life, growth, hope and eternity.

Our Ziegels Sewing Mission is open to all those who are interested in helping. 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 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on January 15, February 19, April 15, May 20 and June 17. If you have any questions, please call Shelley Daniels at 610-704-4500. Donations are appreciated.



The Christian Education Committee will be hosting a "Sound of Music Sing Along," on Saturday, January 18 at 6:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is located outside of the Christian Education Office. A minimum of six people is needed to host this event. Please contact Kristin Folck or Kelly Lucarelli if you have any questions. Please RSVP by January 11.

"Soup"er Bowl Soup Fundraiser and Luncheon will be back on February 2. The Union Fellowship Committee will be preparing the soups on February 1 beginning at 9:00 a.m. Check the bulletins for more details or contact ziegelsfellowship@gmail.com.

Our Wednesday evening Lenten Services will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 26 and continue through Wednesday, April 8. Remember that we will begin each gathering with a soup meal beginning at 6:00 p.m. We hope you will join us!

The Union Fellowship Chicken Pot Pie (the soup, not the pie) **Dinner is returning on March 21.** We will begin working in the kitchen at 9:00 a.m. Dinner will be served beginning at 5:00 p.m. Check the bulletins for more details or contact ziegelsfellowship@gmail.com.



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. All are invited to attend this group.



Sunday Fellowship Hour – Needs Volunteers!

Everyone likes to have the drinks and tasty baked goods during the fellowship hour on a Sunday. Volunteers are needed 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. Thank you to everyone that has helped set up, clean up and donated baked goods.

Mission

The Mission Response Team will hold their next meeting on Monday, January 13 at 6:30 p.m. Discussion will be held on the next mission trips and our fundraisers. All are welcome to join the Team!

- We will have a French Toast Breakfast on Sunday, April 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. We will include scrambled eggs, potatoes and sausage.
- The Team will be returning to Tuscaloosa Alabama to work with Habitat for Humanity the week of March 9.
- The next Shrimp Boil will be held on Sunday, May 17 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- We will be traveling to Camden, NY on Sunday, June 29 to work with Cluster #13. We will return home on Friday, July 3. Please contact us if you would like to volunteer for the week or half a week.
- The Golf Outing will be held on Saturday, August 1.

A Message from Lori.....

We all need second chances, sometimes third chances or fourth chances, sometimes more. The beginning of a new year always seems to me like another chance to make things right.

Remember Peter? Remember how Peter denied Jesus three times? In the Gospel of John, chapter 18, the girl asks Peter, "Aren't you also one of that man's followers?" Peter says "No, I am not". As he was warming himself by the fire, others asked, "Aren't you one of that man's followers?" Again, Peter says "No, I am not". A servant then asks "Didn't I see you with him in the garden?" Peter replied that it wasn't true. We all know what happens next.

Then, after Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, John 21, Jesus appears and speaks to his followers. "Friends, did you catch any fish?" When Peter realizes it is the Lord, he jumps into the water. On the shore, Jesus has prepared a bed of coals.

Was it lost on Peter that the last time he stood by the fire he denied his Lord? In that moment, did Peter recognize his second chance (or third or fourth)? Do we? Do we recognize that every day is a chance to begin again? It does not need to be January 1st for us to start over.

We come to Jesus and stand before him like Peter. He knows what we have done and yet he still loves us. He knows our hearts better than we do. And yet he still loves us. We enjoy the many blessings that God sends our way each and every day. God forgives us and we have another chance.

So, this year, there will be no New Year's Resolutions for me. Maybe, I have accepted the fact that I will not lose that last five pounds I would like to, and that I, in all reality, will not be eating more salads and veggies (because it's boring), or that I will not end 2020 with any more money in my savings account than I started the year with (maybe less). I will probably get angry at some point this year and I will, most likely, say something to someone that I will regret.

So, this year, no resolutions! I will be quiet and wait. Trusting that God has forgiven me for my failings and trusting that God knows what I need before I even realize it. Most importantly I will trust that when I disappoint God again, which I surely will, he will ask, "Do you love me?" And I will say "Yes". And I will try to do better, every day not just New Year's Day.

Trusting in God's Amazing Grace,

Lori

Christian Education



Classes are held each Sunday from September through May for children and youth age 1 through twelfth grade. The Children under three meet in the Genesis room, children in Pre-K through first grade meet in the Timothy room, and children in second through sixth grades meet in the Galatians room. Children are asked to gather in their classrooms by 10:00 a.m., class ends at 10:55 a.m.

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 23, 2020, the Sunday School will be holding an Early Communion Class following the 11:05 a.m. worship service at 12:30 p.m. We will meet for a pizza lunch and class. Parents and children are asked to attend together. Please RSVP to Kristin Folck or Kelly Lucarelli, by February 16.

*confirmation
class* 

Our Confirmation Class meets upstairs in the Acts Room from 10:00 a.m. to 10:55 a.m. If you know anyone who is in 7th or 8th grade and would like to join the class, please speak with Kristin Folck.

