



The Lutheran Letter

March Newsletter 2020

From Pastor Camp...

Every season has its beauty and its challenges. The joy of Spring, with flowers blooming and birds singing, is sometimes accompanied by allergies and more frequent lawn care. Summer, with its warmth and opportunities for outside activities also means we need to think about protecting our skin and seeking the coolness of shade. Fall brings crisp weather and the changing of colors, while it also means we have to pull out our sweaters and curtail some of our outside activities. Winter brings holidays that bind families together, as well as a need for boots, winter coats, and sometimes patience.

The season of Lent offers us a great opportunity to reflect on our faith and our Savior. Lent is a time for us to acknowledge our shortcomings and our need for transformation. It is vitally important to admit that we have fallen short of God's expectations for us, but it is even more important to be reminded that God's love never ebbs, even in the face of our lack of commitment or action. Redemption, renewal, and transformation are eternal, unending promises.

It is our heart that is being transformed, not so much our circumstances. We are influenced by the events around us, but we are not defined by them. Being committed to putting our faith and trust in God doesn't make us impervious to the struggles in the world. As we journey together we are reminded that we are not alone and that we have a community from which we can draw inspiration, support, and hope. I hope that you will take some time during Lent to listen to God's encouraging words and that you will not only recognize the benefits to your life, but you will also have the opportunity to share those moments of encouragement and transformation with others.



Lenten Soup and Bread Dinners

All are welcome!



Wednesdays
March 4, 11, 18, 25
April 1

Soup served with fresh baked breads
from **5:30 PM – 6:30 PM**

7:00 PM we will gather for
Worship in the Nave

*(Freewill offering will be received during the dinner
to help defray the cost of the meal.)*

Your Lenten Journey....

Wednesdays, **March 4, 11, 18, 25** and **April 1st** at 7:00 PM we will gather in the Nave for Lenten Services with those who could not make the meal joining us. We will be using the Holden Village Evening Prayer Service along with Stories of Temptation.



February 17, 2020

Church Council Highlights...

By Cathy Shaffer, Assistant to the Pastor

- 2019 financial year saw a 9% increase in income and our income was greater than expenses by over \$11,000!
- The Selection Sub-committee for the new Director of Music completed their interviews (3) and evaluation. Each candidate played several pieces on the organ and piano. The recommended candidate met with the Praise Band, Union Chorale and the Bell Choir. Council approved the recommendation and will extend an offer of employment.
- Approved updated job description for the Assistant Office Administrator position.
- **Next Council meeting is Sunday, March 16 at 7:00 PM in Room 202.**

Register Today!



Are you looking for a fun new adventure this summer? Come spend a week at Bear Creek Camp! From archery to boating and swimming, hiking and exploring your faith, there are so many fun opportunities here! Check out our website for more information!

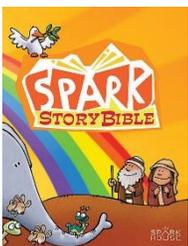
www.bearcreekcamp.org





shutterstock.com • 1418233781

To Our ULC Family,
 Words cannot express my love and gratitude for you all. I am so fortunate to have you all in our lives. You have made this unbearable journey easier for all of us. Thank you for everything. Thank you for helping me to stay home with Abby and getting her back to the best person she can be. Thank you for making me a better mom. Thank you for all the love, support, prayers, cards, gift cards and financial contributions. We really appreciate all of you. You are our angels on Earth and we are blessed to have you in our lives. You are all the reason we are where we are today. Your support is amazing and I cannot thank you enough. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts♥♥♥
 Love Stacy, Edward, Abigail, Todd and Jarett Graham



Spark Story Bible

All 3 year old members of ULC, please join us for worship on **April 19th**. We will be presenting a Spark Story Bible to you! Please let us know if you are able to attend the 8 AM or the 10:30 AM service.

HAPPY HOUR

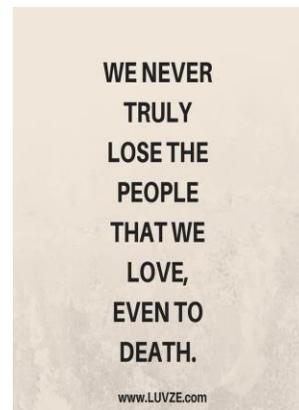
(Adult Discussion Group)
 by Cathy Shaffer

Happy Hour is a gathering of adults who vary from week to week. Come one week a month or come every week-it doesn't matter. Join us in Room 202 Sundays from 9:15 – 10:15 AM.



