

***“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances!”*** (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Would you like to cultivate a more generous spirit and a kind heart? Embrace gratitude as a spiritual practice this November, especially with Thanksgiving on the 27th.

Gratitude and generosity are intertwined. Regardless of whether you are a millionaire or middle-class, appreciating what you have can lead to deeper happiness and fulfillment. When you see the world through eyes of abundance, you are empowered to give more of yourself.

Let’s explore how we can integrate gratitude into our lives as a spiritual practice, guided by Paul's wise advice.

**Give thanks in all circumstances:** Paul inspires us to give thanks in all circumstances, not for all circumstances. Even in challenging times, we can find gratitude for what is going well and for the resources, relationships, and faith that uplift us.

**Pray without ceasing:** Pray in the shower, in your car, on the beach, during your lunch break, at a stoplight, and in the grocery line. Trust that God hears every prayer. Let your spirit be uplifted through continuous prayer.

**Rejoice always:** Celebrate the small joys each day. Be grateful for hot water, a car, clean socks, food, and friends. Rejoice in these gifts.

To cultivate this mindset, keep a journal of your daily gratitude or create a "gratitude list" to pray over and revise. Consistently practicing gratitude will inspire a generous spirit and help you perceive the world through a lens of abundance.



## Sacred Voices Concert Wrap Up

On a beautiful, sunny September afternoon, a large, diverse, and enthusiastic crowd gathered in ULC's sanctuary to hear Sacred Voices perform a concert of

African-American Spirituals with well-known Lehigh Valley professional soloist Evelyn Stewart. Evelyn made a colorful, dramatic entrance wearing an authentic dress, headpiece, and jewelry made for her by a seamstress from Ghana. Her full, rich voice was highlighted in five of the choir's ten pieces, plus she performed two solos, "My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord," and the beloved "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands." Founder and Director Susan Frickert performed a stirring organ toccata by Mark Miller, based on the hymn, "Lift Every Voice and Sing." This ecumenical choir has been singing annual concerts since 2002, with a short break for two years during COVID restrictions. They rehearse only in the summer months, culminating with a September concert, and the singers live in and around the Lehigh Valley area.



ULC was well represented in the choral group, with eighteen singers out of the fifty-four who regularly sing in ULC's Union Chorale, Praise Band, and StarSong.

**If you missed the concert and would like to view the video, here is the private link: <https://youtu.be/InB76oIC0lw>**

## An Invitation from Mrs. Frickert

We're looking for young instrumentalists who would like to play a sacred Christmas piece during the prelude at the 3:00 p.m. Family Christmas Eve Service on December 24. You'll need to have your piece ready to play for Mrs. Frickert by December 14, so now is the time to ask your teacher to help you choose a piece to learn. We enjoyed hearing four talented instrumentalists last year, and we'd love to have a few more this year!

Contact Mrs. Frickert, [sfrickert2001@yahoo.com](mailto:sfrickert2001@yahoo.com) or 484-788-9476.



### OUR LITTLE FOOD PANTRY

*Your contributions to our food pantry are greatly appreciated and have never been more important.*

Many people in the Lehigh Valley may soon face difficulty putting food on their table as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits are not slated for distribution on November 1. According to data available from the United States Department of Agriculture, this lack of federal food aid will impact approximately 2 million Pennsylvania residents (1 in 7 people), 58% of whom are families with children. Even more relevant to our congregation, data from the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services reported in September indicate that approximately 60,888 residents of Lehigh County (16.28% of residents) will be impacted by a pause in SNAP benefits. Though it is possible the funding issue may be resolved in the next few days, there will likely be a delay in the distribution of the benefits, leaving many in our area in need of assistance. Our little food pantry and other food pantries in the area will be under a higher strain in the coming weeks (and months with the holiday season fast-approaching).

**How can you help?** Please continue to bring non-expired and non-perishable food items to church to donate to our little food pantry. Every item counts!



The Prayer Shawl Ministry will be meeting on Tuesday, November 11 at 1:00 p.m.

