# LP NEWS May 2019

Buffalo Valley Lutheran Parish

# From Our Pastor...

# HOLD ON TO WHAT IS GOOD

This phrase, from Paul's letter to the Romans 12:9, is a translation from the NIrV; the NRSV has, "hold fast to what is good." Particularly in the complex, fast-paced world in which we now live, Paul's counsel is quite appropriate. Amidst the countless options and choices placed before us on a daily basis, it is imperative that our handle of life's demands and opportunities be situated squarely upon a sure and certain foundation that we can trust fully. Living in today's world can be quite risky; each time we give of ourselves and what matters most to us in the choices we make, we enter with some risk- in our relationships, our activities, our hopes and dreams. For Paul, holding on to what is good finds its sure and certain dependability, that is, its source and solid foundation, in and upon Jesus Christ.

Paul understands that we Christians are to locate goodness or the "good" not in ideas, concepts, or even in "things." Experiencing goodness or being and doing good is to be found and realized in our relationship with Jesus

Christ, who is for us our Lord and quide. In the presence of evil, we are called to hold on to the very real presence of the Risen Jesus who alone is the embodiment of what is good. When confronted by malicious ideas and malevolent characters, we are called to hold on to Jesus who died on account of the prevalence of sin throughout the world but was raised for our remission and hope. In the face of uncertainties, doubts. difficult and challenging choices, and questionable practices, we are called to hold fast to the teachings and counsel of Jesus, who by his Spirit is able to lead and quide us to make "qood" decisions and to engage in "good" behaviors.

In the world in which we live, filled with self-serving self-promoting and notions, it seems as though so many ideas and things pass for "good." In this age of populism and individuality, we hear that it is necessarily "good" to "feel good" about yourself. The world often promotes the attainment of such qoodness through the avenues of pride and pleasure, status and success. This worldly conceptualization of the "good" is often marketed as something that can be

accessed through some "cost," be it ambition, effort, or "buying" into a product or process that will deliver the "goods." So often, these worldly notions of what passes for "good" are subject to whim and fancy, wishful thinking and fad.

On the other hand, Paul assures us that as we hold on to what is good, that is, the living presence of Jesus and what he has to teach us in order for us to be led to that which guarantees the fullness of life, we will truly experience the "goodness" that God can alone promise and deliver. As we hold on and hold "lesus." fast to Paul counsels us, the church, to "love each other deeply" (Rm. 12:10), "honor others more than yourselves" (Rm. 12:10), "share with and God's people in need" (Rm. 12:13). Goodness in the world and being and doing good are both possibility and reality as long as we hold on to the "good," that is, the living presence of lesus himself within us and all around us.

May we all be reminded of what is possible when we put our ultimate trust and hope in the living presence of Jesus.

Blessings,

Pr. John

### Parish Pastor

Pastor John Yost Staff Members Of CULC

- Margie Dunkle, Secretary/ Asst. Treasurer
- Dianne Shuck, Treasurer
- Cliff Valentine, Financial Recording Secretary
- Tom Catherman,
- Custodian

#### Council Members

- Drew Christy, President
  Doug Gemberling, Vice
- President • Barry Spangler, Council & Recording Secretary
- Dianne Shuck, Treasurer
- Pearl Gemberling, Council
- Linda Smith, Council
- Maurice Clouser, Council
- Joe Dressler, Council
   Kim Blyler, Council
- Phone: 570-922-1860 Email: culc@dejazzd.com

# Parish Council Members Deanna Billow, FELC

- Gary Girton, FELC
- Jeff Mensch, FELC
- Drew Christy, CULC
- Dianne Shuck, CULC
- Greg Shuck , CULC

#### Staff Members of FELC Diane Scott, Director of Music

- Heather Klose, Church Administrator
- Cher Girton, Asst. Church Administrator
- Hank Dorman, Sexton
- Loretta Martin, Housekeeping

