

United Church of Christ of Trappe

April 2021 Newsletter



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Worship Schedule

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Blended Service 9:30 AM

3rd Sunday of Mo. Healing Service 9:30 AM

Fat Adds Flavor

I am not sure how familiar you are with the story of Cain and Able. They were the sons of Adam and Eve. Their relationship was a tragic one. When Cain killed Able it was the first recorded murder in the Bible. But that is not why their story is an important one. Cain killed Able out of a jealous rage because God accepted Abel's sacrifice but did not accept his.

Cain was a farmer, a tiller of the soil. It appears that when it came time to make a sacrifice, Cain did so without much forethought to the quantity and quality of his sacrifice.

Able, on the other hand brought "the fat portions from some of the first born of his flock." Able is a man after my own heart, and God's too it would appear. Both knew what makes good meat. Fat, plenty of fat.

I love steaks as long as they are marbled with veins of fat. That's what makes a good steak in my opinion. When we lived in Blandon a man stopped by our home selling steaks. He said they were great steaks. I looked at them. They were trimmed so close that there was literally no fat. Against my better judgment I bought some steaks and they were horrible. It was like eating cardboard.

It's the fat that gives meat flavor and makes meat precious. Able knew that and so did God. God didn't want a sacrifice of some runt lamb, skinny and frail, God wanted a sacrifice of the very best, the fat portion. That's what gives the offering flavor.

The message in the story of Cain and Able is this: there was forethought in Abel's gift. His relationship with God was primary in his life. So when he thought of ways to honor God, his first choice was to give to God the very best that he had; not a scrub lamb, but a lamb from the best of the best.

The same was not true for Cain. Again, it is implied that Cain did not put a lot of energy into the consideration of his offering. Yes, he brought an offering but because of the lackadaisical manor in which it was given, God did not receive it with the same appreciation as God did Abel's.

God ask us to give serious considerations to our offering and to give the fat portions, the best we have. In doing so, our faith grows, our spirit is fed and we honor the God with our body, mind and spirit.

Pastor Pat

April Scripture Readings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Apr. 4	Acts 10:34-43	Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	John 20:1-18
Apr. 11	Acts 4:32-35	Psalms 133	1 John 1:1-2:2	John 20:19-31
Apr. 18	Acts 3:12-19	Psalms 4	1 John 3:1-7	Luke 24:36b-48
Apr. 25	Acts 4:5-12	Psalms 23	1 John 3:16-24	John 10:11-18
May 2	Acts 8:26-40	Psalms 22:25-31	1 John 4:7-21	John 15:1-8

ST. LUKE'S 2021 MISSIONS PLAN

The (small but mighty) Missions Team met for the first time in many months in January to make plans for 2021. Pastor Pat joined us to learn about our past activities. God wants each of us to be of service to others less fortunate and in need. And there are certainly plenty of needs. Many people have been and continue to be negatively impacted by the global pandemic. Now is not the time to be complacent by any means.

Missions' 2021 goals are to enable St. Luke's church family to continue to demonstrate our faithfulness through continued aid to our local community, country and the world. In spite of the COVID virus that requires social distancing precautions. We'll all have to remain safe, healthy and flexible this year for sure.

Please mark your calendars for the programs shown below. We are assessing the feasibility of a possible contact-less, drive-through fundraiser of some type. Plus an event to assemble disaster or hygiene kits which we'd envision doing with another church or non-profit organization.

Stay tuned for specific information in the coming months! As always, thank you for our continued support and generosity. Let us know if you have any questions or suggestions. We would love to welcome new members since we've lost a few recently. Many hands make light work as we share God's love with others.

Missions Team: Melanie Prudom, Kathy Narrigan and Linda Boyer

Timing / Date(s)	Program	Beneficiary
Month of February	Blankets & Tools	Church World Service
Sun, March 14 th	One Great Hour of Sharing	UCC
March 21 – April 4 th	Will Keyser's Food Drive	Daily Bread Food Pantry
Sun, May 23 rd	Strengthen the Church	UCC
Sun, Oct 3 rd	Neighbors in Need & Worldwide Communion	UCC
Mid-late November	Turkeys & perishable/fresh food collection	Daily Bread Food Pantry
Late Nov – early Dec	Angel Tags	Salvation Army
Month of December	Christmas Fund	UCC

April 1 James Gambone
April 2 Nancy Claycomb
April 5 Jale Aydin
April 8 Nancy Lewis
April 10 Susan Wenrick
April 13 Scott Koehler
April 16 Lillian Spring



April 17 Williamson Keyser
April 18 Anita Pry
April 25 Betsy Fisher
Heather Slaymaker
April 30 Jonathan Kurtz
Samuel Kurtz IV

CLEAN-UP BUCKETS AND HYGIENE KITS



The Missions Team is spearheading an effort to create CWS Clean-Up Buckets and Hygiene Kits. There's a display in the church Narthex with examples. We already have an ample supply of buckets on hands, thanks to the Narrigans. You can gather the bucket items listed below, if you want to put together your own bucket. Or write a check for \$75 and we will shop for you. 1 5-gallon bucket with resealable lid

