

United Church of Christ of Trappe

January 2023 Newsletter



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Worship Schedule

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Blended Service 9:00 AM

3rd Sunday of Mo. Healing Service 9:00 AM

2nd & 4th Sunday of Mo. Children's Sermon 9:00 AM

THOUGHTS FOR A NEW YEAR

"The turn of the year seems to offer an opportunity to start over, to become more like what we want to be. This desire springs from a deep human need. Those who reflect on their lives usually see that they fall short of their own ideals and of God's way, and they yearn for something better" (*The Upper Room*, Jan.-Feb. 1998).

I came across these words while browsing through a devotional guide that I use on occasion. I found these words to be very profound. The turn of the year has become a time in our lives when we reflect on "who we are" and "what we want to be." Many times, the "who we are" is a person who needs some positive changes in his/her life. The "who we are" is overweight, is physically inactive, works too much, does not have enough free time, lacks direction in his/her life, and so on.

On the other hand, the "what we want to be" person is a person on the opposite end of the spectrum. The "what we want to be" person is a person who maintains an ideal weight, has a body like Mr./Ms. America, has a great career and achieves the proper balance between work, play, and family time.

In our desire to become "what we want to be" many times we set our goals too high, quickly become frustrated, and soon give up on trying to become "what we want to be" and settle for "the way we are."

I would like to propose to you an alternative way of reflecting on your life as you begin this new year. As you reflect, instead of beginning with those things you would like to change, lift up those areas that are positive in your life and bring you great joy. Perhaps you are engaged in some type of volunteer work. You may be active in some ministry at this church or another. Perhaps your occupation affords you the opportunity to help others. Maybe it is a simple act of kindness you were involved in over the Christmas season.

Hopefully, during this new year, you will find positive aspects of your life that you do not want to change, but to celebrate. As the New Year begins it is important to remember that God is behind all that we do for the good of others and ourselves. May you continue to be about the good work of the Lord until we are united in Christ as the Kingdom of God on earth.

God's Blessings,
Pastor Pat

January Scripture Readings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Jan. 1	Isaiah 63:7-9	Psalm 148	Hebrews 2:10-18	Matthew 2:13-23
Jan. 8	Isaiah 42:1-9	Psalm 29	Acts 10:34-43	Matthew 3:13-17
Jan. 15	Isaiah 49:1-7	Psalm 40:1-11	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	John 1:29-42
Jan. 22	Isaiah 19:1-4	Psalm 27:1, 4-9	1 Corinthians 1:10-18	Matthew 4:12-23
Jan. 29	Micah 6:1-8	Psalm 15	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	Matthew 5:1-12
Feb. 5	Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)	Psalm 112:1-9 (10)	1 Corinthians 1:1-12 (13-16)	Matthew 5:13-20

MISSION REPORT

2023 is Here! The Missions Team will be meeting in January to make our plans for the new year. We would love to have some new faces join the team. If you have any fundraising ideas, please plan to attend the meeting. Or get in touch with any committee member--Pastor, Melanie, Kathy and Linda B. Look forward to sharing the plans with everyone soon.

ANGEL TAGS. Thanks everyone for making the holidays brighter for local families and their children. Your beautiful gifts of toys and clothing for the Salvation Army Angel Tag kids makes a big difference. Here's what was loaded into Major Jeny's van on Monday, December 5th . Your participation in this annual tradition at St. Luke's is greatly appreciated.

December 21, 2022

Saint Luke's United Church of Christ
200 West Main St
Trappe, PA 19426-2618

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your kind donation of Emergency Clean-up Buckets to Church World Service. Your compassion has given individuals and families touched by disaster the tangible evidence that they matter. That someone cares. And they are not alone.

Disasters can strike anywhere, anytime. And they can take many forms: tornadoes, earthquakes, civil conflict, drought, hurricanes and more. Caring people like you – who understand the urgency of responding after a disaster – allow people in crisis to receive help when they need it, and hope for the future.

Learn more about the power of your compassion at cwskits.org.

Here at home or overseas, when tragedy strikes your donations ensure that help is never far behind.

With deepest gratitude,



Rick Santos
President and CEO

Church World Service

P.S. Processing and shipping CWS Kits to their destination is a costly endeavor. Please help by sending a donation in the enclosed yellow envelope or paying online at cwskits.org/shipping. If you have already provided your gift for processing and shipping your kits to those in need, thank you!



ATTENTION MEN

The men of St. Luke's meet the 4th Wednesday of each month for breakfast at 9:00am at Grace's Café, please note the change of places as Cafe 29 has closed its doors.

January 7	Emeric Suto
January 10	Madeline Kelly
January 12	Ryan Ruckle
January 19	Kyle Pry
January 20	Sue Kelly
	Tom Lloyd



January 23	Dianne Linkenhoker
January 25	Keeley Davidson
January 27	Kathy Narrigan
January 28	Beverly Spaid
January 31	John Kimmich

CHURCH LIFE IS AT IT AGAIN!!

WHITE ELEPHANT BREAKFAST

Get those unwanted gifts out of the closet or basement and wrap them up for the Women's White Elephant Breakfast on Saturday, January 14th at O'Grady's restaurant in Phoenixville, at 10:00am. See you there and you can wear your bells if you have them!!!.