#### **Council Members**

- Linda Skinner, Council President
- Gary Girton, Vice
- President
- Barb Randecker,Secretary
- **Cher Girton**, Treasurer
- Deanna Billow, Council
- Sue Jows, Council
- Carol Klose, Council
- Libby Loss, Council
- Jane Moore, Council
- Sherri Neece, Council
- Jim Schwartz, Council
- Logan Bartlett, Council -Y
- Vacancy

Phone: 570-966-0266 Email: firstlu@dejazzd.com

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# In Our Prayers:

**The Baker Family Jan Beckley** Jim & Florence Boop **Carolyn Bowersox Bev Catherman** Sara (Moyer) Crosbie **Shirley Diehl** Doug & Pearl Gemberling Barbara Grimooris **The Hackenberg Family** (CULC) Vickie Kahler **Dustin Kline** Pat Korman Jerry Mickel Dr. Musser

Ethel Musser Wendy Norman Sally Orendorff Bob Rantz Dottie Rathfon Alice Reitz Dottie Seebold John Snook Meda Struble Helen Troup

In Our Military: Thaddeus Miller Zachary Miller Brandi Gemberling







David Bickhart	05/01	Marie Radel	05/11
Michael Mensch	05/01	Tom Greeney	05/12
Marianne Motto	05/01	Colby Libhart	05/13
Daphne Clouser	05/02	Glenn Fogel	05/15
Pearl Culp	05/02	Charles Behrent	05/16
Patrick Crossland	05/03	John Dunkle	05/17
Kathy Spangler	05/03	Wendy Wehr	05/18
Wayne Feaster	05/04	Lucas Harvey	05/19
Winifred Aikey	05/06	Gregory Mensch	05/20
Julie Alexander	05/06	Frances Wenrich	05/21
Laurie Harvey	05/06	Kimberley Sawyer	05/22
Jere Motto	05/06	Sam Schnure	05/22
Matthew Sanders	05/06	Elizabeth Shuck	05/22
Linda Swartz	05/06	Brantley Baker	05/23
Bev Catherman	05/07	Linda Skinner	05/25
Leann Fogel	05/07	Dottie Rethfon	05/27
Stanley Sauers	05/07	Kenneth Smith	05/27
Gary Hackenberg	05/09	Cooper Wagner	05/27
Donna Michael	05/09	Bret Girton	05/28
Ryan Sauers	05/09	Kim Kuba	05/28
Erma Hower	05/10	Karen Wagner	05/28
Sheila Jean Levits	05/10	Pam Mitchell	05/31
Betty Loudenslager	05/11	Mandy Rothermel	05/31



05/02	21 years
05/04	51 years
05/08	15 years
05/12	12 years
05/14	36 years
05/14	25 years
05/16	60 years
05/16	38 years
05/19	18 years
05/21	53 years
05/26	34 years
05/26	29 years
05/27	19 years
	05/04 05/08 05/12 05/14 05/16 05/16 05/16 05/19 05/21 05/26 05/26

# May Bible Studies

Monday <u>10:30 a.m.</u>	Tuesday <u>10:30 a.m.</u>	Wednesday <u>7:00 p.m</u>
<u>CULC</u>	FELC	<u>CULC</u>
May 6 (1PM)	May 7	May 8
May 13	May 14 May 28	May 15 May 29
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# **Special Services**

# Sunday, May 19th

FELC will have Youth Sunday, where the youth will hold the service and the current seniors will be recognized and given their special homemade quilts.

### Sunday, May 26th

CULC will be recognizing Gary and Paula for their many years of faithful service to their church's music ministry.



To Our Wonderful Christ United Lutheran Church Family,

We would like to thank everyone for the kind words, cards, food and especially all the prayers we received during the recent loss of my wonderful father. Thank you for all the love and support you gave us during this difficult time. "God Bless You All."

