

Christ Calls

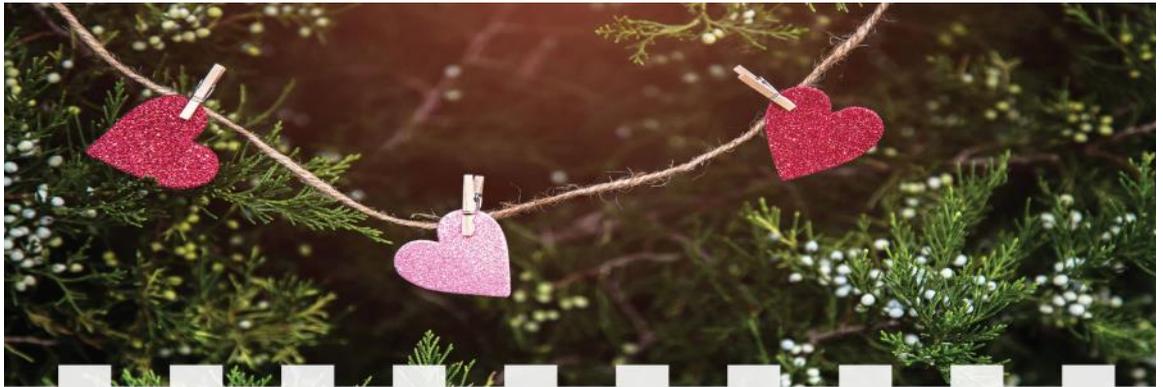
The Monthly Newsletter of Memorial Lutheran Church
February 2022

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Dates To Remember

February 6	Sunday School / Coffee Hour - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am
February 13	Sunday School / Coffee Hour - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am
February 14	Church Council Meeting - 6:30 pm
February 16	Newsletter Deadline
February 20	Sunday School / Coffee Hour - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am
February 27	Sunday School / Coffee Hour - 9:00 am Worship/Live Stream Service - 10:00 am Congregational Meeting - 11:15 am



Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.

Psalm 63:3

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 Shippensburg PA 17257

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 Rev. Dr. Christopher Suehr
 pastor@memluth.org



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 Brad Drake



BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR
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2021 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

ELDERS

Bob Snyder-Ass't Treasurer
 Mary Cox
 Nancy Thompson

DEACONS

Hope Alsbaugh
 Linda Eves
 Jim Robinson
 Larry Basler
 Nancy Widney
 Mary Beth Fishel
 Ron Richards
 Wendy Tomczak
 Ron Luffy

TRUSTEES

Ed Straley
 Bill Drake
 John Drake
 Jean Goldthorpe – Treasurer

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FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR

There is nothing good for a person but to eat, drink, and see good in their toil. I saw that this too comes from the hand of God. For who can eat, or drink, or enjoy without God?
-Ecclesiastes 2:24-25

If you haven't noticed, Ecclesiastes is one of my top favorite Bible books. In council reports and newsletters I've been dropping in my own translations of a verse or two and thinking about how they apply in a given month. I've been going in order, but it's time to start some leap-frog through the book. Many of the individual verses of Qoheleth, or the Teacher (whose wisdom we read in Ecclesiastes) can sound terribly bleak. These depressing messages fit into a larger framework that is beautiful, sobering, faithful, and profound...I daresay even optimistic. But the book does a lot of breaking down before building up.

It's February of 2022. Many number nerds (myself included) have anticipated this month (2/22), and its twenty-second day (2/22/22) even moreso. But in this cold, wet, midwintery month, I think a more optimistic passage from Ecclesiastes is suitable. I don't know if the Teacher meant this, but making soup allows you to eat, drink, and enjoy your toil all at the same time. (I'm going to go give that a try!) As we shovel slush, navigate icy roads, boil soup, and sip warm beverages let's try to find the bits of joy and goodness in our labors. Our daily work is not always as flashy as a sunset or as majestic as a mountain, so finding God in the ordinary stuff is not always as easy. Looking for joy and finding meaning in your work, these are gifts from God. I think that finding joy in little numerical quirks is a gift from God as well.

In our worship life, this month is part of an elongated season after Epiphany. Lent is late this year, so we get an early string of green Sundays before we break out the penitent purple next month. This month, we get the basic core of Jesus teachings from Luke's perspective: the calling of disciples, the beatitudes, loving enemies, and the Transfiguration.

