

Saint Luke's

United Church of Christ of Trappe

February 2022 Newsletter



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Worship Schedule

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© 610-207-7361

Blended Service 9:30 AM

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

2nd & 4th Sunday of Mo. Children's Sermon 9:30 AM

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

I saw an interesting program on Television the other evening. Actually, I tuned in about the middle. It was a PBS presentation on sheep farming in Europe. The focus of the program was the triadic relationship that exist between the sheep, the shepherd and the shepherd's dog.

An interesting point that was made was that the sheep dog, who's ancestors lived in the wild as natural predators of the sheep, has been bred and trained to co-exist with sheep in a harmonious relationship. What makes this relationship possible is the presence of the shepherd who assures the proper training of the dog which insures the safety of the sheep.

As I sat and watched this program, I could not help but think of the scripture passage found in John 10:3a-4. "He calls his sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice."

A primary image of our Christian faith is that of Jesus as the "Shepherd." Indeed, as sheep of his pasture, many times, Jesus stands between us and those things in the world we perceive as the enemy. Jesus intervenes on behalf of the sheep to insure a harmonious relationship.

For instance, I recall a story shared with me by a colleague. At the time this incident took place, my friend was a pastor of an inner city church in Boston. It seems that one of his parishioners, a young teen was gun down by another teen in some sort of street violence. As the day of the funeral approached, rumors began to fly about how friends and family members of the slain teen were going to retaliate against the family of the accused killer.

As the church filled with nervous and anxious mourners, my friend searched his soul and heart for words to ease the tension among the gathered body. His only restitution was to surrender the situation to the Shepherd.

As the service was about to begin, a brother of the fallen teen approach the pastor and requested the opportunity to speak before the service began. Unsure as to what he might say, my friend granted the request, and prayerfully waited for the youth to speak.

What the youth had to say was very short and simple. "One death in our community is enough. I call on all my family members and friends to let go of the anger within them and let my brother rest in peace." What he did next shocked, then brought to tears the gathered body. The brother of the slain youth, walked over to the youth accused of taking his brothers life and embraced him.

"Jesus is the good shepherds, he calls his sheep out and they know his voice. And the lion will lie down with the lamb and the wolf and the lamb will feed together."

What a wonderful Shepherd we have! My prayer for you this new year is that you will continue to know the voice of the Good Shepherd and you will head his call to gather as his flock.

God's Blessings, Pastor Pat

February Scripture Readings

Date	Old Testament	2nd Lesson	Epistle	Gospel
Feb. 6	Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13)	Psalms 138	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Luke 5:1-11
Feb. 13	Jeremiah 17:5-10	Psalms 1	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	Luke 6:17-26
Feb. 20	Genesis 45:3-11, 15	Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40	1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50	Luke 6:27-38
Feb. 27	Exodus 34:29-35	Psalms 99	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)
Mar. 6	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Psalms 9:1-2, 9-16	Romans 10:8b-13	Luke 4:1-13

TO ALL MY FAMILY AT ST. LUKES

I want to thank everyone in my church family at St. Luke's for their wonderful cards and notes during my recovery time. I now have my own apartment at Harmony, it is only 10 minutes from my family. Thank you again, you will never know how much I love everyone of them.

Judy Olcott

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OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2022

The 2022 Offering Envelopes for St. Luke's UCC have arrived and will be available for pick up in the narthex on Christmas Eve Friday, December 24 and Sunday, December 26. All active members have been assigned a new envelope number. Please make note of your new envelope number for your records. Also, please remember to begin using the new 2022 Offering Envelopes beginning Sunday, January 2, 2022. Should you have any questions regarding St. Luke's 2022 offering envelopes, please contact Sue Linkenhoker at 610-489-0536 or Corie Bowers at 610-489-4933. Thank you and Happy Holidays.

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A Word About Worship: United Prayer

Matthew 18:19

Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.

United prayer is when you are praying together as a group about one specific thing. It refers to a group of people praying in a focused manner, for a specific objective. *There must be an agreement in the things which they want and for which they pray. The petition to God must be the sincere hope of several hearts and minds centered on the same point.*

The Key to United Prayer is that the group of prayers must be in unity. They must be on the same page praying about the same thing. Everybody must have the belief that God will provide what is requested in the prayer.

A significant issue with United Prayer is when people come together to pray but they are not all praying about the same thing. Since we all have different concerns, it is natural that our prayers may be very different and our prayers may wander in that direction. During this time set aside for United Prayer our personal prayers must be set aside until our personal prayer time. Rather than praying for relatives who aren't feeling well, finances, or guidance, we must be focused and united on the prayer at hand.

This month, we would like to gather our congregation's hearts and minds to pray for our church. Every evening at 7:00 PM, we would ask each member to pray the Prayer for St. Luke's:

Gracious God, You have called us to be part of Your church as members of St. Luke's United Church of Christ.