--Dayna and Dave Bickhart



(CULC) Your kind expression of sympathy is gratefully acknowledged and deeply appreciated. Thank you to all that provided our family with a wonderful meal as well as the opportunity to visit with family and friends. Your service to the church will always be appreciated.

--The Family of Jean Buoy



Dear Pastor John,

I want to thank you for your visits to Riverwoods when I was in there for therapy after my back surgery and then again for coming to Buffalo Valley to visit me once again when I was in there for therapy after my illness with Cellulitis. I appreciated them all.

I also want to thank you for being there for me when they told me about the passing of my husband Richard. I really needed support like you gave me. I also appreciated your presence the day of his funeral. It also meant a lot to me.

I also want to thank the members who took the time to sign the Birthday card and get well cards they sent me when I was still not feeling well. Those were greatly appreciated.

It's nice to know that I am still considered a sister to you all even though I haven't been able to get to church because of all the operations and illnesses I have had in the past few years. I still live with Christ in my heart every day and I am glad I still have brothers and sisters at 4 Bell.

THANK YOU ALL SO VERY MUCH FOR LIFTING MY SPIRITS WITH THE CARDS AND KEEPING ME IN YOUR PRAYERS ALL THIS TIME.

In Christ's name thank you all again. Alice Reitz



A Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled to take place at Christ's United on May 9, from 1:00pm-6:00pm.

# Fundraiser Dinners

A **benefit Turkey Dinner** will be held on **Saturday, May 25, 2019 starting at 3:30** at Christ's United. Dinners include Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Gravy, Vegetable, Beverage and Cake. Adults - \$10, Children 5-10 - \$5, Under 5 - Free. Take Outs are available.

All proceeds will help fund our 'Hopes Haven' Food Ministry, open each Wednesday to residents of Union County.

Donations of Turkeys and many cakes, as well as help with meal preparation and serving will be appreciated. **Anyone wishing to donate turkeys, please make arrangements to drop them off at the church by Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>.** Contact Kim Blyler at 570-716-5601 to sign up or with any questions.



# <u>Chicken BBQ</u>

Chicken BBQ Dinner with pickup on May 18th between 11-2 at the New Berlin Social Hall (We are able to deliver to Mifflinburg) Pre-sale of \$10 dinners start now! (Dinners include ½ Chicken, Macaroni Salad, Applesauce, Roll & Dessert) ALL proceeds benefit those who are in need in Puerto Rico! Contact any mission team members for advance tickets! Thanks so very much! (Please note that pre-sold chicken dinners that are not picked up prior to 2:00 on that day will be offered for sale at 2:00)

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# Other Fundraisers

### **Pennies For Puerto Rico**

The youth at FELC will continue to collect change in buckets during the offering starting April 28th and continuing each Sunday through May 26th.

The coins collected will go towards the cost of building and repair tools and supplies to be purchased in Puerto Rico for WorkCamp.

## **Children's Coin Collection**

FELC Workcamp will be going to Puerto Rico June 22-29 to do whatever we can to help! We will clean up, help build new homes, put a roof on a home, paint...whatever they need. We will also be buying school supplies and anything the children will need to continue learning.

We are asking you to take a brown container and decorate it any way you want and put your name on it. Then ask your friends and family to put coins (or dollars) in the cup. We are asking you to bring these cups back on Sunday, May 26th! ALL the money from these cups will be used for the children in Puerto Rico!!! It's all from YOU!

It would be really nice if you would draw a picture or write a note to the children and let them know you are thinking of them! Also please put a note inside your cup to let our youth know what you want to buy with your money for the child(ren). Maybe a puzzle? Markers? Crayons? Soccer Ball? YOU CHOOSE! Then our youth will take your cup of money and buy that item in Puerto Rico and take pictures of them giving your gift to the child(ren).



# Volunteers Needed

# Worship & Music Committee At FELC

The Worship & Music Committee at FELC is looking for a few volunteers to serve on the committee this year. Please contact Barb Randecker if you are interested in serving on this committee.

