

# HILLTOP HERALD

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH [www.churchonthehilltop.org](http://www.churchonthehilltop.org) LINGLESTOWN, PA

## FEBRUARY 2018

### Lent - 2018

#### Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 14. There will be two opportunities for worship on that day:

- ◆ 11:15AM - This abbreviated service (30-35 minutes) will include a rite for Confession, Imposition of Ashes, and Holy Communion.
- ◆ 7:00PM - The full service, including all of the above, and preaching.

### Soup Suppers

#### Wednesdays, 6-6:45PM

A light supper of homemade soup and bread will be served each Wednesday during Lent (except on Ash Wednesday). While there is no "charge" for this meal, we suggest a free-will donation of \$3.00/person. Watch your bulletin for the weekly soup. Join us!

*Following the soup suppers . . .*

### Midweek Lenten Services

#### Wednesdays - 7:00PM

On Wednesday evenings, beginning on February 21 and continuing through March 21, we will gather for Evening Prayer. Our midweek Lenten Series will be based on A Lenten Journey to the Easter Vigil. We will explore some of the readings that are part of the Easter Vigil service. There will be soup and bread offered in Fellowship Hall before the services and you are encouraged to join in the fellowship with each other to

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enjoy some delicious soup, too. There are five weeks in Lent and the following schedule will be part of our time together:

- ◆ Week One of Lent February 21—Creation (Genesis 1:1—2:4a)
- ◆ Week Two of Lent February 28—Flood (Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13)
- ◆ Week Three of Lent March 7—Deliverance at the Red Sea (Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21)
- ◆ Week Four of Lent March 14—Salvation freely offered to all (Isaiah 55:1-11)
- ◆ Week Five of Lent March 21—Deliverance from the fiery furnace (Daniel 3:1-29)

We will be gathering during *Holy Week* in March for evening worship services. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday will be a service of the word with members of the church community preaching. If you are interested in preaching one of these nights, please let Pastor Kerns know as soon as possible. Our theme this year will be "Who Followed Jesus First" as part of our Lenten journey.

**NOTE:** Included in this mailing is your *Lenten Offering Box* for your daily Lenten offering. Once again this year, we suggest you think in terms of at least \$1-\$2 *per day*, in order for this to represent something which approximates a true sacrifice.

### Financial Statements

End of the year (2017) financial statements are available on a table in the Great Room. These are both reminders of giving and important IRS documents. Be sure to pick yours up today.

### Annual Meeting-Pt. 2 Sunday, February 4 (after the 10:30AM service)

The second part of our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 4, following the 10:30AM worship service. We will meet in the nave to review our ministry, programs and finances for the year 2017, and will begin to look ahead to 2018.

Copies of the Annual Reports are available on a table in our Great Room. Please do your best to read through these reports before the meeting.

The Annual Meeting is an important way to keep your finger on the "pulse" of our church family. Plan now on being with us!

### New Council Officers

The following new Council Officers were elected at the January meeting:

*President-Kenny Stank*  
*Vice President-Tony Wright*  
*Recording Sec.-Heather Wevodau*  
*Treasurer-Marilyn Book*  
*Financial Secretary-John Potteiger*

When you see them (and any of these other members of Council: Marlene Bayer, Deb Cernugel, Kathy Elser, Linda Guerrisi, Karen Holmes, Gail Hrobuchak, Pete Sosik, Alan Wadsworth, Brian Williams), be sure to thank them for their service to our church family.

### Snow Closings

Check for closings on TV Channels 15, 21 or 27, radio stations WHP 580, 97.3FM or 99.3FM, or ...continued on page 4





## Breakfast Is Served! Sunday, February 18

Our Fellowship Team continues to put together a delicious breakfast (hot and cold items, breads, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, etc.) for all comers between 9:00—10:15AM on the third Sunday of each month, and all for a free will offering. Be sure to join us for great food, and lots of fellowship! Remember, half of the proceeds each month will go towards a local charity. This month will benefit the Bethesda Mission. You have generously supported our quest in the past; we are counting on you. Thank you.

**NOTE:** If you would like to donate your time or a hot or cold breakfast item to support the Fellowship Team, please sign up at [ttsu.me/wrmdes](https://ttsu.me/wrmdes) or in the Great Room.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

### TO OUR COLLEGE GRADUATE



*Alissa Parker*, graduated December 17 from Millersville University with a Bachelor of Science in Education and is certified to teach Early Childhood and Special Education.

