

LUTHERAN LETTER



Union Evangelical Lutheran Church

*Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!*

*The Lord of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our refuge.*

(Psalm 46:10-11)

This year, so much has occurred, and some have questioned whether or not God has abandoned God's beloved people. I emphatically believe that God has not abandoned us; rather God has raised us up to be better than ever. Through our faith, given to us by the Holy Spirit coming from our Baptism, we are called to remember the Lord God and hold onto the fact that God stands with us in our ups and downs. Whether it is a bad day, a test result that we choose not to believe, or a great loss taken from our lives, we still hold onto the embrace of the Holy Trinity not abandoning us...we are loved and nothing can separate us from the love, forgiveness, mercy, and life that God has bestowed upon us. It is up to us to relax, take a deep breath, and remember that God is with us. 'Be still and know that I am God,' says our Lord, and we are called to exalt the heavens and the earth – all that is seen and unseen.

This month we wind down the church year and look toward the season of Advent, or the beginning, again. We are reminded of the Kingdom of God and how close it is for us, as Christ tells us from Matthew's Gospel. This Kingdom also reminds us that God is near, and we are to praise and worship the Creator. As families gather together on the Day of Thanksgiving to recall the great things in our lives that we have; our families, our homes, the clothes on our backs, the fruitful harvest that has been brought in, and the vocations we have chosen are details in our lives we give thanks for. And these all come from God, who stands by us in times of peril and in times of celebration, and everything in between.

I encourage you this month to reflect on the positives and push away the negatives that surround us. The ever-present news cycles and 'bad news' that come with it can easily get us down. Let us challenge ourselves to push those to the side and concentrate on the good. And remember that God is with us, always. Our God loves us unconditionally and that is what I am thankful for.

Bless you all and may God's peace continue to shine on you and be gracious unto you. Amen.

Susan Frickert, Music Director...



has been appointed the University Organist for Lehigh University's Packer Chapel.

Her responsibilities will include 2 Christmas

services in December,

Vesper services, Founder's Day, Baccalaureate and all weddings or special events held in the chapel.



Please congratulate Susan on this honor as you see her about the church.

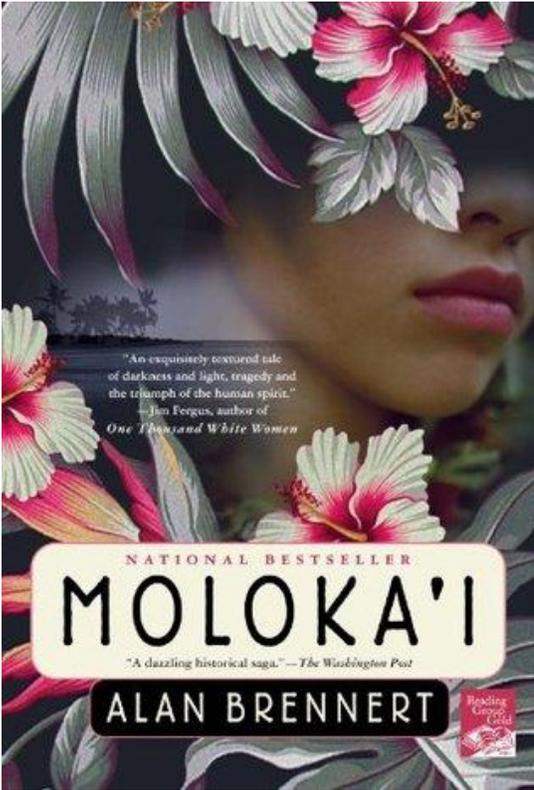
Ann Kern and Lois Shaffer were honored at the Worship service on October 24th.

Both Ann and Lois have decided to retire from the Union Chorale after 72 (Ann) and 62 (Lois) years of singing.

The Union Chorale honored them with a signed, framed photo montage (featured below), a gift card to their favorite restaurant and flowers.



BOOK CLUB



Our next book will be *Moloka'i* by **Allen Brennert**. This richly imagined novel, set in Hawaii more than a century ago, is an extraordinary epic tale of a little-known time and place – and a deeply moving testament to the resiliency of the human spirit.

Rachel Kalama, a spirited seven-year-old Hawaiian girl, dreams of visiting far-off lands like her father, a merchant seaman. Then one day a rose-colored mark appears on her skin, and those dreams are stolen from her. Taken from her home and family, Rachel is sent to Kalaupapa, the quarantined leprosy settlement on the island of Moloka'i. Here her life is supposed to end--- but instead she discovers it is only just beginning.