# CULC Facebook Manager Needed

CULC Church Council is looking for a member of their congregation willing to volunteer in managing Everyone is invited! Bring your family and friends church's Facebook account. their interested can contact any member of the Church fun and fellowship together as one parish and as Council.

# Hope's Haven Volunteers Needed

CULC continues to look for volunteers to pick up donated supplies for our Hope's Haven pick-up from GIANT in Food Pantry. This Lewisburg is scheduled for Monday mornings. The ideal time to pick up at the store is between 9:45 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Pickup location is at the rear of the store loading area. Volunteers should have a pickup, SUV or minivan type vehicle to transport the items to the church kitchen. The following 2019 dates are available:

May 6, 20 - June 10, 17, 24 - July 22, 29 - August 19 - September 2, 30 - October 14, 21 -November 25 - December 9

Sign up on the bulletin board or contact Gary Hackenberg to schedule one or more of these dates. Thanks for your help in continuing to make this vital ministry successful.



# Public Sale Food Stand

We will have the food stand at Richard Rowe's public sale on May 10 & 11.



# June 2 Parish/CommunityWorship, Picnic & Block Party at the Park

Mark Sunday, June 2, on your calendars. community worship service, picnic and community block party will be held at the Mifflinburg Community Park. All three events are sponsored by the Buffalo Valley Lutheran Parish.

At 10:00 a.m., we will begin the day with worship at the park. Bring your lawn chairs and meet us at the gazebo.

A picnic follows worship. The Parish will supply hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks. We welcome covered dishes to share with others.

After the picnic, various types of games and events for the kids and adults are planned. The community pool is planned to be open during block party hours.

Anyone and enjoy yourselves! Let's enjoy several hours of one community.

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# Hope's Haven **Food Distribution Ministry**

A Temple Talk about our Hope's Haven Food Distribution Ministry at Christ's United was given on Palm Sunday. Attached is the body of that "talk". A section of this presentation is an appeal to have the whole parish join in on a food drive for specific . items. It was proposed that each church establish a . collection point during the month of May that will . contributors drop their allow to donated • items. Please call Gary Hackenberg, at 570-768- • 2781, if any help is needed to determine logistics of • the appeal and/or collection. We look forward to this . collaborative effort in helping to reduce those • families with "Food Insecurity" in Union County. • ~~Hope's Haven Food Pantry @ CULC

#### **GLOBAL FACT**

There is a worldwide hunger crisis!

**US FACT** 

There is a national hunger crisis!

#### COMMONWEALTH FACT

There is a state hunger crisis!

#### COUNTY FACT

There is a Union County hunger crisis!

Current Population: Approximately 45,178

Food Insecure Population: Approximately 5,040

% Food Insecure Population: Approximately 11.1%

Food Insecurity is defined as the lack of access, at . times, to enough food for all household members.

#### Hopes Haven Food Pantry Ministry at Christ's United Lutheran Church.

The purpose of Hope's Haven Food Pantry is to • provide individuals and families with healthy and nutritious foods that supplement their daily meals.

Eligibility: Each individual or family must register and must provide proof of residence in Union County. Renewal of registration will occur Annual Cash Costs - \$6,000 - \$8,000 per year once each year.

Weekly Distribution is on Wednesday between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and weekly

delays or closing will follow the school schedule of the Mifflinburg Area School District.

