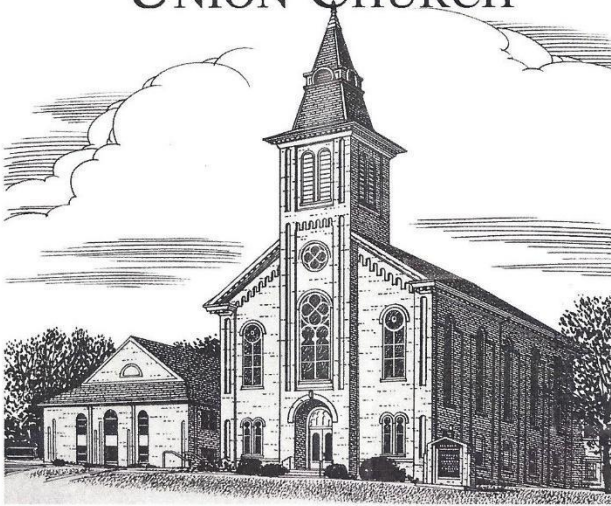


ZIEGELS UNION CHURCH



9990 Ziegels Church Road, Breinigsville, PA 18031



December 2024 NEWSLETTER



Sponsored by:

Dennis Loch, in memory of his parents

Volume 24, Issue 11

Please worship with us each Sunday!

Lutheran worship 8:30am

UCC worship: 11:05am

NEWSLETTER MAILING

To save postage costs, both congregations are asking members to notify the office if you would like to be taken off the newsletter mailing list. If you prefer not to receive a printed newsletter, it can be read electronically by going to our website www.ziegelschurch.org and clicking on the newsletter link. You can also provide an email address if you prefer electronic communications.

Call Laura (UCC) or Nicole (Lutheran) at 610-285-6157.

REMINDER!



The deadline for submissions for the January 2025 newsletter is Monday, December 16, 2024.

Please email the office with submissions at lutheranziegels@gmail.com or ziegelsucc@gmail.com.

DECEMBER MEETINGS

Committee Meetings

Dec	3	Union Committee Meeting 7:30p.m.
Dec	9	Lutheran Council Meeting 7:30p.m.
Dec	10	UCC Consistory Meeting 7:00p.m.
Dec	17	Property Committee Meeting 7:00p.m.

Weekly Events

Monday	AA, 7:30p.m.
Tuesday	Cub Scout Pack 61, 6:30p.m.
Wednesday	Cadette Girl Scout Troop 68, 6:30p.m.(2nd & 4th Wed)
Thursday	Bell Choir 6:00pm, Senior Choir 7:15p.m.
Friday	Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7:00a.m. at Cracker Barrel

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY BREAKFAST meets every Friday at 7:00am at the Cracker Barrel in Fogelsville. All are welcome to enjoy breakfast and study the weekly scriptures. Please contact the church office for the Men's Bible Study leader's contact information.

Cadette Girl Scout Troop #68 contact Beth Furman at 484-217-2197 for details.

Cub Scout Troop #61 contact Rick Sherer at 484-357-5430 for details.

SPONSORS NEEDED!

Please consider signing up to financially contribute in some small way. It's a wonderful way to remember or honor a loved one and a means to financially support the missions of our congregations. Please inquire with the church office for availability. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex, or you can contact the individuals below:

Altar Flowers and Piano Vases-

- *Lutheran* - Contact Deanna Quay at 610-597-9137 or momchemist@hotmail.com.
- *UCC* - Contact Laura Loch at 610-285-6157

Bulletins - \$20 per week

- *Lutheran* - Contact Sandy Rothermel at 484-824-3237 or Sandyravon@aol.com.
- *UCC* - Contact Laura Loch at 610-285-6157

Monthly Newsletter - \$40 per month; contact church office

Website - \$30 per month; contact church office

Food Pantry Sponsor - \$70 per month or \$35 for ½ month

UNION COMMITTEES, MINISTRIES & MISSIONS

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Updating the Fellowship Room

Winona Schappell and Mary Redline have submitted several grant applications to refit the Fellowship Room with updated video and audio technology. The goal is to make it easier for everyone to hear and see informal worship services, speaker presentations, and funeral memorials, and provide streaming capabilities. A few of the grants must demonstrate congregational support. Three UCC grants have been submitted and one NEPA Synod grant has been submitted.

