

United Church of Christ of Trappe

September 2023 Newsletter



Worship Schedule

Rev. Gary Dierolf, Supply Pastor

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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

Most people talk of “going to church” rather than “being the church.”

There are significant differences between the two statements. “Going to church” infers that “church” is a static, bricks and mortar building, that it's a place that one goes to. “Being the church” infers that “church” is a dynamic, living, breathing entity which moves and has its being wherever it's seeking to do ministry in Jesus' name.

“Going to church” infers that it is something one can “take” or “leave,” that it will still be there if one does not attend, that it exists whether or not anyone gathers where it is located. “Being the church” infers that without one's involvement the church ceases to exist or at least ceases to be effective or of any consequence.

“Going to church” is what those who have their names on the membership roles but do not attend on a regular basis (more than two times a year) do. They are church members in name only. “Being the church” is what those who seek to live out their Christian faith day-by-day do. For them, the church is wherever they are, it's doing whatever they're doing, it's ministering to others as they minister to others. “Being the church” means you gather together—in a building or elsewhere—to renew and re-strengthen each other's faith by worshipping God and hearing His Word as shared by His Holy Spirit communicating with our spirits.

As “going to church” becomes the dominate theme of the majority of the members in any congregation, that congregation is declining and unless the theme of their membership changes to “being the church” that church will eventually cease to be.

How then do we change themes? First, by recognizing “the church of Jesus Christ” is not a building, no matter how beautiful or historic it may be. The building is the place where “the church” gathers. Without a gathered congregation, the building is just another building created by human beings. With a gathered congregation, “the church” becomes a creation of Jesus Christ Himself.

We change from “going to church” to “being the church” by changing how we think about what “the church” truly is, by seeing “the church” as something dynamic and alive rather than static and made of bricks and mortar. When we think of “the church” as being made of flesh and blood, of bones and muscle, then we will see ourselves as “being the church” rather than “going to church.” Then we will see the need for gathering together on a regular basis in order to maintain and increase our strength and ability to “be the church of Jesus Christ, our Lord.”

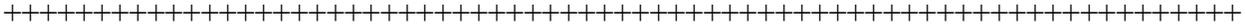
Be Blessed! Pastor Gary

September Scripture Readings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Sept. 3	Exodus 3:1-15	Psalms 105:1-6, 23-26	Romans 12:9-21	Matthew 16:21-28
Sept. 10	Exodus 12:1-14	Psalms 149	Romans 13:8-14	Matthew 18:15-20
Sept. 17	Exodus 14:19-31	Psalms 114	Romans 14:1-12	Matthew 18:21-35
Sept. 24	Exodus 16:2-15	Psalms 145:1-8	Philippians 1:21-30	Matthew 20:1-16
Oct. 1	Exodus 17:1-7	Psalms 78	Philippians 2:1-13	Matthew 21:23-32

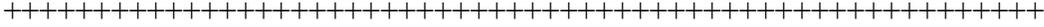
MEN'S BREAKFAST

Meet at Grace's Café on Wednesday, September 27th at 9:00am. Join us to catch up on news of things that are going on in your life.



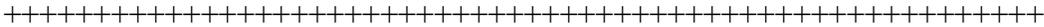
WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Spring Ford Diner on Thursday, September 14th. See you there at 9:00am at the round table to check up on everyone.



SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED TO THE NEWSLETTER TO KEEP YOUR BRAIN WORKING!!!!

I have and will continue to have Riddles for you to ponder. Don't look at the answers before you answer the riddle!!!! Let me know if you like this new feature



SCHOOL BUS THANK YOU!!!

It is very refreshing to hear that the synod office has made provisions for the school bus.....

To be sincere to you the school is a model one which has attracted many communities. I have received several invitations to come and build day care schools for them. And I believe the procurement of the bus will help beneficiary communities and surrounding dwellers to harness the full benefits if the facility. I am assuring you that so long as God has spared my life and I am back to ministry I will do everything within my ability to guarantee value for money. Going forward I am volunteering myself as United Church of Christ education director to promote the interest of UCC providing education for rural poor in or outside Ghana. (an ambition I want to fulfill for humanity.
Blessings, PAT



**WEDNESDAY WAVERS
RULE!!!**

The dedicated Wednesday Wavers are saying goodbye to a beautiful summer and are moving into fall. Thank you all for getting up early every week to share fellowship with a coffee and donuts reward. You prove that St. Luke's is the friendliest church around. Drivers happily wave back and toot their horns, going to work with a smile on their faces.



- Sept. 5 Corie Bowers
- Sept. 6 Sam Kurtz III
- Sept. 7 Jody Ruckle
- Donna Horst
- Sept. 8 Drew Crafton



- Sept. 9 Martha Mensendick
- Sept. 12 Patrick Gregory
- Sept. 26 Carl Watters
- Sept. 30 Sara Swavely

A Word About Worship

And now for something completely different. Worship can take many forms. St. Luke's will again be having a table at this year's Trappe Day. If you are able, please come out and join us this year. Last year, we were able to pray with people, pray for people, spread some words of comfort and share a bit about our church with the community.

Trappe Day will be held at Waterworks Park on September 30th from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Rain Date will be Sunday October 1st. If you can help man our table for a few minutes or an hour or two, please see Nancy Claycomb.



