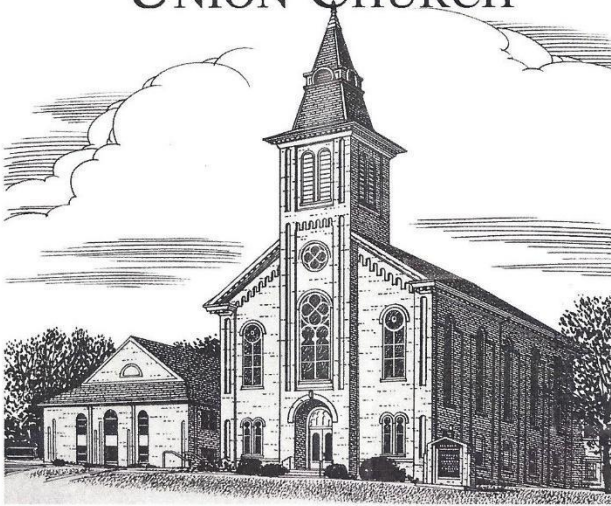


ZIEGELS UNION CHURCH



9990 Ziegels Church Road, Breinigsville, PA 18031



January 2025 NEWSLETTER



Volume 25, Issue 1

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 February 2025 newsletter is Wednesday, January 15, 2025.

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

JANUARY MEETINGS

Committee Meetings

Jan	7	Union Committee Meeting 7:30p.m.
Jan	13	Lutheran Council Meeting 7:30p.m.
Jan	14	UCC Consistory Meeting 7:00p.m.
Jan	21	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

We are in need of sponsors for this year. You can sign up in the narthex or please contact the church office.

UNION COMMITTEES, MINISTRIES & MISSIONS

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Ziegels Union Church uses Constant Contact dedicated emails to inform members about church events, weekly virtual services, and cancellation notifications. Please help us update the 2025 contact list. If you are not receiving the emails or wish to do so, please contact Winona Schappell at ziegelschurch@gmail.com and provide your current or preferred email address. If you have already given your email address but are not receiving the emails, please contact Winona Schappell to address the issue. Constant Contact secured our email address to ziegelsunion@ziegelschurch.ccsend.com this past year and your personal email account may be forcing this address into spam. The committee wants to ensure that all who wish to receive this information have the correct email addresses in our contact list. Thank you for your help!

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

Happy New Year from Ziegels Sunday School!

Thank you to everyone who came to see the Sunday School children and adults perform the Christmas pageant, "The Not So Silent Night". Special thanks to John Schopf for playing Christmas selections on his clarinet along with Jill on the piano.

The Sunday School would like to thank everyone who donated pajamas in October. We were happy to deliver 47 sets of pajamas to the Lowhill Food pantry. We are blessed to have so much generosity from our Ziegels family.

UPCOMING EVENTS

There are many fun and exciting things coming up in the new year for our students, families and community members. Please check out the dates below and share with friends and family.

- **February 2 (12:15-2:00pm) AND March 30 (12:15-2:00pm):** After worship lunch and activity for kids in 1st grade up to high school age. Friends are welcome!
- **April 12 at 9:00am:** Easter Egg decorating for kids 5th grade and up. Breakfast provided and friends are welcome!
- **April 13 at 1:00pm:** Easter Egg Hunt
- **April 20:** Easter Sunday (no Sunday School classes)
- **May 4:** CE Spring Tea Party - Ziegels 275th Anniversary event
- **May 11 (11:05 UCC Service):** Youth Sunday Celebration and last day of Sunday School

We are always looking for volunteers to help us run the Sunday School program. Please contact Laurie Rex (SS President) or Kelly Lucarelli (SS Vice President) at ziegelsce@gmail.com if you would be willing to teach or help in a SS class or help in some other way!

SUNDAY SCHOOL ELECTION UPDATE

On December 8, the following people were elected as officers of the Ziegels Union Sunday School:

Laurie Rex – President Kelly Lucarelli - Vice President
Deanna Quay - Recording Secretary Kevin Miller - Treasurer

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 9:30-10:00-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 lupplumeria@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 Shana at ziegelsfellowship@gmail.com.

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.

