

The Lutheran Letter

June Newsletter 2019



Stewards of Our Neighbors and Our Neighborhood

Summer brings with it a sea of change in our neighborhoods. Suddenly, the streets are alive with joggers and baby strollers, the smells of backyard barbecue, and the drone of lawn mowers. As a Christian steward, have you given thought to your responsibility to your neighborhood? We take seriously the scriptural query, "Who is my neighbor?" but do we ever ask, "But what of my neighborhood?" In our grandparents' era, when many people lived in small towns and escaped the summer heat by sitting on porches in the muggy evenings, neighborliness came with the territory. Everybody knew who was having a baby, which family was suffering through illness, who had just experienced a death or a wedding. Problems in the neighborhood were shared concerns. Today, in the era of two-parent wage-earners and automatic garage door openers, it's easy to come home after a long day, hit a button and watch the neighborhood disappear as we enter the cocoon of our home. June offers us the opportunity to change that. Do you have a "back fence neighbor"? Maybe now, when he or she is out in the yard, is the time to get to know them better. Host a barbecue, or a neighborhood potluck. Invite someone over for an evening iced tea on the patio. If there's a community picnic, be sure to go and introduce yourself around. Don't miss Union's Outdoor Worship and Fellowship. Go for a long stroll in the early evening and look at your neighborhood with fresh eyes. Stop to visit with people working on their lawns or in their flower beds. There's a famous quote: "All politics is local." Do you know who represents your neighborhood on the city council and on the school board? Are you acquainted with your church council members? The quote could very well have added that most religion is local as well, alive in our church. The church, and the community, lives and breathes in the neighborhood. Is there a pressing local issue, a speed bump needed or a stop sign missing? Is there a neighborhood cleanup day? Get involved. For the Christian steward, opening our eyes to the people next door or to the folks sitting next to us in the pew can be a great project for a sunny summer.



Pastor Camp

**May 2019
Church Council News...**
By Cathy Shaffer, Assistant to the Pastor

- ❖ Financial report: 2019 YTD offering has increased by 13.6% compared to January-April 2018. Contributions for the HVAC project and Vision20/20 are robust. Thank you to our ULC church family for your support!
- ❖ Communication Committee reports that electronic giving options (Facebook, webpage, smartphone app, and card reader) are operational
- ❖ Pastor's report: 9 youth received acolyte training, 9 youth will be Confirmed on June 9th, attended Northern Lehigh Mission District Assembly, thanked all who participated in the Youth Sunday Worship Services
- ❖ Staff Support Committee met with Terry Hoffman to discuss cares/needs
- ❖ Fellowship Committee is selling Knoebel's discount tickets, Strawberry Sunday (June 9), Ice Cream Sundae (July 14), Peach Sunday (August 11), Iron Pigs tickets for sale (August 9). Helping to host summer breakfasts and dinners before Outdoor Worship
- ❖ Property Committee held Work Day on May 18th
- ❖ Worship/Music Committee-updating worship volunteer "job descriptions" with plans to use to recruit additional volunteers
- ❖ Social Ministry - May 5th blood drive collected 17 pints; next blood drive August 25th
- ❖ Youth Group: held Youth Worship Service, Nite on the Move/camp out planned July 19-20
- ❖ Union Board – Lynne Banzhoff (Secretary) signed updated bank signature cards; next meeting Sept. 18
- ❖ Next Council meeting is Monday, June 17th at 7:00 PM. All are welcome.

Social Ministry Highlights...



Miller-Keystone Blood Drive here at Union Lutheran

Summer Worship Opportunities

Sunday Morning Worship

We will continue to offer 2 services at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM throughout the summer months.

Sunday Morning Breakfasts

Do you like going for a nice breakfast before or after church? Why not join us at church for that breakfast? This summer we will be having a potluck breakfast once a month. Our dates are June 30, July 28, and August 18th. Sign-ups will be coming soon to bring your breakfast bests! If you bring something or not, ALL are welcome. There will be a free-will offering at each breakfast. So stick around after the 8 AM worship or come a little early for the 10:30 AM worship and enjoy some time with all our ULC members!