I hope that in your eating and drinking, your shoveling and soup-sipping, your coming and your going, that you can find joy in whatever your daily work may be. True enjoyment – even in simple things, comes from God.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Chris
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COUNCIL NEWS

REPORT OF CHURCH COUNCIL – January 9, 2022

Church Council met Monday, January 9, 2022 in-person in Fellowship Hall and via Bluejeans.

Comments of appreciation and gratitude were shared for those who participated in any way for the Christmas services. Pastor Chris reported that he was able to make contact at Christmas with many of our shut-in members and those members living away from Shippensburg. Many of those spoken with, who were unable to attend worship services, shared memories of the decorated sanctuary. On a sad note, the year ended with the deaths of several of our shut-in members.

Moving forward into the new year, Pastor Chris has been preparing for two upcoming baptisms and Confirmation class is going strong. The Call Committee has a meeting scheduled on Wednesday, January 12th with Pastor Richard Jorgensen to review pastoral candidates for the committees' consideration. Our Outreach Ministry together with the pastor received a Thrivent grant to purchase supplies for the newly opened CARES shelter (formerly the Episcopal Home on East Burd Street). It is hoped to be able to do this again in the near future with more publicity and promotion for additional support for this community effort. The Women of the ELCA will meet Wednesday, January 19th. The 250th Anniversary Committee will have a meeting on January 25th.

Jean Goldthorpe reported for the Finance Ministry that a 2-year Certificate of Deposit worth \$43,000 has been renewed for one year as the interest rates are at a low percentage rate at this time. Jean also noted that while income shows an increase and there have been no unusual expenses, the gas bill will undoubtedly rise due to the winter temperatures. The church's insurance policies were discussed with a question specifically about the coverage on the organ. The Trustees and Galen Piper will meet to review the policies.

Matt Creek was able to restore the security system after a recent power outage. The question was raised, due to the power problem, what would happen should someone be in the elevator if a power outage occurs? Bill Drake explained that the elevator is programmed to go down to the Mezzanine floor and the doors will open; no one would be trapped. The repair of the handrail in the stairwell of the Orange Street door entrance is being taken care of. (Thanks, Matt!) The Trustee contact information on the parking lot door needs to be updated with the current Trustees' names and contact phone numbers.

Preschool will resume classes on Wednesday, January 12th after having been closed for a period of quarantine for a member of the staff. The Covid Task Force has been meeting weekly. Ron Richards continues to monitor the statistics and the number of cases to share with the task force. The congregation and groups using Memorial will be apprised of any changes in schedules if/when needed.

(continued on page 5)

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Each January Memorial is required to renew our Corporate Resolution. This document gives council the permission to acquire or sell property as seen fit. The document is kept in the office. The Church Council Master Calendar was included with the council packet. The calendar serves as a reference and a tool to assist council, and our ministry committees, in staying on track and help us to look ahead to upcoming tasks and responsibilities. The calendar pages' checklist will be shared with the committees to help them with their functions.

The date for the annual February congregational meeting has been set for Sunday, February 27th following our worship service. At this meeting the annual reports of our ministry committees are presented and the Nominating Committee is elected. This committee oversees the process of supplying the ballot for the election of Council members at the November business meeting. If you would like to serve on this committee, you may contact Mary Cox or leave your name with the church office.

Blessings and peace be to you and yours.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cox
Congregation President



FINANCES



DECEMBER 2021				
FUND	INCOME	EXPENSES	DIFFERENCE	YTD
CURRENT	\$22,351	\$17,359	\$4,992	-\$46,555
BUILDING	\$2,766	\$0	\$2,766	\$21,490
	Income	Paid	Needed to be paid for budget	YTD Paid
BENEVOLENCE	\$8,168	\$3,687	\$0	\$38,105

The 2021 Financial Giving Statements were mailed on Thursday, January 20th. If you didn't receive yours, please contact the church office.

KEEP IN PRAYER

Wanda Brown
 Jerry Cramer
 C. Eugene Creek
 Dan Dorty
 Beverly/Robert Florig
 Susan Frirsz

Brian Helman
 June Hile
 Mary Kendall
 Ron Kerr
 Bernita Killian
 Jerry Lyons

Ray Luffy
 Doug/Pat Maun
 Erin Nollenberger
 William Porter
 Dot Railing
 Ron Richards

Bill Robinson
 Dave Schriener
 Ed Shade
 Polly Sherman

Please keep the family of Charles Fleming in your prayers in his death on December 21, 2021.