How can you help? Even if all four grants are approved, there are still areas of the plan that need financial support. If you have a Thrivent account eligible for any mission grants to support this project, if you have an interest in donating towards a specific piece of equipment, or if you have talents to share for the church's 275th anniversary (e.g., being a speaker), please contact Mary at Mary.A.Redline@gmail.com or Winona at wanschappell@gmail.com to discuss your ideas.

**Thank you to the December Website Sponsors:
Mr. & Mrs. Maynard Koplin**

HISTORY COMMITTEE

If you are interested in our church history and would like to learn more or volunteer to help with this committee, please contact Mary Redline by phone at 610-395-8241 or discerepa@aol.com.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School election of Officers (President, VP, Recording Secretary, Treasurer) will take place Sunday, 12/8 after Lutheran service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Sunday, December 15, 10:10 a.m. in Sanctuary
Families and friends are invited to attend our program. Parents can drop their children off at their classrooms by 10:00 a.m. Immediately following the program, children will be dismissed to their parents in the sanctuary.



SUNDAY SCHOOL STORY TIME & FELLOWSHIP FOR FAMILIES

Sunday, December 22, 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Room
Families and friends are invited to attend. Parents will be responsible for supervising their children during this event. (There will be no SS classes.)

***PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS ON DECEMBER 29th.***

2025 SAVE THE DATES!

- Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday, April 12
- EASTER SUNDAY: No Sunday School classes
- 275th Ziegels Anniversary Tea Party: Sunday, May 4
- Sunday School Reunion and Scavenger Hunt: DATE TBD



Ziegels Handmade Market - A Special Thank You

Thank you to all of the people who made our 1st Ziegels Handmade Market a success! We could not have done it without our church family and friends. The bakers, the set-up crew, the clean-up crew, the raffle ticket sellers, the hot dog making crew, Ziegels Quilt Mission, the shoppers, the vendors and anyone else who had a hand in making this a wonderful experience at Ziegels. So wonderful, that we are thinking of doing this again next year. Stay tuned!

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Senior Choir meets Thursday evenings at 7:15p.m.

Adult Handbell Choir meets on Thursday evenings at 6:00p.m.

Children's Chime Choir meets Sunday mornings from 9:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

PARENTS, do you have children interested in singing or playing chimes? We would love to see an active youth choir! Come out for fun, fellowship, and learning new musical skills. Contact Jill at jillbb22@gmail.com or 484-456-6701 if you wish to join any of the choirs or would like more information.

ADULTS and TEENS -are you interested in joining the Senior Choir or Handbell Choir? Please contact Jill at jillbb22@gmail.com or 484-456-6701.

SUNDAY ADULT BOOK STUDY

The adult book study group will meet on Sundays during Sunday School hour, 10:00-10:55a.m. and will meet in the ACTS room. The selected book for this study is *Caste, The Origins of Our Discontent*, by Isabel Wilkerson.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP HOUR

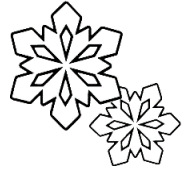
Sunday Fellowship Hour takes place on Sundays at 10 a.m.

A signup sheet is in the Fellowship Room or contact Doreen Wynn at 610-481-0143 or luvplumeria@yahoo.com.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

This committee plans special events for the church and meets the third Sunday of each month at 10:00a.m. in the Fellowship hall. If you would like to help in any way, contact Carley or Shana at ziegelsfellowship@gmail.com.

Get Ready for the Holiday Season



The Annual Snowflake Festival is coming back



this year on December 7, at 11-a.m.

Like last year there will be crafts, a light lunch, music and desserts. All are welcome, you do not need to be a member to attend! To sign up to help donate items and your time, please use the QR code provided.



The Cookie Exchange for Shut Ins is once again coming back. We ask that members bring at least 3 dozen of their favorite Christmas cookie to the Fellowship hall on December 15 at Noon. All cookies will be packaged in boxes and distributed to shut in members. Closer to the date, we will provide a list of shut in members who would appreciate the cookies and enjoy your visit during the holiday season.

