

CHRIST CHRONICLES

**Christ United Church of Christ, 1414 Ligonier Street
Latrobe, Pennsylvania 15650**



Worship Services for November

**11/1 Sunday Morning Worship, 11 AM, *Holy Communion*
*All Saints Day***

11/8, 11/15, 11/22, 11/29 Sunday Morning Worship, 11 AM

**No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey
you are welcome here.**

Concerns of the Congregation

Please pray for: **Chad Amond, Henry Arelt, Marcie Baker, Bill Berkey, Donna and John Brajdic, Eleanor Bridge, Ruth Burns, Pastor John Cofield, Dick Crawford, Kristen Disciascio, Dorothy Facemyer, Tim Farkas Family, Viola Helmetzi, Helen Hoover, Ron King, Stacey Klug, Zoe Klug, Leanne Lehosky, Mick Mattern, Chuck McNerny, Ben and Jane Miedel, Ruby RaeLynn Moore, Joan Musick, Bob and Evelyn Neighly, Richard Porembka, Joyce Puzak, Shirley Robb, Bailey Robinson, Carrie Rosebrock; Emily, Eva, and Graeme Sautter; Ken Sible, Judith Short, Laken Smith, Rick Stahl, Scott Thompson, Ken and Sheila Yost, Sara Young, Bob Zeiders**



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*We especially hold in prayer the family
of Betty Newman who passed away on October 16, 2020*

Praying the roll: Everyone on the church roster will have a turn at experiencing the comfort and peace of intentional prayer. We are family . . . and families pray for one another! Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers for the entire week.

Week of November 1 - Ethel Holzer, Rosella Holzer, Margaret and Wayne Horrell

Week of November 8 - Amy Kimble, Ron and Catherine King, Mary Kitzmiller

Week of November 15 - Stacy, Mickey, Ava and Zoe Klug, Michele Kubicki, Rick Kunkle

Week of November 22 - Michelle Kutzer, Jennie Lazar, Karen and Robert Lihan

Week of November 29 - Aubree Maus, Jennifer McMahon, Beverly McMaster

Ushers for the Month of November

November 1 - Larry and Loretta Staruk

November 8 - Art Dira and Jim O'Connor

November 15 - Harvey Noel and Sally Walker

November 22 - Jim and Elena Sillaman

November 29 - Bob and Carolyn Stutzman



**ARTICLES FOR THE DECEMBER/JANUARY NEWSLETTER ARE DUE ON
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15**

Please send to cocoakitty2001@gmail.com or give to Loretta Staruk

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A Message from Pastor John



The following from 1 Kings is one of my favorite Bible passages:
[...the word of the Lord] said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'

God was not in wind or the earthquake or the fire. God came to Elijah in the “sound of sheer silence.”

St. John of the Cross wrote, “...silence is God’s first language.”

Meister Eckhart, a 14th century Dominican, wrote, “Nothing in all creation is so like God as silence.”

Do you see where I’m going with this? I’m introducing periods of silence into worship, because we encounter God in silence.

Some people have told me they appreciate the silence at the beginning of worship. After rushing to get up and get ready to get to church, they appreciate the time to sit and settle themselves before worship begins in earnest. In time, the silence will become part of worship.

My own affinity for silence goes way back. But now, it is being “energized” by the program that I am participating in through the Shalem Institute – Going Deeper: Clergy Spiritual Life and Leadership.

The program is described this way on the Shalem Institute’s website:

When clergy find nourishment for their own spiritual needs, they discover this makes a difference in their leadership and in the life of their congregations. The more clergy learn to live out of their spiritual center, the more they are able to be present and responsive, open to what is invited. Through attentive listening to and awareness of the Spirit’s movement, they learn to live and lead in a different way.

By introducing silence into worship and meetings, I am trying to lead us to a place where we live out of our spiritual center. If we do this, we become a church to which people are drawn, because they can sense the Spirit here. Amen.

Blessings,
Pastor John

A Note from Julie



"Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son! And now, let the weak say, "I am strong", let the poor say, "I am rich", because of what the Lord has done for us", Give thanks!. Don Moen, composer



The words of this praise hymn, always come to mind when the calendar turns to November. These last eight months have left many people wondering if there is anything to be thankful for this Thanksgiving season 2020. We have all had to make some big changes in the way we go about our everyday lives, but I believe that even with these changes, we can find many ways to give thanks!