Wednesday Evening Outdoor Worship & Covered Dish Dinners

Join us for worship in our outdoor worship area (behind our building by the cross) for 3 Worship Services on Wednesday evenings, June 12, July 17 and August 21.



God's Global Barnyard Lenten Challenge

Thanks to the generous donations of our church family and our Learning Ark Christian Preschool children we were able to purchase all of the following for our "farm". 20 chickens, 2 goats, 2 piglets, 1 rooster, honeybees, farm tools, agricultural training, fruit trees, fish farm, 1 cow, community vegetable garden.



From the Director of Music Ministries

By Susan Hartney

Sir Paul McCartney: "I love to hear a choir. I love the humanity to see the faces of real people devoting themselves to a piece of music. I like the teamwork. It makes me feel optimistic about the human race when I see them cooperating like that."

Sir Paul and I agree. Music, in almost all forms, is a social activity, communicating to the human spirit in many ways. We all have favorite tunes that make us want to sing along, get up and dance, move to the beat. Some music makes us feel sad. Some music makes us reflect. Some music makes us soar to emotional levels which we never imagined.

I am blessed to have spent my life making music in many forms, both choral and instrumental. There are some compositions that I have played many times that I still find extremely beautiful and always move me; on the other hand, there are a few that I am not interested in ever playing again!

Union Lutheran has musicians who generously offer their time and talents to provide music leadership in worship. I remain humbled and grateful for their willingness to attend rehearsals and share their gifts on Sundays and special worship services during the year. At the end of this music season, many, many thanks to all who served in positions of music leadership, as well as to the members of Union Lutheran Church for their support and encouragement!



You are invited!

Hoffman's Annual 2019 Fireworks Picnic

Friday, June 21, 2019

Hot dogs on the grill at 8:30 PM
Fireworks in Schnecksville Fair at 10:00 PM

Bring family & friends, blankets or chairs,
small snack to share if you want.
Terry and Patti will supply hot dogs, fixings,
and nonalcoholic drinks.

RSVP
Patti Hoffman
4732 Cardinal St Schnecksville
pattiahoffman@gmail.com
484-223-5760



Tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

Little things can make a difference. We can help support the Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia by collecting beverage tabs. The funds generated from recycling these tabs help offset the House's expenses and give families with children in the hospital an affordable place to stay. The ones on the soup, cat food etc. are good too. Place your tabs in the can in the Gathering Space. Thank you so much. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me, Cathy Smith 215-872-4013.



Celebrating OUR GRADUATES

Many years ago during your baptism, this congregation or another welcomed you into the Lord's family as a child of God. Now you are approaching another milestone in your life. *Let's celebrate your accomplishments* with your church family here at Union Lutheran. On **Sunday, June 2nd**, we will be honoring all high school and college graduates. We will recognize those present during worship. Please contact the church office with the following information:

1. Name, name of school graduating, future plans (*John Graduate, Parkland High School, planning to attend Penn State studying RELIGION!*)
2. Which worship service will you be able to attend **8:00 AM or 10:30 AM**

Let's make this even more fun...if you like, why not wear either the colors of the school that you are graduating from or that you plan to attend! Hope to see you at worship on June 2nd.

Sunday Morning Fellowship

Your Help Is Needed!!!

Volunteers are needed to host our Sunday Morning Fellowship. All you need to do is set up coffee, tea, and cold drinks, and clean up afterwards. The Fellowship Committee will provide cookies. If you are interested, please sign-up on the bulletin board or call the church office. Your help will be greatly appreciated!



**Meet our newest Member
Donald Saylor**

SAVE THE DATE



Miller-Keystone Blood Drive at Union Lutheran.

August 25, 2019
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

Union Lutheran will be sponsoring a Miller-Keystone Blood Bank Drive. Registrations will be coming soon.

amazonsmile

Start with a Smile at smile.amazon.com

When you shop @**AmazonSmile.com** Amazon will make a donation to Union Evangelical Lutheran Church. Shop <https://smile.amazon.com> today.