PRAYER MINISTRY

Are you interested in being a prayer warrior for Ziegels members and our community? Please reach out to the church office or contact Kelly at kellylucarelli@yahoo.com or 484-375-8978.

SEWING MISSION

The team meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. to sew pillowcases for local children's hospitals, dresses for "Dress A Girl Around the World," and chemo port cushions. For information, contact Shelley Daniels at 610-704-4500 or email seashell246@gmail.com.

HAND QUILTING

This group meets every Monday from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. For information, please contact Michele Quier at 484-661-6049.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Meetings are on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship room to crochet prayer shawls and knit baby blankets. Members are willing to teach if you want to learn a new skill! Contact Gloria Hausman at 610-285-6741 for information.

ZIEGELS UNION CHURCH WORKING GROUP

The Ziegels Union Church Working Group continues to meet and is dedicated to evaluating the current organizational structure of our shared church community. Through inclusive dialog and thoughtful consideration of both our Lutheran and UCC congregations, we strive to ensure that our structure remains relevant and effective in fostering spiritual growth, unity and service within our congregations and the wider community.

LOWHILL FOOD PANTRY: SEPTEMBER STATISTICS

December sponsor: Rich & Liz, in honor of their 49th wedding anniversary.

Lowhill Food Pantry: October statistics

- 78 family units served (98 adults, 82 children, and 58 seniors) for a total of 248 individual clients. There was one emergency during this month.
- 86 children served through the Weekend Children's program.
- Ziegels donated 208 lbs. of food this month, along with many needed items for the Blessings Room.

Current food/items needed: cereal of any kind, pancake syrup and pancake mix, spaghetti sauce, ketchup, and any type of cleaning supplies.

Current needs for the Blessings Room: bath & kitchen towels, and winter socks for all ages.

December servings: Saturday, December 7th, Wednesday, December 18th, and Thursday, December 19th.

Volunteer opportunities with dates and times are listed on our website at 222.lowhillfoodpantry.com, with our volunteer email address being info@lowhillfoodpantry@gmail.com, and for monetary donations, our address is:

Lowhill Food Pantry, P.O. Box 115, New Tripoli, PA 18066.

We continue to be grateful and thankful to this congregation for your support. Together we make a difference in the lives of these families.



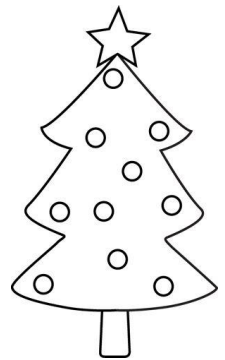
Christmas Stocking Drive- Continuing in our tradition of providing assistance to the Lowhill Food Pantry Children, Lonnie Damiano is organizing a Christmas Stocking Drive. If anyone is interested in filling a stocking or contributing to the program, please contact Lonnie at 610-393-2106 or lsdamiano@yahoo.com. All donations and

stockings need to be returned to Lonnie or the church office by Wednesday, December 4, 2024. We will also be supporting the Lowhill Food Pantry Children with gifts this year! Tags for the gifts can be found in the Fellowship room. Please sign your name in the sign-up book by the tag you have chosen. Kelly Lucarelli can be contacted for more information at 484-375-8978 or kellylucarelli@yahoo.com. All wrapped gifts must be returned to the Church Library by Wednesday, December 4, 2024.

Werley's Corner 2nd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting will be held Saturday, December 7th from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at 4585 Werley's Corner Road, New Tripoli, 18066.

What the event offers:

- At 6:00 p.m. the tree lighting with Santa Claus arriving and pictures with Santa (tree provided by Ronald Smith/Valley View Christmas Tree Farm)
- Barrel rides by The Plow Boys (weather permitting)
- Hot dogs, drinks, and snacks for sale
- Free hot chocolate
- Vendors in the outside building
- WLTHS store will be open with a "Little Shoppers Village"
- Tickets will be sold for the quilt raffle and other prizes
- Christmas music and amplification system provided by Class Act Productions, Charles Kistler
- Continuing to collect coats, gloves, hats, and scarves for "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" program



St. John's UCC at Laury's Station, located at 1415 Rising Sun Road, Laurys Station, PA, kindly invites you to a Christmas concert performed by **The Glenn Hofmann Trio** on Friday, December 6, 2024. The concert starts at 6:00 p.m. with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children (ages 6-12). You may contact the church office at 610-262-8061 or visit their website at www.stjohnslaurys.org.