Distribution will be by Station and stations will normally follow a predetermined product type as follows or as available:

- Drink
- Sweet Snack
- Lunch Ingredient
- **Breakfast Food**
- **Bagged Snack**
- Choice Item
- Coffee/Tea
- Packaged Item from Sheetz
- Paper Goods, Dents,
- Fresh Fruit
- **Fresh Vegetables** •
- Breads
- Baked Goods
- Milk, Cheese or, Eggs
- Meats

#### Sources of Income:

- **Envelope Donations from members**
- Direct Cash Donations from non-members and organizations
- Church Budget Line Item
- Fund Raiser (new)
- **Thrivent Financial Gift Cards**

#### **Other Sources of Weekly Food Items**

- Direct Purchases from Central PA Food Bank
- **Direct Retail Purchases**
- Weis Markets Warehouse
- Mifflinburg Weis Markets
- Lewisburg Weis Markets
- Lewisburg Giant Foods
- Mifflinburg Sheetz
- David's Awesome Cookies
- Various Non-Church Sponsored Food Drives
- In-house Food Drives
- The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

Distributions in 2018 – 83,596 pounds - almost 42 tons

**Volunteers** needed to operate efficiently:18 – 20

In 2018 we had an average of 100 households on our rolls and served approximately 300 individuals (continued on page 6)



(continued from page 5) per month, many households and individuals more than one time per month.

Because partnering companies are becoming leaner and donations from all sources are showing a slow decline we are determined to *(continued pg.5)* discover new funding streams: We are appealing to your generosity through participation in a parish food drive: From Isaiah 58:7 - SHARE YOUR FOOD WITH THE HUNGRY. During the month of May we are inviting our parish members from First Evangelical Lutheran Church and Christ's United Lutheran Church to join in a food drive to collect the following "current date" items: POP TARTS, INSTANT OATMEAL, PASTA SAUCE, MAC and CHEESE, CANNED SOUPS. Also on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May we will host a Turkey dinner with proceeds going to assist with expenses associated with food pantry purchases. SHARE YOUR FOOD WITH THE HUNGRY! Give generously in your support of this ministry. Visit on a distribution day. We can and do make a difference.

# Parish Social Committee

The Parish Social Committee will be holding a meeting, Sunday, May 19th at FELC, after the worship service.



Mini MACY will not hold a meeting during the month of May. The next meeting will be held on, Sunday, June 30th. Watch your bulletins and future newsletter for more information.

# **Pentecost Geraniums**

# Sunday, June 9th

Name:

QTY

4 1/2" Pots

Dark Red Calliote Geranium \$3.00

White Geranium

\$3.00

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(includes tax)

Flowers provided by Brookside Acres.

In Memory/Honor of:\_\_\_\_\_

<u>All orders must be in the office</u>

by Monday, May 13th

Flowers will not be donated and can be picked up after worship on June 9th.

Mission Trip To Puerto Rico On Saturday, June 22nd through Saturday, June 29th, the following people will leave to serve those in need in Puerto Rico:

Paige & Logan Bartlett, Maddie & Liam Casilla, Gail, Rachel & Eli Erickson, Brian, Janine, Jillian, & Hannah Fee, Kaylin Foss, Nicole & Aria Gessner, Alexis Hackenburg, Anna & Sara Harter, Cindy Harvey, Kim Kuba, Linda Lewis, Andy Long, Courtney & Alexis Moyer, Traci Musser, Barb Randecker, Kim Sawyer, Emily Seebold, Megan Shively, Chasity, Mara & Ella Shuck and Madison Styers.

Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare to travel to do God's work.

# May Volunteers Christ's United

# <u>Altar Guild</u>

Dianne Shuck Janice Wagner

# <u>Greeters</u>

5 - Becky Dunkle
12 - Betty Goss
19 - Kim and Sue Blyler
26 - Eugene and Katherine Hassinger