Anyone interested in joining us is welcome. We can teach you to crochet or knit!

# FALL Work Day

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8  
8 AM - 12 PM

*Connect with fellow church members and help maintain our facilities!*

## HOUSEPLANT BINGO

Nov. 9, 2025 @union lutheran church  
5500 Route 873, Schnecksville, PA 18078  
www.ulclv.org/events | 610-767-6884

**11** Presale: \$25/20 games  
**9** \$30 at the door

SPECIAL GAMES W/ RARE PLANTS  
BASKET RAFFLES & 50/50  
KITCHEN OPEN FOR LUNCH

Doors open 11:30am, Bingo starts at 1pm



**November 21st at 6:30pm**—Madeline's (1250 Turnstone Dr. Fogelsville, PA 18051)

**December 19th at 6:30pm**—My Tequila House (4558 Crackersport Road Allentown, PA 18104)



With the busy holiday season approaching, we will have our next dinner at Morgan's Restaurant (Willow St, Allentown) on **December 4th at 6pm**. *To celebrate the Christmas season we will again have a \$10 gift exchange—bring a gift, receive a gift,*

Our January dinner will be on January 22, 2026 at My Tequila House (4558 Crackersport Rd Allentown, PA)

[RSVP for December here!](#)



**The roof replacement is complete!! The new roof looks great and should last another 40 years.**

We raised a lot of money, but needed to take out a loan to pay the final invoice. We sincerely appreciate everyone who has made donations to get us this far, but we still need your support! *Please continue to donate to the Raise the Roof campaign and help us completely pay off our loan.*

**Pastor Camp blessed some pretty cute animals during our annual Blessing of the Animals!**



# 2025 Ingathering

WISH LISTS

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL NORTHERN LEHIGH MISSION DISTRICT INGATHERING, WHICH WILL BE HELD



DECEMBER 10:00 AM 4<sup>th</sup>

AT UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH. WE WILL BE COLLECTING ITEMS THROUGH DECEMBER 1ST, 2025.

## Allentown Rescue Mission

SUPERMARKET GIFT CARDS, POWDERED EGGS, CORNED BEEF HASH, COFFEE (NO K-CUPS), COFFEE CREAMERS, SHAVING CREAM, DISPOSABLE RAZORS, 45 & 55 GALLON TRASH BAGS

## Gracedale

BODY SPRAY OR PERFUME, DEODORANT, CHANGE PURSES, WALLETS, PURSES, MOISTURIZER, LOTION, SHOWER GEL, SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER, COLORING BOOKS, CRAYONS, MARKERS, COLORED PENCILS, SLIPPER SOCKS, COMBS, HAIR-BRUSHES, LARGE PRINT WORD SEARCH BOOKS

## Ripple Community Center

APPLESAUCE OR FRUIT CUPS, COFFEE, CREAMER, SUGAR, TEA BAGS, HOT CHOCOLATE PACKETS, CHAPSTICK, SINGLE SERVE MAC & CHEESE AND RAMEN CUPS, BOOK BAGS, REUSABLE BAGS, CLEANING WIPES, FLASHLIGHTS, BATTERIES

## Kidspace

CLAY, COLORING BOOKS, SKETCH PADS (NOT WIRE BOUND), PAINT & BRUSHES, GEL PENS, FLAVORED CHAPSTICK, PUZZLE OR WORD SEARCH BOOKS, DEODORANT, SCENTED LOTION

## Bloom for Women

DEODORANT, SHAMPOO, CONDITIONER, TOOTHPASTE, BODY LOTION, BODY WASH, SHAVING GEL, TAMPONS, MINI PADS, Q-TIPS, EXTRA STRENGTH ACETAMINOPHEN (TYLENOL), TUMS, NAIL CLIPPERS, DISH CLOTHS, DISH TOWELS, WASH CLOTHS, TOWELS, LAUNDRY BASKETS, LAUNDRY BAGS, DRYER SHEETS, TIDE