Please keep Dorothy Railing and family in your prayers in the death of Dorothy's husband, Richard, on December 25, 2021.

Please keep Kay Phillips and family in your prayers in the death of Kay's sister, Naomi Helms on January 6, 2022.

Please keep the family of Blaine Shover in your prayers in his death on January 13, 2022.

Please keep the family of Dorothy Coy in your prayers in her death on January 21, 2022.



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2022 FOLLOWING THE 10:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE



2 Larry Basler
 4 Lauray Koenig
 6 Patrick Creek
 10 Abram Luffy
 11 Elizabeth Howland
 15 Larry Klotz
 15 Rachel Snyder

16 Donald Brown
 17 Bente Cloud
 17 Wayne Widney
 18 Brittany Carr
 19 Jerry Cramer
 20 Susan Wenger
 20 Lucille Andelin

21 Heather Brown
 21 Stacy McCole
 24 Michael Hayes
 26 Mia Garcia
 28 Susie Miller



MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CELEBRATES 250 YEARS!

Have you ever sat in church and pondered the beautiful stained glass window of Jesus knocking at the door?

The following excerpt is taken from *Yesterday, and Today, and Forever*, the booklet that accompanied Memorial's 175th anniversary. It gives a word picture of Reverend Doctor William W. Barkley, who served our congregation from 1926-1945.



“Reverend William W. Barkley served as pastor from 1926-1945. A difficult assignment was the challenge to greet Dr. Barkley when he came to us. An era of prosperity was near its zenith. A beautiful addition to the church [the Sunday school addition] was completed and dedicated June 1928. Forty-four thousand dollars was expended on bringing this dream to reality—a tribute to the leadership and an enrichment of the community by the investment in a facility for character building. With best intentions—the bulk of its payment was assured by pledges but the Great Depression changed all this. Tremendous economic pressures do change many plans, and the struggle is intense. We slowly emerged under the patient guidance of the pastor, only to be engulfed in a Second World War that drained the congregation of 123 of its youth and took much of the spirit from the membership. Three grand boys paid the supreme sacrifice. Nervous people often do not fail to look up—nor did we count our blessings. Nineteen long years made a deep impression on the great numbers of our membership. The simple truths and lessons, encouragement, and urging for cooperation were some of the patient efforts of Pastor Barkley, and he liked to speak referring to our main, stained glass window as he said:

‘This great stained-glass window on the west side of our church teaches a lesson. If the Governor of our Commonwealth, or the President of the United States knocked at your door and sought to come in and visit with you, would you not be excited and pleased? The Lord God stands at your door and knocks. Will you let him in? Are you aware of your real Blessings? Give yourself to Jesus.’

Pastor Barkley knew the people of Memorial Church better than they knew themselves. At great sacrifice to himself personally, he seized the occasion on Sunday in 1945 to announce his resignation—convinced that by such personal sacrifice a great people might be revitalized and return to more intense service to the advancement of Christ’s Kingdom. The shock had its effect and we owe a great debt to Pastor Barkley.”

Perhaps we are today a congregation of revitalization, just like our “Memorial ancestors” of the 1940’s. To repeat Dr. Barkley, “The Lord stands at your door and knocks. Will you let him in? Are you aware of your real Blessings?”

PRAYER CRAFTERS MINISTRY

“God’s work. Our hands” was a tagline for ELCA to give members an opportunity to celebrate who we are in the community and the world. “One church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbors.” With many new projects underway, please consider joining us or working from home when time allows. There are no specific skills necessary and all are welcome.

Meeting Dates and Times: (2nd & 4th Thursdays)

February 10 & 24 - 10 am in our upstairs workroom (elevator available)

Thanksgivings:

- *Special thanks* to Sylvia Schrader and Judy Royer for their continued teamwork on our Baptism Banners.

Current Projects:

- Neck roll support pillows for chemo patients. This is a requested outreach project for WellSpan Radiation Center in Chambersburg. Anyone interested in sewing some from home (we can provide the cut fabric pieces to assemble) leave a message with the church office.
- Complete knotted quilts, fleece blankets, scarves, hats, and mittens which will be delivered to the new Community Cares’ Family Shelter at 206 E. Burd St in Shippensburg.