- 4 scouring pads
- 7 sponges, including 1 large
- 1 scrub brush
- 18 reusable, lightweight dry cleaning towels (e.g. Handi wipes)
- 1 50 oz. or 2 25 oz. bottle(s) of liquid laundry detergent
- 1 16-28 oz. bottle of liquid disinfectant dish soap
- 1 12-16 oz. bottle of household cleaner that can be mixed with water (no spray bottles)
- 1 package of 48-50 clothespins
- Clothesline—2 50 ft. or 1 100 ft.
- 5 dust masks
- 2 pairs heavy-duty, waterproof dishwashing gloves (latex-free, non-surgical)
- 1 pair work gloves, cotton with leather palm or all leather
- 24-28 heavy duty or contractor type 30-45 gallon trash bags on a roll and removed from carton
- 1 6-9 oz. bottle of non-aerosol insect repellent



If that's a bit too much effort or expense for you, then please consider assembling Hygiene Kits. The cost is more in the \$10-15 range. In the face of natural disasters, violence or poverty, these kits can mean the difference between sickness and health for struggling families. Here's what you'll need:

- 1 hand towel measuring approximately 15"x 28" to 16"x 32" (no fingertip, bath, dish towel or micro-fiber)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 wide-tooth comb removed from the package
- 1 fingernail or toenail clipper removed from the package
- 1 bath size bar of soap in the wrapper
- 1 toothbrush in the package
- 10 standard size Band-aids

Please place the items inside a 1-gallon plastic zipper closure bag. Do not add any extra items or toothpaste. A tube of extended expiration date toothpaste will be added to each kit just prior to its journey.

Thanks so much for your help as we help prepare inventories in advance of disaster!



April Sunday Leader Schedule



Church Access Volunteers - Volunteers are needed to open and close the church on Sundays. Please see **Beverly Spaid** 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.

9:30 Blended Service **Schedule if there is in church services**

	<u>Lay Leader</u>	<u>Children's Time</u>	<u>Nursery</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
April 4	Jim Narrigan			
April 11	Corie Bowers			
April 18	Sue Linkenhoker			
April 25	Beverly Spaid			
May 2	Kathy Narrigan			

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 May Newsletter is April 22nd and mailing is April 26th.

PRAYER LIST

People in need of prayers: Linda Miller, Nick Iacorinno,

People with on-going conditions and prayer needs: Barbara and Mark Nieweg, Betty Murphy, Casey S., Debbie Parker, Eli and Ella Vivian, Elsa Thomas, Greg Kimmich, Jack Murphy, Mike Richardson, Mitzie Oxenham, Nancy Lewis, Rod Bowers, 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!

Ghana Travel Dates have been Set!

Pastor Pat will be leading a group of 10 to Ghana, leaving on August 1 and returning August 21. Tom Lloyd and Nancy Leneweaver will be joining the group as they and Pastor Pat represent St. Luke's in the cross-cultural journey. Pastor Pat will be presenting a program on his ministry there in the coming weeks. Until then, let us keep the Ghana Mission Team in our prayers!



				1 7:30 GANON 7:00 MAUNDY THURSDAY ZOOM SERV.	2 7:00 GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	3
4 EASTER COMMUNION 9:30 Service in Sanctuary with Rev. Morris and also on Zoom	5	6 6:30 Elders	7	8 7:00 Finance 7:30 GANON	9	10
11 9:30 Service in Sanctuary with Rev. Morris And also on Zoom	12 7:00 Missions	13 6:30 Elders 7:30 Council	14	15 7:30 GANON	16	17
18 9:30 Service in Sanctuary with Rev. Morris And also on Zoom	19	20	21	22 7:30 GANON NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	23	24
25 9:30 Service in Sanctuary with Rev. Morris And also on Zoom	26 NEWSLETTER MAINLING	27	28	29	30	

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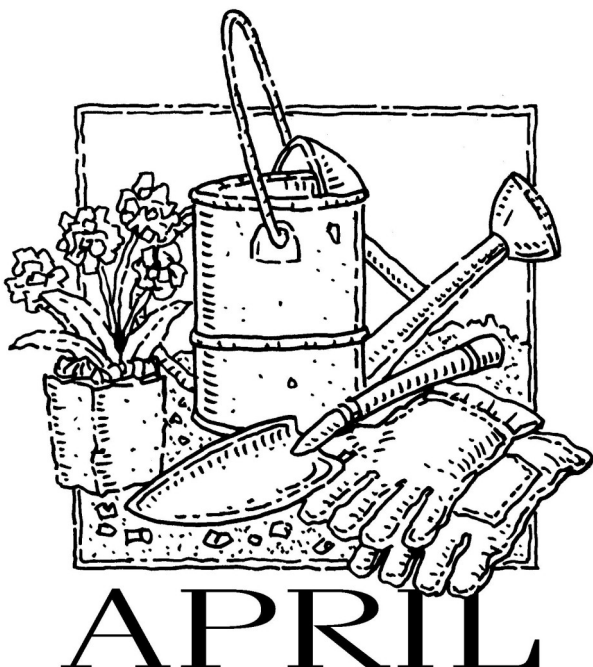
BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR THE LENTON SEASON!

Williamson Keyser would like to, once again, challenge the congregation for his birthday this year. After continued conversations about how lucky we are to have food on our table every day, he feels there is still a need for our congregation to collect food for those that don't have the same fortune, even more urgent during COVID-19. During this season of Lent, he is challenging each person to bring in ONE MORE (than last year) canned good or nonperishable food item each Sunday to help with this collection. He will personally deliver the collection to the Food Pantry, all while supporting our church's commitment to community outreach. Will's box will be in the Upper Narthex between March 21 and April 4. Look for dates to drop off at the church, Sat. and/or Sun. Thank you, in advance, for your participation in this challenge!

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

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**Dated Material-
Deliver Promptly**



St. Luke's Mission Statement

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