March 1 & 8: Join Doug Kuhlman as we discuss "Language, Translations and the Bible".

March 15, 22, & 29 – Cindy Pugh will be showing us the movie, Overcomer.



Our Sympathies to the families of:

Donald J. Chattin, Sr.
 Jan. 6, 2020

Scott H. Sell
 Feb. 8, 2020

Meet. . . Audrey Grace Sell Marsteller by the Communication Committee



If you have ever been to the Crystal Spring Farm Store or heard the Union Chorale sing, chances are good you know who Audrey Marsteller is.

The daughter of Hubert and Grace Sell, Audrey graduated from Parkland High School in 1974. She is a life-long member of Union Lutheran, baptized, confirmed and married in our congregation. The same can be said for her children, Adam, Christopher and Ashley.

Audrey loves music. She sings in the Union Chorale both as an expression of her Christian faith and her need for social activity. Quite frankly, she doesn't have much time for social activity because she spends 60 hours or more a week as the manager of the Crystal Spring store.

Audrey grew up on the farm. She tells of she and her brothers taking regular turns milking cows before going to school. Two of her brothers still work on the farm. Scott* is the herdsman and Gary is the cropsman, although they often help each other in doing what needs to be done. Brother Ron manages Crystal Spring Electric.

When Audrey graduated from high school, her father asked if she would like to manage a

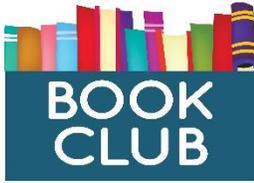
retail outlet for the farm. That postponed her college education when she said "yes" and the farm store opened in 1975. Later she would find time to get a business management degree from LCCC.

It was in her senior year at Parkland that she met her future husband, Emery Marsteller, the brother of her best friend. Emery recently retired from Air Products where he worked for 41 years. In his retirement he's helping his wife at the store with accounting and, as Audrey puts it, "whatever." In addition, he's one of the head ushers at ULC.

Emery and Audrey have seven grandchildren. Blake and Jaret are the sons of Adam and Jane; Austin and Jeremy are the sons of Christopher and Erin; and Ashley and Greg have three girls: Kailey, Corinne, and Natalie. Ashley continues the tradition of being involved in the family business. She helps manage Crystal Spring and heads up the ice cream production team. Like her mother, she has a business degree from LCCC. Adam is a graduate of Moravian College and works for Global Indemnities in Philadelphia. Christopher is a Bloomsburg grad and works for State Farm in Downingtown.

Audrey was on the committee that raised funds for the new church building, visiting members for major gifts. She continues to sing in the Union Chorale. Both she and her mother have been faithful members of the choir for more than thirty years. She says she believes the purpose of the church is to strengthen one's faith. She realizes that different people have different ideas, and that's a good thing, but we need to work together to help make the church grow and fulfill its mission. With faithful members like Audrey Marsteller, the future of Union Lutheran Church looks to be secure.

**This article was written before the untimely death of Scott Sell on February 8th. We note this with profound sadness, but to his family we offer our sincere condolences and extend the hope of the resurrection through our Lord Jesus Christ.*



Book Club
March 2020 NL

Our next book will be **Little Fires Everywhere** by Celeste Ng.

Shaker Heights is a serene, progressive suburb of Cleveland. Everything is planned from the layout of winding roads, to the colors of houses, to the prosperous lives its residents will go on to lead. No one exemplifies this spirit more than Elena Richardson whose guiding principle is playing by the rules.

Enter Mia Warren, a mysterious artist and single mother, who arrives with her teenage daughter, Pearl. They rent a house from the Richardson family and soon Mia and Pearl become more than tenants. All four Richardson children are drawn to the mother-daughter pair. But Mia carries with her an unexplained past and a disregard for the status quo that threatens to upset this carefully ordered community.

When old family friends attempt to adopt a Chinese-American baby, a custody battle erupts that separates the town putting Mia and Elena on opposing sides. Suspicious of Mia and her motives, Elena is determined to uncover the secrets of Mia's past. Her obsession will come at an unexpected and devastating costs.