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Word About Worship

Epiphany and the Three Kings

Matthew 2:1-2

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." (NIV)

The word Epiphany is from Koine Greek ἐπιφάνεια, epipháneia, meaning manifestation or appearance.

"THE Epiphany is the season set apart for adoring the glory of Christ. The word leads us to the contemplation of Him as a King upon His throne in the midst of His court, with His servants around Him, and His guards in attendance.

Epiphany, also sometimes known as Three Kings' Day in the United States, is on January 6. It celebrates the three wise men's visit to baby Jesus and also remembers his baptism, according to the Christian Bible's events. The United States (US) Virgin Islands observe the day as a public holiday.

The Three Kings, or Magi, are mentioned only in the Gospel of Matthew 2:1-12. There are very few details given about these men in the Bible. Most of our ideas about them actually come from tradition and speculation. Scripture does not say how many wise men there were, but it is generally assumed there were three since they brought three gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. We don't even know their names because the Bible doesn't tell us. However, tradition has it that the three wise men who came to seek and honor the infant Jesus were named Casper or Gaspar, Balthasar, and Melchior.

The three Kings recognized Jesus Christ as the Messiah while he was still a child, and traveled thousands of miles to worship him. Matthew says only that these visitors came from "the east." Scholars have speculated that they came from Persia, Arabia, or even India.

Even though the Wise Men are usually part of most Nativity Scenes, these men didn't come to the stable at Jesus' birth. Most likely, they came days, months, or maybe even years later. Matthew 2:11 says they visited in a house: "*The Wise Men went to the house. There they saw the child with his mother Mary.*"

The color White is used for the season of Epiphany



January Sunday Leader Schedule



Church Access Volunteers - Volunteers are needed to open and close the church on Sundays. Please see **Nancy Claycomb** to schedule and review tasks. If you wish to be an usher/greeter please see **Brenda Kurtz** or sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

9:00 Blended Service

	<u>Lay Leader</u>	<u>Children's Time</u>	<u>Nursery</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Jan. 1	Bev Spaid			
Jan 8	Kathy Narrigan	Rev. Patrick Morris		
Jan. 15	Tom Lloyd			
Jan. 22	Jim Narrigan	Nancy Leneweaver		
Jan. 29	Corie Bowers			
Feb. 5	Sue Linkenhoker			

Sunday Leader Scheduling Note

If you are unable to serve on your assigned day, **please find a replacement** by switching dates with someone on the schedule and contact the church office as soon as possible so we may make note of the change. **If you are unable to find a replacement, please contact the church office and we will be happy to do so.**

Articles for the Sunday bulletin are due in the church office by Wednesday. Newsletter deadline for the February Newsletter is January 24th and mailing is January 27th.

PRAYER LIST

People in need of prayers: The Dallar Family, Linda Miller, Wanamaker Family, Nick Iacorinno, Amy Miller, Boyer Family, Richardson Family.

People with on-going conditions and prayer needs: Linda Miller, Barbara and Mark Nieweg, Betty Murphy, Casey S., Debbie Parker, Eli and Ella Vivian, The Kimmich Family, Jack Murphy, Mitzie Oxenham, Nancy Lewis, Rod Bowers, The Evans Family, Tim Heiser and Tricia White Heiser.

DO YOU LIKE TO SHOP?



St. Luke's UCC is now registered for [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com). Go to www.smile.amazon.com and type in "St. Luke's United Church of Christ Trappe" for all your future Amazon orders and St. Luke's will receive .5% of the proceeds. Have fun shopping and THANK YOU!

Amazon Smile Update! Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "St. Luke's United Church of Christ of Trappe" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

How it works:

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone.
2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features.
3. Select "St. Luke's United Church of Christ of Trappe" as your charity.
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 Service in Sanctuary w/Rev. Morris & Zoom 	2 7:00 Troop 113	3	4 7:00 Endowment 7:30 Orchestra	5 7:00 Troop 39 7:30 GANON	6 	7 6:00 Eagle Scout Honor Court
8 9:00 Service in Sanctuary w/Rev. Morris, Zoom & Children's Sermon	9 7:00 Troop 113 7:00 Missions 7:00 Church Life	10 6:30 Elders 7:30 Council	11 7:30 Orchestra	12 7:00 Troop 39 7:00 Finance 7:30 GANON	13	14 10:00 Women's White Elephant Breakfast at O'Grady's
15 9:00 Service in Sanctuary, Healing Service with Rev. Morris and on Zoom	16 7:00 Troop 113 7:30 Property	17 10:00 Bible Study	18 7:30 Orchestra	19 7:00 Troop 39 7:30 GANON	20	21
22 9:00 Service in Sanctuary with Rev. Morris And on Zoom & Children's Sermon	23 7:00 Troop 113	24 10:00 Bible Study NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	25 9:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Orchestra	26 7:00 Troop 39 7:00 Toastmasters 7:30 GANON	27 NEWSLETTER MAILING	28
29 9:00 Service in Sanctuary with Rev. Morris and on Zoom	30 7:00 Troop 113	31 10:00 Bible Study				

**ST. LUKE'S U.C.C. OF TRAPPE
200 WEST MAIN STREET
COLLEGEVILLE PA 19426-2007**

January Newsletter

**Dated Material-
Deliver Promptly**



JANUARY

St. Luke's Mission Statement

**Centered in God,
guided by His Word,
we share Christ's love with all.**