## Thank You . . .

- ◆ “Dear Pastor and Church family, thank you so much for the thoughts and the care package sent my way down in Millersville! It means a lot knowing you’re thinking about me as I further my studies. Everything is going great so far and I am working hard. Thanks again for your thoughts and I hope to see everyone one soon. God bless and thanks again, Dan Getz”
- ◆ “Dear Christ Lutheran Church, thank you so much for your contribution of \$500 to the YWCA. On behalf of the clients who will benefit from your gift, thank you!” Sue Bensinger, Executive Assistant to Mary Quinn, MPA/CEO”
- ◆ “Dear Friends, on behalf of the Ecumenical Food Pantry, and those who benefit by your generosity, I would like to thank you for the generous contribution of \$500.00 which we received in December. May God continue to richly bless you! Jacqueline Young, Corresponding Secretary”
- ◆ “Thank you so much for your generous contribution of \$500 to Christian Churches United which allows us to serve our neighbors in their time of need. Thanks so much for your ongoing partnership in ministry! Darrel Reinford, Exec. Director”
- ◆ “Thank you for sharing your blessing with us this Christmas season! We know you give generously and sacrificially so that families in crisis can weather life’s storms and so that families this winter can keep the heat on. Thank you for your check in the amount of \$2,715 for the Heating Angels program. Thanks so much for your ongoing partnership in ministry! Darrel Reinford, Executive Director”

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- ◆ “Dear Christ Lutheran, thank you for your recent gift of \$3,865 to the U. S. Hurricanes through Lutheran Disaster Response. Thank you, Christ Lutheran, for your beautiful gift in this time of such great need! In God’s grace, The Rev. Daniel Rift, Director, ELCA World Hunger & Disaster Appeal”
- ◆ “Dear Christ Lutheran congregation, thank you so very much for the care package during a very busy finals week. It always serves as a nice reminder of my family in Christ during the hectic school schedule. It truly means a lot that you think of the college students even without seeing some of us for months on end. Josh Getz”
- ◆ “Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, thank you so much for your recent donation to the food pantry. Your generous contribution will help as we serve our neighbors in need. Deb McDowell for Grantville Area Food Pantry”

## RECYCLED TEENS



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This is our group for the senior members (55+) of our church family and surrounding community—they will resume meeting on *February 14*. The monthly meetings of this group begin with a hot lunch (at a low price of \$6.00), prepared by our Food Services Team, served at *Noon*, followed by a brief “business meeting.” After that, some kind of activity or presentation is scheduled. This month, we will be joined by Historian, Ken Wolenski, on Good Governors of Pennsylvania.

If you have not yet made the meetings of this group part of your monthly schedule, make plans to do so now. Hope to see you on the 14th, at Noon!

**NOTE:** *Ash Wednesday falls on the day of the luncheon for the Recycled Teens this year. We are offering an early service for Ash Wednesday at 11:15AM and invite the members of the Recycled Teens to join us for the service before the luncheon.*

## MARDI GRAS, FEBRUARY 25

Mardi Gras 2018 is fast approaching! Join the Sunday School crew to celebrate on Sunday, February 25, following the 10:30 service. We will have a light lunch of walking tacos, burn palms with Pastor to prepare for Ash Wednesday, and enjoy a few fun indoor carnival games with prizes. We hope to see you there! Sign up in the Great Room or email Jenn Miller at [gregorycm@comcast.net](mailto:gregorycm@comcast.net).



## After-Five Group

This month we will meet for lunch at Noon on *February 7* at Panera Bread on Jonestown Road. No reservations necessary. Just show up!

## From the Pastor —

I was given a short article from a newsletter of a Lutheran Congregation outside of the Harrisburg area and in the note there was a comment by Carey Nieuwhof who is a pastor of an independent church in Canada. He stated, "Churches that become passionate about people outside their walls will be far more effective than churches that are only passionate about keeping the few people they have inside their walls." I read this and thought about using it for my note for the Hilltop this month. I then looked back at my note from last year at this time and lo and behold it was an article about reaching outside of our walls to the community around us. I find this to be a coincidence that I was handed the letter with the words from Carey Nieuwhof.

So I had to ask the question then, "How are we being passionate about people outside our walls?" We do reach out through many ministries that we are involved with but is there room for more growth of reaching out? One key to this from Nieuwhof and something that I have stated is that we need to be good at what we do and not worry so much about the quantity. That will come in time as it has here. I think one piece of this is that how do we touch people outside of our walls. Is there room for improvement? The answer will come out as yes but if we feel the answer is yes, then are we ready to do the work necessary.

A part of this is the new people who have come to us for membership. They came because someone invited them to come and they have stayed around. I am working on membership for several folks and am grateful for their presence with us. Hopefully, we as a congregation of believers are willing to invite others to come and join us. It's about going out to people and when you do Nieuwhof seems to say that they will in time come to you.

