FAITH MATTERS

A newsletter publication of

United Fellowship

by faith we love and serve

FEBRUARY 2024

2115 Washington Blvd. Easton, PA 18042 610-258-0081 office.unitedfellowship@rcn.com pastor.unitedfellowship@rcn.com <u>unitedfellowshiplutheran.org</u>

Church Office hours: Monday - Friday 9am-3pm

The Rev. Jamie L. Edelman, M.Div.PastorMatthew GutwaldDirector of MusicSheila ItterlyAdministrative AssistantDarlene CreazzoDirector, GSCNS



Dear Fellow Fishers of People,

It is almost the end of January, and I realized today that I still have a few Christmas decorations lingering around the house. The ceramic Christmas tree that was my late grandmother's, an old-fashion Santa that my great-aunt made and passed down to me this past summer, and the nativity scene that my husband and I picked out together at Hackmans's Bible Bookstore the year we got married. All three of these items bring to mind someone near and dear to my heart...my Nana, my Aunt Lucy, my husband, and my Savior.

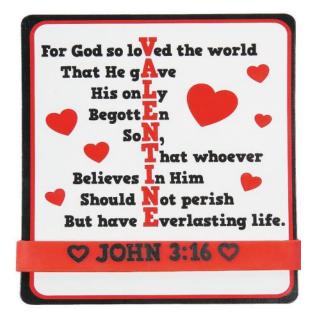
Which is fitting as February brings with it Valentine's Day, a day we celebrate those we love (even if it is a Hallmark holiday!). It is appropriate then that this year we will also celebrate Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten season on Valentine's Day.

Who better to celebrate on Valentine's Day than Jesus and the love He has for each one of us. A love so deep that He willingly died a torturous death on a cross for us so that we might be redeemed. A love so pure that He died so that our sins would be forgiven, and we would be washed as clean as the pure white snow that has fallen in recent days. As we move into and through Lent, may Christ's redeeming love inspire us to tell others about the amazing gift of God's grace, freely given to each one of us. Not because we deserve it, but simply because God loves us more than we can comprehend!

I invite you to join us for worship on Sunday mornings, as well as for our midweek Lenten services (see schedule of services and locations in the body of the newsletter). I also urge you to share the Good News and love of Jesus Christ by inviting a friend to join us for worship on a Sunday and/or Wednesday during Lent.

Let's go fishing!

B. Amie



United Fellowship Council Members 2024:



Dawn Hough, President Charlie Wacik, Vice President Linda Amato, Secretary Jim Marra Pam Cole Nola Skinner Kim Simeone Jeanne Swinsburg Barry Willever Bob Roscioli Frank Hartman Doug Kuhn-Treasurer (non-council) Sheila Itterly—Financial Secretary (non-council)

Council meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month. This month however, the Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, February 20th at 6pm.

Come and worship...

Psalm 95:6



Sundays:

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:15 a.m.

In person, Zoom, Facebook Live

Join us for Social Hour in the lounge after worship!

You can join us in online worship on Zoom by clicking the link below: Meeting room: 682 861 442 Meeting Room password: United

https://zoom.us/j/682861442?pwd=NjI2K3ArS1NSN3F0dUtScEVxeHhLQT09 .

Watch the current week's recorded worship service anytime beginning Sunday afternoons on Facebook.

United Fellowship Lutheran Church





Our sanctuary is wheelchair friendly!



Is there someone you would like to add to the prayer list for Sundays? Please call the church office or contact us at office.unitedfellowship@rcn.com to add a name. We will use first names only for privacy.

I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer. Psalm 17:6

OFFERING OPTIONS

For online electronic giving, please use the QR code or Tithe.ly link below.

Please make checks out to United Fellowship Lutheran Church.

If you can't make it to in-person services you can mail your offerings to the church office or give electronically several different ways: Send a check through your bank's bill pay service, use the online link

listed below, or use the QR code below.

<u>Tithe.ly—United Fellowship</u> https://tithe.ly/give?c=6022307





FEBRUARY'S SECOND OFFERING:

UFLC YOUTH AS THEY PREPARE FOR THE JULY GATHERING



Fasnacht Follies

Tuesday, February 13th at 6 pm.

A ziti dinner and fasnachts will be followed by a fun game night!

You "do-nut" want to miss it!



CHOCOLATE COVERED PRETZELS!

We are selling chocolate covered pretzels for our February fundraiser. 12 per pack for \$10.00 Exact cash or a check to UFLC. Available in milk chocolate, dark chocolate, white chocolate, or mixed With or without sprinkles All orders due by Friday, February 2nd Pickup by Friday, February 9th Thank you for your continued support!