Enjoy a variety of Christmas music performed by Debra Hofmann, Glenn Hofmann, and Jeffrey Halbert. You will hear the sounds of saxophones, keyboard, trumpet, clarinet, flute, harmonica, and various percussion techniques. As well as the Dolcetto band of Glenn and Deb's voices accompanied by Jeff's harmonies.

2024 Ziegels Union Church List of Events

- **Snowflake Festival:** December 7, 11-a.m.
- **Wreaths Across America:** December 14, Noon to 2-p.m.
- **Sunday School Christmas Program:** December 15, 10:10-a.m.
- **Cookie Exchange for Shut ins:** December 15, Noon
- **Christmas Eve Union Services:** December 24, 4,6,& 8-p.m.
- **Christmas Tide Union Service:** December 29, 9-a.m.

Online Giving and Offerings

God's work happens every day. Both Congregations are using online options to give offerings. Please use the QR codes below to give to the missions of each congregation.



Lutheran Code



UCC Code

2024 Ziegels Church Leadership

2024 Lutheran Council

Keith Harwick, President
Ken Highley, Vice President
Bonnie Millward, Secretary
Kelly Lucarelli, Treasurer
Dave Grillo
Michael Longenderfer
Deanna Quay
Winona Schappell

2024 UCC Consistory

Kim Anderson, President
Rob Ziegler, Vice President
Rocky Redline, Secretary
Joyce Weishaupt, Treasurer
Casi Gross
Barbara Ziegler
Laurie Rex
Bob Lilley
Arlene Inman

2024 Union Committee Members

Robert Ziegler, President Michael Longenderfer, Vice President
Kerry Merkel, Treasurer

OUR STAFF & LEADERS

Rev. Andy Meckstroth, Lutheran Pastor	484-523-3039
Rev. Larry Pickens, Designated UCC Pastor	847-687-5897
Karly Rex, Sexton	484-561-8287
Jill Bruckart, Director of Music Ministries	484-456-6701
Kristin Folck, Christian Education Director	484-860-2549
Rob Ziegler, 2024 Union Church Pres.	484-333-0601
Keith Harwick, 2024 Lutheran Council Pres.	610-756-4308
Kim Anderson, 2024 UCC Consistory Pres.	484-951-2198
Nicole Wischner, Lutheran Secretary	610-285-6157
Laura Loch, UCC Secretary	610-285-6157

December Head Ushers

Lutheran Congregation- Lutheran Committee

UCC Congregation- Rob Ziegler

PASTORAL REQUESTS & EMERGENCY

HOSPITALIZATIONS

If you or a family member is in need of pastoral care or have been hospitalized, you can contact the Pastors directly or use the Pastoral Care form found on our website www.ziegelschurch.org and click on the Pastoral Care link/doc at the top of the website page.

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
9990 Ziegels Church Road, Breinigsville, PA 18031
Phone: 610-285-6157

Office Holiday Hours:

The office will be closed on the following:

Tuesday, December 24th

Wednesday, December 25th

Tuesday, December 31st

Wednesday, January 1st

On behalf of the office staff, we want to wish everyone a very happy, healthy, and blessed Christmas and New Year!

Worship and/or Sunday School Cancellation Notices

As we prepare for the arrival of winter, which always brings the possibility that on a given Sunday morning, we might need to cancel Sunday school and/or worship services, we want to remind you that in case of snow or icy conditions, you should turn to our website, Facebook page, or WFMZ TV Channel 69 news.



Union Church email: ziegelschurch@gmail.com
Lutheran Congregation email: lutheranziegels@gmail.com
UCC Congregation email: ziegelsucc@gmail.com
Christian Education email: ziegelsce@gmail.com
Fellowship Committee email: ziegelsfellowship@gmail.com
Ziegels Union Church Website: www.ziegelschurch.org



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[@Ziegels Christian Education](https://www.facebook.com/ZiegelsChristianEducation)

