

THE EXPRESSION

FEBRUARY 2019 ~ NEWSLETTER



CHRIST'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
5330 Old Logan Ferry Road
Murrysville, PA 15668
(412) 795-1212

Pastor Wayne Gillespie

Email: office@christsmurrysville.org

Website: christsmurrysville.org

Sunday School for Children & Adults: 9:00 am

Services

Saturday Contemporary – 6:00 pm

Sunday Worship – 10:00 am

From the Pastor's Desk



I begin each year of my ministry by reading Dietrich Bonhoeffer's "Life Together" – one of the most insightful books about ministry that I've ever found.

Bonhoeffer writes about the importance of traveling through life with other Christians, and he clearly reminds us that we always need to remember that the Church belongs to Jesus. Bonhoeffer reminds us that strong and vibrant ministries that are shaped by daily prayer and discernment are incredibly different than weaker ministries that are built around more personal desires and preferences. But, this year, I was struck by a different theme:

"In a Christian community everything depends upon whether each individual is an indispensable link in a chain. Only when even the smallest link is securely interlocked is the chain unbreakable.... Every Christian community must realize that not only do the weak need the strong, but also that the strong cannot exist without the weak."

~ Bonhoeffer

These words probably caught my attention this year because I've been traveling through a time in my own life that's clearly marked by both strength and weakness. I continue to hear God's call in daily life and ministry, and I continue to hear God's call to lead Christ's Church into the future. I'm strengthened through the daily disciplines of Bible reading and prayer, and I'm sustained by the Bread and Wine of Holy Communion. And that's a good thing – because, in the last year, I've also been journeying through grief. I said, "Goodbye" to my father in the last year, and I've needed to close my father's estate and distribute his assets. Christmas wasn't the same this year, and I still have times when I'd like to pick up the telephone and talk about what's happening in my life with my Dad. The past year was filled with strength and weakness. God reminded me that the Church is a fluid community. Perhaps, that's why God brings us together? Maybe we really do need each other? God once said: "It is not good for any of us to be alone." (**Gen 2:18**)

Bonhoeffer's challenge is clear. God's calling us to realize that we're all "indispensable links" in the chain. God is, also, calling us to see that unbreakable chains are only formed when even the smallest links are interlocked. What does that mean to our "Life Together" at Christ's Lutheran Church? How can Bonhoeffer's challenge be used to strengthen the life and ministry of our congregation in the coming year? How are we spurring each other on when we come together? Do we acknowledge that even the "strong" can travel through seasons in life when they need help and support?

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Bela Molnar — President
Judy Bernardini — Vice President
Michelle Gravante — Secretary
John “Kip” Cooper — Treasurer
Bela Molnar — Financial Secretary

Wally Utley — Finance
Kris Meade — Parish Administration
Cindy Lott -
Scott Ritenbaugh

CHURCHCOUNCIL

New Emergency Cancellation Policy Adopted

The Church Council recently adopted a new “Emergency Cancellation Policy” to guide us during weather emergencies and unexpected situations. We hope that our efforts to clarify our approach to things that cannot be easily predicted will help us to communicate with you in helpful ways when we need to adjust our schedule of activities at Christ’s.

We decided to adopt a three-level approach:

We will be designating situations as **YELLOW LEVEL** when they are not likely to affect the ministry of our congregation and when we need to respond to what’s happening by doing nothing. While this level may seem to be unnecessary, we have created it to encourage us to continue to be aware of situations that can affect our ministry and be intentional in our approach to what’s happening.

We will designate situations as **ORANGE LEVEL** when they affect our ministry in a significant way, but when they do not affect our worship schedule. Our Sunday School teachers will be in close contact with each other and will consult with both the Council President and Pastor if Sunday School classes need to be cancelled. If Sunday School classes need to be cancelled – the families of those who regularly attend will be contacted, a general email will be sent to members of the church who have furnished an e-mail address to the church office, and **KDKA will be asked to announce the cancellation.** We encourage other groups that schedule activities at Christ’s to adopt this same approach. It’s important

to remember that we do not cancel worship services unless a dire situation unfolds.