With a vibrant cast of vividly realized characters, *Moloka'i* is the true-to-life chronicle of a people who embraced life in the face of death. Such is the warmth, humor, and compassion of this novel that very few readers will remain unchanged by Rachel's story.

Join us for our
discussion on
Sunday, December 5
following the church
service in the library.



If you ordered
pizza kits
pick up is
November 15th
5-7:00 pm



watch for a
list of names
and items
coming soon!

**Sign-up Genius will be in
effect again this year.**

Reverse Advent Calendar
Food Drive happening
again this year and will be
sent out in a few weeks.

Wow Bible

WOMEN OF THE WORD

WOW Bible Study - Saturday, November 6, 8 a.m.
in room 202. Join us as we continue looking at
“The Women of Christmas” (Elizabeth, Mary and
Anna). We are using the book of the same name
by Liz Curtis Higgs (a favorite author of many of
our women). Books will be provided. Bring your
coffee, etc., if you’d like. Please also wear a mask
for entering church and participating safely in our
discussion.

Questions? Call Linda Rebeck at 610-613-6196.

Council Report

Highlights from the October Meeting

Pastor's Report – plans for celebration of All Saints' & Reformation are progressing; Christmas Eve services scheduled for 3, 8, & 11 PM; investigating sound system issues; discussed the lack of available supply pastors

Financial Report –

Givings for September were higher than last year by 1.5%. Total givings for September YTD 2021 is higher than last year by 5.0%. Last May we recognized \$44,538 in miscellaneous income due to the PPP program. As a result, total income for the month of September YTD 2021 is lower than last year by 6.6%.

Expenses for the month are higher than last year by 36.7% mainly due to much higher property expenses and Programming and committees cost. YTD expenses are higher than last year by 11.7%. YTD personnel expenses are much higher than last year by 14.0% due to a full complement of salary personnel.

As a result, September experienced a loss of \$6,102 vs. last year's gain of \$2,086 YTD 2021 gain of \$9,433 is lower than last year's gain of \$52,543 due to PPP income recognized in May.

Set pay rates for the staff: as of 1-1-22 Pastor, Cathy, Terry will receive a 3.75% cost of living increase; Katie an hourly rate increase to \$20; Susan salary rate increase to \$25/hour & available hours of 25-30 hours/week (effective Oct. 11-Nov. 2021 pay period).

Reopening Team – planning to meet Oct. 31st to discuss congregation singing with masks and plans for Covid-safe Christmas Eve worship services

Fellowship Committee is planning an open house featuring displays of manger scenes; members will receive Advent packets, holding Apple & Pumpkin Sundays (outdoors following worship services)

Christian Life Committee – producing 3 videos focusing on Reconnecting to ULC

Social Ministry- hosted flu shot clinic, cooked dinner for Daybreak clients, organizing Trunk or Treat, food collections ongoing for Lil Pantry, Parkland Cares, & NL Food Bank

Worship & Music Committee – thank you to volunteers for Mortgage Burning Celebrations; thank you to Katie Stauter for designing music group t-shirts; planning retirement celebration for Ann Kern/Lois Shaffer retirements from Union Chorale; discussed live streaming versus prerecorded worship services

Youth Group – Worked together to cook their own breakfast; helped to serve food & clean up at Mortgage Burning Lunch; participating in Trunk or Treat; holding a Fall Festival

Union Board – The Cemetery Commission reports that they are building an Ash Garden. Estimated completion is November.

Next Meeting: November 15, 2021 at 7 PM in Room 206-207



Ready for laughs, love, and fun? Join us every Sunday morning from 9:45-10:30 in the Family Life Center for Sunday School! Anyone from 3 years old through 6th grade is welcome to join us! We can't wait to see you there!



Ages 4-6th grade
9:45-10:30 am FLC

(Top) The lesson was The Battle of Jericho. We built the wall and marched around it 7 times to symbolize the 7 days the Israelites walked around it and on the 7th day God collapsed the wall but the kids got to bring it down themselves .

(Bottom) Wash away your sins, like newspaper ink on your hands.



Cremation Garden

Below is correspondence from Phil Wehr, Union Cemetery

To members of the Cemetery Commission and the Union Church Board of Governors



“Hello everyone, here are the pdf drawings from Western Lehigh Landscaping for the upcoming cremation garden, which will adjoin the columbarium cremation units, near Route 873. The cremation garden will be a fee based option for families to scatter ashes in the designated mulched areas of the garden, along with a gazebo for loved ones to sit, relax, and reflect. I am hoping for the first part to be finished by November, not sure on the timing on the installation of the gazebo, and future plaque/monument.”