Join us, **Sunday, March 15 at 9:15 am** to explore the weight of secrets, the nature of art and identity, the ferocious pull of motherhood, and the danger of believing that following the rules can avert disaster.

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.



UPDATE

What was ULC's mortgage balance *18+ years ago?*
\$1.9 Million

What is ULC's mortgage balance *today?*
\$53,743.58

*The Lord loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7*

All THANKS to YOU!
Please keep giving Vision 20/20.

UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH

**All You Can Eat
Italian Dinner Buffet**

**March 28, 2020
4:00 - 7:00 PM**



Menu includes:
Salad & breadsticks
Chicken Marsala
Baked Ziti
White Vegetable Ziti

Don't miss out! Reserve your Tickets today!
\$13/Adults (in advance)
\$15/Adults (at the door)
\$6/Children (3-12)/under 3 free
CALL 610-767-6884 or EMAIL office@ulclv.org

Proceeds benefit the Youth of ULC

Social Ministry Highlights . . .

Hunger Corner

Union Lutheran is very active in the fight against hunger in both our local community and across the world. We support the *ULC Free Little Pantry* - (located in the entry way), *Northern Lehigh Food Bank*, and *Parkland Cares*.

Donations of the following items are always needed: Toilet paper, [Canned* spaghetti, ravioli, soups, fruits, meats, vegetables], spaghetti sauce, pasta, peanut butter, jelly, cereals personal care items. **Canned items with a pull top are preferred.*

Please place your donations in the shopping cart in the Gathering Space and our Social Ministry Team will distribute to those who are less fortunate!

From the Parish Nurses...

Top 10 Things to know about Hospice

1. Hospice is not just for the final days of life. The Hospice Team assists patients & families with many issues they are facing, while helping the family transition after the passing of their loved one.
2. Hospice care helps the patient to be at home. Hospice is a philosophy of care & most patients stay in the place they call home. Patients, however, do not need to be "home bound" to receive services.
3. Hospice lets the patient live their life. Hospice patients & families are able to live their lives knowing that they are prepared & supported by a team of Hospice professionals specifically trained to help them.
4. Hospice is about how you live. With Hospice support, patients & families are able to focus on the quality of their time together.
5. Hospice is not only for cancer patients. Patients with a life threatening illness & a prognosis of six months or less are eligible for Hospice care.
6. Hospice care helps the patient to understand what is happening. Emotional, spiritual & clinical support is given to patients & families, helping them understand what is happening & how to deal with the changes, both during & after death.
7. Hospice is about Teamwork. The patient's wishes are the focus of the Hospice team as they work together with the patient to develop an ongoing plan of care.
8. Hospice helps the family. Family support continues long after the loss of a loved one through the many programs and services offered.
9. Hospice volunteers offer a gift of presence. Volunteers invest their time in assisting those needing support.
10. Hospice covers most medical costs. Your insurance most likely covers the cost of Hospice Care, medical equipment, supplies and medications that are directly related to the Hospice diagnosis.



First Communion Instruction

ULC's communion fellowship is open to children in First Grade and above. Allowing children to commune

offers families the opportunity to share the Lord's Supper and bring more meaning to the children's presence and participation in worship. Instruction is scheduled for **March 22nd and 29th** (9:15 – 10:15 AM) in Room 201. To register, contact the church office.



IRAQ TO SOUTH CAROLINA A Story of Hope and Stability

Manhal says that the day when Lutheran Services Carolinas (LSC) met him at the airport was the best day of his life. A refugee from Iraq, Manhal says he realized that starting over wouldn't be

easy, but with hard work he's forged a career for himself in the Columbia, South Carolina hospitality industry.

Manhal began his hotel career doing things that no one really enjoys, like cleaning bathrooms. Some days, he said, he'd go home and cry. But he never doubted that he could make something of himself. Within a year and a half he was promoted to supervisor, and later, he earned his current job as a manager.

Manhal is not alone in his success. Dylan Gunnels, a job recruiter for LSC's refugee services program, explained that 96% of LSC's refugee clients in the Columbia area become self-sufficient within the first 180 days of arriving in this country, which means they are getting and maintaining jobs and able to cover their expenses. In the long term, Gunnels said, studies have shown that refugees will eventually contribute more in taxes than they received in relocation benefits and other public assistance.

Manhal already has a good hotel job but says he hasn't achieved all of his goals — he aspires to be

a general manager one day. "I will never stop dreaming about my future," he said.