HOBOKEN, NJ

Lunchtime Ministry

St. Matthew Trinity Lutheran Church gives warm meals, hospitality and community to neighbors. The ministry serves about 65 people per day. In addition, they offer free haircuts, music and a sense of community. Stanley, the project manager, said while different things bring people there, the only requirement is respect for the space and the people around them. "We give you a warm meal, a fresh pair of socks and a listening ear no matter what you did last year or last night," Stanley said "Whatever your story is, we will welcome you." One guest, Len, cared for his mother for a number of years. After she died in 2011 he had nowhere to go. He stayed at a few shelters, but because of some bad decisions, he got kicked out. Len came to Lunchtime Ministry as a last resort. Although not an overnight shelter, he can get a few hours of sleep during open hours. Like many guests, he helps out when needed. Len now attends church services, Alcohol Anonymous meetings and Bible study. Most of all, he is known for encouraging volunteers. This ministry is powered by volunteers and financial support that includes an **ELCA World Hunger Grant**. Thanks to your gifts Lunchtime Ministry can continue to dish out delicious and filling meals served with respect every day.



ALLENTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT ST. LUKE'S CLOTHES CLOSET READING SCHOOL DISTRICT

From the book of Galatians: "Whenever we have the opportunity, let us work for the good of all" (Galatians 6:10).

The collection of school uniform items and everyday children's clothing once again did just that, providing us the opportunity to help children needing clothing assistance, and once again it was a big success.

The following were donated to Allentown School District: 37 shirts, 2 sweaters, 10 pairs of pants, 2 jumpers, 2 skirts, 6 pairs of shorts, 17 packs of underwear. To St. Luke's Clothes Closet: 50 shirts, 13 pairs of shorts, 4 pairs of PJs, 2 jackets, 1 set of shorts, 8 pairs of long pants, 2 dresses, 18 packs of socks, 30 packs of underwear and one 3-piece outfit. In addition, 13 khaki school uniform items were sent to the Reading School District for elementary school students. The total was 218.

Please keep in mind how many smiling faces are recipients of your gifts.

The Learning Ark Christian Preschool By Jackie Bucks, Director

Registration for the 2019/2020 preschool year is currently open!

If you would like to set up an appointment to visit our preschool, please call the church office at 610-767-6884 or email preschool@ulclv.org.

MEET... Jordan Elizabeth Bucks

by the Communications Committee



It was Christmas Eve, 2003, and NORAD (the North American Air Defense Command) was tracking Santa's sleigh as he delivered gifts to children all over the world. They probably also had another plane on their radar coming from China to the United States. On board that plane were Brian Bucks and his wife, Jackie. With them was their special Christmas gift, 13-month old Jordan Elizabeth, coming "home" to the Lehigh Valley.

Jordie (she prefers the "ie" because she says "it's more feminine") is a remarkable young woman. She's 16 now and a sophomore at Parkland High School. She says "music is my passion" and her accomplishments to this point in time underscore that. She plays the piano, the clarinet and the saxophone. She is a member of Parkland's marching band and concert band. She plays both piano and clarinet in the school's orchestra. She plays the piano in the jazz ensemble. She was chosen twice for District Band and once for Region V Band by the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA). Recently she was inducted into The Tri-M Music Honor Society, a program of the National Association for Music Education. Of special interest is that she was chosen in her youngest year of eligibility.

Here at Union (she and her parents joined in 2006) she plays for our Praise Band. Her mother is director and her father is a singer in the Praise Band. In Lent, she led one of the Wednesday evening services. She has been part of the Youth Bell Choir. Active in Union's Youth Group, last year she (and her parents) went to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston.

Jordie's father Brian is the Operations Manager of Lightning Source, a book manufacturer that turns out some twelve million books annually. Her mother Jackie is the Director of our congregation's Learning Ark Christian Preschool. Jordie has two brothers and a sister. Justin is a Chemical Engineer and Nathan is a Doctor specializing in Sports Orthopedics. Both reside in the York area. Sister Courtney is a Property Manager in Houston, Texas. Jordie says, "I have a lot to live up to in a family like this."



Jordie says she loves cats and, of course, she has one, a pumpkin-colored female appropriately named "Pumpkin" who sleeps with her every night.