Additional members are needed for the audit committee! We will meet a few times in February and March to review UFLC's 2023 Financial records. Please contact Rayanne Parry if you'd like to help. Email: rayparry@rcn.com





United Fellowship will be participating in an Adopt-A-Day Blood Drive with Miller-Keystone Blood Center. From February 19th through March 2nd. You will be able to donate, with an appointment, at any location using our Group ID# E171: 3765 Nicholas Street, Suite B, Palmer Township 1255 S. Cedar Crest Boulevard, Suite 1300, Allentown, PA 18103 1465 Valley Center Parkway, Bethlehem, PA 18017

You can find more information at www.giveapint.org



We have several bulk items in the building to be recycled such as chairs, highchairs, wheelchairs, etc. Wilson Borough allows 1 bulk item per month with the trash pick-up. If anyone can help speed up the removal of these items from the building by taking one and including it in your home bulk recycle, please call the office to set up a time to pick them up.

In the case of inclement weather, please check WFMZ.com for United Fellowship Lutheran Church, as well as the UFLC Facebook page.



For the food pantry, please check WFMZ.com for United Fellowship Food Pantry - Easton.



The Women of United Fellowship are collecting Redner's receipts! You can place your receipts in the container in the narthex. They must be Redner's Club Card receipts. If you have any questions please see Diane Sandt.

United Fellowship on YouTube!

In an effort to save money, we are looking to make changes to how we livestream our worship services. In order to accomplish this, we need 50 subscribers to our United Fellowship Lutheran Church YouTube page. No need to create an account - simply go to the webpage (https://www.youtube.com/@unitedfellowshiplutheranch2408) and click on "subscribe" – it's as easy as that! We only need 6 more subscribers to get to 50!



EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY



Anyone wishing to receive in-home or living facility communion visits, we'd be happy to set up an appointment with you at your convenience. Please call the church office to schedule a visit at 610-258-0081.

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The Season of Lent



<u>Ash Wednesday Servíces</u> *February* 14, 2024

 11:00 am @ UFLC
 Followed by a light lunch in the lounge. Please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex.
 7:00 pm @UFLC

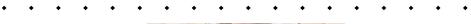
> <u>Míd-Week Lenten Dínners & Servíces</u> (6 & 7pm respectívely): Feb 21 - St. Paul's III Feb 28 - St. John's Mar 6 - Arndt's Mar 13 - UFLC Mar 20 - St. Andrew's

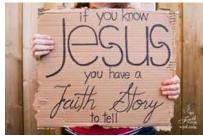
Maundy Thursday @ UFLC- 7pm Good Fríday @ UFLC- 7pm



We provide a meal to Safe Harbor Easton on the third Thursday of each month. There are envelopes in the narthex if you wish to contribute for the meals.

On Thursday, January 18th, we provided fried chicken, hash brown potato casserole, baked beans, green beans, tossed green salad, and mini cupcakes and chocolate chip cookies for dessert, for the people of Safe Harbor. Thanks to those who prepared, provided, and dropped off the food. Special thanks for the continued monetary donations as well. Our next meal is Thursday, February 15th. Anyone interested in contributing in any way, please contact Bette Seveney.





Identifying and Sharing Your Faith Story Workshops

We are all called to share our faith story.

For some, identifying their faith story is challenging, for others the challenge lies in overcoming the discomfort they feel sharing their faith story.
This workshop is designed to help with both of those hurdles.
We hope you will join us after worship in Fellowship Hall on 2/4, 2/11, and 2/18.
Lunch will be provided.
Please sign up in the narthex by January 28th.

Sing to the LORD; praise his name. Each day proclaim the good news that he saves. Publish his glorious deeds among the nations. Tell everyone about the amazing things he does. Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise! He is to be feared above all gods. Psalm 96:2-4

GOOD SHEPHERD CHRISTIAN NURSERY SCHOOL



We were happy to welcome the children back to school after the Christmas holidays. January started out fine until we approached the middle of the month, which gave us two closures and a delayed opening. As always, I am hoping for an early spring!

Registration for our summer and 2024-2025 programs will begin on February 1st. Please see any of the nursery school staff if you would like registration forms or information about our programs.

During the month of February the children will make and exchange Valentines and learn how to keep their teeth shiny and healthy.

Thank you to everyone who has helped to keep our sidewalks shoveled while we are searching for a Sexton. I am appreciative to the teachers for cleaning their classrooms and bathrooms, and to Sheila for helping to put out the weekly garbage.

I would also like to thank the Congregational Council of United Fellowship Church for their generous donation to our school. We will have our Chick Hatching Program in May, and the extra funds, as well as the money from our Gertrude Hawk candy sale, will help fund the program. Candy orders are due by February 12th. Thank you for your support!

Mrs. Darlene Creazzo

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<u>ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED!</u>

The Women of United Fellowship hold an informal Bible study on the last Wednesday of the month at 12pm in the lounge. We read our lesson from the ELCA's "Gather" magazine, discuss the lesson and Bible readings, and bring a brown bag lunch. For more information contact Lois Kuhn 610.849.6164.