This month, the music will center around the celebrations of the church starting with All Saints Day on Sunday, November 1st. At this worship service, we will remember the members of our congregation that have gone home to be with our Lord.

On November 22nd, the scriptures and hymns will be centered on The Reign of Christ. **Following worship that day, everyone is invited to stay and help decorate the church for the Christmas season.**

The last Sunday in November, the 29th, is the first Sunday in Advent! Wow! Time goes by so quickly!

The bell choir and individual singers from the adult choir are working on music to be used during these services. I had mentioned last month that there isn't going to be a Christmas Cantata due to the Covid-19 restrictions, but I am hoping that we can make your worship experience fulfilling with the music that is offered. I am praying that we will be able to add some special music into the services, too.

I am hoping that many of you who have not been able to be with us in worship, are doing well and staying safe. I realize that there are many health concerns among our congregation and that venturing out to church is just not a possibility at this time. Please know that my prayers for your well being are being sent to you.

As God moves through your life every second of every day, give thanks for the cool air, the falling leaves, the laughter and love of friends and family, the smell of a pumpkin pie, and the constant reassurance of eternal life.

I want to wish my Christ United Church of Christ Family a Happy Thanksgiving! May God's blessings be with you all as we journey through this time!

Love and Peace, *Julie*

Mission Statement: To reflect Christ's love in everything we do

Vision Statement: Not our will, but God's

The Seashore, the Mind, and Faith

A philosopher once asked, “What defines the seashore – the sand or the water?”

(Take a few moments to think about that!)

What do you say? Is it the sand? Is it the water? Is the seashore even a boundary? Would the seashore exist without one or the other?



If you have been swimming at the seashore then you know that the sand extends far out into the water, and therefore the water extends far over the sand. Hence, the seashore is neither water or sand, but a gradual blending of the two. It is a communion between land and sea. One cannot exist without the other and still be the seashore. The concept of *boundary* is completely artificial!

What about us? Does each of us have a boundary that defines who we are? Where do we end and the rest of humanity begin? Is life merely each of us bouncing off the others? Some would say that our boundary is our mind. We have all heard the expression, “*They have a mind of their own.*” Do they, really?

Do you have a mind of your own? Many people act as if that is so. Just try to get them to change it! If it is your own, where did it come from? Is it something that was planted within you as you were preparing for birth? Has it ever changed? If so, how did that happen? Where did the change come from?

The seashore teaches us that your mind is *not* your own! Just as the sea and the sand must commune to be the seashore, so our minds merge with the minds of others in a communion that we define as community.

We could not exist if our minds were solely our own. Our mind is a collage of every other mind, for better or worse, we have encountered in our life. No one stands alone!

Every religion and every religious sub-group tend to believe they alone stand with the truth. Can truth be owned or even defined? Is it unchanging? They suggest they own it, define it, and it *is* unchanging.

Christianity asks in multiple forms, “*Do you know Jesus?*” Is that even possible? We have a tendency to think of Jesus as a stand-alone savior. However, the Bible says to “*be of the mind of Jesus.*” Did Jesus have a mind of his own? We are back at the seashore!

The mind of Jesus was a communion of his Jewish faith and education, his relationships with his family and his disciples, and his life experiences as he traveled in his ministry. He merely asks that we join our minds with his. That is the meaning of discipleship!

As the Body of Christ, we must be willing to commune with one another as a community that is of the mind of Christ. That mind continually grows, as does the truth that only God can reveal to us. Do more than *know* the Christ. Let us join our minds in ministry!

Wayne Sautter, Pastor Emeritus

All Saints Day is Sunday, November 1



All Saints Day celebration has a long history in the worship life of the church. It began as a commemoration of the martyrs who had died for this faith, and it has become a day when we honor and remember those who, in death, have joined the Church Triumphant, as well as the faithful saints of the present and the future who serve Jesus Christ.

**Remembering the lives of:
Treasure Keys, Ora Dalton, Charles Facemyer and
Elizabeth Newman**

Time to Order Your Poinsettias

*Place a poinsettia in the church on Christmas Eve in honor or in memory of a loved one. Please include payment with order form and place in the offering plate or send to the church office by **Monday, November 23.***



6" plants are \$ 9.00 each

Choose one: *red* **In memory of:** _____

white **In honor of:** _____

pink

Given by: _____

(Please use a separate form for each poinsettia.)