If you ask Jordie what she does in her spare time, she'll say, "I have no spare time." That, of course, is because she keeps herself active in things she likes to do. She is an avid reader of Shakespeare and an ardent follower of Harry Potter (she has read six of the seven Harry Potter books). Actually, when it comes to Harry Potter she says, "I'm a fanatic." She recently took an online test (Pottermore) and was sorted into the Ravenclaw House of Hogwarts. There are four houses in all and Ravenclaw represents "wisdom, cleverness and wit." That certainly fits Jordie to a T.

Jordie says her interest in music was initially in classical, jazz and instrumental music, but more recently she has become interested in more popular music as exemplified by Billy Joel. In addition, she can list a number of rock groups that she finds intriguing. As you can see, she is fast becoming a well-rounded, very talented musician.

So what about the future? One might ask if high school sophomores actually think much about the future. We can only guess at the answer to that, but for Jordie the answer is a resounding "yes." She has already in touch with the college she wants to attend (Moravian) and knows the areas of study she wants to pursue (music education or music therapy). But it doesn't end there. She is also planning her graduate study at either Ithaca College or West Chester University!

Jordan Elizabeth Bucks is very gifted and her future promises to be bright and productive. How fortunate our congregation is to have youth like her.



From The Church Office...

If you are going away for an extended period of time, please contact the Church Office. We will gladly hold your church mail for you until you return or send it to you if you have a temporary address.



Communion Assistants serve at either the 8:00 AM or the 10:30 AM worship service (your choice) on a rotating basis. We would love to have more folks involved.

Please contact the Church Office to either volunteer or to obtain more information.

CALLING JOURNEYMEN!!!

ALL MEN WELCOME!

The **Journeymen** meets on the 2nd Saturday of every month at 7:00 AM. Join them at The Parkland Restaurant, 2702 Walbert Ave, Allentown.

Your **FIRST** breakfast is **FREE**.



All women are welcome to be part of this important ministry. If you like to knit or crochet, please join us. We'd love to have you!

If you have any questions, contact Carolyn Bottjer, 610-395-6867, cbottjer@gmail.com.

If you know of someone who lives out of the area who could use a prayer shawl, please contact Cathy Smith at 215-872-4013 or kckkcsmith@hotmail.com and she will be happy to mail one for you. You can also contact her if you would like to deliver one in person.

Thank You To Our Office Volunteers

Jane Borbe, Sally Crowe, Thomas Crowe, Barbara Fung, David Geiger, Debbie Geiger, Linda Geissinger, Judy Gifford, Deb Grundstrom, Richard Handwerk, Don Hoffman, Patti Hoffman, Sandy Hoffman, Robert Krause, John Krisko, Marion Krisko, Ellen Miller, Kathy & Adam Parker, Shirley Rennolds, Stacey Rice, Richard Ruth, Art Schneck, Carol Schneck, Shirley Schneck, Barbara Spohn, Peggy Twardzik, Donald and Ruth Weaver.

Sunday Morning Fellowship

Your Help Is Needed!!!

Volunteers are needed to host our Sunday Morning Fellowship. All you need to do is set up coffee, tea, and cold drinks, and clean up afterwards. The Fellowship Committee will provide cookies. If you are interested, please sign-up on the bulletin board or call the church office. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

Attention!!!



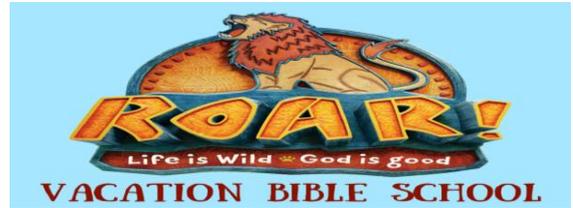
The Klotz Scholarship All post-high school students!!!

Scholarship money is available through the George Klotz Scholarship Fund. This is a one-time scholarship that will be awarded on a competitive basis by a selection committee who will review all applications. Scholarships will be awarded to applicants from our church family. Eligible candidates must be active members of Union Lutheran Church, be enrolled in a post-secondary program and have completed at least one year of school to apply.

All post-high school students enrolled in any type of college, trade school, or technical school are invited to apply. Those who applied last year but were not awarded a scholarship are eligible and encouraged to apply again. If you are interested in applying for this scholarship, please contact the church office for an application. Deadline to return an application is July 15th. Award(s) will be presented during worship on August 4th.