Phil Wehr



Catechetical Class

November 21st

9:45—10:30 am

Meet Pastor in the Nave

after worship



YOUTH GROUP

Coming soon:

Thompson's hoagie sale

November 1-28th

Save the date!

Support God's Ministry and Mission at ULC with your donations.



Offering Envelopes

You can mail your envelopes to the church or bring them to worship.

Electronic Giving

<https://www.vancopayments.com/login>

Give Online with your Debit or Credit Card

<https://secure.myvanco.com/YK49/home>

or go to www.ulclv.org and click 'Give Now'

Amazon Smile

Donate to ULC while you shop. Just search by zip code 18078.

<https://smile.amazon.com>

All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 7th

We recognize those saints who have gone before us and are preparing a place for us.

Below is a list of our church family who passed away
November 2020-October 2021

Nov. 10	Marion I. Weida	June 16	William E. Kisthardt, III
Nov. 22	Shirley K. Lehr	June 20	Dorothy M. Petrakovich
Dec. 18	Walter J. Schneck	July 3	Kathryn F. Schmoyer
Jan. 12	Dorothy M. Stephen	July 22	Larry E. Snyder
Jan. 29	Jacqueline D. Schneck	July 30	Lorraine M. Schneck
March 28	Charles W. Stopp, Esq.	Aug. 19	John W. Krisko
April 6	Richard G. Wagner	Aug. 27	Joyce E. Shankweiler
April 14	Lewis W. Whitaker, Jr.	Sept. 23	Guy L. Schmick
May 2	Edith J. Luers	Oct. 12	Richard H. Graue
May 9	Betty J. Yorgey	Oct. 15	Vivian C. Snyder

O almighty and everlasting God, through Your only-begotten and beloved Son, Jesus Christ, You will sanctify all Your elect and beloved: Give us grace to follow their faith, hope, and love, that we, together with all Your saints, may obtain eternal life; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

NATIVITY SCENE OPEN HOUSE

Dec. 4th (4-7:30pm)

Dec. 5th. (1-4pm)

Come see the different Nativity scenes of the members of Union Lutheran Church.

Light refreshments will be served.



Christmas Eve 2021

Worship 3pm, 8pm & 11pm





November 12
DiFiore's in Neff's
6pm
office@ulclv.org
610-767-6884

the 2nd
Saturday of each
month at the
Parkland Diner!
7am— first breakfast
is FREE!
No obligations, ONLY
food, fellowship and
outreach
(planning & programming optional!)



YOU ARE CALLED TO LEAD

ELCA WORLD HUNGER

Myra, Kentucky



In the struggling rural Appalachian community of Myra, there's a dusty warehouse without indoor plumbing, but it's like an oasis in the desert. Located in the warehouse is a nonprofit organization supported by your generosity to **ELCA World Hunger**.

Manna from Heaven is, as the name implies, a godsend to a community where work has been scarce since neighboring coal mines closed. The mountainous land makes farming difficult and social services are hours away. Yet God's abundance can be seen here each week in the prayers, food, seedlings and newly-hatched chicks that people in need receive to grow gardens and support their families.

Manna from Heaven is run by the Tacketts, Lois and Ralph. Funding is provided by **ELCA World Hunger Domestic Hunger Grants**.

Lois says, "It doesn't matter how many people we help. God keeps giving them to us." Each week *Manna from Heaven* provides food and other essentials for some 1,500 to 2,000 people.

The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection (LCR) in Cincinnati has become a partner with *Manna from Heaven*. Once a month LCR members drive two trucks down to Myra to deliver supplies. Cindy Zorn, a regular on the four-hour drive, has been working with Lois for nearly ten years. At first, Cindy was bringing a few tubes of toothpaste and some canned goods. Now she and another driver bring over 20,000 pounds of food.

Three years ago, Cindy and Lois launched a sustainability initiative with chickens. Every month Lois receives about 200 fertilized eggs donated by local farmers and hatches them in an incubator purchased as a part of an **ELCA World Hunger Domestic Hunger Grant**. Families who participate in this program receive 20 chicks, a water dispenser, feed and education on how to raise the chicks.