We will, finally, designate situations as **RED LEVEL** when very serious situations unfold, or when some sort of emergency develops that KDKA is not likely to advertise. In this very unlikely situation, the pastor will be in consultation with the Council President, our church musicians, and Parish Administration. This level of emergency will require that we cancel ALL activities at the church (including worship). We will use our church communication system to reach-out to you through a congregation-wide robocall if you have provided a telephone number where you can be reached. Please be sure to listen to the robocall carefully, and to provide an answering machine that will record the call if you are not able to answer your telephone.

We hope that this new policy will help us to share important information when we need to cancel activities at the church. Please remember that we DO NOT cancel worship unless an extreme emergency forces us to take that drastic step.



***Caring Hearts & Hands will meet on
Thursday, FEBRUARY 7th at 9:15 am.***

All are welcome to share in our fellowship and ministry.

If you or someone you know would benefit from hearing from us, please contact Romaine Miller at 412-795-6473.

Due to issues with our office printer, we have not been able to print 2018 year end statements. If you need or would like your statement (before we mail them out), contact the church office and we will get this document to you. ~Thanks...Financial Secretary

Time to clean up!

The Kindergarten / Nursery room is becoming too full of toys and equipment. I will be having conversations with people who use that room on a regular basis to determine what things should stay and trying to find a good home for the rest.

If you would like to be part of those conversations, please let me know. That includes anyone who may have donated items in the past and would rather take them back than have them turn up at the church flea market! You can email me at cclott@gmail.com or call my cell at 724-339-2414 or see me in church. Please get in touch by February 28th.

Thank you, Cindy Lott

Altar Guild would welcome additional volunteers

The Altar Guild, as part of the Worship & Music Committee, is looking for a few more people to help with the preparation for & cleanup of the Altar. Here is a brief explanation of each task. You would only be asked to volunteer for one task each month. If you would like to shadow a current Altar Guild volunteer to see how it is done, let us know. If you are interested in helping us out, please sign up in the display case (next to Pastor's office) or contact: Marlene Earl (thedukeearl@comcast.net) or Sandy Buehner (sandybuehner@pitt.edu or 412-216-1998).

ALTAR GUILD TASKS**A brief explanation...****OPEN ALTAR -**

Set up altar for the 6:00 pm, Saturday, service & prep for Sunday Morning.

Uncover baptismal font

Prepare altar, including chalices/wafers for Saturday communion

Prepare the hymn boards, lectern, & pulpit for Sunday morning

Prepare items for Sunday morning communion

CLEAN UP after 6:00 pm, Saturday, service.

Lift communion cup trays & place linens on trays

Extinguish altar candles

Empty chalices & put away extra wafers

Fill 6 glasses with grape juice

Put missal on missal stand on altar

Check that pews are tidy

PUT OUT BREAD/WINE prior to 10:00 am, Sunday, service.

CLEAN UP after 10:00 am Service -

Pour unused wine back into bottle.

Wash communion glasses (instructions are posted on wall above sink).

Dry glasses and replace them into trays

Check linens for soil (to be washed), or clean (return to drawer)

Wipe out flagon, chalices, bread tray with damp cloth, dry, and wrap for storage

WASH & IRON LINENS.