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger have supported Lutheran Services Carolinas and other ministries as they provide support for refugees who are working to make their lives, and the people they serve, to be as fulfilling and productive as possible.

WOW -- Women of the Word Bible Study meets the first Saturday of each month, 8 am, for a time of fellowship and devotion. We meet in the Church Gathering Space and we try to keep our time to one hour. After discussion among the group, we've gone BYOB! Bring Your Own Breakfast (if desired) -- your own travel mug with coffee or tea along with anything else you might desire. On **March 7** we'll continue with the four-part series entitled, "We Are Called," this month reflecting on the specific topic "Called to Serve." Questions? Contact the Church Office or Linda Rebeck at 610-613-6196.

Kendyl Dianne McLaughlin,
Kyle and Kimberly (Banzhoff) McLaughlin



Journeyman



March 15, 2020

11:30 AM

**You are invited to participate
in the competition or
just come to eat and judge!**

Enter your favorite crock pot recipe in the Journeyman Annual Chili Cook-Off Contest and Luncheon.

1st Prize = \$25, 2nd = \$15, 3rd = \$10.

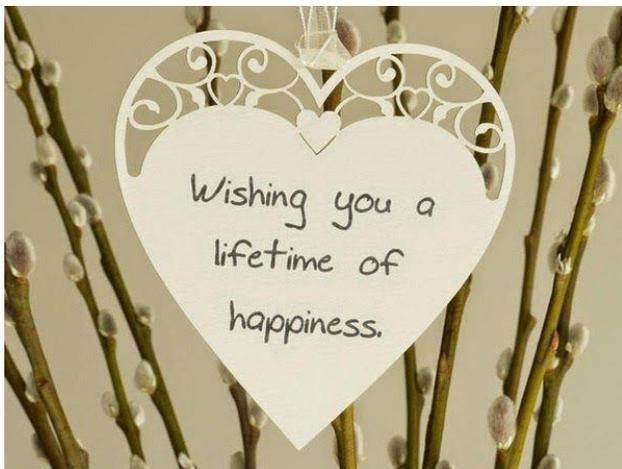
The luncheon for all to attend will include sampling of the chili recipes, Mac and Cheese, and Hot Dogs.

The Journeyman will match your Free Will Offering with proceeds to be donated to Day Break.

RSVP the Church Office 610-767-6884 today!



Calling all those who knit or crochet! Please join us on **Tuesday, March 10** at 6:45 in Room 202. We look forward to seeing you, as we continue this important ministry of making scarves, shawls and baby blankets. For more information, please contact Carolyn Bottjer, 610-395-6867.



Wedding January 18, 2020

Dustin D. Badesso to Lillie Geiger

EASTER EGG HUNT



SATURDAY, April 4, 2020

1:00 PM

Open to kids of all ages.

Sign up today!