Donated materials or projects can be placed in the Prayer Crafters’ blue bin in the church office. Thank You.



SHIPPENSBURG PRODUCE and OUTREACH

SPO Mission Statement:

Called by the grace of God to love one another, we reach out to those in need with food and/or services.

King's Kettle has officially closed and SPO is in the process of welcoming their clients into our program. As we begin our 13th year, we are determined to continue our outreach of providing fresh, healthy food to eligible members of our community. We continue to partner with the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank and have added Cumberland County Department of Aging and Community Service as a new partner. We use these, as well as other agencies, to procure fresh produce, eggs, and meat as we strive to meet some of these important nutritional needs.

This March we will once again participate in Match Madness sponsored by the Partnership for Better Health. Our plan is/was to hold a pay-what-you-can lasagna dinner as a fundraiser. At this time those plans are uncertain due to the latest Covid surge. SPO receives 100% of all donations designated to us, receives matching funds up to \$1000, and a share of an additional incentive gift. To be sure your gift qualifies for the Match Madness Campaign, please donate between March 1 – 31. This can be done by check made payable to PFBH and mailed to PFBH, 274 Wilson St., Carlisle, PA 17013 and write SPO in the memo line. Or you can go online at www.forbetterhealthpa.org, click on Match Madness and choose Shippensburg Produce and Outreach as your non-profit of choice.

February 22, 2022 is a Tuesday! Stop by SPO at 2:22 and see what we do. (Tutus are not required.) We set up at 12:30 and distribute from 3:30 to 6:00. There are many small tasks needing a volunteer or just drop in and see what is happening.



MATCH MADNESS

PRESCHOOL

Happy Valentine's Day!

We have been busy making snowmen and penguins in our classroom. The children are enjoying a new addition of a light table in the room. We are discovering different ways of exploring this new tool.

During February, we all celebrate love. We'll be making Valentines and everyone will create their own Valentine Box for our card exchange.

Even our Bible verse speaks of love. February's Bible Verse: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. Matthew 22:37. We are learning all about Jesus's miracles and how only Jesus was able to do them, not me, not you, only Jesus.

Thank you for your continued prayers for our children and their families.

Blessings, Miss Shirley and Miss Hope



GOOD & FAITHFUL SERVANTS

Please keep our homebound in your prayers.

Jackie Bishop
3500 Fairview St, Apt. 4
Bethlehem, PA 18017

Grace Commerer
101 N Prince St Rm 216
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Robert Florig
710 Fireside Drive
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Evelyn Fuller
630 Brenton St
Shippensburg, PA 17257

June Hile
Elmcroft of Shippensburg
Room 121
129 Walnut Bottom Road
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Bernita Killian
Elmcroft of Shippensburg
Room 127
129 Walnut Bottom Road
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Jeanne Naugle
208 Todd Cir
Carlisle, PA 17013

William Porter
110 Stewart Place
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Dorothy Railing
117 Cleversburg Road
Shippensburg, PA 17257

Betty Reilly
*(resides at Orrstown PC Home)
(mailing address)*
948 Baltimore Rd
Shippensburg, PA 17257



FOOD MINISTRY WEATHER REMINDER:

With the colder weather upon us, please **DO NOT** place items in the Little Free Pantry that may freeze once weather temperatures drop. There are handouts located on the counter inside the parking lot entrance with a list of suggestions. (No Glass Items)

Hats, gloves, mittens and small scarves during the cooler weather can also be placed in the pantry in a plastic bag to protect from moisture.

School supplies are always a welcome addition.

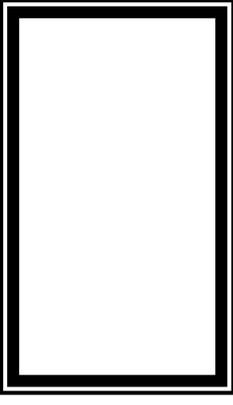
If you have volunteered for the “Food Bank” (located in the two green bins by the preschool information table) please fill our “Little Free Pantry”. There is a list of items that should **NOT** be placed in our pantry for safety reasons located on a small bulletin board above the bins.

Our “Little Free Pantry” was established in May of 2018 to assist our neighbors in need. Thank you for your support.

MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
34 E ORANGE ST
SHIPPENSBURG PA 17257-1993

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL



Welcoming all.

Reaching out in love.

Growing together in Christ.

Worshipping and serving in Jesus' name.