While cleaning, I found an old "St. Luke's Evangelical and Reformed Church Newsletter." How old, you ask? May 1946 – written by Rev. Arthur C. Ohl. Throughout our history, we have faced many challenges. Yet, we are still here. As the adage goes, if you are still here, God isn't finished with you yet. Our recent time of the pandemic seems to correlate with St. Luke's post-war-time issues. (And a personal note, I LOVE the phone number: Collegeville 4271)

Our Zeal for St. Luke's

We firmly believe that the Church is the living organism by which God builds the Kingdom of Heaven. It is the mission of the Church to redeem this needy world. In another sense, the Church is the fellowship of men and women led by the Spirit of Christ, to do His will, and in mutual love and service find the joy of the Christian way of life.

It is in this faith, the members of St. Luke's press forward with zeal making their sacrifices for their beloved Church and giving their time and hearty support and service. Our congregation has received a new impetus through the Lenten and Easter services. We have received inspiration and enthusiasm. The attendance of the services has improved. For this revival of interest, we are thankful. May there be no letdown. Rather let us continue with God's help to advance.

The Women's Guild recently held a very helpful meeting with a meditation on "Altars Along Life's Way." It included this personal question:

Do you Just Belong?

by Anonymous

Are you an active member; the kind that would be missed,

Or are you just contented that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock,

Or do you stay at home and criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part to help the work along,

Or are you satisfied to be the kind that just belong?

Do you ever go to visit a member that is sick,

Or leave the work for just a few and talk about the clique?

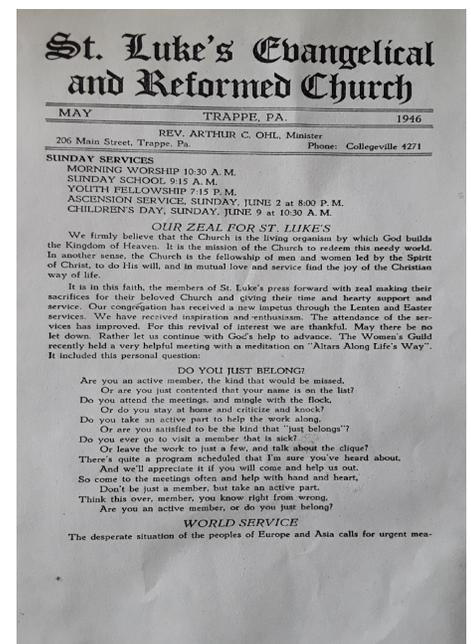
There's quite a program scheduled that I'm sure you've heard about, and we'll appreciate it if you will come and help us out.

So come to the meetings often and help with hand and heart,

Don't be just a member, but take an active part.

Think this over, member, you know right from wrong

Are you an active member or do you just belong?





September 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>
Sept. 3	Sue Linkenhoker			
Sept. 10	Bev Spaid			
Sept. 17	Corie Bowers			
Sept. 24	Kathy Narrigan	Nancy Leneweaver		
Oct. 1	Tom Lloyd			

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 September Newsletter is August 25th and mailing is August 28th.

PRAYER LIST

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

People with on-going conditions and prayer needs: 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.

SOMETHING NEW TO THE NEWSLETTER!!!

1. I am something people love or hate. I change people's appearances and thoughts. If a person takes care of them self I will go up even higher. To some people, I will fool them. To others, I am a mystery. Some people might want to try and hide me but I will show. No matter how hard people try I will Never go down. What am I?
2. Only one color, but not one size, Stuck at the bottom, yet easily flies. Present in sun, but not in rain, Doing no harm, and feeling no pain. What is it?
1. Who is that with a neck and no head, two arms and no hands? What is it?
2. Samuel was out for a walk when it started to rain. He did not have an umbrella and he wasn't wearing a hat. His clothes were soaked, yet not a single hair on his head got wet. How could this happen?
3. I am not alive, but I grow; I don't have lungs, but I need air; I don't have a mouth, but water kills me. [What am I?](#)



September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:00 Service in Sanctuary w/ Rev. Gary Dierolf	4 	5 10:00 Bible Study Bright Spot School Starts	6 7:00am Last day for Wednesday Wavers!!!! 7:30 Orchestra	7 7:00 Troop 39 7:00 Finance 7:30 GANON	8	9
10 9:00 Service in Sanctuary w/ Rev. Gary Dierolf	11  7:00 Missions 7:30 Church Life 7:00 Troop 113	12 10:00 Bible Study 6:30 Elders 7:30 Council	13 7:30 Orchestra	14 9:00 Women's Breakfast 7:00 Toastmasters 7:00 Troop 39 7:30 GANON	15	16
17 10:00 Church Picnic Service in Upper Prov. Park w/ Rev. Gary Dierolf	18 7:00 Troop 113 7:30 Property	19 10:00 Bible Study	20 9:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Orchestra	21 7:00 Troop 39 7:30 GANON	22 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	23
24 9:00 Service in Sanctuary w/ Rev. Gary Dierolf Children's Sermon	25 7:00 Troop 113	26 10:00 Bible Study NEWSLETTER MAILING	27 7:30 Orchestra	28 7:00 Toastmasters 7:00 Troop 39 7:30 GANON	29	30 10:00 TRAPPE DAYS

Riddle answers:

1. Age
2. A shadow
3. A shirt
4. He was bald
5. Fire

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

September Newsletter

**Dated Material-
Deliver Promptly**



St. Luke's Mission Statement

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