## Sayre Center

BATTERIES, BIBS, BOARD BOOKS, COLORED PENCILS, CONSTRUCTION PAPER, DIAPERS & WIPES, BUBBLES, FINGER PAINT, WATERCOLORS, GLUE STICKS, INFANT CEREAL, DISH CLOTHS, WASH CLOTHS, MARKERS, PLAYDOH, TISSUES, TODDLER FORKS/SPOONS, PLAYGROUND BALLS

## The Warming Station at the Allentown YMCA

TARGET/WALMART GIFT CARDS, TRAVEL SIZE TOOTHPASTE & DEODORANT, TIDE ULTRA OXI POWER LAUNDRY PODS, WOMEN'S & MEN'S CREW SOCKS, SUGAR, CREAMER, COFFEE, PAJAMAS (NO DRAW-STRINGS), HATS, MITTENS, SWEATSHIRTS & PANTS FOR KIDS 6-18, DISPOSABLE COFFEE CUPS W/LIDS & SLEEVES

## ELCA WORLD HUNGER

October 16th was **World Food Day**, a day when people around the world raise awareness and take action toward food security for all. World Food Day is one of the most celebrated days on the United Nations calendar, with opportunities in more than 150 countries and more than 50 languages to raise awareness of hunger.

### Five facts to know about hunger in 2025

1. Today the futures of many communities are in jeopardy as the global hunger crisis persists. Amid **rising costs, global conflict, the lingering impact of COVID-19, and intensifying effects of climate change**, decades of progress have been undone.
2. According to the United Nations, **1 in 11 people around the world faces hunger**. That's as many as 720 million people worldwide who can't put food on the table for their families.
3. **Food prices rose throughout 2024 and continue to increase in 2025**, which makes it harder for many families to access a healthy diet. World-wide conflict and turmoil have only increased the cost of food.
4. In the United States alone, **over 47 million people** face food insecurity.
5. Even as so many of our neighbors struggle with hunger, **funding to many aid organizations has been eliminated or drastically cut**.

### Get involved.

For over 50 years, we have joined together as Lutherans through ELCA World Hunger to address the root causes of hunger and poverty and to foster sustainable futures in more than 60 countries around the world. Your generous contributions save lives!



October is the Pink Month! We know it's November BUT...

Ladies have you celebrated your 40th birthday? Time flies but don't miss out on your annual mammogram! The guideline is annual exams once you turn 40 and then yearly after that. Please do not say that you are too old...

Earlier this year, the Senate passed a bill to [expand insurance coverage for breast cancer screenings](#), including MRIs and ultrasounds, with no out-of-pocket costs. It was another major step forward in early detection and access to care.

This Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we are hopeful the House of Representatives will pass this legislation, so more Pennsylvanians have access to these lifesaving screenings. Read more about breast cancer risk and new resources available for early detection [here](#).

## Position Available

### Sexton



Union Evangelical Lutheran Church (5500 RT 873 Schnecksville, PA) is seeking an individual to serve as Sexton. This person will maintain the church facility and grounds so that they are clean and maintained for worship, meetings, classes, and special functions. This position is accountable to the Pastor, Church Council, and the congregation.

- This position is part-time, 25 hours per week. Although, adjustments to hours worked may be made for the demands of the church year and event calendar. Scheduling flexibility for special events/clean up (i.e. funeral).
- This position must possess the ability to organize duties and set priorities.
- Working knowledge and ability to operate various types of cleaning equipment is needed.
- Physically able to perform cleaning and light maintenance duties.
- Willingness to serve and work with our Property Committee.
- Must be able to work independently with minimal supervision.
- Hired individual can expect an hourly rate up to \$15 per hour, contingent upon experience and probationary period.
- Appropriate background checks and clearances expected.

Interested applicants should submit a cover letter and resume to Union Lutheran Church, 5500 Route 873, Schnecksville, PA 18078, or via email to [office@ulclv.org](mailto:office@ulclv.org). EOE.