Make us a community of peacemakers and bridge builders. In the midst of turbulence, let our church make space for the hearing of your still small voice. Bless our St. Luke's family and enable us to do Your will. Keep us one in faith and service; breaking bread together and sharing Your Good News with the world for many years to come. Amen

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ANOTHER NEWS ITEM

Pastor Pat's new address 114 Rosebush Court, Reading, PA

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ATTENTION, ATTENTION

Starting again in February, the monthly Women's Breakfast will be held on the SECOND Thursday of each month at 9:00am in the Spring Ford Dinner in Spring City, our old stomping grounds. Please ask for the St. Luke's group and they will let you know where we are. Please plan on joining us and catching up with each other.

February 1 Judy Olcott
February 4 Betty Murphy
February 5 Grant Lloyd
February 7 Kim Gray
February 8 Cam Narrigan



February 8 Jeanne Knauer
February 21 Mitzie Oxenham
February 22 Cassidy Keyser
February 25 Sam Kurtz II
February 28 Jim Kelly

2022 Missions Plans

By now you should have received a mailing with a supply of special envelopes for our 2022 UCC and Church World Service offerings. Please use these to mail in your checks or bring your donations for the offering plate if/when we return to the sanctuary. Then the funds can be properly accounted for and forwarded. See the list below for the programs and donation dates.

If you didn't recently receive a mailing or ever misplace your envelopes, please ask for another from the Missions team. Or make sure to designate the program on the memo line of your check.

Thank you for your continuing support!



We all hope for a world where everyone is as fully supported as Linus and Snoopy. A world where every individual has a voice, food, clothing and a safe place to call home. Unfortunately, that's not everyone's reality. And sometimes that reality is shattered due to natural disaster or other tragedy. When difficult times occur, a kind and loving community response can make all the difference to someone struggling to cope or recover. The CWS Blankets and Tools program was created to give that kind, loving and tangible response to those in need. Gently reminding them they are not alone. And God has not forsaken them, even in a cold, dark time.

During February St. Luke's will be collecting funds for Church World Services Blankets & Tools program. The funding provided supports a variety of projects that provide food, water, seeds, building tools, training, loans and of course warm blankets to people who need a helping hand up (not a handout). Our most vulnerable neighbors around the world can feel safe, comforted and more empowered through your generosity and that of like-minded CWS partner organizations, congregations and individual donors.

Please use the special CWS Blankets envelope to designate your donation during the month of February. Thank you!

Noisy Offerings

The Missions Team would like to re-start the 2nd Sunday of the month Noisy Offering collections this year, assuming we return to worshipping in person. At our Monday, February 14th meeting we will decide what local, national and international charities will receive this year's donation proceeds. If you have a suggestion for a worthy non-profit organization or cause, feel free to forward it to Melanie Prudom, Kathy Narrigan, Linda Boyer or Pastor Pat. We are happy to take it into consideration.

Brody's Books for CHOP

You may recall that the Ruckle family was collecting monetary donations late last year to purchase books for Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. The Missions Team agreed to match the funds offered by our congregation, doubling the funds available. We are pleased to announce that St. Luke's has written a check for \$514 which will miraculously become \$1,027 since the book publisher also matches what has been raised. Wow!!! What a great effort everyone!



February 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.

9:30 Blended Service

	<u>Lay Leader</u>	<u>Children's Time</u>	<u>Nursery</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Feb. 6	Bev Spaid			
Feb. 13	Kathy Narrigan	Pastor Pat Morris		
Feb. 20	Tom Lloyd			
Feb. 27	Jim Narrigan			
Mar. 6	Corie Bowers			

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 March Newsletter is February 18th and mailing is February 23rd.

PRAYER LIST

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

People with on-going conditions and prayer needs: Barbara and Mark Nieweg, Betty Murphy, Casey S., Debbie Parker, Eli and Ella Vivian, Greg Kimmich, Jack Murphy, Mike Richardson, 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. 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.



FEBRUARY



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10:00 Bible Study	2	3	4	5
6 9:30 Service in Sanctuary with Rev. Morris And on Zoom	7 	8 6:30 Elders 7:30 Council	9 7:30 Audubon Orchestra	10 7:00 Finance 7:30 GANON	11	12
13 9:30 Service in Sanctuary, Children's Sermon with Rev. Morris And on Zoom	14 	15	16 7:30 Audubon Orchestra	17 7:30 GANON	18 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	19
20 9:30 Healing Service in Sanctuary with Rev. Morris And also on Zoom	21 7:00 Missions	22 10:00 Bible Study	23 7:30 Audubon Orchestra NEWSLETTER MAILING	24 7:30 GANON 7:30 Toastmasters	25	26
27 9:30 Service in Sanctuary with Rev. Morris And also on Zoom	28					

**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.**