Acolyte Training

Pastor Wayne will be holding acolyte training for third and fourth graders during the Sunday School hour on February 10th. Parents are welcome to attend.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Please join us in extending the happiest of Birthday Wishes to the following Mission Partners who celebrate Birthdays in the month of **FEBRUARY**:

FEB 1-9

Dave Dutt
Jacob D'Ascenzo
Eric Waxbom

Fred Salenske
Susie Lasher

FEB 10-15

Alexis Paddock
Liam Suhadolnik
Paige Van Orden
Joann Hauger

Gianna Suhadolnik
Gail Byrne
Sally Dutzman

FEB 16-22

Cindy Dutt
Dan Martin
Tammy Wilson

Brianna Fink
Jenessa Porter
Neena Molnar

FEB 24-28

Lisa Tensuan
Kendra Cook
Janet Beall

Alex Dikun
Randi Mackeil
Jayne Gustafson

If you don't see your name, and you have a FEBRUARY birthday, please forgive the oversight and give the church office a call so that we can record your birthdate in our parish records.

Thanks, and have a



2019 Catechism Class Schedule:



February 10, 2019
March 10, 2019

April 14, 2019
May 12, 2019

Classes will be held from 6:00—8:00 pm

We kindly ask that you continue to pray for our CLC members, family, and friends of members who are included in our weekly bulletin prayer list. Thank you.



- Pat & Don Andelmo - friends of Marianne Trainor
- Damian Arenth - grandson of Holly Kirsch
- Dorothy Beacom - CLC member
- Linda Bradish - mother of co-worker of Sandy Buehner
- Sandy Buehner - CLC member
- Kip Cooper – CLC member
- Judy Daum - daughter of Shirley Daum
- Edna Dymond - CLC member
- Deborah Ethier - friend of Gloria Frick
- Chuck & Irene Evans - CLC member
- Julie Fallin - friend of Dwight & Carolyn Schuetz
- Evelyn Gilbreath - friend of Sandy Buehner
- Bob Glunt - son of Nancy Glunt
- Nancy Hartwick - friend of Sandy Buehner
- John Heilman - brother of Jane Montgomery
- Peggy Henry - CLC member
- Diane Hughes - co-worker of Sandy Buehner
- Maureen Horansky - friend of Gerry & Cindy Lott
- Abby Johnson - friend of Wally Utley
- Cindy Lemon - sister of Carol Tamenne
- David Little - son of Roger and Barb Little

Grace Lucas - CLC member

Bob Lyons - CLC member

Donna Magerl - friend of Sandy Buehner

Audrey Mauro - sister of Louise Fitz

Derek McClemens - son of Greg & Debby McClemens

Christopher Molnar - son of a friend of the Marion
O'Donnell

Gary Oswald - sister of Lisa Pattock

Linda O'Donnell - sister-in-law of Michael O'Donnell

Michael O'Donnell - husband of Marion O'Donnell

Debra Pavlock - friend of Gloria Frick

Gage Peters - friend of son-in-law of Marion O'Donnell

Rich Radcliffe - former co-worker of Wally Utley

John Ring - brother of Mary Wentroble

John Russell - son of Theresa Russell

Theresa Russell - CLC member

Tony Santacasa - friend of the Bernardini & McClemens

Kathy Schultz - CLC member

Harry Shkuratoff – brother of Mary Huffman

Sarah Schlegel - sister-in-law of Sandy Buehner

Patti Smith - daughter of Frieda Cushing

Mary Sorrells - request from Pastor Wayne

Wilma Stewart - mother of Tammy Scanga

Arlene Switzer - friend of Oren Keibler

Marianne Trainor - CLC member

Gail Verico - grandmother of Michelle Gravante

Dawn Werner - niece of Sue & Mike Werner

Joy Wisneski - friend of Sandy Buehner

Gloria Zagorac - CLC member

WE PRAY FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS:

FEB 3

Charles and Irene Evans
Roger Fairbank
Bill Farrell
Lynn and Mackenzie Favero



FEB 10

George, Patti, Jason, Amanda, Jessica Federovich
Matthew, Matthew Jr., Summer, Adison Federovich
Audrey Ferris
Jeff Ferris

FEB 17

Louise Fitz
Gloria Frick
Ron, Mikayla, Madison Fuehrer
Marlene Gerdes

FEB 24

Steve, Kristen, Kelsie, Madison Gestrich
Pastor Wayne and Laurel Gillespie
Eric Gipson and Amy Lederer
Ruth Goetz

This month's **SCRAPBOOKING** gathering will be on Friday, **FEBRUARY 8th at 6:00 pm!**

We usually meet on the second Friday of every month.