"We don't walk ahead of people, we walk alongside them," says Cindy. "*Manna from Heaven* is not just life sustaining, it is life."

Perhaps the most important thing *Manna from Heaven* provides is hope. And your generous gifts to **ELCA World Hunger** keep that hope alive for the people of Myra and, indeed, people around the world.



Food Bank Needs:

Our Li'l Pantry - We are asking again for items containing meat—or a complete meal.

“Tech Table” team

Our sound team continues to do a great job supporting the in-person worship as well as broadcasting through the FM transmitter to the parking lot. When issues do arise, they jump to action to rectify the situation by all means necessary. This truly has been trial and error.

Thank you sound team: Graeme Camp, Pastor Camp, Sierra Hohenshilt, Doug Kuhlman and Katie Stauter.

Would you like to help the sound team? Or assist us with the power point during service? No prior knowledge needed. *We will train!*

If so email Katie. We would love to be able to create a rotation.

office@ulclv.org



Happy Hour

November 7—Susan Frickert, Music Director:
Everything's Better with Music!!

Can you imagine a world without music?

No songs in movies

No hymns in church

Did you know God created you to make music? *MEET IN THE NAVE*

November 14—Kim Kuhlman

"Does my life really matter?"-

Meaningful Life is Really Found in the Small Things!

November 21—Cathy Shaffer

The Characters of Christmas -

The Unlikely People Caught Up in the Story of Jesus

Let's talk about the inn keeper, the shepherds, the angels, Mary, Joseph

November 28—Cathy Shaffer & Terry Hoffman

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" -

An Advent Study based on the famous carol



Photos from a previous class at Gress Mountain Ranch

9:45-10:30 am

Meet in room

206-207

Ingathering 2021

Union Lutheran Church is sponsoring:

RIPPLE COMMUNITY CENTER



RIPPLE
COMMUNITY INC.

Nurturing Community and Connection

"Ripple Community Inc. nurtures community and connection in Allentown by fostering a sense of community among our neighbors who have traditionally been marginalized and by cultivating connections across social boundaries." INFO@RIPPLECOMMUNITYINC.ORG

Individually wrapped:

Cookies
Chips
Crackers
Applesauce
Fruit cups

Other Food:

Ramen noodle cups
Mac N Cheese
Juice boxes
Coffee
Tea
Creamer
Sugar
Hot chocolate packets

Small or travel size toiletries:

Shampoo & Conditioner
Body wash
Razors
Body lotion
Deodorant
Powder
Shaving cream
Small packs tissues
Chapstick

Misc. Essentials:

Batteries – AA, AAA, D
Blankets
Tarps
Hot hand warmers for hands, feet
and body
Flashlights
Candles
Feminine Hygiene Products
Depends
Bottled water

Gift cards:

\$5.- Wawa, Dunkin Donuts,
McDonald's
\$25.-\$100. Weis, Giant, Target or
Walmart

New Men's and Women's:

Underwear
Hats
Scarves
Gloves
Heavy long socks
Rain ponchos



5500 Route 873 Schnecksville, PA 18078

610-767-6884 Church Office

Website: www.ulclv.org **email:** office @ulclv.org

Facebook.com/ulclv

Miller-Keystone Blood Center #1258 - ULC

Staff	
Pastor	The Rev. Gordon A. Camp
	pastor@ulclv.org
	Cell 610-554-8061
Pastor Emeritus	The Rev. Dennis W. Moore
Asst. to the Pastor	Cathy C. Shaffer
Director of Music	Susan Frickert
Asst. Office Administrator	Katie Stauter
Sexton	Terry P. Hoffman
Parish Nurses	Dorothy Bealer
	Jane Borbe

Congregation Council Members			
Officers		Committee Liaisons	
President	Patti Hoffman	Worship and Music	Lynne Banzhoff
Vice President	David Geiger	Library Committee	Robert Drews
Secretary	Kandy Lang	Property Committee	David Geiger
Treasurer	Cathy Shaffer	Finance Committee	Hannah Geiger
		Comm. & Reopening Team	Brian Geren
Union Board Representatives		Social Ministry	Sally Grim
Vice President	David Geiger	Staff Support	Debra Grundstrom
Secretary	Brian Geren	Christian Life	Kim Kuhlman
Member	Robert Drews	Christian Education	Gail Lafferty
Member	Sally Grim	Social Ministry	Kandy Lang
Alternate 1	Lynne Banzhoff	Fellowship	Jason Marakovits
Alternate 2	Debra Grundstrom		

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