If you wish to become a member? Come Join our Church Family. All are welcome no matter if you are coming from a Lutheran background or another faith tradition. *We are so excited for the opportunity to have you join our ministries.* Becoming a part of our family is simple. Just contact Pastor Camp or the Church Office at [610-767-6884](tel:610-767-6884) or office@ulclv.org. Let us welcome you during one of our upcoming worship services.



June 23 - 28, 2019

All children ages 3 (potty-trained please) through 5th Grade are welcome to join us for this exciting adventure... so please save the date!

We will be meeting in the evening
from 5:45-8:00 PM with
a family dinner served from 5:00-5:45 PM.

At Roar, kids discover that Life is wild-God is good!! Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, experience one-of-a-kind Bible adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of God's love, and test out Sciency-Fun Gizmoz they'll take home and play with all summer long. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with the Safari Celebration which gets everyone involved in living what they've learned. Songs and introduction of Bible Buddy kicks off each night!

Roar! Children's Registration is FREE.
Email the church office (office@ulclv.org)
to request your Registration Form and
Volunteer Signup Forms.

VOLUNTEERS: We also need your help to connect kids to God and grow their faith! Please consider volunteering for VBS... we promise you it will be an experience you will never forget! Youth Grade 6 and above as well as adults are needed!

Blessings,

Liz Marakovits, 484-553-0961

lizmarakovits@gmail.com

Cathy Shaffer, 610-767-6884

office@ulclv.org

YOUTH SUNDAY



YOUTH SUNDAY

Thanks be to God.



Summer Outdoor Worship & Covered Dish Dinner



Wednesday Evenings
June 12 & July 17, & August 21

*Join us for Worship in
Our Outdoor Worship Area*

Dinner 6:00 PM We will provide the hot dogs/ fixins and serve ice cold drinks.

Please bring a side dish or a dessert to share.

RSVP to the Church Office 610-767-6884 \office@ulclv.org

Worship 7:00 PM Bring your chairs or blankets as we gather in the outdoor worship area.

(Organized by the Fellowship and Worship/Music Committees)



Used Clothing Collection

Check out the clothing collection box located in the lower parking lot. The box will remain at ULC year-round. Please bring your donations of gently used clothing, shoes, belts, hats, bedding, linens, towels, and drapes in a bag and place them in the collection box anytime!

Proceeds from the used clothing collection will continue to benefit our youth ministries!



Help Us Grow: Give Electronically

Introducing 2 new Electronic Giving Options

Give Electronically through our Website

Giving as easy as clicking a button on our church website... In addition to regular envelope giving, ULC offers secure online giving through VANCO GivePlus Church. To have your offerings transferred electronically to the church, go to the church website (www.ulclv.org); click on the Giving link. You can set up a one time or recurring gift to Union Lutheran from your checking or savings account or your credit or debit card. For additional instructions look on this YouTube Page: <https://youtu.be/Umzu9YxombQ>

Give Electronically through Mobile App

Giving as easy as downloading an app on your smartphone... Download the FREE app on your smart phone. Make a one-time or recurring donation using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account. For additional instructions, look on this YouTube Page: <https://youtu.be/PAjqUxK8YRk>

Gifts can be designated to the General Fund, Benevolence Funds, Building Maintenance (HVAC) Fund, Vision 20/20 Campaign and more. For more information, contact the Church Office.



610-767-6884 - www.ulclv.org - office@ulclv.org

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Your Congregation Council Members

Officers

President: Dave Geiger
Vice President: Patty Hersh
Secretary: Valerie Snyder
Treasurer: Cathy Shaffer

Committee Liaisons

Christian Education: Gail Lafferty
Christian Life: Kaiti Snyder
Communication: Dave Fermato
Fellowship: Lynne Banzhoff
Finance: Charles Mosser, III
G.O.D. Team: Valerie Snyder

Union Board Representatives

Vice President: Patty Hersh
Secretary: Lynne Banzhoff
Delegates: Donald Weaver & Kandy Lang
Alternates: Gail Lafferty & Dave Fermato