The Journey Men is the men's ministry group of Union Lutheran.

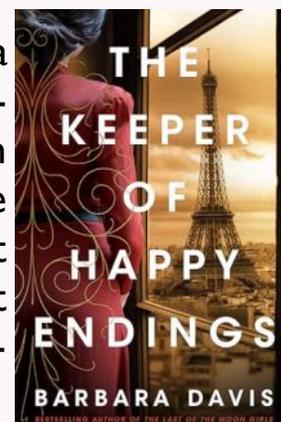
*We believe in putting God's word forward, and also have a good time doing it.*

This is a great way to meet other men in the church. We provide help throughout our Church Community as we can, from cash donations to helping a member in need with a project.

We meet the second Saturday of the month in Room 102, downstairs in the church. If you have any questions, please give [Ron Pugh](tel:610-442-9170) a call (610-442-9170) or an email ([RonPugh@rcn.com](mailto:RonPugh@rcn.com)) and he will be happy to discuss the Journey Men with you!

## BOOK CLUB

Our next selection is *The Keeper of Happy Endings* by Barbara Davis. Soline Roussel is well schooled in the business of happy endings. For generations her family has kept an exclusive bridal salon in Paris, where magic is worked with needle and thread. It's said that the bride who wears a Roussel gown is guaranteed a lifetime of joy. But devastating losses during World War II leave Soline's world and heart as well as her faith in love shaken. She boxes up her memories, storing them away, along with her broken dreams, determined to forget.



Decades later, while coping with her own tragic loss, aspiring gallery owner Rory Grant leases Soline's old property and discovers a box containing letters and a vintage wedding dress, never worn. When Rory returns the mementos, an unlikely friendship develops, and eerie parallels in Rory's and Soline's lives begin to surface. It's clear that they were destined to meet—and that Rory may hold the key to righting a forty-year wrong and opening the door to shared healing and, perhaps, a little magic.

Join us on **November 9** to discuss this enchanting historical novel about fate, second chances, and hope—lost and found.

# Christmas

## EVE AT ULC

Join us for a day of joyful worship as we celebrate the birth of Jesus through music, Scripture, and candlelight.

### 3:00 PM - Family Christmas Service

Led by *StarSong* and the *Junior Choir*, with a special *Christmas Play* presented by our *Sunday School*. A joyful and heartwarming service for all ages!

### 7:00 PM - Contemporary Christmas Service

Worship with modern Christmas songs led by our *Praise Band*. A vibrant and uplifting service filled with hope and celebration.

### 9:00 PM - Traditional Christmas Service

A Reverent worship experience with classic carols, Scripture, and message, led by the *Union Chorale*.

Come and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas -  
**Christ is born!** *All are welcome.*

## ULC's Christmas Concert Sunday, December 7 at 2:00 p.m.

The Glory Ringers' Christmas Concert last year was such a big success, that we decided to showcase all of our musical groups in a Christmas Concert this year—"Join the Angels!" There is no charge for the concert, with a free-will offering received for B.L.O.O.M. Women's Ministry, the highlighted charity for this year's annual Northern Lehigh Mission District Ingathering. In this "musical Christmas Card" for the Schnecksville community, we will feature sacred Christmas music by the Glory Ringers, Union Chorale, Praise Band, Junior Choir, and StarSong, and a fun congregational carol sing with the Glory Ringers. Light holiday refreshments will follow the concert.



Please note: Mrs. Frickert is looking for Christmas cookie bakers, and some volunteers to make a quantity of tea sandwiches with her, date to be determined.

*Let her know if you are interested in helping, and be sure to invite your neighbors to this delightful concert for a cause!*

# Youth Group:

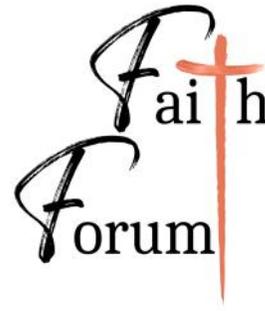
Meets EVERY Sunday from 10:15-11am.