One final thought, I have a ceramic plaque in my office that I found in a craft store outside Avalon, New Jersey, and it says, "A ship in port is safe but that is not what ships are built for." (Grace Murray Hopper) What are we built for? Hopefully we are built to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. At the end of our worship services we have a sending where we hear that we are to go and serve the Lord. Hopefully we will continue to allow our "ships" to do what they were built to do.

Peace, Pastor Kerns

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## Snow Closings

the web sites cbs21.com, cw15.com, or abc27.com. In addition, you may call the church office to check if a message has been left on our answering machine. Above all, use good judgment - we want you here, but most of all, we want you safe!



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## The Ark Encounter And Creation Museum

CDHSAA Sponsors a Bus Trip

Would you like to join the Central Dauphin High School Alumni Association on a five day (four night) bus trip to see "The Ark Encounter and Creation Museum" in Kentucky? The trip is scheduled for Monday, April 9 through Friday, April 13. We will stay in a hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio and also see the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens; and the Newport Aquarium. If you would like more information or would be interested in joining us, please call Karen Mummert at 717-469-4156.

There is a flyer on the kiosk in the Great Room.

## "Lenten Campaign" In Support of the Ecumenical Food Pantry

The Church and Community Committee plans to hold its *third* special Lenten campaign in support of the Ecumenical Food Pantry at Messiah Lutheran Church! We have identified a list of specific products which are always needed at the Pantry and selected one category to be our focus for each of the five Sundays in Lent and Palm Sunday.

The suggested items for each week are as follows:

- ♦ Feb. 18 – Fruit juice (cans, bottles, or concentrate, as well as individual boxes) and canned fruit
- ♦ Feb. 25 – Cereal (boxes, bags, oatmeal packets, granola bars, etc.) and saltine crackers
- ♦ March 4 – Canned meats (tuna, chicken, turkey, spam, sausages, etc.)
- ♦ March 11 – Dry pasta, spaghetti sauce, tomato sauce, and diced tomatoes
- ♦ March 18 – Peanut butter and jelly
- ♦ March 25 – Personal care products (shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, toilet tissue, sanitary products) and individual cakes of soaps (FYI...Ivory soap, can be used for personal care as well as to wash dishes)

Kindly place your donated items in the designated area located in the Great Room through Sunday, March 25, 2018. As always, thank you for your very generous support of families in need!



Hilltop Herald  
CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1214 Crosby Street  
Linglestown, PA 17112  
717-545-4211 / FAX 717-545-4212  
www.churchonthehilltop.org

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**Annual Meeting-Pt. 2**  
**Sunday, February 4**  
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**Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14**  
**Lenten Campaign, Feb. 18**  
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**Fellowship Breakfast**  
**February 18**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**SCS Mardi Gras**  
**February 25**

## Youth Happenings —

Christ Lutheran Youth (Grades 7-12)

- ◆ February 11 - CLY Meeting, 6-8:30PM
- ◆ February 25 - CLY Meeting, 6-8:30PM

Upper Elementary Youth (Grades 4-6)

- ◆ Nothing currently scheduled for the month of February

## Rest Eternal Grant Him, O Lord

*Vernon M. Spangler*, a long-time member of our church family, died on January 11 at the age of 99 years old. Pastor Kerns will officiate at his service to be held at the Rife Center, at Bethany Village in Mechanicsburg, on Saturday, February 10, 2PM. Memorial contributions may be made to our church, Christ Lutheran or to Care Assurance Fund of Bethany Village. Our prayers are with his children, Carol, Jack, Marcia, and Denise, his family, and all those who mourn.

**NOTE:** There are a few 2018 Offering Envelopes remaining in the Great Room. Even if you are part of the Simply Program, there are other envelopes included. Don't forget to pick up yours today!

## Choirs, Choirs, Choirs



Both of our choirs are ready to resume rehearsals — our Handbell Choir will *resume* rehearsals on Tuesday, January 30 (Room 6-Bell Room at 6:45PM), and our Adult Vocal Choir *will resume* on Thursday, February 1 (Room 7-Choir Room at 7:00PM).

All voice parts are welcome. There is still plenty of time to include participation in one (or both) of these choirs in your personal ministry for the coming Lent/Easter season. Interested? Speak with our Director of Music, Sue Daniels (717-652-3810) if you have an interest or any questions.

## TONE CHIMES

This is a way for our children to be involved musically *without* even knowing how to read a note. Colleen Bartholomew directs the children, who meet to practice every Sunday morning at 10:00AM in Room 6. Please support this ministry.