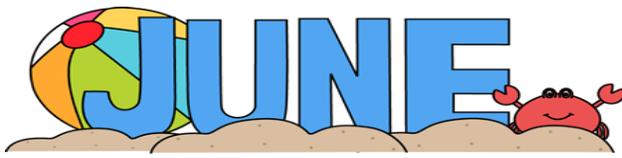
Library: Jason Marakovits
Property: Donald Weaver
Social Ministry: Kandy Lang
Staff Support: Patty Hersh
Worship & Music: Kim Kuhlman

Treasurer's Report

April 30, 2019

33% of year complete

	Current Period	Year to Date	% of budget
INCOME:			
Unrestricted Contributions	34,176.06	114,899.22	30.60%
Other Income	<u>17.27</u>	<u>62.69</u>	
Total Income	34,193.33	114,961.91	
EXPENSES:			
Budgeted	31,048.05	119,911.90	
Nonbudgeted	<u>-275.01</u>	<u>-24,319.49</u>	
Total Expenses	30,773.04	95,592.41	25.50%
Excess Income over Expenses	<u>3,420.29</u>	<u>19,369.50</u>	
April Contributions -			
- Vision 20/20	\$ 3,176.00		



2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10:00 AM Praise Band Rehearsal - Nave
2 7th Sunday of Easter 8:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Worship 	3	4	5 7:45 PM Union Chorale - Nave	6	7	8 7:00 AM Journeymen @ Parkland Restaurant 10:00 AM Praise Band Rehearsal - Nave
9 Pentecost 8:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Affirmation of Baptism Worship Service 	10 10:30 AM Staff Meeting - Room 202 7:00 PM - Christian Life Committee Room 202 7:00 PM Christian Ed Committee - Room 202	11 6:00 PM Men's Synod Gathering - Family Life Center 6:45 PM Social Ministry - Room 208	12 6:00 PM Outdoor Service Dinner 7:00 PM Outdoor Worship Service 7:45 PM Union Chorale - Nave	13 7:00 PM Property - Room 201 7:30 PM Staff Support - Room 202	14 JULY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	15 10:00 AM Praise Band Rehearsal - Nave
16 The Holy Trinity 8:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Worship 	17 10:30 AM Staff Meeting - Room 202 7:00 PM Council - Room 202	18	19	20	21 8:30 PM Hoffman's Annual 2019 Firework Picnic @ The Hoffman's 4732 Cardinal St Schnecksville	22
23 1st Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Worship	24 10:30 AM Staff Meeting - Room 202	25 9:00 AM NEWSLETTER COLLATING - Room 202	26	27	28	29
Vacation Bible School "Roar! Life is wild - God is good!" June 23 through June 28 5:45 PM - 8:00 PM						
30 2nd Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 AM Worship 9:00 AM Breakfast - Family Life Center 10:30 AM Worship						



Union Evangelical Lutheran Church

The mission of UELC is to follow Jesus; to be a Christ centered worshipping, learning and serving family of faith; to teach the Word; and to witness God's inclusive love for individuals, our community and the growing and ever changing world.

Pastor: The Rev. Gordon A. Camp email: pastor@ulclv.org

Pastor Emeritus: The Rev. Dennis W. Moore

Staff: Cathy C. Shaffer, Assistant to the Pastor email: office@ulclv.org
Susan Hartney, Director of Music Ministries email: suzyflute@aol.com
Donna M. Remaly, Assistant Office Administrator & Newsletter Editor email: office@ulclv.org
Terry P. Hoffman, Sexton
Dorothy Bealer, Parish Nurse
Jane Borbe, Parish Nurse

Church Office Phone: 610-767-6884

Church Office Hours: M, W, F 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM
T, Th 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Email Address: office@ulclv.org

Website: www.ulclv.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ulclv

Lehigh Valley Hospital Church Code #349

St. Luke's Hospital Church Code #349

Miller Keystone Blood Center #1258 – ULC

Learning Ark Christian Preschool: Jackie Bucks, Preschool Director

Website: www.learningarkpreschool.com

Email address: preschool@ulclv.org

ULC supported missionary: Krystle Moraska-Madrussan & Ignacio Madrussan

***You can lay the foundation for ministry for future generations.
Remember Union Lutheran Church in your will.***