We support the Backpack Pals Program which provides food for Easton Area School District students. Items can be placed on the second shelf of the donation cart in the hallway. *The next donation drop off is Friday, February 9th. Please have donations such as fruit cups, microwave meals, etc. to the church before then.*

Thank you to Sylvia Rader for delivering the donations to the school each month.



The St. Paul's Quilters of United Fellowship Lutheran Church

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Our Wednesday gathering time is 9:30am to 12:30 pm. We use the glass doors by the Nursery School playground. If you have any questions call Debbie at 610.762.5222. Hugs and Stitches, The Quilters 122 years strong!



A PLACE TO BELONG SENIOR CENTER

Tuesdays 10am-2:30pm in the Fellowship Hall!

Play games, do an art project, make a craft, and lots more! Bring a lunch and join us!

A <u>HUGE</u> "Thank you!" to everyone who has helped out while we are waiting for a Sexton! Whether you shoveled snow, cleaned bathrooms, mopped floors, vacuumed, took out trash, fixed the snowblower - it is all greatly appreciated!

thank



FOOD PANTRY

- * Twelve Baskets Full food pantry is open twice a month on the 2nd and 3rd Thursdays in the evenings from 6:00 7:30pm .
- Help is needed each month to unload deliveries to the pantry. The next delivery will take place on Monday, February 12 @ 9am. If you would like to volunteer, or have any questions, please contact Jim Marra at 484-547-7751 or Leslie Schuch at 610-657-2066.

United Fellowship Food Pantry Suggested Monthly Items

January February March April May June July August September October November December

- Food Item Peanut Butter Jelly Cereal Tea/Coffee Ketchup Tuna Mashed Potatoes Mac & Cheese Soup Rice Hot Cocoa Mix Canned Veggies
- Non Food item Shampoo Deodorant Dish Soap Soap Laundry Detergent Sanitary Product Paper Towels Toilet Paper Toothpaste Toothpaste Toothbrush Garbage Bags Cleaning Product

We will gladly accept any of the items at any time during the year. Thank you for your generosity.

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Keep Us Informed..... * If you have a phone number or email change, please let the church office know so we can keep you informed and up to date!

* If you or a family member are in the hospital, please let the church office know: 610.258.0081 office.unitedfellowship@rcn.com

*You can also give the hospital the UFLC Hospital ID #230

*Use UFLC Group # E171 anytime you donate blood at Miller-Keystone Blood Center





What is the definition of sponsorship? "Sponsorship is the act of supporting a person, organization, or activity by giving money, encouragement, or other help". At United Fellowship, we have several different sponsorship opportunities available to help in various areas of church life. Any sponsorship can be placed in honor of or in memory of a loved one.

Weekly Eternity Candle Sponsorship: \$10 Weekly Bulletin Sponsorship: \$15 Weekly Altar Flowers: 2 Vases/\$50 Monthly Technology (website, live stream service): \$20 Monthly Newsletter Sponsorship: \$40

Please prayerfully consider a sponsorship in one of these areas as we continue to use these means to reach out to our church family and community with the Gospel.

Please remember that for ANY church function a Building Usage Request form will need to be filled out, and should be filled out as far in advance as possible (2 week minimum please). Forms are available in the office.





Monthly

Financial Report Please be aware that any notice placed on the church bulletin boards must first be approved by Pastor Jamie and/or the office. Thank you for your understanding.

For they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means.

2 Corinthians 8:3



	MONTH ACTUAL	YTD ACTUAL
INCOME (WEEKLY ENVELOPES ONLY):	9,638.83	97,860.91
EXPENSE:	17,426.70	245,283.88
+SURPLUS/-DEFICIT:	1,365.10	-92,096.56
AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE: 5	0 In person	
	5 Online	



- 2/1 Richard Bartholomew, Sr. Betty Walter
- 2/3 Carol Markus
- 2/4 Jeannette Herster Joevan Rogers
- 2/7 Louis McCullen
- 2/10 Don Greek Marilyn Workman
- 2/11 Lois Kuhn Nancy Scheuermann*
- 2/12 Levi Breidinger

- 2/13 Valentine Amato
- 2/14 Cameron Hubbard Jose Rosario
- 2/16 Dillon Darby
- 2/20 Bette Seveney Jacquelyn Torres
- 2/22 Gina Groover
- 2/27 Kristina Skinner
- 2/28 Janet Sandt

If you have any additions or corrections, please call the church office.

*Denotes homebound



- 2/2 Marsha & Ronald Plantone
- 2/6 Roger & Carolyn Conners
- 2/7 Julie & Jacob Derr

2/15 Ruth & John Kluge 2/26 Jim Marra & Gail Burgey Grace & Robert Crowther

We extend our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of

Joseph D. Gerber

who entered the Church Tríumphant on

January 15, 2024

Jesus said "I am the resurrection and the life, he who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."

John 11:25-26



United Fellowship Lutheran Church 2115 Washington Blvd. Easton PA 18042 Place Label here