The class will meet on January 5, 12, 19, and 26. Our lessons for January are "Deborah," and "Samson." We will also be working on our Learning Goals and Pastor Kent will be teaching the next lesson in our Reformed Series.

On Friday, February 7, the Confirmation Class will leave for the Allentown Youth Quake. The group will return on Sunday, February 9. Youth in grades 9-12 are invited to attend. Please contact Kristin Folck or Kelly Lucarelli if your child would like to attend.

Christian Education Committee

Our next scheduled Christian Education meeting will be held Tuesday, January 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. A Sunday School teacher or helper from each class is asked to attend.



The Sunday School will be selling Hoagies and Pretzel Sandwiches from R&K Subs. Order forms are available outside of the Christian Education Office.

Orders are due by January 8, 2020. Delivery of hoagies will be on Tuesday, January 21 and they may be picked up beginning at 3:00 p.m.

Youth Advisory Council

The YAC will be sponsoring a Family Snow Tubing outing on Sunday, January 19 at Blue Mountain. Our session begins at 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person and we need a minimum of 15 participants. Please contact Kristin Folck for more information on how to register.

The YAC will be holding a sleepover on Friday, February 21. Youth in grades 7 through 12 are invited to stay over at the church, play MarioKart on the 22 ft. inflatable screen, and share fellowship time. If your child would like to attend, please contact Kristin Folck or Kelly Lucarelli.

Thank you to our Sponsors!

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

- **Lowhill Food Pantry Sponsor:** In honor of World Peace by Marlene Evangelista
- **Website Sponsor:** Michele and Keith Quier

Thank You to:

- the Fellowship Committee Chairpersons, Carley Schopf and Shana Hanna, and all those who helped to decorate the Church for Advent and Christmas. We also give thanks for the Cookie Exchange Event for our homebound members.
- all those who attend the Sewing Mission and those who attended the Blessing of 35 Dresses, 25 Pillowcases and 65 Port Cushions. Thanks to all who offered donations for the Jingle Offering. The total amount was \$187.21. And many thanks to Shelley Daniels for organizing and leading the group.
- Laura Loch for the Wreaths Across America event and all those who donated for Wreaths in honor and in loving memory of family and friends.
- everyone who attended our Christmas Eve Worship services and those who ordered Poinsettias for our Christmas worship services.
- Jill Bruckart, our Music Ministries Director, and all those who shared their talents for the Advent Night of Music. We give thanks to all that attended the event and donated funds to Lehigh Valley Pediatric Cancer Foundation.
- everyone who donated items to the Reverse Advent Calendar.
- Christa Taylor and Jill Bruckhart for sharing music with the Sunday School classes.

*Thank
You*

Community News



Zumba classes at Ziegels are held in the Acts Room on Monday evenings beginning at 5:30 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

In the month of November, we contributed 117 pounds of food along with items for the Blessings Room. During this month the Pantry served 72 family units (142 adults, 85 children, and 20 seniors for a total of 247 people). The items needed are cereal, hamburger helper, strawberry jelly, and personal items. The Blessings Room continues to need socks, blankets, towels, hats and gloves.

The Pantry is open Saturday, January 4, Wednesday, January 15, and Thursday, January 16.

Continued THANKS for all the support shown towards the Pantry and the Blessings Room.

Farm Family Appreciation Celebration

The event is scheduled for Saturday, March 21. They will be having a buffet meal, square dance and line dancing to show appreciation for farm families in Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Monroe, Northampton and Schuylkill Counties, and the surrounding areas. The doors will open at 6:15 p.m. at Hamburg Field House. If you would like to attend the cost is \$18.00 for adults, \$10.00 for ages 3 to 10 and no charge for children 2 and under. There is no charge for farm families. If you like to make a donation for the FFAC, please make the check to your congregation before February 14.

Mailbag

Ziegels Union Church, Thank you for allowing us to have our annual banquet at your facility. All the accommodations....parking, easy access into the building with everything on one floor...is very handy. Special thanks to Marlene Frantz, Bob Lilley and Diane Moyer for all their help. WLTHS Board of Directors, Gloria Zimmerman, President

Union Church Committee Minutes

Highlights from The Union Church Meeting held on December 10 include:

- Brief discussion on Cancellation Policy
- Discussion on building rental procedures
- Discussion on the new roof
- Approval on increased hours for the Christian Education Director
- Exploratory Committee will focus on the Church and youth input

The next Union Church Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 14.

Contact Information

Website: www.ziegelschurch.org

Church Office Hours: 8:00 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	484-456-6701
Kristin Folck, Christian Education Director	484-860-2549
Rob Ziegler, 2020 Union Church President	484-333-0601
Kevin Taylor, 2020 Lutheran Council Pres.	610-351-4321
Andy Graff, 2020 UCC Consistory President	610-349-0359
Lori Brawn, Newsletter Editor	610-573-9764

The deadline for submissions
for the February 2020 newsletter is Friday, January 17.
Please contact Lori Brawn directly or send information by
email to Lori1962@verizon.net.