# Lay Readers

5 – Drew Christy
12 – Maurice Clouser
19 – Barry Spangler
26 – Bonnie Greeney

# Sound System

Lee Spangler

# <u>Ushers</u>

Pearl Gemberling Barry Spangler

# <u>Music Providers</u>

5 - Barry Spangler 12 - Diane Valentine 19 – Dave Swartz 26 –

# Communion Assistants

5 – Dianne Shuck
12 – Judy Moyer
19 – Barry Spangler
26 – Judy Mecouch

# May Volunteers First Lutheran

<u>Chief Usher</u>

Barb Randecker

# <u>Acolytes</u>

5 – Logan Bartlett
12 – Head Usher
19 - Calen Loss
26 – Emily Seebold

# Altar/Communion

Karen Boyer

# Lay Readers

5 – Sherri Neece
12 – Sally Rothermel
19 – Norm Conrad
26 – Karen Boyer

# Children's Church

5 – Jamie Bartlett
12 – Katy Gangloff
19 – Liz Loss
26 – Kim Sawyer

# Offering Envelopes

Linn Mensch & Don Seebold

# <u>Ushers</u>

5 – Sheryl Fetter, Jeff Hackenburg, Marianne Motto & Dave Weaver
12 – Harvey & Brenda Ilgen, Eric & Gwen Hull
19 – Tom Orren, Dewey Reed, Don Seebold II & Harry Boyer
26 – Cindy Harvey, Shirley Heasley, Jim Schwartz & Max Zeller



# Buffalo Valley Lutheran Parish, Mifflinburg, PA

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10AM: Hope's Haven-CULC 6PM-6:20PM Cherub Choir-FELC 7:15PM-8PM Chancel Choir-FELC 7PM: Council-FELC	2 12PM: WELCA- Luncheon at Carriage Corner- FELC 7:30PM Men's Ministry MP Room- FELC	3	4 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Carriage Corner 11AM-12:30PM: Community Meal
5 9AM: Worship-CULC 9:15AM: Sunday School-FELC 10:00 Koinonia Kafe- CULC 10:15 Sunday School -CULC 10:30AM: Worship/ HC- FELC	6 1PM: Bible Study- CULC	7 10:30AM: Bible Study- FELC 6:30PM-8:30PM: Preschool Graduation- Sanctuary- FELC	8 10AM: Hope's Haven-CULC 6PM-6:20PM Cherub Choir- FELC 7PM: Bible Study- CULC 7:15PM-8PM Chancel Choir- FELC	9 1PM Blood Drive CULC	10 Food Stand At Rowe Sale- CULC	11 8AM: Men's Breakfast—Old Turnpike Food Stand at Rowe Sale- CULC
12 9AM: Worship-CULC 9:15AM: Sunday School-FELC 10:15 Sunday School -CULC 10:30AM: Worship/ HC- FELC	13 10:30AM: Bible Study- CULC	14 10:30AM: Bible Study- FELC 7PM: Council- CULC	15 10AM: Hope's Haven-CULC 6PM-6:20PM Cherub Choir - last for season- FELC 7PM: Bible Study- CULC 7:15PM-8PM Chancel Choir- FELC	16 7:30PM Men's Ministry MP Room- FELC	17	18 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Ard's 10AM-3PM: Parish Councils Retreat Girl Scout Leader Appreciation- CULC
19 9AM: Worship-CULC 9:15AM: Sunday School-FELC 10:15 Sunday School -CULC 10:30AM: Worship/ HC- Youth Sunday- FELC	20 No Bible Study	21 Election Day-MPR- FELC <i>No Bible Study</i>	22 <i>No Bible Study</i> 10AM: Hope's Haven-CULC 7:15PM-8PM Chancel Choir- FELC	23	24	25 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Carriage Corner Hope's Haven Benefit Turkey Dinner- CULC
26 9AM: Worship-CULC 9:15AM: Sunday School-Last Day Until Fall- FELC 10:15 Sunday School -CULC 10:30AM: Worship/ HC- - FELC	27 Office Closed	28 10:30AM: Bible Study- FELC <i>Limited Office</i> <i>Hours - 10AM-Noon</i> <i>- FELC</i>	29 7PM: Bible Study- CULC 7:15PM-8PM Chancel Choir - last for season- FELC	30	31	

Please note that all information for June <u>and</u> July must be submitted to the office at FELC by June 15th. The June & July newsletter will be combined as one. August & September's newsletter will be combined as well. Thank you!