We hope you can join us!

## Christmas Shopping & Party

- Sunday, December 7 from 10am-2pm at ULC

More events will be planned by the Youth Group, so stay tuned!



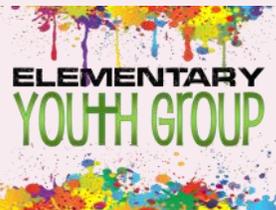
- November 16th—Ed Romond (Poet)
- November 23rd—The 12 Disciples Pt2 (Pastor Camp)
- December 14th—Holiday Craft (Patti Hoffman)
- December 21st—Holiday Party!
- January 4th—Sights & Sounds (Sean Nickerson)

## THANK YOU!

To the following people who made our annual community Trunk or Treat a huge success. We couldn't have done it without you!

*Our trunk decorators (who also provided candy for 300 children):*  
The Cub Scouts, Sarah Anderson & Family, Jim Steward & The Neffs Fire Co., Lois & Emily Steward, Dave Fermato, The McGowan Family, The Lang Family, The Hersh Family, The Kuhlman's, Sean Nickerson, The Youth Group & Pastor Camp, The Journeymen (Jim Hersh, Dan Grim, Terry Hoffman, & Rick Witty), The Black-Dietz Family.

*Manning our food table: Sally Grim & Dana Busser*  
*Additional Candy Donations: Robin Lynn, Dana Busser, & Dottie Bealer*



## Crochet & Movie Day

- Sunday, November 2nd from 11am-1pm at ULC

## Laser Tag

- Wednesday, January 14th from 7-8pm at Planet Trog (3578 MacArthur Rd, Whitehall, PA 18052)

## SkyZone

- Sunday, February 15th from 1-2pm at SkyZone Bethlehem (2285 Schoenersville Rd, Bethlehem, PA 18017)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

### Prayer Pretzels

- Sunday, November 16th from 10:15-11am

### Christmas Play Recording & Party

- Sunday, December 7th from 10am-2pm

# Union Evangelical Lutheran Church

5500 Route 873 Schnecksville, PA 18078

610-767-6884 Church Office

**Website:** [www.ulclv.org](http://www.ulclv.org) **email:** office@ulclv.org

**Facebook.com/ulclv**

## Union Lutheran Staff

<b>Pastor</b>	The Rev. Gordon A. Camp pastor@ulclv.org / 610-554-8061
<b>Pastor Emeritus</b>	The Rev. Dennis W. Moore
<b>Treasurer</b>	Sue Mosser      treasurer@ulclv.org
<b>Director of Music</b>	Susan Frickert      sfrickert2001@gmail.com
<b>Office Manager</b>	Kaitlin Beltz      office@ulclv.org
<b>Communication Specialist</b>	Emily Black      ministries@ulclv.org / 215-713-4160
<b>Sexton</b>	Vacant
<b>Faith Formation Coordinator</b>	Josh Dietz      suprman@ptd.net / 610-844-8606
<b>Parish Nurse</b>	Dottie Bealer

## Congregational Council Members

<b>Brian Geren</b>	Council President/Property Committee/Union Board VP
<b>Charles Mosser III</b>	Council Vice President
<b>Barbara Mahoney</b>	Council Secretary & Christian Life Committee
<b>Sue Mosser</b>	Council Treasurer
<b>Robert Drews</b>	Library Committee
<b>Debra Geiger</b>	Fundraising Committee/Union Board Alt.
<b>Sherwood Geiger</b>	Worship & Music Committee/Union Board Member
<b>Sally Grim</b>	Social Ministry Committee/Union Board Secretary
<b>Debra Grundstrom</b>	Staff Support Committee/Union Board Alt.
<b>Ryan Parker</b>	Fellowship Committee/Union Board Member
<b>Mike Busser</b>	Finance Committee

A copy of the monthly Council Meeting Minutes can be found on the bulletin board in the upstairs hallway or in the church office.