RSVP to the Church Office 610-767-6884



5500 Route 873
Schnecksville, PA 18078
610-767-6884

Celebrating Scout Sunday



March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>First Sunday after Lent</i> 8:00 AM Worship 8:45 PM Christian Ed Committee - Christian Ed Room 9:15 AM Christian Ed. Hour 10:30 AM Worship	2	3 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Fall Prevention Program - Family Life Center	4 5:30-6:30 PM Lenten Dinner 6:15 PM Glory Ringers - Nave 7:00 PM Lenten Worship Service 7:45 PM Union Chorale - Nave	5 7:00- PM Grief Class-Rm 202	6	7 8:00 AM Women Word Bible Study - Gather Space 10:00 AM Praise Band Rehearsal - Nave
8 <i>Second Sunday after Lent</i> 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Christian Ed. Hour 10:30 AM Worship	9 7:00 PM Christian Life-Rm 202	10 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Fall Prevention Program - Family Life Center 6:45 PM Prayer Shawl - Rm 202 6:45 PM Social Ministry - Rm 208 7:00 PM Property - Rm 201	11 5:30-6:30 PM Lenten Dinner 6:15 PM Glory Ringers - Nave 7:00 PM Lenten Worship Service 7:45 PM Union Chorale - Nave	12 7:00- PM Grief Class-Rm 202	13 ULC @ Phantoms Hockey Game <b style="color: red;">APRIL Newsletter ARTICLES DUE	14 7:00 AM Journeymen @ Parkland Restaurant 10:00 AM Praise Band Rehearsal - Nave
15 <i>Third Sunday after Lent</i> 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Christian Ed. Hour 9:15 AM Book Club-Library 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Chili Cook Off-FLC	16 7:00 PM Church Council - Room 202	17 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Fall Prevention Program - Family Life Center	18 5:30-6:30 PM Lenten Dinner 6:15 PM Glory Ringers - Nave 7:00 PM Lenten Worship Service 7:45 PM Union Chorale - Nave	19 6:30- PM Library Comm.-Library 7:00- PM Grief Class-Rm 202	20 Catechetical Class Retreat-Kenbrook	21 Catechetical Class Retreat-Kenbrook 10:00 AM Praise Band Rehearsal - Nave
22 <i>Fourth Sunday after Lent</i> 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Christian Ed. Hour 9:15 AM 1 st Communion -RM 201 10:30 AM Worship	23	24 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Fall Prevention Program - Family Life Center	25 5:30-6:30 PM Lenten Dinner 6:15 PM Glory Ringers - Nave 7:00 PM Lenten Worship Service 7:45 PM Union Chorale - Nave	26 7:00- PM Grief Class-Rm 202	27	28 10:00 AM Praise Band Rehearsal - Nave 4:00 -7:00- PM Italian Dinner Buffet-FLC
29 <i>Fifth Sunday after Lent</i> 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Christian Ed. Hour 9:15 AM 1 st Communion -RM 201 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Grandparent Day-FLC	30	31 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Fall Prevention Program - Family Life Center	1 5:30-6:30 PM Lenten Dinner 6:15 PM Glory Ringers - Nave 7:00 PM Lenten Worship Service 7:45 PM Union Chorale - Nave	2 7:00 PM Grief Class - Room 202	3	4 10:00 AM Praise Band Rehearsal - Nave 1:00 PM Egg Hunt

Your Congregation Council Members

Officers

President: Dave Geiger
Vice President: Patty Hersh
Secretary: Kandy Lang
Treasurer: Cathy Shaffer

Union Board Representatives

President: Donald Weaver
Secretary: Brian Geren
Delegates: Lynne Banzhoff & Patty Hersh
Alternates: Debra Grundstrom & Gail Lafferty

Committee Liaisons

Christian Education: Gail Lafferty
Christian Life: Kim Kuhlman
Communication: Brian Geren
Fellowship: Brian Bucks
Finance: Jay Marakovits

Library: Sally Grim
Property: Donald Weaver
Social Ministry: Patty Hersh & Kandy Lang
Staff Support: Debra Grundstrom
Worship & Music: Lynne Banzhoff

Treasurer's Report

January 31, 2020

	Current Period	YTD Prior Year	% of budget
INCOME:			
Unrestricted Contributions	21,527.00	29,168.00	6.02%
Other Income	<u>7.77</u>	<u>15.88</u>	
Total Income	21,534.77	29,183.88	
EXPENSES:			
Budgeted	24,082.70	31,140.90	6.70%
Nonbudgeted	<u>106.08</u>	<u>-24,637.57</u> *	
Total Expenses	24,188.78	6,503.33	
Excess Income over Expenses	-2,654.01	22,410.55	
January Contributions -			
Vision20/20	\$1,015.49		

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



Union Evangelical Lutheran Church

5500 Route 873
Schnecksville, PA 18078
610-767-6884 Church Office

Our Mission is to follow Jesus and serve as He would.

Pastor:

The Rev. Gordon A. Camp
email: pastor@ulclv.org
cell: 610-554-8061

Staff:

Cathy C. Shaffer, Asst. to the Pastor
Terry P. Hoffman, Sexton
Dorothy Bealer & Jane Borbe, Parish Nurses

Pastor Emeritus:

The Rev. Dennis W. Moore

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Finance: Jay Marakovits	Worship & Music: Lynne Banzhoff

Learning Ark Christian Preschool: Jackie Bucks, Preschool Director

Website: www.learningarkpreschool.com

Email address: preschool@ulclv.org

Office Hours: M,W,F – 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM; T, Thr – 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Website: www.ulclv.org **email:** office@ulclv.org **Facebook.com/ulclv**

Lehigh Valley Hospital & St. Luke's Hospital Church Code #349

Miller-Keystone Blood Center #1258 - ULC