Please contact Betty Molnar at 724-327-3437 with questions.



Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday morning, **FEBRUARY 16th** at 8:00 am in the Lower Social hall.

Bring a hearty appetite and enjoy hanging out with the guys.



Thank you to my dear church family for your love and support, cards, and phone calls while my husband, Bob was ill. Thanks to Pastor Wayne for the beautiful funeral service, and to him and Pastor Steve for their visits with Bob and I, and after the funeral to comfort me in my time of grief.

You opened your hearts and arms to Bob and I from the first time we attended Service, and we were overjoyed that we found our "home" at Christ's Lutheran. You made us feel welcome and included, and our Faith grew and blossomed. This faith allowed us to accept Bob's diagnosis and he went to God with a peaceful heart, and helped me to stay strong. This church has been one of our greatest blessings. Thank you, dear friends.

~With Love, Mariann Trainor

The Sewing Group meets on Tuesdays at 9:00 am.
Come join us !



Please contact Leslie Sill at 412-793-2546 for additional information.

The Shofar



Week #100: Jan 27 – Feb 2

Sun: Third Sunday after the Epiphany; Mon: Jeremiah 36:1-10, 1 Corinthians 14:1-12; Tues: Jeremiah 36:11-26, 2 Corinthians 7:2-12; Wed: Jeremiah 36:27-32, Luke 4:38-44; Thurs: 2 Chronicles 34:1-7, Acts 10:44-48; Fri: 2 Chronicles 35:20-27, Acts 19:1-10; Sat: 2 Chronicles 35:20-27, John 1:43-51

Week #101: Feb 3 - Feb 9

Sun: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany; Mon: 1 Kings 17:8-16, 1 Corinthians 2:6-16; Tues: 2 Kings 5:1-14, 1 Corinthians 14:13-25; Wed: Jeremiah 1:11-19, Luke 19:41-44; Thurs: Numbers 20:22-29, Acts 9:19b-25; Fri: Numbers 27:12-23, Act 9:26-31; Sat: Judges 3:7-11, Luke 4:42-44

Week #102: Feb 10 - Feb 16

Sun: Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany; Mon: Judges 5:1-11, 1 Corinthians 14:26-40; Tues: 1 Samuel 9:15-10:1b, Timothy 3:1-9; Wed: Isaiah 8:1-15, Luke 5:27-32; Thurs: Jeremiah 13:12-19, Acts 13:26-34; Fri: Jeremiah 13:20-27, 1 Peter 1:17-2:1; Sat: Jeremiah 17:1-4, Luke 11:24-28.

Week #103: Feb 17 - Feb 23

Sun: sixth Sunday after the Epiphany; Mon: 2 Kings 24:18-25:21, 1 Corinthians 15:20-34; Tues: Ezra 1:1-11, 2 Corinthians 1:12-19; Wed: Jeremiah 22:11-17, Luke 11:37-52; Thurs: genesis 43:16-34, Romans 8:1-11; Fri: Genesis 44:1-17, 1 John 2:12-17; Sat: Genesis 44:18-34, Luke 12:57-59.

Week #104: Feb 24 - Mar 2

Sun: Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany; Mon: genesis 33:1-17, 1 Corinthians 11:2-16; Tues: 1 Samuel 24:1-22, 1 Corinthians 11:17-22, 27-33; Wed: Leviticus 5:1-13, Luke 17:1-4; Thurs: Deuteronomy 9:1-5, Acts 3:11-16; Fri: Deuteronomy 9:6-14, Acts 10:1-8; Sat: Deuteronomy 9:15-24, Luke 10:21-24