Ziegels Grants Received

**Ziegels Union Church was fortunate to receive
four grants in 2024.**

1. The Pennsylvania State Archives awarded the History Committee with an Empowered History Micro-grant for a project on the 18th and 19th c. records we rediscovered about 25 years ago in the bank safety deposit box. The grant underwrote the purchased of a scanner to create digital versions of these documents and will fund the publication of a limited-edition book (131 pages) for distribution to local libraries and history societies. The History Committee will be taking pre-orders for anyone who would like to purchase a copy once the final pricing is established. The publication will be in color and will feature pictures of Ziegels' early documents.

2. The UCC congregation is collaborating with the Lutheran congregation to secure funding for technology improvements to Fellowship Hall. This past summer, we had representatives from two companies provide recommendations on how best to set up the space for presentations informal worship services, etc. Union Council approved \$1,400 in funds designated for the technology to improve internet function in the Fellowship Hall. The Penn Northeast Conference awarded a \$2,000 GEM grant to underwrite the cost and installation of a new audio system. The national UCC awarded an Operational Grant of \$2,500 for the purchase and installation of an 84" TV screen (one of two needed).

The Lutheran congregation has applied for a \$5,000 Witness and Service Team collaborative grant to support other components of this project; we are still awaiting a decision. Although the grants will fund a large portion of the project, to fund the entire projects (e.g., side screens) will require additional funding. We welcome donations or designated memorial gifts.

3. The national UCC awarded a NIN (Neighbors in Need) grant to support community programming for our anniversary year. A small part of this grant will fund equipment. The total grant is \$2500.

LOWHILL FOOD PANTRY: NOVEMBER STATISTICS

January sponsor: Mark & Nancy Clemens

- 85 family units served (108 adults, 91 children, and 67 seniors) for a total of 266 individual clients. There were no emergencies this month.
- 87 children served through the Weekend Children's program.
- Ziegels donated 291 lbs. of food this month, along with many needed items for the Blessings Room.

Current food/items needed: Cereal of any kind, ketchup, canned pasta, sauerkraut, canned fruit, canned soup, and canned potatoes.

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

January servings: Saturday January 4th, Wednesday January 15th, and Thursday January 16th.

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.

Thank You for your continued support. Your support is so important to us as the number of clients we are serving is consistently increasing. We appreciate your partnership with us in this community project.

A special thank you for making the sanctuary safe, bright, and welcoming during the Christmas Eve candlelight services to:

- Sharon Meckes and family for the memorial fund purchase of the plastic candle holders in memory of Joe Meckes
- Kelly Lucarelli and Matt Miller families for the memorial fund purchase of the LED window candles in memory of Jerry Miller (who handmade the window wooden candle holders many years ago)
- To Sophie Halbert and Deborah Hoffman; Kristin and Randolph Wert; Diane Hemerly and Winona Schappell, who all offered special service music.
- To the Handchime choir, Senior Choir, and Handbell choir, led by Jill Bruckart, Director of Music, for their music contributions in the worship services.
- To Christian Education, Kelly Lucarelli and Laurie Rex, for organizing and setting up Fellowship hours after all three services.
- To the Fellowship Committee for Christmas decoration setup throughout the church building and sanctuary.
- To the church staff, Pastors, Consistory, and Council for all the "behind the scenes" and special worship preparations to make all three services safe and welcoming.



275th Anniversary, Ziegels Union Church 1750-2025

There are several events scheduled for next year and some still in the planning stages. Updates to the 2025 celebration event calendar will be available at the windows entering the sanctuary, weekly bulletins, Facebook, or the church webpage. Please refer to the calendar that is inserted in this month's newsletter.

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

2025 Ziegels Church Leadership

2025 Lutheran Council

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

2025 UCC Consistory

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

2025 Union Committee Members

Michael Longenderfer, President; Robert Ziegler, 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
Laurie Rex, Sunday School President	610-349-9124
Michael Longenderfer, Union Church Pres.	610-216-0221
Keith Harwick, Lutheran Council Pres.	610-756-4308
Kim Anderson, UCC Consistory Pres.	484-951-2198
Nicole Wischner, Lutheran Secretary	610-285-6157
Laura Loch, UCC Secretary	610-285-6157

January Head Ushers

Lutheran Congregation- Winona Schappell
UCC Congregation- Kim Anderson

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

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

The office will be closed on Monday, January 20, 2025, and will reopen on Tuesday, January 21, 2025.

I have a dream

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

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 snowy 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



Find us on Facebook:

@Ziegels Union Church

@Ziegels Christian Education