Christian Education Committee Update

Sunday School for Children will be held on the second and fourth Sunday of every month. In November the dates will be the 8th and the 22nd. Children will meet the teachers in the back of the church following the children's message. Sunday School will be held in the Fellowship Hall with social distancing and all teachers and children will wear a mask. Focus will be on the Lord's Prayer and Old Testament bible stories. Parents are welcome to attend if they wish.



Wednesday morning bible study meets each Wednesday at 10:00 AM in the Chapel with Pastor John. All are welcome.

Book Discussion Group

Book Discussion Group will meet on **Tuesday, November 10 at 10:00 A.M.** The book will be *Middlemarch* by George Eliot (originally the October selection). George Eliot's great novel creates a world and portrays a whole community - tradespeople, middle classes, country gentry - in the rising provincial town of Middlemarch, circa 1830.



Middlemarch
George Eliot



In December the group will meet on **Tuesday, December 15 at 10:30 A.M.** **The book will be *A Goose Creek Christmas* by Virginia Smith.** Forced into early retirement, Al Richardson knows what his wife will say when she hears the terrible news. Millie will insist that they open their B&B early. So, with the help of an unlikely accomplice, Al tries to hide his secret from all of Goose Creek, including his wife. All are welcome at any time.

SENIOR FOOD DISTRIBUTION is scheduled for Tuesday, November 17. Volunteers will be needed that day at 8:30 A.M. Thanks so much for your help as always.



MINISTERIUM ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER



The Greater Latrobe Ministerium asks churches to donate items for the Food Pantry distributions each month. The needed item for November is **deodorant**. Thank you so much for your generosity. A box is in the sanctuary to collect these items.



BIENVENUE will meet on **Wednesday, November 4 at 12:30 PM in the Chapel.** Please bring a lunch and a beverage. All the ladies of the church are welcome.

Lay Life and Mission Update



Lay Life and Mission would like to thank everyone who purchased homemade vegetable and chicken noodle soups and who made monetary donations. A special thank you to all the ladies who made the 88 quarts of the homemade soups. The total profit made was \$455.00, which included monetary donations.

The Committee is having a pie and pumpkin roll sale (from The Pie Shoppe in Laughlintown) from now until November 1st, with pick-up **November 14th** from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Church. The price is \$10.00 per pie/pumpkin roll. An order form is available at the St. Clair Street entrance table. If paying by check, please make it out to Lay Life and Mission Committee. Correct change would be appreciated if you are not paying by check. Please wear a mask when picking up your order. Thank you in advance!



Mission of the Month

The Lay Life and Mission Committee have chosen the Union Mission as the mission for November. Union Mission relies on the support of the community to be able to provide the services and support to the men who come to their program. In order to continue to meet these objective, they are in need of various item. A box and list of items to be collected are located in the back of the sanctuary. **There is also a list of needed items on the following page of this newsletter.**

The November meeting of Lay Life and Mission will be held on Monday, November 2 in the Chapel.

Time to Decorate the Church for Christmas

Please plan to stay after the service on November 22 to decorate the Church for Christmas. Many hands make the afternoon a time of fun and fellowship.



OUR MISSION FOR NOVEMBER
“UNION MISSION”

Union Mission relies on the support of the community to be able to provide the services and support to the men who come to their program. In order to continue to meet these objectives, they are in need of the following:

Financial Support

*(please make checks payable to
Lay Life & Mission Committee)*

New or Used Shoes (Casual)

Blue Jeans

New Men’s Jockey Shorts (various sizes)

Light Bulbs-40W & 60W

Household Cleaning Items

Gift cards

One-gallon Freezer Bags

Disinfectant Wipes

Small Garbage Bags

X-Large Garbage Bags

Tennis Shoes

Paper towels, napkins, toilet paper

White Socks

Towels and washcloths

Hygiene products

Men’s clothing

Coats

Winter Wear (hats, gloves, etc.)

Food

**Please bring gifts to the church by
November 29**



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

Please join us for Candlelight Services on Christmas Eve as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

5:30 P.M. Christ United Church of Christ, Latrobe

7:30 P.M. St. John’s UCC, Darlington

Christ United Church of Christ Consistory

Stephanie Albaugh, Vice President

Rick Kunkle

Michelle Kutzer

Jim O’Connor, Secretary

Harvey Noel

Kenny Repko

Ellen Sautter

Elena Sillaman

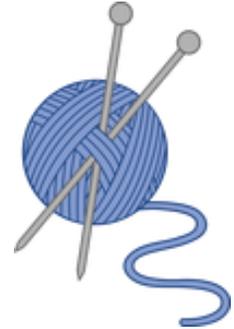
Carolyn Stutzman, President

**If you knit or crochet and have extra time on your hands,
please consider this charity.**

Most-Needed Items at This Time:

Sending items to us @ 2600 Leyden St., Denver, CO 80207 All **ten items** on our web-site list are welcome! See our patterns and guidelines <https://www.knitting4peace.org/what-we-do/patterns> Here's what we need the most at this time:

- Mittens** (in sizes for adults or children)
- Baby Blankets** (24" or more in width and height)
- Shawls** (45" or longer, 30" or wider)
- Peace Pals** (up to 7 " tall) with medium brown, dark brown, or tan faces
(See our feature article, above, for some tips!)
- Baby Booties** (in bright colors, 3" or more from heel to toe)
- Winter scarves** (42" or longer, 6" or wider, **or warm cowls**)



Happy Birthday!

Danette Meredith	11/03
Robert Lihan	11/11
Aaron Amoroso	11/13
Beverly Dumas	11/13
Alayna Boring	11/15
Zoe Klug	11/16
Elena Sillaman	11/16
Joan Musick	11/26

Happy Anniversary!

Dorthy and Mel Paulovich	11/06
Harvey and Helen Noel	11/18



“C” Dollar Bills for the Union Mission - Christ Church Charity

An almost painless way to support the Union Mission

As of October 19, our accumulated total is
\$395.00.



The donation jar is on the table in the vestibule.

Thanks so much for your support.

November 2020 Prayer Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>O you who are the God of all generations, we thank you for all who have walked humbly with you and especially those near to us and dear, in whose lives we have seen the vision of your beauty. May we know that in the body or out of the body they are with you. Unite us still, God of our souls, in one household of faith and love, one family in heaven and on earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">--John Hunter (1849-1917)</p>						
1 Remember those suffering with mental illness.	2 Give thanks for medical personnel who treat mental illness.	3 Pray for those who provide support for mental health consumers.	4 Give thanks for those who volunteer to help mental health consumers.	5 Pray for families and those who care for people with mental illness.	6 Pray for those experiencing drought.	7 Praise God for the things in your life worth celebrating!
8 Praise the Lord for bountiful harvests.	9 Pray for all those who transport people or goods.	10 Pray for young Christians as they strive to live out their faith.	11 Veterans' Day Pray for veterans and those serving in the Armed Forces.	12 Praise God for lakes, rivers and oceans.	13 Thank God for never giving up on us.	14 Pray for children who have been abused or cruelly treated.
15 Pray for those who have difficulty sleeping.	16 Remember in prayer former pastors and their families.	17 Pray for the men of the Union Mission.	18 Pray for the universal church that love may abound and truth flourish.	19 Pray for those making a living on the sea.	20 Pray for our own church.	21 Ask God how you may best serve Him.
22 Pray for Sunday School teachers and participants.	23 Thank God for church volunteers.	24 Give thanks for volunteer firefighters.	25 Pray for the middle-aged.	26 Thanksgiving Pray that God will continue to cultivate grateful hearts in us.	27 Pray for those who represent us in government.	28 Pray for those who are caught up in violence.
29 Pray for those with hearing loss.	30 Pray for those overcome with worry.	O Lord, whose mercy reaches to the heavens, whose faithfulness knows no end: let the greatness of your love be known to us, that we may worship you with wonder, joy and thanksgiving. Amen.				

NOVEMBER 2020 CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 11:00 AM Worship <i>Holy Communion</i> <i>All Saints Day</i> Deadline for Pie Orders	2 6:30 PM Lay Life and Mission	3 Election Day	4 10:00 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM Bienvenue	5 6:30 PM Bells	6	7
8 11:00 AM Worship Sunday School for children follows the children's message	9 6:30 PM Consistory	10 10:00 AM Book Discussion	11 10:00 AM Bible Study Veterans Day	12 6:30 PM Bells	13	14 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM Pie Pickup in the Chapel
15 11:00 AM Worship Newsletter Deadline	16	17 8:30 AM Senior Food Distribution	18 10:00 AM Bible Study	19 6:30 PM Bells	20	21
22 11:00 AM Worship Sunday School for children follows the children's message Decoration of the Church following worship	23 Deadline for Poinsettia Orders	24	25 No Bible Study	26 Thanksgiving Day Church Office Closed	27 Church Office Closed	28
29 11:00 AM Worship	30					

Deadline for Union Mission Gifts – Sunday, November 29